

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING MR. WILLIAM DALE
GIBBS

HON. W. TODD AKIN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 12, 2011

Mr. AKIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember Mr. William Gibbs a veteran of World War II who passed into glory on 19 October 2011.

The youngest son of John and Maimi Gibbs, William Dale Gibbs was born on 21 June 1926 in Salem, Missouri, in the heart of the Ozarks. Like many in those years, Mr. Gibbs' parent found work hard to come by and eventually moved the family to St. Louis to find employment.

At the age 18, with World War II still raging, Mr. Gibbs enlisted in the United States Army and was assigned to the 82nd Airborne Division, 325th Glider Regiment. The 82nd was the Army's first Airborne Division. Mr. Gibbs and his unit played a lead role in blunting the German advance during the Battle of the Bulge. He and his unit saw heavy fighting, suffering heavy casualties, throughout World War II.

Mr. Gibbs saw and experienced many things during his service in Europe, but none seemed to impact him as much as the following . . .

“ . . . Upon completion of their objectives, the division moved again towards the Rhine River and Cologne. From there, the order of duty was to push forward into the Rhineland, and then moved again towards Berlin, winding up in a town called Ludwigslust. Here they captured a concentration camp (Camp Wobbelin) which held several thousand prisoners, many were already dead and the remaining were in very poor condition. The survivors were so elated, they were out of control. Their weak mental conditions coupled with the language barrier made it very difficult to administer to their needs. Out of respect for the prisoners, General [James “Jumpin’ Jim”] Gavin ordered a proper burial of the dead prisoners in the center of town. A formal memorial and burial service was conducted by the 325th division Chaplin, Major [George B.] Wood. The German townspeople were forced to dig the graves and attend the service. There were approximately 10,000 Germans in attendance.

After the encounter at Concentration Camp Wobbelin, the unit moved ahead towards the Elbe River. They had great pleasure in liberating some POW camps along the way. The soldiers were reunited with some of the 82nd Airborne Division who had been POWs captured in Italy over a year before.”

According to his son, David, Mr. Gibbs related this story many times over his life. It was during his earliest memory of this story that David first saw his father cry.

Like so many of his generation, at the end of the war, Mr. Gibbs returned home, married and went to work. After completing his education and finding employment with Inter-

national Shoe Company, he married Shirley Mae Warfel and together they raised a family of three boys and a girl—though they experienced the loss of their first born to leukemia at age five.

The passing of William Dale Gibbs reminds me that all too soon we will lose the World War II generation to history. While we may be losing them, we should not lose their stories and the lessons they teach; one of which is there are, in fact, things for which we should fight, and if necessary, die to preserve and protect.

On behalf of a grateful nation, thank you Mr. Gibbs for your service and sacrifice in Europe; and for returning home and raising sons and a daughter who were so very proud to call you “Dad”.

RECOGNIZING THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INVASION OF GUAM DURING WORLD WAR II

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 12, 2011

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the invasion of Guam and the beginning of the Pacific theater of World War II. In the early morning of December 10, 1941, two days after the aerial attacks on Pearl Harbor and Sumay Village, soldiers of the Imperial Japanese Army invaded the shores of Guam.

The Japanese invasion faced resistance at the Plaza de Espata in Hagota by the members of the Guam Insular Guard, who were recruited by the Navy eight months prior to the invasion of Guam. With limited military training, and lightly armed, the Insular Guard was all that stood between the invaders and our people. The Guam Insular Guard fought with great courage in defense of our island but they were overwhelmed in a short time by the superior numbers and arms of the invasion force. This encounter marked the only ground battle against the invading Japanese force on Guam. Shortly thereafter that early morning, U.S. Naval Captain George J. McMillin, Naval Governor of Guam, and a handful of U.S. sailors, surrendered the island to the Japanese Army.

These events marked the beginning of the Japanese occupation on Guam for the next thirty two months. The occupation of Guam was marked by abuse and violence against the people of Guam including forced labor, forced marches, internment in camps, injuries and executions. Throughout the occupation, the people of Guam remained patriotic to America and never lost faith that U.S. forces would return to liberate our island. While we can never truly comprehend the suffering endured by our manamko' (elders) during the Japanese occupation, we continue to honor them for who they are, what they have endured, and how they have impacted our lives and our community.

As we commemorate this solemn anniversary, we pay tribute to these Insular Guardsmen for their courage and bravery. We also acknowledge Guam's greatest generation, those who endured the war and survived. Lastly, we pray for the civilians who died during the war and the members of the U.S. armed forces who fought to liberate our island. We must never forget their suffering and their sacrifices during the brutal occupation and liberation. God bless Guam and God bless the United States of America.

SUPPORT FOR DESIGNATING JANUARY 5TH AS NATIONAL BIRD DAY

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 12, 2011

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my support for designating January 5th as “National Bird Day.” I also wish for my colleagues to consider the following:

That the beauty, songs, and flight of birds have long been sources of inspiration, and that nearly 12 percent of the world's 9,800 bird species may face extinction within the next century, including nearly one-third of the world's 330 parrot species;

That birds are sentinel species whose plight serves as a barometer of ecosystem health and an alert system for detecting global environmental ills;

That many of the world's parrots and songbirds are threatened with extinction due to pressures from the illegal pet trade, disease, and habitat loss;

That public awareness and education about the physical and behavioral needs of birds can go far in improving the welfare of the millions of birds kept in captivity, and that the survival and well-being of the world's birds depends upon ending the illegal pet trade and supporting public education and conservation;

Finally, that the United States Congress has enacted specific laws to protect birds, including the Wild Bird Conservation Act and Migratory Bird Treaty Act, and that January 5, 2012 is being celebrated by Born Free USA as National Bird Day with the intent to raise awareness about bird conservation and protection.

I urge my colleagues to stand with me to support the designation of January 5th as National Bird Day and to encourage their State and local governments to observe the day with appropriate activities that promote bird awareness. Furthermore, I encourage all avian experts and professionals working with birds to use this day to create greater public awareness and appreciation of birds, leading to further protection of bird species. Finally, I encourage individuals across the Nation to become more aware of their local avian community so they can be more effective stewards of bird conservation.

• 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.

HONORING NICHOLAS AIELLO FOR HIS MANY CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE COMMUNITY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 12, 2011

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to join the members of the Central Labor Council of New Haven, Connecticut as they raise a toast and salute a very special member of Connecticut's labor movement, and my dear friend, Nicholas Aiello. One of the first organizers in the City of New Haven, Nick has long been a strong voice on behalf of working families and is known to many as one of the architects of Connecticut's labor movement.

