

BBWI is also an active and involved corporate partner to Idaho. Supporting its community through contributions such as civic, cultural arts, and educational organizations, BBWI helps strengthen the fabric of communities and improve the quality of life for Idahoans.

I am proud to represent AMWTP, a leading corporation in Idaho and for other waste treatment sites across the country.

HONORING MR. CLAUDE DOUTHIT
FOR HIS LIFETIME DEDICATION
TO THE NORTH SHORE ROAD
SETTLEMENT

HON. HEATH SHULER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2011

Mr. SHULER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Claude Douthit for a life dedicated to helping others in Western North Carolina.

Mr. Claude Douthit, a native of Swain County in Western North Carolina, has dedicated hard work and countless hours into the North Shore Settlement. When the federal government purchased 44,000 acres of North Carolina mountain land and built Fontana Dam on the Little Tennessee River to generate hydroelectric power for the war effort, Mr. Douthit, a Tennessee Valley Authority employee, initially favored the building of the road.

The rising waters of Fontana Lake flooded several small communities, forcing more than 200 families out of their homes expecting the government to follow through on its wartime pledge to build a road they could use to reach abandoned home sites and family cemeteries.

Instead, the government delayed, and thirty years later, only 6.2 miles of pavement and a short tunnel had been built at the eastern tip of Fontana Lake. Convinced that the road would never be finished, Mr. Douthit began working for an alternate solution, a cash settlement for Swain County. In 2000 Mr. Douthit and his wife Jean Douthit helped to organize a group called Citizens for the Economic Future of Swain County, gathering support from a broad coalition of conservationists, parks enthusiasts, environmentalists, public officials, and private organizations.

Mr. Douthit was determined to get a settlement for the county and through his hard work and that of the Citizens for the Economic Future of Swain County, an agreement was finally reached in 2010, with the government agreeing to pay \$52 million to the county. This settlement agreement will guarantee that Swain County has the resources it needs to thrive and grow for decades to come.

It is an honor to represent selfless, hard-working citizens like Mr. Claude Douthit. His devotion to his community is a great source of pride to me and to Western North Carolina. I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing Mr. Claude Douthit for his lasting impact on Swain County.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL
DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2011

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, today our national debt is \$14,729,488,947,751.89.

On January 6, 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 \$4,091,063,201,458.09 since then. This debt and its interest payments we are passing to our children and all future Americans.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE
RICHARD BERDNIK

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2011

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call your attention to the achievements of an outstanding individual, Sheriff Richard Berdnik, who will be recognized by the Central of Polish Organizations of Passaic, Clifton and Vicinity on Saturday, September 17, 2011. Sheriff Berdnik has been selected as the Contingent's 2011 Marshal and will lead them in the 74th Annual General Kazimierz Pulaski Memorial Parade in New York City on Sunday, October 2, 2011.

It is only fitting that he be honored in this, the permanent record of the greatest democracy ever known. Richard has been a true public servant, one whose commitment to excellence and integrity has helped to enhance and protect countless lives.

Richard is the son of Bernice and Bazil Berdnik, Polish immigrants who endured the hardship of Stalin's gulags. He is a graduate of both the New Jersey State Police Academy and the prestigious National Academy of the FBI.

Sheriff Berdnik's bravery and involvement in the community make him an esteemed individual among his colleagues as well as the citizens he serves. He has been honored with a number of awards; among them The Meritorious Service Medal he received for his quick and efficient response in apprehending criminals. He is also a "Life Saving" Medal recipient, having saved the lives of an elderly person and a child from a burning house.

Sheriff Berdnik is a member of several professional associations, including the FBI National Academy Associates, the New Jersey Honor Legion of Decorated Officers, the Clifton PBA Local 36 and the Passaic County Chiefs of Police Association.

Sheriff Berdnik served as a Police Officer in the City of Clifton for almost 30 years. The knowledge and experience he has acquired has made him not only a great officer, but an outstanding role model to younger police officers. It is his commitment, dedication and ambition that helped him rise through the ranks of the Clifton Police Dept. These same charac-

teristics are what led to his selection as a candidate and his election to the office of Passaic County Sheriff in the November of 2010.

