

guide for future generations of communication professionals and more notably, her personal accomplishments serve as a model for women wishing to follow in her path.

Mr. Speaker, I join the Association for Women in Communication, the Clarion Awards, Ms. Evans' family, and her colleagues at KTRH in applauding Ms. Evans' diligence in the field of communications and I look forward to sharing in her future work.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF  
CHARLES SPENCER POMPEY

**HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 31, 2001*

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in commemoration of the life of an inspirational leader and a truly committed social activist, my good friend, the late Charles Spencer Pompey. At a time when Martin Luther King Jr. had not yet shared his dream of racial equality with America, Mr. Pompey challenged the injustices of segregation with his work ethic and his passion. "If you are ever fired from a job," Spencer Pompey would say, "let it not be because of the color of your skin, or the lack of preparedness to do the job." Today, Congress must be prepared to do its job, and continue to tear down the barriers of racial inequity that linger within our nation.

When Mr. Pompey came to Palm Beach County in 1939, as one of five teachers at Washington Junior High School, it was clear that separate but equal was more of a rhetorical myth than a reality. Black students were taught in dilapidated buildings, using supplies that white schools had discarded. To make matters worse, black teachers could not join the only teachers' union of the time, the Florida Education Association. Always a crusader, Mr. Pompey organized black teachers to form the Palm Beach County Teachers Association and served as the group's first president. Twenty-four years later, he was named to the board of the Florida Education Association, which had once made the mistake of judging him by his skin color rather than the content of his character.

Perhaps the most inspirational aspect of Mr. Pompey's life was his unwavering dedication to helping youth in his community. He was the first individual, white or black, to develop a program of organized recreation for young people, working through the Naciremas Club. In addition, Mr. Pompey served as a coach of several champion football teams, emphasizing the importance of being a scholar as well as an athlete. As a principal, teacher, and coach, as well as a religious leader, Mr. Pompey taught a generation of young black Floridians to dream, to aspire, and to persevere.

Mr. Speaker, in proper tribute to the legendary activist, Charles Spencer Pompey, I urge Congress to recommit to the goal of promoting improved race relations. We cannot allow the specter of segregation to haunt our institutions, and we cannot allow glass ceilings or lack of resources to impede the progress of our growing minority communities. Let us guarantee that an individual's right to vote is held sacred, regardless of his or her race. Let us not forget the past and abandon policies of affirmative action, which will ensure that our

history of discrimination can be overcome and replaced by success for all in the twenty-first century. We have a duty to all American citizens to preserve the legacy and teachings of Charles Spencer Pompey, a true friend and a true American hero.

DEPARTMENTS OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2002

SPEECH OF

**HON. DENNIS MOORE**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 30, 2001*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2620) making appropriations for the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development and for sundry independent agencies, boards, commissions, corporations, and offices for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002, and for other purposes:

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 2620, the VA-HUD-Independent Agencies appropriations bill for Fiscal Year 2002.

On balance, this bill adequately addresses our national priorities and funding needs for housing, veterans' benefits and scientific research. H.R. 2620 provides modest increases for HUD programs and activities—\$1.4 billion more than last year. These increases will help address the most basic housing needs of our low- and moderate-income citizens.

This measure fully funds VA medical health care for our veterans and provides a \$1 billion increase over spending levels for FY2001, while almost tripling the funding provided for major VA construction projects. A separate provision appropriates \$300 million for safety and seismic repairs to VA medical facilities and the rehabilitation of VA research facilities. One important aspect of the bill is the extra \$128 million over FY01 for the Veterans Benefits Administration to expedite claims processing, which is a growing concern among veterans.

Additionally, I have been concerned about proposals to require military retirees to choose between military or VA health care systems, but this measure includes an amendment prohibiting the VA from using funds in FY2002 to force military retirees to permanently choose between the VA or military health care systems.

Finally, H.R. 2620 prioritizes funding for our essential research needs by increasing funds for the National Science Foundation to \$4.8 billion, \$414 million more than the current appropriation and \$368 million more than the President's request. As a member of the House Science Subcommittee on Research, I am pleased that this appropriation will allow the NSF to go forward with substantial new and ongoing initiatives in information technology, biodiversity, nanotechnology, the mathematical sciences and the social and behavioral sciences.

Mr. Chairman, while all of these programs are funded at levels that warrant the support of every single member of Congress, I have

serious concerns about one provision in this bill—a \$1.3 billion emergency designation for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Designating these funds an emergency is a clear violation of our budget rules and violates all principles of fiscal responsibility.

While I agree that the request for \$1.3 billion in emergency relief for the damage created by Tropical Storm Allison is a true emergency, the budget resolution does not allow for the allocation of emergency designations in regular appropriations bills unless those funds are offset. Under this Congress' budget rules, this bill requires a waiver from the Rules Committee as well as clearance from the Budget Committee because of this emergency designation. These waivers were provided, which irresponsibly circumvents our budget process.

More worrisome, however, is the fact that this Congress is perilously close to spending Medicare and Social Security surplus funds. I am concerned that by releasing these funds under the emergency designation—without offsets—this Congress sets an early precedent in the FY '02 appropriations process to spend more than budget resolution allocations.

As you are aware, recent press reports suggest that the updated economic forecast the Congressional Budget Office will release in August is likely to show no available surplus beyond the Social Security and Medicare trust funds in fiscal year 2002 and that Congress may have to dip into those trust funds by nearly \$41 billion in FY 2003. More troublesome is the fact that these shortfalls do not even account for many of our other stated needs like a comprehensive energy policy, a prescription drug benefit, and the President's request for additional defense spending.

This Congress made a commitment to the American people that we would not vote to spend one single penny of the Medicare and Social Security Trust Funds. I will honor that commitment. Spending restraint, fiscal responsibility, and honoring our commitments do not come about by good intentions, but by resolute actions.

Mr. Chairman, in an effort to honor that commitment, I will adhere to the levels in the budget resolution enacted by a majority of this Congress. I will oppose any efforts to increase spending beyond those levels without offsets. This includes any emergency designation, regardless of its merit.

The VA-HUD appropriations bill violated the budget resolution and, despite the many good programs contained in this bill, it busts the budget and threatens the Social Security and Medicare Trust Funds. I urge my colleagues to honor their commitment to protect these funds; I urge my colleagues to vote no on H.R. 2620.

THE UKRAINE CELEBRATES 10  
YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE AND  
PROMOTION OF DEMOCRATIC  
IDEALS

**HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 31, 2001*

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, on August 26, 2001, the Wisconsin Branch of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America and the Cooperation of Ukrainian Churches and Civic Organizations will commemorate 10 years of