One of fourteen children, all of whom were garment workers in New Haven's shirt factories, Nick was no stranger to hard work, low pay, and less than ideal working conditions. As Nick recounts in Anthony Riccio's *The Italian Experience in New Haven: Images and Oral Histories*, "When New York got completely organized, the 'runaway shops' came to New Haven. They ran to New Haven where there were no union shops. And they would open up a storefront. They'd put twenty, thirty machines on the fourth floor and most of the stitching plants were on the fourth floor with no elevator. Conditions were horrible . . . Then in the 1930s came the Amalgamated and they started organizing drives in the area." It was with Amalgamated that Nick began as an organizer, taking to the streets of New Haven, rallying workers, and demanding better from industry management. He would go on to become a business agent for Amalgamated and still today remains involved with the Central Labor Council of New Haven. Nick is a pillar of Connecticut's labor movement and has earned the respect and admiration of labor and community leaders alike.

Much has changed from Nick's days in the factories, however, he wanted to make sure that future generations understood the battles that were undertaken to ensure the rights of America's workers. A few years ago, Nick spearheaded the Greater New Haven Labor History Project—an organization whose mission was to collect, preserve, and share the history of working people in the Greater New Haven Area. Nick was determined to see this project succeed and, like in his early organizing days, went door to door to garner support. The response was extraordinary and today its members and staff create traveling exhibits and install them in community venues; preserve and maintain an archival repository of individuals' papers and local union records, documents and artifacts of historical significance; organize public events such as workshops, walking tours, book-signings, film festivals, and talks by esteemed labor historians; offer Records Inventory Services and access by appointment to many of their historical archives; as well as conduct projects such as oral history interviews with retired workers. In addition, the group also presents the August Lewis Troup Award annually to individuals in recognition of their personal contributions to the labor community. None of this would have been possible without Nick's persistence and unyielding determination to see it become a reality and he continues in his efforts by serv-

ing as the President of the Greater New Haven Labor History Project Association.

I would be remiss if I did not extend a personal note of thanks to Nick for his many years of friendship and support. He has been in my corner from the very beginning and even today he still volunteers some of his time in my District Office. I could not be more appreciative of all of his good work on my behalf.

For his many contributions to our community and particularly for his invaluable efforts with the Connecticut labor movement, I am proud to join the members of the Central Labor Council of New Haven in extending my heartfelt thanks to Nicholas Aiello. I extend my very best wishes to Nick and his son, Michael, for many more years of health and happiness.

CONGRATULATING AL AND CHRIS BELILACQUA ON THEIR INDUCTION INTO THE NATIONAL WRESTLING HALL OF FAME

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 12, 2011

Mr. JORDAN. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize the achievements of 2012 National Wrestling Hall of Fame inductees Al and Chris Bevilacqua—the first father and son to be so honored in the same year.

For nearly a half century, Al Bevilacqua has worked tirelessly to advance the sport of wrestling as a coach, organizer, mentor, and teacher. Named USA Wrestling's Coach of the Year in 1983, Al has managed successful programs at the high school and college levels, including two years at Division I Hofstra University. Al's greatest contribution to the sport, however, may be his role as co-founder of Beat the Streets, a New York City-based wrestling program that promotes the values of hard work, dedication, and self-discipline among the area's youths. He will receive the Hall of Fame's Order of Merit for his many contributions to the sport.

A two-time All-American at Pennsylvania State University, Chris Bevilacqua has continued his father's legacy of athletic excellence and community involvement. A fixture in the sports media industry, Chris helped found CSTV, the first 24-hour cable network dedicated to college and amateur athletics, which was sold to CBS in 2005. Chris currently serves as CEO of the Bevilacqua Media Company, a strategic advisor to media and entertainment interests. He will receive the Hall's Outstanding American Award.

Al, Chris, and their fellow honorees will be recognized in June during the Hall's induction ceremony in Stillwater, Oklahoma. I congratulate them and join their family and friends in celebrating their many contributions to the wrestling community.

SYNTHETIC DRUG CONTROL ACT OF 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSS CARNAHAN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 7, 2011

Mr. CARNAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to clarify my position on H.R. 1254, the Synthetic Drug Control Act.

My vote in support of H.R. 1254 is not without reservations. I support this legislation because the health and safety of our citizens is my primary concern. This legislation will protect our communities, and particularly our youth, from more than forty new and dangerous synthetic drugs. These substances have been the cause of violent incidents and numerous deaths around the nation and it is preferable to immediately list them as Schedule I as opposed to allowing them to continue to be abused in our communities.

Criminalizing these substances, however, will not solve the root problem of drug abuse in our communities. I have serious concerns about the over-criminalization of drugs. Mandatory minimum sentences lead to over-capacity criminal justice and prison systems at significant burden to taxpayers. I have long advocated for a comprehensive approach to drug abuse treatment, including education, prevention, treatment, research, and enforcement. In fact, I have authored legislation to expand accessible treatment, especially for underserved communities, and research into cutting edge treatment therapies. Responsible law enforcement is just the way to address this issue, and it must be executed in conjunction with a robust and multifaceted approach that targets the root of drug abuse problems.

I also have concerns about the impact of penalties in H.R. 1254 on our scientific research processes. While, it is regrettable that H.R. 1254 circumvents the process for listing drugs as laid out in the Controlled Substances Act (CSA), it is necessary in this circumstance. The evidentiary procedure in CSA has worked well for determining the listing of new substances. Unfortunately, it can be time-intensive and the law enforcement community, including the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and the Department of Justice, supports the immediate listing of these synthetic drugs because of the harm they inflict on our communities. This bill increases the length of time that a new substance can be temporarily scheduled by the DEA, thereby allowing more time for the usual CSA listing process to be carried out.

Throughout my career I have supported scientific research. The study of synthetic drugs is important for understanding their impact on health and their potential beneficial uses. Unfortunately, most of the substances included in this legislation have not been subjected to extensive scientific study, and I am concerned that listing them as Schedule I drugs may inhibit the study of these drugs. While the DEA has a procedure for scientists to study Schedule I controlled substances, it presents greater barriers for scientists to work with these drugs. As of October 4, 2011, the DEA has 325 researchers conducting research with Schedule I controlled substances. These researchers include research centers and universities who seek to better understand the effects of

Schedule I controlled substances. Additionally, as of October 4, 2011, the DEA has 3,983 active registrants who manufacture, research, and conduct chemical analysis with Schedule I controlled substances. I encourage the scientific community to continue their efforts to understand these and other drugs.

HONORING THE LIFE AND WORK
OF NOEL CUNNINGHAM

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 12, 2011

Ms. DeGETTE. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise to honor the life of Noel Cunningham, a restaurateur and philanthropist I had the pleasure of knowing for almost 20 years.

