

COMMUNICATION FROM THE
CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 5, 2008.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
*The Speaker, House of Representatives, Wash-
ington, DC.*

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: I have the honor to transmit herewith a facsimile copy of a letter received from the Honorable Jay Dardenne, Secretary of State, State of Louisiana, indicating that, according to the unofficial returns of the Special Election held May 3, 2008, the Honorable Don Cazayoux was elected Representative to Congress for the Sixth Congressional District, State of Louisiana.

With best wishes, I am
Sincerely,

LORRAINE C. MILLER,
Clerk.

Enclosure.

STATE OF LOUISIANA,
Baton Rouge, LA, May 5, 2008.

Hon. LORRAINE C. MILLER,
*Clerk, House of Representatives, The Capitol,
Washington, DC.*

DEAR MS. MILLER: This is to advise you that the unofficial results of the Special Election held on Saturday, May 3, 2008, for Representative in Congress from the Sixth Congressional District of Louisiana, show that "Don" Cazayoux received 49,702 or 49.20% of the total number of votes cast for that office.

It would appear from these unofficial results that "Don" Cazayoux was elected as Representative in Congress from the Sixth Congressional District of Louisiana.

To the best of our knowledge and belief at this time, there is no contest to this election.

As soon as the official results are certified to this office by all Parishes involved, an official Certificate of Election will be prepared for transmittal as required by law.

If I can ever be of any assistance to you, please do not hesitate contacting me.

With best wishes,

JAY DARDENNE,
Secretary of State.

Enclosure.

ELECTION # 5/03/08 RESULTS FOR OFFICE

Office: U.S. Representative, 6th Congressional District (One to be Elected), Precincts reporting: 512 of 512, Total Votes: 101,011 100%.

SPECIAL ELECTION

Votes	Percent	Candidate name	Pty
448	0.44	Peter J. Aranyosi	N
3,718	3.68	Ashley Casey	N
49,702	49.20	"Don" Cazayoux	D
402	0.40	Randall T. Hayes	O
46,741	46.27	Louis "Woody" Jenkins	R

SWEARING IN OF THE HONORABLE
DON CAZAYOUX, OF LOUISIANA,
AS A MEMBER OF THE HOUSE

Mr. JEFFERSON. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the gentleman from Louisiana, the Honorable DON CAZAYOUX, be permitted to take the oath of office today.

His certificate of election has not arrived, but there is no contest and no question has been raised with regard to his election.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Louisiana?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER. Will the Representative-elect and the members of the Louisiana delegation present themselves in the well.

Mr. CAZAYOUX appeared at the bar of the House and took the oath of office, as follows:

Do you solemnly swear or affirm that you will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that you will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that you take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that you will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which you are about to enter, so help you God.

The SPEAKER. Congratulations. You are now a Member of the 110th Congress.

WELCOMING THE HONORABLE DON
CAZAYOUX TO THE HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. JEFFERSON) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. JEFFERSON. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the Louisiana delegation, we are proud to welcome DON CAZAYOUX to this magnificent House.

He understands the values of faith, family and public service. He grew up in New Roads, Louisiana, has been married for 21 years to a retired school teacher, Cherie, and they have three children, Michael, Chavanne and Katie, who are all here today, I am sure. He has served in the State House since 1999, and he has, of course, been well qualified before that, having served in a number of public service offices, including as the District Attorney of Pointe Coupee Parish.

Now, I might say a lot of things about his former preparation for this, but let me say this, as we grow older, we get to know folks through our children. My daughter is the best representative I know of what we all know now about DON CAZAYOUX. When she first started in the Louisiana State House, DON CAZAYOUX was already there. She told me she met this wonderful young man who was helpful to her.

After she got to know him a bit better, she said he was a very thoughtful representative. As she got to know him even more, she said he was a very decent man.

On the recommendation of my daughter, he was helpful, he was thoughtful, and he is thoroughly decent. Through that description, I think we all will get to know him as well.

I am proud, on behalf of all of us here, to present this wonderful young man, who is a cousin of Lindy Boggs, who is here with us today.

For the last several years, Charlie Melancon and I have met in a phone booth over here as the total Democratic caucus of Louisiana. Now, Madam Speaker, we may need different accommodations because of this election.

May I ask Mr. CAZAYOUX to please come to the microphone. We welcome you.

Mr. CAZAYOUX. Thank you, Madam Speaker, Members, for the warm welcome. I am honored to be the newest Member of this body.

I want to thank my family, who is here; my wife, whose goodness inspires me, Cherie; my children, Michael, Chavanne and Katie, who remind me why we are here, why our decisions are so important for the future.

