

noted the incredible power of the press and decided its black-and-white pages desperately needed more color. Both as a strategist working to draw minorities to newsrooms, and as a groundbreaking journalist in her own right, she paved the way for women and African Americans in an industry home to few of either group. She rose from New York Post copy girl to reporter by age 20 and soon thereafter became a member of the New York Times' metropolitan staff—the youngest and first African American woman to do so. There, she covered New York and Washington science, health, education, and domestic policy issues until 1977. At Long Island University, she earned her bachelor's degree and studied journalism, and later, she earned a law degree from Stanford University.

But her love affair with journalism did not end at the written word. In 1983, she and her husband, Robert C. Maynard, purchased the declining Oakland Tribune, which then became the only major daily with African American owners. She and he founded the Maynard Institute for Journalism Education, where they ran a summer program aimed at training minority reporters. Cultivating a broader cultural perspective for American media became the cause of her life. She served as a role model to aspiring journalists of all colors and genders, an exemplar of what dedication to a cause and a strong work ethic can accomplish.

That tenacity and sense of purpose will be missed, but because of her work, her dream of a diversified newsroom has, and will continue, to concretize.

CAMPUS SAFETY ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 7, 2008

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 6838, "Center to Advance, Monitor, and Preserve University Security Safety Act of 2008", introduced by my colleague Congressman BOBBY SCOTT of Virginia.

Sadly, this legislation is in reaction to the numerous tragedies occurring at colleges and universities, including the disastrous events that occurred at Virginia Tech and Northern Illinois University. The Virginia Tech shooting resulted in the slaying of over 30 members of the Virginia Tech family and many others being wounded.

The shooting that occurred on the campus of Northern Illinois University on February 14, 2008 also killed and injured several individuals on the campus. Unfortunately, because these events were the first of their kind for the schools, they were not fully knowledgeable on how to respond.

CAMPUS SAFETY ACT

This legislation will assist all institutions of higher education and states receive the best information possible on campus safety.

This legislation establishes and organizes a National Center for Campus Safety (Center) which will:

1. Provide quality education and training for campus public safety agencies of institutions of higher education and the agencies' collabo-

orative partners, including campus mental health agencies;

2. Foster quality research to strengthen the safety and security of the institutions of higher education in the United States;

3. Serve as a clearinghouse for the identification and dissemination of information, policies, procedures, and best practices relevant to campus public safety, including off-campus housing safety, the prevention of violence against persons and property, and emergency response and evacuation procedures;

4. Develop protocols, in conjunction with the Attorney General, the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Secretary of Education, State, local, and tribal governments and law enforcement agencies, private and nonprofit organizations and associations, and other stakeholders, to prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from, natural and man-made emergencies or dangerous situations involving an immediate threat to the health or safety of the campus community;

5. Promote the development and dissemination of effective behavioral threat assessment and management models to prevent campus violence;

6. Coordinate campus safety information (including ways to increase off-campus housing safety) and resources available from the Department of Justice, the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Education, State, local, and tribal governments and law enforcement agencies, and private and nonprofit organizations and associations;

7. Increase cooperation, collaboration, and consistency in prevention, response, and problem-solving methods among law enforcement, mental health, and other agencies and jurisdictions serving institutions of higher education in the United States;

8. Develop standardized formats and models for mutual aid agreements and memoranda of understanding between campus security agencies and other public safety organizations and mental health agencies; and

9. Report annually to Congress and the Attorney General on activities performed by the Center during the previous 12 months.

The Center will train campus public safety agencies, encourage research to strengthen college safety and security, and serve as a clearinghouse for the dissemination of relevant campus public safety information. By having this information, institutions of higher education will be able to easily obtain the best information available on ways to keep campuses safe and secure and how to respond in the event of a campus emergency.

TEXAS

The good state of Texas has 214 institutions of higher learning alone, with Texas Southern University, University of Houston, and Texas Technical University to name just a few.

With so many institutions comes, so many different standards of campus safety regulations.

CONCLUSION

This legislation would consolidate the information from the various colleges and universities so that the standards for collaboration in prevention, response, and problem-solving methods among law enforcement, mental health, and other agencies is consistent throughout the nation. What is done at Prairie View A&M University is also done at UCLA, is done at New York University, and is done at the University of Florida.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 6838 and ensure that our colleges and universities are safe places for our young people to study and learn.

