

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW CELEBRATES 45 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

HON. RANDY NEUGEBAUER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 17, 2012

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, this year, the Texas Tech University School of Law marked its 45th anniversary, and I rise today to congratulate the faculty, staff, students, and alumni on this milestone.

The School of Law was the first graduate professional school at Texas Tech, and it owes its existence primarily to the efforts of one man—Alvin Allison of Levelland. As Texas evolved from an agricultural state to one with a greater focus on industry and professional services, there was a growing need for lawyers. Mr. Allison saw an opportunity for Texas Tech to fulfill that role, and the idea for the law school was born.

The first class consisted of 72 students, who were trained to practice law, “in accordance with the highest traditions of professional responsibility,” according to an early history of the school. Today, students are still taught to fulfill their greatest potential as they serve their communities.

Texas Tech Law has grown tremendously since its founding in 1967, but it has remained true to its core principles. Although today’s incoming classes are nearly three times as large as the first class, they maintain a focus on practical instruction to prepare students for professional success.

Students can take advantage of joint degrees and nationally recognized programs in advocacy, law and science, military law, and health law. Alumni have consistently high rates of employment and bar passage, and work throughout the state and the nation as lawyers and judges, public servants and executives.

Today, Dean Darby Dickerson is leading Texas Tech into the 21st century with an ambitious strategic plan. Thanks to her hard work, and the vision and dedication of her predecessors, generations of students will continue to flourish at Texas Tech Law. And our country will benefit from the expertise and passion that Tech’s lawyers bring to their work.

I hope you’ll join me today in congratulating Texas Tech Law on this milestone, and wishing them well for many years to come.

Guns up.

TRIBUTE TO EAGLE SCOUT CODY GULDNER

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 17, 2012

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Cody Guldner of

Altoona, Iowa for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout.

The Eagle Scout rank is the highest advancement rank in scouting. Only about five percent of Boy Scouts earn the Eagle Scout Award. The award is a performance-based achievement with high standards that have been well-maintained over the past century.

To earn the Eagle Scout rank, a Boy Scout is obligated to pass specific tests that are organized by requirements and merit badges, as well as completing an Eagle Project to benefit the community. For his project, Cody saved the City of Altoona nearly \$3,000 in labor costs by moving four planting beds with a total of eighty plants to a new site along a bicycle tunnel. This project involved extensive labor and took nearly 60 hours to complete. The work ethic Cody has shown in his Eagle Project and every other project leading up to his Eagle Scout rank speaks volumes of his commitment to serving a cause greater than himself and assisting his community.

Mr. Speaker, the example set by this young man and his supportive family demonstrates the rewards of hard work, dedication and perseverance. I am honored to represent Cody and his family in the United States Congress. I know that all of my colleagues in the House will join me in congratulating him on obtaining the Eagle Scout ranking, and I wish him continued success in his future education and career.

ASTHMA INHALERS RELIEF ACT OF 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2012

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I support the Asthma Inhalers Relief Act, H.R. 6190. This bill is simple; it will allow remaining stocks of Primatene Mist to be made available to asthma patients. This is a drug that was on the shelves for decades, but was removed due to environmental concerns regarding CFCs. Primatene was not removed due to safety concerns.

Limiting releases of CFCs is important and we must make sure that consumer products do not contain these harmful chemicals. However, the small remaining amount of Primatene poses no real threat to the environment and could potentially save the lives of Asthma patients in the midst of an attack. Right now there are no over-the-counter rescue inhalers available.

Releasing the remaining doses of Primatene is a temporary solution until a non-CFC inhaler is approved by the FDA. I have heard from constituents of mine who would greatly benefit from access to this medicine. If these inhalers endangered their safety, of course, it would not be appropriate to put them back on the shelves, but that is not the case.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF CHESTER E. GORDON

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 17, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to remember Chester E. Gordon, a resident of Lakewood, Ohio, for the last 50 years and a constituent of Ohio’s 10th Congressional District. Chester, who was 81, died on September 15, 2012.

Chester Gordon was an attorney, scholar, soldier, and citizen. A 1948 graduate of Cleveland Heights High School, a 1952 graduate of Harvard College, and an alumnus of the 1955 class of Western Reserve (now Case Western Reserve University) School of Law, Chester started practicing law in 1956. He assumed the practice of his uncle, Harry Hemple, in Lakewood in 1963. He served in the U.S. Army on active duty in Washington, DC as an attorney from 1956 through 1958, and then practiced as a reserve officer until receiving his honorable discharge in 1963.

Chester was a lifelong Democrat and political enthusiast. He met his wife Stephanie, who shared his enthusiasm, on the presidential campaign trail of John F. Kennedy. They married soon after Kennedy’s victory. They worked on and supported many candidates for political office. Their children learned politics alongside their parents. Their daughter Merle, whose first baby-steps were on door-to-door political campaigns with Chester and Stephanie, went on to serve several terms as a Cleveland city councilwoman representing Cleveland’s Old Brooklyn and Brooklyn Centre neighborhoods in the 10th Congressional District. I am proud to be among the candidates for office for whom the Gordons campaigned.

Chester was a man of diverse interests. He was a long-time member and past president of Beth Israel the West Temple in Cleveland and a member of Beth El—The Heights Synagogue in Cleveland Heights. He was a subscriber and supporter of the Cleveland Orchestra for over 60 years. A wood turner, Chester was a member of the North Coast Woodturners. A loyal member of the City Club of Cleveland, Chester could usually be found at its Friday Forums each week. On Saturdays, Chester was a faithful shopper at Cleveland’s West Side Market with his son David. Chester was also active in his alumni associations, was a long-serving member of the Harvard Scholarship Committee, and attended his 60th Harvard College reunion this summer.

In addition to Merle, David, and Stephanie, his wife of 51 years, Chester is survived by his son Abram and daughter-in-law Bess and their daughters Annie and LuLu of Cincinnati; daughter Rachel and son-in-law Joseph of Israel; son Derek and daughter-in-law Jen and

• This “bullet” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

their children Sam, Henry, and Sophie of Tuscon, Arizona; and sister Sue Wintner of Pepper Pike, Ohio. Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in remembering Chester Gordon and joining with his family and many friends who are mourning his loss.

CELEBRATING COMPUTER SCIENCE
EDUCATION WEEK

HON. JARED POLIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 17, 2012

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I express my support of Computer Science Education Week, which occurs this week to celebrate the teaching and learning of computer science in our public schools. The week highlights activities and advocacy to elevate computer science education for students at all levels.

Computer science is central to our Nation's global economic competitiveness. Half of the estimated 9.2 million STEM jobs that will be created by the year 2020 will be in computing. Major U.S. companies—Microsoft, Oracle and others—have such jobs available now but can't fill them because our schools aren't offering them. Despite this employment need, public schools in two-thirds of the states treat computer science as an elective and only 9 states require computer science for high school graduation. Meanwhile, very few states have computer science teacher certification and professional development, and public schools lack coherent computer science standards and assessments.

My bill, the Computer Science Education Act (H.R. 3014) would address these problems through supports to states, local school districts and higher education. So I urge you to cosponsor this bill, while joining advocates and businesses across the country in honoring Computer Science Education Week and supporting a concrete effort to increase American jobs.

AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR TRAINING
AND DEVELOPMENT (ASTD)

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 17, 2012

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the American Society for Training and Development (ASTD) as the largest association dedicated to the training and development profession, recognizing them for their annual Employee Learning Week, held December 3rd through the 7th, 2012.

Members of ASTD come from more than 100 countries and connect locally in 120 U.S. chapters with 16 international partners. They work in thousands of organizations of all sizes, in government, as independent consultants, and as suppliers.

Established in 1943, ASTD is a leader in the training and development field. As businesses seek competitive advantages and growth, learning and development professionals make sure an organization's best asset, its employees, have the skills they need to help achieve business growth. ASTD serves this important

community of professionals with research and resources.