I want to introduce you to my parents, Donald and Ann Cazayoux; Ann, whose compassion taught me to be compassionate; my father, whose sense of humor taught me to have a sense of humor, especially about myself; my Uncle John Wayne Jewell, who has a small-town private practice of law and taught me all about public service. I want to thank him and my Aunt Martha for her commitment to justice; my mother-in-law, Bonnie, for her goodness; Lindy Boggs, my model of leadership. Thank you for being here, and for the rest of my family and friends, without whose help I could not be here, physically here, period.

I also want to thank the members and the constituents of my district for electing me and for challenging me to come here to work with you to meet the demands that they face every day to solve the problems in a commonsense, fiscally prudent manner in terms of health care, the price of gas or what have you.

Thank you so much for welcoming me, and I look forward to working with each of you.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. Under clause 5(d) of rule XX, the Chair announces to the House that, in light of the administration of the oath to the gentleman from Louisiana, the whole number of the House is 433.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER
PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. TAUSCHER). Without objection, 5-minute voting will continue.

There was no objection.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES
ON H.R. 2419, FOOD AND ENERGY
SECURITY ACT OF 2007

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to instruct on H.R. 2419 offered by the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. RYAN) on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk will redesignate the motion.

The Clerk redesignated the motion.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to instruct.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 172, nays 241, not voting 19, as follows:

[Roll No. 247]

YEAS—172

Aderholt	Garrett (NJ)	Pence
Akin	Gerlach	Petri
Alexander	Gilchrest	Pickering
Bachus	Gingrey	Pitts
Baird	Goode	Platts
Barrett (SC)	Granger	Porter
Bartlett (MD)	Hall (TX)	Price (GA)
Barton (TX)	Harman	Ramstad
Bean	Hastings (WA)	Regula
Berman	Heller	Rehberg
Biggert	Hensarling	Reichert
Billray	Hinches	Renzi
Bilirakis	Hobson	Reynolds
Blumenauer	Hoekstra	Rogers (AL)
Blunt	Holt	Rogers (KY)
Boehner	Hunter	Rogers (MI)
Bonner	Inglis (SC)	Rohrabacher
Bono Mack	Israel	Ros-Lehtinen
Boucher	Issa	Roskam
Brady (TX)	Johnson, Sam	Royce
Broun (GA)	Jordan	Ryan (WI)
Brown (SC)	Keller	Saxton
Brown-Waite,	Kind	Schiff
Ginny	King (NY)	Schmidt
Burgess	Kingston	Scott (GA)
Buyer	Kirk	Sensenbrenner
Calvert	Kinollenberg	Sessions
Camp (MI)	Kuhl (NY)	Sestak
Cannon	Lamborn	Shadegg
Cantor	Lampson	Shays
Capito	Larson (CT)	Sherman
Castle	Latham	Smith (NJ)
Chabot	LaTourette	Smith (TX)
Coble	Latta	Smith (WA)
Cooper	Lewis (CA)	Souder
Crenshaw	Linder	Stark
Crowley	Lipinski	Stearns
Culberson	LoBiondo	Sullivan
Davis, David	Lungren, Daniel	Tancredo
Davis, Tom	E.	Terry
Deal (GA)	Mack	Tiberi
Dent	Marchant	Tierney
Diaz-Balart, L.	Matheson	Turner
Diaz-Balart, M.	McCarthy (CA)	Upton
Dreier	McCaul (TX)	Van Hollen
Duncan	McCotter	Walberg
Ehlers	McCreery	Wamp
English (PA)	McHugh	Weiner
Everett	McKeon	Weldon (FL)
Feeney	Meeks (NY)	Westmoreland
Ferguson	Mica	Whitfield (KY)
Flake	Miller (FL)	Wilson (NM)
Fossella	Miller, Gary	Wilson (SC)
Foster	Mitchell	Wolf
Foxx	Murphy, Patrick	Woolsey
Franks (AZ)	Myrick	Wu
Frelinghuysen	Nunes	Young (AK)
Gallely	Paul	Young (FL)

NAYS—241

Abercrombie	Buchanan	Davis (AL)
Ackerman	Capps	Davis (CA)
Allen	Capuano	Davis (IL)
Altmire	Cardoza	Davis (KY)
Arcuri	Carnahan	Davis, Lincoln
Baca	Carney	DeFazio
Bachmann	Carter	DeGette
Baldwin	Castor	Delahunt
Barrow	Cazayoux	DeLauro
Becerra	Chandler	Dingell
Berkley	Clarke	Doggett
Berry	Clay	Donnelly
Bishop (GA)	Cleaver	Doolittle
Bishop (NY)	Clyburn	Doyle
Bishop (UT)	Cohen	Drake
Boozman	Cole (OK)	Edwards
Boren	Conaway	Ellison
Boswell	Conyers	Ellsworth
Boustany	Costa	Emanuel
Boyd (FL)	Costello	Emerson
Boya (KS)	Courtney	Engel
Brady (PA)	Cubin	Eshoo
Braley (IA)	Cuellar	Etheridge
Brown, Corrine	Cummings	Fallin

