

mind—it was the start of a beautiful day in Washington. The shock and horror that ensued that morning in New York City, in a Pennsylvania field, and at the Pentagon is embedded in me. It is a permanent element of the American psyche, and it fills us all with emotions, especially fear, anger, grief, and sadness.

Nearly 3,000 victims of 9/11 were lost that day. The loved ones they left behind have spent ten years adapting to lives without husbands, mothers, brothers, and daughters. Even after ten years the loss must still be painful and difficult.

As a nation, we still feel the loss, the very sad sense of tragedy and hurt that touched us all. For all of us, September 11, 2001 remains a day that changed us and changed our country's future.

Our nation is strong. We as a people are far more powerful, resilient, and righteous than the perpetrators of the attack. The lessons of 9/11 continue to be studied, debated, interpreted, and acted on—to our collective benefit and, in some cases, to our detriment. But after ten long, difficult years since that beautiful morning, the most important lesson I can draw upon is the profound blessing I feel to be an American and to share this country, our values, and our freedoms with my fellow citizens.

We are one nation, one people and the painful, horrific tragedy of 9/11 shall always be a reminder of what it means to be an American standing together, united with my fellow citizens.

On this tenth anniversary, my thoughts, prayers, and profound sense of gratitude are with the victims of this attack, the men and women who have sacrificed their lives and bodies to keep our nation safe, and the family members who grieve for loved ones lost on September 11th and the many days since in which our fellow citizens have sacrificed for our nation.

TESTIMONIAL FREE SPEECH ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2011

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce the Testimonial Free Speech Act. This legislation prohibits the federal government from censoring an individual's account of his experience with foods and dietary supplements. Hard as it may be to believe, the government is prohibiting individuals from sharing their stories of how they improved their health by using foods and dietary supplements.

Just this year, armed federal agents raided the headquarters of Maxam Nutraceuticals, a company that produces and sells nutritional supplements for people with autism spectrum disorder and Alzheimer's disease. The raid was based on Maxam's alleged failure (a failure Maxam CEO James Cole disputes) to comply with a warning letter from the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) ordering Maxam to remove several "improper labels" from Maxam products. The labels in question were simply accounts from Maxam customers describing their experiences with Maxam products. That's right, the federal government sent armed agents into a private business because the business posted customers' testimonials.

Mr. Speaker, restricting communication of individuals' accounts of their experiences with foods and dietary supplements is a blatant violation of the First Amendment. The necessity for this bill shows how little respect the federal bureaucracy has for the Bill of Rights and the principles of a free society. I therefore urge my colleagues to join me in taking a small step toward restoring free speech by cosponsoring the Testimonial Free Speech Act.

IN RECOGNITION OF LAKEWOOD FIRE DEPARTMENT'S FALLEN FIREFIGHTER MEMORIAL CEREMONY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Lakewood Fire Department's firefighters who have lost their lives in the line of duty and who will be honored at this year's annual Fallen Firefighter Memorial ceremony. This year's ceremony will be especially significant as it coincides with the 10-year anniversary of the events of September 11, 2001. The Lakewood Fire Department will also be revealing a sculpture constructed with steel beams from the World Trade Center at Station #1.

Lakewood Fire Department's annual Fallen Firefighter Memorial ceremony honors the firefighters who have sacrificed their lives, saving others. This year's ceremony will be dedicated to the four Lakewood firefighters who have lost their lives in the line of duty. Additionally, a special tribute will be made honoring the 343 firefighters who gave their lives on September 11, 2001.

Mayor Summers, Chief Gilman, Fire Marshal Dunphy, the Lakewood Firefighters, Cleveland Fire Department Color Guard, American Legion Honor Guard, Lakewood Fire Department Honor Guard, Lakewood High School Ranger Marching Band, Boy Scouts of America, and the Red Hackle Pipes and Drums will all be participating at this year's ceremony.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring and remembering some of the country's bravest heroes, the fallen firefighters from Lakewood and all the firefighters who sacrificed their lives on September 11, 2001 at this year's Fallen Firefighter Memorial ceremony.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GLENN THOMPSON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2011

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I was not in attendance on Friday, September 9, 2011, due to catastrophic flooding in Pennsylvania's Fifth Congressional District. My presence was needed at home, on the ground, with my constituents, first-responders, and recovery teams. While back in Pennsylvania, I met with local officials and constituents to help assist in disaster recovery efforts. I also toured many of the towns in the

5th District of Pennsylvania that were most affected by the floods. Consequently, I missed the vote on the Hunter Amendment to H.R. 1892, the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2012.

