

of Mississippi in his capacity as the Deputy Director, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers—Mobile Engineer District where he managed all the Corps of Engineer programs for five Southeastern States as well as Central and South America. Lieutenant Colonel Corrigan has spent a major portion of his career with Army Legislative Liaison providing both the Army and Congress with valuable professional insights and advice that have had a direct and positive impact on transforming the Army to meet the current and future requirements of a Nation at War.

Mr. Speaker, as Lieutenant Colonel Joseph Corrigan leaves twenty-three years of Military Service to our Country, I offer not only congratulations on his accomplishments but heartfelt thanks for his selfless service to our great Nation and a wish for his continued success.

HONORING MR. MERLE SAUNDERS

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2005

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, colleagues, I rise today in honor of a dedicated public servant and inspirational teacher, Mr. Merle Saunders, on his induction into The National Teachers Hall of Fame. Mr. Saunders teaches Automotive Technology at Vale High School in Vale, Oregon, a rural town of approximately 1,000 located in eastern Oregon. This tremendous honor is well-deserved and I am proud to recognize him for this achievement.

One of only five individuals nationwide to be inducted into the Hall of Fame this year, Mr. Saunders has been recognized for his 25 years educating students in Vale. During his career, he has received numerous awards, including six teacher-of-the-year awards, from organizations such as AAA, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Vale Chamber of Commerce and the prestigious Milken Family Foundation.

His excellence in instruction extends beyond the walls of Vale High School's classrooms. The school's automotive troubleshooting team, which Mr. Saunders advises, has won 14 State championships and has received several national trophies.

Mr. Speaker, great teachers possess a valuable combination of intelligence, talent, patience and a genuine compassion for their students. The mission of The National Teachers Hall of Fame is to "recognize and honor exceptional teachers." They have accomplished this with the induction of Mr. Saunders.

I would like to formally thank him for his service, commitment and dedication to young people at Vale High School and congratulate him on the receipt of this prestigious honor. He is an inspiration to his students, his colleagues and to us all.

INTRODUCTION OF THE GUANTANAMO DETAINEES PROCEDURES ACT OF 2005

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2005

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Guantanamo Detainees Procedures Act of 2005. As the war on terrorism continues and more suspected terrorists are likely to be arrested, Congress must ensure that justice is delivered swiftly and responsibly in order to punish terrorists, prevent future attacks, and ensure swift and just processing of those detained.

Over 500 detainees are currently being held in Guantanamo Bay, most of them captured in Afghanistan after the U.S.-led invasion in 2001. Some detainees have been there for more than three years without being charged. These individuals should be tried or released.

Congress must provide for the swift and deliberate processing and prosecution of detainees in a manner that appropriately balances the country's national security needs with the country's due process interests. The Guantanamo Detainees Procedures Act of 2005 is drafted with this goal in mind.

Specifically, the legislation does the following: Provides that the executive branch has the authority to detain foreign nationals as unlawful combatants; provides a timely hearing before an independent military officer to challenge their designation as an unlawful combatant; requires release/repatriation or initiation of formal charges within two years; provides a limited extension if the Secretary of State certifies that the individual remains a national security threat and is likely to undertake terrorist acts against the U.S. and that repatriation of the detainee or the commencement of formal charges will compromise the national security of the U.S. by curtailing intelligence gathering, jeopardize intelligence sources necessary to prosecute the detainee, or other extraordinary circumstances justify the delay; requires the establishment of tribunals with clear standards and procedures designed to ensure a full and fair hearing for the detainee when formal charges are initiated; requires annual reports to Congress on the status of all detainees.

Mr. Speaker, in sum, the Guantanamo Detainees Procedures Act of 2005 will provide an expeditious procedure for processing and prosecuting terrorists and will also ensure that the hallmark of our democracy—justice for all—is not compromised.

CODIFICATION OF TITLE 51, OF THE UNITED STATES CODE—NATIONAL AND COMMERCIAL SPACE PROGRAMS

HON. F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR.

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2005

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a bill to codify and enact certain existing laws related to National and Commercial Space Programs as Title 51 of the United States Code. The bill was prepared by the Office of the Law Revision Counsel as part

of that office's ongoing responsibility to prepare, and submit to the Committee on the Judiciary one Title at a time, a complete compilation, restatement, and revision of the general and permanent laws of the United States.