To further these goals, ASTD has declared December 3rd through December 7th, 2012, as "Employee Learning Week" and designated time for organizations to recognize the strategic value of employee learning. I applaud ASTD and its members for their dedication to developing knowledgeable and skilled employees during Employee Learning Week.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting policies that commit to maintaining a highly skilled workforce.

RECOGNIZING DR. MICHAEL
OCHS'S 25 YEARS OF SERVICE ON
THE COMMISSION ON SECURITY
AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 17, 2012

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, Dr. Michael Ochs has announced his retirement from the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, also known as the Helsinki Commission, which I chair. So at this time I'd like to pay tribute to him for his 25 years of service to the Commission. Michael began his work as a member of the professional staff on October 1, 1987, a time when the changes to come in what was then the Soviet Union were unimaginable. Yet within a few years, the Soviet Union had disintegrated, succeeded by newly independent states facing difficult and sometimes complex transition periods.

Dr. Ochs joined the staff of the Commission after completing his doctoral work in Russian history, and began his career by monitoring human rights abuses in the Soviet Union. He participated in the first international human rights conference to be convened in the Soviet Union, a meeting eventually interrupted by the KGB.

Following the breakup of the Soviet Union, Michael was an early voice promoting democracy, human rights, and the rule of law in post-Soviet states, particularly in the Caucasus and Central Asia. In the early 1990s, he traveled regularly to the region, working with authorities, opposition representatives, journalists and human rights activists to promote democracy and human rights, as well as participating in early OSCE election observation missions. This early involvement in the newly independent states gave Michael a remarkable depth of understanding of the region. His extensive network of contacts has made him indispensable to the Commission as well as other U.S. government agencies. He is certainly one of our government's top experts on the Caucasus and Central Asia.

Michael's extraordinary expertise has served the Commission well over the years, and has also been recognized and called on by other U.S. government agencies. He has earned a reputation for his thoughtful and thorough analytical skills, which are respected not only within the U.S. government, but also within the region by both opposition and authorities alike. He also is known for his outstanding language skills, including near-native proficiency in Russian, as well as a command of Polish, Azeri and several other languages.

Michael's tenure at the Commission has seen color revolutions in Ukraine, Georgia, and Kyrgyzstan, tragic massacres and violence in Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan, and steps forward towards democracy throughout the region, and, sadly, many steps backward in the region. He has worked hard to advocate for activists, journalists, and others arrested for opposing authoritarian regimes—and, sometimes against the odds—has been successful in getting individuals released from prison.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize and commend Dr. Michael Ochs for his faithful service to the Commission and in defense of human rights and freedom. As he will be retiring at the end of this month, this is also a sad good-bye for me—I have known Michael almost since he joined the Commission, have traveled abroad with him, benefited greatly from his expertise, enjoyed his company immensely, and will certainly miss him.

COMMEMORATING THE CITY OF
OAK PARK

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 17, 2012

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the City of Oak Park, and thank the residents of Oak Park who have provided me with the honor of representing them in Congress for 30 years. My beloved late wife, Vicki and I, enjoyed lasting friendships with so many in the community for many years. I have been proud to see the fabric of this community diversify racially and to watch it develop economically.

Historically, the area that was to become Oak Park existed within Royal Oak Township, and was first settled in 1840. The first major housing development came in 1914 when the township sold land to the majestic Land Company to be developed as the Oak Park subdivision. The subdivision was incorporated as a village on May 3, 1927. The village incorporated as city on October 29, 1945. Planned developments in the late 1950s resulted in Oak Park being named "America's Fastest Growing City" at one point.

I have enjoyed participating in so many activities and events in Oak Park like the annual 4th of July parade, Dr. Martin Luther King Day program and activities sponsored by your schools and your strong and vibrant religious institutions.

I was proud to host several events in the city including our Community Resource Fairs where we brought together Oak Park residents with county, state and federal agencies to that offered critical services within the community.

Mayor McClellan, who was preceded by long-time mayor Jerry Naftely, along with all of the dedicated City Council members and other local elected officials continue to move the City of Oak Park forward, and I look forward to following their success in the years to come.

As I close, I can say with confidence that the City of Oak Park and its residents are in good hands with Congressman GARY PETERS. My office will, of course, stay in close touch on issues that impact Oakland County and south-east Michigan as we all work together to revitalize our Michigan economy.

COAST GUARD AUTHORIZATION
ACT OF 2012 AMENDMENTS

SPEECH OF

HON. FRANK A. LOBIONDO

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 5, 2012

Mr. LOBIONDO. Mr. Speaker, I understand a concern has been raised by the gentleman from Alaska, Mr. YOUNG and others that wording in Section 307 of the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act of 2012 relating to a vessel's "eligibility" to participate in the non-AFA trawl catcher/processor sector could potentially be read to result in the loss of fishery endorsements for AFA catcher/processors. I can affirm that it is not the intent of the legislation that either existing AFA vessels or rebuilt or replacement AFA vessels suffer a loss of fishery endorsements merely for being considered eligible to participate in a fishery in which they are not participating.

As my colleagues know, this provision came as the result of a request from the other body during negotiations with them on a final text of the legislation. I can assure my colleagues that it was never contemplated that either existing AFA catcher/processors or rebuilt or replacement AFA vessels would lose, or be precluded from acquiring, fishery endorsements just because a federal agency might find such vessels eligible to participate in certain fisheries. The wording of Section 307, that amends 46 U.S.C. section 12113(d)(2)(C), relates to a section in statute pertaining to rebuilt or replacement AFA vessels. It creates restrictions on those vessels from entering the non-AFA pollock catcher/processor sector as replacement vessels, but it is not intended to affect the fishery endorsements for existing AFA catcher/processors or rebuilt or replacement AFA vessels that are not participating in the non-AFA trawl catcher/processor sector.

HONORING THE WORK OF MARK
RIDLEY-THOMAS**HON. KAREN BASS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 17, 2012

Ms. BASS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the work of a distinguished public servant from Los Angeles, Mr. Mark Ridley-Thomas. In 2008, Mr. Ridley-Thomas was overwhelmingly elected as the first African American man to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors. This past November, Mr. Ridley-Thomas' leadership was further acknowledged and he was unanimously approved by the Board to become the first African American man to chair the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors.

First elected to public office over twenty years ago, Mr. Ridley-Thomas served with distinction on the Los Angeles City Council for nearly a dozen years. He later served two terms in the California State Assembly, where he chaired the Assembly Democratic Caucus. Thereafter, he served as a California State Senator where he chaired the Legislative Black Caucus and initiated unprecedented levels of cooperation and collaboration between the Black, Latino, and Asian-Pacific Islander Legislative Caucuses.

Mr. Ridley-Thomas is widely regarded for uniting civic engagement and government decision-making. In an effort to encourage neighborhood-based advocacy and citizen leadership, Mr. Ridley-Thomas established the Empowerment Congress which served as a model and predecessor for the citywide Neighborhood Councils. Through education, engagement, and empowerment, Mr. Ridley-Thomas equipped and inspired his constituents to confront prevailing racial and economic disparities and improve community and public policy outcomes.

Throughout his life, Mr. Ridley-Thomas has shown a dedication and passion for improving the health and wellness of communities by inspiring participatory engagement to provoke change. After earning a baccalaureate degree in Social Relations and a master's degree in Religious Studies, he further went on to receive his Ph.D. in Social Ethics from the University of Southern California focusing on Social Criticism and Social Change. He has devoted his life to the betterment of the people of Los Angeles County and has used his leadership to bring about effective change in Los Angeles County.

