

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING WILLIAM J. DAVIS

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 16, 2011

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend my congratulations to fellow Minnesotan William J. Davis in honor of his twenty years of service as President and CEO of Community Action of Minneapolis.

At the helm of Community Action of Minneapolis, Mr. Davis has advocated tirelessly for underserved communities; ensuring the concerns of so many, which are often overlooked, are heard. During his twenty years of dedication, innumerable citizens have received critical services vital to their well being: children and family development, weatherization, home electric savings and energy services. Under Mr. Davis' calculated and efficient stewardship, Community Action of Minneapolis has not only grown, but thrived.

Mr. Speaker, the stability of our cherished American life is contingent upon a functional and educated populace. Public servants such as Mr. Davis continue to ensure that opportunities to contribute at any level within our nation are extended throughout our society. The continued pursuit of equality has become a cornerstone of which we, as Americans, are tremendously proud. Our pride would be unwarranted without the profound contributions of public servants such as William J. Davis.

CONGRATULATING BARBARA CLOVER

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 16, 2011

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to congratulate Mrs. Barbara Clover on being named the 2010 National Secondary Art Educator of the Year by the National Art Education Association. She is truly deserving of this honor for her exemplary contributions toward the promotion of art education.

Mrs. Clover has been an art teacher at Holy Savior Menard Central High School in Alexandria, La., for 16 years where she has challenged and inspired students to explore their creative sides.

Beyond the classroom, Mrs. Clover serves as president of the Louisiana Art Education Association. She views this affiliation as a means to further her advocacy for the arts and art education.

In addition, Mrs. Clover has been featured at numerous local art events and has chaired the Youth Art Month program for the Louisiana Art Education Association.

For her dedication to enhancing art education, she has been honored nationally five times for her work with Youth Art Month, in-

cluding four awards of Excellence and one Claire Flanagan Memorial Grand Award, which is the highest award presented by the Council for Art Education, Inc.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mrs. Barbara Clover for being named the 2010 National Secondary Art Educator of the Year. As an excellent teacher and promoter of the arts, she is deserving of this laudable recognition.

RECOGNIZING MRS. LAJUANA MALLOY AS THE 2011 WASHINGTON COUNTY TEACHER OF THE YEAR

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 16, 2011

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mrs. Lajuana Malloy as the 2011 Washington County Teacher of the Year. For nearly two decades, Mrs. Malloy has been an inspiration to her students, motivating and inspiring them to succeed at the highest levels, and I am honored to recognize her achievements.

Mrs. Malloy is a lifelong resident of Washington County, Florida. After receiving her Bachelor of Science Degree in Elementary Education, she worked as a Protective Services Caseworker in the Florida Department of Children and Families. Mrs. Malloy was born to make a positive impact on her community. After her time as a caseworker, she decided to enter into the teaching profession.

Mrs. Malloy sought to motivate her students to succeed and to reach their full potential. With this goal in mind, she decided to continue her education at Florida State University, where she earned a Master's degree and a certification in Exceptional Student Education. She taught at Kate Elementary School for fourteen years and at Vernon Elementary School, where she also served as Reading Coach. For the past three years, Mrs. Malloy has served as a language arts and reading teacher at Roulhac Middle School, where her dedication to her students inspires them to pursue excellence in language arts.

Mrs. Malloy and her husband, Wesley, are the proud parents of two college students. Eli is a junior at Chipola College, and Elizabeth is a sophomore at the University of South Alabama. Mrs. Malloy also spends her weekends teaching at her church's Preschool Sunday School, where she is also the church's pianist.

Mrs. Malloy believes that teaching is a true calling, and that her work as an educator makes an invaluable and lasting impact on her students and community. The Washington County Teacher of the Year award is evidence of her enormous impact; however, her achievement is even better illustrated through the lives of her exceptional students. I am privileged to have her as a constituent in Florida's First Congressional District.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to recognize Lajuana Malloy for her accomplishments and her continuing commitment to excellence at Roulhac Middle School. My wife Vicki joins me in congratulating Mrs. Malloy, and we wish her all the best.

HONORING ALFENETTE ROBINSON

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 16, 2011

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Alfenette Robinson, born July 10, 1957, to Mr. and Mrs. William Henry Robinson, Jr., a lifelong Bolton, Mississippi, native. She graduated from Sumner Hill High School in 1975 and furthered her education by obtaining her Associate Degree in Education from Hinds Community College. Alfenette has been in education for the past 31 years. She served as an assistant teacher for the Trainable Mentally Retarded classroom in the Clinton Public School District for 20 years. She presently serves as Branch Supervisor at the Annie L. Thompson-Jeffers Branch of the Hinds County Public Library System, where she has been employed since 1987. People in general have been Ms. Robinson's life and passion. She helps all kinds of people on and off the job. She is Chairman of the Bolton Christmas Parade committee, Secretary of Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church Sunday School, lifelong member of Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church, active member of the Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church Choir, active member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, NAACP, and has dedicated her time towards many local campaign elections. She loves helping the elderly members of the community, no matter how big or small the task. She is known for running errands and assisting the elderly with understanding and completing important documents and forms. In addition to her love for the elderly, she is gifted in working with special-needs children and superbly knowledgeable and passionate in overseeing the operation and functionality of the Bolton community's only library. Alfenette has a twin sister and one brother, along with many community-adopted children.

FULL-YEAR CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. DAN BENISHEK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1) making appropriations for the Department of Defense and

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

the other departments and agencies of the Government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2011, and for other purposes:

Mr. BENISHEK. Mr. Chairman, it is my strong belief that the pre-eminent reason a majority of Northern Michigan's citizens selected me to be their representative in Washington was to do everything possible to rein in out-of-control Federal spending. My focus has been to support such efforts while working to ensure that policies coming out of the Nation's Capital—tax, monetary, and regulatory—serve to encourage private enterprise so Northern Michigan has the chance to experience economic growth.

My first 44 days in office have taught me a great deal about the budget process and the "spending ways of Washington." Each day we have been in session I have typically had 5–10 meetings with organizations, companies and Washington reps all seeking to keep their programs free of any spending cuts. No one in Washington has asked me to spend less. In fact, it seems in every Washington meeting while there occasionally is a recognition of the doom America faces if the current spending continues, each meeting usually closes with an expected refrain ". . . yes we need to spend less but not our program."

By contrast, during my first visit home, just about everyone in the First District asked me to make sure the Federal Government spends less. In Northern Michigan there seems to be a strong consensus that Federal budget red ink can no longer continue at record pace.

Here are my guiding "spend less" principles in this 112th Congress:

Shared Responsibility: Before there is any comprehensive entitlement reform effort, every Federal department should be prepared to live with less money in 2012 than it received in 2011.

Sunlight and Transparency: All spending decisions should be made in a fully transparent legislative process. No backdoor earmarks, no special interest amendments. If a program has merit its supporters should defend the program in public floor debate.

Tighten the Revenue Spigot: Simply sending more money to Washington is not going to solve the problem of unchecked spending; every year the U.S. Treasury receives more money; every year the Federal Government spends more than it takes in. Consequently, increasing taxes is not the answer.

If not now, when? I have publicly promised to limit my career in Congress to just three terms. America's future is more important than any one of us in Congress, certainly more important than any political job. I'd rather do what I think is right than simply keep this position. I trust the voters.

In my view, the debt is not a Republican issue or a Democrat issue. It is an American issue.

The failure of previous Congresses to act means America now faces a \$14 trillion debt. For every dollar Congress allocates the U.S. Treasury has to borrow up to \$.40 to pay for it. That means indebting ourselves to countries like China and mortgaging our children's future.

Let me be clear, this will not be easy. To stem the tide, many tough decisions will need to be made. Northern Michigan—like the entire country—has a backlog of worthy projects and its people have benefited from admirable public programs. The reductions in H.R. 1 affect

every community in the nation. These are hard decisions for Congress to make, and not everyone will be happy with everything that has been proposed. This is understandable, but I believe these reductions are necessary to show that Congress is serious about returning our country to a sustainable financial path.

The Continuing Resolution to be considered on the House Floor this week is just the first step. Fortunately, the President's budget proposal is merely a suggestion that Congress can improve upon. In my view, Congress needs to offer a more fiscally sound budget for FY 2012.

Additionally, it is my view that Congress will need to consider reforming entitlements programs. Social Security and Medicare are important programs that millions of Americans depend on. Without reform, both of these programs face bankruptcy. In my opinion, Congress needs to consider solutions to avoid this crisis that ensures benefits under Social Security and Medicare are not reduced for those Americans currently receiving benefits.

And I think most of my colleagues agree this is not a time to play politics. The inflamed rhetoric and scare attacks on cutting grand-ma's benefits have no place here. This week's vote will not take away benefits for anyone receiving benefits. Instead, Congress will have completed the first step and as the Constitution dictates, the Senate and the President will have their say.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM "BILLY"
LYON

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 16, 2011

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a longstanding business leader in South Alabama, Mr. William "Billy" Lyon, who recently passed away at the age of 80.

A native of Mobile, Mr. Lyon graduated from Murphy High School in 1944 and attended the Citadel in Charleston, South Carolina before joining the Navy in 1945, where he served on the USS *Chicago*. Following the end of the war, he attended Auburn University and the University of North Carolina.

A natural entrepreneur, Mr. Billy became a homebuilder with a lifelong passion for commercial and residential real estate development in Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, Florida and Georgia.

He developed scores of local residential subdivisions, including Brookwood, Blacksher Downs, Tuthill Lane Estates and Carriage Hills, and sold lots to nearly every builder in Mobile. He also partnered and developed numerous commercial shopping centers, including Mobile's Bel Air Mall, which opened in 1966.

He was one of the founding board members of Commercial Guaranty Bank in Mobile, which later became SouthTrust Bank, and also served on the Boards of Bel Air Corporation, Mobile Gas Company, First Southern Federal, Altus Bank, the Drug Education Council, and the Alabama School of Math and Science.

Mr. Billy was the longest active member of the Home Builders Association of Mobile and received the E. L. Jones award in 2002. He witnessed and played a vital role in Mobile for

many years, helping countless individuals, bankers, builders, realtors, friends and associates along the way.

On behalf of the people of South Alabama, I extend my condolences to his wife, Patricia; their two sons, BJ and Jimmy; their four daughters, Tricia, Nancy, Victoria and Ashley; nineteen grandchildren and their entire family. You are all in our thoughts and prayers.

HONORING DR. MICHAEL COLLINS

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 16, 2011

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the distinguished career of Dr. Michael Collins. For more than 25 years, he has exhibited a drive and work ethic on and off the ice that serves as inspiration to his colleagues and friends.

Dr. Collins, a Chicago native, attended the University of Notre Dame. In South Bend he played varsity hockey and shoveled furnaces to pay the bills, but still graduated in three and a half years. Upon graduation, Michael spent several years driving a cab, and working construction before entering medicine. After returning to college for another two years to take pre-med courses, he attended the Loyola University Stritch School of Medicine followed by five years at the Mayo Clinic. He is now a full-time, board-certified orthopedic surgeon.

In addition to his medical practice, he has written professionally for more than 30 years. His first book, *Hot Lights, Cold Steel*, continues to be a best-seller in the medical memoir field. Since its publication, Michael has lectured extensively on topics relating to medicine and writing.

Dr. Collins' hard work and accomplishments have earned him national attention, and in 2010 he received the American Hockey Coaches Association Lou Lamoriello Award. The Lamoriello Award recognizes a former college hockey player or coach who goes on to a distinguished career in or out of hockey.

Michael and his wife, Patti, have raised 12 children and today he still plays hockey twice a week. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Dr. Michael Collins and his life of achievement. His career has inspired many and continues to impress.

RECOGNIZING TIFFANY MCKINNIE
AS THE 2011 WASHINGTON COUNTY
EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT PER-
SON OF THE YEAR

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 16, 2011

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Tiffany McKinnie as the 2011 Washington County, Florida Educational Support Person of the Year. I am honored to recognize her achievements and her dedication to the students of Northwest Florida.

Mrs. McKinnie is an Exceptional Student Education (ESE) paraprofessional at Roulhac Middle School. ESE paraprofessionals serve an integral role in the development of ESE

students. They are responsible for assisting teachers in a variety of ways to implement the instructional program. They work directly with children in small groups or on a one-to-one basis, and through this close interaction, they foster strong bonds that motivate pupils to develop the knowledge needed to provide a solid educational foundation.

