

award and wish him well in all of his future endeavors.

REGARDING H.R. 3090, THE ECONOMIC SECURITY AND RECOVERY ACT

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 6, 2001

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my support for enacting a fair and reasonable economic stimulus package, and to voice my strong opposition to H.R. 3090, the Economic Stimulus and Recovery Act.

For the economy to get back on track, it needs insurance against a severe recession in the short run and insurance against escalating deficits and debts in the long run. A stimulus package consisting of temporary tax relief and temporary increases in government spending can provide both.

With the exception of the household tax rebate aimed at lower- and moderate-income workers, this stimulus package does little to help those that need it most. The majority of the tax provisions contained in this package are permanent, including a cut in the capital gains tax, a retroactive repeal of the corporate Alternative Minimum Tax (AMT) and an extension of benefits for multinational insurance and finance corporations. These permanent changes will not stimulate the economy in the short run and instead will put the Social Security and Medicare trust funds at risk in the long-term.

Additionally, the acceleration of recently-enacted tax cuts would only benefit the top 25 percent of all income tax filers, who are likely to save more and spend less of these tax cuts than those with lower incomes. A more effective stimulus package would combine the household rebate aimed at lower- and moderate-income workers with a temporary incentive for business investment.

Congress has historically responded to severe economic downturns by providing additional weeks of extended unemployment benefits for workers. In fact, during the 1990–1991 recession, Congress extended unemployment insurance (UI) benefits nationally on four separate occasions. H.R. 3090 blatantly disregards these past precedents by simply giving states a mere \$9 billion worth of block grants that may or may not be used to extend or increase unemployment benefits for laid-off workers.

This measure also falls to provide laid-off workers with adequate health care coverage. The average monthly COBRA premium is unaffordable for most displaced workers, who are barely making ends meet with their monthly UI benefits. Although H.R. 3090 would (give states \$3 billion in health care block grant funds, thousands of workers who have lost their jobs since September 11th would still remain uncovered.

Equally important to these short-term stimulus policies is insurance against escalating debt. We need a multiyear budget plan that covers the real costs of both the war on terrorism and the country's commitments to current and future retirees. Unfortunately, if this measure is adopted, its permanent toll on government revenues will require even more painful trade-offs among the nation's priorities in the future.

Even before the terrorist attacks, the enormous tax cuts scheduled over the next decade had dealt a severe blow to the nation's long-term fiscal outlook. According to both the Office of Management and Budget and the Congressional Budget Office, during the next decade, the federal surplus will be limited to funds earmarked for Social Security and Medicare. The Administration's tax cuts for the most affluent households have already wiped out the remaining on-budget surplus.

We must ensure these surpluses are replenished so that we can honor our future obligations. We must also provide every dollar needed to win the war against terrorism and to ensure the security of Americans wherever they may be. But in addressing these new and urgent priorities, we should remember the challenges that we faced even before the tragic attacks. Without compromising our vital commitments, we need to ensure that any policy changes address these new short-term challenges without worsening our continued long-term concerns.

For these reasons, I support the balanced, fiscally responsible Democratic substitute that deals with our immediate economic concerns without damaging the nation's fiscal health. It provides immediate relief to displaced workers while stimulating the economy with temporary business and individual tax cuts. Unlike H.R. 3090, the substitute promotes long-term economic stability and national security by making targeted investments in our nation's infrastructure. Finally, the substitute pays for itself by delaying the top income tax rate cut approved earlier this year, which benefits only our nation's wealthiest individuals.

I urge my colleagues to support the Democratic substitute and to reject this reckless and misguided economic stimulus package, which will further jeopardize our future fiscal security, while offering little assistance to those most vulnerable in the current economic climate.

TRIBUTE TO DR. FRANK BIASCO

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 6, 2001

Mr. JEFF MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to take a moment today to recognize and celebrate the life of a great Floridian and a great American, Dr. Frank Biasco.