A resident of Denver, Noel was a true citizen of the world. Born in Ireland in 1949, he went to work at London's famed Savoy Hotel, achieving the rank of sous chef by age 23, before moving to California in the 1970's. In 1986 he moved to Denver and opened Strings, a bistro in Denver's Capitol Hill neighborhood that quickly became a community institution, hosting local celebrities, politicians, community and charity events and romantic date-nights.

While his professional biography will be defined by his extraordinary culinary talents, Noel's legacy will forever be based on the impact his philanthropic efforts had in Denver and across the world.

While in California he met Pat Miller, the noted restaurant critic known as the "Gabby Gourmet," and the two developed a lifelong friendship. Together, they started "Taste of the Nation," a nation-wide fundraiser that by 2010 had raised almost \$80 million to fight hunger and poverty across the United States.

With his wife Tammy, Noel founded The Cunningham Foundation, which included Quarters for Kids, to help educate children about local hunger and homelessness, and 4 Quarters for Kids, a project he named in reference to the four quarters it takes per day to provide an Ethiopian child with breakfast, lunch, a school uniform, and a teacher and books. Firm in his belief that philanthropy could strengthen a local community while enriching the lives of those across the globe, Noel targeted 4 Quarters primarily to local children, who held carwashes, concerts, pledge drives, and silent auctions to help create a better future for their Ethiopian peers.

Noel was active with the local Volunteers of America, and served on the board of the national nonprofit Share Our Strength. On weekday afternoons, it was not uncommon to drive by Strings and see Noel serving meals to the homeless in between the persistent lunch and dinner rushes. He was committed to building a better community, both locally and globally, and was not afraid to enlist the help of others to achieve his goals; he worked with local hospitals to provide life-saving treatments for Ethiopian children, and local businesses to ship supplies and other necessities to Africa. He founded "A Dinner of Unconditional Love"—a charity dinner to raise funds for Dr. Rick Hodes, an American Doctor living in Ethiopia whose mission is to help heal the poor—and had planned to expand the program across

the country so that he could raise the \$10 million Hodes needs to build his own hospital in Ethiopia.

Mr. Speaker, from the streets of Denver to the farms of Ethiopia, Noel Cunningham spent each and every day making a difference in the lives of those around him. Never content to settle, he pursued perfection in his restaurant and in his charitable endeavors, never once falling short in all the years I have known him. His life stands as proof that any individual can have an extraordinary impact, and his tragic passing leaves a monumental crater in the global community that spans from Denver to Ethiopia and beyond.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL
DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 12, 2011

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, on January 26, 1995, when the last attempt at a balanced budget amendment passed the House by a bipartisan vote of 300–132, the national debt was \$4,801,405,175,294.28.

Today, it is \$15,052,444,423,722.81. We've added \$10,251,039,248,428.53 dollars to our debt in 16 years. This is \$10 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

IN RECOGNITION AND APPRECIATION
FOR HENRY FORD HEALTH
SYSTEMS

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 12, 2011

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to rise today to recognize the achievements of the Henry Ford Health System which, under the strong and dynamic leadership of its CEO, Nancy Schlichting, has earned a 2011 Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award. This award recognizes and encourages benchmark business practices; once reserved only for manufacturing and similar businesses, the Baldrige Award has been expanded to include health care organizations. As a recipient of the Baldrige award, Henry Ford Health System continues to serve as a role model for other companies across the country. The award puts a spotlight on the amazing work being done at the Henry Ford Health System to deliver top quality health care to its patients.

Henry Ford Health System has established itself as one of the Nation's premier health care providers. Henry Ford Health System uses innovative strategies and solutions which have been developed and implemented for the past decade, helping reduce unintended patient harm and establishing a "zero-defect, no-excuses" approach to health care outcomes. Over the years, the Henry Ford Health System has developed a reputation for delivering the best possible outcomes for patients. Because of this dedication to putting patients first, it is one of just 4 organizations around the Nation

to receive this award and the only one in Michigan.

With approximately \$5.8 billion in economic impact through payroll, operating expense and capital expenditures, Henry Ford Health System is not only an effective health care entity, but a major contributor to Michigan's economy. As a top 5 employer in Southeast Michigan, the Henry Ford Health System boasts an impressive 24,000 employees and is responsible for 37,500 additional jobs through direct and indirect employment at 7 hospitals and 33 ambulatory care sites. With more than 2,000 physicians system wide, it is also one of the Nation's largest non-university research programs.

Earning the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award is no easy feat, with many companies each year following the Baldrige criteria as a model for proper organization and action. Henry Ford Health Systems now joins the ranks of companies such as Boeing Aerospace Support, Cadillac, and the Ritz-Carlton Hotel Company as innovators in their respective fields.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize the Henry Ford Health System and the 2011 Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award that it has earned. The Henry Ford Health System's achievements serve as a beacon to other businesses countrywide.

FARM DUST REGULATION
PREVENTION ACT OF 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. FRANK D. LUCAS

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2011

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. Chair, I rise in support of the Farm Dust Regulation Prevention Act.

This bipartisan legislation is necessary to ensure that farmers and ranchers will not be subjected to excessive regulation from the Environmental Protection Agency.

The EPA currently has the ability to tighten regulatory standards for dust under the Clean Air Act.

Should the EPA do so, farmers, ranchers, and rural economies could be devastated. On dry days, production could come to a standstill as producers focus on controlling dust rather than producing food.

After months of receiving questions and concerns from farmers, ranchers, and their Representatives in Congress, the Administrator of the EPA finally stated that her agency does not intend to change the current standards.

However, as long as EPA Administrator Jackson retains unchecked power to implement stricter standards, farmers and ranchers could be subject to oppressive regulations at any time.

A legislative fix is the only way to give farmers and ranchers the certainty they need to invest in the future without worrying about the influence of overzealous activists on EPA's regulations.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

IN HONOR OF BOB CONNERS UPON
HIS RETIREMENT FROM 610-WTVN

HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 12, 2011

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize Bob Connors upon his retirement from 610-WTVN Columbus.

The often transient nature of a career in radio remains a hard truth for those who choose this field. The industry sometimes forces these men and women to relocate to different stations and towns across the country. These individuals come and go, sometimes without developing a strong connection with a community. Over the years, however, one voice has remained a mainstay in Columbus, representing the pinnacle of morning radio hosting. As a proud central Ohioan and occasional guest on his show, I am deeply honored to show my sincere appreciation for one of the greatest radio hosts in this city's history, Bob Connors.

Bob came to Columbus from Pittsburgh over 40 years ago and since then has brought acclaim to and instilled pride in the central Ohio community. His morning show, Bob Connors in the Morning became one of the most popular shows in the area, attracting listeners from miles around. Known as the "Morning Monarch" for his longstanding service to the station, Bob eloquently presented national and local news, along with sports, weather and traffic reports.