Farr	Lofgren, Zoe
Fattah	Lowey
Finler	Lucas
Forbes	Lynch
Fortenberry	Mahoney (FL)
Frank (MA)	Maloney (NY)
Giffords	Manullo
Gillibrand	Markey
Gohmert	Matsui
Gonzalez	McCarthy (NY)
Goodlatte	McCollum (MN)
Gordon	McDermott
Graves	McGovern
Green, Al	McIntyre
Green, Gene	McMorris
Grijalva	Rodgers
Gutiérrez	McNerney
Hall (NY)	McNulty
Hare	Meek (FL)
Hastings (FL)	Melancon
Hayes	Michaud
Herger	Miller (MI)
Herseht Sandlin	Miller (NC)
Higgins	Miller, George
Hill	Mollohan
Hinojosa	Moore (KS)
Hirono	Moore (WI)
Hodes	Moran (KS)
Holden	Moran (VA)
Honda	Murphy (CT)
Hooley	Murphy, Tim
Hoyer	Murtha
Inslee	Musgrave
Jackson (IL)	Nadler
Jackson-Lee	Napolitano
(TX)	Neal (MA)
Jefferson	Neugebauer
Johnson (GA)	Obey
Johnson (IL)	Oliver
Johnson, E. B.	Ortiz
Kagen	Pallone
Kanjorski	Pascarell
Kaptur	Pastor
Kennedy	Payne
Kildee	Pearce
Kilpatrick	Perlmutter
King (IA)	Peterson (MN)
Klein (FL)	Poe
Kline (MN)	Pomeroy
Kucinich	Price (NC)
LaHood	Putnam
Langevin	Radanovich
Larsen (WA)	Rahall
Lee	Rangel
Levin	Reyes
Lewis (GA)	Richardson
Lewis (KY)	Rodriguez
Loeb sack	Ross

NOT VOTING—19

Andrews	Dicks	Peterson (PA)
Blackburn	Hulshof	Pryce (OH)
Burton (IN)	Jones (NC)	Rush
Butterfield	Jones (OH)	Speier
Campbell (CA)	Marshall	Wynn
Carson	McHenry	
Cramer	Oberstar	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). Two minutes remain on this vote.

□ 1337

Ms. BERKLEY, Messrs. DAVIS of Illinois, BECERRA, JACKSON of Illinois, JEFFERSON, Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS, and Ms. BALDWIN changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

Messrs. ISRAEL, NUNES and MCCARTHY of California changed their vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So the motion to instruct was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Mr. WALSH of New York. Madam Speaker, I move to reconsider the vote.

MOTION TO TABLE OFFERED BY MR. HASTINGS OF FLORIDA

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I move to lay the motion to reconsider on the table.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to table.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. WALSH of New York. Madam Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 203, noes 176, not voting 53, as follows:

[Roll No. 248]

