

the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide more effective remedies to victims of discrimination in the payment of wages on the basis of sex, and for other purposes.

Ms. McCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in strong support of the Paycheck Fairness Act (H.R. 1338). This is a historic day in the fight for equal rights for women, and I would like to thank Speaker PELOSI, Congresswoman DELAURO, and Chairman MILLER for their leadership in this issue.

Women have made great strides in the American workplace during the last quarter century. Women are now more likely to have advanced degrees, own businesses, and make up nearly half the workforce. When Congresswoman NANCY PELOSI was sworn in as Speaker of the House, women and young girls were inspired to know that there is no job a woman in this country cannot do. As we send our young female graduates into the workforce we must ensure that they receive equal pay for equal work.

Although the wage gap has narrowed since the passage of the landmark Equal Pay Act in 1963, gender-based wage discrimination remains a problem for women in the workforce. It is unacceptable that women continue to earn just 77 cents for every dollar earned by men, and pay disparity can be even worse for minority women. This wage disparity will cost women anywhere from \$400,000 to \$2 million over a lifetime in lost wages. Furthermore, the wage disparity grows wider as women age and threatens their economic security, retirement, and quality of life.

The Paycheck Fairness Act will make commonsense reforms to strengthen the Equal Pay Act and close the loopholes that have allowed employers to avoid responsibility for discriminatory pay. It would require employers seeking to justify unequal pay to bear the burden of proving that their actions are justified, and allow women to sue for punitive damages. This bill would also prohibit employers from retaliating against employees who share salary information with their co-workers. Finally, it would create a training program to help women strengthen their negotiation skills, and require the Department of Labor to work with employers to eliminate pay disparities by enhancing outreach and training efforts.

The Paycheck Fairness Act recognizes that equal pay is not only an issue of fairness for women, but also one of fairness for working families. In these tough economic times, this bill could make all the difference for working families to make ends meet in their everyday lives. Through these efforts we can help give families the resources they need to give their children a better future. Pay equity should not be a benefit that needs to be bargained for, it is a promise that the Government must ensure.

I urge my colleagues to rise in support of this bill to ensure economic security for women and their families. Through this legislation we can ensure a better future for our daughters, granddaughters, and generations to come.

HONORING MR. THOMAS LIZIK OF INCARNATION CATHOLIC SCHOOL ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 1, 2008

Mr. LIPINSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor an outstanding educator in my district, Thomas Lizik. This past June, Mr. Lizik retired from the Archdiocese of Chicago school system after 40 years of distinguished service and leadership. His remarkable contributions to his students, colleagues, and the entire community will always be remembered and his presence will be sorely missed. I would like to extend my appreciation to Mr. Lizik for his decades of dedicated service.

After receiving a degree in business administration from DePaul University in 1968, Mr. Lizik began his teaching career at Visitation Catholic School in Chicago, IL. He continued on to teach at St. Ann Catholic School in Chicago, St. Denis School in Chicago, and Incarnation School in Palos Heights. Mr. Lizik's awareness of the importance of family, friends, integrity, and career is the foundation of his professional success, and has led his colleagues and students to hold him in the highest regard.

Mr. Lizik's tireless work has earned him numerous awards, including the "Outstanding Teacher Award" from St. Ignatius College Prep and the "Most Influential Teacher Award" from De La Salle High School and Queen of Peace High School. In 2002, he was nominated for the Golden Apple Award for Excellence in Teaching. In addition to these special awards, he has also been featured in "Who's Who Among American Teachers" and has served as a distinguished member of the Illinois Council of Teachers of Mathematics.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mr. Thomas Lizik as an outstanding educator, and recognize his tireless efforts to educate and develop generations of confident, responsible, and well-educated students. He has done nothing less than an extraordinary job in preparing future generations for their challenges ahead. I thank and congratulate Thomas for his service and dedication and wish him a happy, healthy, and fulfilling retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LAMAR SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 1, 2008

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Madam Speaker, yesterday the House voted on a motion to censure the gentleman from New York, Mr. RANGEL.

Members had no advance notice of the vote, and I did not familiarize myself with the substance of the motion as much as I would have liked.

If the vote were taken again, I would vote present rather than "aye."

COMMEMORATING THE 1-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE I-35W BRIDGE COLLAPSE

HON. JOHN KLINE

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 1, 2008

Mr. KLINE of Minnesota. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the anniversary of a tragedy still fresh in the minds of many Minnesotans.