In addition to this exemplary public service, Supervisor Ridley-Thomas is deeply committed to his roles as father and husband. His wife Avis and twin sons, Sebastian and Sinclair, are shining examples of love and inspiration that Mr. Ridley-Thomas derives from his family and graciously shares with the community.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to have called Mr. Mark Ridley-Thomas a friend and partner in the fight for social and economic justice. He has left an indelible mark on Los Angeles, and continues to inspire my work in Congress and people of Los Angeles. It is a great honor to recognize his work here on the floor today.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF
PAUL A. LEONARDI**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 17, 2012

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Paul A. Leonardi for his loyalty and commitment to the United States. He exemplifies a passion for serving others, and we must commend him for his hard work in keeping our country safe. After 28 years of dedicated service to the federal government, Paul is retiring to spend more quality time with his family.

In 1973, Paul joined the United States Air Force. He served as a Security Specialist and an Air Force Recruiter for over eight years. His various assignments in the military enabled him to travel all over the United States. Paul was stationed at the Strategic Air Command at Wurtsmith AFB, Michigan; the United States Air Forces in Europe Command at RAF Alconbury, England; the Air Force Logistics Command at Hill AFB, Utah; the Air Training Command as an Air Force Recruiter in Bay City, Michigan; and the Strategic Air Command at Minot AFB, North Dakota. Paul was honorably discharged in 1981. Paul's time in the Air Force prepared him well for his work at Immigration and Naturalization Service and the Department of Homeland Security.

Paul began working for INS in 1992 as an immigration inspector at the Orlando Inter-

national Airport in Orlando, Florida. He was then transferred to Miami as a criminal investigator. Paul worked as a criminal investigator for several years before being promoted to the Joint Terrorism Task Force after September 11, 2001. A couple months later he was promoted to Supervisory Special Agent, and after a year, he relocated to Fresno, California.

In 2003, Paul continued his work as Supervisory Special Agent for Homeland Security Investigations, and in 2010, he was promoted to Resident Agent in Charge. His vast experience and knowledge made him perfect for the job.

Mr. Speaker, it should be noted that in addition to his countless gifts to our country, Paul has been a true champion for my constituents. He and his team have always been available to discuss issues and work together to make our Central Valley a better place. We are all grateful for Paul's unwavering commitment and leadership, but I know he will enjoy more time with his wife of 26 years, Barbara, his children and grandchildren. I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing the commitment, dedication, and success of Paul Leonardi.

IN RECOGNITION OF
CLEVELANDPEOPLE.COM**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 17, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of ClevelandPeople.com, a website designed to promote the more than 100 different ethnic and cultural people and events in Northeast Ohio.

ClevelandPeople.com strives to embrace the City of Cleveland's rich and ethnically diverse ethnic and cultural groups by promoting the "tossed salad model." Opposed to the "melting pot," a tossed salad model is designed to embrace and maintain unique cultures.

ClevelandPeople.com's work is an invaluable documentation and collection of text, videos and pictures of cultural events that occur throughout Northeast Ohio. They truly are creating "an archive of this activity (ethnic and cultural events) that makes Cleveland so unique."

In addition to being an archive of cultural events, ClevelandPeople.com has proven to be an invaluable resource to Northeastern Ohio residents, tourists and people seeking to relocate to the area. ClevelandPeople.com has information on nearly every ethnic and cultural group in the city and is also a hub for ClevelandPeople.com Ambassadors. These ambassadors are leaders among the dozens of cultural groups throughout the city and have proven to be invaluable contacts for members of the community and people new to the area looking to become involved with their respective ethnic groups.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognizing the work and efforts of ClevelandPeople.com.

COAST GUARD AUTHORIZATION
ACT OF 2012 AMENDMENTS

SPEECH OF

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 5, 2012

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act of 2012. This important bill provides the funding and policy support for all of the programs and missions of the United States Coast Guard. The bill also includes policy and statutory provisions that are important to the entire maritime industry. Part of what our U.S. flag vessel industry does is assist us in developing our energy resources offshore whether in the Arctic or elsewhere. This effort will help us achieve energy independence. Without these working boats being able to operate both domestically and internationally, we as a nation would be lagging even further behind. We need to do what we can to support vessels that can and will do this work.

One such provision in this Coast Guard bill addresses the tonnage situation of the vessel *Aqueos Acadian*. The world of tonnage measurement is an arcane and complicated subject. However, it is vital to the operation and economics of any vessel. In this case the *Aqueos Acadian*, in its original configuration in 1973 when she was built, was certified in Coast Guard documentation to be 274 Gross Registered Tons (GRT), which is the official domestic tonnage measurement. Later in her career, the vessel underwent modifications (addition of a closed-in "shelter deck"), which increased her domestic tonnage (GRT) as well as her international tonnage, which is measured differently than domestic tonnage under the International Tonnage Convention (ITC) rules. Later still in the vessel's history, the modifications that increased the tonnage measurements were removed and the vessel's official documents were then issued by the Coast Guard and ABS to reflect that the GRT had been reduced to 275, almost exactly the original GRT of 274. Vessels that are greater than 300 GRT have safety and manning requirements that are substantially more complicated than vessels at or below 300 GRT. At the time of the certification of the down-sizing modifications reducing the GRT, the ITC tonnage was not reduced because the Coast Guard's ability to administratively reduce international tonnage, once it has gone up, is either extremely arcane or non-existent—even if the vessel's domestic and international tonnage has in fact been reduced.

Aqueos Corporation purchased the vessel for offshore work and, as stated above, its official documents reflected that the GRT had been reduced to below 300 GRT. Relying on those Coast Guard and ABS issued documents, the company sought Coast Guard administrative help to reduce the ITC tonnage commensurate with the recognition that the GRT had been reduced (prior enlarging modifications removed). In the Coast Guard Authorization bill (H.R. 2838) just enacted this week, there is language that allows the company to keep operating the vessel under its current documentation (below 300 GRT) and allows time to complete the tonnage reducing modifications that were not done by the previous owners of the vessel but which the

Coast Guard has said must be done. Unfortunately the ITC tonnage reduction remains incomplete. The provision does not restore the vessel's ITC tonnage to that of the GRT, once the tonnage reducing modification is made in dry dock. This second step would afford to the vessel the same result that other vessels in the *Aqueos Acadian's* class have, which, through a previous legislative grandfather provision, allows those vessels' GRT and ITC tonnage to be the same. This second step would not give the vessel a competitive advantage relative to other vessels in the *Acadian's* class, rather without it the company is at a competitive disadvantage with those other vessels in its class. As time goes by the vessel is losing out on potentially millions of dollars of domestic and international work.

It may be that the ITC provides for recognition of the lower tonnage administratively, but the path is not clear whether such an administrative route exists. Again in the case of this vessel, it is essentially being restored to its original tonnage at the time it was built in 1973. I understand the concern addressed by the ITC of vessels substantially changing their size. A larger vessel should be regulated at a larger tonnage. However, I have not been made aware of any vessel that fits this fact pattern of being enlarged and then substantially altered to be restored to its original tonnage. Unfortunately, the way that the ITC addresses this situation is to forever assign a vessel a higher tonnage even if in fact has been reduced. That is simply unfair. Other vessels of the same class which did not undergo the enlargement are now enjoying a lower ITC tonnage. The equities are that this vessel should be similarly recognized once restored. This is an equitable case for assigning it the ITC tonnage as though it had not undergone the earlier enlargement.

While there may be a way to do this administratively, that process has not been made clear and seems to be a maze of arcane International Maritime Organization procedures. Thus, the case for correcting the international tonnage for this vessel is a compelling one based on a unique situation. The recognition of such a unique case as this would not undermine the U.S. credibility or the ITC itself, or cause any backlash in the international community. This vessel should not be force fit into a regime that does not recognize its circumstance. We need vessels such as the *Aqueos Acadian* to develop offshore energy resources as soon as possible. This provision gets part of the job done and in time perhaps an additional measure is needed. In the meantime, I strongly urge the Coast Guard to develop an administrative solution and I ask the Coast Guard to consider all of the factors mentioned above.

