

sharing the same racial and ethnic background.

(9) Because of the disparities in the need for organs, minorities are more likely to wait longer to find a successful match and are more likely to be sicker when an organ is found.

(10) An increase in minority organ donations would decrease the waiting time and increase the likelihood of successful transplantations for minorities.

# AMENDING THE COMMODITY PROVISIONS OF THE FOOD, CONSERVATION, AND ENERGY ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

**HON. COLLIN C. PETERSON**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 29, 2008*

Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota. Madam Speaker, I submit for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the following exchange of letters between the Committee on Agriculture and the Committee on Ways and Means with regards to H.R. 6849.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS,  
Washington, DC, September 27, 2008.

Hon. COLLIN PETERSON,  
Chairman, Committee on Agriculture,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN PETERSON: I am writing regarding H.R. 6849, which may be considered on the floor today, and which includes amendments to section 901 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2497(a)). As you know, the Committee on Ways and Means has jurisdiction over legislation amending the Trade Act of 1974, and thus, these amendments fall within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Ways and Means.

However, in order to expedite this bill for floor consideration, the Committee will forgo action. This is being done with the understanding that it does not in any way prejudice the Committee with respect to the appointment of conferees or its jurisdictional prerogatives on this bill or similar legislation in the future.

I would appreciate your response to this letter, confirming this understanding with respect to H.R. 6849, and would ask that a copy of our exchange of letters on this matter be included in the Record.

Sincerely,

CHARLES B. RANGEL,  
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE,  
Washington, DC, September 27, 2008.

Hon. CHARLES B. RANGEL,  
Chairman, Committee on Ways and Means,  
Longworth House Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN RANGEL: Thank you for your letter regarding the Committee on Ways and Means' jurisdictional interest in H.R. 6849.

I appreciate your willingness to expedite this legislation for Floor consideration, with the understanding that it does not prejudice your Committee's jurisdictional prerogatives on this or similar legislation.

I will submit a copy of your letter and this response as part of the Congressional Record during consideration of the legislation on the House floor. Thank you for your support

of H.R. 6849 and your cooperation as we work towards enactment of this legislation.

Sincerely,

COLLIN C. PETERSON,  
Chairman.

## HONORING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF SHIRLEY DEMMER

**HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 2, 2008*

Mr. McCOTTER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor the life of Shirley Demmer and applaud Bill Demmer's establishment of the Shirley Dudek Demmer Summer Chair of Research at the Brain Aneurysm Foundation.

In 1952, Shirley was born in Detroit, Michigan to a homemaker and a General Motors automotive worker. She grew up in a modest neighborhood with five siblings. Tragically, at age 13, Shirley lost her mother to what was thought to be a stroke, but was later confirmed to be a ruptured brain aneurysm. After the passing of her mother, Shirley had to grow up fast. In 1975, she met her future husband Bill, with whom she would share 30 wonderful years of marriage. In 1978, the Demmers moved to Northville, Michigan, and raised their three children. Shirley was active in her community, involved in philanthropic efforts especially in the area of violence against women. Bill became Chairman of the North American International Auto Show.

At 50, Shirley decided to accomplish one of her life's goals and complete her bachelors degree. In 2007, she graduated with highest honors from Madonna University with a degree in sociology. Soon thereafter, Shirley applied and was accepted into the University of Michigan's Gender Studies graduate program. Unfortunately, she never had a chance to earn her graduate degree. Sadly, Shirley Demmer died in November 2007. Shirley was a person of extreme warmth and caring. She touched the lives of many people in her community, and she is sorely missed.

After her passing, Bill sought to learn everything possible about brain aneurysms. He found the incidence of brain aneurysms are often partly genetic and his mother-in-law had probably died from a ruptured brain aneurysm. Consequently, he ensured their children and Shirley's siblings were screened for brain aneurysms. Thanks to these screenings, Shirley's sister Nancy was found to have a brain aneurysm and underwent a successful craniotomy to save her life. In addition, her husband Bill provided a grant to establish the Shirley Dudek Demmer Chair of Research at the Brain Aneurysm Foundation to promote early detection of brain aneurysms.

Fortunately, today there is a greater awareness of brain aneurysms and the danger they pose to Americans. Through the efforts of people like Bill Demmer and organizations like the Brain Aneurysm Foundation, our nation's leaders have become involved in efforts to promote brain aneurysm awareness. For on September 26, 2008, Representative PATRICK TIBERI (OH) introduced H. Res. 1511, which would express support for designation of the month of September as "National Brain Aneurysm Awareness Month".