For years he delivered the news to millions of citizens. His on-air disposition and the consistency of his presence made waking up to his voice a pleasurable morning routine for an entire generation. I fondly remember listening to his show when I was growing up and how honored I was each time I was asked to speak with him on-air.

While he has retired from hosting the show, Bob's legacy and uplifting presence will resonate throughout our community for years to come. I am proud to wish him the best of luck as he moves on to the next exciting phase in his life. He not only remains one of the city's most recognizable voices, he also is one of Columbus's favorite sons.

**SYNTHETIC DRUG CONTROL ACT
OF 2011**

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 7, 2011

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to oppose H.R. 1254, the "Synthetic Drug Control Act of 2011."

I share the concerns that supporters of this bill have about the sale of synthetic drugs that are determined to be harmful. The issue here is what process should be used to determine whether a drug is harmful and should be banned. I oppose this bill because it circumvents the established process for scheduling controlled substances as illegal for any uses without proper scientific review. This bill short-circuits that process and substitutes the less-informed judgment of Congress for the

more considered view of scientists and experts.

We already have a process for banning drugs temporarily on an emergency basis. Indeed, the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) has temporarily prohibited the sale or manufacture of many of the compounds banned in this bill as more in-depth scientific reviews are conducted. I also support Maryland's Department of Health and Mental Hygiene's decision to ban the sale of many of these drugs in the State. I believe that the temporary ban by the DEA and the State bans of these drugs are sufficient at this point to protect our society from the harms caused by these synthetic drugs. Congress should only act to add these drugs to the list of Schedule I controlled substances after the process laid out in the Controlled Substance Act is completed.

The process established in the Controlled Substance Act requires that the Attorney General request from the Secretary of Health and Human Services "a scientific and medical evaluation, and his recommendations, as to whether such drug or other substances should be so controlled. . . ." This process is important for many reasons and should not be circumvented by this bill. Without proper scientific review this bill could create significant hurdles for medical research of cures and treatments for various diseases. During the bill mark up in the Judiciary Committee, statements from medical researchers were submitted stating that this bill could hamper their ability to determine lawful uses of these substances by making them illegal to possess. R. Gil Kerlikowske, the Director of the Office of the National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP), stated that these drugs are dangerous, but acknowledged that there is "a lack of sufficient data regarding the prevalence of bath salt stimulant drugs." Additionally, the penalties for possessing and distributing Schedule I drugs are serious. Adding over 35 additional substances to the list of Schedule I drugs, for which people can be incarcerated, should not be taken lightly by Congress.

I urge my colleagues to join me in opposing this bill.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JESSE L. JACKSON, JR.

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 12, 2011

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, December 8, I was unavoidably detained in Illinois attending to district/constituent matters and missed recorded votes for H. Res. 487, H.R. 1633, the Farm Dust Regulation Prevention Act, and H.R. 1254, the Synthetic Drug Control Act.

If I had been present, I would have recorded my vote as a nay for rollcall vote 902, nay for rollcall vote 903, nay for rollcall vote 904, and nay for rollcall vote 905.

As I have confirmed in a number of meetings and correspondence, I do not support efforts by the Environmental Protection Agency to regulate fine and coarse particulate matter or "farm dust". While the EPA exists to protect the health of Americans and the stability of our environment, I am concerned by overly burdensome regulations and the impact they have on our smaller businesses and family

farms. With that said, EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson has explicitly stated that she has no intention of revising any regulations on "farm dust". H.R. 1633 is another waste of the House's time and energy, as the clock continues to tick down on much more important issues like Unemployment Insurance and the payroll tax holiday.

For that reason, had I been present I would have recorded my vote as yea for rollcall vote 906, yea for rollcall vote 907, yea for rollcall vote 908, yea for rollcall vote 909, yea for rollcall vote 910, yea for rollcall vote 911 and nay for rollcall vote 912.

**CONGRATULATORY REMARKS FOR
OBTAINING THE RANK OF EAGLE
SCOUT**

HON. SANDY ADAMS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 12, 2011

Mrs. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Eric Thomas Pugnet for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout.

Throughout the history of the Boy Scouts of America, the rank of Eagle Scout has only been attained through dedication to concepts such as honor, duty, country and charity. By applying these concepts to daily life, Eric has proven his true and complete understanding of their meanings, and thereby deserves this honor.

I offer my congratulations on a job well done and best wishes for the future.

**TRIBUTE TO FORMER PUBLIC
PRINTER ROBERT W. HOUK**

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 12, 2011

Mr. JORDAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of former Public Printer of the United States Robert W. Houk, who passed away unexpectedly on Sunday.

Mr. Houk, a Michigan native who later moved to Shelby, Ohio, was a graduate of Michigan State University and Wayne State University. He was a proud U.S. Army veteran, rising to the rank of first lieutenant after serving throughout Europe during World War II and serving stateside during the Korean Conflict.

The management and leadership skills he learned in the Army were put to good use during his long and impressive career in the business world. He worked for the Ford Motor Company and at Detroit's Rotary Manifold before cofounding UFORMA/Shelby Business Forms in 1966. For more than two decades, he served as UFORMA's president and chief executive officer.

Mr. Houk's leadership in the printing industry was widely recognized by his peers. He was tapped as chairman of the board of International Business Forms Industries in 1976 and as chairman of the Printing Industries of America in 1987. Business Forms and Systems magazine named him Man of the Year in 1980.

In 1990, President George H. W. Bush appointed Mr. Houk as the 22nd Public Printer of

the United States, a position he held until 1993. In that role, he oversaw the work of more than 3,000 Government Printing Office employees across the nation. He also earned a doctorate from Heidelberg University in Tiffin, Ohio, during his term as public printer.

Mr. Houk was very active in the Shelby community, chairing the boards of the Rehabilitation Center of North Central Ohio, the Mansfield Symphony Society, and The Ohio State University's Mansfield Campus. He also enjoyed playing trumpet in many area bands and was a charter member of the Ashland Area Community Concert Band.

Mr. Speaker, Robert Houk is survived by his wife, Sally; his son, Raymond; his daughter, Lisa; and their families. On behalf of the people of Ohio's Fourth Congressional District, I offer them my condolences as they gather in Shelby on Saturday to celebrate his life and his many contributions to the community and our nation.

HONORING NATALA K. (TALLY)
HART UPON HER RETIREMENT
FROM THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 12, 2011

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize Natala K. (Tally) Hart upon her retirement from The Ohio State University.