Just 1 year ago today, thousands of men, women and families were on their way home from work and school when calamity struck. Without warning, the bridge that so many of us took for granted on our daily commutes failed, causing physical and emotional pain that lingers even today.

But this anniversary is not entirely solemn. Today we also recall the heroic actions of the men and women who came to the aid of those injured in the collapse.

The first emergency personnel on the scene responded without hesitation, risking their health and safety to rescue victims and provide medical care to the injured. In the weeks and months following the collapse, scores of ordinary people became extraordinary citizens by rushing to the aid of those in need.

Madam Speaker, on this somber occasion, as we remember the victims of this collapse and their families, we also celebrate the selfless service of the heroes who came to their rescue. Our thoughts and prayers remain with all who were affected.

HONORING EDWARD DAY COHOTA, JOSEPH L. PIERCE, AND OTHER VETERANS OF ASIAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER DESCENT WHO FOUGHT IN THE UNITED STATES CIVIL WAR

SPEECH OF

HON. DAVID WU

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 30, 2008

Mr. WU. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 415, a resolution to honor and recognize veterans of Asian and Pacific Islander descent who fought valiantly in the United States Civil War.

Historical research indicates that more than 250 soldiers of Asian and Pacific Islander descent served in both the Union and Confederate forces during the Civil War. Mr. Edward Day Cohota and Mr. Joseph L. Pierce, both of Chinese descent, are the most documented and researched of these veterans.

Mr. Cohota enlisted in the 23rd Regiment, Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry, in 1864 and fought courageously in the Battle of Drury's Bluff, where other soldiers reported that he had seven bullet holes in his coat but was not wounded. Mr. Cohota continued to serve in the U.S. Army for a total of 30 years.

Mr. Pierce enlisted in the 14th Regiment, Connecticut Volunteer Infantry, in 1862 and fought in his first battle at Antietam. He further distinguished himself in the Battle of Gettysburg, and bravely volunteered for a perilous attack on Bliss Farm during the day of Pickett's charge.

Remarkably, despite the fact that many people of Asian and Pacific Islander descent were not allowed to naturalize during this period, a disproportionately high percentage enlisted to fight on both sides of the Civil War. After the war, however, scores of these soldiers and sailors were unjustly denied their due recognition and benefits.

H. Res. 415 is a long overdue expression of appreciation for the loyal service of the Civil War veterans of Asian and Pacific Islander heritage. The United States House of Representatives stands to recognize their contributions to our Nation's history and to speak against the injustices done to them despite their patriotism and honorable service.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE RETIREMENT OF MAJOR GENERAL JEFFREY R. REIMER, UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 1, 2008

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor MG Jeffrey Reimer as he retires from the United States Air Force after 34 years of service.

A 1974 graduate of the University of Florida, Major General Reimer held a variety of important assignments in his 34 years of service. As the top graduate from his pilot training program class, he initially served as an F-4C Wild Weasel pilot. Assigned to the Air Training Command, he was the top graduate from T-37 instructor training and the Instructor Pilot of the Year. He has effectively served the Nation in numerous positions within the test and acquisition community. He was an F-16 acceptance test pilot and was selected to attend the Air Force Institute of Technology and USAF Test Pilot School. As a distinguished graduate of the school, he served as an instructor and continued his experimental test pilot duties at the F-16 Combined Test Force.

Major General Reimer served in the Office of the Secretary of Defense as a military staff assistant for developmental testing of aircraft and air-to-air missiles. His later assignments include: Program manager for the MC-130H Combat Talon and program director of special programs for the Air-to-Air Joint System Program Office. He has commanded the 4953rd Test Squadron, Air Force Security Assistance Center, and the Air Armament Center. In his most recent assignment, Major General Reimer served as the Air Force Program Executive Officer for the F-22. He saved the taxpayers \$411 million using a multi-year contract to purchase 60 F-22 aircraft.

On a personal note, I had the pleasure of working very closely with Major General Reimer when he was Commander of the Air Armament Center at Eglin Air Force Base. Together, we worked through test facility closure and test wing consolidation issues. He provided strong leadership and candid assessments to Air Force officials which were necessary to effectively accomplish the mission.

