

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 6, 2008

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, on March 5, 2008, I was unavoidably detained and was not able to record my votes for Rollcall No. 91–102.

Had I been present I would have voted:

Rollcall No. 91—“Yes”—To redesignate Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historic Park in the State of Ohio as “Wright Brothers-Dunbar National Historical Park”, and for other purposes.

Rollcall No. 92—“Yes”—Supporting Taiwan’s fourth direct and democratic presidential elections in March 2008.

Rollcall No. 93—“Yes”—Condemning the ongoing Palestinian rocket attacks on Israeli civilians, and for other purposes.

Rollcall No. 94—“Yes”—Providing for the consideration of H.R. 1014, Paul Wellstone Mental Health and Addiction Equity Act.

Rollcall No. 95—“Yes”—Providing for the consideration of H.R. 1014, Paul Wellstone Mental Health and Addiction Equity Act.

Rollcall No. 96—“Yes”—Providing for the consideration of H.R. 1014, Paul Wellstone Mental Health and Addiction Equity Act.

Rollcall No. 97—“Yes”—Cyndi Taylor Krier Post Office Building.

Rollcall No. 98—“Yes”—Expressing the sense of Congress that Earl Lloyd should be recognized and honored for breaking the color barrier and becoming the first African-American to play in the National Basketball Association League 58 years ago.

Rollcall No. 99—“Yes”—Paul Wellstone Mental Health and Addiction Equity Act.

Rollcall No. 100—“No”—Paul Wellstone Mental Health and Addiction Equity Act.

Rollcall No. 101—“Yes”—Paul Wellstone Mental Health and Addiction Equity Act.

Rollcall No. 102—“Yes”—Sgt. Michael M. Kashkoush Post Office Building.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 6, 2008

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, on March 5, I was delayed in making my way to the floor of the House for rollcall 99. I missed the vote, but had I been present I would have voted nay.

A BILL TO INCREASE THE MAXIMUM AGE TO QUALIFY FOR COVERAGE AS A CHILD UNDER THE HEALTH BENEFITS PROGRAM FOR FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 6, 2008

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, young adults are the fastest-growing age

group among the uninsured. Almost 400,000 young adults (younger than 24) who graduate from college will be cut off from health insurance under their parents’ plan or from their universities. A report by the Commonwealth Fund, a private foundation that aims to promote a high performing health care system in the United States, showed that 2 out of 5 college graduates are uninsured after they leave school.

Nationwide, 30.6 percent of 18- to 24-year olds are uninsured, making them the largest population without coverage in 2005. The numbers reflect an increase from 2004, when an estimated 13.7 million people age 19 to 29 had no coverage. As recently as 2000, just 2.5 million were without health insurance, according to a 2005 survey by the Commonwealth Fund.

Young adults enrolled as dependents in Federal Employee Health Benefits Plan (FEHBP) and their parents, will not have to worry about being uninsured if this legislation is enacted. This bill would raise the age young adults would qualify for health insurance under FEHBP from 22 to 25 years of age.

The federal government should not be contributing to the number of Americans that are uninsured. This bill would ensure that at least the dependents of federal employees between the age of 22 and 25 get the health care and coverage they need.

HONORING DR. GARLAND FORBES

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 6, 2008

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Garland Forbes. A graduate of the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, with an Endodontic Certificate from the Graduate Dental School of Ohio State University, Dr. Forbes has been providing quality care and comfort to patients in Pasco, Pinellas, and Hernando Counties with exemplary endodontic services.

However, his devotion to his community does not rest solely within his trained profession. He also organizes and executes his annual Plant 1,000 Trees Before You Die observance. In December of 2005, Dr. Forbes, with the help of Big Brothers and Big Sisters of America, distributed 1,000 trees to area dental office personnel and their staff.

In 2006, the event doubled with the distribution of 2,000 as Dr. Forbes partnered with the United Way and a local bank. The event reached further into the community as the public was invited to pick up trees to plant.

In 2007, Dr. Forbes again decided to increase the number of trees by one hundred percent, distributing 4,000 trees. Because of Dr. Forbes’s efforts, more than 7,000 trees have now been planted in the Florida counties of Pasco, Pinellas, Hillsborough, Hernando, and Polk.

