

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON
THE BUDGET, FISCAL YEAR 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 23, 2000

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the concurrent resolution (House Concurrent Resolution 290) establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2001, revising the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2000, and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for each of fiscal years 2002 through 2005:

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in strong support of the amendment offered by my colleague JOHN SPRATT, the Democratic alternative to the FY 2001 Budget Resolution. This Democratic alternative is a budget plan that strengthens Social Security, provides a voluntary prescription drug benefit for all seniors, and provides more debt reduction than the Republican budget. The choice is between fiscal responsibility sustaining economic prosperity and large risky tax cuts for the wealthy.

Our national budget is a statement of our national values, and it is hard to say that the Republican budget reflects the values of many hard working families. The Republican budget requires that we cut 310,000 low-income women, infants, and children off WIC assistance; cut 1,000 FBI agents and 800 Drug Enforcement Administration agents; provide 316,000 fewer Pell Grants to low-income students; and eliminate more than 40,000 children from the Head Start program. All this for the politics of special interests and vast tax cuts.

On the other hand, the Spratt Democratic alternative supports the values of America's families. It is fiscally responsible by providing investment in families first; proposing targeted tax cuts, and allocating more funds to pay down our national debt. Specifically, the Democratic alternative extends the solvency of Social Security by 15 years and Medicare by as much as 10 years; protects the Social Security surplus and devotes \$365 billion of the non-Social Security surplus over 10 years to reduce additional debt; allows military retirees to use Medicare benefits at military treatment facilities; provides Medicare prescription drug coverage for all and protects low-income seniors from any cost-sharing requirements; and allocates additional funding for paying down the national debt.

Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan has warned that Congress should not legislate large tax cuts before security measures to pay down the national debt and sustain economic expansion. The Republican budget grants large tax cuts on money that simply is not there to pay for it. The Spratt alternative secures on-budget surpluses for the next 10 years, unlike the Republican budget. Under the Spratt alternative the entire national debt would be eliminated by 2013.

I support the values of America's working families, fiscal responsibility, and the preservation of economic expansion. In short, I encourage us all to vote in favor of the Spratt Democratic alternative.

TRIBUTE TO JACK ROBERTS

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, Jack Roberts was a renowned artist, a knowledgeable historian, but more than all of this, he was a friend to many. Jack not only lived in the West, but he spent his career depicting the West on canvas for all generations to come. His art is coveted for its unique colorful flare of those "ole cowboys" all based on authentic Western men and women of the time.

It is known that as a young cowboy Jack rode the ditch for months without seeing people. These times allowed him the solitude to accurately reflect, through art, on the life of the West. His paintings were significant and have a place in the history of the West.

Jack spent over 50 years as an artist of the West. His paintings hang in many residences, businesses, museums and private collections. Jack studied at the University of Oklahoma, The Chicago Art Institute, The American Academy of Art in Chicago, and he spent two years with the great Harvey Dunn at the Grand Central School of Art in New York. Throughout his years Jack continued his study of the arts although he was already recognized as a scholar in the field.

A point of note, from Jack's personal recovery he took many of the hands of alcoholics to help them through their path to recovery. His compassion, like his art, left strong impressions and a lasting thought in the mind.

Jack leaves behind his son Gary, Gary's wife Monica and their son Wade. Additionally Jack had many friends and students of his art.

I considered it a privilege to have known Jack as a friend and to have been fortunate enough to enjoy his art.

We mourn the passing of this fine man from the West, but we keep in mind that he has just saddled up his horse, ridden ahead on the trail—to set up the camp and put on the coffee. Jack, we will miss you, "ole cowboy."

TRIBUTE TO ARTHUR "PAPPY"
KENNEDY

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 2000

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of Florida's true heroes and pioneers, Arthur "Pappy" Kennedy. Pappy Kennedy passed away today after devoting a life time of service to the Florida political, civic, cultural and educational community. His honors are numerous, and his heroism unparalleled. As the first African American to be elected to the Orlando City Commission since Reconstruction, Pappy served with distinction and was re-elected by the largest percentage between contestants in the City's 101-year history up to that time. This was no great surprise to those who knew Pappy, who knew that his very existence depended upon his service to others. Nor was his service limited to the constituents who elected him. Having raised himself from poverty in rural Florida, Pappy was determined to

improve the lot of others less fortunate than himself. And he did all this with the quietest dignity, at a time when dignity came at a premium for black men.

He suffered through segregation and discrimination, and managed to out maneuver both. His personal sacrifices in the face of such trying times are untold and countless. His professional accomplishments were numerous. His pioneering days began when he became one of the first African American men to work at the Orange Court Hotel in downtown Orlando, rising from one position to another in an effort to pay his way through college, which he did. Pappy's college training in Psychology paid off, for everyone who knew him in his later years could extoll his wonderful counseling abilities. He was never too busy to listen to the slightest concern that one of his constituents or neighbors or friends might bring to him. And no problem was too great for Pappy to tackle. One such instance involved the time he began organizing the former Orlando Negro Chamber of Commerce. His pioneering spirit and persevering manner deflected the considerable reluctance on the part of some local business owners. I will never forget his many inspirational, and sage, messages to me over the years, especially as I aspired to political office.

Though not a professional educator, Pappy's passion clearly lay in helping to enhance opportunities for minority schools and the students they served, and his efforts as President of the Jones High School PTA and the Orange County PTA Council left an indelible mark upon the City of Orlando. A spirited entrepreneur, Pappy was elected to the Florida League of Cities Board of Directors and was a Trust Officer of the Washington Shores Federal Savings and Loan Association, a black-owned and operated local financial institution.

Pappy Kennedy was first and foremost a family man, devoted to his late wife Marian, and his two children Arthur Jr. and Shirley. Like so many other politicians, I was blessed to know Pappy: as a counselor in politics, as a guide in life, and as a friend in all that mattered. He will be missed by scores of Floridians, but his legacy of service and sacrifice will endure in the extraordinary opportunities that resulted from all that he gave and all that he was. In Florida, we are proud of Pappy Kennedy and better off because of him.

A TRIBUTE TO THE ROTARY CLUB
OF HASTINGS, DOBBS FERRY,
ARDSLEY AND IRVINGTON

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 2000

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I take this opportunity to recognize the 75th anniversary of the Rotary Club of Hastings, Dobbs Ferry, Ardsley and Irvington, in Westchester County in the State of New York, and urge Americans to take a moment to pay tribute to the efforts of Rotary International.

Rotary clubs were created in 1905 to promote international understanding and peace through cultural, humanitarian and educational exchange programs. Rotary clubs are composed of a group of community leaders, each