Dr. Biasco would say that his specialty was human services. He was referring to his doctorate in counseling psychology and masters in social work. Those who knew him best can tell you that he loved serving his neighbors. The people of northwest Florida and the students he loved to teach were enlightened from his extensive experience in public life. Anyone who came in contact with Dr. Biasco was inundated with his infectious energy, vigor and commitment to his community. His memberships in countless organizations and professional groups, and the influence and legacy to our community will be felt for years to come.

Dr. Biasco's leadership spanned his life. He was on active duty in both WWII and the Korean war and his vast influence in local politics changed the landscape of the First Congressional District of Florida forever. He will always be remembered for his tireless fight for our environment and wetlands. Dr. Biasco was

awarded with numerous community and volunteer awards for his services, and the influence he had on our youth will continue for many years.

We are all saddened with the sudden loss of such a great man but can take solace that he will be serving us in a greater capacity. We will miss our dear friend and we will continue to celebrate the legacy he gave to our community.

ARIZONA'S SECOND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT—HOME OF THE 2001 WORLD CHAMPION ARIZONA DIAMONDBACKS

HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 6, 2001

Mr. PASTOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and pay tribute to the World Champion Arizona Diamondbacks. The Diamondbacks dethroned the mighty New York Yankees in a thrilling Game 7 to claim the 2001 World Series Championship in what many are calling the most exciting Series in history. I am proud to say that I am a Diamondback fan, but also I am proud to say that their home, Bank One Ballpark, resides in the Second Congressional District of Arizona, of which I have the honor of representing.

The Diamondbacks are the youngest expansion team to win a Major League Baseball World Series Championship, accomplishing this feat in only four years of existence. There was a tremendous amount of dedication and work by a great number of individuals toward reaching this goal and all involved should revel in this great accomplishment. And what is more important, these dedicated individuals came together to form a team—a championship team.

First, let me commend all the owners, especially the Managing General Partner Jerry Colangelo. For over 30 years, Jerry has not only been dedicated to building championship teams in Arizona but is highly regarded for his commitment to improving his community.

The Diamondback front office must be recognized as well. Rich Dozer, President of the club has supported the efforts of everyone associated with the Diamondbacks, and we would not be champions without him.

I want to congratulate General Manager Joe Garagiola, Jr. for his work in assembling this championship team. His foresight in combining the unique talents of each player into a formidable contender, truly deserves recognition.

I want to pay tribute to the man who steered the Diamondbacks to the pinnacle of baseball and became the first manager since 1961 to win the championship in his first year, Manager Bob Brenly. His coaching staff, Bob Melvin, Dwayne Murphy, Eddie Rodriguez, Glenn Sherlock, Chris Speier, and pitching coach Bob Welch, were all instrumental in the success experienced all year.

My granddaughter's favorite Diamondback, the mascot D. Baxter the Bobcat, who keeps us all laughing, even when things might not be going our way.

All these people have played an important role in bringing Arizona its first professional Championship and they each have staffs that have helped them every step of the way. The

city of Phoenix, the surrounding communities, and the State of Arizona thank you all.

But, Mr. Speaker, we will never forget Jay Bell crossing the plate in the bottom of the 9th Inning of Game 7, with the winning run. We will never forget Luis Gonzalez, after hitting 57 home runs during the season, dropping a bloop single over second base—one of his shortest hits of the year, but his longest hit in the hearts of Diamondback fans—to drive in that winning run. Who can forget Tony Womack's clutch hit to drive in the tying run.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I want to commend the three Most Valuable Players. Craig Counsell was selected the MVP of the National League Championship Series. Craig's performance throughout the post season was outstanding. His clutch hitting and tenacious defense served as an inspiration to his fellow players and helped to propel the Diamondbacks to victory after victory.

However, the Diamondback pitching tandem who garnered World Series MVP honors will go down in history as one of the greatest pitching combinations of all time. The names Johnson/Schilling will be synonymous with each other in baseball, just as Ruth/Gehrig and Koufax/Drysdale. Curt Schilling and Randy Johnson are both masters of their craft who dominated pitching this year. They were first and second in the National League this year in both strikeouts and earned run average, and they set a record for combined strikeouts by teammates.

