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TRIBUTE TO THE COMMUNITY
COLLEGES OF IOWA

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 25, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, Mr. LOEBSACK and I rise today to recognize and congratulate the community colleges of Iowa for 50 years of outstanding service to the state. The community colleges of Iowa have expanded to become our largest provider of postsecondary education.

On June 7, 1965, Iowa Governor Harold Hughes signed the first bill into law allowing for the opening and operation of community

colleges in the state of Iowa. The following institutions were officially designated the next year: Northeast Iowa, North Iowa Area, Iowa Lakes, Northwest Iowa, Iowa Central, Iowa Valley, Hawkeye, Eastern Iowa, Kirkwood, Des Moines Area, Western Iowa Tech, Iowa Western, Southwestern, Indian Hills, and Southeast Iowa.

These fine institutions now provide accessible and affordable education, not only to Iowans, but to students across the country and the world. Their offerings include a wide-ranging, diverse curriculum that serves Iowa's specific workforce needs, including Iowa businesses competing in a global market. Iowa businesses in need of highly trained, specialized workers turn to our community colleges to fill the new, high-paying, high-skilled positions of tomorrow.

Mr. Speaker, it is our honor to represent Iowa's community colleges in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that we recognize them today. We ask that our colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join us in congratulating Iowa's community colleges on celebrating their 50th year and for providing a high quality, affordable education for all Iowans. We wish them nothing but continued success in the years to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF KRYSTA
HARDEN

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 25, 2016

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor and pleasure to extend my congratulations and best wishes to an outstanding leader, personal friend, and constituent, Ms. Krysta Harden, Deputy Secretary of Agriculture for the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). Ms. Harden has excelled at this position since she took office in August of 2013. She will be leaving her post at the end of February 2016.

A Georgia native, Ms. Harden was born and raised in Camilla, Georgia and earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Journalism from the University of Georgia in 1981. Her career began on Capitol Hill, where she worked for former Congressman Charles Hatcher as Legislative Director, Press Secretary, and Chief of Staff for more than ten years. Ms. Harden went on to serve as Staff Director for the Subcommittee on Peanuts and Tobacco of the House Committee on Agriculture.

In 1993, Ms. Harden left the public sector to work for Gordley Associates, a government relations firm focused on agricultural policy. Ms. Harden left the company in 2004 as Senior Vice President. From 2004 to 2009, she served as the Chief Executive Officer of the National Association of Conservation Districts.

In 2009, Ms. Harden began her influential career at the U.S. Department of Agriculture as the Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations. In this role, Ms. Harden was instrumental in securing passage of and implementing the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010, which increased the nutritional quality of school lunch programs and provides access for children of all economic backgrounds.

In 2011, she was promoted to Chief of Staff of the Department of Agriculture. And in 2013,