

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNITION OF RIO VISTA HIGH SCHOOL AP GOVERNMENT CLASS

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 5, 2014

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the people of California's 3rd Congressional District, I want to congratulate the AP Government students and their teacher Mr. Paul Heaney at Rio Vista High School for completing a class report on three major policy issues: welfare reform, health care, and unequal access to education.

The students, Victor Aguilera, Frederick Alvarez, Jamie Moe, Dylan Coito, Alexandra Correia, Hannah Cronin, Christina Curiel, Eric Del Aguila, Diana Elisea, Tyler Gomes, Jonathon Heaney, Alexis Johnson, Rebekah Kinser, Chace Marlowe, Alexa Martinez, Melanie Oakes, Lily Roberts, Christina Rutledge, Alyssa Schneider, Caroline Schulz, Kimberly Scneider, Maria Silva, Brady Swing, Dora Uribe, Raven Vance, Elizabeth Ventura, Antonio Wright, and Emily Zepeda demonstrated hard work in this inspiring program. Education is about developing knowledge and critical thinking skills. These students are civically engaged, reaching their lawmakers with policy recommendations on key issues facing our nation.

I was honored to learn more about their recommendations during a class visit on Tuesday, May 28. They engaged in a robust debate and succeeded in finding compromise on complex issues.

Their willingness to work together in good faith and to build consensus is laudable and a lesson for us all.

COMMENDING THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM FOR OFFICIAL RECOGNITION OF THE INTERIM REPRESENTATIVE COMMITTEE OF THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS IN VIETNAM

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 5, 2014

Mr. FALEOMAVEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my deepest appreciation to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam for officially recognizing the Interim Representative Committee of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Vietnam, of which I am a member. I thank the Politburo, Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung, President Truong Tan Sang, the Fatherland Front, the National Assembly, Foreign Ministry, Public Security, and any and all government agencies, especially the Committee on Religious Affairs, for sparing no effort to bring this day about.

I would be remiss if I did not mention the efforts and leadership of Chairman Pham Dung,

Vice Chair Bui Thanh Ha, retired Vice Chair Nguyen Thanh Xuan, as well as Director Hoang Thi Thao, and the entire staff of the Committee on Religious Affairs.

I am grateful to H.E. President Nguyen Sinh Hung, Vice President Madam Tong Thi Phong, Vice President Madam Nguyen Thi Doan of the National Assembly, as well as Vice Chairman Ha Huy Thong of the Foreign Committee and all other Members of the National Assembly.

I thank Foreign Minister Pham Binh Minh as well as any and all associated with the Foreign Ministry.

I also express my deepest appreciation to Ambassador Nguyen Quoc Cuong, Dr. Luan Thuy Duong, and Mr. An Nguyen at the Embassy of Vietnam in the United States for their tireless efforts.

I also thank officers of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, including The First Presidency, the Quorum of the Twelve, the Asia Area Presidency, as well as local leaders in Vietnam. In particular, I thank members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Vietnam and abroad.

I thank all those who have participated in this marvelous work and glory—those named in addition to all those who have added their efforts and prayers to ours, including those who have gone before us.

May 30, 2014, the official day of recognition, is a special occasion, a sacred occasion. Vietnam is a multi-religious society with approximately 25,000 places of worship and about 24 million followers of various faiths. In my official capacity as former Chairman and current Ranking Member of the House Foreign Affairs' Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, I have attended religious services in diverse houses of worship in Vietnam, and did so unannounced. Always, I found Vietnam to be a place favorable for religious activities and I thank Vietnam for encouraging and protecting the rights of individuals, families, and congregations to practice their religions and contribute as good parents and good citizens under the law.

I am very proud of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam for the work it does to protect activities of religious groups, including those of my faith. I consider the followers of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Vietnam my brothers and sisters. I feel the same about the leaders and officials of Vietnam. With mutual understanding, respect and trust, we have walked together to this day of recognition. We have walked together with faith in every footstep. And, as we journey forward, I am confident we will do so side by side.

When President Brigham Young led the followers of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints into the Salt Lake valley in 1847, he declared: "This is the right place. Drive on." To members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, to government and party officials in Vietnam, to friends and family, I echo Brigham Young's words. Drive on knowing that May 30, 2014 will forevermore be one of the best days of my life,

and I am sure many others will always cherish this day, too.