TRIBUTE TO ELLEN LANER

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 3, 2008

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my good friend and constituent, the late Ellen Laner of Mission Hills, Kansas, who passed away on September 28th.

Ellen Laner led a long and productive life, which served to make Johnson County, Kansas, a much better place for her neighbors and friends. Ellen was a committed and passionate community volunteer who also was very politically engaged. She was named Citizen of the Year by the United Community Services; twice named Volunteer of the Year by the Johnson County Mental Health Association; received the Hannah B. Solomon Award from the National Council of Jewish Women; awarded the Stand Up, Speak Out Award from the Mainstream Coalition; helped in the establishment of Johnson County Community College and served as a member of its Board of Trustees; had many years of service in the Kansas League of Women Voters, eventually serving as President; was very active in the establishment and growth of the Mainstream Coalition and served as President; volunteered as a Board Member of the Johnson County Library Foundation; was an active volunteer for Planned Parenthood of Kansas City and Western Missouri, working as its Resource Development Director and for a short time was its Executive Director; and was a founder of the Johnson County Coalition for Prevention of Child Abuse, now known as Sunflower House.

Ellen Laner was born in Little Rock, Arkansas, the daughter of Noland and Isabel Blass. She came to the Kansas City area in 1950 after her marriage to S. Harvey "Bud" Laner, who preceded her in death in 1980. She was a member of the New Reform Temple and Oakwood Country Club, and loved golf, bridge, dogs, and professional sports. She is survived by her son and daughter-in-law, Joel and Marsha Laner, and their three children, Allison Laner, Blass Laner and Duncan Laner of Kansas City, Missouri. She also is survived by her brother and his wife, Gus and Patricia Blass of Little Rock, and their children, Gus Blass, III, and his wife, Becky; by her sister Constance Blass O'Neill and her husband, Chris; her sister-in-law, Barbara Phillips of Little Rock and her children, Beverly Wittenberg and Peter Phillips and her great-nieces and nephews.

Ellen Laner's civic accomplishments range far and wide, and our community owes her a great deal for her leadership in making Johnson County the strong and caring community that it is today. I was a part of the same generation of many young women, educated in colleges across the Nation in the 1960s, who ended up in Johnson County as the wives of the young men who worked in various professions and businesses in the Kansas City metropolitan area. Motivated by the political turbulence of the 1960s, we wanted to do more for

our community and Nation, in addition to raising our families. Ellen's leadership in the League of Women Voters inspired both men and women to use our education to volunteer, seek public office, and take leadership roles in improving our government, our libraries, and our public schools, and the lives of those who were not as fortunate as us. Many of the women who have served Johnson County so exceptionally well as mayors, city council members, school board members and legislators were motivated, supported and inspired by Ellen Laner.

Madam Speaker, we were fortunate to know Ellen Laner, and we are so very grateful for what she contributed to our lives. I am grateful to this House for giving me the opportunity to share this tribute with my fellow Members of Congress and with the American people.

THE WEBCASTER SETTLEMENT ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Mr. BERMAN. Madam Speaker, I would like to make clear that no provision of H.R. 7084 should be construed to opine on what entity or entities can be considered a "receiving agent" under 17 U.S.C. Section 114(g)(4). I understand that there is ongoing litigation pertaining to the qualifications of a receiving agent and I would not want H.R. 7084 to influence a court's ultimate decision on this matter.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. VITO FOSSELLA

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 3, 2008

Mr. FOSSELLA. Madam Speaker, I submit the following:

Bill Number: H.R. 2638.

Account: Military Construction, Army Reserve National Guard.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: New York National Guard.

Address of Requesting Entity: 330 Old Niskayuna Road, Latham, NY 12110.

Description of Request: \$2.955 million will be used for the establishment of an additional Civil Support Team. This team, located within the New York City metropolitan area, ensures that the top terrorist target in the country, New York City, has an immediate and prepared asset, ready at a moments notice, if a chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, high explosive, CBRNE, incident were to occur.

LETTER TO REPRESENTATIVE MCCOTTER FROM THE LITHUANIAN AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED STATES, AUDRIUS BRŪZGA

HON. THADDEUS G. MCCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 3, 2008

Mr. MCCOTTER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to place into the RECORD a letter from

Ambassador Audrius Brūzga of Lithuania regarding House Concurrent Resolution 255.

EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Washington, DC, September 29, 2008.