Expressing how much Tally Hart has meant to The Ohio State University and the many students who have felt the impact of her unwavering commitment to higher education remains no easy task. As a graduate of Ohio State and an admirer of this remarkable person, it gives me great pleasure to add my personal appreciation.

For over three decades, Tally has dedicated herself to helping students achieve their dreams of attending college. After serving at various institutions around the country, in 1996 she was hired as Ohio State's Director of Financial Aid. In this position she gained national recognition for not only her unrivaled ability to obtain funding for students, but also the strength of her character and the sincerity of her efforts. In 2006 Tally was named Senior Advisor for Economic Access. In this role she was given the opportunity to lead a new program that allowed her to create programs that benefit thousands of disadvantaged students and make Ohio State a leader in college access and success initiatives.

Upon her retirement, Tally will leave behind a legacy that will permeate throughout central Ohio for years to come. Like fellow Buckeyes before her, she has become a beloved figure at our school. Through her selfless pursuits and deep passion for Ohio State, Tally has added greatly to the school's storied history and rich tradition.

While she is moving on to the next phase in her life, Tally will surely never stop doing what she loves: helping others. On behalf of the citizens of Ohio's 12th Congressional District, I would like to wish Tally the best of luck and thank her for her devotion to Ohio State.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 12, 2011

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to state that I meant to vote "nay" on H.R. 1633, the Farm Dust Regulation Prevention Act, when it was considered on the House Floor on December 9, 2011.

I am strongly opposed to this unnecessary bill and voted "aye" by accident.

CONGRATULATING ALFRED UNIVERSITY UPON THE CELEBRATION OF ITS 175TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 12, 2011

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Alfred University, a major educational institution in my district which is celebrating its 175th anniversary this year. Their official commemoration and activities were held the week of December 5, 2011. I am honored to have the privilege of representing such a fine university that provides an excellent education to its 2000 undergraduate and 300 graduate students.

Alfred University was founded on December 5, 1836 by a group of Seventh Day Baptists who moved to the foothills of the Allegheny Mountains. The University is named for the ninth-century ruler of southern England, Alfred the Great, whose devotion to learning and literature is a legacy that the institution upholds to this day.

Alfred's commitment to academics is nationally known, with the Inamori School of Engineering consistently ranked top in the country for its Masters of Science degrees. Additionally, students at Alfred can choose between over 40 undergraduate majors to study.

As an alum, I can personally attest to the excellence of this institution and its world class academics.

Please join me in congratulating Alfred University in reaching this incredible milestone as it celebrates its 175th Anniversary.

REMEMBER PEARL

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 12, 2011

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, Remember Pearl "A Date Which Will Live in Infamy" in solemn remembrance of Pearl Harbor on the 70th anniversary, December 7, 1941. The following poem was authored by Albert Carey Caswell, who is a Capitol Building tourguide noted for his thoughtful and heartfelt tours for Wounded Warriors and his devotion to servicemembers, military families, and veterans.

REMEMBER PEARL

(By Albert Carey Caswell)

In every country's history . . .

There are but those defining moments that which so indeed!

That which define there very destinies!
As out into a future but plant such seeds!
To so define her and give her all that she so needs!

Remember Pearl . . .
That day that will live in Infamy!

As . . .
For as a Nation, we must all so remember . . .

That dark and dreary, very cold and bleak
December . . .

When . . .
When there, on one beautiful Sunday morning . . .

As America so lie all in harms way and in ruin, so all without warning . . .

As it was seventy years ago this day . . .

All in a cowards way!
When, so very unexpectedly!
As "A Date Which Will Live In Infamy" . . .
Was but a calm before the storm, as they . . .
As they so tried to take America's very heart away . . .

As lies now so all etched in Infamy . . .

War! Pearl Harbor! The Devil's Creed!

Feeding Evil's needs!

When, so many heroes died indeed!

Bless them all, God Speed!

All in one of our Nation's darkest of all days . . .

As a Nation so slept, had they . . .

And so wept upon that day . . .

As out across the world, such an Evil so unfurled . . .

As this darkness all towards them so crept,
towards our little boys and girls . . .

Goodness . . . Evil . . . Darkness . . . Light . . .

Those brave hearts who evil must fight!

Who but bring their light!

Who Evil must fight!

Would this Evil stand?

As it was nearly eight on that morning,
when each woman, child, and man!

All without such warning, when a sleeping giant so awoke!

As from out of all of this heartache and such hell,
and scenes of horror . . . as all in their fine hearts what would dwell!

Such a story to our children tell!

One of Such Faith and Courage . . .

As America's heart grew stronger, all in what their fine souls so nourished!

While, against all odds . . . such darkness, could not discourage . . .

As somehow America so found the hope and courage!

All in how they so heroically behaved, and so fought and died on that day . . .

As out across a Nation, The Mothers Cried . . .

As over one thousand were so wounded,
and twenty-five hundred heroes on that day so died!

And, still America would not so lose hope . . . for we all somehow survived!

All because of what, all within their most magnificent hearts so lie!

As from out of all of those ashes, death and fury . . . as was invoked such a story!

Came a Pearl, a gem so formed of which to all the world so spoke!

A story, all about America's Courage and Glory . . . and yes so hope!

For rising from out of such hell, all of their fine hearts so chose to swell!

As 18 ships were lost or crippled on that day,
names like USS Arizona come to mind who were so sent to their watery graves . . .

As the waters now above gently caress their souls,
as deep below in these ships their sacred bodies hold!

As upon our knees, with tears in eyes for all of them we now so pray!

As the bombs rained down upon Pearl on that day!
 As almost two hundred planes were shot down or on run ways lie ruin to decay!
 But, they say our Lord has his hand in it on that day . . .
 Because, our carriers were far out to sea . . . far out of harms way!
 Giving our Country Tis of Thee, that chance to come back from such Infamy!
 And suddenly now as a Nation, we were all on the march . . .
 all ahead full . . . as our hearts they could not so parch!
 As we collectively so sent the word, "Over There . . . Send The Word To Beware!"
 As this was the defining moment, when America So Set Out To Save The World!
 So teach your children well, that out of Such Infamy and Such Hell . . .
 Can come such light, Wherever Faith In Hearts So Dwells . . .
 And that America's Heart, will always find a way to swell!
 That in our darkest of all hours, our Faith will all so shower!
 With The Strength To Over Evil, To So Tower!
 So on this day upon your knees, remember all of these . . .
 And, "That Day Which Will Live In Infamy"!
 But, not forget what over Evil, Hearts of Faith and Courage Can So Achieve!
 For something's time can not erase . . .
 And for such things, Heaven so holds a place!
 On This Day That Will Live . . . In Infamy!
 Remember Pearl, Bless them all God Speed!

