



IN RECOGNITION OF  
**Somali-American Graduates &  
Somali Community Access Network  
(SomaliCAN)**  
JUNE 24, 2011

I am proud to congratulate central Ohio Somali-American students who have recently graduated from high school and college. Way to go!

Finishing up one's academic career and entering the next phase in life marks a truly significant achievement for any young student. In America, education remains vital to culturally diverse or foreign-born students' ability to integrate into American society. Students' appreciation for American culture as well as a respect for his or her heritage makes for a truly healthy and pluralistic society.

For years the Somali community has remained a well known aspect of central Ohio, and the accomplishments of that community, in many ways, impacts us all. Those Somali-American students who have nobly applied themselves in their academic career represent future leaders in our area, and their success stands to benefit not only themselves, but many in central Ohio. The efforts of organizations such as SomaliCAN remain pivotal to today's proceedings and the above-mentioned success. Their support of Somali-American youth education has surely paved a way for a positive future for many.

Again, congratulations to all the students whose diligence and spirit has aided them throughout their studies. On behalf of the citizens of Ohio's 12<sup>th</sup> Congressional District, best wishes for continued success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Pat", is written over a large, loopy blue circular scribble.

Patrick J. Tiberi  
Member of Congress