AYES—203

Abercrombie	Green, Gene	Oliver
Ackerman	Grijalva	Ortiz
Allen	Gutiérrez	Pallone
Altmire	Hall (NY)	Pascarell
Baca	Hare	Pastor
Bachmann	Harman	Payne
Baird	Hastings (FL)	Perlmutter
Baldwin	Herseht Sandlin	Peterson (MN)
Barrow	Higgins	Pomeroy
Bean	Hill	Price (NC)
Becerra	Hinches	Rahall
Berkley	Hirono	Rangel
Bishop (GA)	Holden	Reyes
Bishop (NY)	Holt	Rodriguez
Blumenauer	Honda	Ross
Boswell	Hooley	Rothman
Boucher	Hoyer	Royal-Allard
Boyd (FL)	Inslee	Ruppersberger
Boyda (KS)	Israel	Schakowsky
Brady (PA)	Jackson (IL)	Schiff
Braley (IA)	Jackson-Lee	Schwartz
Brown, Corrine	(TX)	Scott (GA)
Capps	Jefferson	Scott (VA)
Capuano	Johnson (GA)	Serrano
Cardoza	Johnson, E. B.	Sestak
Carnahan	Kagen	Shea-Porter
Carney	Kanjorski	Sherman
Castor	Kildee	Shuler
Cazayoux	Kilpatrick	Sires
Clarke	Kind	Skeltton
Clay	Klein (FL)	Slaughter
Cleaver	Kucinich	Smith (WA)
Clyburn	Kucinich	Snyder
Cohen	Lampson	Space
Conyers	Langevin	Spratt
Costa	Larsen (WA)	Stark
Costello	Lee	Stupak
Courtney	Levin	Sutton
Crowley	Lewis (GA)	Tanner
Cuellar	Lipinski	Tauscher
Cummings	Loeb sack	Taylor
Davis (AL)	Lofgren, Zoe	Thompson (CA)
Davis (CA)	Lowey	Thompson (MS)
Davis (IL)	Lynch	Tierney
Davis (KY)	Mahoney (FL)	Towns
Davis, Lincoln	Maloney (NY)	Tsongas
DeFazio	Markey	Udall (CO)
DeGette	Matheson	Udall (NM)
Delahunt	Matsui	Van Hollen
DeLauro	McCarthy (NY)	Velázquez
Dicks	McCollum (MN)	Wasserman
Dingell	McDermott	Schultz
Doggett	McGovern	Waters
Donnelly	McIntyre	Watson
Edwards	McNerney	Watt
Ellison	McNulty	Waxman
Ellsworth	Meeks (NY)	Weiner
Emanuel	Melancon	Welch (VT)
Engel	Miller (NC)	Wexler
Eshoo	Miller, George	Whitfield (KY)
Etheridge	Mitchell	Wilson (OH)
Farr	Moore (KS)	Woolsey
Fattah	Moore (WI)	Yarmuth
Finler	Moran (VA)	
Foster	Murphy (CT)	
Frank (MA)	Murphy, Patrick	
Giffords	Nadler	
Gillibrand	Napolitano	
Gordon	Neal (MA)	
Green, Al	Obey	

NOES—176

Aderholt	Biggert	Bono Mack
Akin	Billray	Boozman
Alexander	Bilirakis	Brady (TX)
Bachus	Bishop (UT)	Broun (GA)
Barrett (SC)	Blunt	Brown (SC)
Bartlett (MD)	Boehner	Brown-Waite,
Barton (TX)	Bonner	Ginny

Buchanan	Hobson	Pickering
Burgess	Hoekstra	Pitts
Buyer	Hunter	Platts
Calvert	Inglis (SC)	Poe
Camp (MI)	Issa	Porter
Cannon	Johnson (IL)	Price (GA)
Cantor	Johnson, Sam	Putnam
Capito	Jordan	Ramstad
Carter	Keller	Regula
Castle	King (IA)	Rehberg
Chabot	King (NY)	Reichert
Coble	Kingston	Renzi
Cole (OK)	Kirk	Rogers (KY)
Conaway	Kline (MN)	Rogers (MI)
Crenshaw	Knollenberg	Rohrabacher
Cubin	Kuhl (NY)	Ros-Lehtinen
Culberson	LaHood	Roskam
Davis (KY)	Lamborn	Royce
Davis, David	Latham	Ryan (WI)
Davis, Tom	LaTourette	Sali
Dent	Latta	Saxton
Diaz-Balart, L.	Lewis (CA)	Sensenbrenner
Diaz-Balart, M.	Lewis (KY)	Sessions
Doolittle	Linder	Shadegg
Drake	LoBiondo	Shays
Dreier	Lucas	Shimkus
Duncan	Lungren, Daniel	Shuster
Ehlers	E.	Simpson
Emerson	Mack	Smith (NE)
English (PA)	Manzullo	Smith (NJ)
Everett	Marchant	Smith (TX)
Fallin	McCarthy (CA)	Souder
Ferguson	McCaul (TX)	Stearns
Flake	McCotter	Sullivan
Forbes	McCrery	Tancredo
Fortenberry	McHugh	Terry
Fossella	McKeon	Thornberry
Fox	McMorris	Tiberi
Franks (AZ)	Rodgers	Turner
Frelinghuysen	Mica	Upton
Garrett (NJ)	Miller (FL)	Walberg
Gerlach	Miller (MI)	Walden (OR)
Gilchrest	Miller, Gary	Walsh (NY)
Gingrey	Moran (KS)	Weldon (FL)
Gohmert	Murphy, Tim	Weller
Goode	Musgrave	Westmoreland
Goodlatte	Myrick	Wilson (NM)
Granger	Neugebauer	Wilson (SC)
Graves	Nunes	Wittman (VA)
Hall (TX)	Paul	Wolf
Hastings (WA)	Pearce	Young (AK)
Hayes	Pence	Young (FL)
Hensarling	Petri	