As Sheriff, Richard has been a loyal and energetic leader, and has displayed wisdom and courage in situations requiring strong direction. Sheriff Berdnik demonstrated his leadership during the floods of Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee. He made Passaic County proud when he recently testified in front of the House Committee on Homeland Security about the need for comprehensive legislation to combat the threat from weapons of mass destruction (WMD).

More than just being a valued leader in the community and honorable public official, he is a beloved husband and father. Richard and his wife, Monica, have been married for over 25 years and have four children: sons, Ryan and Kevin and daughters, Ashley and Alyssa. Ashley is also being honored by the same organization as their Miss Polonia 2011. The Berdnik Family has consistently displayed some of the highest American ideals, among which are courage, determination, and integrity, and I trust he will continue that legacy.

Though the job of a United States Congressman involves much that is rewarding, few experiences compare to meeting, working with and having the honor of recognizing the impressive accomplishments of individuals like Sheriff Richard Berdnik.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, the Central of Polish Organizations, the County of Passaic, the Berdnik family, Richard's colleagues and friends in celebrating the great achievements of my friend, Sheriff Richard Berdnik; recognized tonight for his leadership, his loyal service to the public and his celebration of his heritage.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2011

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be in Washington, DC on September 12, 2011 and September 14–15, 2011. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall vote No. 699, the Investigative Assistance for Violent Crimes Act; "aye" on rollcall vote No. 700, the Appeal Time Clarification Act of 2011; "aye" on rollcall vote No. 701, to protect the safety of judges by extending the authority of the Judicial Conference to redact sensitive information contained in their financial disclosure reports; "no" on rollcall vote No. 706, relating to the disapproval of the President's exercise of authority to increase the debt limit; "no" on rollcall vote No. 707, on ordering the previous question on the rule for H.R. 2587; "no" on rollcall vote No. 708, the rule providing for consideration of H.R. 2587; "aye" on rollcall vote No. 709, the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom Reform and Reauthorization Act of 2011; "aye" on rollcall vote No. 710, the motion to recommit H.R. 2587; "no" on rollcall vote No. 711, final passage of the Protecting Jobs from Government Interference Act.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
FOUNDING OF THE REPUBLIC OF
CHINA (TAIWAN)

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2011

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, on this 100th anniversary of the founding of the Republic of China (Taiwan), I wish to extend my best wishes to our Taiwanese friends.

Taiwan's continued success and growth into one of the world's most vibrant democracies despite tremendous adversity is a testament to the skill of its leadership and the resolve of its people. Due credit must be given to President Ma Ying-Jeou for his tenacity in advancing the cause of peace in the Asia Pacific region.

It is my greatest hope that Taiwan and its neighbors, in particular the People's Republic of China, will continue to deepen cultural and economic ties to promote lasting peace in the region and in the world.

TAIWAN'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2011

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, 100 years ago on October 10, Sun Yat-sen, a Chinese doctor, led his people to overthrow the dynastic rule that governed his people for many centuries.

We have celebrated his achievements and his advocacy of his three principles of the people: Nationalism, Democracy, and the People's Livelihood.

Today, these three principles have been the legacy of Taiwan's President, Ma Ying-jeou, playing an integral role in making the Republic of China (Taiwan) a vibrant democracy and a leading force in today's international community.

We congratulate Taiwan on the historic celebration of their 100th anniversary.

HONORING THE GROUNDBREAKING
OF THE CHURCH OF JESUS
CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS'
CHAPEL IN CAMDEN, NJ

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2011

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in New Jersey on the occasion of the groundbreaking ceremony for their house of worship. This new building, located in the heart of Camden, will be a welcoming sanctuary, serving the needs of the people of Pennsauken and the City of Camden. Services will be open to the community and bilingual.

The history of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in New Jersey dates back to the Church's founder, Joseph Smith Jr., who preached here. In 1944, the Church first established a congregation in Camden, where

Church members from all over South Jersey gathered to worship. Over the years the Church has grown to fifteen congregations in South Jersey, including two in Camden alone. Members have met in various buildings throughout Camden and in neighboring towns.

This building represents economic opportunity and investment in the City of Camden, as well as spiritual and personal growth for the community members. The chapel will be a gathering place for prayer, study, and service. I hope that this chapel will inspire further development in Camden and that its congregants will continue their good deeds in the region.

