

President Jimmy Carter elevated him to the federal bench in 1979. Judge Sanders was a help to me personally with my acclaimed national and international Peace Initiative. His counsel and assistance were instrumental to its success. I know Judge Sanders as a man revered for his intellect and compassion. I will truly miss him; the void he is leaving will not soon be filled.

Madam Speaker, Judge Harold Barefoot Sanders, Jr., born in Dallas, graduated from North Dallas High School in 1942 and went on to serve as a lieutenant in the U.S. Naval Reserve until 1946. He received his law degree from the University of Texas in 1950 and served three terms in the Texas Legislature. In 1952 he married Jan Scurlock, who survives him. He is also survived by daughters Martha Kay Crockett of Dallas and Mary Frances Korsan of Santa Monica, CA; a sister, Martha Ann Schneider of Dallas; brother, Charles Addison Sanders of Durham, NC; and 10 grandchildren.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE "INDIVIDUAL DEPOSITOR AND COMMUNITY BANK PROTECTION ACT OF 2008"

**HON. STEVE COHEN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 22, 2008*

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, today I introduced the "Individual Depositor and Community Bank Protection Act of 2008," which raises the federal deposit insurance limit from the current \$100,000 to \$200,000. This upward adjustment in the federal deposit insurance limit is long overdue. The last increase in the deposit insurance limit—to the current \$100,000—was made 28 years ago, in 1980, the year Ronald Reagan was first elected President. This has been the longest period in history in which there has been no raise in the deposit insurance maximum. Since 1980, our nation's economy has changed, with an undeniable increase in income, prices, and wealth. By failing to raise the deposit insurance limit in kind, Congress has effectively weakened the federal guarantee underlying deposit insurance.

Deposit insurance, established in response to the financial meltdown of the 1930s that led to the Great Depression, is vital to consumer confidence and to the stability of our nation's banking system. It also is an effective mechanism for ensuring that small community banks can maintain a competitive position vis à vis large national banks. Large banks are not as dependent as small ones on deposit insurance because they are categorized as "too big to fail" and will be protected by the federal government should they run into financial trouble. As a result, they have a competitive advantage in securing depositors and in providing loans. Small community banks enjoy no such protection and, as a result, depend on a robust federal deposit insurance guarantee to reassure consumers that their money is safe in a community bank. Weakening deposit insurance effectively gives a competitive upper hand to the ever-shrinking number of large national banks and, in the long run, will limit the vitality and competitiveness of our nation's banking industry.

At this moment of economic crisis and deep financial uncertainty for millions of Americans, I urge my colleagues to support this straightforward and long-overdue raise in the federal insurance deposit limit. It is vital to maintaining our nation's financial stability, ensuring a solid foundation for economic growth, promoting competition in the banking industry, and reassuring an anxious nation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. GENE GREEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 22, 2008*

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise to explain my reason for missing votes on September 11 and 15, 2008. My voting percentage is over 96 percent for the 110th Congress, and I rarely miss votes, but felt it was extremely important to be home in Houston, Texas while my neighbors and constituents were making preparations for Hurricane Ike and to help recovery efforts in the immediate aftermath. The storm made landfall early Saturday morning, and by the time it passed Houston Saturday afternoon, it had caused the largest power disruption in the state's history, along with tremendous flood and wind damage. There are still nearly two million people in the Houston area without power, and many without water. When I left yesterday to fly back to Washington, significant relief efforts by Federal, State, and local emergency officials were just getting underway.

There is still a tremendous amount of work to be done, and I ask for everyone's thoughts and prayers as Houston and the Gulf Coast recover from this devastating storm.

Had I been present to vote, I would have voted as follows:

On rollcall vote No. 585, on Approving the Journal, I would have voted "aye";

On rollcall vote No. 586, H. Res. 1344, on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree to the resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the terrorist attacks launched against the United States on September 11, 2001, I would have voted "aye";

On rollcall vote No. 587, H. Res. 6532, on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree to the Senate Amendment to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to restore the Highway Trust Fund balance, I would have voted "aye";

On rollcall vote No. 588, on Motion to Adjourn, I would have voted "aye";

On rollcall vote No. 589, H. Res. 1200, on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree as amended, a resolution honoring the dedication and outstanding work of military support groups across the country for their steadfast support of the members of our Armed Forces and their families, I would have voted "aye";

On rollcall vote No. 590, H. Con. Res. 390, on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree as amended, a resolution honoring the 28th Infantry Division for serving and protecting the United States, I would have voted "aye";

On rollcall vote No. 591, H. R. 6889, on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, a bill to extend the authority of the Secretary of Education to purchase guaranteed student loans for an additional year, and for other purposes, I would have voted "aye";

EL CENTRO FIRE CHIEF BENNIE BENAVIDEZ INDUCTED INTO THE NAVY FIREFIGHTER HALL OF FAME

**HON. BOB FILNER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 22, 2008*

Mr. FILNER. Madam Speaker and colleagues, I rise today to recognize Bennie Benavidez, retired NAF El Centro Fire Chief, who was inducted into the Navy Firefighter Hall of Fame at the 2008 Navy and Marine Corps Fire and Emergency Services Awards Luncheon on August 14, 2008 in Denver, Colorado.