Mrs. McKinnie and her husband, Albert, have three sons and one daughter, and her time outside the classroom is spent enjoying quality time with her family. She is currently enrolled at Chipola College, where she is pursuing a degree in Exceptional Student Education.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to recognize Tiffany McKinnie for her accomplishments and her continuing commitment to excellence at Roulhac Middle School. My wife Vicki joins me in congratulating Mrs. McKinnie, and we wish her all the best.

FULL-YEAR CONTINUING
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1) making appropriations for the Department of Defense and the other departments and agencies of the Government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2011, and for other purposes:

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Chair, I rise in support of the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from New York, the Honorable CAROLYN MCCARTHY, to provide needed funding for the National Instant Criminal Background Check System, or NICS. The intent of the amendment is for the Department of Justice to use \$20 million appropriated in the State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance account to provide grants to States and tribal areas to implement the NICS Improvement Amendments Act, Public Law 110–180.

Representative MCCARTHY and I have worked together to improve the national instant check system since 2002. It was obvious to us at the time that the National Instant Check System was not working as Congress had intended it should. However, it was the tragedy of Virginia Tech that spurred Congress to act unanimously to update the instant check system. The perpetrator of that violent attack was adjudicated a danger to himself and others—therefore, legally prohibited from possessing a firearm—but was able to pass a background check because his name was not in the NICS database.

It is estimated that there are still millions of qualifying records that should be in NICS but are not. A study by the National Center for State Courts found there should be roughly twice as many mental-health records in NICS as there currently are, based on responses from 42 of 56 States and territories.

At the time we enacted the NICS Improvement Amendments Act, we found that there were two primary reasons there were delays in NICS background checks: the lack of updated and available State criminal disposition

records and insufficient automated access to records pertaining to mental illness, restraining orders, and misdemeanor convictions for domestic violence.

The NICS Improvement Amendments Act sought to address these inadequacies by authorizing grants to States and tribal areas to upgrade their electronic records and technologies, enhance their capacities to perform background checks, supply accurate and timely criminal history disposition records, and improve reporting and transmitting to the NICS database. This amendment would allow the Department of Justice to continue making these grants. Adequate funding for NICS must be part of the equation to improve it. Between FY 09 and FY 11, the NICS Improvement Amendments Act authorizes appropriations of over \$900 million. Yet, in FY 09 and FY 10, just \$30 million has been appropriated.

Mr. Chair, all Members of Congress can agree that we must confront our budget and deficit. However, at a time when States' budgets are more strained than ever, the federal government must be ready to help protect public safety, enforce the laws on the books, and in turn, serve our national interest.

Funding for NICS is not only an important tool to keep firearms out of the hands of criminals and those mentally unfit to possess them, but also to ensure individuals' Second Amendment rights are protected, as States are required to remove obsolete or erroneous records from the database. This common-sense amendment is supported by the National Rifle Association, an organization whose top priority is protecting the Second Amendment rights of Americans. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting it.

HONORING MINNIE B. YOUNG

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 16, 2011

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Minnie B. Young. Mrs. Minnie B. Young was born on March 11, 1937, outside of Leland, Mississippi. She is the youngest of five children. Mrs. Young was married twice; both husbands are deceased. Mrs. Young is the proud mother of five children.

Mrs. Young attended elementary school in Dunleith, MS, then on to Abraham Lincoln Attendance Center in Leland, MS.

In 1965, Mrs. Young and others went on a strike for a pay increase from A.L. Andrew Plantation, located in what was then Tent City, MS. It was called Tent City because they lived in tents. However, there were no raises and the strikers eventually quit their jobs at the Plantation. The strikers then changed the name of the town from Tent City to what we now know as Strike City in 1966. Also, she was one of the marchers in Greenville, MS, during the Civil Rights Era in 1966.

Mrs. Young worked in the Head Start program from 1966–1980. She went from Head Start to Witte Memorial Hospital, in Leland, MS, from 1980–1985.

Mrs. Young enjoys writing poems. She considers this a hobby, which she has been doing since she was a little girl. Both she and her daughter, Maxine Johnson, call themselves

“Strike City’s Finest Poets.” They published a book of poems called Real Talk. Mrs. Young considers herself a religious poet. Today, she still writes poems, mostly for her church, Greater St. Matthew M.B. Church, located in Strike City, MS.

HONORING THE CHELSEA AREA
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BUSI-
NESS LEADERSHIP AWARD WIN-
NERS

HON. TIM WALBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 16, 2011

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor The Chelsea Area Chamber of Commerce, 2010 Business Leadership Award winners. The Large Business Award winner is Cleary’s Pub and the Small Business Award winner is True North Jerky Co. These annual awards are presented by the Chelsea Area Chamber of Commerce and the Ambassador Club of the Chamber.

The formal presentation of each award will be during the February 17, 2011, Annual Meeting for the Chelsea Chamber of Commerce. Each of these award winners was judged in several areas that include; displaying innovative ideas and services, demonstrated leadership in the Chelsea business community, support of the Chelsea Area Chamber of Commerce, and contributing to the economic impact of the City of Chelsea.

Cleary’s Pub is owned by Pat Cleary, Meg Boomer, and Joan Henry. This brother and sister team of owners has been in business for 20 years in their familiar Main Street location in downtown Chelsea.

True North Jerky Co. is owned by Phil and Jennifer Tolliver. Phil and Jennifer also are the franchisee for Bearclaw Coffee Drive-Thru located adjacent to the Jerky Co.

These local businesses in the 7th Congressional District have established themselves as true leaders and entrepreneurs who continue to spur economic growth even during these tough economic times.

I would like to commend and congratulate these businesses owners on their successful business ventures that have contributed greatly to the City of Chelsea, Michigan, and the 7th Congressional District.

HONORING JOHN DAVID MERCER
FOR HIS HEROIC ACTION IN SAV-
ING LIVES

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 16, 2011

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to bring to the attention of the House the heroic efforts of a constituent of mine whose quick thinking saved lives during a recent pre-dawn Mobile, Alabama motel fire.

On the early morning of December 21, 2010, John David Mercer, a staff photographer with the Mobile Press-Register, was driving home after shooting the historic lunar eclipse when his eye caught sight of another target. While glancing over at the battleship USS Alabama, a local landmark, Mr. Mercer noticed

thick white smoke billowing from a nearby motel roof. He quickly headed to the building in hopes of capturing some news photos when he realized no one else was aware of the blaze. At that point, he alerted the motel manager, sounded the fire alarm and sprinted upstairs to awake the motel guests. At one point the flames reached 40 feet in the air, yet Mr. Mercer continued to knock on doors.

Fire and police soon arrived and the motel was fully evacuated avoiding any injuries in the fire. The motel owner credited Mr. Mercer with saving lives and helping to prevent further damage to the building.

For his heroic action, Mr. Mercer was presented the Citizen Valor Award by the Mobile Fire-Rescue Department. Additionally, he was given the National Press Photographers Association's Humanitarian Award.

A recent Press-Register editorial honoring Mr. Mercer said it best: "These days, the title 'hero' is tossed about too casually and too often. However, we consider it fitting in this case. John David Mercer is a hero because he got into the game when he didn't have to, and because he placed the welfare of others above his own without being asked."

Mr. Speaker, I would like to add my voice to those who have praised Mr. Mercer's selfless act on that early December morning. He truly deserves to be called a hero.

FULL-YEAR CONTINUING
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1) making appropriations for the Department of Defense and the other departments and agencies of the Government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2011, and for other purposes:

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Chair, I rise in support of the Department of Defense Mentor-Protégé Program. This successful program was created in fiscal year 1990 to develop the technical capabilities of small disadvantaged businesses by allowing major contractors to transfer and develop technology with them. The Mentor-Protégé Program has been essential to diversifying our defense supplier industrial base by expanding the number of qualified small businesses that can realistically compete for DOD contracts.

Current estimates show that protégé businesses make up 12 percent of all small disadvantaged business awards from DOD. However, a sunset clause in the original bill set the program to expire in 2010, and language extending the authorization to 2015 was removed from the FY11 National Defense Authorization Act. At a time when our small businesses and defense industrial base are both struggling, this program, which has a successful track record, is a critical tool for keeping our defense industrial base and our national security strong. I look forward to working with my colleagues in the House to ensure we reauthorize this critical program in fiscal year 2012.

HONORING MR. AND MRS.
WILFORD AND MARIE NORTON,
COMMUNITY ACTIVISTS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 16, 2011

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the late Mr. Wilford Norton, Sr., and Mrs. Marie Norton of Rolling Fork, MS, who were instrumental in the Civil Rights Movement during the origin of civil rights in Mississippi. Both Mr. and Mrs. Norton played significant roles in the success of voter registration and equality for local citizens in Sharkey County and surrounding counties. In 1965–66, Mr. Wilford and Marie Norton worked hand in hand with the late Mr. Sidney Alexander, Sr. (who was a strong advocate for civil rights) and other brave and resilient citizens to ensure all eligible and those that were of age were registered to vote. They spent many hours traveling throughout the counties visiting families to encourage them; this was during an era when many families were afraid of consequences and feared their safety. With much persuasion and long hours of labor, voters were registered.

In 1964, Marie and Wilford Norton also assisted in housing white students who traveled from Massachusetts and Ohio to assist the community in organizing the Head Start Program and other community programs. During this time the Nortons resided at 507 Magnolia Street, a small house with only three bedrooms. The Norton children sacrificed their beds for the comfort of their guests.

Shortly after the Massachusetts and Ohio visitors departed Rolling Fork, the Ku Klux Klan burned a cross in the center of the field that stood across the street from 507 Magnolia Street. During this time (1964 or 1965) the field was vacant with no houses. The burning cross was center field directly in front of the Norton's home and center to the newly organized Head Start Center (Ms. Francis Alexander's home until her passing) adjacent to Magnolia Street on Poplar Street. This did not deter the Nortons or the Alexanders in the cause for justice and equality; their will to end bigotry and injustice continued strong in both families.

This was a time when some in the community were making it known that they wanted an end to inequality and made a stand as they formed Picket Groups; the Norton and Alexander children 10 years of age and above were taken out of school to assist in a week-long of picketing all local merchants in Rolling Fork; they were joined by a few other Rolling Fork families and families from surrounding counties. In 1966, two of the Norton girls were amongst the first to integrate the former Fielding L. Wright School (currently Rolling Fork High School) in Rolling Fork. Though this was not an easy transition for the participating Norton children and others, it was a sacrifice that families made to end segregation in the public school system.

In 1963, Mr. Wilford Norton, Sr., joined Mr. Sydney Alexander, Sr., and a few other men of Rolling Fork, MS, with much support from their wives to participate in the March on Washington with Martin Luther King, Jr., that occurred on August 28, 1963, to rally for freedom, jobs, justice and equality for all at the

Lincoln Memorial where Dr. King gave his awesome "I Have a Dream" speech. Mr. Norton could not have been any prouder when he returned to his family; he told of how this was one of the most incredible events and days of his life.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 16, 2011

Ms. DeLAURO. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and so I missed rollcall vote No. 33 regarding H. Res. 72, "Directing certain standing committees to inventory and review existing, pending, and proposed regulations and orders from agencies of the Federal Government, particularly with respect to their effect on jobs and economic growth." Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

FULL-YEAR CONTINUING
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1) making appropriations for the Department of Defense and the other departments and agencies of the Government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2011, and for other purposes:

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 1. While I agree with my Republican colleagues that we need to address our nation's deficit, the budget cuts being proposed would do more harm than good for our economy. Specifically, the legislation's cuts to science and technology research would impair our ability to compete globally.

H.R. 1 would dramatically reduce investments in the Department of Energy's Office of Science, the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the National Institute for Standards and Technology (NIST). These agencies conduct cutting-edge science and technology research that keeps America innovative and competitive. The budget cuts will not only create significant job losses today but also stagnate our economic growth in the future.

As a resident of Silicon Valley, I know firsthand what investments in science research and development can do for our economy, and I urge my colleagues to join me in opposing H.R. 1.