NOT VOTING—53

Andrews	Gonzalez	Peterson (PA)
Arcuri	Heller	Pryce (OH)
Berman	Herger	Radanovich
Berry	Hinojosa	Reynolds
Blackburn	Hodes	Richardson
Boren	Hulshof	Rogers (AL)
Boustany	Jones (NC)	Rush
Burton (IN)	Jones (OH)	Ryan (OH)
Butterfield	Kaptur	Sánchez, Linda
Campbell (CA)	Kennedy	T.
Carson	Larson (CT)	Sarbanes
Chandler	Marshall	Schmidt
Cooper	McHenry	Solis
Cramer	Meek (FL)	Speier
Deal (GA)	Michaud	Tiahrt
Doyle	Mollohan	Wamp
Feeney	Murtha	Wu
Galleghy	Oberstar	Wynn

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). Two minutes are remaining on this vote.

□ 1344

So the motion to table was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF INTENTION TO OFFER MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES ON H.R. 2419, FOOD AND ENERGY SECURITY ACT OF 2007

Mr. CANTOR. Madam Speaker, under rule XXII, clause 7(c), I hereby announce my intention to offer a motion to instruct on H.R. 2419.

The form of the motion is as follows:

Mr. Cantor moves the managers on the part of the House at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the Senate amendment to the bill H.R. 2419 be instructed not to agree to the provisions contained in section 12808 of the Senate amendment (relating to qualified forestry conservation bonds).

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

NATIONAL NURSES WEEK

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1086) recognizing National Nurses Week on May 6 through May 12, 2008.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1086

Whereas, since 2003, National Nurses Week is celebrated annually from May 6, also known as National Nurses Day, through May 12, the birthday of Florence Nightingale, the founder of modern nursing;

Whereas National Nurses Week is the time each year when nurses are recognized for the critical role they play in providing safe, high-quality, and preventative health care;

Whereas nurses are the cornerstone of the Nation's complex health care system, representing the largest single component of the health care profession, with an estimated over 2,500,000 registered nurses in the United States;

Whereas, according to a study published in the New England Journal of Medicine in May 2002, a higher proportion of nursing care provided by registered nurses and a greater number of hours of care by registered nurses per day are associated with better outcomes for hospitalized patients;

Whereas nurses are experienced researchers and their work encompasses a wide scope of scientific inquiry including clinical research, health systems and outcomes research, and nursing education research;

Whereas nurses are currently serving the Nation admirably in the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan;

Whereas nurses help inform and educate the public to improve the practice of all nurses and, more importantly, the health and safety of the patients they care for;

Whereas the Nation continues to face a nursing shortage unprecedented in its depth and duration, with a projection of over 1,000,000 new and replacement nurses needed by 2016;

Whereas the nationwide nursing shortage has caused dedicated nurses to work longer hours and care for more acutely ill patients;

Whereas nurses are strong allies to Congress as they help inform, educate, and work closely with legislators to improve the education, retention, recruitment, and practice of all nurses and, more importantly, the health and safety of the patients they care for; and

Whereas nurses are an integral part of the health care delivery team and provide quality care, support, and education to patients and their families, conduct essential research, and serve as strong patient advocates: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) recognizes the significant contributions of nurses to the health care system of the United States;

(2) supports the goals and ideals of National Nurses Week, as founded by the American Nurses Association; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States to observe National Nurses Week with appropriate recognition, ceremonies, activities, and programs to demonstrate the importance of nurses to the everyday lives of patients.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GENE GREEN) and the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. TERRY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous material on the resolution under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 1086 recognizing today, May 6, through May 12 as National Nurses Week. As a cosponsor of this resolution, I am proud to lend my voice in support of our Nation's nurses.

Continuing in the illustrious tradition of Florence Nightingale, the founder of modern nursing, nurses today continue to attend to our Armed Forces overseas. These brave men and women place themselves at risk in war zones, including the conflicts in Afghanistan and Iraq, to tend to our injured soldiers. Besides tending to the wounded abroad, nurses are also on the front lines of our health care system here at home. Whether their primary function is to care for our aging population or to provide immediate aid to the sick and injured, our nurses provide quality patient care and support to keep our health care system running.

As the Nation continues to face a nursing shortage, with a projected 1 million new nurses needed by 2016, it is especially important that everyone is aware of the sacrifices nurses make on a daily basis for our country. We must continue to encourage more young people and those seeking a change in career to join the nursing profession.

The resolution before us encourages all Americans to observe this week as National Nurses Week by showing appropriate recognition to nurses and creating programs and activities during the week to demonstrate the importance of nurses.