Had I been present for rollcall vote number 695, my vote on Amendment #6, offered by Mr. HUNTER of California, to H.R. 1892 would have been "yes."

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. JOHN LOUTH

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2011

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize John Louth, Jr., a forty-year member of the United Association, and an outstanding member of the community. On September 10, 2011, members of the Plumbers and Pipefitters Local Union Number 9 will honor Mr. Louth at the Annual Dinner Dance in New Brunswick, New Jersey. His commitment to serve the members of the community is truly worthy of this body's recognition.

Mr. Louth is an active member in the Middlesex County community. Mr. Louth served his apprenticeship with Local 432 in New Brunswick, New Jersey and, subsequently, became a member. Upon graduation in 1976, he became a Local 432 journeyman. In 1994, Mr. Louth was elected to the Executive Board of the newly created Plumbers and Pipefitters Local Union Number 9. Mr. Louth was also elected delegate to the United Association's convention in 1996. He was also elected Business Agent in 1997 and held this position for thirteen years until his retirement in 2010. Mr. Louth was also a member of the Middlesex County Building Trades and the New Jersey Pipe Trades.

He has proudly served as an active member of the New Brunswick Elks for thirty years and is currently enjoying his retirement in Midway Beach. John is also happily married to his wife Joanne for twenty-six years and has raised four children, Kelli, Eric, Marc, and Michael. John is an avid Yankees and Giants football fan and enjoys following Rutgers, and Notre Dame college football.

Mr. Speaker, once again please join me in congratulating Mr. John Louth, Jr. for his forty years of service and thanking him for his outstanding dedication to the residents of New Jersey.

EXTENSION OF REDACTION AUTHORITY CONCERNING SENSITIVE SECURITY INFORMATION

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 12, 2011

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I support H.R. 1059, a bill to protect the safety of judges by extending the authority of the Judicial Conference to redact sensitive information contained in their financial disclosure reports. This legislation will provide a vital safety measure for judges who have dedicated their lives to serving the public.

As a senior Member of both the Judiciary and Homeland Security committees, I have worked tirelessly to ensure the safety and integrity of those who are members of the judiciary. The Ethics in Government Act requires judges, like Members of Congress and other high ranking public officials to file annual financial disclosure reports. This requirement serves to bolster the confidence of the public in the professional integrity of individuals who serve their community.

Although the intent of the Act is to bolster public confidence in the judiciary it has an unintended consequence inherent in full public disclosure. Full financial disclosure impacts the personal safety of judges, particularly the safety of judges who sentence criminals. Some of the information contained in financial disclosure reports could reveal information which pertains to the schools, workplaces, and homes of judges and their families. This type of information provides easy access to personal information that could be used by an individual to intimidate or harm a judge or her family. In order to mitigate these risks, section 7 of the Identity Theft and Assumption Deterrence Act of 1998 allows the Judicial Conference to redact information found in financial disclosures that would place a judge or their family at risk.

This legislation does not exempt judicial employees and judges from filing financial disclosures. The Judicial Conference's Committee on Financial Disclosures works in coordination with the U.S. Marshals Service to determine the merit of requests for redaction. The Judicial conference reports that between 2007 and 2010, of the 17,658 financial disclosure reports filed, there were only 750 redaction requests, or 4.2 percent of the reports filed. There were 645 redaction requests that were fully granted, and 70 that were partially granted.

This legislation protects judges and their families from those that may seek to harm or intimidate the judge. The majority of redaction requests that were approved contained information that indicated the whereabouts of the filer's family on a regular basis, or the residence at which the filing party lived. H.R. 1059 does not exempt anyone from fulfilling their requirement to file a financial disclosure.

In the 110th Congress, my colleagues and I extended the authorizing section of the Identity Theft and Assumption Deterrence Act twice to ensure continued protection of our judges and their families. The last extension will expire on December 31, 2011, leaving thousands of dedicated public servants and their loved ones vulnerable to harm or harassment.