All changes in existing law made by this bill are purely technical in nature. The bill was prepared in accordance with the statutory standard for codification legislation, which is that the restatement of existing law shall conform to the understood policy, intent, and purpose of the Congress in the original enactments, with such amendments and corrections as will remove ambiguities, contradictions, and other imperfections.

The bill, along with a detailed section-by-section explanation of the bill, can be accessed on the Internet site of the Office of the Law Revision Counsel (<http://uscode.house.gov/>). Persons interested in obtaining a printed copy of the bill and explanation, and persons interested in submitting comments on the bill, should contact Rob Sukol, Assistant Counsel, Office of the Law Revision Counsel, U.S. House of Representatives, H2-304 Ford House Office Building, Washington, DC, 20515. The telephone number is 202-226-9060. Comments on the bill should be submitted to the Office of the Law Revision Counsel no later than 60 days after date of introduction.

TRIBUTE TO SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION CHAIRMAN WILLIAM H. DONALDSON

HON. CHARLES H. TAYLOR

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2005

Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the accomplishments of outgoing Securities and Exchange Commission Chairman William H. Donaldson. Chairman Donaldson has announced his retirement, but he leaves behind a legacy of hard work, integrity, and achievement.

Mr. Donaldson was certainly well prepared to lead the SEC. He is a veteran of the Marine Corps and a graduate of Yale University. The Chairman has more than 45 years of high-level business and government experience. He is the founder and former CEO of the investment banking firm Donaldson, Lufkin and Jenrette and is the former Chairman and CEO of the New York Stock Exchange. Chairman Donaldson has over five decades of government experience, including service as Under Secretary of State to Henry Kissinger.

When Mr. Donaldson took the helm of the SEC on February 18, 2003, our faith in corporations and financial markets was severely strained. The Chairman immediately set out to remedy these ills by advocating internal reform of the Commission and external reform of securities markets. Chairman Donaldson has accomplished his primary goals of improving disclosure and transparency, protecting investors by helping to eliminate conflicts of interest and self-dealing by brokers, detecting and punishing securities fraud, and making the SEC more effective, efficient and cooperative. In addition, Chairman Donaldson has taken the agency from a re-active to pro-active posture. Donaldson once said "look over hills and around corners" and introduced a risk-based approach to actions.

Through the principle and diligence of William Donaldson, the agency completed the Sarbanes-Oxley rulemaking process, strengthened mutual fund oversight to alleviate potential fraud and abuse in the future, and reinforced the SEC's enforcement and examination programs. During his tenure the SEC hired 1,200 new employees and also promoted teleworking and a virtual workforce. Perhaps most impressively, under Mr. Donaldson's leadership the agency prosecuted more than 1,700 enforcement actions, the two highest annual totals in the SEC's history. During this time the SEC authorized more than \$7 billion in penalties to companies which have not played by the rules.

Mr. Speaker, our Nation's financial institutions are stronger and more secure because of the due diligence of William H. Donaldson. I know that my colleagues in the House of Representatives wish him well in his future endeavors. But at this moment and at this time in our country's history he and his staff have made a great contribution.

TO WELCOME HIS EXCELLENCY
PHAN VAN KHAI, PRIME MINISTER OF VIETNAM

HON. ROB SIMMONS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2005

Mr. SIMMONS. Mr. Speaker, as the Republican Chairman of the U.S.-Vietnam Caucus here in the House, I rise today to welcome His Excellency Phan Van Khai, Prime Minister of Vietnam.

I am delighted to be here to celebrate this historic occasion—the first official visit of the Prime Minister of Vietnam to the United States Capitol here in Washington, DC.

Thirty five years ago I served in Vietnam as a soldier. Two years ago I returned to that country searching for the remains of a fellow soldier from my district, Captain Arnold Holm, who was shot down in Thua Thien Province in 1972. Although we never found his crash site or his remains, the Vietnamese Government and people were extraordinarily generous and helpful as we searched.

And while we did not find the crash site of Captain Holm, we did find something else of great value. We found Americans and Vietnamese of courage, good will and generous spirit who believed the time had come to heal the wounds of war. As Senator JOHN MCCAIN said last night, we found people who were willing to forget the pain of the past and move forward as friends to build a better future for all our people.