HONORING MR. ROBERT COTTON

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 16, 2011

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Robert L. Cotton of Sallis, Mississippi. Mr. Cotton has always

stood out as a community leader. In 1987 Mr. Cotton helped to build New Bethel M.B. Church. He established the Beat 4 Community Club and served as president for several years. Mr. Cotton has raised funds for different organizations. He is a strong supporter of the McAdams High School Football team.

Under the leadership of Mr. Jerry Lewis, President of the NAACP Attala County Chapter, Mr. Cotton is the leader in soliciting memberships for the chapter. Mr. Cotton has worked diligently in the political arena, helping his community stay abreast of political issues. He has served as a Trustee of New Bethel M.B. Church for the past 30 years, where he has helped to secure needed funds for the Church's many programs. Mr. Robert Cotton is a World War II Veteran and served 3 years and 8 months overseas. On November 10, 2010, Mr. Cotton celebrated his 91st birthday.

FEBRUARY IS JEWISH DISABILITY
AWARENESS MONTH

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 16, 2011

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Jewish Disability Network, a coalition of over 20 Jewish organizations, for its advocacy on behalf of the rights of disabled Americans. This February marks the third Jewish Disability Awareness Month, organized to push for greater recognition of the needs and concerns of disabled Americans.

Jewish tradition recognizes the importance of inclusion and prizes the ability of every person to participate fully in their community. Today, over fifty million Americans are living with a disability. Tragically, too many of them face barriers that lock them out of employment, housing, education, or health care. They are denied the opportunity to be productive and our society is denied the benefits of their abilities.

Only 21 percent of people with disabilities are employed full or part-time. One in six people with disabilities has not completed high school, 28 percent live in poverty, 19 percent have gone without needed health care at least once during the past year, and 34 percent lack access to adequate transportation. We are making progress through legislation like the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, and through continued investments in IDEA, job training, health care and technology assistance. Those commitments must continue and we should reject budget cuts that would reverse the gains we have already made.

We must strive for inclusion. A 2010 survey by the Kessler Foundation and the National Organization on Disability found people with disabilities are less likely to socialize with friends and family, to go to restaurants or to attend religious services on a regular basis. Jewish Disability Awareness Month seeks to focus on the barriers that create isolation and remove them. The Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism, a leader of the Jewish Disability Network, puts it this way: "Stumbling blocks come in many forms, from less-than-accessible buildings, Shabbat services, prayer books and web pages to health care that is

harder to access or isn't sufficient for people with disabilities. We are obligated to remove these stumbling blocks."

Jewish Disability Awareness Month is an opportunity not just to highlight problems but to promote solutions. Doing so is not that difficult, nor does it need to be costly. One-third of disabled workers can be accommodated for no cost, and 80 percent of job accommodations cost less than \$500. The average added cost for homes built with accessibility features is between \$100 and \$600, while retrofitting a home can cost several thousand dollars. Enactment of legislation like my Inclusive Home Design Act can help bring and keep people with disabilities in our communities.

Today, the Jewish Disability Network will hold a Congressional briefing on ways to expand access to employment and education and protect the civil rights of the disabled. This month, congregations across the country will undertake activities to engage people with disabilities in their communities: taking disabled seniors to a meal or museum, providing lunch and learning sessions for parents of disabled children, or helping young disabled adults develop leadership skills in a social context. Throughout the year, the Jewish Disability Network works to put its principles of participation and inclusion into practice.

I am proud of those efforts, and I encourage my colleagues to learn more about them. Again, I want to congratulate Rabbi Lynne Landsberg, senior adviser for disability issues at the Religious Action Center; David Feinman, senior legislative associate of the Jewish Federation of North America; and the many others who are leaders in this critical initiative.

FULL-YEAR CONTINUING
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1) making appropriations for the Department of Defense and the other departments and agencies of the Government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2011, and for other purposes:

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Chair, I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to Rep. HOLT, for serving as my designee, and offering Amendment No. 12 during consideration of the Commerce Justice Science title of HR. 1. The amendment seeks to ensure that there is consistent funding included in the CR to implement the NICS Improvement Amendments Act of 2007, which became law in January 2008. In addition, I would like to thank Rep. DINGELL for his unfailing support for NICS and support for this amendment. He has been a long time NRA member, and a long time supporter of responsible gun laws.

The National Instant Criminal Background Check System, or "NICS", is a national database system that keeps track of individuals disqualified under current law from purchasing and possessing firearms. The NICS Improvement Amendments Act, signed into law in January 2008, requires all states to provide NICS

with the relevant records needed to conduct effective background checks.

The NICS Improvement Act provides grants to states and territories to update their records and transmit the records to the NICS database. Since the law was enacted, several states have benefitted from the grant program including Nevada, Oregon, Idaho, Illinois, New Jersey, Texas, Wisconsin and my home state of New York.

This law imposes no new restrictions on gun owners and does not infringe on the 2nd Amendment rights of law-abiding citizens. It simply makes improvements to a program that saves lives, and the bill was supported by the NRA.

In FY11, the law was authorized at \$375 million, and the appropriation level was \$20 million in FY10 and carried into FY11 through the current CR. While I believe that this program is a vital component in our fight against crime and should receive the fully authorized funding, I understand that tough decisions have to be made in this economic environment. That is why I am not seeking the fully authorized funding level, but instead am simply asking that we remain consistent and continue to fund the program at the FY10 level.

We need to give this program a chance to work and provide adequate funding to ensure that NICS has up to date records. Millions of criminal records are currently missing from the databases that make up NICS due to funding restrictions and technology issues at the state level. As a result, people who should not be obtaining guns, do.

This point is underscored by the circumstances surrounding the shootings at Virginia Tech. Under current law, the shooter in the Virginia Tech massacre should not have been able to purchase a firearm, but tragically he did. His information never made it into the national NICS system. He slipped through the cracks and he was able to purchase two handguns, and used them to brutally murder 32 individuals. Sadly, this same scenario happens every day.

The NICS Improvement Act has been effective. Since the NICS Improvement Act was signed into law, the number of state records of prohibited gun purchasers in the system has increased dramatically. According to Dept of Justice data, in Jan 2008 there were about 402,000 disqualifying mental illness records submitted from the states and territories to NICS. In August 2010, that number had more than doubled with 930,000 records submitted. The National Center for State Courts estimate that more than 2 million disqualifying mental illness records should be in the NICS, based on responses from only 42 of 56 U.S. states and territories.

Based on this data we are missing more than half of the records that should be in the NICS system. Clearly there is more work to be done and by continuing to fund this program at FY10 levels, we will continue the effort to keep guns out of the hands of people who should not have them. I urge my colleagues to support this amendment and express that it is the intent of Congress that funding for the NICS Improvement Amendments Act be maintained at the FY10 level.

IN RECOGNITION OF SHREWSBURY
YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES, INC.

HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 16, 2011

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Shrewsbury Youth & Family Services, the only private, non-profit social service agency in Shrewsbury, Massachusetts. Shrewsbury Youth & Family Services has provided programs and services to help Shrewsbury residents reach their full potential and has promoted the best quality of life for over 27 years.

Shrewsbury Youth & Family Services was founded in 1983, and has since grown to serve over 1,500 children and families each year. They strive to provide a wide range of counseling, empowerment services and youth development programs in order to strengthen children, families and individuals in Shrewsbury. Shrewsbury Youth & Family Services is also committed to ensuring that no one, including the many low income families they serve, is turned away based on an inability to pay for services.

On February 26, 2011, Shrewsbury Youth & Family Services will be holding their 7th Annual Fundraising Gala, and I would like to take a moment to recognize the individuals being honored for their service to the community: the Irving J. Donahue Family, recipients of the Harry S. Cutting Jr. Award; and Hannah Boudreau, John McBride, Sara Pederson and Leland Smith, recipients of the 2011 Outstanding Youth of Shrewsbury Awards.

Mr. Speaker, I am sure that the United States House of Representatives joins me in recognizing Shrewsbury Youth & Family Services for their dedicated and invaluable work in my district. I sincerely hope that they are able to continue their generosity and serve the Shrewsbury community far into the future.

TRIBUTE TO VERNON MINTON, DI-
RECTOR OF THE ALABAMA MA-
RINE RESOURCES DIVISION

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 16, 2011

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Mr. Vernon Minton, one of the best friends of Alabama's Gulf Coast recreational and commercial fishermen, who recently passed away at the untimely age of 61. Vern Minton was a major force behind protecting and building Alabama's coastal fisheries and his loss will be sorely felt.

A graduate of Auburn University where he earned a master's degree in biology, Vern Minton began his life's work as a steward of Alabama's coastal fisheries in 1978 at the state Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. For the next 32 years, Mr. Minton would have increasing impact upon the science and the quality of Alabama's marine life. He assisted in the development of techniques for raising many species of fish and authored papers on raising marine animals in captivity.

By December 1990, Vern Minton was appointed director of the Marine Resources Divi-

sion of the Alabama Department of Conservation which manages estuaries and saltwater resources along the state's Gulf Coast. He is credited with both the modernization of his department's enforcement methods as well as the creation of the state's inshore and offshore artificial reef programs.

Although Alabama has the smallest sea-coast of the Gulf states, fish stocks in our state waters are robust, thanks to the leadership of Vern Minton. As a member of the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, he was a consistent voice for the need of updated data to accurately calculate red snapper populations and set snapper fishing limits.

On behalf of the people of Alabama and the Gulf Coast who have benefitted from Vern's efforts to enhance and protect our marine life, I wish to extend my condolences to his wife Sharon; their children, Randal and Kristen; grandchild, T.J., and all their family and friends. You are each in our thoughts and prayers.

FULL-YEAR CONTINUING
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1) making appropriations for the Department of Defense and the other departments and agencies of the Government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2011, and for other purposes:

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, Congressional Republicans often assert that their aggressive budget cutting is in line with the desires of the American people. The cuts Republicans propose for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2011 include eliminating support for homeless veterans, cutting nearly a billion dollars from programs for law enforcement and first responders, and gutting environmental protections that keep our air, water and food safe. As House Republicans continue their march to weaken our communities, kill jobs, and make our most vulnerable citizens bear the burden for tax cuts for the wealthiest citizens, there is another target for cutting—the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, CPB.

In this bill, House Appropriations Chairman HAROLD ROGERS (R-KY) is working to eradicate all funding for CPB and eliminate federal support for public media. This attack on unbiased reporting, cultural programming, and educational television and radio would have dire consequences in my home State for Minnesota Public Radio and Twin Cities Public Television, not to mention the Minnesota taxpayers who rely on public broadcasting every day.

CPB's funding is directed to local public broadcasting stations, which provide commercial-free, high-quality programming to millions of Americans every day. Public broadcasting outlets target underserved audiences, children, minorities, and low-income Americans with non-biased news and cultural programming.

Public broadcasting is one of the most valuable community assets, and it is a prime example of the numerous benefits that come

from investment from the federal government. Every month, over half of all Americans utilize public broadcasting—170 million people—through 368 public television stations, 943 radio stations, and hundreds of online services. Federal funding for CPB costs \$1.35 per American ever year, while the rest of the funding comes from private donations. Public broadcasting is a vital educational resource for teachers, parents, and children.

In addition to providing a valuable community good, a majority of Americans value public media and advocate that the federal government continue its support. Last year, Americans rated public broadcasting as an "excellent" use of taxpayer dollars, coming in second to defense spending. Eighty percent of those who were surveyed believe that funding for public broadcasting is money "well spent."

A vote in support of CPB funding is a vote for the American people. Public broadcasting is what our citizens want, and Chairman ROGERS and the rest of the Republicans should listen.

Members from the Fourth District have contacted me to speak out in support of public broadcasting and against this egregious attack.

A St. Paul student, age 14, just called me today to tell me that she is the voice of the future and very supportive of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

A resident from St. Paul told me, "Thank you for standing up for public broadcasting. You are right when you say the Tea Party would like nothing better than to eliminate the one place where we go to find balanced reporting. I am a sustaining member of both public television and radio and find it to be a source of hope in this media-fallow country."