Madam Speaker, few can match the dedication and professionalism of MG Jeffrey Reimer. He is a man of honor and a man of principle. In his 34 years of service, he has touched the lives of many and our Nation is

stronger because of his dedicated service. On behalf of the United States Congress, I wish to thank MG Jeffrey Reimer for his years of dedicated service. Vicki and I wish him and his family our best wishes for success and happiness in the future.

A TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF DONALD RAY TOW

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 1, 2008

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of Donald Ray Tow of Selma, California, who recently passed away at the age of 74. He leaves behind the love of his life of 44 years, Marie, along with 4 children, 13 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren.

Mr. Tow was born on June 2, 1934, in Checotah, Oklahoma, but was raised in the Central Valley. As a teenager Don moved from Bakersfield to Selma, California, and graduated from Selma High School in 1952. Upon graduation from Selma High School he attended Reedley College prior to joining the U.S. Air Force in 1953. While in the Air Force Don proudly served his country in Korea.

After returning from Korea he continued his education at Fresno State College, where he received his master's degree in education. His first job was at Eric White Elementary in Selma, California, as a sixth grade teacher. After teaching for 13 years he went on to become a principal at Washington School in Kingsburg, California. In 1990, he moved on to Roosevelt Junior High, also as a principal.

He was devoted to his community, serving on the Selma Unified School Board, the Selma City Council, and most recently as mayor of the city of Selma. Mr. Tow not only had a passion for education but also for sports and especially for baseball. His huge interest in sports drew him to coaching in the Selma Little League. One of his favorite pastimes was family outings to Morro Bay, and Dinkey Creek, and watching his grandchildren at their sporting events.

It goes without saying that Mr. Donald Ray "Don" Tow was an honorable man with a commitment to family, friends and the community that will forever live in the lives of the people he so graciously touched. His passion for family, education, and his community will be remembered by all who knew him. I am honored and humbled to join his family in celebrating the life of this amazing man who will never be forgotten.

TRIBUTE TO RACHEL JAGODA BRUNETTE

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 1, 2008

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a talented individual who has been a dedicated member of our committee staff—Rachel Jagoda Brunette.

Rachel came to the committee at the beginning of the 109th Congress as a staff assistant

for the Republican majority. Her talent was quickly recognized, and she was soon promoted to professional staff for the research subcommittee. As a staffer for that subcommittee, she handled math and science education issues.

At the start of this Congress, the committee offered positions to several staffers of former Chairman Boehlert and we were fortunate that Rachel accepted our offer. She moved to the Subcommittee on Technology and Innovation and deftly transitioned to a broad portfolio of technology issues, from Homeland Security science and technology to surface transportation research and development.

Her bachelor's degree in physics from Georgetown University and a master's in political management from the George Washington University were an excellent foundation for navigating the nexus between science and policy. Rachel also came to the committee with experience in this area, having worked at the Federation of American Scientists, the American Society for Engineering Education, and the American National Standards Institute.

With intellectual curiosity and an appreciation for scientific knowledge, Rachel spent countless hours absorbing technical details and navigating the political and bureaucratic contexts of her issues. Rachel recognizes how science and technology can help communities meet their needs on the ground.

Rachel performed valuable legislative and oversight duties for the committee. These legislative efforts included H.R. 5161, the Green Transportation Infrastructure Research and Technology Transfer Act and H.R. 3877, the Mine Communications Technology Innovation Act. Her oversight contributions included border security technologies and research and development for energy savings in transportation systems.

Rachel has spent over 3 years working on the Hill and over 9 years in Washington. She is heading to Portland, and our loss is Oregon's gain. She has been a wonderful asset to this committee and will be missed by both Members and staff. I want to thank her for her service to the committee and the science community at large, and I wish her—and her growing family—all the best.

FAMILY SMOKING PREVENTION AND TOBACCO CONTROL ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. VIRGINIA FOXX

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 30, 2008

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, I strongly oppose this 190-page bill, hastily offered under suspension of the rules, which establishes a new Federal authority for the regulation of the tobacco industry. This legislation adds another layer of bureaucracy to the already overburdened Food and Drug Administration, and another layer of regulation to American consumers' lives.

This bill includes more than \$5 billion in new tax increases on tobacco companies and gives sweeping control of the tobacco market to the FDA. Chairman DINGELL, discussing the recent salmonella outbreak, was recently quoted in the Wall Street Journal as saying that "there's a total inability of the FDA to