Congressman THADDEUS MCCOTTER, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN: I am aware that on September 25, 2008 the United States House of Representatives passed the House Concurrent Resolution 255: Expressing the sense of Congress regarding the United States commitment to preservation of religious and cultural sites and condemning instances where sites are desecrated.

I write to express my astonishment and utter surprise that such a Resolution was submitted for vote at the time when the process of finding a solution to the issue of the former Šnipiškės Jewish cemetery is at its final stages and all the interested parties are in agreement of the necessary steps and actions.

You may well be aware that on June 25 through July 5 geophysical investigation was carried out by a contractor company from Israel Geotec on 14 chosen areas. Alongside with the geophysical investigation, archeological investigation was carried out by the Lithuanian Cultural Heritage Department.

On September 22nd, based on the results of the said investigations the Lithuanian Minister of Foreign Affairs Petras Vaitiekūnas, Head of the Government working group for the preservation of the former Jewish cemetery in Šnipiškės, presented recommendations to the Government of Lithuania on further steps regarding the preservation of the former Šnipiškės cemetery. One of the recommendations of the working group is for the competent Lithuanian institutions—Vilnius City Municipality, Governor Administration of Vilnius County, the Ministry of Culture—with the participation of the representatives from the Jewish community and the owners of the territory of former cemetery—to organize an open international competition for the monumentalization of the former Šnipiškės Jewish cemetery site.

Furthermore, the former Jewish cemetery in Šnipiškės has gained legal protection in compliance with the decision of the Department of Cultural Heritage under the Ministry of Culture. The Register of Cultural Heritage of the Republic of Lithuania guarantees the permanent preservation of the former cemetery site.

During the whole process, the Lithuanian Government has demonstrated commitment to resolving the controversy over former Jewish cemetery in Šnipiškės by involving Lithuanian and international experts, historians, geophysical survey experts, cartographers and archeologists, and International Jewish communities, as well as allocating appropriate resources for research and analyses. The Government of Lithuania has worked closely and will continue to work with the representatives of the Committee for the Preservation of Jewish Cemeteries in Europe and with other Jewish organizations, in search of a mutually acceptable solution.

Mr. Congressman, Jewish culture, history, sacred sites and traditions are part of Lithuania's national heritage. Sadly, during the period of Nazi and Soviet occupations (1940-1991) much of this has been lost or decimated. It takes time and painstaking efforts to undo the damage. Allow me to assure you that the Government is committed to the preservation of all of the cultural heritage in Lithuania and is doing so in a manner which is consistent with rule of law and justice. It is disappointing when this is not appreciated by the colleagues in the U.S.

Lithuania and the United States are close allies. We share the freedom agenda and we stand together in defence of our shared values. I am certain that we will continue to cherish our strong bonds of partnership.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

AUDRIUS BRŪZGA,
Ambassador.

INTRODUCTION OF THE IMMIGRATION OVERSIGHT AND FAIRNESS ACT, H.R. 7255

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 3, 2008

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Madam Speaker, on any given day, roughly 30,000 immigration detainees are held in a mix of federal, state, local and private detention facilities. Explosive growth in the number of non-citizens in immigration detention across the country has resulted in sometimes shameful conditions of confinement and repeated incidents of detainee abuse.

Although federal immigration authorities adopted detention standards in 1998 and 2000, you wouldn't know it today. These non-binding standards, which cover access to medical care, the separation of violent and non-violent suspects, and access to a lawyer, have not been enforced.

It is long past time that Congress make the federal government abide by its own detention standards. That is why today I am introducing the Immigration Oversight and Fairness Act of 2008.

The bill establishes long-overdue legally binding detention standards for all immigration detention facilities.

The Immigration Oversight and Fairness Act also establishes legally binding standards for Customs and Border Patrol stations which, though not technically detention facilities, house immigrants for a few hours or a few days before their transfer to immigration authorities.

Finally, the Immigration Oversight and Fairness Act treats those detainees who a judge determines are not a flight risk or a threat to society in a more humane and rational way. Under this bill, these individuals would be placed in a proven program of supervised release instead of in a detention facility where the federal government must expend enormous resources to feed, house and watch over them.

Madam Speaker, I look forward to the House considering these critical reforms of the immigration detention system in the next Congress.

ATCHISON COUNTY COURTHOUSE

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 3, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to the Atchison County Courthouse which will recognize the 125th Anniversary of