Mr. Speaker, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints' commitment to the betterment of the City of Camden should not go unrecognized. I commend them for their hard work within the South Jersey community and congratulate them on the occasion of the groundbreaking of their new chapel.

PROTECTING JOBS FROM
GOVERNMENT INTERFERENCE ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 15, 2011

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, once again this Tea Party Republican majority is determined to ignore the jobs crisis in this country and instead focus the energy and efforts of Congress on busting unions and attacking the federally protected rights of workers to organize. This legislation is a direct assault on workers' rights in order to protect the profits of one corporation—Boeing. This legislation essentially tells 14 million unemployed Americans that their needs are irrelevant as long as there is a CEO in America who wants to crush a union.

The National Labor Relations Act, a Federal law, prohibits a company from taking actions, such as firing an employee or relocating a factory, against workers for exercising federally protected rights that include forming a union or striking. The National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) filed a complaint against Boeing in April 2011, accusing the airline manufacturer of building a plant in South Carolina as retaliation against union employees in Washington State who have engaged in strikes. The Seattle Times quoted one Boeing executive as saying that the main factor for putting the new plant in Charleston, SC was ". . . that we cannot afford to have a work stoppage, you know, every three years."

The legislation on the floor of the U.S. House today, H.R. 2587, is the Tea Party Republican attempt to reward a corporation that breaks the law in order to bust union workers. Rather than negotiate with union workers to reach contract agreements, Boeing built a new \$750 million facility in South Carolina. This legislation in essence sanctions any company in America to move their operations to any low-wage location where workers' rights are ignored, whether inside or outside the U.S.

Tea Party Republicans have titled this bill the Protecting Jobs from Government Interference Act, but it really should be called the Busting Unions and Outsourcing Jobs to Protect Corporate Profits Act. It is remarkable that Members of Congress can vote to sanction

the export of U.S. jobs to other countries just to ensure corporate friends can squeeze every dollar of profit available out of their low-wage workers. This legislation is truly a betrayal of the American people, but it fits into the alarming trend advocated by Tea Party Republican legislators at the State and Federal level to eliminate worker rights and protections. If their goal is to return to the days of sweatshops and the abuse of workers they are certainly moving in that direction.

I truly hope that every Minnesotan who is a member of a union, retired from a union, or has a loved-one in a union is paying attention to what is happening in America. The corporate elites and the legislators their secret money have paid to elect are destroying workers rights. This U.S. House of Representatives, once known as the People's House, now appears to be owned by corporations. Our democracy is at risk along with the rights of workers and the wages of every middle class American.

This legislation is a harbinger of the battle working people, regular Americans, face as corporations dictate to elected leaders. I oppose H.R. 2587 and I oppose the union busting, anti-working American agenda it represents.

EXPRESSING RESPECT FOR THE
DIGNITY OF ALL WORK AND ALL
WORKERS

HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2011

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, in the 1930s, as Americans slowly walked the road to recovery and rebuilt a country ravaged by the Great Depression, workers sought security and stability and unified representation. The National Labor Relations Act outlined the rights of both workers and employers and put forward rules to bring fairness to the union election process. Project labor agreements were established, and the Davis-Bacon Act created prevailing wage requirements. All this in a country still living in the shadow of the largest economic collapse the world had ever known. Our economy rebounded, and the middle class flourished. American manufacturing set the global standard, and much of the work was done by workers who enjoyed the right to collectively bargain with their employer. Our country respected the dignity of all work, and all workers.

Now, in the wake of the worst recession of our lifetime, some leaders appear to be trying to pull the rug from underneath working families who are already on the floor. We have witnessed attacks on collective bargaining rights in the state legislatures of Wisconsin and Ohio, and the repeated attempts of Congress to erode workers' rights. From repealing Davis-Bacon wage requirements to ending the power of regulators to enforce existing labor law, the same workers who made this the wealthiest country on the planet are now at times disparaged and denigrated by some rather than being protected and praised. Workers exercising their right to bargain collectively did not bring us to the brink of another Great Depression. Project labor agreements didn't cause our housing market to collapse. Prevailing wage requirements aren't causing our community banks to fail.