

Upon election to the Congress, she joined the Congressional Staff as my Executive Secretary. As a freshman Congressman, I was the beneficiary of Vivian's previous experience with secretarial and paralegal work. She immediately became responsible for my schedule and constituent services in the district office, which was all done without computers in those early days of our careers in the House.

In 1975, Vivian succeeded Virginia Bell as my District Administrator. As my District Administrator, her responsibilities expanded to the role of a Chief of Staff in the District. Viv managed the district offices, directed work activities, supervised staff, and oversaw and coordinated activities in the different communities of my Congressional District. As a woman in this role in the 1970s and preceding decades, she was quite an effective leader and powerful force in pushing my agenda forward in the district. She continued this role until January 1999, when Vivian reduced her work load and went part-time.

Although at part-time, my loyal colleague, Vivian Jones, still coordinates my schedule in conjunction with the scheduler in Washington, handles all personnel matters pertaining to the district staff, and prepares correspondences of varying complexity for my signature. Vivian continues to arrive at the office in the wee hours of the morning on her assigned days. As always, she remains committed to offering a sympathetic ear or to jump start a slow or reluctant bureaucracy for a constituent.

Vivian's dynamic spirit and sense of purpose serves me and her fellow colleagues as the motivation and driving force of the office. I thank her for her incredible service over the years, her devoted friendship, and wish her many blessings.

SUPPORTING THE MISSION AND GOALS OF 2010 NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK

SPEECH OF

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 20, 2010

Mr. REICHERT. Mr. Speaker, I ask that we take time to recognize National Crime Victims' Rights Week. As a law enforcement officer for 33 years, protecting victims of crime and their rights is a mission close to my heart.

In the King County Sheriff's office, I saw unspeakable tragedies firsthand. I saw the consequences of crime and how it affects victims—sometimes for the rest of their lives. There are few things more painful than looking into the eyes of a victim, knowing that a criminal's selfish, terrible deed has done irreparable damage to an innocent life.

As a cop, you live with the hard truth that you can't prevent every crime. But what we can all do is provide as much support and aid to victims as possible. We can help them receive justice and return some normalcy to their lives.

I urge my colleagues to keep victims of crimes in their hearts and minds, especially when voting for measures that will support their ability to move beyond the tragedies they've suffered and are working to overcome.

LUKE BRYAN, CMA "TOP NEW ARTIST" 2010

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 2010

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Luke Bryan, of Leesburg, Georgia, who won the 45th Annual Academy of Country Music Award for Top New Artist on Sunday, April 18th in Las Vegas, Nevada.

All of us in Southwest Georgia are proud of his accomplishment and I would like to recognize and applaud Mr. Bryan's dedication and determination to his art. He has worked diligently, and his album, "Doin' My Thing," peaked at the Number Two spot on the Country Album Billboard. On behalf of my constituents in Georgia's Second Congressional District, I offer my congratulations on a job well done!

I cannot put into words the amount of pride that everyone in Leesburg, and indeed in the Second Congressional District, has in being able to claim this outstanding musician as one of us. He has accomplished a special goal, one that could not have been possible without the unrelenting support and encouragement from his family and community.

The "Top New Artist" winner was elected through fan votes by voting online in February and March. Residents of the City of Leesburg and the State of Georgia should be commended for the outstanding loyalty and support they displayed in voting for Mr. Bryan.

Madam Speaker, Luke Bryan has worked hard, persevered, made sacrifices, and developed the character that will help him to succeed. Once again, I congratulate Mr. Bryan on his achievement.

THE DIVERSE TEACHERS RECRUITMENT ACT OF 2010

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 2010

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to support the effort to bring more diversity to our national teaching force.

Striking statistics compiled by the Department of Education show a lack of diversity among teachers. During the 2007–2008 school year, an estimated 7 percent of teachers were African-American, 7 percent Latino, and 1.2 percent were Asian. More than 83 percent of teachers were white. A total of 75.9 percent of teachers were female and only 24.1 percent male.

Some educators believe this lack of diversity leaves some students without an inspiring role model to whom they can relate. The result may be lower test scores and higher dropout rates within some student demographics.

I am introducing the Diverse Teachers Recruitment Act of 2010 to address this lack of diversity. The legislation provides grants to school districts to create and implement recruitment programs to bring teachers from underrepresented groups into the classroom.

The grantee will track and compile data showing results of the program, including minority teacher recruitment rates. Data will also

include the impact on student learning, growth, and attendance rates.

The Department of Education will analyze the programs and disseminate which were effective in recruiting teachers from underrepresented groups. Successful results could be replicated in other school districts.

It is a worthwhile effort to bring teachers from underrepresented groups into our classrooms. This legislation begins a national effort to build a teaching force that reflects the diverse population of the United States to enhance the learning experience of our students.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 2010

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, today our national debt is \$12,871,255,665,556.84.

On January 6th, 2009, the start of the 111th Congress, the national debt was \$10,638,425,746,293.80.

This means the national debt has increased by \$2,232,829,919,263.00 so far this Congress. The debt has increased \$8,206,250,340.50 since just yesterday.

This debt and its interest payments we are passing to our children and all future Americans.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF THE TOLEDO BOARD OF REALTORS

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 2010

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Toledo Board of Realtors on the milestone occasion of the 100th anniversary of its founding. The Toledo Board of Realtors was founded in February of 1910 by a handful of Toledo real estate brokers. The association's first president was Irving B. Hiatt, who eventually assumed the presidency of the National Association of Realtors.

Formed as the Toledo Real Estate Board, its first membership consisted of about 28 brokers. The Board was formed to "Collect and circulate valuable and useful information pertaining to the real estate, manufacturing, industrial and mercantile interests of the city of Toledo and its citizens; To oppose the enactment of laws detrimental to said interest; to encourage legislation for needed public improvements; to foster an equitable system of taxation and assessment and to secure the enactment and enforcement of laws and ordinances for the further protection, convenience and welfare of the real estate owners, leaseholders and brokers."

In 1910 the Board developed a map of every manufacturing site in the city indicating whether the site was on the water, rail or inland. In 1912 Multiple Listing Service was established and it was mandatory that all members include their listings. The brokers gathered in the Board office each week and exchanged information about their listings.