PASSING OF MR. FELMERS
CHANEY**HON. GWEN MOORE**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 17, 2012

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I write to express my sincere condolences to the family and friends of Mr. Felmers Chaney, a respected and influential community leader. A loving husband for 70 years,

brother, relative, and friend to many in Milwaukee, he will surely be missed by all. He was loyal and committed to his family, the Milwaukee community, and the civil rights struggle. Felmers' death leaves a void, but his memory as a true "servant leader" provides a remarkable legacy and an example of a life well lived.

Felmers lived a life full of accomplishment and distinction during his time with us. He didn't shy away from controversy and exhibited extraordinary courage in the face of outright racial discrimination during his life. He was a pioneer on many fronts, starting his career in 1947 as only the fourth black officer with the Milwaukee Police Department. Due to his tenacity and failure to acquiesce to racial injustice, he was promoted and became the first black sergeant on the police force serving the department and Milwaukee for 36 years. He supervised roughly 20 officers in the department's 5th District—two or three of whom were black. These same leadership skills and his concerns for those living in Milwaukee's inner city, catapulted him into a leadership position as President of Milwaukee's NAACP in 1987. As its president for 12 years, Felmers was a formidable advocate on behalf of the black community. He spoke out on issues involving the lack of equal access to housing, jobs, education, and he was party to the "redlining" lawsuit that successfully challenged the practice of denying mortgages to blacks.

Felmers was not only known for his fight in the civil rights arena, but also for his role in creating economic development opportunities in the inner city. Because of his interest in building up the black community and developing job opportunities, he became the President of the Central City Development Corp., which built the Central City Plaza, a motel and shopping center on 6th and Walnut Street. This further led to his becoming the founder and president of North Milwaukee State Bank, Wisconsin's first black-owned bank. In addition to his years as NAACP president, Felmers also served as president of the Milwaukee Urban League, and in 2000, Gov. Tommy Thompson dedicated Milwaukee's new men's correctional center on N. 30th Street as the Felmers O. Chaney Correctional Center.

Mr. Speaker, the Milwaukee community stands in awe of all that Felmers did to give back to this community. He has left an indelible mark on me and on those who have chosen to enter public service as a career. Felmers has left a beautiful legacy through his family. Our community and the Fourth Congressional District of Wisconsin is a much better place to live and work because of him. I thank him for the many families and individual lives he touched over the years.

May God be with all who mourn in the days and months ahead. Along with my staff, I send my thoughts and prayers.

TRIBUTE TO EAGLE SCOUT
MICHAEL GREENFIELD**HON. TOM LATHAM**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 17, 2012

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Michael Greenfield of Clive, Iowa for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout.

The Eagle Scout rank is the highest advancement rank in scouting. Only about five percent of Boy Scouts earn the Eagle Scout Award. The award is a performance-based achievement with high standards that have been well-maintained over the past century.

To earn the Eagle Scout rank, a Boy Scout is obligated to pass specific tests that are organized by requirements and merit badges, as well as completing an Eagle Project to benefit the community. For his project, Michael presented a Food Allergy Safety Seminar to a variety of local groups. The work ethic Michael has shown in his Eagle Project and every other project leading up to his Eagle Scout rank speaks volumes of his commitment to serving a cause greater than himself and assisting his community.

Mr. Speaker, the example set by this young man and his supportive family demonstrates the rewards of hard work, dedication and perseverance. I am honored to represent Michael and his family in the United States Congress. I know that all of my colleagues in the House will join me in congratulating him on obtaining the Eagle Scout ranking, and I wish him continued success in his future education and career.

IN HONOR OF MR. ROBERT
MACLEOD

HON. LARRY KISSELL

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 17, 2012

Mr. KISSELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mr. Robert MacLeod, and his service to the United States of America as a member of the United States Coast Guard.

Due to his exceptional service in the Coast Guard, Mr. MacLeod was awarded the Vietnam Service Medal with two bronze stars, the National Defense Service Medal, and the Vietnam Campaign Ribbon with Device. After serving our nation during the Vietnam War, Mr. MacLeod co-founded the Metrolina Vietnam Veterans Association in Charlotte, NC. He was the inaugural president of the United States Coast Guard Lightship Sailors Association of America at its inception, and led efforts for the establishment of numerous monuments honoring men and women who have served our country.

Today, I ask all Members of Congress to join me in honoring Mr. MacLeod, a great American, and resident of North Carolina, the state which I am proud to represent.

HONORING FORMER SENATOR
GEORGE MCGOVERN

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 17, 2012

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, my dear friend, Senator George McGovern, passed away last October at the age of 90. He represented the best of the Democratic Party and the best of American politics. His voice and decency will be missed.

I submit two articles that pay tribute to this remarkable man.

[From the Nation, Oct. 22, 2012]

GEORGE MCGOVERN, THE "ATTICUS FINCH" OF
AMERICAN POLITICS

(By Jim McGovern)

George McGovern lived to be 90. By any measure, he had a long and productive life. Yet I can't help but feeling sad—not just because I lost my most treasured friend—but because the world lost a consistently steady and refreshingly liberal voice of sanity and common sense.

To me, George McGovern was the "Atticus Finch" of American politics. Like the main character in Harper Lee's brilliant novel *To Kill a Mockingbird* George McGovern spoke the truth even when—especially when—it was uncomfortable.

He spoke the truth about the folly of Vietnam and our excessive military budget. He spoke the truth about corruption in the Nixon White House. And he spoke the truth about the tragedy of hunger in the United States and around the world. He paid a heavy political price for his candor and honesty. But as he always said, "there are worse things than losing an election." George McGovern never lost his soul and he never betrayed his conscience.

In 1997, when I was being sworn-in as a freshman member of the United States House of Representatives, I asked him to stand by my side as I took the oath of office. During a rather long ceremony leading up to the big moment, I asked him if he had any advice. He gave me the same advice he received when he started out: "If you want to be a good member of Congress you have to get over the fear of losing an election."

Having just won a close, hard-fought election, I was expecting him to say: "keep your head low" or "don't make any waves." But George McGovern believed that serving in Congress was a rare privilege, that it was an opportunity to move the country forward instead of a constant struggle to get oneself re-elected.

I have tried to heed that sage advice as much as possible—although, to be perfectly honest, I haven't yet completely gotten over the fear of losing an election!

My first encounter with Senator McGovern was from a great distance in 1972. As a 7th grader in Worcester, Massachusetts, I tried mightily to get him elected President of the United States. While he lost 49 states, he did carry Massachusetts.

During my college years, I interned in his Senate office, and then in 1984, I ran his Massachusetts campaign when he tried again for the presidency. I will never forget his powerful appeal to voters to stay true to their own principles and values when he declared, "Don't throw away your conscience."

George McGovern was perhaps the most courageous man I've ever known. And it was not just because he was a bomber pilot in World War II, fighting against Hitler and winning the Distinguished Flying Cross for his service. I admired him for his guts, in being who he was, in conservative South Dakota. To oppose the war in Vietnam was not easy in the early 1960s. Yet, George McGovern's valiant and sincere position was right, and the voters of his home state sent him to the United States Senate three times.

He came across as a gentle man but he had a spine of steel. He was decent and kind. He wasn't afraid of the political consequences of his liberalism and never trimmed his sails for the convenience of the moment. His steadfastness used to drive his staff crazy. But every one of them knew they were working for a great man.

Senator McGovern was obsessed with the issue of hunger. He was ashamed that in the richest, most powerful nation on the planet, millions of our fellow citizens don't have

enough to eat. He led the efforts in the Senate—along with Senator Bob Dole—to expand food and nutrition programs.

He also couldn't tolerate the hundreds of millions of people all around the world who were hungry. I will never forget attending a meeting with the Senator and President Clinton in 2000, when George McGovern proposed an international program aimed at guaranteeing every child at least one nutritious meal a day in a school setting. Bill Clinton listened intently and then said, "Let's do it." That was the magic of George McGovern; he could get you to believe that anything was possible. And today, the McGovern-Dole Food for Education Program is feeding millions of kids and helping them get an education.