Madam Speaker, Dr. Forbes is a terrific example of how just one person can make a difference both locally and environmentally. His service to the community, through his endodontic services as well as his Plant 1,000 Trees Before You Die initiative truly serve as an inspiration to others. I am delighted today to acknowledge such an influential member of

my community, and I hope that the example by which Dr. Forbes leads will serve as an incentive for others to contemplate how they too can serve their communities.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF INDIAN ROCKS HONORS ITS PASTOR CHARLIE MARTIN

HON. C. W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 6, 2008

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise in celebration of one of the most dynamic and inspirational pastors my community in Pinellas County has known. Reverend Charles William Martin retires Sunday after 37 years as Pastor of the First Baptist Church of Indian Rocks in Largo, Florida.

This is my hometown church and Charlie has been my pastor, but more importantly he has been my friend. Charlie was born and raised in Arkansas and first felt the call to preach as a young man in 1960. He pursued this calling by completing work on his Bachelors of Arts in Religious Education at Trinity College in 1967 and his Doctor of Divinity at Trinity in 1986.

He found his true calling in 1971 when he accepted the charge to serve as pastor of the First Baptist Church of Indian Rocks, where he and his wife Stephanie have invested their heart and soul ever since. This is an amazing church of 5,300 members and a full-time staff of 18 pastors and associate staff. Under Charlie’s leadership, First Baptist spreads the word of God in all forms, from its stirring music, emphasis on the scriptures, and his from the heart sermons. They have a wide variety of ministries, in all parts of our State, our Nation, and the world.

One of those ministries was the establishment of the Indian Rocks Christian School in 1984 with an enrollment of 42 students. Today more than 1,000 students attend the school which has earned a reputation of one of our county’s best.

Perhaps the greatest testimony to Charlie’s service to his congregation is the pride his church members have in being a part of his church community. There isn’t a day that goes by that I don’t see someone back home, here in our Nation’s Capital, or even around the world that comes up to me and says, “I’m a member of Charlie’s church.”

First Baptist will hold an honor and praise weekend this Friday through Sunday to celebrate the service of Pastor Martin and Stephanie. All of us who know Charlie are confident that this will not be the beginning of his retirement as he will always remain active in the church and his ministries. In fact, he and Stephanie are moving up to North Carolina where they are starting a church there.

Madam Speaker, Pastor Charlie Martin is a friend to many and has shared God’s word and God’s grace with countless thousands of people throughout his life. He is a friend of Members of this House as he was our guest chaplain in April 1999. And he is a special friend of this Congressman and of my wife Beverly and our family. He has been there for us many, many times—in times of celebration and in times of grief. Please join me in saying thank you to Charlie and Stephanie and in offering our best wishes as they open a new

chapter in their lives. It is my hope that God gives them many joyous years together with each other and with their five children and nine grandchildren.

God bless you and keep you, Charlie Martin.

TRIBUTE TO THE SAN ANTONIO
CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN
RED CROSS

HON. CIRO D. RODRIGUEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 6, 2008

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Madam Speaker, today I am greatly honored to recognize the San Antonio Area Chapter of the American Red Cross. As you launch your 2008 Heroes for the American Red Cross Campaign, I wish to commend the many important contributions made to our communities by this admirable organization over the years.

Every day, they serve over 2.4 million people living in the 23 counties across South Central Texas with invaluable support for natural disaster and preventative services. Since the chapter's founding in 1916, your volunteers have been at the forefront when emergencies and disasters have impacted our communities. Across the nation, the American Red Cross's noble work has come to represent hope and relief for people when unpredictable and difficult problems arise.

The San Antonio Area Chapter of the Red Cross has provided disaster relief services to 491 families, or more than 1,600 people. As many in my community can recall, the Red Cross helped over 1,100 people, supplied shelter for over 800 persons, and provided much needed financial help to many families in Eagle Pass who were devastated by the 2007 tornado. 465 of their volunteers worked selflessly in response to this disaster, and I am truly grateful for their service.

In addition to responding to emergencies such as these, they help members of the community prepare themselves for these types of disasters. In teaching 21,405 people in our region how to save lives with first aid and offering CPR courses, they empower the entire area. Moreover, they help our members of the armed services and their families by operating a 24-hour emergency call center. They also serve as a valuable connection to other social service agencies as is evident by the 5,300 referrals made last year which enabled people to get more help when they needed it most.

As one of the largest chapters in the country with roughly 1,500 volunteers and 55 paid staff members, their dedication and devotion to the Red Cross' humanitarian mission has left an indelible mark in South Central Texas. I am very proud and deeply honored to represent this district knowing such people are working unselfishly to make our cities and towns stronger and safer. I would like to thank them for all they have given to the region, and I wish them continued success in their mission.

HONORING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF GUNDLACH BUNDSCHU WINERY OF SONOMA COUNTY, CA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 6, 2008

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Gundlach Bundschu Winery in Sonoma County, California on the 150th anniversary of its founding.

