Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize September 25, 2012, as the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association’s (CMBA) 4th Annual “David Webster Greener Way to Work Day,” and to remember David Webster, legal scholar, litigator, entrepreneur, and environmentalist, who died at age 46 from cancer on March 13, 2009, but whose achievements were many in his short life.

David Webster overcame alcoholism at a young age and went on to sponsor others in recovery. He accomplished much and saw life as an adventure. At Case Western Reserve School of Law, he graduated magna cum laude and was an editor of Law Review, where he met his wife Beth.

Upon graduation from law school, David became a commercial lawyer with broad experience, in matters involving banking, commodity trading, securities, technology, real estate, intellectual property, and his passion, environmental law. Merging his knowledge of commodity trading and environmental law, he founded INHALE, which later became the Clean Air Conservancy, an organization which worked within the manufacturing economy and the commodities market to reduce air pollution by acquiring and retiring pollution allowances. Outside Magazine dubbed the Clean Air Conservancy one of the 10 best small environmental non-profits.

David Webster was an aggressive litigator who took on music giant Sony and won a judgment of more than $5 million for the late Cleveland music producer Steve Popovich over credit for Meatloaf’s hottest album, “Bat out of Hell.” He was a founding partner of the law firm Webster & Dubyak and was also actively involved in the Cuyahoga County Bar Association, the Federal Bar Association, and the American Bar Association. He was a driving force behind the merger of the Cuyahoga County and the Cleveland Bar Associations and was the President-elect of the merged CMBA at the time of his passing.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognizing Tuesday September 25, 2012 as the 4th Annual David Webster Greener Way to Work Day. The CMBA encourages us to find a greener way to travel to and from work, whether through public transportation, biking, walking or carpooling. The CMBA will honor David’s memory with a noon luncheon at the CMBA to recognize law firms and offices for their commitment to implement sustainable practices, reduce waste, and shrink their carbon footprints. Please join me in honoring the memory of David Webster by joining with the CMBA in taking action to protect our environment.