Father Moroney’s retirement marks the end of almost half a century’s dedication to helping others. He has made important contributions to every parish that he worked in, and helped countless individuals find their way. His leadership will be sorely missed from the Sacramento area and beyond, though his conviction and commitment to serving his community will be remembered for a long time by the people he encountered across the state.

Mr. Speaker, I stand today to honor Father Moroney, who has been an exceptional community leader. He has devoted his life to serving and assisting those around him. I ask all my colleagues to join me in wishing Father Moroney the best as he retires.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ROBIN DANIELSON ACT

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, June 23, 2011

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, as a longtime advocate of women’s health, I am proud to reintroduce the Robin Danielson Act, legislation that would address the unanswerable health risks associated with the safety of tampons. Given the sheer number of women who use these products and the potential cumulative adverse effects, it is time women have definitive answers about the potential risk these products pose to their health.

Today, approximately 73,000,000 women in the United States use tampons made of cotton and rayon and the average woman uses as many as 16,800 tampons in her lifetime. Rayon is a synthetic fiber produced from bleached wood pulp. During this process, dioxin, a probable cancer-causing agent, is created. Although chlorine-free bleaching processes are available, most wood pulp manufacturers use elemental chlorine-free bleaching processes, which continue to produce dioxin.

Due to a lack of access to timely and comprehensive information, most women are not fully aware of the potential risks associated with use of the mainstream product. Dioxins in tampons and TSS are serious women’s health concerns that have not been adequately monitored, analyzed, or reported.

Like thousands of others, Robin Danielson, whom the bill is named after, was the victim of Toxic Shock Syndrome (TSS), a rare but potentially life-threatening illness that is often linked to high-absorbency tampon use. Robin’s death could have been prevented if only she had recognized the symptoms. Even today, many women are not fully aware of the risks of tampon use or TSS. This legislation would direct the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to conduct research to determine the extent to which the presence of dioxin, synthetic fibers, and other additives in tampons and related products poses any health risks to women and asks the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) to collect and report information on Toxic Shock Syndrome (TSS).

According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, one to two of every 100,000 women between the ages of 15–44 years old will be diagnosed with TSS each year. Yet, the last national surveillance was conducted in 1987 and reporting of TSS by the states is voluntary. It is clear we do not have enough transparent or timely information to evaluate the reality of TSS today.

This legislation is necessary to provide women with accurate information about the safety of tampons and to increase awareness about the risk of TSS.

RECOGNITION OF THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TOWN OF BELCHERTOWN, MASSACHUSETTS

HON. JOHN W. OLVER
OF MASSACHUSETTS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, June 23, 2011

Mr. OLVER. Mr. Speaker, on June 30, 1761, the town of Belcher’s Town, Massachusetts, was incorporated by the colonial Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Sir Francis Bernard. The town is named for Jonathan Belcher, colonial Governor of the Province of New York, Massachusetts Bay from 1737 until 1741. After 250 years of development and innovation, Belchertown continues to promote civility and cooperation amongst its citizens.

Overlooking the Connecticut and Quaboag Valleys, Belchertown has long been a town connected to the thoroughfares passing through the area. Many of the original buildings were taverns to accommodate travelers; however, the first railroad in 1850 allowed greater diversity in the town’s commercial endeavors. In the past century, Belchertown has continued to prosper while maintaining the community-oriented charm familiar to most of western Massachusetts.

The commitment to volunteerism and community service is traced throughout Belchertown’s history. Its citizens stand as an example of what hard work and resolve can accomplish, as evidenced by the formidable carriage industry in the early 1800s, the town’s first library in 1887, the development of Quabbin Reservoir in 1927, and the brave service of numerous citizens in every U.S. war except the War of 1812.

On the occasion of the 250th anniversary of the town of Belchertown, Massachusetts, I congratulate its citizens and praise their dedication and perseverance throughout the town’s history. I look forward with enthusiastic support as we continue to work together for a prosperous future.

HONORING JAMES ADDY

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO
OF WEST VIRGINIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, June 23, 2011

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and honor, James Addy, the mayor of Harpers Ferry, West Virginia. Mayor Addy will retire this month after 10 successful years in the mayor’s office. Jim has been Mayor since 2001 and is a professor of social studies at Bowie State University, where he teaches courses in American history. He has served a stagnant career as a public official and has worked relentlessly to improve his community.

Mayor Addy brought an honest and clear vision to Harper’s Ferry where he has worked to bring a better life to its citizens. I have always valued his wise counsel.

In his terms in office, Mayor Addy has applied his wealth of knowledge. As a professor, he knows the common thread of American history and how lessons learned in the past are often repeated in the future. As a teacher and principal, he knows the ability to build relationships and mentor those who will follow in his footsteps, especially the younger generation. And finally as a product of a childhood in a neighborhood of Baltimore, he brought the idea of working for a better community and a greater good.

