

827 (Identification Documents for Domestic Violence and Crime Victims)—None.

828 (Rulemaking)—900.

831, 832, 833, 834, Subtitle D, International Marriage Broker Regulation—916, 922.

BORDER PROTECTION, ANTI-TERRORISM, AND ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION CONTROL ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 16, 2005

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4437) to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to strengthen enforcement of the immigration laws, to enhance border security, and for other purposes:

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Chairman, I rise to offer my views on H.R. 4437 and this important issue. As a member of the U.S. House Committee on Homeland Security, I have worked actively with both Republicans and Democrats to strengthen our Nation's laws to protect the American people. Many of the provisions of this bill are under the jurisdiction of the Homeland Security committee, although this version differs substantially from the Committee's product.

The debate on immigration reform is an important matter for this country. Last year, I voted to pass the 9/11 Commission Recommendations Implementation Act, which authorized an additional 10,000 Border Patrol agents and 4,000 additional Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) officers. Unfortunately, the Bush administration's budget funds only 210 additional border agents and 80 ICE officers in fiscal year 2006.

I support several amendments to this bill because they take concrete steps to correct real problems with the immigration status quo. For example, I support the Myrick amendment that provides for the removal of an illegal alien who is convicted of driving drunk. I also support the Shadegg amendment to increase penalties for document fraud and crimes of violence and drug trafficking offenses committed by illegal aliens. In addition, I support the Velázquez amendment to reduce the immigration application processing backlog that has choked the system to a virtual standstill. Unfortunately, these reasonable steps cannot overcome the fundamental flaws of H.R. 4437, which takes an unrealistic approach that will exacerbate the problems of the current system by driving the undocumented further underground, deeper into the black market and further estranged from the laws of our country.

We need to reform the broken immigration system in America, but this bill is harsh, punitive and anti-family and does not fix the many problems with the current system. Rather than pass new laws that make innocent children Federal criminals, we should vigorously enforce the laws against illegal immigration that are already on the books, hire the thousands of additional security personnel that have already been authorized to guard our borders and work for a fair, balanced immigration plan that encourages lawfulness, rewards hard work and safeguards families.

I hope my colleagues will join me in rejection of this legislation, so Congress and the

President can start over on a more productive approach to fix the broken immigration system. Vote against H.R. 4437.

VICTORY IN IRAQ RESOLUTION

SPEECH OF

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 16, 2005

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the Iraqi people on a successful election, and movement toward democracy.

I rise today to denounce the Republican leadership for manipulating the War in Iraq for political gain.

However, I want to stand up here and reiterate my opposition to the invasion of Iraq.

I have said it before and I will say it again.

I am against this war. Our troops have become the targets of the insurgents in Iraq who want us out of their country.

I knew that once we got into the war, there was no getting out. Many of our young men and women were going to get killed for the personal gain of the President.

There is no correlation between 9–11 and the War in Iraq.

Let me repeat: There is no correlation between 9–11 and the war in Iraq!

There was no faulty intelligence. We have people in key positions lying to the American people.

Get Us Out of Iraq!

HONORING THE 57TH MAYOR OF BUFFALO, NEW YORK, HON. ANTHONY M. MASIELLO

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, December 18, 2005

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the public service and personal strength of character of Anthony M. Masiello, who will complete his third and final term as the 57th Mayor of the City of Buffalo on December 31, 2005. Coupled with his deep and abiding love and loyalty to his beautiful family, Mayor Masiello will always be known for his enthusiastic and unwavering love for the City of Buffalo, New York. Through the triumphs and the tribulations of serving as the Chief Executive Officer of the second largest city in New York State, Mayor Masiello never gave up, never gave in and has led us to a better Buffalo.

Born the oldest of seven children, Tony Masiello learned the value of family, hard work and the importance of giving back to one's community from his parents, Bridget and Dan. Educated in Buffalo Catholic Schools, Mayor Masiello graduated from Canisius College in 1969 after a Hall of Fame basketball career with the Division I Golden Griffins.

In 1971, the voters embraced his competitive spirit and youthful energy and elected him District Councilmember and soon after, he won his first citywide election as an At-Large Councilmember on the Buffalo City Council. In 1980, he was elected to the New York State

Senate becoming "Buffalo's Senator." Re-elected to 7 2-year terms, he rose through the ranks to Minority Whip and Chair of the Democratic Conference. During his tenure in the State Legislature, then-Senator Masiello secured greater funding for the city's public school system, increased financial support for Roswell Park Cancer Institute and Children's Hospital, Buffalo's nationally known health care institutions. He helped fund housing developments and provided leadership in the passage of the Vietnam Veterans Tuition Assistance Bill.

This commitment to education, health care, housing and the needs of others would foreshadow the Mayor's greatest achievements in his next elected office.

Anthony M. Masiello was sworn in as the 57th Mayor of the city of Buffalo on January 1, 1994. Since that time, he has tackled daunting financial challenges while instituting sweeping changes in the way the city conducts its business and delivers essential services. He initiated and implemented the Mayor's Impact team; a hands-on Task Force consisting of various city departments working together to perform comprehensive clean-up, maintenance and inspection services in the city, the Citizens Service Hotline and the Good Neighbors Planning Alliance to ensure real residential participation in planning the city's future.

Mayor Masiello led the creation of the Joint Schools Construction Program, an ambitious, pioneering construction and rehabilitation program to provide a 21st Century learning environment for the city's public school students. In 2000, the Mayor proposed state legislation that allowed the city to construct new schools and renovate existing buildings with private financing and now, more than \$150 million is being spent in Phase I of the Joint Schools Construction Project to renovate nine schools. Eventually all schools will be renovated or rebuilt giving Buffalo School students the proper facilities and the high tech equipment fundamental to meeting the academic challenges of today and tomorrow.

As citizens of Buffalo, we are also indebted to the Mayor for his vision in bringing together the leaders of the local health care and medical school institutions as well as, for the first time, the neighborhood leaders from the Fruit Belt and Allentown, to create the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus in the City's center. Through mutual respect and recognition of the need for improved communication, expert planning for shared needs and future growth, the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus Board of Directors continues to attract local, state and federal funding which has transformed the Campus with more than \$300 million dollars of investment in state-of-the-art health care and research facilities. Recruiting efforts for national and international medical, scientific and research talent is succeeding and all efforts have the shared goal of enhancing the opportunities for the Campus' neighbors and its neighborhood. The story and the success of the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus is rightly attributable to the ability of Mayor Masiello to bring people together, impart the absolute need to work together and help direct the first \$14 million in "seed money" that led to hundreds of millions of dollars in real private/public investments.

And it is the Mayor's commitment to implementation that led to one of the greatest