

HONORING THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE JAPANESE SOCIETY FOR RIGHTS OF AUTHORS, COMPOSERS AND PUBLISHERS

**HON. MICHAEL E. McMAHON**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. McMAHON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the Japanese Society for Rights of Authors, Composers and Publishers (JASRAC) on its 70th anniversary and salute this organization for its lasting and productive international partnership with the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP) in protecting the rights of musical creators and its commitment and leadership in promoting and advancing copyright standards in Japan and around the world. I wish JASRAC much success in the future in their mission and commitment to protect the intellectual and creative property of the people of Japan.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING LUCAS RIPLEY FOR WINNING THE BOYS' DIVISION III STATE BASEBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

**HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Lucas Ripley showed hard work and dedication to the sport of baseball; and

Whereas, Lucas Ripley was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Lucas Ripley always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the field; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Lucas Ripley on winning the Boys' Division III State Baseball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship he has demonstrated during the 2008–2009 baseball season.

NEW YORK TIMES DOWNPLAYS THE TRUTH

**HON. LAMAR SMITH**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Madam Speaker, a new Pew survey has found that one-third of Mexican nationals would move to America, and more than half of them would come illegally, if they could.

But when the New York Times reported on the study, the paper injected it with one of the most common forms of bias: they treat illegal status as a circumstance that just “materialized” for illegal immigrants.

Instead of reporting that half of these individuals would come to the U.S. illegally, the Times said: “more than half . . . would move even if they did not have legal immigration documents.”

Apparently, the Times just can't bring themselves to use the word “illegal.” In that case, why not downplay all illegal activity? The Times could refer to burglars as “building inspectors,” for example.

The fact is that those who broke U.S. laws aren't just “without documents;” they are not entitled to documents. Downplaying that fact won't change it. And, even if the news media try to hide the truth, the American people know that illegal immigrants have broken the law.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO AMEND SECTION 31 OF THE SMALL BUSINESS ACT WITH RESPECT TO AWARDED CONTRACT OPPORTUNITIES TO QUALIFIED HUB ZONE SMALL BUSINESS CONCERNS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

**HON. WALLY HERGER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. HERGER. Madam Speaker, today I introduced a bill that would level the playing field for small businesses in my Northern California Congressional District competing for federal contracts. Under current law, federal contractors are required to give first priority to businesses that are HUB Zone certified, often times precluding worthy non-HUB Zone small businesses from having a fair opportunity to compete for federal contracts.

Numerous small businesses in my Northern California Congressional District have contacted me to explain that the HUB Zone program in its current form is preventing them from bidding on contracts with the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) with a value over \$100,000. For instance, an engineering firm in Redding, California, a company that had previously received USFS contracts, informed me that they are no longer able to bid for such contracts because they are not a HUB Zone certified company. They were told that USFS had changed its contracting policies based on a 2007 Government Accountability Office (GAO) report that found that the USFS was not in compliance with the small business contracting rules established by the HUB Zone Act of 1997. The new requirements stipulated that only companies with HUB Zone certification could bid for these contracts.

The limitation to HUB Zone certified companies is not in the best interest of all areas. The unemployment rate in my Northern California District exceeds 14% in some areas, but because of the way the HUB Zone criteria were written, only small portions of Redding, California are classified as a HUB Zone. The criteria are based on the long term unemployment rate for an area along with its income levels, two variables that change frequently. Secondly, the maps that define the boundaries are haphazardly drawn, resulting in different sides of a street or even offices in a building having different HUB Zone statuses. Most important, the boundary lines are rarely updated and years may pass before the boundaries note a change in an area's economic situation.

The legislation that I have introduced would provide federal contracting officers with the flexibility to select from the various types of

small business classifications. In doing so, HUB Zone classified small businesses would no longer have automatic first preference for federal small business contracts. This legislation would fix the current rigid preference system and give discretion to federal contracting officers to select small businesses based solely on the circumstances of the contract and quality of the bid.

The legislation would make only a one word change to the HUB Zone statute. It takes away the automatic preference given to the HUB Zone program for federal contracts going to small businesses, thereby leveling the playing field for other small businesses. With federal law mandating that 23% of federal contracts go to small businesses, it is important that federal policy promote competition to ensure that U.S. taxpayer dollars go to the most worthy contractor.

In short, my legislation would level the playing field for small businesses in a manner that is responsible to the taxpayers while continuing to provide assistance to small businesses in economically-disadvantaged areas. I look forward to working with my colleagues to move this legislation through Congress.

CELEBRATING 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF NATIONAL WOMEN'S HALL OF FAME OF SENECA FALLS, NEW YORK

**HON. MICHAEL A. ARCURI**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 6, 2009*

Mr. ARCURI. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today in honor of the National Women's Hall of Fame of Seneca Falls, New York on their 40th anniversary.

It was in Wesleyan Chapel in Seneca Falls in 1848 that activists like Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Susan B. Anthony and Lucretia Mott laid the cornerstone of the Women's Rights Movement. At the conclusion of this two-day, first ever Women's Rights Convention, 68 women and 32 men signed their names to the Declaration of Sentiments, signaling their commitment to pursuing suffrage and equal rights for women. This historic event, which we remember with a statue in the rotunda here in the U.S. Capitol, paved the way for generations of women who yearned to fully participate in and contribute to American society.

In 1969, the women and men of Seneca Falls established the National Women's Hall of Fame as a permanent showcase for the extraordinary contributions of American women. Forty years later, the organization has grown to include important artifacts and 230 inductees from around the nation, as women continue to influence and shape the arts, athletics, business, education, government, humanities, philanthropy and science.

Madam Speaker, I call on my colleagues to join me in recognizing the National Women's Hall of Fame on achieving this milestone. Their anniversary provides an important opportunity to honor the many women, both past and present, whose vision and hard work have contributed so much to the strength and progress of our nation.