In the 150 years since the winery was established on March 12, 1858, California's wine industry has become the fourth largest wine producing region in the world and Gundlach Bundschu has played an integral part in that growth. It is the oldest family owned winery in the state and the sixth generation of the founding family continues to live, farm and pioneer the production of fine wines on the same vineyard land that was originally purchased by their great-grandfather's grandfather.

Each generation has weathered unique challenges that defined them and the California wine industry and has met those challenges with ingenuity and resolve. Company offices and wine vaults were destroyed in the 1906 San Francisco earthquake, severely curtailing what had been a thriving business. The family was able to continue with limited production until the passage of prohibition in 1919, which forced the winery to close. After the repeal of prohibition, Gundlach Bundschu wine grapes were once again in demand, but the family winery wasn't restored until 1973. Today, the modern winery is dedicated to sustainable farming at its best.

The family has always been an integral part of the community and a leader in civic affairs. They were instrumental in initiating the first Vintage Festival in Sonoma, a celebration of the annual grape harvest that has been held continuously for 110 years. Now, in celebration of its Sesquicentennial, Gundlach Bundschu has commissioned a theatrical presentation that will tour nine cities throughout the United States in the spring and fall of 2008.

Madam Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we acknowledge Gundlach Bundschu on the 150th anniversary of its founding. As California's oldest family owned winery, Gundlach Bundschu is truly a testament to the enduring quality and character of California wine, and to its place among the nation's finest wineries.

HONORING DAVID L. HYMAN OF PHILADELPHIA

HON. CHAKA FATAH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 6, 2008

Mr. FATAH. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to salute today a great and valued citizen of Philadelphia who is receiving one of our city's truly prestigious awards for members of the legal community.

David L. Hyman, Esquire earns his living as Managing Partner and partner for Business Development at Kleinbard, Bell & Brecker LLP, one of Philadelphia's outstanding law firms, where he leads the government relations practice. But that barely begins to describe the depth and breadth of his commitment to the city he loves.

David is a soft-spoken man with a ready and infectious smile who travels the fast lane of Philadelphia governance, religious, philanthropic and civic life, skilled at winning confidence and making things happen.

I have known David for more than two decades, since our days of pickup basketball at the Bright Hope Baptist Church in North Philadelphia. We have spent our declining jump-shot years on many of the same critical issues and causes, improving the lives and life chances for our young and underserved citizens.

David settled in Philadelphia to launch a legal career after graduating cum laude from the University of Pennsylvania in 1975 and from the University of California, Davis, School of Law in 1980. He served as Law Clerk for United States District Court Judge Peter B. Scuderi.

David is former Co-President and current advisory board member of Operation Understanding, a unique Philadelphia program that brings together African American and Jewish teenagers and trains them for cooperative leadership roles. He has been a bridge builder and passionate advocate for these two communities. —

More recently, David L. Hyman served for eight years as Chairman of the Philadelphia Facilities Management Corporation, which oversees the Philadelphia Gas Works. He continues as Vice Chairman of the Greater Philadelphia Tourism Marketing Corporation, which spreads the good word about our city, and serves on the board of the Building Industry Association of Philadelphia among numerous other private, public and nonprofit appointments. He has also been a champion for development, community improvement and empowerment in Mount Airy and across Northwest Philadelphia, along with his wife Farah Jimenez, the executive director of Mount Airy USA.

David L. Hyman has served the American Jewish Committee and its Philadelphia/Southern New Jersey chapter as President and Board Chairman. Now the organization he has led so ably and selflessly is returning the favor.

On Wednesday March 12, 2008, at the Rittenhouse Hotel, David L. Hyman, Esquire will receive the 2008 Judge Learned Hand Award of the AJC.

The significance of this award can be judged by the man for whom it is named. Judge Learned Hand, according to the AJC citation, served as senior judge of the United States Circuit Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit from 1924 to 1951. Widely admired as a dean of American jurists, Judge Hand was renowned for his extensive range of decisions which he rendered in more than two thousand cases.

David L. Hyman fittingly receives an award presented each year to a member of the Philadelphia legal community whose social conscience and devotion to philanthropy mirrors the century-old values of the American Jewish Committee. He is the 28th recipient of Philadelphia's Learned Hand Award. —The American Jewish Committee proudly proclaimed that, for more than 100 years, it has "worked to safeguard minorities, fight terrorism, anti-Semitism, hatred and bigotry, pursue social justice, advance human dignity,