

IN HONOR OF SERGEANT ROBERT
P. KASSIN

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 24, 2006

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of SGT Robert P. Kassin.

Robert dedicated his life to serving his country, and last Sunday, July 16, he made the ultimate sacrifice while serving in Afghanistan.

Sergeant Kassin was killed near Larzab, in Afghanistan's Zabul province, when his platoon came under enemy fire. He died proudly, eager to defend our Nation and help the people of Afghanistan.

For almost a decade, Robert faithfully defended his country. After graduating from high school in Clovis, NM, he joined the Army in September 1996, volunteering for deployment and reenlisting shortly after arriving in Afghanistan. Robert took pride in all that he did, and this was apparent to all who knew him.

Robert leaves behind his parents, Robert Joseph and Lucia Kassin of Clovis, his 7-year-old son, his wife, Judy, and two stepdaughters. His son and stepdaughters will grow up proud of their father, Sergeant Kassin, knowing that he gave his all in service to our country.

Our most sincere and heartfelt sympathies are with Robert's family and friends during this time of great loss. We will always remember his bravery and the sacrifice he made proudly serving our great Nation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN LINDER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 24, 2006

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall vote No. 380, House passage of S. 2754, I inadvertently was recorded as voting "nay."

I would like the record to reflect the fact that I wanted my vote to be recorded as "yea."

This does not change the outcome of the vote.

COMMENDING AND SUPPORTING
RADIO AL MAHABA

SPEECH OF

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 18, 2006

Ms. GRANGER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 784 commending Radio Station Al-Mahaba in Iraq.

Radio Al-Mahaba, which means "love" in Arabic, is the only radio station in Iraq or the Greater Middle East whose programming is geared toward the issues important to women.

The station's programming is meant to be an educational tool for women, focusing on subjects such as parenting, healthcare, relationships and other social topics.

The station broadcasts in three different languages, giving women freedom to voice their opinions and hear other opinions.

Articles about Radio Al-Mahaba have appeared in the New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Chicago Tribune and USA Today.

I recently had the honor of meeting with employees of Radio Al-Mahaba on a delegation I led to Iraq to work with Iraqi women leaders and Parliamentarians.

Right now, they are on the verge of having to shut their doors because of terrorist threats against the group and a lack of funding.

Many insurgents do not want to see women have a voice or play a significant role in Iraq. Despite these threats, the employees remain determined to stay on the air.

To do this, they are working for free to keep the station running. If this is not a clear expression of a desire for a free and open society, I don't know what is.

The station eventually hopes to broadcast into Iran in order to let Iranian women know that freedom can be achieved but only if they stand up for their rights.

Mr. Speaker, this is a non-partisan issue. Radio Al-Mahaba deserves our support.

It's crucial that women have a strong voice in Iraqi society, especially as Iraqis work to form a democracy.

Radio Al-Mahaba provides women with a vehicle to have that voice.

STEM CELL RESEARCH ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2005—VETO MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 109-127)

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 19, 2006

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, yesterday marked a true tragedy for the medical history of this country. For the first time in 5 years, this President chose to veto a bill that has the potential to save millions of lives and impact millions more.

This veto will go down in history as a monumental step backward for medical research and a profound and significant disappointment for victims and their families. Hope was just a signature away and to millions of people in this country, this President could have become a hero simply by signing H.R. 810, the Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act, into law. Instead, he chose to veto this bill and stall the advancement of science.

In contrast, by signing S. 3504, the President gave cover to opponents of lifesaving science. I would hope that this President would give more credit to the American public. S. 3504 is a useless bill that does nothing for victims of ravaging diseases and instead rubs salt in the wound.

Mr. Speaker, I stand here with many of my colleagues, pleading with the President to listen to 72 percent of Americans, the overwhelming majority of scientists, researchers, and even Nobel laureates who all recognize the promise that embryonic stem cell research holds.

Right now, only 22 of the 78 stem cell lines approved by President Bush are left. Many of these lines have been contaminated and are no longer useful, but more than 400,000 frozen embryos exist in the United States. To be

clear, these are embryos that were extracted for in vitro fertilization. Most of them will be discarded. If the President had signed H.R. 810, they would have instead been used to save human lives. With further research, these cells may be used as "replacement" cells and tissues to treat many diseases including Parkinson's disease, Alzheimer's disease, diabetes, AIDS, Lou Gehrig's disease and others.

Mr. Speaker, as a founder and current co-chair of the Working Group on Parkinson's Disease and as someone who lost my father to Parkinson's disease, I know firsthand just how important this legislation is and how important it is to open up the stem cell lines. I cannot be more clear: This bill is about saving lives and preventing devastating diseases from ravaging and ending people's lives.

In vetoing this legislation, this President has stalled science, ended hope, and reversed progress.

I stand with a bipartisan majority of Congress to express my severe disappointment with the President's decision to veto this life-saving legislation.

HONORING MARY TSUKAMOTO

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 24, 2006

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Mary Tsukamoto for her commitment to educating young people in the Elk Grove Unified School District and to advocating for the Japanese-American community. With the use of the curriculum that she developed in the Elk Grove School District and the naming of the Mary Tsukamoto Elementary School in Sacramento, CA, Ms. Tsukamoto has been honored since her passing 8 years ago.

Born in 1915 into an immigrant family in San Francisco, Mary Tsukamoto and her four siblings attended segregated schools throughout childhood. In 1942, when Mary was just 27, she, her husband, Al, and their daughter, Marielle, were sent to an internment camp in Arkansas. Following that dark period in her life, Mary Tsukamoto emerged determined to fight for Japanese-American causes.

As an Elk Grove School District teacher for 25 years, Mary developed an educational curriculum addressing the treatment of Asian-Americans in the United States. This curriculum, "Time of Remembrance," is a living history program featuring interviews, photographs, and artifacts from the internment camps compiled by Mary Tsukamoto. The motto for "Time of Remembrance" is that "never again" should an American lose his or her fundamental rights.

After her retirement from teaching in the mid-1970s, Mary Tsukamoto continued to teach and lead the community. Her leadership contributed to the successful effort to seek a federal apology and restitution for Japanese-American internment. Subsequently, Mary co-authored a book with Elizabeth Pinkerton titled *We the People: A Story of Internment in America*, and worked closely with the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, DC to create an exhibit about Japanese-American internment. This activism, along with her outstanding teaching record, was recognized during this year's National Women's History Month and at