Chief Benavidez is the first nominee and first inductee from the Navy Region Southwest into the Hall of Fame, which was created three years ago. He was selected by the 13 Regional Fire Chiefs as a person whose contributions should be recognized for posterity.

He served his country for many years in a Navy Fire Career which included rapid promotions: Firefighter 1955–1956, Engineer 1956–1960, Captain 1960–1973, Assistant Chief 1973–1974, and Fire Chief 1974–1983. Upon his retirement, he was appointed as the Fire Chief of the Imperial County Fire Department and served for an additional 15 years, working to improve the training and safety of fire fighting personnel.

Bennie Benavidez's love of the fire service was passed along to one of his sons, who rose to the rank of Engineer with a local fire department before his death in the line of duty. He keeps his son's memory alive through his community support and charitable contributions to the Burn Institute and local hospitals.

His accomplishments fill several pages. Some examples follow. He received Congressional recognition for "outstanding and invaluable service to the community." He was recognized as "Imperial Man of the Year" by the California State Assembly. He was appointed as Deputy State Fire Marshal for the state of California. He received a commendation from the State of California Governor's Office of Emergency Services. One of his primary contributions has been to foster friendship and cooperation in firefighting training between Imperial County and friends just across the border in Mexico.

Some of his 20 memberships, past and present, include the Imperial County Fire Chiefs Association, International Association of Fire Chiefs, California State Firefighters Association, Southern California Earthquake Preparedness Committee, Elks Lodge #1325, American Legion Post #25, Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Korean War Veterans Association, and Member of several Imperial County Committees regarding the environment, hazardous materials, and community economic development.

It is impossible to thank Bennie Benavidez for all his contributions, throughout his career and in volunteer activities within his community. The occasion of his induction into the Navy Firefighter Hall of Fame is an appropriate time to recognize him, his contributions, and the most prestigious honor that has been bestowed upon him.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. DARRELL E. ISSA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 22, 2008*

Mr. ISSA. Madam Speaker, on Thursday, September 18, 2008, I was absent from the House. Had I been present I would have voted:

On rollcall No. 610, "nay"—H.R. 3036—To Amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 regarding environmental education, and for other purposes.

On rollcall No. 611, "nay"—H.R. 3036—Providing for consideration of H.R. 3036, to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 regarding environmental education, and for other purposes.

On rollcall No. 613, "yes"—H.R. 3036—On Motion to Recommit with Instructions of the No Child Left Inside Act of 2008.

On rollcall No. 614, "nay"—H.R. 3036—On Passage of the No Child Left Inside Act of 2008.

On rollcall No. 615, "nay"—H.R. 6460—On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended.

COMMEMORATING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE RESOURCE CENTER OF DALLAS

**HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 22, 2008*

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, this September marks the 25th anniversary of the Resource Center of Dallas, a long standing institution in the 30th Congressional District of Texas. The center's parent organization—the Dallas Gay Political Caucus, later known as the Dallas Gay and Lesbian Alliance—incorporated what was then called the Foundation for Human Understanding in 1983.

In 1988, the center established the Nelson-Tebedo Clinic for treatment, clinical drug trials and HIV testing. Today, the renamed Nelson-Tebedo Health Resource Center also offers HIV dental, STD testing and treatment, medical case management, insurance assistance, prevention and transgender health services. Nutritional services are available as well as hot lunches.

To recognize the history of and the struggle for GLBT rights in Dallas, the Phil Johnson Historic Archives and Research Library was established at the Community Center in 1994. The Library also operates a 24-hour information helpline, which first started in 1985.

In 1998, the Foundation for Human Understanding changed its name to the Resource Center of Dallas. It operates the John Thomas Gay and Lesbian Community Center, named after the founding executive director, and the Nelson-Tebedo Health Resource Center. Through its health and medical services, the center is a leader in HIV/AIDS education, prevention and services, and provides a full spectrum of STD prevention education, screenings and treatments.