A college student in St. Paul wrote me to say, "I am deeply concerned about proposed legislation in the House that would eliminate federal funding for PBS and NPR. It is vital to our country and our public discourse that we have some forms of independent journalism that are unbiased and free from corporate interests. Not only does public media provide a trusted news and entertainment source for adults around the Nation, but the educational children's programming helps get youngsters from all backgrounds off to a good start. I grew up watching Sesame Street, Mr. Rogers, and Nova on what was then Channel 2 (now TPT). Now, as a college student at the University of Minnesota—Morris, I still depend on PBS and NPR every day. I fear that cuts to federal funding for public media will have an especially adverse effect on smaller and rural stations, like Pioneer Public TV, which are more dependent on federal money. It pains me to imagine a time when public media isn't available to future generations of Americans as a source of nonpartisan information available to all."

Another St. Paul resident said, "I am a current supporter of the MN TPT, and would hate to see this wonderful service eliminated because someone in Congress thinks it is unnecessary. Many people can't afford cable or satellite television—I can only afford the lowest basic service—and the programming on TPT is educational, entertaining and innovative. Please fight to keep the funding! Thank you!"

As you can see, residents of the 4th District of Minnesota are strong supporters of this essential service. Federal support for CPB keeps

our citizens informed, educates our children, and makes our communities stronger. I will fight against these “dumb-cuts” because Minnesota Public Radio and Twin Cities Public Television are critical community assets that deserve federal support.

Given Republicans’ frantic attempts to slash federal spending in even the most detrimental ways, eliminating CPB is a very real possibility. In my position on the House Appropriations Committee, I will do everything in my power to prevent public broadcasting stations nationwide from being forced to shut their doors, but I cannot do it alone. I urge my colleagues to protect this valuable public good and vote against H.R. 1.

HONORING MINNIE CARTER

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 16, 2011

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Minnie Carter. Ms. Carter grew up in Tunica County, Mississippi and is extremely proud to continue her work in her community. She is a graduate of Rosa Fort High School and Jackson State University. She is a member of the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority.

In 1987, Minnie was hired by the Tunica County Department of Human Services in Tunica, Mississippi. Her responsibilities included determining the initial and continuing eligibility of applicants and recipients for welfare assistance and provide other services related to the programs of the county offices.

When not busy at work Minnie has volunteered at community pride fairs, community health fairs, schools and churches. She has served several years as a member of various community and civic groups such as the Tunica County United Voters League, Tunica County PUSH, Concerned Citizens of Tunica, Leaders of Tomorrow, and African-Americans for A Better Tunica County and Tunica County NAACP. In her spare time she enjoys traveling, reading, walking and working out.

Minnie has been recognized and honored for her work. She has received numerous awards and accolades. She has been a recipient of the Community Service Award, Woman of the Year Award, and the Distinguished Citizen of the Year Award.

Minnie has over 24 years experience in community organizing, program implementation and nonprofit management. She is presently the Executive Director of Tunica County Housing Project, Inc. Since its beginning Tunica County Housing Project, Inc. (TCHP) has had as its goal, “to provide decent affordable housing for families with low incomes living in Tunica County, Mississippi.” For 19 years, Tunica County Housing Project, Inc. has been a leader in promoting affordable housing in Tunica County. “Minnie Carter believes that homeownership contributes to the Tunica County economy, builds strong communities and is a powerful tool for building economic stability and self-esteem for families.” Tunica County Housing Project, Inc. is especially committed to improving the quality of life for the people of Tunica County.

One of TCHP greatest accomplishments has been the creation of a subdivision, Nellie

Johnson Village in Tunica County. This subdivision consists of sixty-one affordable houses owned by families with low and very low incomes.

In 2004 TCHP assumed the Tunica County Housing Rehabilitation Program. This program is designed to bring a person’s house up to compliance with the Standard Housing Code published by International Residential Code as adopted by Tunica County and all other relevant codes adopted by the local governing bodies. TCHP has repaired and rehabilitated 146 homes for families with low incomes. It has provided replacement mobile homes for 23 families whose homes were beyond repair.

In 2007 TCHP received a Housing Preservation Grant in the amount of \$117,921.71. This program is designed to assist homeowners with low and very low incomes with the repair and rehabilitation of their homes to bring their dwellings up to development standards. The HPG funds were used to complement the funds committed by Tunica County. TCHP has repaired and rehabilitated an additional 24 homes for families with low and very low incomes utilizing these funds.

In 2008 TCHP assumed the Tunica County Mortgage Assistance Program (TMAP) which provides up to \$25,000 to first time homebuyers purchasing a home in Tunica County. The grant may be used for down payment and/or closing costs.

Since 2010 Minnie has been a mentor for the Tunica County Mentoring Program. She plans to help mentees make positive connections between the world of work, school and the community. She believes this will help mentees develop personal skills and career awareness in order to make better life-long decisions.

A LIFE OF SERVICE: SERGEANT
MAJOR JAMES BOWLING

HON. JOSEPH J. HECK

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 16, 2011

Mr. HECK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and honor the life of Sergeant Major James Franklin Bowling, Jr., United States Marine Corps (Retired). Sergeant Major Bowling was born the son of a marine on July 21, 1952, in Quantico, Virginia. He served his nation as a marine for over 30 years, retiring in 2001, but remaining active in his local community.

Sergeant Major James Franklin Bowling joined the United States Marines Corps in 1970 where he served for 31 years. He completed tours in Okinawa, Saudi Arabia, Desert Storm and Desert Shield. Jim’s true passion in the Marine Corps was serving as a Drill Instructor. He served as a Drill Instructor for two tours at Quantico for Officers Candidacy School and three tours at Parris Island. At Parris Island he met a then-Sergeant in the Marine Corps who would become his wife; Gunnery Sergeant Jacqueline Bowling (née Milon), USMC (Retired).

Sergeant Major Bowling was truly a dedicated marine. His drive to serve leaves a positive impression on his family, his community, and his country. His exceptional tour of service saw the end of the Vietnam War, the end of the Cold War and the beginning of the Global War on Terror.

After retiring from the Marine Corps almost 10 years ago, the Bowlings moved to Henderson, Nevada. Sergeant Major Bowling became active with veterans in Henderson. He joined the Black Mountain Detachment of the Marine Corps League and served as its Detachment Commandant from 2007 to 2009. He served as an officer with the Devil Dogs, an honorary degree within the Marine Corps League. The Sergeant Major also dedicated part of his life to the Devil Pups Youth Leadership Program of America, serving as a sponsor and Volunteer PT Instructor with them. At the Department of Nevada level of the Marine Corps League, he served as Junior Vice Commandant from 2008 to 2009, and was serving as Detachment Junior Past Commandant and Detachment Chaplain when he passed away.

Sergeant Major Bowling’s career is also distinguished by the many decorations and awards he received during his service: Meritorious Service Medal (2nd Award); Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal; Navy Unit Commendation; Meritorious Unit Commendation; Good Conduct Medal (9th Award); National Defense Service Medal (2nd Award); Southwest Asia Service Medal (2nd Award); Sea Service Deployment Ribbon; Overseas Service Ribbon; Drill Instructor Ribbon (4th Award); Kuwait Liberation Medal (Saudi Arabia); Kuwait Liberation Medal (Kuwait); Rifle Expert Badge (3rd Award); and the Pistol Sharpshooter Badge.

Sergeant Major Bowling is survived by his wife of 22 years, Gunnery Sergeant Jacqueline Bowling (née Milon), USMC (Retired). He also leaves behind his son, Jonathan; his mother, Hattie Trombley; two sisters, Becky Bird and Lode Silcox; and two brothers, David Bowling and Stephen Bowling.

Sergeant Major Bowling will be remembered for his sacrifice and willing service, and for the extraordinary qualities he displayed as a husband, father, and friend. His personal warmth, sense of humor, and unflinching optimism brightened the lives of everyone around him. We will long remember the great impact he made on us all—he will be truly missed.

FULL-YEAR CONTINUING
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1) making appropriations for the Department of Defense and the other departments and agencies of the Government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2011, and for other purposes:

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to Sections 1628 through 1634, and 1648 of the bill, which cuts funding to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

I oppose these provisions because they are unwise, irresponsible, and undermine our nation’s ability to prepare, respond, or mitigate natural and man-made disasters and terrorist attacks. In short, I oppose the bill because it puts the security of our homeland at risk.

This bill that the Republicans are bringing to the floor today is reckless not only to our

economy and American workers, but also to our national security.

The terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001 revealed the catastrophic consequences of the inability of first responders, fire, police, and rescue personnel to communicate with each other via radio during emergencies.

Communication glitches also occurred during the response to Hurricane Katrina. Yet the Republicans want to terminate grants for interoperable emergency communications. Have we not learned anything from the communications failure during 9/11?

These draconian cuts will put our first responders at risk and slow down the response to terrorist attacks and natural disasters. I cannot in good conscience accept these cuts to interoperable emergency communications.

The irresponsible Republican plan also put our nation's fire fighting ability at risk. I am from California and we know about fires. The bill eliminates the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response Grant program, (SAFER), which is why it is strongly opposed by the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAAF).

The IAAF estimates that these cuts will result in the loss of 5,200 jobs on top of the 5,000 fire fighter jobs lost since 2008. These cuts will put our communities at risk.

The City of Compton in my district is home to an Emergency Operations Center operated by FEMA. My district is also home to several major oil refineries, gas treatment facilities, and petro chemical facilities. California's 37th Congressional District is also home to the Port City of Long Beach and is located on the outskirts of Los Angeles. A centralized emergency response center is vital to my district and the surrounding communities.

This Republican job-destroying continuing resolution seeks to eliminate these Emergency Operations Centers. Not only will the elimination of these centers result in the loss of jobs, they will put my constituents and other Americans across the country at risk. This Emergency Operations Centers are needed to coordinate the necessary resources during an emergency.

I cannot support depriving first responders, firefighters, and police officers of the tools needed to respond to public emergencies, natural or man-made. Why would we want to risk a repeat of the disaster we witnessed in the response to Hurricane Katrina? How are we better off by depriving our first responders the ability to communicate with each other during an emergency? It defies common sense.

Terrorists that are trying to attack our country are modifying their techniques to try to find our nation's vulnerabilities. Unfortunately, the Republican's bill reduces Federal, State, and tribal capabilities to secure our nation against terrorist and other catastrophic threats. This bill also diminishes our ability to protect our borders and significantly scales back our ability to detect chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear threats.

Mr. Chairman, H.R. 1 continues the Republican avoidance of bringing job creation bills to the floor. Since the Republican's have been in control of the House, they have not brought one job creating bill to the floor. Not one. Worse, the bill before us today will actually kill jobs. Thousands of Americans will lose jobs under this Republican bill. Instead of our keeping our economy moving forward as was the case during the Clinton Administration and

during the 111th Congress, this bill will reverse the economic progress we have seen for the last several months.

I urge my colleagues to vote against H.R. 1. Let's work together to ensure our first responders have the tools and resources needed to respond to natural and man-made disasters and terrorist attacks.

HONORING RIA JUDGE

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 16, 2011

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, Mrs. Ria Judge was born on January 23, 1968 in Vicksburg to Ms. Lucinda Williams and reared by her grandparents Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Williams.

Mrs. Judge graduated from Vicksburg High in 1986 and furthered her education by obtaining a Bachelor in Elementary Education from the University of Southern Mississippi, followed by a double Masters in Administration and Education from Alcorn State University.

Mrs. Judge has been teaching in the Vicksburg-Warren Public School system for the last 17 years and presently serves as Assistant Principal at Beechwood Elementary School.

Children and the elderly have always been Mrs. Judge's passion. She has been the assistant troop leader for Girl Scout Troop #5119 since 2005, dedicated Sunday School teacher, served on Mountain of Faith Restoration Shelter for Homeless Women and Children Board, volunteers at local nursing homes and has worked in many local campaign elections because of the concern she has for her community.

Mrs. Judge is married to Terry Judge and they have two children, Tavarius and Isla.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE FLOYD BUCKNER

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 16, 2011

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a remarkable public servant who has served the people of South Carolina's lowcountry for more than four decades. Mr. Floyd Buckner has been a member of Colleton County Council for 28 years, and was an educator in Colleton and Dorchester County School Districts for 39 years. He has earned the praise and respect of his fellow citizens and is deserving of this recognition.

Floyd Buckner graduated from Colleton County's Ruffin High School in 1960. He went on to earn a bachelor's degree from Benedict College in 1964, and a master's degree in Education from South Carolina State University in 1970.

