

Injury Group at the prestigious firm of Fox, Rothschild LLP.

Joseph's leadership and commitment to community propelled him to the ranks of our region's great philanthropists. He was a past president of the Family Service of the Main Line, Jewish Campus Activities Board (Hillel), Association for Jewish Children, and the Jewish Community Relations Council, where he was also honorary President. He served as Commissioner of the Philadelphia Fellowship Commission, Chairman of Har Zion Radnor Temple, Vice-President and Board of Trustees member of Har Zion Temple, Vice-Chairman of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry and founding Co-Chair of the Philadelphia Soviet Jewry Council.

Joe served on the Boards of United Way of Greater Philadelphia and the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee. He was a past Chairman of the Board of the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia and Vice President of the National Museum of American Jewish History and Vice-Chair of the Anti-Defamation League. He was a recipient of the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia's highest honor, the 2003 Avodat Ha Kodesh Community Award and is a member of Central High School of Philadelphia's Hall of Fame. He and his beloved wife Constance received the Soviet Jewry Council Human Rights Award, the Mellon Bank Good Neighbor Award and the State of Israel Bonds Humanitarian Award. Together they chaired the "Israel 50" celebration and the first Philadelphia Jewish Book Fair.

But, more than anything, Joe was a loving family man. He cherished and inspired his children and grand children and lived for Constance. He will be deeply missed by all of us and I'm proud to have known him.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 18, 2012

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise regarding my excused absence from rollcall votes 462–468 on Thursday, July 12, 2012. I was unavoidably delayed on my return to Washington due to pressing matters in my District.

I would have voted "aye" for rollcall vote 462, on agreeing to the Tonko (NY) Amendment, which would narrow the scope of the underlying bill to address strategic and critical minerals only; the underlying bill covers mining for virtually all minerals, including sand, gravel, and clay.

I would have voted "aye" for rollcall vote 463, on agreeing to the Hastings (FL) amendment, which would give the lead agency, in the event of new or unforeseen information, the authority to extend by two six-month periods the arbitrary 30 month time limit the bill imposes on permit approval.

I would have voted "aye" for rollcall vote 464, on agreeing to the Markey amendment (A003), which would require a royalty payment of 12.5 percent of the value of hardrock minerals such as gold, silver and uranium mined on federal lands. The revenue generated by royalty payments would be dedicated to cleaning up the more than 160,000 abandoned

hardrock mines. Currently, companies pay no royalty to mine hardrock minerals on federal lands.

I would have voted "no" for rollcall vote 465, on agreeing to the Young (AK) amendment, which would require the Forest Service to allow mining roads in areas currently designated as roadless.

I would have voted "aye" for rollcall vote 466, on agreeing to the Grijalva amendment which would protect hunting, fishing, grazing and recreation on public lands by requiring review of any mineral exploration or mining permit that might diminish opportunities for these activities.

I would have voted "aye" for rollcall vote 467 on motion that the House instruct conferees.

I would have voted "aye" for rollcall vote 468, on final passage of H.R. 4402—National Strategic and Critical Minerals Production Act of 2012 which would require federal agencies to expedite environmental review of proposed mining projects, and limits the judicial review process for challenges to approved mining permits on federal lands or associated environmental reviews. In addition the measure would give mining companies control over the timing of permitting decisions for virtually all mining operations on public land, not just those involving strategic or critical minerals.

HONORING GIDARELL BRYANT

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 18, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a remarkable man, Gidarell Bryant, Jr., Valedictorian of Rosa Fort High School in Tunica, Mississippi Class of 2012. Gidarell was born on November 25, 1993 in Clarksdale, Mississippi to Ms. Tammie Turner and Gidarell Bryant, Sr.

Gidarell has always had a competitive nature. Graduating as Valedictorian of his class was a goal that he set for himself in middle school and at the close of his senior year of high school was privileged to be bestowed the honor. To remain focused on his goals, Gidarell often recalled his mother's words, "If you put in no effort you will get nothing in return. Whatever you want to achieve in life comes with hard work and hard work will pay off."

In accordance with her advice, Gidarell took advanced coursework in high school such as: Chemistry, Physics, Calculus, and Trigonometry, achieving many academic and honorary awards throughout his secondary education and as an honor student throughout elementary, middle, and high school. Gidarell was inducted into both the National Junior Honor Society in middle school and National Honor Society in high school, where he served as Vice President. He was also chosen as a student ambassador for Lead America and People to People programs, and has served as a scholar in the Rotary Youth Leadership. Gidarell also received nominations for the United States Achievement Academy.

Gidarell credits his mother for diligently working to keep him focused on his goals; his grandmother, Leola Turner, was always supportive of him; his two uncles, Chester and

Corneilus Lambert, who are retired military personnel, who have not only served this country but also served as male role models.

Gidarell will attend Mississippi State University and major in Business Administration. After receiving his undergraduate degree, he hopes to attend Harvard University to pursue a professional degree. Gidarell hopes to one day serve as Governor of Mississippi, in addition to owning a National Basketball Association franchise that he would relocate to Mississippi.

Mr. Speaker, I ask our colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Gidarell Bryant, Jr. as Valedictorian of Rosa Fort High School Class of 2012, in Tunica, Mississippi.

A TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF FRANK M. TOSTE, SR.

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 18, 2012

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of Mr. Frank M. Toste Sr., a respected dairyman and community leader, who passed away on Thursday, July 12, 2012. His dedication to family and farming made him a true source of pride for California's San Joaquin Valley and our nation.

A proud product of California's agriculturally rich San Joaquin Valley, Frank was born in Riverdale, California on January 26, 1921 to Mary Carreiro and Joseph Toste, who were Portuguese immigrants from the Azore Islands. He attended Valley schools and developed a love and appreciation for the San Joaquin Valley. Mary and Joseph instilled a sense of responsibility and dependability in Frank early in his life. As a young boy Frank worked on his family's small dairy in Kerman, California, where he learned the value of hard work. Years later, those same values would encourage Frank to serve his nation in the United States Army during World War II. He served in Northern Africa, Italy, France, and Germany. During his service he achieved the rank of Staff Sergeant.

Upon returning home, Frank met and married the love of his life, Iva Jean Heitz. Together, they started their own business, the Hillview Dairy Farm near Easton, California. His passion and enthusiasm for farming, combined with his skills and work ethic, made him a very successful farmer and dairyman. Frank loved what he did and passed on the gift of farming to younger generations in his family.

Frank's contributions to his community went beyond his exceptional farming abilities. He was active in many organizations including the Knights of Columbus, the Cabrillo Civic Club, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Farm Bureau, and the Dairy Herd Improvement Association. His participation and admirable service to his community made him a valuable leader and respected voice on important Valley issues. He will be sorely missed.

Frank is survived by his loving wife of 63 years, Iva; his sons, Frank Toste Jr., Ron Toste, and Scott Toste; his grandsons, Frank Toste III, Jason Toste, Jacob Toste; his granddaughters, Marlene Borges, Anneka Anderson, and Roni Aust; five great-grandsons; two great-granddaughters; his brother Willie Toste; and many nieces and nephews.