

days spent killing nearly 50 million unborn children in America is enough; and that this nation is great enough to find a better way than abortion on demand.

So tonight, Madam Speaker, may we each remind ourselves that our own days in this sunshine of life are numbered and that all too soon each of us will walk from these Chambers for the very last time.

And if it should be that this Congress is allowed to convene on yet another day to come, may that be the day when we hear the cries of the unborn at last. May that be the day we find the humanity, the courage, and the will to embrace together our human and our constitutional duty to protect the least of these, our tiny American brothers and sisters, from this murderous scourge upon our Nation called abortion on demand.

It is February 12, 2008—12,804 days since *Roe v. Wade* first stained the foundation of this nation with the blood of its own children—this, in the land of the free and the home of the brave.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION  
AUTHORIZING THE SECRETARY  
OF COMMERCE TO SELL OR EX-  
CHANGE NATIONAL OCEANIC  
AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION  
PROPERTY LOCATED IN  
NORFOLK, VA

**HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 12, 2008*

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation that would authorize the Secretary of Commerce to sell or exchange National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration property to/with the city of Norfolk, Virginia.

Over the last decade, the city of Norfolk has experienced tremendous economic growth. Downtown Norfolk has reemerged as the urban center of the Hampton Roads region through revitalization and new commercial and residential development. For several decades, NOAA has been an important Federal partner in downtown Norfolk's development. NOAA's Atlantic Marine Operations Center and NOAA's Chesapeake Bay office are both located in downtown Norfolk.

The bill that I am introducing today, along with my colleague Congresswoman THELMA DRAKE, would authorize the Secretary of Commerce to sell or exchange a small piece of underutilized NOAA property located at 538 Front Street in Norfolk, consisting of 3.78 acres, to the city of Norfolk. This land sale would allow Norfolk to continue its tremendous economic growth by developing the land for commercial and residential purposes. At the same time, the bill clearly states that NOAA may only sell or exchange the property if the Secretary of Commerce determines that the conveyance would be in the best interest of the Federal government. The bill does not delineate or support any particular agreement or contract; the details of any future agreement between NOAA and the city of Norfolk would have to be worked out. This legislation would simply permit that process to get started. In addition, any sale or exchange would have to have little to no impact on Federal revenue or

the deficit. The bill requires that the property be sold at a value that is not less than the fair market value as determined by the Federal government. Furthermore, it authorizes NOAA to retain any proceeds from the sale or exchange.

Madam Speaker, I hope that this bill will be considered by the full House of Representatives soon. I believe this bipartisan, non-controversial legislation protects both the interests of the Federal government and the citizens of Norfolk. I urge my colleagues to support this measure when it comes before the full House.

TRIBUTE TO VADA SHEID

**HON. MARION BERRY**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 12, 2008*

Mr. BERRY. Madam Speaker, I rise here today to pay tribute to an outstanding citizen and dear friend. I am proud to recognize one of Arkansas' greatest public servants Vada Sheid. Her recent death was a great loss for our community and our Nation.

Vada Sheid was the first woman to be elected to both the Arkansas House of Representatives and the Arkansas State Senate. Her career in public service, which also included positions in numerous county offices, boards, commissions and committees, spanned across five decades. Mrs. Sheid was instrumental in securing significant road improvements for north central Arkansas as well as the creation of Arkansas State University-Mountain Home.

Vada Webb was born on August 19, 1916, in Izard County. She grew up in Calico Rock and entered public service working at the Izard County welfare office when she was 19. Shortly after she married Carl Sheid in 1941 the couple moved to El Dorado and eventually settled in Mountain Home.

In 1958, Mrs. Sheid ran for Baxter County treasurer and lost. In 1960, she ran again, won, and served as treasurer through 1965. In 1966, she was elected to the State house of representatives and served four terms. She was only one of four women who served during the 1967–1968 term. In 1976, Mrs. Sheid was elected to the State senate and became the only woman to serve in both houses in Arkansas.

In 1987, Governor Bill Clinton appointed her to the State Police Commission. In 1992, after a resignation of the local State representative, Mrs. Sheid ran for office again and won, serving in the house again until 1995.

Her work to improve education and ASU Mountain Home earned her an honorary doctor of law degree from the college in 1998. Her dedication to serving the community is remembered by the Mountain Home Area Chamber of Commerce's Vada Sheid Lifetime Achievement Award, which is given to an individual who has made a significant contribution to the community.

On behalf of Congress, I extend my deepest sympathies to Mrs. Sheid's family and gratitude for the countless hours she spent serving others. She leaves a legacy of accomplishment in Arkansas as well as inspiring memories for all who knew her.

IN HONOR OF THE UNI-CAPITOL  
WASHINGTON INTERNSHIP PRO-  
GRAM

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 12, 2008*

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Uni-Capitol Washington Internship Program. This program is a wonderful educational experience for both the intern who works in a congressional office, and for the office who receives an intern from the program. The program annually delivers some of Australia's best and brightest university students who have a passion for and commitment to civic engagement and public service to congressional offices for 2-month internships.

The Uni-Capitol Washington Internship Program began in 2000 and since its inception, I have been a proud participant. This year I welcomed a wonderful student-ambassador to my office, Stephanie Lyons, who has shared with us her experiences as a newcomer to Washington from the perspective of an Australian. Stephanie, who visits us from the University of Canberra, is a great example of the high quality students who are involved in this program. With a bachelor's degree in communication, specializing in public relations and political communication, Stephanie will this year commence her honors degree, drawing upon her experiences here in Washington as a research stimulus. Throughout her time in this office, she has had the chance to pursue her interests in the media and a range of issues, from foreign affairs, human rights, and diplomacy to science and the environment.

Over the past month, she has been an invaluable asset to this office. She has attended committee briefings, drafted constituent correspondence, and assisted my staff with research. Her Australian accent has garnered the attention of many of my constituents on tours and over the phone. She is often asked to share her experiences in Washington, DC.

Stephanie is one of several outstanding Australian interns. This year, a record 13 students from across Australia were matched with congressional offices. They were drawn from seven Australian universities in four different states and the Australian Capital Territory. The Uni-Capitol program gives its students practical experience and allows them to gain knowledge and understanding of the internal workings of the United States Government.

Including this current group, 81 Australian students will have interned in Washington since the program's inception 9 years ago. For creating the Uni-Washington program, credit must be given to its founder, Eric Federer. Eric is a former senior House and Senate congressional staffer who has worked to foster the exchange of ideas and knowledge between the U.S. and Australia through his efforts with the Uni-Capitol Washington Internship Program.

Madam Speaker, I strongly encourage my colleagues to seek international connections by participating in this rewarding program. It is truly heartening to see how much this program has grown over the years, and I look forward to its continued success. I ask my colleagues to join with me in recognizing the contributions of the Uni-Capitol Internship Program and,