

NOTING THE PASSING OF MRS.
RUBIE J. McCULLOUGH

HON. LOUIS STOKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 4, 1996

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I announce the passing of Mrs. Rubie Jones McCullough on December 27, 1995. I joined members of the McCullough family, Rubie's many friends, and members of the Greater Cleveland community, in celebrating the life of Rubie McCullough at homegoing services on January 2, 1996. The passing of this dedicated individual brings to a close a life committed to serving others. I rise in order to share with my colleagues some information regarding this distinguished individual.

Rubie was born in Enfield, NC, on July 16, 1918, to the late Arthur and Corrina Jones. She received her education in North Carolina, including a degree in teaching business administration from North Carolina Central University. Early in her career, she taught school in North Carolina. Rubie McCullough came to Cleveland in 1945, where she began a 23-year association with the Phillis Wheatley Association. The organization benefited from her strong leadership and commitment to serving others. It was also during this period that Rubie met and married her loving partner and companion, William (Ted) McCullough.

Mr. Speaker, in 1968, Rubie McCullough undertook one of her greatest challenges. In response to the community's need for youth services, including tutoring and counseling programs, she founded the Harvard Community Services Center. Over the years, with the support of the business and civic community, the center expanded to include senior services and programs to assist families. Mrs. McCullough served as executive director of the Harvard Community Services Center from its inception until her retirement in 1989. Rubie McCullough also maintained her strong commitment to education. Cuyahoga Community College prospered under her leadership of the board of trustees for 21 years. She approached the assignment with the highest level of commitment and dedication.

During her lifetime, Rubie J. McCullough earned the respect and admiration of her colleagues and others throughout the community. She was a social activist whose stature rests upon a lifetime of commitment to service, social justice, equality and opportunity for all people. Rubie was the recipient of numerous awards and honors which recognized her commitment and dedication to service.

Mr. Speaker, her obituary stated that Rubie McCullough was, "a wife, mother, grandmother, sister and friend, whose life mirrored service, commitment and dedication to God and mankind." These words describe an individual who was a close friend and supporter. Those of us who were the beneficiaries of her unselfish devotion will miss our colleague and confidant. She was a woman of intellect and dignity, and she was very special to all who knew her.

I take this opportunity to express my sympathy to Rubie's loving husband of 47 years, William (Ted) McCullough, her son William C. McCullough, Jr., and her daughter-in-law, Carolyne. I also extend deepest sympathy to Rubie's sister, Lucinda Jones Smith, her

brother, Charles Jones, and her grandchildren; William C. III, David, Stacey, and Morgan McCullough. She also leaves to mourn a number of nieces and nephews, many other relatives and a host of loving friends. God has called Rubie McCullough home to rest, but she will always be in our hearts.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 4,
PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY AND
WORK OPPORTUNITY ACT OF 1995

SPEECH OF

HON. PETER G. TORKILDSEN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 21, 1995

Mr. TORKILDSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to strongly support this compromise legislation. I voted against the original House-passed welfare package, and received a fair amount of criticism for it. But that original package needed to be changed, especially in two key areas.

The original bill attempted to turn child nutrition programs, such as school lunch and WIC, into block grants. Additionally, it completely eliminated the social safety net for legal immigrants.

The Senate-House compromise bill addresses these concerns in this final bill. Specifically, the nutrition block-grant proposal has been eliminated: WIC will continue to be a separately funded program, one that works well in providing early childhood nutrition and education for both children and their parents.

The compromise bill will also continue to allow legal immigrants to receive benefits that their tax dollars pay for. While States will have to agree, the language in the compromise bill is a substantial improvement over the original language.

This welfare reform bill also includes the strongest child support enforcement provisions ever enacted by the Federal Government.

Child support checks often mean the difference between self-sufficiency and dependency on welfare. With this bill, we are sending a clear message that it is never acceptable to abandon your children, and if you do, the penalties will be severe.

I am proud to have sponsored a provision in this bill that will prevent parents from hiding assets in other States, while neglecting to pay the child support payments they are legally, and morally, required to make. My provision will allow a custodial parent to place a lien on a delinquent parent's asset, without having to travel from State to State. In this provision, property liens will be given "full faith and credit" in every State, forcing parents to meet their moral and financial responsibilities.

The Personal Responsibility Act gives States and localities the necessary flexibility to implement innovative approaches to serving those in need. States will have the option to choose from a number of policy suggestions set forth in this bill, including requiring mothers under 18 to attend school and live with an adult, and denying additional cash benefits to those mothers who have children while receiving benefits. The Governor of my home State, Bill Weld, has a bold welfare reform plan which cannot be fully implemented, until this bill becomes law.