He began his teaching career in the mid-1960s in Dorchester County schools and rose to the position of principal of Jenkins Hill Middle School in Harleyville in 1972. The following year, his home county hired Mr. Buckner to serve as Principal of Forest Hills Elementary School in Walterboro. In 1975, Mr. Buckner became the director for the Title I Program in

the Colleton County School District, a position he held until his retirement in 2002. In this capacity, he instituted a classroom on wheels designed to serve the educational needs of pre-school children, and received recognition from the U.S. Department of Education for the program's effectiveness. His commitment to the Colleton County School District was rewarded with the dedication of the Floyd Buckner Title I Parent Center in Walterboro in 1995.

Mr. Buckner also contributed to the education of young people statewide. Governor Dick Riley appointed him as a member of a state committee tasked with drafting legislation for the Education Improvement Act. He also served as President of the South Carolina State Association of Elementary Secondary Education Act Board in 1980-1981.

In addition to serving our youth in the schools, Mr. Buckner felt called to run for elective office. In 1982, he ran for a seat on Colleton County Council, and the race earned him the distinction of being the first African American to win a run-off election in that county. Mr. Buckner has served on Colleton County Council since his swearing-in on January 1, 1983.

During his service on County Council he has been committed to delivering the best service to the people of Colleton County with limited resources. He is known for ensuring equitable treatment in areas such as education, access, and quality of life. He is an expert on policy, protocol and procedures, having spent a number of years serving as the County Council Chairman. He also helped lead the restoration of the historic Old Jail into the building that houses the current County Council Chambers. His tremendous service has been recognized by Colleton County with the naming of the building at North Jefferies Boulevard in Walterboro in his honor.

Mr. Buckner has also been a committed member of the community. He has served on a number of boards including the Lowcountry Council of Governments, the Lowcountry Community Action Agency, and the South Carolina Migrant Workers Board. He is currently a member of the Walterboro-Colleton County Regional Airport Board and the Hollings Cancer Center Disparities Advisory Board at the Medical University of South Carolina. Mr. Buckner is the first president of the Arabian Temple #139, the Walterboro Shrine Club. With his appointment to the First Federal Savings and Loan Board, he became the first African American in Colleton County to serve on a bank board. He is also the first African American to own and publish a newspaper in Colleton County.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in commending Floyd Buckner for his outstanding lifetime of public service. He is a trailblazer and a role model for so many in South Carolina's lowcountry, and I am proud to call him a friend.

FULL-YEAR CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. LINDA T. SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under

consideration the bill (H.R. 1) making appropriations for the Department of Defense and the other departments and agencies of the Government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2011, and for other purposes:

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Mr. Chair, I rise today in strong opposition to H.R. 1, which takes America a step backward, jeopardizes our fragile economic recovery, and does absolutely nothing to create jobs.

This funding plan leaves American working families behind.

You'll hear promises of "fiscal discipline" and "down payment on the debt" from my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, but these promises are empty. This bill does little more than strike at the heart of critical programs that invest in our communities, our workers, and our children.

Moreover, by irresponsibly taking a slash and burn approach to budget cutting, this bill fails to present a thoughtful blueprint that we can use to slowly but surely chip away at the budget deficit while still allowing us to out-educate, out-innovate, and out-build our foreign competitors.

We often compare building the federal budget to balancing a family budget. There are certainly some relevant similarities. But I know one thing, if I found my family's budget in as serious trouble as the federal budget, I would not simply take a machete to my various expenditures.

I would carefully study them, and continue most or all of my productive and useful investments while eliminating unnecessary items and carefully paring back in other areas until I knew enough about how the cuts would affect my future income.

Would a family with money troubles immediately pull their children out of college? I don't think so. Then why does this proposal reduce Pell grants that make college more affordable and kick 200,000 children out of Head Start?

Why does it reduce investments in science research, job-creating high-speed rail, and the popular COPS program to assist local police?

Why does it cut worker training when unemployed Americans—especially those in places like Lynwood and South Gate in my district—need new skills now more than ever?

It is shameful that the House Republican Majority proposes to eliminate a program for homeless veterans, those who have selflessly served our nation.

Certainly, to get the federal budget on the path toward balance, we must find cuts we can all agree on. Tough decisions will have to be made. But these are not those cuts. Just as our economy is starting to recover is no time to leave our children, our veterans, or our workers behind.

I urge my colleagues to oppose this funding bill and reject its priorities. We must do better for American families.

HONORING ROBERT A. DENNIS

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 16, 2011

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Robert A. Dennis, Assistant Director for Macroeconomic Analysis of the Congressional Budget Office, upon his retirement after

32 years of outstanding service to CBO and the Congress. Bob has been instrumental in providing the Congress with analyses of macroeconomic issues throughout his exceptional career at CBO. His extraordinary analytical skills and leadership ability were recognized early in his CBO career. While serving in his first position as a Principal Analyst in the Macroeconomic Analysis Division during the early 1980s, Mr. Dennis received a CBO Director's Award in recognition of outstanding performance. He was later promoted to the position of Deputy Assistant Director of the Macroeconomic Analysis Division in 1988 and to the position of Assistant Director of the Division in 1992, the position he has held until his retirement at the end of February, 2011.

Bob's versatility and skill as an economist are evident in the Division's high-quality and prescient work on an extraordinarily diverse range of issues. Those issues included, for example, the macroeconomic effects of the savings and loan crisis, possible terrorist disruptions of U.S. ports, flu epidemics, trade agreements, financial crises, housing policies, economic stimulus policies, changes in tax policy, and climate policy, as well as the determinants of long-term economic growth. Bob has been central to the development of the procedures the Macroeconomic Analysis Division has used to prepare the economic outlook for the budget baseline. He even wrote the computer software that the Division used for many years to analyze current economic developments and prepare charts for CBO publications.

Bob has performed his various duties within the Congressional Budget Office with objectivity, non-partisanship, and a high level of professionalism. I commend him for his many years of dedicated, faithful, and exemplary service to the United States and the Congress. This nation is fortunate enough indeed to have outstanding and dedicated public servants like Bob Dennis at CBO. Bob's presence will be missed but his legacy of commitment and superlative service will carry on.

TRIBUTE TO CPL. JOSEPH C.
WHITEHEAD

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 16, 2011

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, there is no greater sacrifice one can make for his country than to lay down his life in defense of our freedom. It is with a heavy heart that I inform this House that one of our own from South Alabama, Cpl. Joseph C. Whitehead, recently lost his life in the service of America.

Cpl. Whitehead, a native of Axis, Alabama, was a 2007 graduate of Satsuma High School where he was a talented and versatile player. Upon graduation, he joined the United States Marine Corps, where he was assigned to the 2nd Combat Engineer Battalion, 2nd Marine Division II Marine Expeditionary Force based in Camp Lejeune, North Carolina.

Last month, Cpl. Whitehead was conducting combat operations with his fellow Marines in Afghanistan's Helmand province when he encountered an improvised explosive device. According to reports, Cpl. Whitehead was performing a sweep when the IED took his life.

Cpl. Joe Whitehead was not only the embodiment of the Marine, tough and devoted to

his comrades and his country, he was known to his family and friends as "always smiling and loved everyone and everyone loved him."

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of this House, on behalf of a grateful nation and on behalf of the people of Alabama, I wish to extend heartfelt condolences and support to the family of Cpl. Joe Whitehead including his mother, Melanie Miller; fathers Mark Goodhue and Keith Miller; sister, Jessica Whitehead; brothers Destin Goodhue and Jeffrey Miller; grandparents Roy and Wanda Patrick, Willie Whitehead and Joan Sasser, Jackie Norwood, Devon and Lucille Miller; great grandparents Don and Barbara Johnson; and, his entire family and friends. You are all in our thoughts and prayers.

HONORING MARION LEROY HAYES,
EDUCATOR

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 16, 2011

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Marion Leroy Hayes, Mississippi's Second Black Superintendent of Education and Jefferson County's First Black Superintendent of Education. He was married to the late Mrs. Louise B. Hayes who was a Jefferson County Elementary Retired School Teacher during 1976-1977.

Mr. Marion Leroy Hayes is the son of Mrs. Irene Hayes and the late L.J. Hayes, born and reared in Jefferson County, Mississippi where he attended public schools in Jefferson, Claiborne and Warren counties. He received his Bachelor of Science (B.S.) Degree from Alcorn State University in Lorman, Mississippi; Master's Degree from Southern University Baton Rouge, Louisiana. He furthered his studies at Mississippi College in Clinton, Mississippi, University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, Atlanta University in Atlanta, Georgia and The University of Mississippi.

Mr. Marion Leroy Hayes served in the United States Air Force and Army for seven and one-half years during the Korean Conflict where he received an honorable discharge. During that time he served overseas in Guam, North Africa and Germany.

Mr. Marion Leroy Hayes believes in the Lord and is a member of the East Mount Olive M.B. Church. He is also a member of the Prince Hall Masons, Board of Trustees of Copiah-Lincoln Junior College; Chairman of the American Red Cross Fund Raising Advisory Committee; Boy Scouts of America; Jefferson County Board of Directors; Chamber of Commerce; Advisory Committee, National Youth Sports Program, Alcorn State University, State Advisory Committee of Teacher Certification; Director of Title III ESEA; American Association of Administrators, Mississippi Association of Schools Superintendents; and Mississippi Association of School Administrators.

Mr. Marion Leroy Hayes is listed in Who's Who Biographical Records—School District Officials 1976, 1st Edition; Who's Who in Educational Administration, 1976-1977; and Who's Who Among Black Americans, 1977-1978.

Mr. Marion Leroy Hayes has been given many awards in his lifetime. He has received such notable awards as Star Teacher in 1970,

1971, 1972, Presidential Citation—National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education in 1984, Service to the Community Directory of Distinguished Americans in 1981, District Award of Merit—Natchez Trace District for the Boy Scouts of America in 1987, For Service to Scouting as Vice Chairman of Natchez Trace District in 1976 and Certificate of Appreciation—Co-Lin Junior College Board of Trustees in 1987.

RECOGNIZING MRS. MILLIE KINDIG AS THE 2011 WASHINGTON COUNTY ROOKIE TEACHER OF THE YEAR

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 16, 2011

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mrs. Millie Kindig as the 2011 Washington County Rookie Teacher of the Year.

A graduate of Florida State University, Millie Kindig received her degree in 2002 and moved with her husband to Alachua County, Florida where she began her teaching career. Four years ago, Mrs. Kindig and her family moved back to Northwest Florida, and she began teaching at Chipley High School in Washington County.

Our many great teachers inspire their students to pursue excellence and to achieve greatness. During her short time in Washington County, Mrs. Kindig has proven to be an inspiring instructor. She helps mold the leaders of our future by providing a mathematical education that will give them the tools needed to succeed. She currently teaches Algebra, Geometry and Analysis of Functions. Her expertise is invaluable to her students.

Mrs. Kindig's success in the classroom shows that with hard-work and commitment, young educators can be just as successful as their more senior colleagues. Her recognition as the Washington County Rookie Teacher of the Year is a reflection of her undeniable excellence in the classroom. She is among the great teachers in Northwest Florida, and Washington County is honored to have her as one of their own.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to recognize Millie Kindig for her accomplishments and her continuing commitment to excellence at Chipley High School. My wife Vicki joins me in congratulating Mrs. Kindig, and we wish her all the best.

HONORING STEWARD ROSENGRANT

HON. TOM MARINO

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 16, 2011

Mr. MARINO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of my constituent, Mr. Steward Rosengrant, on the occasion of his 80th birthday. Steward was born on February 11, 1931 on a farm in Elmhurst, Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania.

Steward, one of eight children, spent all of his childhood on the family farm. He grad-

uated in 1949 from the Lake Vocational High School. Upon his graduation, Steward was hired full-time as a milk tester in Bradford County. He attended Pennsylvania State University classes focusing on milk testing and feed management. Steward is also a veteran, having served our country for two years in the United States Army.

In 1957, Steward became a Dairy Herd Improvement Association tester and he served as President of the Association for two terms and retired from the Association after 44 years of dedicated service.

