

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT OF EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT LEGISLATIVE ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST RO AGUILAR

HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 17, 2007

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Madam Speaker, I rise with my colleague, Hon. GEORGE MILLER, in the House of Representatives, to recognize Ro Aguilar for her service to the residents of the East Bay as an analyst for the East Bay Regional Park District, EBRPD, for more than 20 years.

Before joining the EBRPD Ms. Aguilar had established a strong record of effective public service in our community. She started her career of service as an educator in Contra Costa County and also served as a community coordinator for a local chapter of the American Red Cross.

In 1986 Ms. Aguilar joined the EBRPD as an administrative analyst in public affairs. Due to her sharp analytical skills and commitment to the values and ideals of the EBRPD she was appointed to the general manager's office as the legislative administrative assistant in just 2 short years.

The EBRPD has relied heavily on Ms. Aguilar's expertise and leadership skill. Since 1991 she has attended almost every National Park Recreation Association Mid-Year Legislative Forum in Washington, DC. Her efficient analytical style has also been central to her successful work with agencies and legislative staffers at all levels of government.

Ms. Aguilar's tireless work to organize and advocate on behalf of special districts in our community has produced remarkable results in our region. In the early 1990s she was instrumental in organizing the Alameda and Contra Costa County chapters of the California Special Districts Association, CSDA. Through the years these associations have contributed significantly to the quality of life for Alameda and Contra Costa County residents.

Since the formation of local CSDA affiliates Ms. Aguilar has regularly presented written reports to the local chapters regarding critical special district issues. Ms. Aguilar has offered her expertise on the Constitutional Revision Commission, the State budget tax shifts, and AB 1335, the special district representation on Local Agency Formation Commission legislation. Due to her commitment and strong work on behalf of special districts in our community Ms. Aguilar was recognized and honored as the Legislative Advocate of the Year for 2007 by the CSDA.

Ms. Aguilar's many accomplishments have immeasurably improved the East Bay and enriched the lives of its residents. I would like to thank her for her years of public service and wish her success and happiness in her future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO BEN ANDREW SCHAMEL

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 17, 2007

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Ben Andrew Schamel of Blue Springs, Missouri. Ben is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Unit 1362, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Ben has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Ben has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Ben Andrew Schamel for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

LETTER TO GEN PERVEZ MUSHARRAF

HON. DAVID WU

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 17, 2007

Mr. WU. Madam Speaker, I rise to enter into the RECORD the text of a letter authored by Dean Harold Hongju Koh of Yale Law School and signed by numerous prominent law school deans, professors, and students to GEN Pervez Musharraf of Pakistan denouncing his recent assault on the rule of law in his country. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

We the undersigned lawyers, deans, professors, law students, and law school administration and staff denounce in the strongest terms General Pervez Musharraf's recent assault on the rule of law in Pakistan. By suspending the Constitution; dissolving the Supreme Court and the provincial High Courts and replacing them with judges of his own choosing; engaging in arbitrary and unprovoked arrests of thousands of opposition leaders, journalists, and other law-abiding citizens; and violently suppressing protests by hundreds of lawyers who were acting in the highest tradition of our profession, General Musharraf is trampling upon the very system of law that alone can justify a ruler's power over his people. We stand in solidarity with our fellow lawyers and the democratic values that they represent, and we urge an early restoration of legality and legitimate authority in Pakistan.

Sincerely,

HAROLD HONGJU KOH,
Dean and Gerard C.
and Bernice Latrobe
Smith Professor of
International Law,
Yale Law School.

TRIBUTE TO ARMY NATIONAL GUARD BRIGADIER GENERAL JODI TYMESON

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 17, 2007

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the retirement of Iowa Army National Guard BG Jodi Tymeson after 33 years of faithful and honorable service.

After graduating from Ogden High School, GEN Jodi Tymeson enlisted in the Iowa National Guard in 1974 and was assigned to the headquarters and Headquarters Company, 248th Aviation Battalion, beginning her long and distinguished career in the military. She was selected to attend the Iowa Military Academy's officer candidate school and commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in 1982, assigned to Company B, 234th Signal Battalion as a telecommunications officer. During her service in the 234th Signal Battalion, GEN Tymeson also served as a platoon leader, company commander, systems control officer, battalion operations and training officer, executive officer and battalion commander.

In 1997 GEN Tymeson was assigned to the 67th Troop Command, where she served as an intelligence officer, operations and training officer, special projects officer and commander. On September 24, 2002, she became the first female to be promoted to the general officer rank in the Iowa National Guard. In addition to her many military positions, GEN Tymeson has an impressive military education background, a bachelor's degree in elementary education from the University of Northern Iowa and a master's degree in public administration from Drake University. She also currently serves in the Iowa House of Representatives as a District 73 Representative.

I commend GEN Jodi Tymeson for her many years of loyalty and service to our great Nation. It is an immense honor to represent GEN Tymeson in Congress, and I wish her the best in health and happiness throughout the future.

TRIBUTE TO CHRISTIAN RANDALL PETERSON

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 17, 2007

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Christian Randall Peterson of Blue Springs, Missouri. Christian is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Unit 1546, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Christian has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Christian has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Christian Randall Peterson for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in