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 12, 2011

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be in Washington DC from December 5–8, 2011.

Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall vote No. 892; "aye" on rollcall vote No. 893; "aye" on rollcall vote No. 894; "aye" on rollcall vote No. 895; "aye" on rollcall vote No. 896; "aye" on rollcall vote No. 897; "aye" on rollcall vote No. 898; "aye" on rollcall vote No. 899; "aye" on rollcall vote No. 900, the motion to recommit H.R. 10; "no" on rollcall vote No. 901, final passage of the Regulations in Need of Scrutiny (REINS) Act (H.R. 10); "no" on rollcall vote No. 902; "no" on rollcall vote No. 903, the rule providing for consideration of the Farm Dust Regulation Prevention Act of 2011 (H.R. 1633); "no" on rollcall vote No. 904, the Synthetic Drug Control Act; "aye" on rollcall vote No. 906; "aye" on rollcall vote No. 907; "aye" on rollcall vote No. 908; "aye" on rollcall vote No. 909; "aye" on rollcall vote No. 910; "aye" on rollcall vote No. 911, the motion to recommit H.R. 1633; and "no" on rollcall vote No. 912, final passage of the Farm Dust Regulation Prevention Act (H.R. 1633).

INTRODUCING THE INVESTING IN AMERICA'S SMALL BUSINESSES ACT OF 2011

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 12, 2011

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Investing in America's Small Businesses Act of 2011, or the "Micro Biz" Bill.

This bill fills an important need in this country to advance the practice of microlending to small start ups, and because it allows Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs) to do more of the great work that they already do.

This bill will expand a vital source of seed money for entrepreneurs who don't have access to bank loans. The billion-dollar corporation that began in a dorm room or a garage is no urban myth, as the employees of Facebook and Hewlett-Packard can tell you, but the Great Recession has made it harder than ever for entrepreneurs to access credit. It's my hope that this "micro biz" bill will be a bridge not only to vital financing for entrepreneurs, but also to a brighter economic future for our country.

Indeed, we in Congress talk quite often about the need to create jobs. And even with the unemployment rate falling to 8.6% from a high of 9.2%, our economic recovery is slower than all of us would like. So the goal of my bill is to get to the heart of job creation, the small business—and more specifically, the small startup. And because I think this is a goal that even big business should share, a critical component of the bill is to foster public private partnerships. I have focused on CDFIs because they are on the ground every day financing projects, lending to small businesses, and engaging in economic development in underserved areas.

My bill will provide grants to CDFIs to create or enhance their loan-loss reserves so they can either begin to do micro lending or so they can do more of it. Loan-loss reserves are critical for institutions to be able to extend loans and for corporations to partner with them. Loan-loss reserves cover the institution in the case of a loan default but also allow the institution to be in the "first loss" position. So, if a larger institution or corporation wants to partner with them, the loan-loss reserve ensures that the CDFI, not the larger institution or corporation, will be on the hook should the loan default. I should note, though, that historically, loans in this category through the CDFI's have a very low loan default rate—just 3% in the first quarter of 2011. But the loan-loss reserve provides critical protections for CDFIs and their partners.

The bill also provides grants for technical assistance so that CDFIs can engage with small businesses and help them get off the ground. Loans made through this program must be under \$25,000 and the CDFI must be able to match the grant by 50%. Most importantly, for every dollar of public money, the CDFIs can leverage six dollars of private money.

I believe this bill is essential to helping CDFIs create new financial products and services that are appropriate and accessible for millions of American small businesses that do not have access to the financial mainstream.

Often we are talking about a young Steve Jobs who invents the first computer in his basement but needs startup capital to get it out there. Unfortunately most entrepreneurs aren't Steve Jobs and need loans to get their ideas off the ground. But if they do, they grow, they take on a partner and business takes off from there. Job creation flows from that first loan.

That is exactly what this bill is about and why I think it is so important. It is not a comprehensive solution, but it is a way to get money out there to small business and support job creation from the ground up.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important legislation.

IN HONOR OF JACK WINGATE

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 12, 2011

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart and feeling of fond remembrance that I rise today to pay tribute to a close personal friend, committed community leader, avid conservationist and one of America's most accomplished and legendary bass fishermen—the late Jack Wingate. Mr. Wingate, affectionately known as the "Sage of Seminole," passed away on Thursday, December 8, 2011 at his residence in Recovery, Georgia.

A large gathering that consisted of family members, friends, colleagues and his expansive network of admiring fans, paid their respects to Mr. Wingate at his funeral service that was held on Monday, December 12, 2011, at Calvary Baptist Church. The funeral service was followed by an interment at Cool Springs Cemetery and Masonic graveside rites were provided by the Faceville Masonic Lodge number 487 along with military honors that were bestowed by the United States Navy.

Mr. Wingate, an immensely popular and universally respected public figure in the Decatur County, Georgia community for several decades, was born on September 1, 1929 in Faceville, Georgia. The son of William Paul Wingate and Myrtle Bates Wingate, he was a 1947 graduate of Faceville High School and was a Korean War veteran.

After honorably serving in the military during the Korean conflict, Mr. Wingate returned to his home state of Georgia and founded the famous Lunker Lodge on Lake Seminole in Bainbridge, Georgia. This nationally renowned lodge has hosted several prestigious fishing tournaments and has earned a reputation as a favored compound for expert bass fishermen and notable celebrities. Jack also operated the Wingate's Fishing Camp for Boys at Lunker Lodge and introduced many young men and future expert anglers to the outdoors for 33 years.

Along with operating the Lunker Lodge, Jack had a very successful career as a media commentator and columnist. Over several decades he served as a columnist for the Bainbridge Post-Searchlight newspaper and frequently made appearances on local TV and radio stations throughout Southwest Georgia to discuss current events, tell fishing stories, and provide in-depth updates on conditions at Lake Seminole.

Jack Wingate achieved numerous successes in his life, but none of this would have been possible without the grace of God and his loving wife of 59 years, Joyce E. Wingate. Jack was also the proud father of three daughters—Katherine W. Kent and her husband, Lamar, of Chattahoochee, Florida; Peggy W. MacDonald and her husband, Wayne, of Macon, Georgia; and Jacque Wingate of Recovery, Georgia. Jack is also survived by two beloved grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in paying tribute to Mr. Jack Wingate for being an outstanding ambassador and unyielding supporter of communities throughout Southwest Georgia and for all the outstanding work he did on behalf of working families throughout our United States of America.

THE AFFIRMATION OF APOSTLE
DR. JOHN H. BOYD, SR.