Steward Rosengrant is deeply committed to his community in Bradford County. He held the position of Bradford County Manager for 28 years. He served as Treasurer of the Bradford County Dairy Promotion Board for 32 years. And he was actively involved in the Troy Fair where he worked at the promotion booth, dipped ice cream, made milk shakes, and retrieved supplies for the booths. Steward served as the President of the Wysox Volunteer Fire Company for 10 years in addition to serving on several committees. He has also been a member of the Wysox Ambulance Association for 15 years and currently serves as the Director. Steward has been a member of the Towanda Methodist Church for 40 years and served on many committees.

Steward married his wife, Barbara, on November 11, 1965. The couple has lived in their home in Bradford County since 1965 where they raised 4 children and now have 11 grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise today to honor Steward Rosengrant on his 80th birthday and ask my colleagues to join me in praising his commitment to his family, his community, and our nation.

EDWARD A. RAPS TRIBUTE

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 16, 2011

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Edward Raps, of Del Norte, Colorado. Undersheriff Raps was recently appointed Rio Grande undersheriff.

Undersheriff Raps served in the U.S. Army for four years, where he served in the Airborne as a military traffic accident investigator, and as a traffic division leader. His military experience provided an ideal backdrop for his transition to civilian law enforcement.

Undersheriff Raps' expansive career in law enforcement includes work in Missouri, El Paso County, Kit Carson County, and the Colorado Corrections Association. He served as Kit Carson County Sheriff for a number of years as well. Attending numerous classes, certificate programs and schools over the past few decades, Edward's law enforcement pedigree is well-rounded and extensive.

He has a passion for agriculture and the outdoors. Aside from having an extensive knowledge and background in farming and agriculture, Edward is a supporter of wildlife habitat preservation, and also teaches youth courses in hunter safety.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize Undersheriff Raps for his service to the law enforcement field. Any organization is lucky to have him, and I would like to thank him for

decades of service in both the civilian and military law enforcement fields.

HONORING OSCAR PRICE, JR.

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 16, 2011

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Oscar Price Jr. Mr. Price who was born in Robinsonville, MS on July 24, 1953 to the late Oscar, Sr. and Dora. Encouraged by his parents, Oscar Jr., learned the value of education at an early age. Oscar attended school at Christian Spring Church where he was taught by the late Edna Pullam Carpenter. Soon after, Oscar attended school at Shallow Baptist Church and later transferred to Rosa Fort Elementary during the early 60s. Price furthered his education, attended grade school, middle school, and completed his coursework in 1972. He worked on farms and returned to school to graduate from Rosa Fort High School, Class of 73. Oscar completed various technical courses and educational training to advance in a competitive job market.

Oscar, at an early age, confessed Christ at Good Hope #1 Baptist Church under the leadership of Reverend R. Douglas. Price participated in various church activities that taught good morals, sound values, and respect for others. Price earned the role of becoming a junior deacon at his church. He served his church family and community through volunteering and participating in events. Later, Price became a Deacon at Good Hope where he continues to worship. In addition, to this spiritualistic accomplishment, Price has now served as the Chairman of the Deacon Board for over twenty years.

Oscar's employment career began on local farms. Later, he became a student bus driver. Leaving high school in December 1972, Oscar was employed as a laborer at Amax Aluminum in Hernando, MS. Price was promoted to the maintenance department. Shortly after that promotion, Price's hard work paid off. He was promoted to one of the few tool and die repairmen. Price later ended his employment journey at Amax and began employment at Texas Gas Transmission in 1978. Oscar continued his work at Texas Gas Transmission as a maintenance man and plant operator. Price recently retired after 32 years of employment at Texas Gas Transmission.

Oscar married Mary Ann Camper on May 20, 1975. He is the proud father of four children: Markuette, Oscar III, Gureka, Toynga. Price is also the proud grandfather of Oscar IV and Taunta Price.

From 1981 to 1983 Oscar served as the Parent Teacher Association (PTA) President for Tunica County School District. Later, he was elected to the Tunica County School Board where he served as Secretary for many years, and later became President of the School Board. Oscar served a total of eighteen years on the School Board of Tunica County. One of his most prize honors is when he worked with families, his community, and Tunica County's faculty, staff, and administrators to remove their students from corrective action. Price received numerous awards for being a proactive band parent, athletic booster, and community volunteer and representative. He also worked with community leaders

and other board members to build two of Tunica's new schools: Robinsonville Elementary and Tunica Middle School.

In addition to his service, Price joined the NAACP and was elected as the President of the Robinsonville Chapter. Also, Price served as Jr. Warden at Lake Cormorant Masonic Lodge.

FULL-YEAR CONTINUING
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1) making appropriations for the Department of Defense and the other departments and agencies of the Government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2011, and for other purposes:

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Chairman, upon further examination of the Weiner amendment, I find myself unable to support the measure. I am committed to full funding of the COPS program, but as I mentioned last night, I cannot countenance the dramatic cut to NASA. Without a clear enough pathway to restore the NASA funds that would be used in the offset, I will focus instead on defeating the broader attack on COPS in the continuing resolution itself.

HONORING MS. JACKIE SHORTER

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 16, 2011

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Jackie Shorter born July 25, 1960 to Mr. and Mrs. Willie and Robbie Shorter in Vicksburg, Mississippi. She graduated from Warren Central High School in 1978 and furthered her education by receiving a Bachelor's Degree and a Master's Degree in Elementary Education from Alcorn State University.

Ms. Shorter has been in education for 23 years and presently teaches at South Park Elementary School. She has dedicated all of her life to helping others. She has been the Girl Scout Troop Leader of Troop # 5119 for 12 years and serves as an active member of the Vicksburg Alcorn State Alumni Chapter for 18 years. She is also an active member of her church, Locust Grove M.B. Church, Vicksburg Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Negro Business and Professional Women Club, member of Eastern Star, Lady of Knight, Daughters of Sphinx, Heroines of Jericho, Warren County Sunday School Institute and a member of the NAACP.

While most of her passion is volunteering at nursing homes and the summer program at the local library, Ms. Jackie Shorter still finds time to share her love throughout the community helping others.

KOHLER McINNIS TRIBUTE

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 16, 2011

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Kohler McInnis of Durango, Colorado, for his courage in the face of a direct threat of his life. His recent actions protected the lives of his fellow classmates, teachers, and St. Columba Catholic School staff. Kohler's actions were celebrated with the Citizen Commendation Award, presented by Durango Police Chief David J. Felice.

Last April, Kohler was a seventh-grader at St. Columba Catholic School, when a fellow student told Kohler that he was planning on using a gun he had brought to school to harm one of the teachers. Despite a death threat from the student if Kohler told anyone, Kohler put aside his own well-being for the sake of others and informed a staff member of his classmate's intention. After a quick search of the student's belongings, a .22 caliber pistol was found.

Kohler's actions show his strong inclination to do the right thing regardless of consequence or outcome. Kohler not only protected the lives of those around him, but gave a misguided child a second chance at a successful life.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Kohler McInnis for his exceptional conduct in the face of personal harm. I thank him for his ability to stand strong for what he believes right.

HONORING REVEREND PAUL E.
LUCKETT

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 16, 2011

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Reverend Paul E. Luckett. Reverend Luckett proudly serves as Elder in the Mississippi Conference of the United Methodist Church. Currently, he serves as pastor of Saint Paul United Methodist Church and Blessed Trinity United Methodist Church. His divinely anointed duties encompass serving as Chairperson of the West Jackson Vicksburg District Board of Ordained Ministry, member of the Conference Board of Ordained Ministry, member of the Bishop and Superintendent Advisory Committee, and supporting Elder of the Ethnic Ministry Church Committee.

Reverend Luckett received his formal education from Jackson State University, where he obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology. He later obtained his Master's of Divinity degree in Pastoral Care and Christian Education from the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta, Georgia. With a sound educational background and a spirit rich with love for helping others, Reverend Luckett has devoted his life to uplifting those less fortunate in his community. He is a strong advocate and member of the Clinton Branch of Habitat for Humanity, works adamantly with Campus Ministry (organization designed to assist students with financial aid and Christian

guidance), and helps to enrich the lives of the elderly and underprivileged through his volunteer work at the Clinton Christian Community Cooperation.

FULL-YEAR CONTINUING
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1) making appropriations for the Department of Defense and the other departments and agencies of the Government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2011, and for other purposes:

Mr. REYES. Mr. Chair, I rise in strong support for the amendment to H.R. 1 to restore funding for the Pell Grant and stand in firm opposition to the underlying bill.

The Pell Grant is extremely vital to help economically disadvantaged students pay for higher education. In fact, over 55,000 students in my congressional district use the Pell Grant to pay for their higher education costs.

I am highly disappointed that after years of hard work by previous Congresses to increase the maximum Pell Grant award to \$5,500, the Republican Continuing Resolution today would cut Pell Grant resources by \$5.6 billion reducing the maximum Pell Grant award by \$845. Indeed, this cut would translate into a loss of tens of millions of dollars in financial aid for students in my congressional district alone.

As Congress looks to enact the full year Continuing Resolution for fiscal year 2011, H.R. 1, I urge my colleagues to oppose amendments that seek to cut critical education funding and severely impact the future of our students, communities, and nation. While cutting the deficit is important, doing so at the expense of special education grants for local school districts, Head Start for children, and Pell Grants to underserved college students, among other educational initiatives, is the wrong approach and unacceptable.

As it stands, H.R. 1 would not only make it more difficult for college students to afford a higher education, but it also would make it difficult for K-12 schools to provide beneficial services like after school tutoring, or much needed literacy, math and science supplemental education. In fact, as written, H.R. 1 will cut:

Head Start by over \$1 billion, leaving an estimated 127,000 poor children without access to early childhood education, health, and social services and the potential loss of over 14,000 jobs;

ESEA Title IA funding by \$693 million, eliminating critical resources that help schools assist educationally underserved children in high-poverty schools and by some estimates would reduce or eliminate services for 957,000 high-risk children and result in the loss of over 9,000 education jobs;

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, IDEA, state grants by \$557 million, leaving already struggling states and school districts with fewer resources to meet the needs of over 324,000 students with disabilities and resulting in the loss of another 7,000 education jobs;

Job Corps by \$300 million and eliminate any advance funding appropriated in FY 2010 for use in FY 2011, resulting in a \$900 million cut to the program. These cuts will force the closure of 75 out of 124 Job Corps centers, the loss of over 21,000 jobs, and leave 36,000 at-risk-youth without the mentoring and educational services of Job Corps, and;

Hispanic Serving Institutions by \$100 million, leaving many outstanding universities without the needed funds to educate and prepare the fastest growing demographic group in the country.

Every child deserves a quality education. H.R. 1 threatens America's progress and vision to remain competitive in the global arena. While the deficit should be a top priority, I urge my colleagues to ensure that this bill provides schools and universities the necessary resources to prepare our students for the future.

FULL-YEAR CONTINUING
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1) making appropriations for the Department of Defense and the other departments and agencies of the Government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2011, and for other purposes:

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Chair, I rise to speak against language in the underlying bill that would prevent HUD from spending money on a Sustainable Communities Initiative. The language in the bill would end a very successful HUD program that has helped communities plan for growth and halt a successful partnership between HUD, DOT, and EPA that promotes redevelopment and new transportation infrastructure. Secretaries Donovan, LaHood, and Administrator Jackson and their agencies have spent the last year cutting red tape and coordinating investments to meet multiple economic, environmental, and community objectives. Northern Virginia is already benefitting from these investments, by winning a TIGER grant to expand bus service dramatically, including in the congested I-95 and Route 7 corridors. The Sustainable Communities Initiative actually represents a conservative principle, because it emulates long-standing efforts by developers and local governments around the country. In Northern Virginia, Fairfax and Arlington counties have led the way with Transit Oriented Development years before the Federal Government figured it out. In Northern Virginia, developers led the way with visionary replanning proposals for Tysons Corner Center Mall, Merrifield Town Center, and numerous other Transit-Oriented Development proposals. These grants go to communities all around the country, large and small, urban and rural. The interest in these has been extraordinary. In 2010, when HUD announced their challenge grants, to be awarded jointly with DOT, a total of 630 communities requested \$1.2 billion in funding. HUD was able to award 61 grants worth \$69 million. HUD's sustainable communities re-

gional planning grants were as popular: 225 regions applied for \$450 million, and HUD was able to award 45 regions a total of \$98 million. It is high time the Federal Government emulated our local efforts in Northern Virginia, and I therefore strongly oppose Republican efforts to repeal this program and prevent federal support of our local programs.