At a recent celebration of his 90th birthday, he told me he wanted to live another 10 years to ensure that hunger on this planet is no more. He had a lot more work to do.

Like Atticus Finch, George McGovern never gave up. He loved his country and dedicated his life fighting for what is "just and noble in human affairs." The world is going to miss George McGovern. I already do.

[Center for American Progress, Oct. 25, 2012]

THINK AGAIN: GEORGE MCGOVERN—A
LIFETIME OF CONSCIENCE AND COURAGE

(By Eric Alterman)

George McGovern's passing on Sunday at the age of 90 provides further evidence, as if any were needed, that if you live long enough, even your adversaries will end up singing your praises. Consider first these attacks on the late senator and presidential candidate in the 1972 election.

Writing a few years ago in the journal *Democracy*, American historian and journalist Rick Perlstein quoted the following attacks on Democratic candidates by various Democrats and liberals:

In 2003, Al From and Bruce Reed with the Democratic Leadership Council wrote, "What activists like [Howard] Dean call the Democratic wing of the Democratic Party is an aberration: the McGovern-Mondale wing, defined principally by weakness abroad and elitist, interest-group liberalism at home."

The very next year, a Democrat worrying that Sen. John Kerry (D-MA) was veering left on Iraq during his run for the presidency was quoted in *The New York Times* saying the 2004 presidential nominee was "[c]oming off like George McGovern."

When Ned Lamont won the 2006 Connecticut Democratic primary for the U.S. Senate but lost in the general election to Sen. Joe Lieberman (I-CT) who ran as an independent, political journalist Jacob Weisberg recalled in the *Financial Times* how McGovern lost 49 states in his presidential run because of "his tendency toward isolationism and ambivalence about the use of American power in general."

Then there's Martin Peretz, the former owner and publisher of *The New Republic*, America's alleged flagship liberal publication for 37 years, who explained, "I bought *The New Republic* to take back the Democratic Party from the McGovernites."

This cliched version of McGovern's politics was never accurate, but it became a stick with which hawkish journalists and politicians tried to beat back dovish ones. In fact, no Democrat, and perhaps no modern politician at all, can be said to have shown more courage, more grit, and more determination than George Stanley McGovern.

Yes, folks, the "elitist" liberal was born in the 600-person farming community of Avon,

South Dakota, and grew up nearby in the equally small town of Mitchell. A bashful son of a Methodist minister, McGovern grew wary of “the excessive emotionalism of some evangelists” as he came of age in an America where his father was occasionally compensated not in cash but in cabbage.[1]

As his Wikipedia entry explains:

[McGovern] volunteered for the U.S. Army Air Forces upon the country's entry into World War II and as a B-24 Liberator pilot flew 35 missions over German-occupied Europe. Among the medals bestowed upon him was a Distinguished Flying Cross for making a hazardous emergency landing of his damaged plane and saving his crew.

Upon returning and earning a bachelor's degree from tiny Dakota Wesleyan University, the young veteran did a brief stint at Garrett Seminary in Chicago before enrolling in the graduate history program at Northwestern University, eventually earning his doctorate. There, McGovern would both anticipate and then echo revisionist Cold War historians, among them William Appleman Williams and Fred Harvey Harrington, who held that Harry Truman and company, rather than Stalin's Soviet Union, were largely responsible for causing the Cold War. McGovern explained that “we not only overreacted” to the Soviet Union but “indeed helped trigger” the Cold War “by our own post-World War II fears.”[2] He wrote his doctoral dissertation on the 1913 Colorado coal strike, and his research would later lead him to demonstrate much greater sympathy for unionized workers than pretty much any other Farm Belt politician.

McGovern taught briefly at Dakota Wesleyan College before returning home to South Dakota to undertake yet another unlikely and quite daring adventure—to almost single-handedly build the state Democratic Party organization. He had to scrounge to stay afloat, sleeping on friendly couches or in his car as he crisscrossed the state, personally recruiting 35,000 new Democrats.[3]

He then deployed the organization to run for Congress in 1956 and later for the U.S. Senate. He lost his 1960 Senate bid (and lost his House seat in the process) but succeeded two years later—serving as the head of the Kennedy administration's Food for Peace program in-between, marking a lifelong commitment to feeding the hungry worldwide, and making valuable friends inside the administration.

McGovern first came to national prominence toward the end of the 1968 campaign for the Democratic nomination for the presidency. Following the June 6 assassination of presidential candidate Robert F. Kennedy in Los Angeles, his devastated supporters first tried to convince his younger brother Ted Kennedy to assume the mantle of RFK's peace-and-civil-rights-themed campaign. But Ted was in no shape, physically or emotionally, to do so. In one of history's forgotten footnotes, McGovern took up the cause.

Announcing his candidacy in the Senate caucus room in August 1968, McGovern explained what prompted his decision:

Vietnam—the most disastrous political and military blunder in our national experience. That war must be ended now—not next year or the year following, but right now. Beyond this, we need to harness the full spiritual and political resources of this nation to put an end to the shameful remnants of racism and poverty that still afflict our land.[4]

McGovern's goal was to try to reanimate the antiwar passion of the Kennedy crusade with his own brand of simple Midwestern morality. “I wear no claim to the Kennedy mantle, but I believe deeply in the twin goals for which Robert Kennedy gave his life—an end to the war in Vietnam and a passionate commitment to heal the division in our own

society.”[5] Though he was not well known, Robert Kennedy had judged McGovern to be “the most decent man in the Senate,” and he was hardly alone in this view.[6]

Following the disastrous 1968 presidential contest, which saw Richard Nixon elected (beating then-Vice President Hubert Humphrey), McGovern returned to the Senate and became its leading voice on Vietnam. He co-sponsored an amendment with liberal Republican Sen. Mark Hatfield of Oregon to cut off funding for the war by the end of December 1970. McGovern was so committed to the cause that he refinanced his house to pay for airtime on behalf of his bill.

Taking to the floor of the Senate, McGovern broke all previous protocol and accused “every senator in this chamber” of being “partly responsible for sending 50,000 young Americans to an early grave. This chamber reeks of blood,” he said.[7] It was only his colleagues' fondness for him and their appreciation for his sincere anguish over the war, which inspired this unprecedented attack, that allowed his relationships in the body to survive this serious break with the Senate's tradition of comity and collegiality.

After failing to move his Senate colleagues, however, McGovern took his arguments to America's universities where antiwar fervor was high among both students and faculty.[8] His traveling and his remarking of the Democratic Party went hand in hand as students and peace activists flocked to his cause. McGovern announced his presidential candidacy in January 1971.

McGovern's young staff worked until exhaustion pushing their candidate to frontrunner status in the Democratic primaries and eventually to winning the party's 1972 presidential nomination. But it was in many respects a pyrrhic victory, as the Democratic party was broken in half, with its more conservative and establishment-oriented members sticking firmly to the “Anybody but McGovern” stance—a strategy that had failed to slow the McGovern juggernaut on its way to the Miami convention.

McGovern's organization, together with the party's new rules that he had helped to draft, changed the nature of the nominating process and were key to his convention victory. While women at the 1968 Democratic National Convention constituted just 13 percent of delegates, they comprised 40 percent in 1972.[9] Just as important, old-style political bosses and their minions were successfully kept away. The delegation from Illinois, led by Chicago Mayor Richard J. Daley, was rejected for its dearth of women and younger members and replaced by one led by the Rev. Jesse Jackson.(10) And of the New York delegation, AFL-CIO president George Meany reportedly complained, “They've got six open fags and only three AFL-CIO representatives!”[11]

As liberal a candidate as any major party had ever nominated, McGovern gave a magnificent acceptance speech at the 1972 Democratic National Convention, but almost nobody saw it as the chaotic convention could not be brought to order for it to be delivered before 2:45 a.m., long after its television audience had gone to bed. Almost all that was remembered of his speech were the words “Come home, America,” which even in the age of declining support for the disastrous Vietnam War would prove a decidedly double-edged sword. The slogan was manipulated by his opponents to imply the unfair “isolationism” charge, rather than McGovern's clear intent, which was to prioritize America's problems at home, rather than abroad.[12]

In a 2004 interview McGovern said he thought “if the country had heard me for 45 minutes in prime time, it might have changed the outcome of the election. . . . it

doesn't mean we would have won, but the first impression would have been a very favorable one.”