I applaud my friend from Michigan, the Ranking Member of the Judiciary Committee for introducing this important legislation to protect judges and judicial employees. I urge my colleagues to lend their support to the bill.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GLENN THOMPSON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2011

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I was not in attendance on Friday, September 9, 2011, due to catastrophic flood-

ing in Pennsylvania's Fifth Congressional District. My presence was needed at home, on the ground, with my constituents, first-responders, and recovery teams. While back in Pennsylvania, I met with local officials and constituents to help assist in disaster recovery efforts. I also toured many of the town's in the 5th District of Pennsylvania that were most affected by the floods. Consequently, I missed the vote on the Carney Amendment to H.R. 1892, the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year, 2012.

Had I been present for rollcall vote number 696, my vote on Amendment #7, offered by Mr. Carney of Delaware, to H.R. 1892 would have been "yes."

CELEBRATING THE SERVICE OF LINDA S. ADAMS

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2011

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ms. Linda S. Adams on the occasion of her retirement as the State of California's Secretary for Environmental Protection. More than thirty years of service to California and its residents make her most deserving of this honor.

Linda was appointed as Secretary of the California Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in 2006, by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger. Her appointment was historical, as she was the first woman to ever be appointed to this position. As California's EPA Secretary, Linda had a number of responsibilities which helped ensure the well-being of the people of California. During her time as secretary, Linda oversaw the activities of the Air Resources Board, State Water Resources Control Board, Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, Department of Toxic Substances Control, Department of Pesticide Regulation, and approximately 5,000 employees.

Upon her appointment, Linda began to do innovative work to address climate change and global warming. She was selected by Governor Schwarzenegger as the lead negotiator on Assembly Bill 32, the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006. She was instrumental in launching the Green Chemistry Initiative, which calls for a more comprehensive look at California's chemical policies, as well as California's biomonitoring program which seeks to find links between environmental contaminants and human health. She has since continued to work closely with a number of states and countries to develop climate initiatives to achieve the greatest global reductions.

Before her service as Secretary of California's EPA, Linda functioned as the director of the California Department of Water Resources and as a member of Governor Gray Davis' staff. Prior to becoming a member of Governor Davis' staff, Linda served Californians for 20 years as a staff member for the California State Legislature. Of note was her time as chief consultant to the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Water Resources. During her time as a legislative staffer, she worked diligently on assisting the passage of Proposition 204, the Safe, Clean, Reliable Water Supply Act.

Linda has spent her life working on behalf of the people of California and has been a long-time friend of California's Central Valley. She has worked on several air quality issues—a deeply important issue to the Central Valley, and most recently served as a member of the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board.

I applaud Linda for her many years of diligent work on behalf of all of the people of California and the Central Valley. I invite my colleagues to join me in congratulating Linda on her retirement and thanking her for her innovative approach to enriching the lives of all Californians.

IN MEMORY OF JUDGE FRANK SCROGGINS

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2011

Mr. ROSS of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a true, dedicated public servant who left us much too soon. On Saturday, August 28, 2011, Frank Scroggins, county judge for Lafayette County, Arkansas, died unexpectedly at the too-young age of 62.

Throughout my term in Congress, I have had the distinct pleasure of working with Judge Scroggins and I have long admired and respected him. He was a very good friend.

The people of Lafayette County first elected Judge Scroggins of Stamps, Ark., in 1991 and he had served as county judge ever since. For 20 years, Judge Scroggins gave his all and fully embodied what it meant to be a public servant.

Judge Scroggins was so much a part of his community that, upon his passing, a newspaper proclaimed Lafayette County government had "lost its cornerstone." Indeed, there is a deep absence in the heart of south Arkansas.

Judge Scroggins always worked tirelessly on behalf of the people of Lafayette County, never losing sight of what he was elected to do. From city council to the quorum court to the U.S. Congress, anyone who had the privilege of working with Judge Scroggins can attest to the sincerity, honesty and ferocity in which he served as county judge.

My thoughts and prayers are with his wife of 42 years, Brenda, and the rest of his family and friends during this very difficult time.

Today, I ask all Members of Congress to join me as we honor the life and legacy of Judge Frank Scroggins, who will be deeply missed in Lafayette County and throughout the state of Arkansas.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GLENN THOMPSON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2011

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I was not in attendance on Friday, September 9, 2011, due to catastrophic flooding in Pennsylvania's Fifth Congressional District. My presence was needed at home, on the ground, with my constituents, first-responders, and recovery teams. While back in