HONORING VERN MOSS

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 16, 2011

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor Madera County Supervisor Vern Moss on his retirement from the Madera County Board of Supervisors; and to thank him for his dedicated, life-long spirit of community service.

Vern Moss was the first child of hard working parents who set an example Vern would adhere to his whole life. Vern grew up working in the fields picking cotton and cutting grapes. After graduating high school and briefly attending the College of the Sequoias, Vern enlisted in the U.S. Air Force in 1963.

Vern served honorably in both the U.S. Air Force and the U.S. Army before his retirement in 1983 as a Lieutenant Colonel. His military service included a tour in Vietnam as the Executive Officer of the MACV 16, and an assignment to the Joint Chiefs of Staff at the Pentagon. For his service, he has received countless honors, including a Bronze Star. During his military service, he earned a Bachelors and a Masters Degree.

In addition to a long and successful career in the banking industry, Vern has participated actively in his community. He served twice as the Mayor of Chowchilla, as well as President of the Chowchilla Rotary Club and Chamber of Commerce. The Chowchilla Chamber of Commerce has named him Citizen of the Year and Business Person of the Year. During his three terms as a member of the Madera County Board of Supervisors, Vern committed his time to various commissions and projects aimed at improving the life and welfare of Madera County citizens. While his retirement is well-deserved, his dedicated leadership on the Board of Supervisors will be missed.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Madera County Supervisor Vern Moss on his retirement and wishing him the best of luck and health as he moves on from this role.

FULL-YEAR CONTINUING
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1) making appropriations for the Department of Defense and the other departments and agencies of the Government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2011, and for other purposes:

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Chair, our country is in deep fiscal trouble, and cutting wasteful or

low-priority spending is part of getting back to fiscal balance. But there is nothing low-priority about the firefighters who protect our communities, our families, and our homes. It is another example of Republicans' short-sighted and reckless approach to cutting spending that they are willing to take 2,400 firefighters off of the streets by passing this spending bill. To prevent that blow to public safety, I support Rep. PASCRELL's amendment, which would protect funding for the vital FIRE and SAFER grant programs.

FIRE and SAFER help fire departments across America recruit, train, and retain skilled firefighters, and help departments equip them with the up-to-date tools they need to protect property and save lives. These grant programs have helped our community firefighters afford protective equipment that helps them enter burning buildings, backup power generators that keep their stations running during emergencies, and full staffing, so that fire departments are not sitting empty or underprepared when disasters strike. In an independent study, the U.S. Fire Administration found that grants like these are making fire departments across the country more prepared for emergencies, and better equipped to do their job.

The Republican spending bill would not only cost us the jobs of thousands of public servants who risk their lives for our safety—it would put communities across the country at greater risk. I urge my colleagues to pass this amendment and restore these vital investments in public safety.

FULL-YEAR CONTINUING
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1) making appropriations for the Department of Defense and the other departments and agencies of the Government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2011, and for other purposes:

Mr. FARR. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to the dangerous and irresponsible cuts to the State and Foreign Operations budget. This short-sighted budget slashing generates petty savings at the expense of America's long-term national security and economic growth.

There are no two ways about it: Our national security depends on investments in development, diplomacy, and defense. As Department of Defense Secretary Robert Gates has said, "The challenges confronting our nation can't be dealt with by military means alone." But this legislation and many of the amendments to it are tone deaf to this common sense.

Mr. Speaker, this fiscal negligence will come back to haunt us if we cripple our efforts to prevent conflict, promote rule of law, and support the creation of stable allies.

I am particularly upset that the Peace Corps, one of our government's most cost-effective tools of peacebuilding, is slashed by \$70 million. Do you know what Peace Corps could do with that money? Send 1,400 Americans to high-priority countries in the Middle

East, Africa, and around the globe to work on critical projects like education, agricultural development, and HIV/AIDs relief, while promoting goodwill towards America.

Similarly, I am concerned about amendments to defund the U.S. Institute of Peace. Our country is fighting a multi-billion dollar war. And as General Petraeus affirmed, USIP works closely with the military in both Afghanistan and Iraq to promote on-the-ground peacebuilding efforts and bring an end to conflict. Yet, as my colleagues propose to increase funding for the war, some have also proposed to eliminate funding for USIP, the only independent government actor that is dedicated solely to conflict prevention and resolution. That makes absolutely no economic sense.

Rather than make smart investments in civilian instruments of security, this bill and a lot of the amendments to it cut many other excellent foreign assistance programs with strong returns on investment. These include international family planning, poverty and infectious disease alleviation, and the Inter-American Foundation.

As Secretary Gates said, "Development is a lot cheaper than sending in soldiers." If we want to be better stewards of taxpayer dollars, then why are we ripping resources away from the low-cost, high-return international programs that create strategic alliances and prevent multi-billion dollar wars?

The foreign aid budget is less than two percent of our total federal budget. This boils down to about \$126 per American. That's about \$100 bucks less than an army service uniform. So, for just \$126 a head, America remains the beacon of democracy in the world. Now, that makes good economic sense.

Our job in this body is to serve the American people. But what kind of public servants are we if we vote to jeopardize America's national security so we can save a few bucks this year?

These cuts to foreign assistance masquerade as fiscal responsibility. But the reality is that this is a short-sighted proposal that endangers our long-term security, stability, and economic health. I strongly oppose this misguided legislation.

THE CORAL REEF CONSERVATION ACT REAUTHORIZATION AND ENHANCEMENT AMENDMENTS OF 2011

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 16, 2011

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, today I have reintroduced a bill to enhance and reauthorize the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000. In the 111th Congress, I sponsored this legislation as H.R. 860, the "Coral Reef Conservation Act Reauthorization and Enhancement Amendments of 2009", which the House of Representatives passed by voice vote on September 22, 2009. The bill I have introduced today, with 12 of my colleagues, strengthens H.R. 860 without changing its original intent.

The conservation of coral reef ecosystems is essential to protect public health, ensure environmental sustainability, support thousands of American jobs, and guarantee the long-term

economic progress of coastal regions across the nation. United States waters contain some of the world's greatest coral reef biodiversity. From the waters off the coast of Guam and islands in the Pacific, to Florida and the U.S. Territories in the Caribbean, our reefs provide habitat and shelter for fisheries and food and recreation for our residents. These ecosystems also protect us from storm waves and are the basis for marine tourism industries.

Today, however, our coral reefs, and the numerous ecosystem services that they provide, are under threat from pollution, climate change, and overharvesting, among others stressors. Unless the United States acts in conjunction with the global community to support focused, long-term action on coral reef education, research, and management, the state of our coral reefs will continue to deteriorate.

Since its enactment, the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000 has sparked a greater commitment to protect, conserve, and restore coral reef resources within our waters. We now have improved our understanding of the condition of our coral reefs, and have better focused our management capabilities. The Coral Reef Conservation Act Reauthorization and Enhancement Amendments of 2011 would further strengthen the original legislation by improving the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's, NOAA, ability to respond to emergency or disaster-related situations and minimize the likelihood of vessel impacts on coral reefs. Specifically, the legislation would establish community-based planning grants for states and territories to support projects that address emerging threats to corals. In addition, the legislation would promote international cooperation by authorizing NOAA to engage with international partners to protect coral reef ecosystems.

This bill would also codify the United States Coral Reef Task Force established in 1998 by President Clinton through Executive Order 13089. The work of the Task Force, and its mission to coordinate the efforts of the United States in promoting conservation and the sustainable use of coral reefs internationally, is vital to our interests and coastal economies.

I look forward to working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to advance this legislation, enhance and conserve our coral reef ecosystems, and protect coastal jobs.

FULL-YEAR CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1) making appropriations for the Department of Defense and the other departments and agencies of the Government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2011, and for other purposes:

Mr. REYES. Mr. Chair, I rise today to express my strong opposition to the significant cuts to community health centers included in this bill. The Continuing Resolution proposes to reduce funding to community health centers by \$1 billion, a nearly sixty percent reduction

from FY2010 levels. Over the past few years, millions of families lost their health insurance due to job losses, and they now depend on community health centers to receive health care. If these cuts are signed into law, 192,834 people in Texas alone would lose access to health care.

These cuts are especially harmful to the people of my district. Border communities face unique health concerns and challenges, and community health centers play a critical role. The cuts will have devastating effects on the communities and patients who most need access to care—patients with diabetes, heart disease, and HIV/AIDS, as well as children and pregnant women. Community health centers provide access to quality health care to those who would otherwise forgo a doctor's visit or seek treatment in an emergency when it's too late.

In my congressional district for example, Centro San Vicente, one of many community health centers, provides health services for over 10,000 people a year. The irresponsible cuts contained in the Continuing Resolution will merely shift the burden to local communities, such as the district I represent, where local property taxpayers have already spent more than \$500,000,000 since 1998 to pay for those who could not afford to pay for health care at our public hospital.

Republicans cannot merely ignore the problems that arise when 50 million people in the United States lack basic health coverage. They have voted to repeal the health insurance reform law, and now want to cut the very clinics that help lower health care costs by encouraging uninsured patients to seek treatment in a doctor's office, not in an emergency room, where the costs are substantially higher.

I understand the need for fiscal discipline, but drastically funding to a cost-effective program that has improved countless lives makes little sense from both a moral and fiscal perspective.

I urge my colleagues to vote against this bill which strips funding for community health centers.

THE LOWEY AMENDMENT TO H.R. 1

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 16, 2011

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to support this amendment to restore funding to Title X family planning.

By slashing Title X family planning services in the budget, Republicans risk the lives and safety of millions of American women. These proposed cuts to family planning represent the opening salvo in an all-out war on women's health. I ask you to join with me and with my colleagues to restore this vital funding to Title X family planning.

Five million men and women depend on Title X providers for important preventive health care. Among other services, they received 2.3 million breast exams, 2.2 million cervical cancer screenings, and nearly 1 million HIV tests. These services prevent fatal illness; and for those who do have the misfortune to contract HIV/AIDS or cancer, Title X providers ensure that they receive life-saving

treatment early, when it has the greatest potential for good.

The proposed cuts in H.R. 1 would eviscerate these life-saving services.

While these cuts to family planning were proposed under the guise of being “fiscally responsible,” that is far from the truth.

For every dollar invested in Title X family planning services, taxpayers save just under \$4. Cutting family planning is not fiscally responsible, and will not reduce the bottom line.

Moreover, this cut has nothing to do with ending funding for abortions, despite claims to the contrary. Title X family planning funds simply do not fund abortions. If we want to reduce the number of abortions in this country, the methodology is clear—empower women to prevent unintended pregnancies through education and access to contraception. And, that is precisely what family planning funding does.

In my home State of New York, cuts to Planned Parenthood would impact 209,410 patients. Just last year, Planned Parenthood provided 70,490 screenings for cervical cancer in New York, detecting 7,931 abnormal results requiring medical action. Another 67,957 women received breast exams. 138,501 tests for chlamydia helped to avert the leading cause of preventable infertility in America today. New Yorkers stand to lose valuable health services.

Instead of cutting vital health care services, we should focus on rebuilding our economy and creating jobs.

FULL-YEAR CONTINUING
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1) making appropriations for the Department of Defense and the other departments and agencies of the Government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2011, and for other purposes:

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Chair, I strongly support the Blumenauer, Lowey, Markey amendment to restore our commitment to the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. Public broadcasting provides an essential service, providing millions of Americans with educational and cultural programming. In my district, and throughout the entire Washington, DC metropolitan region, we have been admirably served by public broadcasting stations like WETA on television and WAMU on the radio for many years.

Support for public broadcasting was first provided in 1967, and has been maintained for more than 40 years—it is an American institution. Whose children have not grown up learning their A,B,Cs from Sesame Street? Who has not enjoyed one of the many rich musical performances or riveting documentaries, including Ken Burns’ historic 1990 series on the American Civil War, and a recent series on America’s national parks, shown exclusively on PBS?

