

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, as all of us know, February is African American History Month, and I rise to pay tribute to some of the outstanding individuals in the community that I live and represent for the tremendous services that they have provided.

□ 1945

I take a great deal of pride in the fact that I represent what I like to call 11 of the most activated communities in America. As a matter of fact, I have 35 advisory groups who advise me on everything that there is pretty much to be advised on.

But two of the chairs I'd like to point out are the education chair, Dr. Lurrerta Hurt, who developed an extensive community education program and approach; and, of course, she put on a great black history program at the Greater Gallery Baptist Church 2 weeks ago. I also would like to acknowledge the tremendous work of Ms. Anetta Wilson, who chaired our Child Welfare Advisory Group. And she and her organization just opened last week an intergenerational living facility that will house 54 families of grandparents, grandchildren, young children, older adult, where grandparents and grandchildren can live in the same environment and interact with each other.

I also want to commend Reverend Walter Bauldrich, and the Coppin A.M.E. Church because on the other side of my district in what we call the south side—I mean, we divide Chicago up into sides and areas. Anetta Wilson opened hers on the west side. But the other part of my district, which happens to be one of the most diverse in America, is on the south side. And Coppin A.M.E. Church opened a 74-unit development for the same purpose, intergenerational living.

So when I talk about the high level of activism, and especially in the last few weeks around just the whole question of the celebration of African American history, I was fortunate to spend part of yesterday at the Ascension Catholic Church in Oak Park, Illinois, for their African American history celebration; at the Herman Avenue Baptist Church in downtown Chicago yesterday afternoon for their African American history; then, of course, yesterday the Village of Bellwood had their large celebration that they do every year.

Much of the focus of some of these celebrations has been taking a look at the Reconstruction Period in history, which is a period that many people, quite frankly, don't know much about. For example, there are African Americans who don't know that there were 22 Members of Congress during the Reconstruction Period who were African American—that is before 1900. During the 1870s, 1880s, and 1890s, there were 20 Members of the House. There were two Members of the Senate.

And of course, there was another Member from Louisiana who was elect-

ed to both the House and the Senate, P.B.S. Pinchback, but was never seated. As a matter of fact, Governor Pinchback was actually the Governor of Louisiana during this period. He didn't serve that long, but nevertheless, he was the governor.

So history becomes the melding together of many thoughts, ideas, actions not of one group of people but of all of the groupings of people who have come to this Nation seeking a better life, seeking something that they did not have. And the fact that America has become the most diverse country is a tribute to all of us.

So as we celebrate African American history, we celebrate the history of America.

I thank you, Mr. Speaker.

#### MOVING FROM ENERGY INSECURITY TO ENERGY SECURITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. INGLIS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. INGLIS. Mr. Speaker, just before the President's Day recess, I stood on this floor and talked about the national security risk we're running with our energy insecurity. Tonight, I'd like to talk about the economic opportunity that's present in moving from energy insecurity to energy security.

You know, I'm on the Science Committee, and in the Science Committee, we get to see a lot of new technology. The question of the hour really is how to get that technology to the market, how to do for energy what Microsoft and Apple did for the PC and the Internet; how do we get from here, from ideas, to jobs.

Well, I happen to think that this is a place where folks on my side of the aisle, Republicans, can be particularly helpful because what we realize is some market distortions, and the impact of those market distortions, on bringing products to market.

So the market distortion I'm particularly interested in talking about tonight comes from the fact that certain negative costs associated with the incumbent technologies, especially petroleum, aren't attached to that product. As a result, we drive around in our cars unaware of the extra costs that are really associated, properly associated with a gallon of gas.

So, for example, it's a huge national security risk associated with buying gasoline. Gasoline right now in my district is costing about \$1.70 a gallon. But that doesn't factor in the cost of operations in places like Iraq. It doesn't factor in the risk of future operations in the Middle East. And, of course, it also doesn't factor in the environmental consequences of that \$1.70 worth of gasoline.

So what would happen if you had what economists call internalize the externals. What if you attached to the price of that gallon of gasoline those externalities, those costs that are cur-

rently unrecognized? Well, that's really the key to moving technology from the lab into the showroom. Because right now, it's there in the lab; we know a lot of things will work.

But it doesn't really compete with the incumbent technology because the incumbent technology—gasoline in this case, talking about transportation fuels—it gets a big freebie or two. It gets us subsidizing their business in the form of national security expenditures, and it gets us winking and disregarding the environmental consequences associated with that gallon of gasoline.

If those externalities were internalized to that price of gasoline, of course the price of gas would rise; but the other technologies that are out there that are ready to take out that incumbent technology and reduce our national security risk and to create these new jobs would become viable.

And, of course, in this economic downturn, we're looking for all of the ideas we can find about how to re-employ Americans, how to get our economy going. And what I'm hoping, Mr. Speaker, is that we see a tremendous opportunity in energy.

Our insecurity in energy can become energy security when we internalize the externals associated with the incumbent technologies and make it so the market doesn't have this distortion any longer. This is a strength that I think that people who understand markets can deliver to this process. I hope the Obama administration is going to listen to those ideas because together, we can solve this problem and we can reach an American solution.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BURTON of Indiana addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

#### THE FALLEN HERO COMMEMORATION ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, throughout the history of our Nation, members of the United States Armed Forces have given their lives to secure and protect the freedoms America enjoys today. Today U.S. servicemembers are serving our Nation in Iraq, Afghanistan and many other parts of the world. Without a loved one serving in our military, it is all too possible for Americans to overlook the sacrifices that have been made and continue to be made by the men and women of the armed services.

It is for this reason that I have introduced H.R. 269, the Fallen Hero Commemoration Act. This legislation