When I returned from my visit to Vietnam I joined my friend and colleague LANE EVANS to create the U.S.-Vietnam Caucus. The purpose of this caucus is to build constructive relationships between our two countries; to search for and recover the remains of soldiers of both countries; to develop tourism and trade; to promote educational exchanges; and to build better relations between our people.

Sir Winston Churchill once remarked, "The pessimist sees difficulty in every opportunity. The optimist sees opportunity in every difficulty." I am an optimist. While there is much work left to do, today is a day of optimism—a day to celebrate the progress we have made

so far and a day to let that progress encourage us as we walk together towards an even better future.

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE
ARTS

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2005

Ms. McCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Congressional Arts Caucus, I rise today in support of the amendment to increase funds by \$10 million to the National Endowment for the Arts and \$5 million to the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The value of Federal arts programs lies in their ability to nurture the growth and artistic excellence of thousands of arts organizations and millions of artists throughout the Nation, making a variety of arts—performance, graphic, literature, and media—available to millions of Americans.

The NEA is the Nation's largest annual funder of the arts, bringing great art—both new and established—to all 50 States, including rural communities, inner-city neighborhoods, schools, and military bases.

Support for the arts is a critical investment in the economic growth of every community in this country. The nonprofit arts industry generates \$134 billion annually in economic activity, supports 4.85 million jobs, and returns \$10.5 billion to the Federal government in income taxes.

Minnesota's 4th Congressional District alone is home to over 1,200 arts-related businesses that employ nearly 9,000 people. These businesses range from theaters, arts schools, museums, architecture firms, and advertising agencies. In addition, unnumbered individual and freelance artists call my district their home. I am proud to represent these artists and their families.

I appreciate how the arts deeply enrich Minnesota. The educational, cultural, and economic impact of the arts is very measurable. Not only do 95% of Minnesotans believe that the arts are an important or essential part of the education of Minnesota children, but 67% of Minnesotans have attended an arts activity themselves within the past year. In addition, the arts in Minnesota have over a \$1 billion economic impact annually.

Arts education has also been proven to help students increase cognitive development, inspire creativity, and enhance problem-solving skills. At a time when students are expected to take more high stakes tests, we must support the activities, such as the arts, that encourage their success.

It is with a commitment to the economic, social, and cultural well-being of my district, and of the Nation, that I rise today in support of the National Endowment for the Arts.

RECOGNIZING FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH YOUTH CHOIR—SULPHUR SPRINGS, TX

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2005

Mr. HALL. Mr. Speaker, today I am honored to pay tribute to the First Baptist Church Youth Choir in Sulphur Springs, Texas. The choir is made up of 84 high school students. They have traveled to New York City, San Diego, San Francisco, Washington DC, Canada, the Bahamas, Disney World, Puerto Rico, Hawaii, Mexico, and this year will be traveling to Ireland. On these trips, the choir performs concerts in areas approved by the city, usually outdoors where anyone who is walking by can stop and listen. While the students are performing, the adult sponsors talk to those who are listening and distribute free Bibles to anyone who asks for one. These high school students have been able to reach the hearts of thousands of people in a variety of places.

The youth choir began in 1981 under the leadership of the Minister of Music of First Baptist Church, Fred Randles, and his wife, Jane. The students meet every Sunday evening for rehearsal. Throughout the year, they perform at church services and at Holiday in the Park at Six Flags over Texas to help them prepare for their summer trip. During the spring, they begin to learn choreography for the songs they sing.

The choir has received certificates of appreciation from four different Presidents, the U.S. Congress, and Disney World Entertainment Industry. They have also been recognized by the Governor of Cozumel, Mexico, and the Bahamas tourist board, and they have had appearances on Good Morning America and The Early Show on CBS.

In addition to performing, the students also participate in a number of ministry activities. In Hawaii, for example, they conducted Vacation Bible School and Sports Camp, worked with people who needed help around their house, helped at homeless missions, and shared the gospel with people who live on the beach.

The First Baptist Church Youth Choir of Sulphur Springs, TX has not only been blessed by the opportunities they have had, but also by the people whom they have met and associated with in their travels, and in turn the choir has been a blessing to their church and to multitudes of people around the world. As they travel to Ireland in July, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing these outstanding young people and commending them for the great work they are doing.

PIERCE COUNTY COURTHOUSE
CENTENNIAL

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2005

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a historic building in my home district in Wisconsin. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the Pierce County Courthouse has served as a grand symbol of law and order to the people of western Wisconsin