Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 101 inventors who were recently recognized at the University of South Florida in Tampa and inducted as the 2012 National Academy of Inventors’ Charter Fellows by the United States Commissioner of Patents, Margaret A. Focarino. In order to be named as a Charter Fellow, these men and women were nominated by their peers and have undergone the scrutiny of the NAI Selection Committee, having had their innovations deemed as making significant impact on quality of life, economic development, and welfare of society. Collectively, this elite group holds more than 3,200 patents.

The individuals making up this year’s class of Charter Fellows include individuals from 56 research universities and non-profit research institutes spanning not just the United States but also the world. This group of inductees touts eight Nobel Laureates, 14 presidents of research universities and non-profit research institutes, 53 members of the National Academies, 11 inductees of the National Inventors Hall of Fame, two Fellows of the Royal Society, five recipients of the National Medal of Technology and Innovation, four recipients of the National Medal of Science, and 31 AAAS Fellows, among other major awards and distinctions.

The contributions made to society through innovation are immeasurable. I commend these individuals, and the organizations that support them, for the work that they do to revolutionize the world we live in. As the following inventors are inducted, may it encourage future innovators to strive to meet this high honor and continue the spirit of innovation.

The 2012 NAI Charter Fellows include:

Dharma P. Agrawal, University of Cincinnati
Anthony Atala, Wake Forest University
Benton F. Baugh, University of Houston
Khosrow Behbehani, University of Texas at Arlington
Raymond J. Bergeron, University of Florida
Gerardine G. Botte, Ohio University
Robert H. Brown, Jr., University of Massachusetts Medical Center
Robert L. Byer, Stanford University
Sir Roy Calne, University of Cambridge
Curtis R. Carlson, SRI International
Nai Yuen Chen, University of Texas at Arlington
Stephen Z. D. Cheng, The University of Akron
Paul C. W. Chu, University of Houston
James J. Collins, Boston University
James G. Conley, Northwestern University
Joseph T. Coyle, Harvard University
James E. Dahlberg, University of Wisconsin-Madison
Roger J. Davis, University of Massachusetts Medical Center
Sandra J. F. Degen, University of Cincinnati
Hector F. DeLuca, University of Wisconsin-Madison
Donn M. Dennis, University of Florida
Akira Endo, Tokyo University of Agriculture & Technology
Howard J. Federoff, Georgetown University
Thomas J. Fogarty, Fogarty Institute for Innovation
Kenneth M. Ford, Institute for Human & Machine Cognition
Eric R. Fossum, Dartmouth College
Robert C. Gallo, University of Maryland
Alan N. Gent, The University of Akron
Morteza Gharib, California Institute of Technology
Ivar Giaever, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Barbara A. Gilchrest, Boston University
Richard D. Gitlin, University of South Florida
Leonid B. Glebov, University of Central Florida
D. Yogi Goswami, University of South Florida
Mark W. Grinstaff, Boston University
Greg Hampikian, Boise State University
Barbara C. Hansen, University of South Florida
Patrick T. Harker, University of Delaware
Martin E. Hellman, Stanford University
Nick Holonyak, Jr., University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Leroy E. Hood, Institute for Systems Biology
Richard A. Houghten, Torrey Pines Institute for Molecular Studies
Ernest B. Izevbigie, Jackson State University
Stephen C. Jacobsen, University of Utah
Eric W. Kaler, University of Minnesota
Linda P. B. Katehi, University of California, Davis
Joseph P. Kennedy, The University of Akron
Sakhrat Khizroev, Florida International University
Sung Wan Kim, University of Utah
George V. Kondraske, University of Texas at Arlington
John J. Kopchick, Ohio University
Roger D. Kornberg, Stanford University
Max G. Lagally, University of Wisconsin-Madison
Robert S. Langer, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Brian A. Larkins, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Victor B. Lawrence, Stevens Institute of Technology
Virginia M.-Y. Lee, University of Pennsylvania
Jean-Marie Pierre Lehn, University of Strasbourg
Shinn-Zong Lin, China Medical University
Thomas A. Lipo, University of Wisconsin-Madison
Barbara H. Liskov, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Alan F. List, H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center and Research Institute
R. Bowen Loftin, Texas A&M University
Dan Luss, University of Houston
Robert Magnusson, University of Texas at Arlington
Richard B. Marchase, University of Alabama at Birmingham
Stephen W. S. McKeever, Oklahoma State University
Craig C. Mello, University of Massachusetts Medical Center
Shyam S. Mohapatra, University of South Florida
Theodore D. Moustakas, Boston University
George R. Newkome, The University of Akron
C. L. Max Nikias, University of Southern California
David P. Norton, University of Florida
Julio C. Palmaz, U. of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio
Thomas N. Parks, University of Utah
C. Kumar N. Patel, University of California, Los Angeles
Prem S. Paul, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
David W. Pershing, University of Utah
G. P. Peterson, Georgia Institute of Technology
Leonard Polizzotto, Draper Laboratory
Huntington Potter, University of Colorado, Denver
Paul R. Sanberg, University of South Florida
Timothy D. Sands, Purdue University
Raymond F. Schinazi, Emory University
Dean L. Sicking, University of Alabama at Birmingham
Oliver Smithies, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Solomon H. Snyder, Johns Hopkins University
Franky So, University of Florida
M. J. Soileau, University of Central Florida
Nan-Yao Su, University of Florida
Jack W. Szostak, Harvard University
ESTHER SANS TAKEUCHI, Stony Brook University
H. Holden Thorp, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Charles H. Townes, University of California, Berkeley
John Q. Trojanowski, University of Pennsylvania
Roger Y. Tsien, University of California, San Diego
James L. Van Etten, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
James W. Wagner, Emory University
John E. Ware, Jr., University of Massachusetts Medical Center
Herbert Weissbach, Florida Atlantic University
Shin-Tson Wu, University of Central Florida

I yield back the balance of my time.

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