

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

INTRODUCTION OF NATIONAL EMERGENCY FAMILY LOCATOR SYSTEM

HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 31, 2005

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to address the House about a bill that I have introduced recently—The National Emergency Family Locator System.

We take a great deal about being prepared as a Nation for when disaster strikes. Yet the images of the devastation of Hurricane Katrina are still fresh in our minds.

Prior to Katrina, the dialogue in Washington was focused on preparedness in case of a terrorist attack.

However, given the number of missing children, what is becoming more and more apparent is that our government needs to have the capacity to assist in reuniting families after disaster strikes.

We must have a National Emergency Family Locator System. This bill, which is a companion bill to Senator OBAMA'S Senate bill S.1630, will take us in that direction.

This legislation directs the Department of Homeland Security to create a national service, so that after an emergency, displaced individuals can call one phone number or go to one website, and post their location or to be able to use this same secure, centralized system to check the status of missing loved ones.

Finally, this bill directs the Department of Homeland Security to create a Family Preparedness Education program that encourages families to sit down and discuss how the family will reunite if disaster strikes their community.

These are not pleasant conversations, but they are conversations that our Nation's families need to be having given the climate we now live in.

I ask my colleagues to cosponsor this legislation and I look forward to working with the Department of Homeland Security in implanting these important programs.

HONORING THE 2005 WINNERS OF THE RUTGERS UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT'S EXCELLENCE IN SERVICE AWARD

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 31, 2005

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend and honor this year's winners of The Rutgers University President's Recognition Program. The Excellence in Service Awards acknowledge the exceptional individual contributions of university staff employees. It recognizes employees who provide superior sustained service, exceptional creativity

and resourcefulness, and continually contribute to a positive work environment. The winners of this award are Erica Anderson, Camille S. Andrews, Jeanette Danner, David Maiullo, Joan McCracken, and Christina Strasburger. The school and I are both extremely proud of your accomplishment.

The second award, the Bridge Award, is given to small teams. These teams are nominated for an extraordinary accomplishment demonstrated by the completion of a special project or activity during the last year, while giving a superior, sustained effort. The winning teams of this award are:

Blackboard System Implementation and Course Development Support Team, Team members: Ksenia Adamovitch, Jennifer S. Scalf, Monique R. Bonilla, Alan R. Shareshian, Marie J. Botticelli, Palma C. Sisco, Miguel Angel Estremera, Judy Soncrant, Alex V. Flinsch, Karen Yvette Swift, Norma Grace, Daniel R. Villanueva, Martin F. O'Reilly, William J. Yodlowsky, Elizabeth C. Rowe, and Mingkun S. Zhou.

GLBA Compliance—Risk Assessment, Office of Financial Services—Camden, Team members: Christopher V. Caracino, Domenick C. Nasuti, Marlene L. Druding, Stevenson Pierrejacques, Elizabeth A. Gorman, Joyce A. Sepanic, Maria V. Grace, Pamela Yvette Wells.

LSDA Project Team, Team members: Barbara Bastek, Jean McDonald-Rash, Cory J. Bastek, Digna M. Solis, Jo-Ann Craig, Erin A. Sullivan, and Rene E. Graham.

GLBA Compliance Team, Team members: Melvin L. Brown, Beckman Rich, Jo-Ann Craig, Bruce T. Rights, Nicholas DiGiovanni, Sanjana Rimal, Donald J. Gordon, Rosa M. Rivera, Keith B. Grant, Brian T. Rose, Ellen Harris-Small, Diane D. Spalluto, Lance D. Jordan, Timothy L. Stein, Nathan Kaplan, Theresa G. Wooding, Stanley A. Kolasa, Richard L. Woodland, and Stevenson Pierrejacques

RU Info Project Team, Team members: Elizabeth M. Brennan, John A. Kanopka, Eve C. Burris, Debra L. Norman, Elizabeth A. DeMauro, Cynthia B. Paul, Joanne M. Dus-Zastrow, James R. Stapleton, Jennifer L. Hollis, Sherrie Ann Tromp, Eric G. Jacobson, Matthew J. Weismantel, Mary Gail Bellas, and Kevin M. Zyglar

"RU Safe?" Planning Committee, Team members: Rashel L. Carnefix, Laura Luciano, James R. Doyle, Francesca M. Maresca, Amy Ellen Hackett, Anthony Mireles, Rhonda L. Harris, Daniel R. Pascale, John A. Kanopka, Brenton F. Smith, Steven S. Keleman, and Christine E. Sohn.

Rutgers Cook College & NJAES (New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station) Resource Center, Team members: Richard Buckley, Gary Huntzinger, Lori A. Gillar, Holly S. Kennington, Michael J. Green, Stephanie L. Murphy, Stephen Grigliak, Sabrina Tirpak, Michele Hujber, Bonnie G. Wasielewski, Tina M. Hunter, and Philip Wisneski

Web Transcript Project Team, Team members: Patricia Brophy, Lidia A. Levkovitch, Paula M. Couto, Cruz F. Lopez, Miguel Angel

Estremera, Thomas McKeon, and Norma Grace, Eugene R. Pizzaiia, George R. Hryvniak, and Terry L. Richartz.

TOPOFF Planning Committee, Team members: Richard R. Dinan, Mark D. McLane, Steven S. Keleman, Joanne O'Brien, Douglas S. Kokoskie, Alejandro Ruiz, Dorothy Kozlowski, Michael D. Smith, Rosemarie H. Kulp, Gregory J. Trevor, Edward Lifshitz, and James John Zawistowski.

Rutgers Learning Centers New Programs Team, Team members: Mary Ann Cancio, Shawn Taylor, Maryann Puccio, Matthew Winkler, Christine E. Sohn, and Calvin Yu.

All of the winners have truly earned these awards. I commend them for their hard work and dedication. Along with their fellow nominees, they are vital to making Rutgers a great University, and I hope they continue their excellent work.

SOCIETY OF MILITARY WIDOWS, DESERT ROSE CHAPTER 14 OF TUCSON, ARIZONA

HON. J.D. HAYWORTH

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 31, 2005

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, as American soldiers valiantly serve and fall in the defense of an enduring freedom this nation and its allies are bringing to Iraq and Afghanistan, I am pleased to recognize an extraordinary sisterhood of supporters dedicated to bringing comfort and assistance to our military widows. That is the purpose and legacy of the Society of Military Widows and its Desert Rose Chapter 14 based in Tucson, Arizona, as described in a recent news article that appeared in the Arizona Daily Star. With congratulations and gratitude for the marvelous work the Society is doing, I am pleased to enter the following article into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

[From the Arizona Daily Star, Oct. 6, 2005]
A SISTERHOOD OF SUPPORTERS—SOCIETY ENSURES THAT MILITARY WIDOWS ARE NOT ALONE

(By Levi J. Long)

It was 3 a.m. when Dee Ruelas found herself in front of a computer staring at the words "military widow."

They weren't easy for her to type. Her husband, Command Sgt. Maj. David A. Ruelas, with the Arizona Army National Guard, had died of a heart attack 1 month before. They had been married less than 10 years.

"That was something I never thought I'd do so soon," said Ruelas, a 57-year-old northeastern Tucson resident. "It took me a while to even utter the word 'widow.' But there I was . . . searching for something."

What Ruelas said she found via the Internet that night was direction and "a sisterhood of supporters and friends."

For 25 years, the Society of Military Widows Desert Rose Chapter 14—based on Tucson's East Side—has been helping widows of active-duty and retired military personnel by lobbying on their behalf for health and retirement benefits. The society also serves as a support group of sorts for recent widows.

• 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.