Mayor Addy, I hope that you enjoy your time out of public service. I know you will continue to teach and affect the young lives that you so believe in. I know that you will continue to be involved in all aspects of Harpers Ferry and its future.

You have done a great job. I wish you the very best.

AMERICA INVENTS ACT

SPEECH OF
HON. MIKE PENCE
OF INDIANA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, June 22, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1249) to amend title 35, United States Code, to provide for patent reform.

Mr. PENCE. Madam Chair, I rise in support of H.R. 1249, the America Invents Act, which is a carefully-crafted compromise that will modernize our nation’s patent laws to allow for greater innovation, economic growth and job creation.

Years of hard work have gone into this bill. I would like to congratulate and thank Chairwoman SMITH and Rep. GOODLATTE for their leadership and diligence.

The Constitution vests in Article I, Section 8, clause 8, the power to Congress to “promote the Progress of Science and useful Arts, by securing for limited Times to . . . Inventors the exclusive Right to their . . . Discoveries.” Our patent laws were written nearly sixty years ago, and it is time to update them to account for changes in our modern economy. It is Congress’s power and responsibility to do so, especially with the problems that are evident with the patent system today.

And not doing so will cost our country even more jobs. Patent reform is about jobs because intellectual property, like other forms of private property, is a pillar of economic prosperity. Part of creating a pro-growth environment in this country includes modernizing our patent laws.

I have heard about the need for modernization from countless Hoosier business leaders, patent holders and entrepreneurs. Indiana has a long tradition of leadership in the life sciences and medical industry. Indiana also has a robust university research system, growing tech industry and, of course, a manufacturing industry that grows more high-tech with each passing year.

The House and many other sectors of the Hoosier economy will benefit from the reforms in this bill. When inventors and entrepreneurs are able to protect their inventions and speed
their market, it creates jobs not only for re-
searchers and inventors, but also for factory
workers, distributors, sales associates, and
marketing teams to name a few.

This bill will ensure that newly-issued pat-
ents will be strong, high-quality patents that
have gone through rigorous review. It will
modernize the U.S. Patent and Trademark Of-
fice to reduce the current backlog of more
than 700,000 patent applications, and it will
ensure that the PTO, with proper congres-
sional oversight, is able to retain the fees it
collects to fund its operations. Finally, this pat-
ent reform bill will go a long way towards
eliminating the lawsuit abuse that has become
so prevalent in recent years.

Of personal interest to me, I am pleased that
the bill before us incorporates the
changes to best mode that I obtained during
the 2007 patent reform debate and floor vote.

American patent law currently requires that
a patent application “set forth the best mode
contemplated by the inventor of carrying out
his invention” at the time the application is
filed. But providing the best mode is not a re-
quirement in Europe, Japan or the rest of the
world and it has become a vehicle for lawsuit
abuse.

In my view, the best mode requirement of
American law imposes extraordinary and un-
necessary costs on inventors. I have main-
tained since 2007 that best mode should be
repealed in full, and I would continue to sup-
port a full repeal if possible today.

But, at the very least, I am pleased that the
bill before us, like my amendments from 2007,
only retains best mode as a specifications re-
quirement for obtaining a patent. Once the ex-
aminer is satisfied that the best mode has
been disclosed, the issue is settled forever.

Going forward, best mode cannot be used as
a legal defense to infringement in patent litiga-
tion or as a basis for a post-grant review pro-
ceeding.

The America Invents Act will enable Amer-
ica to continue to be the world’s leader in in-
novation. It will lay the groundwork for intellec-
tual property protection that will help grow our
economy and create jobs both in the Hoosier
state and across the nation.

After long years, I am encouraged that we are
on the cusp of passing this bill out of the
Congress and sending it to the president.
I urge my colleagues to support the America
Invent Act today.

HONORING PROFESSOR MEL
BARON ON THE OCCASION OF HIS
RECEIPT OF THE PINNACLE
AWARD FROM THE AMERICAN
PHARMACISTS ASSOCIATION
FOUNDATION IN RECOGNITION
OF HIS PIONEERING WORK TO
ADDRESS THE PHARMACY
NEEDS OF UNDERSERVED COM-
MUNITIES

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, June 23, 2011

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise
today to honor Professor Mel Baron of the
University of Southern California School of
Pharmacy upon his receipt of the Pinnacle
Award for Individual Achievement by the
American Pharmacists Association Foundation
(APHA).

