

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

Whereas, in our beloved Fourth Congressional District of Georgia, we are honored to have members of the Johnson-Ramsey family, including Ms. Wandra Seymore-Outlaw one of our most beloved citizens in our District who resides in Ellenwood, Georgia; and

Whereas, family is one of the most honored and cherished institutions in the world, we take pride in knowing that families such as the Johnson-Ramsey family have set aside this time to fellowship with each other, honor one another and to pass along history to each other by meeting at this year's 80th family reunion in Atlanta, Georgia; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize the Johnson-Ramsey family in our District; now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim June 20, 2014 as Johnson-Ramsey Family Reunion Day in the 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, this 20th day of June, 2014.

JUNETEENTH 2014

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 2014

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, on June 19, 1865, General Gordon Granger rode into Galveston, Texas and announced the freedom of the last American slaves; belatedly freeing 250,000 slaves in Texas nearly two and a half years after Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation.

Juneteenth was first celebrated in the Texas state capital in 1867 under the direction of the Freedmen's Bureau.

Today, Juneteenth remains the oldest known celebration of slavery's demise. It commemorates freedom while acknowledging the sacrifices and contributions made by courageous African Americans towards making our great nation the more conscious and accepting country that it has become.

This year, I introduced H. Res. 632 to Honor Juneteenth Independence Day. In introducing this Resolution, I acknowledge State Representative Al Edwards of Texas and all Houstonians who honor Juneteenth as well or all who celebrate this freedom day.

Last year, I introduced H. Res. 268—a Resolution observing the historical significance of Juneteenth Independence Day. As we celebrate the anniversary of Juneteenth, I ask that all of my colleagues join me in reflecting upon its significance.

Today, I will be reintroducing the Resolution to commemorate this year's celebration of Juneteenth.

Because it was only after that day in 1865 when General Granger rode into Galveston, Texas, on the heels of the most devastating conflict in our country's history, in the aftermath of a civil war that pitted brother against brother, neighbor against neighbor and threatened to tear the fabric of our union apart forever that America truly became the land of the free and the home of the brave.

Not until 1979 when my friend State Representative Al Edwards introduced the bill did Juneteenth become a Texas state holiday. It was first celebrated as such in 1980.

Civil rights pioneer Martin Luther King Jr. once said, "Freedom is never free," and Afri-

can American labor leader A. Phillip Randolph often said "Freedom is never given. It is won."

We should all recognize the power and the ironic truth of those statements and we should pause to remember the enormous price paid by all Americans in our country's quest to realize its promise.

Juneteenth honors the end of the 400 years of suffering African Americans endured under slavery and celebrates the legacy of perseverance that has become the hallmark of the African American community and its struggle for equality.

Throughout the 1980's and 90's Juneteenth has continued to enjoy a growing and healthy interest from communities and organizations throughout the country.

Institutions such as the Smithsonian, the Henry Ford Museum and others have begun sponsoring Juneteenth-centered activities. In recent years, a number of National Juneteenth Organizations have arisen to take their place alongside older organizations—all with the mission to promote and cultivate knowledge and appreciation of African American history and culture.

Juneteenth today, celebrates African American freedom while encouraging self-development and respect for all cultures.

As it takes on a more national and even global perspective, the events of 1865 in Texas are not forgotten, for all of the roots tie back to this fertile soil from which a national day of pride is growing. The future of Juneteenth looks bright as the number of cities and states come on board and form local committees and organizations to coordinate the activities.

HONORING THE CITY OF LEXINGTON, MISSISSIPPI

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 city of Lexington, Mississippi.

Lexington is a city in Holmes County, Mississippi. The population was 2,025 as of the 2000 census. It was named in honor of Lexington, Massachusetts. Like much of the state, Holmes County suffered during and after the Civil War.

The City of Lexington is served by the Holmes County School District. It is also served by a private school called Central Holmes Christian School (formerly Central Holmes Academy).

The City of Lexington also has some rich African-American History. It is the root for the Church of God in Christ (COGIC) (formerly called the Church of God when it got its Lexington beginning) by founder Bishop Charles Harrison Mason.

The City of Lexington can also boast as having the first black-elected school superintendent in the State of Mississippi—Elder William Dean, who is now pastor of the St. Paul Church of God in Christ here in Lexington. The church is situated next to the beautiful campus of Saints College (now closed to students) but is used for multiple purposes, especially its church-like edifice commonly known as "Holy Hill."

Saints College was founded by an African-American, Dr. Arenia Mallory as Saints Industrial and Literary School.

The historically black school was renamed and is currently called Saints Academy. Dr. Mallory served as president of the school from 1926 until her death in 1983. It is run under the Church of God in Christ. Dr. Mallory was an active member of the COGIC church and participated in the Women's Department and was the leader in the national church. She also served as the Vice President of the National Council of Negro Women from 1953–1957.

Lexington is also the home of the Dr. Arenia C. Mallory Community Health Center, Inc. (Mallory CHC) founded by Dr. Martha Davis (now deceased). Its mission is to provide high quality, customer oriented and cost effective healthcare services in a safe and accessible environment to all persons of Holmes, Carroll, Madison, Leflore counties and surrounding communities. Its motto is "Enter a Patient, Leave a Friend." (See more about the clinic at <http://www.mallorychc.org/>)

The City of Lexington is also the home of the Community Students Learning Center (CSLC) founded by longtime African-American natives Leslie and Beulah Greer: "Our Mission for the Community Students Learning Center is to promote community and educational change, by providing state-of-the-art leadership development and personal improvement opportunities for youth, adults, and seniors." Its motto is "In Relentless Pursuit of Education and Knowledge." (See more about CSLC at <http://www.communitystudentlearning.org/>)

The City of Lexington was at the heart of the Civil Rights Movement in Holmes County, Mississippi. Brave men and women, black and white, protested, challenged and worked hard to bring about racial harmony. While some success in that regard was made, the city and County both still could currently use more racial reconciliation, according to some of the residents.

In addition to numerous historical firsts, today, the City of Lexington also boasts first ever Black Mayor of Lexington, Mississippi—the Honorable Mayor Clint Cobbins, who is currently leading his community toward progress.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the City of Lexington as a resilient, historically rich rural town that has maintained its community ties inside and outside its city limits by staying true to its roots in agriculture and local owned businesses.

RECOGNIZING THE SECOND ANNUAL GREATER SPRINGFIELD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE "ABOVE AND BEYOND" AWARDS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize an outstanding group of first responders and public safety officers who have been honored with the Second Annual Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce "Above and Beyond" Award.

These awards honor Fairfax County Firefighters, EMTs, Police Officers and Sheriff's