Madam Speaker, today, as we remember the life of Shirley Demmer, I ask my col-

leagues to join me in mourning her passing and applauding the establishment of the Shirley Dudek Demmer Chair of Research.

## IN HONOR OF TAIWAN NATIONAL DAY

**HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 2, 2008*

Mr. BERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise in order to celebrate with the Taiwanese on their National Day.

This year, the Taiwanese people demonstrated to the world during their most recent Presidential election with a clear, ringing voice of freedom that they are a democratic people and a beacon of democracy to Asia and the world.

The peaceful transfer of power between Presidents stood as a reminder that Taiwan is an important ally to the United States as they exemplify to that region democracy and rule of the people. Today, as the newly elected President Ma prepares to celebrate with his people, Taiwan's National Day serves as a reminder that all who share the ideals of liberty enjoy the bonds of friendship and peace.

Please join with me in congratulating Taiwan, both our friend and ally, and on their National Day.

## TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE BUD CRAMER

**HON. MARION BERRY**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 2, 2008*

Mr. BERRY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a fellow Blue Dog, a gracious friend, and a great American.

Since 1991, this gentleman has served his home state of Alabama as an outstanding Member of Congress, and before that served our country as a member of the United States Army and Army Reserve.

He has been a champion of child protection—reflecting his roots as founder of the National Children's Advocacy Centre—and a true promoter of our space program. He is a long-time supporter of national defense measures, and a tireless advocate of fiscal responsibility.

ROBERT EDWARD CRAMER, Jr.—our friend Bud—has plenty of folks both home in Huntsville and here in Washington, DC who admire and appreciate him, but I ask you to join me again today in congratulating him on a job well done and a journey well traveled.

## CELEBRATING FILIPINO AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

**HON. BOB FILNER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 2, 2008*

Mr. FILNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak about a resolution that I have just introduced along with Congressmen HONDA, ISSA, and BOBBY SCOTT, my colleagues on the

U.S.-Philippines Friendship Caucus, H. Res. 1523. This resolution recognizes Filipino American Heritage Month and celebrating the heritage and culture of Filipino Americans and their immense contributions to our Nation.

The Filipino American National Historical Society established Filipino American History Month in 1988 but I was surprised to learn that the House of Representatives has never recognized this month, which is long overdue! We are pleased to honor the Filipino American community and pay tribute to the extraordinary contributions that Filipinos make to this Nation. Filipino Americans have been part of the American experience, confronting many difficult challenges while being resolute and steadfast in their cultural heritage.

We honor the Filipino Americans, from the farm workers to nurses and doctors and to the brave and courageous soldiers who fought shoulder to shoulder with American servicemen. This country is indebted to the Filipino veterans of World War II for their extraordinary sacrifices. We promise that we will not give up. Equity and recognition for World War II Veterans is a moral imperative!

I invite my colleagues to join with me in honoring the history, culture, and contribution of Filipino Americans in the United States, by supporting this important resolution, H. Res. 1523.

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HONORING THE LIFE OF WILLIAM  
"SON" EDWIN HUDSON, SR.

**HON. TRAVIS W. CHILDERS**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday October 2, 2008*

Mr. CHILDERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of the late William "Son" Edwin Hudson, Sr. who was tragically taken from us Friday, September 26, 2008. Mr. Hudson was a native Mississippian, and member of Sardis Lake Baptist Church. He was known in the community as a public servant, and served as the Panola County Emergency 911 Civil Defense Coordinator.

Mr. Hudson lost his life in a tragic automobile accident, at the age of 65. He was very active in his community; he was a director of the Panola County Homeland Security, the Panola County E-911 Coordinator and Panola County Fire Coordinator. His life of service and friendship to the Panola County region will not be forgotten.

William "Son" Edwin Hudson, Sr. is survived by his brother, James Rodney Hudson of Sardis, his two daughters, his two sons, and his seven grandchildren. The great State of Mississippi thanks him for his contributions. I ask my colleagues to join me today in remembering William "Son" Edwin Hudson, Sr. in their thoughts and prayers.

UNITED STATES-INDIA NUCLEAR  
COOPERATION APPROVAL AND  
NONPROLIFERATION ENHANCE-  
MENT ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 26, 2008*

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my reluctant support for the United States-India Nuclear Cooperation Approval and Nonproliferation Enhancement Act.

