

colleagues to help make women aware of the potential warning signs to prevent future deaths.

September is National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month—an important time during which ovarian cancer organizations, advocates, and others will be helping to raise awareness about the disease and its symptoms. As a member of the bipartisan House Cancer Caucus, I urge my colleagues and their staff to join me in recognizing September as National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month and to join us year round in working to increase public knowledge about this deadly disease and work towards a cure.

TAIWAN OBSERVER STATUS IN  
THE INTERNATIONAL CIVIL  
AVIATION ORGANIZATION

SPEECH OF

**HON. PHIL GINGREY**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 11, 2012*

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, as one of the Co-Chairs of the bipartisan Congressional Taiwan Caucus, I rise in strong support of S. Con. Res. 17. I particularly want to commend Chairwoman ROS-LEHTINEN and Ranking Member BERMAN for bringing this concurrent resolution to the floor. Additionally, I would like to applaud the work and leadership of our other Co-Chairs—Ms. BERKLEY of Nevada, Mr. DIAZ-BALART of Florida, and Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia—for their work supporting our relationship with Taiwan.

Since its inception in 1947, the International Civil Aviation Organization, ICAO, has been a great resource for the international community to develop and foster the most efficient and safest means of airline travel across the world. In the aftermath of the horrific terrorist attacks 11 years ago today on September 11, 2001, it was the ICAO that convened a conference to endorse a uniform international strategy to ensure aviation safety throughout the world.

Mr. Speaker, unfortunately, our friends in Taiwan have been excluded from participation in the ICAO since 1971. Not only has that diminished Taiwan's ability to stay at the cutting edge of aviation, it has also presented obstacles to the international community as a whole because the ICAO cannot completely fulfill its mission to meet the needs of all people in efficient and safe air travel.

Taiwan has a very large footprint within commercial aviation that warrants its inclusion within the ICAO. The Taipei Flight Information Region covers airspace of 176,000 square nautical miles and provides air traffic control services to over 1.3 million flights annually. Additionally, there are over 174,000 international flights carrying more than 35 million passengers that fly in and out of Taiwan each year. With this high volume of air traffic, Taiwan certainly deserves to have a seat at the table of the ICAO—at least as an observer.

Mr. Speaker, this is precisely what this concurrent resolution seeks to accomplish. Providing Taiwan with meaningful participation at the ICAO only benefits both the Taiwanese and the international community as a whole. Due to our longstanding relationship and respect for our friends in Taiwan, I urge all of my colleagues to support S. Con. Res. 17.

HONORING THE UNIVERSITY OF  
NOTRE DAME DU LAC ON THE  
OCCASION OF ITS 170 YEARS IN  
SOUTH BEND, INDIANA

**HON. JOE DONNELLY**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 12, 2012*

Mr. DONNELLY of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today joined by members of the Indiana delegation, Senators DAN COATS and RICHARD LUGAR, Representatives LARRY BUCSHON, DAN BURTON, ANDRÉ CARSON, MIKE PENCE, TODD ROKITA, MARLIN STUTZMAN, PETE VISCLOSKEY, AND TODD YOUNG to honor The University of Notre Dame du Lac on the occasion of its 170 years in South Bend, Indiana. The University has made significant contributions to the United States of America since its founding in 1842 by Rev. Edward F. Sorin, C.S.C. Fortified by a deep faith in God and an unwavering commitment to the common good, the University has impacted the Nation's history, its educational accomplishments, and its outreach and ministry to the vulnerable and the poor.

As Fr. Sorin sought to bridge the education gap in the expanding frontier, he began a history that intertwined with and influenced the history of our Nation. During World War II, Notre Dame established a Naval center that trained 12,000 officers in South Bend, Indiana, an episode that is commemorated yearly in a respectful football rivalry.

Notre Dame has been a leader in promoting diversity in higher education and American culture, especially the pioneering work of Fr. Theodore Hesburgh as the guiding voice of the Civil Rights Commission that crafted the framework to end segregation with the Civil Rights Act of 1964. An association with the Peace Corps goes back to the agency's founding in 1961, when the first volunteers were trained on campus under the strong support of Fr. Hesburgh; since then, more than 800 Notre Dame graduates have entered the Peace Corps, more than from any other Catholic college or university.

Notre Dame's dedication to educational excellence is reflected in its highly ranked Mendoza College of Business and Law School in addition to a well-regarded School of Architecture. Its research programs have made great contributions to national science and health over the years, ranging from the discovery of synthetic rubber by Fr. Julius Nieuwland in the 1920's to the mapping of the mosquito genome in this century as a way to prevent the spread of malaria and other diseases. More recently, the Nuclear Science Laboratory began construction on a new nuclear accelerator, the first accelerator the National Science Foundation has funded in nuclear physics in nearly a quarter century.

The University encourages research and innovation as evidenced by Innovation Park at Notre Dame which connects aspiring innovators with Notre Dame faculty, students and resources, collaborates with industry experts, and supports entrepreneurs.

Notre Dame continues to build on its inspiring legacy of service which has left a positive and lasting impact on the soul of this Nation for over 170 years. Its Summer Service Learning Program has provided some 4,000 undergraduate students with a scholarship to perform eight weeks of community service in the

communities of Notre Dame alumni clubs across the Nation. The Alliance for Catholic Education, ACE, sends nearly 200 recent graduates each year to teach in about 100 understaffed Catholic schools across the country.

The administrators, faculty, students and graduates, have provided leadership that has helped shape our Nation—and the world—with approximately eighty percent (80%) of Notre Dame students active in social service each year through the University's Center for Social Concerns. In addition, the Notre Dame family contributes more than 400,000 hours of volunteer service each academic year.

The University's mission is to cultivate in its students not only an appreciation for the great achievements of human beings, but also a love of God and a disciplined sensibility to the poverty, injustice, and oppression that burden the lives of so many. Its aim is to create a sense of human solidarity and concern for the common good that will bear fruit as learning becomes service to justice. Notre Dame makes our Nation stronger and deserves our deepest appreciation.

Once again, we offer congratulations to the University of Notre Dame and join the Northern Indiana Center for History as they celebrate Notre Dame's 170 years of vision, leadership, and engagement in the community, the State, the country, and the world.

HONORING THE LIFE OF J.R.  
"DICK" BIRDWELL

**HON. BILL FLORES**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 12, 2012*

Mr. FLORES. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to J.R. "Dick" Birdwell, a proud lifelong Aggie and former City Councilman of College Station, Texas, and Mayor and City Councilman of Lake Jackson, Texas. He passed on April 4th at the age of 81, only two days after he and his beloved wife Joyce celebrated their 59th wedding anniversary.

Dick Birdwell was born in Stephenville and moved to College Station in 1945. He graduated from A&M Consolidated High School and went on to receive his undergraduate and masters degrees from Texas A&M University. While at A&M he was a member of the Ross Volunteers and a battalion commander in the Corps of Cadets.

Birdwell was a longtime Dow Chemical Company employee in Houston; Brisbane, Australia; Lake Jackson, Texas; and Baton Rouge, Louisiana. After retiring he returned to College Station.

Mayor Birdwell served the citizens of Lake Jackson as Councilman and Mayor from 1979 to 1982, he also served as Councilman of College Station for three terms, serving two consecutive terms from 1988 to 1992, and a third term from 1996 to 1998.

While serving on City Council, Birdwell was known to extensively study the issues and was not shy about expressing his ideas. He was always well prepared for council meetings and showed pride in serving his community.

While residing in College Station, Birdwell would begin to serve his community through numerous engineering organizations, as a mediator for the Dispute Resolution Agency of