Dr. Baron, who is now celebrating his 52nd
year in the pharmacy profession, ranks as a
practice pioneer, an educational futurist and a
regional force in meeting the pharmacy needs
of underserved communities. A visionary in
establishing pharmacy as part of the solution
in meeting the health-care needs of Southern
California’s 2.7 million uninsured residents.
Dr. Baron is a recognized leader in providing ex-
panded pharmacy services in safety-net clinics
that increase access to patients served while
also providing better and more cost-effi-
cient care.

His pioneering effort to secure USC’s first
funding grant for clinical pharmacy practice
in safety-net clinics earned the School of
Pharmacy the APHA Pinnacle Award for
Group Practice, the American Society of
Health-System Pharmacists’ (ASHP) Best
Practices Award and the American Association
of Colleges of Pharmacy’s (AACP) Trans-
formative Community Service Award over the
past few years.

Furthering his efforts to address the needs
of underserved populations in Southern Cali-
fornia, Dr. Baron has produced a series of
Spanish and English fotonovelas (comic book-
like pamphlets) on medication compliance, di-
abetes, folic acid, depression, dementia, pedia-
tric asthma and childhood obesity. Recogn-
ing the need for comprehensive health in-
formation on these topics, Dr. Baron obtained
grant funding to produce them. Through these
materials, he has extended the reach of phar-
macy expertise tremendously and offered vital
information to the residents I represent in East
Los Angeles. These resources have now been
distributed across the country. In addi-
tion to the print versions, local actors have
done theatrical readings of them at health fairs
in Los Angeles. Currently, he is also leading
an effort to produce a DVD series for prospec-
tive transplant patients and their families.

Earlier in his career, Dr. Baron worked in his
own medical-building pharmacy. In the 1970s,
he grew his business into a vibrant home-care
pharmacy that met the pressing needs of pa-
tients struggling to live in a health-care envi-
ronment with limited resources. At a time
when home-care pharmacy services were in
their infancy, Dr. Baron had the vision to use
pharmacist expertise in the home-care setting
to meet the needs of these patients.

Dr. Baron also approaches his teaching with
excellence in mind. He originated externships
for USC pharmacy students back in the 1980s—long before most pharmacy students
were doing any clinical work in the early years
of their curriculum. Dr. Baron recognized the
wisdom of exposing pharmacy students to
clinical settings early and often in their edu-
cational careers. Dr. Baron also has made it
a priority to teach an annual course on leader-
ship to pharmacy students.

Clearly, Dr. Baron has been at the forefront
of the most pressing issues of pharmacy
today. Through hard work, Dr. Baron’s long
and vibrant career has been marked by pio-
neering foresight and vision. In addition, his
work has inspired students and served those
in our community who are most vulnerable
and in need.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to please
join me in congratulating Dr. Baron on his re-
ciept of the Pinnacle Award and in thanking
him for his half-century of exceptional service
to our community. His tireless leadership, in-
novation and inspiration have made a tremen-
dous contribution to our community and to the
nation, and I extend to him my best wishes for
many more years ahead.

YORK RIVER WILD AND SCENIC
RIVER STUDY ACT OF 2011

HON. CHELIE PINGREE
OF MAINE
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, June 23, 2011

Ms. PINGREE of Maine. Mr. Speaker, the
York River in Maine is the cultural and eco-
nomic heart of the York River watershed com-
munity. Standing on the banks of the river, I
heard from community members about what
the river means to them and how they have
pulled together to protect this waterway. I also
heard from the community about how the York
River needs additional protections from in-
creasing development pressures. The bill that I
am introducing today commissions a feasi-
bility study which will provide a comprehensive
overview of the river and will evaluate whether
the York River qualifies as a Wild and Scenic
Partnership River within the National Park
Service’s Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

Watching two York River strokes lie up
their boat, I wouldn’t have guessed that the
York River area is on the northern fringe of
the Boston megalopolis in terms of population
and development pressures. The towns of
York, Eliot, Kittery, and South Berwick recog-
nize that without additional knowledge and
management tools, the river’s unique cultural,
recreational, commercial and natural re-
sources will be threatened. Support for the
York River Study Bill was the result of a part-
nership between the local environmental com-
munity, a local land trust, support from the
state, and, most importantly, support from an
entire community of Mainers with the foresight
to recognize the value of the river to the busi-
ness community.

The York River is located in southern Maine
area, runs 11.25 miles from its head in Eliot to
the mouth of the river harbor in the town of
York. On its way from the land to the sea, this
river passes by farms, old mills that date back
to the 1600s, wharves and ware-
houses from the 1700s that tell the story of
Maine’s rich fishing heritage, public boat
launches, working waterfronts, and recre-
tional spots for lunching, fishing and
kayaking. There have been concerted and
successful efforts over the past ten years by
the York Land Trust and the Mount
Agamenticus to the Sea Conservation Initiative
Partnership River within the National Park
Service’s Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

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