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## *House of Representatives*

TRIBUTE TO OPERATION BLUE RIDGE THUNDER, SAFE SURFIN'  
FOUNDATION, AND MOOSE INTERNATIONAL

HON. BOB GOODLATTE  
OF VIRGINIA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 20, 2010*

**Mr. Goodlatte of Virginia.** Madam Speaker, I am delighted today to recognize two organizations in Virginia's Sixth District and a major international organization for a cooperative effort that is protecting our most innocent citizens--our children. Founded in Bedford County, Virginia Operation Blue Ridge Thunder has been led from its inception by Sheriff Mike Brown. It is recognized around the United States and internationally as an Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force. In 1998, Sheriff Brown started the Safe Surfin' Foundation to focus on Internet safety training for boys and girls through schools, law enforcement agencies, and civic groups. From day one, I have watched and supported their efforts closely. Today, I wish to extend thanks to Moose International for stepping forward through the Moose Lodge in Bedford to offer

assistance in the ongoing battle to protect young people as they use the Internet. Moose International went to its 1.3 million members and explained the need to support the special work of Sheriff Brown and his dedicated assistants. As a result, Moose International has generously donated \$150,000 to enable the Safe Surfin' Foundation to continue its outreach. In addition, Moose International has joined in a Safe Surfin' "train the trainers" program. This assistance is permitting even more children and their parents to learn the benefits of Internet safety. I highly commend Moose International for recognizing the benefits of the Safe Surfin' Foundation. Their generosity will permit the battle to continue nationwide against those who would prey on our children through the use of technology.