

was the driving force behind the Special Olympics program. Through her leadership, a backyard summer day camp transformed into a global movement.

She believed that given the chance all people can accomplish great feats. I wholeheartedly agree. Her relentless effort and advocacy manifested into entire networks of foundations and research dedicated to improving the lives of people with intellectual disabilities.

The creation of the International Special Olympics Games in 1968 enabled a thousand participants and their families to compete in track and field and swimming events. Since those first games, the Special Olympics have grown to over 170 countries and include over 4 million child and adult athletes. The United States now hosts its own quadrennial Special Olympics Games and includes participants from all 52 U.S. programs.

New Jersey was among the first states to enlist in the Special Olympics program over 40 years ago. We now have over 21,000 athletes and 20,000 volunteers. It is fitting then for New Jersey to be the host of the 2014 Games, called the Games of Welcome and Acceptance. The Games will undoubtedly highlight our State's delightful spirit and innate sense of community. Participants will compete in 16 Olympic-styled events that include Unified play, where people with and without intellectual disabilities get to perform together and create friendships.

The enormous impact of the Special Olympics extends far beyond athletic competition. The athletes will gain a sense of pride and belonging that will carry over into their everyday lives. Once again, congratulations to all of the athletes who are participating in the 2014 Special Olympics USA National Games and to all those who help make the Games possible.

H. AMDT. 748 TO H.R. 4460

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 2014

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my support for the medical marijuana provision that came before the House of Representatives for a vote on May 30, 2014—H. AMDT. 748 to H.R. 4460—an amendment to prohibit the use of funds to prevent certain States from implementing their own State laws that authorize the use, distribution, possession, or cultivation of medical marijuana.

Had I voted on May 30, 2014, I would have voted in favor of H. AMDT 748 to H.R. 4460, which was offered by Rep DANA ROHR-ABACHER (R-CA) to the FY 2015 Commerce, Justice, and Science (CSJ) Appropriations bill. The amendment was agreed to by recorded vote: 219–189.

Specifically, the bill is a bipartisan appropriations measure that looks to prohibit the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) from spending funds to arrest state-licensed medical marijuana patients and providers. Many of my colleagues and their constituencies agree that patients who are allowed to purchase and consume medical marijuana in their respective states should not be punished by the federal government.

I believe that we must modernize our federal laws to reflect the updated approaches to medical marijuana use, and allow states to determine the parameters, practices, and effects of legalization. Mr. Speaker, 22 states and the District of Columbia have legalized marijuana for medical use. In my home state of Florida, the majority of voters support the legalization of marijuana for medical use, and I stand behind them.

Mr. Speaker, I support the legalization of marijuana for medical use, and remain committed to protecting citizens nationwide that are the subject to detainment for use despite their medical needs.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GLORIA NEGRETE McLEOD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 2014

Mrs. NEGRETE McLEOD. Mr. Speaker, from July 24, 2013 to October 14, 2013, I was unavoidably absent from the House and missed roll call votes. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

Roll	Vote
411	Aye
412	Aye
515	Nay
516	Aye
547	Nay
548	Nay
549	Aye

HONORING TOWN OF BOLTON

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the historically rich, rural town of Bolton, Mississippi.

The beginnings of the Town of Bolton stemmed around one of history's most sought after resource and highly demanded man-made commodity: the modern railroad system. Prior to its incorporation in 1871, the area now known as Bolton was a deer path with most of its land dedicated to plantation owners. One of the plantation owners, Colonel Thomas Jefferson Bolton, was a well-known railroad builder and settled in the area prior to the Civil War. After posing a compromise with another prominent plantation owner in the area, a deal was reached and the Clinton/Vicksburg railroad companies constructed a railroad depot on Colonel Bolton's land; henceforth, naming the area and the station depot Bolton.

Within a few decades of establishing the railroad depot, the Civil War began and Bolton became involved in one of the Union forces most critical battle. In 1863, during General Grant's march to Vicksburg, Champion's Hill (a small community on the outskirts of Bolton) was the scene of a decisive battle between the Union and Confederate forces. The defeat of Confederate troops paved the way for the resultant siege and fall of Vicksburg. Eight years after the defeat, the Town of Bolton was incorporated and had reached a population of just under 800.

The Town of Bolton has withstood many changes, both good and bad. In 1878, many

residents succumbed to a yellow fever epidemic. Economically, however, the town was booming with businesses that lined the main thoroughfare between Vicksburg and Jackson. Farming was the main occupation for many in the town as much of the area had acres upon acres and rich farmland. In 1903, the constructed an artesian well, measuring 1,638 feet in depth. This well subsequently provided the townspeople with approximately two million gallons of water at the lowest price possible for the time period. In 1908, the town built and equipped a modern light plant. Two cotton gins processed numerous bales of cotton, aiding in the economic stability of the town.

With the construction of the interstate highway system, much of the continuous traffic seen passing through Bolton quickly diminished, much to the delight of the residents of Bolton. Once the new bypass highway was constructed, business plummeted to include only the local residents and the occasional traveler. A shift in demographics also began, growing minority than in previous decades past. Today, the town's population is approximately 567, with mostly 75% of the residents being African American. There are currently symbols from the town's early beginnings still existing, such as the Gaddis and McLaurin Feed and Seed Store, the Lummus cotton gin, and original artesian well, all of which are monumental landmarks that have stood through the multiple changes and are a testament of the resolve of the citizens of Bolton. In addition to old landmarks, new ones have also emerged, such as the town's City Hall, multiple institutions of worship, a veterinarian, library, medical clinic, and a number of small businesses, primarily owned and operated by African Americans.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Town of Bolton as a resilient, historically rich rural town that has remained committed to maintaining its close-knit community ties within and outside its city limits by staying true to its roots in agriculture and local owned businesses.

TRIBUTE TO EDWARD RAMSEY, SR. AND HATTIE JOHNSON

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

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 2014

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

Whereas, in November, 1901, the union of Edward Ramsey, Sr., and Hattie Johnson made the Johnson-Ramsey family definite and their union has blessed us with descendants that have helped to shape our nation; and

Whereas, the seeds of family was planted in the 1800s with Wiley Johnson and his wife Saphronia Cobb-Johnson, parents of Hattie Johnson Ramsey, it would only be a matter of time before the first family reunion would be held in the rural area of the Huguley woods near Shawmut, Alabama in 1934; Otis Johnson, Wiley Johnson, Charlie Johnson and Carrie Booker led the charge of planning the first reunion and throughout the years, this family has produced many well respected citizens that have and continues to honor the patriarchs and matriarchs of the family which are pillars of strength across this great nation; and