HONORING MRS. ANGETTI R. McLAUGHLIN

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

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 5, 2014

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation.

Whereas, Thirty years ago a virtuous woman of God accepted her calling to serve in the Educational System; and

Whereas, Mrs. Angetti R. McLaughlin began her educational career in teaching and this year she retires as a Teacher at Dunaire Elementary School in Stone Mountain, Georgia, she has served the DeKalb County, Talbot County, and Atlanta City Public Schools System well, and our community has been blessed through her service as a community activist; and

Whereas, this phenomenal woman has shared her time and talents as a Teacher, Educator and Motivator, giving the citizens of Georgia a person of great worth, a fearless leader, a devoted scholar and a servant to all who want to advance the lives of our youth; and

Whereas, Mrs. McLaughlin is formally retiring from her educational career today, she will continue to promote education because she is a cornerstone in our community and has enhanced the lives of thousands for the betterment of our District and Nation; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Mrs. Angetti R. McLaughlin on her retirement from the DeKalb County Public Schools System and to wish her well in her new endeavors; now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim May 27, 2014 as Mrs. Angetti R. McLaughlin Day in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 27th day of May, 2014.

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR GENERAL GREGORY J. SCHWAB

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 5, 2014

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Major General Gregory Schwab of the United States Air Force on his illustrious military career spanning more than four decades. Major General Schwab will be honored at a ceremony at Camp Dodge on Saturday by Iowa's Adjutant General, Major General Timothy Orr.

Before he was a Major General, Gregory Schwab spent his childhood growing up on a

• 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.

farm in Minnesota. Upon his high school graduation in 1968, Gregory enrolled in the University of Minnesota, Duluth to pursue a Bachelor's degree in Geography. In 1972, Gregory received his degree and was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the United States Air Force through the ROTC program. He earned his wings in 1973 and would begin his storied career serving as an A-7 pilot and Forward Air Controller across the world before joining the Iowa Air National Guard in May of 1978.

Since joining the 132nd Fighter Wing, Major General Schwab's remarkable efforts have been invaluable to the State of Iowa. Initially serving a number of squadron roles in and out of the A-7, Major General Schwab transitioned to the F-16 with the unit and led two combat deployments to Southwest Asia in 1996 and 1997 as the 124th Fighter Squadron Commander. By 2002, he had ascended to Commander of the 132nd Fighter Wing. His remarkable leadership and management of such a renowned unit led to his service as the Deputy Adjutant General for the Iowa National Guard in 2008. In this role, Major General Schwab assisted leading Iowa's 9,000 Guardsmen in meeting mission requirements at the state and federal level. His outstanding work in Iowa resulted in his selection as the Air National Guard Assistant to the Commander of Air Combat Command in which he has served since 2011.

Mr. Speaker, our state and nation owes Major General Schwab a great debt of gratitude for his decades of service and sacrifice. His unwavering commitment to honorably serving his country and fellow Americans has been recognized through numerous decorations and continues to positively impact both Iowa and our nation as a whole. I know all of my colleagues in the United States Congress will join me in thanking Major General Schwab for his years of faithful service and congratulating him on a truly stellar career. I wish him, and his wife Debey, the very best as they begin a new chapter in their lives.

EXPRESSING OPPOSITION TO SEC. 217 OF H.R. 4435, WHICH PLACES COSTLY AND UNNECESSARY LIMITATIONS ON MODERNIZATION INITIATIVES FOR THE SPACE-BASED INFRARED SYSTEMS

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 5, 2014

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my opposition to Sec. 217 of H.R. 4435, the 'Buck' McKeon National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015. During the committee markup of this bill, language was added that limits the availability of funding for the modernization initiatives for the Space-Based Infrared System (SBIRS) program.

This provision fences off 50 percent of the funds for the SBIRS SMI Hosted Payloads and Wide Field of View Testbed projects until the ongoing analysis of alternatives for the SBIRS is completed and reported to the congressional defense committees.

I am concerned that restricting funding for these initiatives will derail important efforts to develop future architecture concepts for the missile warning platform. Fencing funds for

those projects will likely ensure that alternative architectures will not be viable or informative when the major acquisition milestone decision on the next SBIRS is made in the 2017–2018 timeframe.