In America, unlike many countries around the world, the media industry always has been a completely commercial enterprise. Public

broadcasting was not designed to supplant private media—and given the explosion of private television channels it clearly has not. Instead it merely provides viewers with a broad selection of educational and cultural programs that are available for free in every household in every community. I myself did not subscribe to cable television until just a few years ago and routinely watched PBS using rabbit ears on my old television set. Millions of Americans choose PBS, and they support it with their own money by donating to local stations during pledge drives. This has been a successful partnership, leveraging public investment with private funds for decades. That’s why the proposed Republican cut is all the more surprising, given their alleged reverence for respecting the popular will expressed on You Cut. The number of Americans who support public broadcasting with their private contributions exceeds all of the participation in You Cuts by tens of multiples.

I recognize the need to control federal spending and reduce the deficit, and I support responsible reductions to that end. However, eviscerating public broadcasting is not responsible budgeting and flaunts any pretense of respect for popular support.

While less than twenty percent of its funding comes from the federal government, any reduction in support would result in significant degradation of the educational and cultural programming it provides. Public broadcasting is an extraordinarily cost-effective investment in America’s cultural and educational advancement. For more than 40 years, PBS has brought the world to our living rooms, regardless of our financial means or where we lived. A PBS is to broadcasting what the Internet is to the digital revolution, and like the Internet democratizes and makes universal access to information. We must not sever access to such a unifying public resource at the short-sighted altar of fiscal dogma. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the Blumenauer, Lowey, Markey amendment. Support the American institution of Public Broadcasting.

FULL-YEAR CONTINUING
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1) making appropriations for the Department of Defense and the other departments and agencies of the Government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2011, and for other purposes:

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Chair, I rise today to oppose the drastic and reckless cuts my colleagues in the Majority have included in H.R. 1. This legislation includes cuts that will destroy jobs, pollute our environment, damage our schools, threaten public safety and impact nearly every aspect of our economy. They will not strengthen our nation, they will negatively impact our natural resources and inhibit future generation’s ability to compete and innovate in the global economy.

Specifically, H.R. 1 would reduce NOAA’s operating budget by more than \$450 million

dollars, severely diminishing NOAA’s ability to protect marine ecosystems, manage our nation’s fisheries and provide weather monitoring data to weather sensitive industries. In addition, it will cut programs that provide life-saving services in every state and district. These irresponsible cuts will jeopardize thousands of jobs, threaten public safety and have lasting effects on our national and regional economies.

Of particular concern to coastal regions like Guam, are threats to coral reef ecosystems and the fisheries and tourism industries they support. The US commercial fisheries industry alone accounts for more than \$100 billion in annual sales and supports 1.5 million jobs, while the coastal recreation and tourism industry serves as one of the nation’s largest employers. These industries are critical to the long-term economic success of coastal regions however they are significantly threatened by coral reef degradation due to pollution, and climate change. Without healthy coral reefs, fishery levels plummet, and tourism declines.

Reducing NOAA’s operating budget will further jeopardize these important industries. Without sufficient funding, NOAA cannot adequately protect our coral reef resources and could be forced to reduce public access to National Marine Sanctuaries and other recreational areas. In addition, H.R. 1 would significantly deteriorate NOAA’s law enforcement abilities against illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing. The weakening of these programs would cause both immediate and long term job losses within the commercial fisheries and tourism industries. I strongly oppose all proposed cuts to NOAA’s operating budget, it is too important to our economy and preserving our marine resources for future generations.

Another reckless cut included in H.R. 1 is more than \$217 million to the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA). NIFA provides critical grants to universities around the nation, supporting food and agriculture research promoting economic growth and environmental protections. The research yields national value and is especially significant to food security, nutritional health, and increased agricultural production.

Specifically important to Guam, is the Tropical and Subtropical Research program, T-STAR. In 2010, the T-STAR program supported 46 research projects at the University of Florida, the University of Hawaii, the University of Puerto Rico, the University Guam, the University of the Virgin Islands, and at American Samoa Community College. These projects are critical to sustainable agriculture, pest control, and disease research. Funds provided by T-STAR are leveraged by a commitment of local resources, further improving public health, protecting agro-ecosystems, and saving taxpayer dollars over time. They offer a high yield on investment and funding for the NIFA and T-STAR programs should be made a priority. I strongly oppose the majority’s irresponsible cuts to these programs.

IN SUPPORT OF TITLE X FUNDING

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 16, 2011

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I stand in strong support of the Lowey amendment to restore funding for Title X family planning programs. My colleagues have spoken about the achievements of Title X, so I want to focus on what elimination of this highly successful program would mean to the citizens of California.

As you all know, California has been hit extremely hard by this recession and is struggling just to meet the basic needs of its residents. In 2010, Title X funded health care services for over 1.2 million people—which represent 20 percent of all Title X participants. In my district alone, over 33,000 people relied on Title X-funded clinics for their primary health care needs. Eliminating Title X funds would result in a critical loss of vital health care services to an already struggling state with limited resources.

My district has been profoundly affected by the Medicare reimbursement issue because, while we are a high cost area comparable to San Francisco, the reimbursement rate reflects rural costs. As a direct result of doctors no longer accepting Medicare patients, many seniors have been forced to turn to Title X clinics for their basic health care needs. Older adults, both men and women, are able to receive immunizations, physicals, diabetes testing, and STD testing and treatment, in addition to typical gynecological services. If Title X funds are eliminated, these seniors will lose the only access to health care that is available to them.

A vote in support of this amendment is a vote in favor of allowing millions of Americans access to vital health care services. I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of the Lowey Amendment to restore funding to Title X.

IN OPPOSITION TO STEARNS
AMENDMENT (#10) TO H.R. 1**HON. MIKE QUIGLEY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 16, 2011

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the amendment offered by Mr. Stearns, an amendment which seeks to hamstring the EPA's ability to do its job.

A job which Congress determined was the responsibility of the EPA.

A job which the Supreme Court ruled was the responsibility of the EPA.

And, a job, which is necessary to save thousands of lives, and millions in healthcare costs.

Contrary to what some of my colleagues have been saying on the House floor, Americans support the mission of the EPA.

Americans also support the tenets of the Clean Air Act.

Recently, polls have been conducted in Congressional districts across the country, in districts that are home to coal and power plants, that are in the heart of steel towns and industry.

When questioned, 60 and 70 percent of people in these districts answered with a re-

sounding, "yes, the EPA can and should do more to hold polluters accountable and to protect our land, air and water."

Those same folks did not support Congress deciding how those rules should be promulgated, as this amendment strives to do.

There's a reason that rules are written by agencies—they've got the resources, and the knowledge, to write regulations that will do what's best for American citizens and communities.

Our job is to support these rules.

I stand here in support of the EPA, the EPA's ability to regulate coal combustion wastes and against the proposed amendment. Our lives depend on it.

IN SUPPORT OF MARKEY
AMENDMENT #213 TO H.R. 1**HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 16, 2011

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, America has always been at the forefront of medical innovation—with the National Institutes of Health (NIH) making us the leader at creating life-saving technology.

Millions of Americans live healthier, more productive lives as a result of our medical research funding.

The innovative and cutting-edge research funded by the NIH has also given the United States thousands of good jobs and contributed to creating a strong middle class.

Now we're voting on a budget that will cut over \$1.5 billion from one of the key engines of American innovation.

H.R. 1 is a set back to medical research and a set back to our economic recovery.

Vote for amendment number 213 to preserve critical NIH funding.

IN SUPPORT OF QUIGLEY
AMENDMENT (#520) TO H.R. 1**HON. MIKE QUIGLEY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 16, 2011

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with an amendment that would, quite simply, allow the President to continue to consult an Advisor on Energy and Climate Change.

Section 1535 of this bill, which forbids the President from hiring such an advisor, wouldn't save taxpayers a penny.

Section 1535, which my amendment would strike, is a misguided attempt to tell the President who he can and cannot consult.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you, would any member of this body allow us to deny them counsel on energy and climate issues?

This is NOT a rhetorical question—every member of this body that employs a staffer on energy or climate issues should carefully consider whether they would deny the President that same counsel.

Whether or not you agree with the President on energy and climate issues, I would ask you—is it appropriate to silence those with whom you disagree?

I would also remind my colleagues that Section 1535 of this bill, which my amendment

would strike, does not save taxpayers any money at all—not even a penny.

All it does is deny the President the ability to consult with a certain type of advisor.

Section 1535 is an unprecedented intrusion into the President's ability to retain and consult advisors on issues of national importance.

And energy and climate change are issues of national importance.

In light of recent catastrophes like the BP oil spill, ongoing efforts to prevent the EPA from doing its job, and rising rates of mortality and morbidity due to unhealthy air, land, and water—it is more important than ever that we support increased resources for the President and the Administration to do their job of keeping us, and our environment, safe and healthy.

I've stood on this House floor many times, some of them in recent days, and talked about decreasing wasteful government spending.

I've written whitepaper reports, both in Congress and while a Cook County Commissioner, detailing the importance of streamlining and reinventing government.

But, the crux of those arguments is predicated on the fact that I believe that what the government does matters—that government's mission matters.

What we do here today, and tomorrow, and the day after that, matters.

But this CR, which combines ideologically driven cuts with pretend cuts, like Section 1535, is not the answer.

Taking a sledgehammer to non-defense discretionary spending is not the answer.

We've got to talk about what programs are working and support them at the same time we cut the ones that don't work.

We're facing a climate crisis—a climate crisis that has become political and polarizing, pushing leaders into opposite corners of this debate.

But the facts aren't a debate if they're based on science.

And science says that for decades and centuries to come we're going to be dealing with rising temperatures, acidic oceans, extinct species, and skyrocketing healthcare costs due to dirty air.

In these trying times, we're trying to tell the President of the United States he doesn't have the right to counsel on energy and climate change?

With all due respect, Section 1535 is an unserious attempt to achieve some measure of fiscal responsibility.

But the truth is, it hacks away at the constitutional separation of powers and doesn't save taxpayers any money at all.

How we address energy and climate change issues will matter for our children, and our children's children.

We must not hamstring our ability to do so.

I urge my colleagues to support this amendment.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose

of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, February 17, 2011 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MARCH 1

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine U.S. Special Operations Command and U.S. Central Command in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2012 and the Future Years Defense Program; with the possibility of a closed session in SVC-217 following the open session.

SD-106

10 a.m.

Budget

To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2012 for education.

SD-608

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine breaking the cycle of North Korean provocations.

SD-419

2 p.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold joint hearings to examine a legislative presentation from Disabled American Veterans.

345, Cannon Building

2:15 p.m.

Foreign Relations

Organizational business meeting to consider committee rules, subcommittee membership and jurisdiction, and an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the committee during the 112th Congress, and the nominations of Sue Kathrine Brown, of Texas, to be Ambassador to Montenegro, Daniel L. Shields III, of Pennsylvania, to be Am-

bassador to Brunei Darussalam, David Lee Carden, of New York, to be Representative of the United States of America to the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, with the rank of Ambassador, and Pamela L. Spratlen, of California, to be Ambassador to the Kyrgyz Republic, all of the Department of State, and Eric G. Postel, of Wisconsin, to be an Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development.

S-116, Capitol

MARCH 2

9:30 a.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine national security and foreign policy priorities in the fiscal year 2012 International Affairs Budget.

SD-106

10 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2012 for the Department of the Interior.

SD-366

10:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2012.

SR-418

MARCH 3

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the Department of the Army in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2012 and the Future Years Defense Program.

SD-106

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2012 for the USDA Forest Service.

SD-366

2:30 p.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine navigating a turbulent global economy, focusing on implications for the United States.

SD-419

MARCH 8

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the Department of the Navy in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2012 and the Future Years Defense Program; with the possibility of a closed session in SH-219 following the open session.

SD-G50

Veterans' Affairs

To hold joint hearings to examine the legislative presentation from Veterans of Foreign Wars.

345, Cannon Building

MARCH 9

10 a.m.

Finance

To hold hearings to examine the President's 2011 trade agenda.

SD-215

MARCH 16

9:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold joint hearings to examine the legislative presentations from AMVETS, Jewish War Veterans, Military Officers Association of America, Gold Star Wives, Blinded Veterans Association, Non Commissioned Officers Association, Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America, Fleet Reserve Association.

SDG-50

MARCH 30

10:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold joint hearings to examine the legislative presentations from Paralyzed Veterans of America, Air Force Sergeants Association, Military Order of the Purple Heart, National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs, Wounded Warrior Project, Vietnam Veterans of America, The Retired Enlisted Association, American Ex-Prisoners of War.

SD-106