HON. GREGORY W. MEEKS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 12, 2011

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I ask that the House of Representatives recognize the Affirmation of Dr. John Haywood Boyd, Sr. as an Apostle of the New Greater Bethel Ministries, located in Cambria Heights and Queens Village with the Sixth Congressional District of New York. Dr. Boyd is a well-known and much-admired figure in clerical and civic circles in southeast Queens. He began his ministry in 1972 in a small canvas tent at the intersection of Francis Lewis and Linden Boulevards in Cambria Heights.

From that site New Greater Bethel Ministries grew in number, influence, and impact, having established a food pantry and soup kitchen which fed hundreds of homeless individuals and families. Under Pastor Boyd's guidance, New Greater Bethel Ministries established a prison ministry to tend to the spiritual needs of incarcerated men and women. Pastor Boyd himself did outstanding work with the Inmate Community Improvement Program for which he received a certificate of recognition from the superintendent of the Queensboro Correctional Facility.

In 1993, the New Greater Bethel Ministries expanded with the addition of a location on Jamaica Avenue in Queens Village. Where rundown structures once stood, Dr. Boyd built a 1500 seat worship and community service facility, complete with a Christian Literature and Media Center, a digital recording studio, a television studio, and a drama center. Later, Dr. Boyd opened the K-12 Bethel Christian Learning Academy and the New Greater Bethel Bible Institute.

Despite episodes of illness and having now reached 85 years of age, Dr. Boyd still provides dynamic leadership to New Greater Bethel Ministries, ensuring that the church to which he had devoted his life continues to minister to the spiritual and material needs of several thousand members of its congregation as well as thousands of residents in the surrounding communities. Dr. Boyd studied at the Manhattan Bible Institute and earned his doctor of divinity from the United Christian College of New York. Over the course of his ministry he has received numerous award commenda-

tions from federal, state, and municipal elected officials, clergy, religious organizations, and community groups. He has been named "Man of the Year" by The New York Christian Times.

Dr. Boyd has been married to his wife, Mother Margie Boyd, for over 60 years. He has six children and numerous grandchildren and great grandchildren.

On December 10, 2011, over 1,000 congregants, community residents, and guests attended the ceremony at which Dr. John Haywood Boyd, Sr. was affirmed as an Apostle of the New Greater Bethel Ministries.

RECOGNIZING TERESA WOODRUFF,
PH.D., AND THE WOMEN'S
HEALTH SCIENCE PROGRAM FOR
HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS AT NORTH-
WESTERN UNIVERSITY

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 12, 2011

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Teresa Woodruff and the Women's Health Science Program for High School Girls, developed by the Institute for Women's Health Research at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, on their receipt of the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Engineering Mentoring.

The Women's Health Science Program for High School Girls targets primarily African American and Latina girls from disadvantaged backgrounds in Chicago. The young women have the opportunity to study at four different Northwestern academies: cardiology, physical science, infectious disease, and oncology.

There is a tremendous opportunity for women to make a difference in improving America's innovative capacity and global competitiveness. A study from last year from the American Association of University Women (AAUW) entitled, "Why So Few?" underscores the point that attracting and retaining more women in the STEM workforce will maximize innovation, creativity, and competitiveness.

The AAUW study suggests that there are a number of ways to cultivate young women's interest and persistence in science and engineering, including mentoring. As Dr. Woodruff and the Women's Health Science Program prove, mentoring plays a crucial role in the academic and personal development of students—especially for young women and underrepresented minorities—who choose to study science and engineering. Of the 90 students who participated in the Women's Health Science Program, 18 are seniors in high school, 70 attend college, and 2 have received undergraduate degrees. Of those attending college, 51 percent are pursuing science majors.

We stand on the precipice of major discoveries and advancements. We need more women and minorities in STEM-related fields to ensure that our workforce and the solutions they develop to solve the problems of today—and tomorrow—are designed better and designed with everyone in mind.

There is a place for initiatives that motivate students to pursue STEM throughout their educational careers. With targeted action—like

that of Dr. Woodruff and the Women's Health Science Program—we can remain global leaders in this vital field.

Again, I want to congratulate Dr. Woodruff for this well-deserved award in recognition of her outstanding work to provide opportunities for girls and women to improve our community and world.

CBC SPECIAL ORDER

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 12, 2011

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to include extraneous materials and statements into the RECORD.

First let me thank Chairman CLEAVER for organizing this timely special order and for his leadership on these issues that are so critical for millions of Americans who are looking for work and living on the edge.

Mr. Speaker, I rise with my Congressional Black Caucus colleagues to call for an immediate extension of emergency unemployment benefits and to extend the vital payroll tax holiday for millions of Americans.

We must not fail to do the work of the American people and we must not fail to extend these critical benefits before they run out.

Republican politicians continue to play games with the American people and threaten the recovery of our entire economy just to score political points with their extreme Tea Party base.

If you believed, even for a moment, that Republican politicians truly cared about the plight of the millions of Americans who are struggling to find a job and did not care just about protecting their special interests and getting more tax breaks for the super rich, then this bill should end all doubt.

H.R. 3630 reveals their true colors.

This latest bill, the so called Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2011, is another slap in the face to the millions of Americans who are struggling to find a job and are living in poverty or on the edge of falling into poverty.

Republicans are holding hostage critical unemployment benefits and threatening every working American with a tax hike so that they can advance the special interest agenda.

I call on Republicans to quickly bring a clean bill to the floor that extends emergency unemployment for the millions of jobseekers who continue to struggle to find a job in the middle of the economic disaster that the careless deregulation of the banks created.

Let's have an up or down vote on a clean bill that extends the temporary reduction of the payroll tax for millions of Americans that has been critical in boosting demand and lifting our economy.

Let's have an up or down vote on a clean bill that isn't bogged down with riders and special interest spending.

Let's have an up or down vote on a clean bill that keeps millions of families and 1 million children out of poverty.

Failing to extend these critical benefits would cripple our recovery and cost the economy over half a million jobs.

If you speak to nearly any business person, they will tell you that they are not hiring and

not expanding, not because of “uncertainty about the tax code” or “burdensome regulation,” but because they are certain that they don’t have customers.

Failing to extend these critical benefits and cutting off unemployment benefits during the holidays would strip 2 million customers out of the economy by March and over 6 million customers out of the economy by the end of the year.

We could not make a worse decision than to cripple our recovery by failing to protect millions of families and children from poverty, because that is just what unemployment benefits does, it keeps 1 million children from falling into poverty.

Mr. Speaker, our economy is on the way to recovery, but much more must be done.

We may have seen a small drop in the national unemployment last month, but during that same month that saw a .4 percent drop in unemployment nationally, we saw a .4 percent rise in unemployment for African Americans.

There can be no clearer reminder of the ongoing racial and ethnic disparities that continue to plague our Nation and keep minority communities suffering disproportionately higher rates of unemployment, poverty, and tragic health disparities like the unconscionably higher rates of HIV infection.