This bill represents the end of welfare as we know it. People trapped in the current system

will be given encouragement and assistance in obtaining jobs and education. It will prevent abuse of the welfare system, by placing a lifetime limit on benefits. Welfare was never meant to be a way of life. This bill returns welfare to the short-term assistance plan it was always meant to be.

I urge the President to fulfill his campaign pledge to "end welfare as we know it" by signing this bill. Without these reforms, the cycle of poverty that has afflicted so many for the past three decades will only continue. This compromise is a win for children, a win for those trapped in a failed system, and a win for taxpayers.

CONGRESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY
ACT OF 1995

HON. J.D. HAYWORTH

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 4, 1996

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues to support H.R. 2727, the Congressional Responsibility Act of 1995.

The Congressional Responsibility Act corrects a serious violation of the Constitution: Article I, section 1 states that "All legislative powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress." The section, moreover, makes clear that this legislative power includes the power to regulate. Congress, however, routinely delegates this authority to unelected bureaucrats. The Congressional Responsibility Act will stop delegation by requiring Congress to approve Federal regulations.

Americans are disillusioned with Government. They believe, in particular, that Congress, designed to be the most accountable branch of Government, has grown increasingly unresponsive and unaccountable.

As usual, the American people are correct. Government is less accountable than it was the first 150 years of the Republic. Beginning in the late 1930's, the Federal Government retreated from the fundamental constitutional principle that vests lawmaking power solely with the people's elected representatives.

An elemental principle of representative government is political accountability: The public's right to hold elected officials responsible for the laws imposed upon them. This is especially important today, as government has assumed an increasingly larger role in the lives of Americans. But good government suffers, liberty diminishes, and bad laws proliferate when the link between voter and elected official is severed.

The Framers of our Constitution understood this danger and wisely followed John Locke's admonition that "the legislative cannot transfer the power of making law to any other hands."

In practice, however, Congress routinely delegates its lawmaking duties to politically unaccountable bureaucrats who craft regulations with the full force of law. From clean air to savings and loans, past Congresses have ceded responsibility for lawmaking to bureaucratic fiat. Delegation gives life to bad laws. Such laws would not stand a chance in bright, open sunshine, but they can slip by in the dark, without widespread support or deliberation.

For example, in 1972, the Clean Water Act granted the Corps of Engineers authority to

regulate areas adjacent to, or connected to, navigable waters. Over time, however, Federal regulations have been extended to include even isolated wetlands with no connection to navigable waterways. This is clearly a case of regulations going far beyond the scope of statutory language; in fact, the word "wetlands" does not appear in the 1972 Clean Water Act.

This law, which was originally created to prohibit the discharge of pollutants into water. It was used, however, used to prosecute John Pozsgai of Morrisville, PA. Pozsgai cleaned up a 14-acre dump site he purchased to expand his truck repair business. Although Federal regulators may have been happy to see the junk hauled away, when Pozsgai leveled about 5 acres with clean fill dirt, the EPA took him to court because it said the dump he cleaned up was really a valuable wetland. He

was fined \$5,000 and sentenced to 3 years in jail. Pozsgai's only crime: dumping dirt without permission.

Delegation also permits Congress to grant favors without imposing costs and to exercise selective power without taking responsibility for its consequences. Like budget deficits, Congress is able to reap the benefits of its largess, but avoid blame for its costs. Moreover, delegation allows powerful special interests to expand substantial resources in private to benefit the few at the expense of the many. With delegation, Congress can be everything to all people, but, ultimately, it is the people who lose.

The Congressional Responsibility Act corrects these abuses by requiring agency regulations to be presented to Congress for a vote, either under expedited procedures or through

the normal legislative process. The bill provides that Federal regulations will not take effect unless passed by a majority of Representatives and Senators and signed by the President—or a veto is overridden. This concept was offered by Justice Stephen Breyer—before his appointment to the Supreme Court—as a method to satisfy " * * * the literal wording of the Constitution's bicameral and presentation clauses * * *"

This reform is ideologically neutral and non-partisan. Concerns about delegation have been voiced by people from across the political spectrum, including Judge Robert Bork and ACLU president, Nadine Strossen. I hope that my colleagues who are committed to restoring the public's right to hold its elected officials responsible for their actions will support this important legislation.