More than 1,100 volunteers and a paid staff of 44 make the Resource Center of Dallas one

of the largest centers of its kind in the United States. More than 50,000 people each year use the Resource Center through its programs and services. From its roots as an advocacy group for civil rights regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity, the center continues its dual mission: to develop programs and offer services for the GLBT community, as well as individuals and families affected by HIV and AIDS.

RETIREMENT TRIBUTE TO COLONEL FRANCIS M. MUNGAVIN

**HON. KIRSTEN E. GILLIBRAND**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 22, 2008*

Mrs. GILLIBRAND. Madam Speaker, on the occasion of his retirement from the United States Air Force, I want to recognize Colonel Francis M. "Mike" Mungavin for his 40-plus years of dedicated service to our country. In his most recent assignment, he serves as the Commander, Air Force Reserve Command Recruiting Service and Director of Recruiting, Air Force Reserve Command, Robins Air Force Base, Georgia. In this role, he exercises command and oversight to over 450 military and civilian personnel worldwide at over 45 main operating locations and serves as the principal advisor to the AFRC commander on all matters relating to recruiting.

Colonel Mungavin enlisted in the Air Force in November 1968, and served 10 years prior to receiving his commission through the Deserving Airman Commissioning Program. Prior to entering Recruiting Services, Colonel Mungavin served as member of the security forces for 32 years on active duty, as a civilian and within the Air Force Reserve Command as a Traditional Reservist and Air Reserve Technician. During this time, he conceived, developed, implemented and commanded the Air Force Reserve Patriot Warrior Program providing our security force troops with required ground combat skills training.

Since taking command of Air Force Reserve Recruiting, Colonel Mungavin has developed and executed numerous initiatives resulting in the Air Force Reserve Command (AFRC) exceeding its annual recruiting goal for eight consecutive years. As the second largest Air Force Major Command, AFRC has been manned at greater than ninety-nine percent for the past seven consecutive years reversing a decade-long trend of failing to meet congressionally mandated end strength levels. He is directly responsible for accessing more than 72,037 airmen helping to transform the Air Force Reserve recruiter into the most productive within DoD.

Mike could not have been such a tremendous leader without the love and unfailing support of his lovely wife of 37 years, Arlene, and their two sons—Nick and Ryan.

Madam Speaker, I join my colleagues in expressing our sincere appreciation to Colonel Francis "Mike" Mungavin for his outstanding service to both the United States Air Force and our great nation. We wish him the best as he transitions into retirement. Colonel Mungavin is a true professional and a credit to himself and the United States Air Force Reserve.

CONGRATULATING WOUNDED WARRIOR PROJECT'S SOLDIER RIDE—2008 HIGH DESERT CHALLENGE AND SPONSOR U-HAUL

**HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 22, 2008*

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the Wounded Warrior Project for its annual Soldier Ride—2008 High Desert Challenge and the sponsor of the challenge, U-Haul.

The nonprofit Wounded Warrior Project is a nonprofit organization that follows their mission, honors and empowers wounded veterans through raising public awareness, enlisting aid for those severely injured, and providing programs and services to those with special needs.

The Soldier Ride—2008 High Desert Challenge is a rehabilitative program that provides the opportunity for wounded veterans to regain an active lifestyle. This three-day bicycle ride from Phoenix to Las Vegas is a remarkable way to honor those wounded during their brave service to our country and to raise money to further the mission of the Wounded Warrior Project.

I congratulate the Wounded Warriors Project for recognizing the significant sacrifices these soldiers have made for our country and community, and continuing to serve these brave men and women through fundraising projects such as the Soldier Ride. I would also like to recognize U-Haul for sponsoring the event.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing the Wounded Warrior Project and their fundraising efforts, as well as their dedicated sponsor, U-Haul.

GEORGIAN COURT UNIVERSITY CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

**HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 22, 2008*

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th Anniversary Celebration of Georgian Court University (GCU). For the past 100 years, Georgian Court has been a leader in higher education, encouraging intellectual inquiry, ethical professionalism, and community involvement. Founded as a women's college in 1908 by the Sisters of Mercy, Georgian Court is dedicated to the success of women. The Women's College at GCU provides a liberal arts education tailored to women's learning styles and an environment conducive to achievement. Georgian Court's Women in Leadership Development program is one of the most powerful programs for young women today. By participating in university committees, making presentations, lobbying legislators, and networking with mentors, students develop the skills and tools needed by today's successful women leaders. In the 1970s, Georgian Court established a coeducational graduate program. Today, the University College caters to men and women adult students and offers flexible class schedules with online components at a number of locations throughout the state.