

gaining meaningful market access for American manufacturers in exchange. Unless other governments play by the rules and remove barriers to our exports, the U.S. should not acquiesce to their demands by further opening our market—which is already the most open market in the global economy. Unilateral disarmament in the face of foreign protectionist practices is unacceptable, and we must ensure that our trade negotiators do not undermine our industries and our workers.

The Reciprocal Market Access Act would instruct our trade negotiators to eliminate foreign market barriers before reducing U.S. tariffs. This bill would also provide enforcement authority to reinstate the tariff if the foreign government does not honor its commitment to remove its barriers.

This legislation also addresses a serious problem in the current trade negotiating process. Tariff and non-tariff sectoral barriers are compartmentalized, meaning that a tariff item can be reduced or eliminated by our negotiators without securing elimination of the non-tariff barriers that deny U.S. industry access to a foreign market. This legislation would give our government the right to revoke concessions to cut tariffs if our trading partners fail to implement negotiated commitments to eliminate barriers that had initially been identified by U.S. domestic producers for our negotiators.

The principle of reciprocity—the principle on which this legislation is built—is not new. In fact it is a principle that should be essential to any effective trade relationship. Cordell Hull, Democrat from Tennessee and Roosevelt's Secretary of State in 1933, was responsible for bringing this concept into the U.S. and global trade systems with the Reciprocal Trade Agreement Act of 1934. It was this act which formed the basis for the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) and the World Trade Organization (WTO). Mr. Hull developed the Act to move away from the negative consequences of the Smoot-Hawley Tariff Act, which raised U.S. tariffs on thousands of imports to record levels. Smoot-Hawley established the United States as protectionist, and provoked a rash of retaliatory measures from our trading partners.

It is no longer the United States that is shutting its markets to foreign competitors. We have the most open market in the world, and continue to find ways to lower tariffs and eliminate market barriers. Yet this policy is often not reciprocated, as American manufacturers find significant barriers to foreign markets while they watch their own domestic market share dwindle. The result is quality American companies are forced to downsize or close their doors for good, and American workers are left jobless.

That is not free trade. Free trade involves a system where American companies are able to compete in markets uninhibited by barriers. It involves a level playing field for American companies and our trading partners. And I have no doubt that if given a level playing field, American companies and American workers can compete in any market.

The Reciprocal Market Access Act will mandate that at the very least any trade agreement does not put American companies and workers at a competitive disadvantage. It establishes what should be the standard for all trade agreements: a mutually beneficial trade relationship in which goods can be freely exchanged and that promotes economic growth.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE PASSING
OF CYRUS BLACKMAN

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 8, 2009

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Cyrus Blackman, a World War II hero and a Northwest Florida community leader who passed away on October 7, 2009. Mr. Blackman spent his life serving his country and his family, and I am proud to honor his lifetime of dedication and service.

Cy Blackman was a native and lifelong resident of Milton, Florida. He joined the United States Army at a young age during World War II, and went on to serve with the 563rd Anti-Aircraft Automatic Weapons Battalion operating trucks to move personnel, equipment, and supplies under extremely hazardous combat conditions. A veteran of combat in much of Central Europe, Cy fought honorably in the Battle of the Bulge and the Battle of the Rhine, receiving the World War II Victory Medal, the American Service Medal, and the European African Middle Eastern Service Medal with three Bronze Stars.

After demobilization at the end of the war, Cy returned to Northwest Florida. He worked at International Paper, where he retired. Despite his service in World War II, for 60 years Cy never spoke of his time in the Army and never requested Veterans Administration benefits. However in 2008, Cy participated in the Emerald Coast Honor Flight, an experience that changed his life. After visiting the National World War II Memorial, he began to open up about his experiences in the war, and later even served as a spokesman for the Honor Flight organization, connecting the community with our veterans.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to honor Cy Blackman as an American hero reflective of the spirit of Northwest Florida. Cy will be remembered as a loving husband and father and as an important part of our community. My wife Vicki and I offer our prayers for his wife, Polly, children, Christopher and Lecia, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren as we remember and honor the life of Cy Blackman.

HONORING DONNA P. JERNIGAN,
BSN, RN, CRRN, MS

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 8, 2009

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Donna P. Jernigan of Carolina Case Management and president of the Association of Rehabilitation Nurses (ARN) and a resident of Sanford, North Carolina in my district. Ms. Jernigan will soon complete her year as the 2008–2009 national president of the ARN, a professional organization representing professional nurses who work to enhance the quality of life for those who are affected by physical disabilities or chronic illnesses. During her tenure as president at ARN, Ms. Jernigan has been a strong leader and advocate for rehabilitation nurses, as well as the patients ARN serves every day.

Since 1974, ARN has been the leading source for the latest rehabilitation information, resources, and professional development and career opportunities for rehabilitation nursing professionals. ARN members are nurses, with a broad range of clinical experience, dedicated to helping individuals affected by chronic illness or a physical disability adapt to their disabilities, achieve their greatest potential, and work toward productive, independent lives. Presently, ARN comprises a nationwide network of more than 5,500 rehabilitation nurses who practice in many settings, including hospitals, rehabilitation facilities, home health agencies, sub-acute and long-term care facilities, and private companies.

Ms. Jernigan earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing from the California State University and her Master of Science degree in Management, with a concentration in Healthcare Planning, from Troy University. In addition to Ms. Jernigan's academic achievements, she is the author of "Bureaucrats at the Gate," and article published in ARN Network in 2003. She has also given presentations numerous times on topics relating to electronic medical records, surviving the nursing shortage, uniform data systems, and using algorithms in rehabilitation.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me today in recognizing the outgoing president of the Association of Rehabilitation Nurses, Donna P. Jernigan, for her dedication and exemplary work in the field of rehabilitation nursing.

A TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT
GENERAL TERRY L. GABRESKI

HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 8, 2009

Mr. TURNER. Madam Speaker, United States Air Force Lieutenant General Terry Gabreski, the highest-ranking female officer in the Air Force, is retiring after 35 years of distinguished and honorable service to our nation.

General Gabreski distinguished herself as Vice Commander of the U.S. Air Force Material Command at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, located in my congressional district, from August, 2005 through January, 2010. During her leadership, she catapulted the Air Force Material Command into one of the most highly efficient and productive organizations within the Department of Defense.

General Gabreski executed over 40 percent of the entire U.S. Air Force budget during her tenure and oversaw the full operational capability of the F-22A.

General Gabreski supported the warfighter, ensuring our forward-deployed operations have the resources they need. She also oversaw the development and deployment of AngelFire persistent surveillance and the reconnaissance program, which was lauded by the U.S. Marine Corps as "war-winning technology." She is also responsible for the Aeronautical System Center's Large Aircraft Infrared Countermeasures (LAIRCM) program, which was established in response to the portable anti-aircraft missile threat to intra-theater airlift.

General Gabreski worked to effectively make sure the Air Force lived within its budget. She radically simplified and streamlined the