

Straits neighbors in the areas of law enforcement, financial exchanges and travel.

Among other successes, President Ma's administration was able to have Taiwan removed from the Special 301 Watch List which is maintained by the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR). The removal shows Taiwan's commitment to preventing the importing and exporting of illegally pirated materials such as DVD's and CD's.

Madam Speaker, I would like to call these accomplishments and the successful first year of President Ma's administration to my colleagues and other readers of the RECORD.

VETERANS EMPLOYMENT RIGHTS  
REALIGNMENT ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

**HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 19, 2009*

Mr. MITCHELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1089, the Veterans Employment Rights Realignment Act of 2009. I thank Representative HERSETH SANDLIN of South Dakota for her leadership on the issues of veteran employment and education, and I commend her for bringing this bill to the Floor today.

Members of the Armed Forces—including the National Guard and Reserves—serve our nation with selflessness and courage. They deserve our gratitude, and in these difficult economic times, I believe that means we must redouble our efforts to ensure they have full and fair access to employment after their service.

H.R. 1089 will remove bureaucratic hurdles for veterans in search of redress for discriminatory employment practices, and it will allocate new resources to the Office of Special Counsel—the federal investigative and prosecutorial agency tasked with protecting federal employees from prohibited personnel practices.

In 1994, Congress put in place a strong set of employment protections for service members and veterans in the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act. We need to enforce this law quickly and efficiently, and the Veterans Employment Rights Realignment Act of 2009 will help the Office of Special Counsel to do just that.

I was proud to support H.R. 1089 when it was considered by the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and I am pleased to support this bill on the House floor today. I urge my colleagues to join me in voting for this important legislation to protect service members and veterans from inappropriate employment practices.

TRIBUTE TO THE 203RD MILITARY  
POLICE BATTALION

**HON. PARKER GRIFFITH**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 20, 2009*

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 203rd Military Police Battalion of Athens, Alabama. On June 21st, the 203rd

Battalion will depart for Fort Bliss to train before leaving for Iraq.

The 203rd Military Police Battalion has provided community service support to the Athens Retired Seniors Volunteer Program (RSVP) for more than a decade, specifically with the annual RSVP Picnic in the Park. Without their assistance, this special event for RSVP volunteers would not be possible. The Picnic in the Park will be especially meaningful this year as the 203rd prepares to deploy.

We enjoy our way of life and the freedoms we have because of groups like the 203rd Military Police Battalion. Their years of sacrifice on both local and national levels serve as an extraordinary example of leadership for us all.

Madam Speaker, I wish to express my extreme gratitude for the 203rd Military Police Battalion's service to my district and to honor them as they leave home in defense of our Nation.

TRIBUTE TO JOSEPH INTILE

**HON. BILL PASCRELL JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 20, 2009*

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the work of an outstanding individual, Chief Joseph Intile, who is being recognized May 20, 2009 on the occasion of his retirement as Chief of the Bloomfield, NJ Fire Department, after thirty years of dedicated service.

It is only fitting that he be honored in this, the permanent record of the greatest democracy ever known, because he is the embodiment of the patriotism and community spirit that make our nation so great.

Chief Intile joined the Bloomfield Fire Department on March 27, 1979 and since then has brought much distinction to the department and to his position. Most notably, he guided the Bloomfield Fire Department in becoming the first Fire Department in the northeastern United States to achieve international accreditation from the Center for Public Safety Excellence, Commission of Fire Accreditation.

Chief Intile is one of the most decorated and honored Fire Chiefs in the State of New Jersey. He holds a Masters of Administrative Science from Fairleigh Dickinson University and is a graduate of the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland.

He is a member of several highly respected professional organizations, such as the National Fire Protection Association,

International Association of Fire Chiefs, National Society of Executive Fire Officers, National Fire Academy Alumni Association, New Jersey Career Fire Chiefs Association, and the New Jersey State Fire Chiefs Association as well as many others including my own Congressional Public Safety Advisory Committee.

During his tenure in the Bloomfield Fire Department, Chief Intile achieved Executive Fire Officer status from the National Fire Academy and Chief Fire Officer Designation from the Commission on Fire Officer Designation. He has attained Fire Official, Fire Inspector, and Incident Management Level 3 ranks from the New Jersey Division of Criminal Justice. He has received five Live Saving Awards from the Township of Bloomfield, three Public Safety

Awards from the John I. Crecco Foundation, as well as recognition from the New Jersey General Assembly, the Essex County Board of Freeholders, and the New Jersey State Senate.

The job of a United States Congressman involves much that is rewarding, yet nothing compares to being able to acknowledge great Americans like Chief Joseph Intile.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, Joseph's family and friends, the members of the Bloomfield Fire Department, all those who have been touched by him, and me in recognizing the outstanding contributions of Chief Joseph Intile to his profession and his community.

HONORING DOS PUEBLOS HIGH  
SCHOOL ENGINEERING ACADEMY  
AND THEIR ROBOTICS TEAM,  
THE D'PENGUINEERS

**HON. LOIS CAPPS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 20, 2009*

Mrs. CAPPS. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to commend my constituents at the Dos Pueblos High School Engineering Academy in Goleta, CA.

After rigorous study of engineering, science, math and other subjects, thirty-two high school seniors in this program came together to form a Robotics team called the D'Penguineers.

This group of talented students won two regional competitions and competed last month in the International For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology (FIRST) Robotics Challenge in Atlanta, Georgia and won the coveted Motorola Quality Award which is given to the best-designed robot in the competition.

In only six weeks, these impressive high school students built a robot with the ability to remove 40-inch diameter balls from a 6½-foot tall overpass, drive along a prescribed path, and maneuver the balls into position with each pass under or over the underpass on each lap.

Madam Speaker, the Dos Pueblos Engineering Academy and the success of the D'Penguineers exemplifies what motivated students can do with support from their families, teachers and community.

To build on the success of these students, we must continue to prioritize science education and funding, not only throughout the South and Central Coasts but across the country as well.

With research performed by these students and others equally committed to the scientific community, our country will lead the world with new solutions for clean energy and more efficient technology.

I am proud to represent these gifted high school seniors, their dedicated instructors, and the entire Dos Pueblos High School community in Congress.

I am sure this esteemed achievement is indicative of many further successes for these intelligent young people.