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House of Representatives

TRIBUTE TO AMBASSADOR KENNETH M. QUINN

HON. TOM LATHAM
Thursday, May 22, 2014


Mr. LATHAM of Iowa: Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Ambassador Kenneth M. Quinn for being named the twenty-third recipient of the Iowa Award by Iowa Governor Terry Branstad. This is a remarkable and well-deserved achievement for one of the finest citizens in Iowa's 168 year history.

The Iowa Award is the highest citizen award attainable from our great state. Established in 1948 by Governor Robert Blue and the Iowa Legislature, the Iowa Centennial Memorial Foundation bestows the Iowa Award approximately every half decade through a self-financed event. The foundation was created "to encourage and recognize the outstanding service of Iowans" in numerous fields and to recognize the "merit of their accomplishments in Iowa and throughout the United States."

Knowing Ambassador Quinn and counting him as a close friend, I can think of no more deserving Iowan to be formally recognized for his service to our state, nation, and world as a whole. Kenneth will formally join this elite class of Iowans, including President Herbert Hoover, Dr. James Van Allen, Vice President Henry Wallace, and Dr. Norman Borlaug, when Governor Branstad presents Ambassador Quinn with the Iowa Award at the World Food Prize Hall of Laureates in Des Moines later this month.

Mr. Speaker, I have lauded Ambassador Quinn's astounding biography, service, philanthropy, and heroism previously in this hallowed chamber and I am privileged to reiterate that sentiment today. Ambassador Quinn has dedicated his life and his talents to assisting those in all corners of the globe and words cannot express the extent of his positive impact left on his colleagues, the State of Iowa, and countless individuals around the world. It has been one of the greatest honors of my career to represent and assist Kenneth in all that he does and his selection by Governor Branstad to receive the Iowa Award is affirmation that I am far from alone in my effusive praise and appreciation. I invite my fellow Members of Congress to join me in thanking Ambassador Quinn for his decades of unwavering service and to congratulate him as the people of Iowa proudly count him among our state's most storied and influential citizens. Thank you.




Honorable Tom Latham
Member of Congress