I support this legislation because, on balance, I think it advances U.S. national security and other national interests. I do so reluctantly because of the risk that it weakens our efforts to prevent the proliferation of nuclear material and nuclear technology.

I ultimately support this measure for three major reasons:

First, this agreement will create more international supervision of India's nuclear fuel cycle than there would be without it. India and the International Atomic Energy Agency have agreed to new safeguards for Indian civilian nuclear plants. In addition, over the last 30 years India has voluntarily imposed safeguards on its nuclear program and has established an excellent record on non-proliferation. While India is not a party to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), it has maintained strict controls on its nuclear technology and has demonstrated that it is committed to being a responsible nuclear steward. That is one the reasons that the 45 nation Nuclear Suppliers Group granted India a waiver to permit it to purchase fuel and technology.

Second, India is a country with a large, well-established, multicultural and multireligious democracy. Building a strategic relationship with India will further our interests in the region and send a strong signal that responsible conduct is recognized. India's conduct stands in stark contrast to that of North Korea, which is a signatory of the NPT but has violated its responsibilities under that agreement by building and testing nuclear weapons.

Third, this bill is important for how it may impact India's growing contribution to global warming. India's economy is growing rapidly, swelling at more than 7 percent per year. That economic growth is fed by a voracious appetite for electricity. More than half of India's new power supplies come from coal. Displacing coal use in India with nuclear power could prevent the release of millions of tons of carbon dioxide each year into the atmosphere.

Last, in recent weeks, secret correspondence between the White House and Congress has further clarified the U.S. position on many important questions about this deal. Assistant Secretary Bergner wrote Representative TOM LANTOS in January of this year and stated in no uncertain terms that the United States will not sell sensitive nuclear technologies to India and would immediately terminate the agreement if India conducted a nuclear test.

For these reasons, I will support this agreement. But I support it with the caveat that, in the event that India tests a nuclear weapon, I will actively and strongly work to terminate the agreement.

TRIBUTE TO MOUNT CALVARY  
BAPTIST CHURCH

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 2, 2008*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to rise today on behalf of Mount Calvary Baptist Church. This beacon of hope in Harlem has provided faith and fellowship for its congregation for 91 years.

The rich history of this Harlem religious institution began 1917. At the time Black laborers were actively recruited to leave the South to work in New York's factories. Mount Calvary Baptist Church, among other churches, served as a pillar of spiritual sustenance and support for this young Black community. Throughout Harlem's tough times including devastating riots, poverty, crime, and unemployment, the church has continued its invaluable work, inspiring new generations of Harlemites to improve their communities and to develop their spiritual potential.

Mount Calvary Baptist Church, in 1991, began a series of new community projects, starting with the Building Trade Training School Program and later the church's participation in the "Angel Tree Prison Ministry" in 1995.

Mount Calvary Baptist Church has since built on its years of community work to found a highly successful men's ministry, women's ministry, and prison ministry, as well as sponsoring health workshops for men, a youth basketball team, and a Youth Ministry in 2001.

Mount Calvary Baptist Church, under the adroit leadership of Reverend Dr. Adolph Roberts, Senior Pastor, can take pride in its many accomplishments in the community. Over the course of its 91-year history, the church has served as the spiritual home of thousands of men, women, boys, girls, and teenagers, inspiring them with a message of hope, deliverance, and prosperity.

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THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF ALA-  
BAMA CIVIL RIGHTS ATTORNEY  
J.L. CHESTNUT

**HON. ARTUR DAVIS**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 2, 2008*

Mr. DAVIS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the legacy of an outstanding Alabamian who died this week, J.L. Chestnut. Thousands will gather next Wednesday in Selma to lay him to rest, and to recall the way his extraordinary life shaped my state.

J.L. Chestnut was born in 1930 in Selma. The Depression-era South suffocated the aspirations of most young black men, but J.L. managed to escape, first to Dillard University, then to Howard Law School. It would have been understandable if he had joined the ranks of educated blacks who never returned to the South, shunning the region that lynched Emmett Till and that spawned the most virulent resistance to integration. J.L., however, was the kind of intrepid soul who sought out the South as the likeliest frontline in the fledgling civil rights movement.

When he came home, he started his life's work of defending powerless people. I've