The Air Force's Space and Missile Systems Center estimates that the 50 percent restriction will delay the launch of the demonstration by seven months, pushing the project completion date to April 2018 and incurring about \$10 million in cost growth.

It is my understanding that the intent of the bill's language is not to damage or derail these important modernization efforts, but rather to compel the timely completion of the Department's ongoing Analysis of Alternatives for the missile warning architecture. I support that goal, but I believe it should be achieved without limiting funds for the modernization initiatives for the SBIRS program.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHRIS STEWART

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 5, 2014

Mr. STEWART. Mr. Speaker, I am recorded as voting "aye" on rollcall vote No. 254, an amendment by Mr. MORAN that would facilitate closing the detention center at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, by allowing the transfer of those dangerous detainees, who were captured on the battlefield in the war on terror, to be transferred to the United States of America. Mr. Speaker on this vote I was misrecorded. I duly intended to vote "no" on rollcall No. 254.

TRIBUTE TO REVEREND DR. T. NATHANIEL HERCULES

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

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 5, 2014

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation.

Whereas, Reverend Dr. T. Nathaniel Hercules is celebrating fifty-five (55) years in ministry this year and has provided stellar leadership to his church on an international level; and

Whereas, Reverend Dr. T. Nathaniel Hercules, under the guidance of God has pioneered and sustained Saint Paul AME Worship Center, as an instrument in our community that uplifts the spiritual, physical and mental welfare of our citizens; and

Whereas, this remarkable and tenacious man of God has given hope to the hopeless, fed the hungry and is a beacon of light to those in need; and

Whereas, Reverend Dr. T. Nathaniel Hercules is a spiritual warrior, a man of compassion, a fearless leader and a servant to all, but most of all a visionary who has shared not only with his Church, but with our District and the world his passion to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Reverend Dr. T. Nathaniel Hercules as he celebrates fifty-five years in ministry and to salute him as he re-

tires from pastoral leadership; A true Man of Excellence; now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim June 6, 2014 as Reverend Dr. T. Nathaniel Hercules Day in the 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, this 6th day of June, 2014.

TRIBUTE TO GRACE GARCIA, VISIONARY, ACTIVIST, AND FIERCE WARRIOR FOR TEXAS WOMEN AND EQUALITY

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 5, 2014

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute and remember one of the most influential and prominent leaders in the movement to empower women and groom the next generation of women Democratic political leaders.

Grace Garcia died on Monday, June 2, in a traffic accident in Waxahachie, Texas. She was 59 years old. She died doing what she loved and what she was put on earth to do, and that was to help women gain the skills, resources, and opportunities to become leaders in their communities.

Powerful and courageous, compassionate and sympathetic; this was the rare and beautiful blend that was Grace Garcia.

Grace Garcia came from a military family and the ethic of duty and service to others was embedded in her soul. Although the family relocated often, Grace claimed San Antonio, Texas, as her home.

Grace Garcia attended Jefferson High School in the San Antonio Independent School District and went on to earn her B.A. from the University of Texas at Austin, and afterwards, moved on to live out her dreams.

From the start of her career, Grace Garcia was actively involved in government and politics. She went on to hold prestigious senior level positions from the state to the national level.

She played prominent roles in the management of President Clinton's successful 1992 and 1996 presidential campaigns, Senator Hillary Clinton's 2008 presidential campaign, and was an advisor and confidante of Texas State Senators Wendy Davis and Senator Leticia Van de Putte in their bids for Governor and Lieutenant Governor of Texas.

During the Clinton Administration, Grace Garcia held the position of Deputy Director in the Office of Presidential Scheduling and Director of the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs at the U.S. Department of the Interior.

Grace Garcia later went on to work in the Obama Administration as Senior Advisor to Secretary of State Hillary Clinton in the Office of the Chief of Protocol at the U.S. Department of State.

Upon her return to Texas, Grace Garcia was named Executive Director of Annie's List, an organization dedicated to "advancing progressive women in Texas from the ballot box to the halls of power."

She was a mentor to many women who had dreams and ambitions to become leaders in the Democratic Party. But she was more than that: she was a beacon of light.

Annie's List flourished as a result of leadership and organizational genius as reflected in