The press, however, was never enamored with McGovern nor the changes his supporters sought to bring to American politics—this despite the widespread belief that Nixon and company were up to no good, especially with regard to that odd break-in at Democratic headquarters at the Watergate complex. Columnists Rowland Evans and Robert Novak quoted an anonymous Democratic colleague—later revealed, amazingly, to be the man who ended up (briefly) as McGovern's running mate, Sen. Thomas Eagleton—saying McGovern was the candidate of “acid, amnesty and abortion.”

That label was repeated endlessly, to the point where America's most influential pundit, The New York Times's James Reston, in his column the Sunday before Election Day, said “the thought that the American people are going to give Mr. Nixon and his policies and anonymous hucksters and twisters in the White House a landslide popular victory . . . is a little hard to imagine.” And yet of the 1,054 dailies surveyed by Editor and Publisher, 753, or 71.4 percent, endorsed Nixon; only 56 papers backed McGovern.[13]

Of course the view of McGovern that permeated the media for decades was exactly wrong. Not only was he no elitist, pacifist isolationist, or hippie, but he was actually more willing to use military force than most of his Senate colleagues, whether Republican or Democrat, under the proper circumstances. In 1978, for example, he called for an international military force to oust the genocidal dictator, Pol Pot, from Cambodia—a move that, had it happened, might have saved millions of innocent lives.

Clearly, McGovern had the kind of courage that led him to say and do whatever he thought was right, regardless of what it led others to say about him. When he felt that his party was moving too far right in 1984, he risked ridicule again by challenging his party's presidential candidates in the primary season, even suggesting that one of his opponents and the party's eventual nominee Walter Mondale's calls for higher taxes to pay for essentially Republican goals was not the best direction for the Democratic Party to take. His key phrase, “Don't throw away your conscience,” was a decidedly politics-free declaration at the time (and ours).

McGovern was mocked and attacked for this by most pundits, including the “dean” of the national press corps, The Washington Post's David Broder. Still McGovern campaigned on distinguishing himself by forcing the rest of the Democratic candidates to direct themselves to a panoply of issues they would have preferred to ignore. By the time he bowed out of the primary race, Broder issued an apology in his syndicated column, which McGovern framed and hung on the wall of his dingy Washington, D.C., campaign office above a Dupont Circle Greek deli.

McGovern spent the balance of his post-political career working to reduce world hunger. As writer and blogger Rich Yesselson writes in *The American Prospect*, with “Robert Dole, a Prairie politician of a different, but also recognizable ideological lineage—he rationalized the Depression era food stamp program, and it became one of the most important low-income stabilizers of the American social insurance state.”

In McGovern's final book, *What It Means to Be a Democrat*, released in November 2011, he worries about what he calls the “insidious” political air of Washington, driven in part by liberals' inability to expose and defeat the “extremism” of the new conservative movement. “We are the party that believes we can't let the strong kick aside the weak,” he writes. “Our party believes that

poor children should be as well educated as those from wealthy families. We believe that everyone should pay their fair share of taxes and that everyone should have access to health care."

Such unapologetic open-heartedness might not appeal to many pundits but it took more courage, toughness, and patriotism to keep fighting for them for more than seven decades without rest despite the mockery and derision of those deemed to be the "responsible" ones.

I had dinner with McGovern during the 2008 presidential campaign. We discussed our hopes for that election, and he told me that at no time during those years did not he feel himself to be fighting for causes that were, in most politicians' minds, marginal. And neither, I can tell you, did McGovern ever consider dropping those issues and causes and allowing himself a more pleasant and less demanding life.

A final footnote: The only staffer working in that dingy Greek deli in 1984 was a youngster also named James McGovern (no relation). Thirteen years later, George McGovern stood by a still-pretty-young James as he took the oath as a freshman member of the 105th Congress, representing the 3rd Congressional District in Massachusetts, where he remains today as one of America's most farsighted, idealistic, and simultaneously, tough-minded representatives—in other words, a genuine "McGovernite."

ENDNOTES

[1] George McGovern, *Grassroots: The Autobiography of George McGovern* (New York: Random House, 1977), 5.

[2] *Ibid.*, 41.

[3] Bruce Miroff, *The Liberals' Moment: The McGovern Insurgency and the Identity Crisis of the Democratic Party* (Lawrence: University Press of Kansas, 2007), 33.

[4] Quoted in: Gloria Steinem, *Outrageous Acts and Everyday Rebellions* (New York: Holt, Rinehart, and Winston, 1983), 87–88.

[5] McGovern, *Grassroots*, 121.

[6] Quoted in: Hunter S. Thompson, *Fear and Loathing: On the Campaign Trail '72* (New York: Warner, 1973), 127.

[7] Miroff, *The Liberals' Moment*, 38.

[8] *Ibid.*, 43.

[9] Bruce Schulman, *The Seventies: The Great Shift in American Culture, Society, and Politics* (New York: DaCapo, 2001), 166.

[10] Justin Vaisse, *Neoconservatism: The Biography of a Movement* (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2010), 84.

[11] Meany is quoted in: Philip A. Klinkner, *The Losing Parties: Out-Party National Committees, 1956–1993* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1994), 106.

[12] Theodore White, *The Making of the President, 1972* (New York: Atheneum, 1973), 196–197.

[13] James Baughman, *The Republic of Mass Culture: Journalism, Filmmaking, and Broadcasting in America Since 1941* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1992), 177.

"I'M EOD"—A TRIBUTE TO AN AMERICAN HERO—SSGT JOHNNY MORRIS, 2ND EOD, THE UNITED STATES MARINES

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 17, 2012

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great Son of The South, SSGT Johnny Morris of 2nd EOD The United States Ma-

rines and his family of Loxley Alabama. Johnny has one of the most dangerous jobs in The United States Marines, and on July 2nd 2011 SSGT Morris was almost killed in an IED blast as he was sweeping for explosives. He lost his leg and almost his life, but he never lost his faith or his courage. Him and his lovely wife Natalie and their new son Gage are a great American story and family. All you need to do is spend 10 minutes with this young man and you will walk away inspired and impressed. They make us all proud to be Americans. I submit this poem penned in in his honor by Albert Caswell.

I'M EOD

I'm EOD . . .
So don't mess with me . . .
I'm country and I like it . . .
I'm a United States Marine!
And I Roll with The Tide . . .
And whenever they win National Championship,
it makes me so all warm so inside . . .
I've got a beautiful wife,
and Natalie she's but the love of my life . . .
And I'm EOD and I'm as bad as can be!
And now our baby son Gage,
he makes it three!

Because,
in this US of A . . .
there's nothing you can not so be!
And I'm all dressed in those Most Magnificent Shades of Green,
that's where you'll see me convene!
For as long as you work hard,
and in your self so believe . . .
That's why this Father's son,
became oh yes one of those few ones so indeed . . .

Who stand ever so tall,
and so protect us all . . .
Yea, and so fight to be free . . .
yea that's The Leather Neck all in me!
All dressed all in Those Most Magnificent Shades of Green . . .

Oh yes,
I am so proud as can be . . .
But to be a United States Marine!
So let it be said,
that I'm ajar Head and so proud so to be!
Yes, I'm EOD,
and I'm as bad as can be!
Because, me and my brothers . . .
my fellow Marines . . .
So go where angels so fear to tread,
as ever we're seen!
Right there but on that very edge death,
if you know what I mean . . .
Because, we are EOD and we are as bad as can be!