100 million people—1 in 3 Americans—live in poverty or the zone just above poverty. The budget shortfalls caused by the Bush tax cuts for the wealthy and his two unfunded wars are causing massive lay-offs in States, counties

and cities across the country and those lay-offs are again striking minority communities at disproportionate rates.

Not only must we immediately extend the emergency unemployment benefits, but we should also immediately pass legislation that I, along with my colleague Congressman BOBBY SCOTT introduced, H.R. 589. Our legislation would add an additional 14 weeks of tier I unemployment benefits for the millions of Americans who have already completely exhausted their benefits.

Mr. SCOTT and I have introduced an amendment which would replace the draconian cuts to unemployment benefits contained in the Republican bill with a clean extension of the existing Emergency Unemployment Compensation and H.R. 589 which would give some help to the 99ers who have completely run out of unemployment benefits.

We cannot ignore the needs of the millions of Americans who have run out of time and are now losing their homes, falling out of the middle class, and relying more and more on other forms of government assistance.

We should be taking strong action to implement targeted programs and policies that ensure that we are a Nation that truly does provide equal opportunity and equal access to the American Dream.

This is nothing short of a national emergency and more must be done immediately to put in place programs that directly address the on-going crisis of poverty and unemployment in America by creating millions of new jobs now.

ONLINE CONSENT FOR SHARING
VIDEO SERVICE USE

SPEECH OF

HON. HANSEN CLARKE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2011

Mr. CLARKE of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, today the House of Representatives is considering H.R. 2471. H.R. 2471 would amend the Video Privacy Protection Act (VPPA), a 1988 law that prohibits video rental stores from disclosing a consumer’s rental history. Currently, the only way such information can be shared is with the consumer’s written consent each time the video tape service provider wants to share their information. H.R. 2471 would allow video tape service providers to obtain a consumer’s consent on an ongoing basis and that consent may be obtained through the Internet. In recent years, the Internet has changed how we share movies and other media. This is why I originally supported the bill. Ultimately, I am voting against H.R. 2471 because the bill could undermine the key provision of the VPPA which is the consumer’s right to give meaningful consent to disclose their personal information. H.R. 2471 transfers control from the consumer to the company in possession of the data and diminishes consumer’s control over their personal information.

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 Tuesday, December 13, 2011 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

DECEMBER 14

9:30 a.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
Securities, Insurance and Investment Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine investor risks in capital raising.

SD-538

9:45 a.m.

Finance

Energy, Natural Resources, and Infrastructure Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine alternative energy tax incentives, focusing on the effect of short-term extensions on alternative technology investment, domestic manufacturing, and jobs.

SD-215

10 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Business meeting to consider S. 1449, to authorize the appropriation of funds for highway safety programs and for other purposes, S. 1950, to amend title 49, United States Code, to improve commercial motor vehicle safety and reduce commercial motor vehicle-related accidents and fatalities, to authorize the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, S. 1952, to improve hazardous materials transportation safety and for other purposes, S. 1953, to reauthorize the Research and Innovative Technology Administration, to improve transportation research and development, and a promotion list in the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

SR-253

Foreign Relations

European Affairs Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the state of human rights and rule of law in Russia, focusing on United States policy options.

SD-419

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Business meeting to consider S. 1855, to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize various programs under the Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Act, and the nominations of Wendy M. Spencer, of Florida, to be Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation for National and Community Service, Deepa Gupta, of Illinois, to be a Member of the National Council on the Arts, Christopher Merrill, of Iowa, to be a Member of the National Council on the Humanities, Stephanie Orlando, of New York, and Gary Blumenthal, of Massachusetts, both to be a Member of the National Council on Disability, and a nomination list in the Public Health Service.

SD-430

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Business meeting to consider an original bill entitled, "Stop Trading on Congressional Knowledge Act of 2012", S. 1515, to permit certain members of the United States Secret Service and certain members of the United States Secret Service Uniformed Division who were appointed in 1984, 1985, or 1986 to elect to be covered under the District of Columbia Police and Firefighter Retirement and Disability System in the same manner as members appointed prior to 1984, H.R. 2297, to promote the development of the Southwest waterfront in the District of Columbia, H.R. 789, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 20 Main Street in Little Ferry, New Jersey, as the "Sergeant Matthew J. Fenton Post Office", H.R. 2422, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 45 Bay Street, Suite 2, in Staten Island, New York, as the "Sergeant Angel Mendez Post Office", and the nomination of Roslyn Ann Mazer, of Maryland, to be Inspector General, Department of Homeland Security.

SD-342

Judiciary

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

SD-226

DECEMBER 15

9:30 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

Business meeting to consider S. 1108, to provide local communities with tools to make solar permitting more efficient, S. 1142, to promote the mapping and development of the United States geothermal resources by establishing a direct loan program for high risk geothermal exploration wells, to amend the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 to improve geothermal energy technology and demonstrate the use of geothermal energy in large scale thermal applications, S. 1149, to expand geothermal production, S. 1160, to improve the administration of the Department of Energy, and the nomination of Arunava Majumdar, of California, to be Under Secretary of Energy.

SD-366

10 a.m.

Environment and Public Works

Clean Air and Nuclear Safety Subcommittee

To hold joint hearings to examine the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) near-term task force recommendations for enhancing reactor safety in the 21st century.

SD-406

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine prescription drug shortages, focusing on examining a public health concern and potential solutions.

SD-106

Judiciary

Business meeting to consider S. 1821, to prevent the termination of the temporary office of bankruptcy judges in certain judicial districts, S. 1236, to reduce the trafficking of drugs and to prevent human smuggling across the Southwest Border by deterring the construction and use of border tunnels, and the nomination of Brian C. Wimes, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern and Western Districts of Missouri.

SD-226

10:30 a.m.

Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

To hold hearings to examine certain nominations.

SR-328A

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries, and Coast Guard Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine environmental risks of genetically engineered fish.

SR-253

11 a.m.

Foreign Relations

Western Hemisphere, Peace Corps and Global Narcotics Affairs Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the United States-Caribbean shared security partnership, focusing on responding to the growth of trafficking narcotics in the Caribbean.

SD-419

2:15 p.m.

Foreign Relations

African Affairs Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine improving governance in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

SD-419

2:30 p.m.

Aging

To hold hearings to examine implementing the "Physician Payment Sunshine Act".

SD-562

POSTPONEMENTS

DECEMBER 14

10 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Margaret Bartley, of Maryland, Coral Wong Pietsch, of Hawaii, and Gloria Wilson Shelton, of Maryland, all to be a Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims.

SR-418