While, in one another we all do so believe!
As a Band of Brothers so all dressed in Green!

Doing what most people would not so choose to be!

Being EOD!
But, I do it all again . . .
But for my sweet Country Tis of Thee,
as to her all of our lives are so pledged and that's how it's going to be!

For it's better to die for something,
than to live for nothing at all!
And that's why I put my boots on,
and I so answered that call . . .
That Call To Arms!
Because, I'm EOD . . .

so don't dare mess with me!
And I'm as bad as can be!
With nerves of such steel!
Remember, Superman is not real!
But I am you see!
But, we are the 2nd EOD!
As on each new day,
it's with death that we so play!
Yea, I lost my leg . . .

but I won't moan, and I won't beg . . .
And I'd do it all over again,
because I'm so proud to say that I took that stand!

All so my wife Natalie,
and my son Gage can live in a free land that is so free . . .

As here I so stand,
with my family in hand and a smile on my face . . .

It's just a speed bump on the road of life,
and I have no regrets and as I'm not losing pace!

So you better start running,
if you want to catch up to me so don't wait . . .

Because, I got nothing to complain about . . .

compared to all of my Brothers who are now in the ground . . .

As why I so honor them on each new day,
as I so awake with a smile on my face . . .
And for them I will always so feel the wind in my face,

and so carry them with me so every place!
As I take what my Lord has so given to me,
as I'm just glad to be back in these here The United States!

All in this most beautiful place . . .
That we call The U. S. Of A.
In soon back in sweet Alabama hip . . . hip . . . hooray!

And when I'm so done my rehab,
I'm going back to my sweet home Bama one day . . .

Living large,
and grow old and so grey!
Because, when you've lived on the edge of death . . .

And you've so witnessed your magnificent Brother's own death . . .

With tears in your eyes,
while holding them tight,
as they give them last rites . . .

As than you so understand,
just how lucky you are man, just to be alive!
And how you are so very blessed,
to have so known such magnificent men such as this!

And carry them in your hearts each day!
And for all of them now,
I will so live a great life to make them so proud!

And to all of their children and to all of their wives,
and to their moms and their dads standing here with tears in my eyes . . .

I will always let them know that they were but the best,

and in our hearts so keep them alive!
Because they were EOD,
and were as brave as could be!

Yea, Heroes like you SSGT Morris,
have our Country Tis of Thee So Blessed!
As They So Teach Us!
And So Beseech Us!

As we so watch their fine hearts so crest . . .
Yea, Johnny your EOD . . .
and oh how do you make me so proud but be an American you see!

I could climb way up,
but to the highest mountain top . . .
But still,

I could never so reach as high as you Morris,
where you now so stand high atop!
As an American Hero,
and you and your family are but the very best that we've got!

For Only The Few!
For Only The Brave!
For our Nation their hearts so gave!
And so teach all just how to behave,
yea SSGT Morris you're the cream of the crop!

And that's why you and your family,
America so loves and we will never stop!
And yea You are EOD,
and You are as bad and as brave as can be!

And if ever I have a son,
I wish he could be like this one!
One of Alabama's bravest of all ones!
For Heaven so awaits,
for such men of courage and faith,
all so dressed all in green!
Because, he's EOD and as bad as can be!
And his name is Johnny!

REDUCING GUN VIOLENCE

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 17, 2012

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mourn those who were killed in Newtown, Connecticut last Friday, and begin the urgent work of stopping tragedies like this from ever happening again.

Let us be clear—there can be no better tribute to the innocent children and educators who were killed in Newtown than to finally address the out-of-control gun violence that kills tens of thousands of Americans every year.

In answering the call, Congress must look to enact a comprehensive and commonsense reform to our nation's gun laws, and renew our commitment to a mental health system that has been neglected for far too long.

We can begin by taking the most dangerous and deadly weapons off our streets. That means we must do more than simply reinstate the Assault Weapons Ban of 1994. We must strengthen that law by including language that retroactively applies to weapons already in possession, so that law enforcement can finally remove all assault weapons from our communities.

These weapons serve no purpose other than to kill human beings. Our colleague, Senator JOE MANCHIN, today said the following: "I just came with my family from deer hunting. I've never had more than three shells in a clip. Sometimes you don't get more than one shot anyway. It's time to get beyond rhetoric, it's time to sit down and move in a responsible way." He continued to say that limiting the size of a gun magazine to even 10 bullets should be on the table when it comes to reforming our laws and ending gun violence. I couldn't agree more, and believe that no weapon that is designed with the primary intent to kill people should be out on our streets.

This also means that this Congress must look at the types of bullets that are sold today. The perpetrator who murdered more than 20 innocent children took their lives with bullets that were designed to break up inside a victim's body and inflict the maximum amount of damage to internal organs, bones and tissue. There is no legal activity in our country that requires the use of such deadly bullets. They should be included under any renewal of an Assault Weapons Ban.

In addition to removing the most deadly weapons from our streets, we must also close the so-called "fire sale loophole" and "gun show loophole"—two products of a powerful gun lobby that must be brought to heel. Because of these loopholes, more than 40 percent of all guns sold in the United States are sold without the buyer undergoing a federal background check.

We require anyone who wishes to drive a car to prove that they can safely operate a vehicle, yet when it comes to buying a gun, al-

most half all buyers do not have to prove they will safely operate such deadly weapons. In a country of 315 million people, there are almost 280 million guns owned. Of those 280 million guns, almost 112 million of them will have been purchased without a background check. Were they purchased by law-abiding citizens or by troubled individuals who may endanger lives? Because of irresponsible legal loopholes, we simply do not know.

No more. It is time that we require anyone in the United States wishing to purchase a gun to pass a federal background check. I am a co-sponsor of H.R. 263, the "Fire Sale Loophole Closing Act" and H.R. 1781, the "Fix Gun Checks Act", and urge the Leadership of this Congress to bring both bills to the floor for a vote.

Finally, our work is not complete unless we improve our nation's mental health system. For years, experts have known how to improve our mental health care system, but a lack of political will has led to its continual decay.

Such failure has a very real impact on the health and well being of thousands of our fellow citizens everyday. Instead of accessing the care they need, they are often left on their own to deal with illnesses that they have little power to control. Place these troubled individuals in the vicinity of a deadly weapon, instead of the care of a mental health care provider, and tragedy can result.

If we are to succeed in our efforts to prevent more gun violence tragedies then an improved mental health care system is part of the solution.

I believe we must respond by drastically improving our community-based mental health services—including mobile crisis services, assertive community treatment, peer supports and supportive housing. These important mental health programs are in short supply all across our nation, which means that thousands of our friends and neighbors who desperately need help are stranded with nowhere to turn.

While no legislation can undo the terror that was done in Newtown, Connecticut, our nation has a moral obligation to act with the utmost urgency to reduce gun violence and save innocent lives. It is long past time to get to work, and I am ready to begin that work today.

"FOLLOW ME"—IN HONOR OF RET. SPC. JIM MAYER, THE UNITED STATES ARMY, THE MILKSHAKE MAN, AND HIS AID AND COMFORT TO OUR WOUNDED WARRIORS

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 17, 2012

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great American, Ret. Spc. Jim Mayer and all of the thousands of Disabled American Veterans out across America who are making a difference in the lives of our newly returning wounded warriors. He is a former native of Missouri, who lost both of his legs when he stepped on a mine two months in his first tour in Vietnam. I submit this poem penned in his honor by Albert Caswell.

FOLLOW ME

Follow Me . . .

I'll walk with You . . .
Follow me in all I do . . .
For I was once just like you . . .
A young man, who went off to war . . .
All for my Country Tis Thee, with such burdens bore . . .
So strong and bold, and so self assured . . .
So dashing there, all in uniform . . .
Follow me, I'll lead the way . . .
to somehow help you move on this day . . .
As I bow down my head, and for you I now so pray . . .
For I was once like you, just moments away from my grave . . .
As I too, remember that fateful morning as I awoke . . .
While, against all odds there seemed no hope!
As I so too, had such tears in my eyes as invoked!
And too so wondered, so wondered how I would cope!
When, all that I had so left . . . was but only hope!
Follow me, they call me The Milkshake Man!
For I have walked that walk!
And I know you can!
All in your shoes, as I so too have had all of those same such thoughts!
As I so understand, how much you have to gain!
And how much so too you have lost, all in your pain!
So don't give up! And don't give in!
Let go of such thoughts, my friend!
Lift up your head, and raise that chin!
Follow me, for this is how your first steps begin!
So begins with you my friend . . .
For you will learn to walk again . . .
Or somehow replace your arms, your hands, your eyes my friend . . .
All with that heart which beats with in!
For you can live or you can die?
Or you can so feel so very sorry for yourself, with tear in eye . . .
Or with each new step, you can but let your fine soul rise!
And oh yes, you will have many . . . many . . . dark days ahead . . .
Follow Me, take my hand . . . and listen to what my life has said!
Walk with me, listen to your heart instead!
For your fine Life is worth living, and you're not dead!
Live for all of your Brothers and Sisters, who so died for you instead!
For them, feel the breeze on your face . . .
And at night take them with you to bed!
Follow me, there's so much more to be said!
For my Son, my Daughter . . . I was once like you . . .
With all of that anger and hate inside of me, and such self doubt too!
For I know where you are going, and I know where you have been!
And oh yes, I know that its not fair . . . but these are war's deadly sins!
All in what it can so do, to such magnificent women and men . . .
For I was once like you, right on that edge!
All between life and death!
Follow me, and I promise you . . . your fine life will be blessed!
As you Bless Our World, with all of your gifts . . .
As you so teach us all, that hope and faith are alive and still exists!
And that your fine life, is one that is so worth to living this!
For what you give, is what you get!
For the best is still yet to come, as so is yet!
Follow me, and yes it will be hard!
For now it's time, to do your part!
Lead my Son, lead my Daughter . . . lead but with your great heart!

Rise Up . . . Rise Up my Son . . . my Daughter,
 into now such a fine work of art!
 Follow me, and take my hand . . .
 As all of your great pain, I do now so understand!
 For up in Heaven you need not arms or legs
 . . . nor eyes so made!
 And that's where we will all so meet again,
 on one fine day . . .
 Listen to these words I say, and you will find
 your way!
 As over this hospital bed, I now so stand . . .
 With tear in eye . . .
 Looking at you, finding it so hard not to
 cry . . .
 As these words I will say, "Follow Me . . .
 and Take My Hand!"
 Walk with me, and one day because of your
 faith and courage you will stand!
 And I will be the one, following you my
 friend!

COSPONSORSHIP OF H. RES. 832

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 17, 2012

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my appreciation to my colleague, Mr. PETERS of Michigan, for joining as a cosponsor of my resolution, H. Res. 832, observing the 100th birthday of civil rights icon Rosa Parks and commemorating her legacy. Due to an error by my staff, Mr. PETERS was not added as an original cosponsor of the resolution.

"I'M YOUR CAPTAIN"—IN HONOR
 OF CAPTAIN ATOINE BATES, 1ST
 BATTALION 5TH MARINES, THE
 UNITED STATES MARINES

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 17, 2012

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of a great American Son from Ohio, Captain Atoine Bates of The United States Marine Corps. Captain Bates, while out on patrol with his men on June 26, 2011 in Sangin

in Afghanistan, almost lost his life in a IED explosion. He lost his leg and sustained numerous other life threatening injuries at the time. Captain Bates has always been a leader. Already, in such a short time he's made a great recovery over at Walter Reed. His example to our nation and to his men inspire us all. He plans to stay in the Marines, for he was born to be a United States Marine. Families are the key component to recovery, and his has been there for him from the very beginning. His father like many other families has stopped what he was doing to be with him every step of the way. I submit this poem penned in honor and his recovery by Albert Caswell.

I'M YOUR CAPTAIN

I'm . . .
 I'm your Captain . . .
 Follow me . . .
 I will lead!
 For we all so proudly wear those most magnificent shades of green!
 For we all are The United States Marines!
 One of the greatest things,
 that this country has ever seen!
 Men and Women,
 of honor bright . . .
 Who so go off to war to win that battle,
 to win that fight!
 All for God and Country,
 are but our burdens bore . . .
 As we all so march off out into that darkness
 for sure!
 For we all so live and so die,
 for something far much more greater and do
 not ask why!
 While, marching out into that face of hell as
 our colors fly . . .
 For where you go men,
 will go I!
 Out in front,
 into that face of death as upon each other we
 so rely!
 As Brothers In Arms,
 for each other we are all so willing to die!
 All in that name of freedom,
 we all so wear that uniform to reach new
 heights!
 As one,
 together we all so bond!
 As brave hearts we move out and move on!
 To so soar!
 For We Are All The United States Marine
 Corps!
 Follow me,
 and I will lead!
 So willingly for you Marine,
 I will die and I will bleed!
 So proudly,
 all in those Magnificent Shades of Green!

As it was out on that fateful day!
 While, on patrol . . .
 when an IED explosion almost took your fine
 life away . . .
 Right there on that edge of death,
 as when your fine heart so sung and began to
 crest!
 As you so pledged to yourself near death,
 to get up and run again no less!
 Because,
 pity is not where your friend!
 And Faith and Courage,
 are what you are so armed with my son!
 And as we so listen to your fine heart so very
 deep down within!
 As with each new step,
 your recovery has so gained so much then!
 For Captain Bates, you've got a life to so
 live . . .
 And its where you are going,
 not where you've been!
 And Marine you were so born to lead!
 And Captain Bates,
 your fine heart will not so stop . . . nor so
 heed!
 Because,
 failure is not an option for this here United
 States Marine!
 As You So Teach Us . . .
 So Reach Us . . .
 and in every way To So Beseech Us!
 For you are but an American Hero,
 A Leader . . . one of a special breed!
 For you are a United States Marine!
 I am your Captain . . .
 you are my women and my men!
 Where you go,
 I will go time and again!
 For I will always have your back against the
 wind!
 Because, I'd rather die with you . . .
 than live without!
 All In That Fight,
 I am with you each and every step of the way
 no doubt!
 Because, Moments are all that we so have!
 To Make A Difference!
 To Grab Hearts!
 I'm your Captain!
 Follow Me!
 I will lead!
 All in my Most Magnificent Shades of Green!
 Because,
 you Captain Bates were but born to lead!
 And you so give to your Brothers and Sisters
 In Arms in the battle all they need!
 Oooh Rah Jar Head,
 for you are fine United States Marine!
 I'm your Captain let me lead!

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, December 18, 2012 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

DECEMBER 19

Time to be announced

Veterans' Affairs

Business meeting to consider the nominations of Keith Kelly, of Montana, to

be Assistant Secretary of Labor for Veterans' Employment and Training, and William S. Greenberg, of New Jersey, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims.

S-216, Capitol

8:30 a.m.

Foreign Relations

To receive a closed briefing on the Accountability Review Board.

SVC-217

10 a.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

Financial Institutions and Consumer Protection Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine consumer credit reports.

SD-538

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the state of the right to vote after the 2012 election.

SD-226

DECEMBER 20

9 a.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine Benghazi, focusing on the attacks and the lessons learned.

SH-216

10 a.m.

Finance

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of William B. Shultz, of the District of Columbia, to be General Coun-

sel of the Department of Health and Human Services, and Christopher J. Meade, of New York, to be General Counsel for the Department of the Treasury.

SD-215

Judiciary

Business meeting to consider S. 1560, to enhance access to controlled substances for residents of institutional long-term care facilities.

SD-226

11 a.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

Housing, Transportation and Community Development Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine recovering from superstorm Sandy, focusing on rebuilding our infrastructure.

SD-538

2:30 p.m.

Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.

SH-219