Mr. Speaker, November 4, 2001 will be a day long remembered by Arizonans. It was a day in which we shared the joy and glory of a Diamondback victory and welcomed the first World Championship to Arizona. The City of Phoenix, the State of Arizona, and the whole country congratulate these World Champions on a job well done!

COMMENDING COMMANDER
CARLOS DEL TORO

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 6, 2001

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, on December 8, 2001, Commander Carlos Del Toro will take command of the USS *Bulkeley*, the newest Aegis Guided Missile Destroyer.

The USS *Bulkeley* is named in honor of Vice Admiral John D. Bulkeley. Vice Admiral Bulkeley was a true hero, serving our nation through 55 years of active duty. From his role in the landing at Normandy to his role as Commander of the U.S. Naval Base at Guantanamo, he served our country with loyalty and honor.

It is only appropriate that the commander of the USS *Bulkeley* embody the same exceptional characteristics of the ship's namesake. Commander Carlos Del Toro immigrated to the United States in 1962 from Cuba. He left a land sadly beset by oppression and dictatorship, and has devoted his life to defending liberty and democracy.

After graduating from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1983, Commander Del Toro began his honorable military career serving aboard the USS *Koelsch*, later serving on the USS *Preble*, and the USS *America*. While serving as the Assistant engineer on the USS *America*

aircraft carrier, he was deployed to the Persian Gulf twice in support of Operation Desert Storm.

Commander Del Toro has received a Masters Degree in Space Systems Engineering and Electrical Engineering from the Naval Postgraduate School, and served as Space Systems Program Manager at the Pentagon. He was responsible for managing a satellite ground station in support of our nation's national security. Following his work at the Pentagon, Commander Del Toro received a Master's Degree in National Security and Strategic Studies from the Navy War College, and served as Executive Officer of the USS *Vincennes*, a guided missile cruiser homeported in Japan.

Commander Carlos Del Toro has spent his Naval career preparing for his next assignment leading the USS *Bulkeley*. He honors the United States Navy, and he honors the United States of America. As a fellow Cuban-American, Mr. Speaker, it is a special privilege for me today to congratulate Commander Del Toro for his multiple career successes and to wish him and the crew of the USS *Bulkeley* Godspeed as they set to sea to defend America.

TRIBUTE TO EMILY MASAR

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 6, 2001

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Miss Emily Masar of La Junta, Colorado. Emily has been selected as this year's National Philanthropy Day Outstanding Youth for her exceptional community service. For this, Mr. Speaker, the United States Congress commends her.

Emily is a student of La Junta High School and first became interested in volunteer activities in 1999. Since then Masar has started the Respite Nights program and has recruited numerous volunteers. The Respite Nights program provides services and support to adults and children with developmental disabilities. Currently, Masar and other volunteers have contributed over 350 hours to the program.

In a recent edition of the *La Junta Tribute-Democrat*, Kat Walden of the Arkansas Valley Community Center said, "Emily is a shining light that, as a young woman, has not only been willing to volunteer her time but also take the added responsibility of coordinating the Respite Nights program." Emily's strong work ethic and dedication to community service remind us of the strength of America's youth. It is reassuring to know we have people like Emily to lead us into the future.

As a constituent of Colorado's Fourth Congressional District, Emily Masar is truly a positive role model for the youth of America. She not only makes her community proud, but also her state and country. I ask the House to join me in extending our warmest congratulations to Ms. Emily Masar.

PATRIOTIC POEM WRITTEN BY
SARAH BETH SOENDKER

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 6, 2001

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to share with the Members of the House this excellent poem written by 11-year old Sarah Beth Soendker, of Polo, Missouri. She is the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Soendker, of Lexington, Missouri. She wrote the poem in remembrance of the victims of the attack on America. The fine poem is set forth as follows:

AN AMERICAN PROMISE

We will stand tall if our soldiers die, if war starts again or if our hearts cry.

We will stand tall if our country should lose, if our men go to war, that's our news.

We will stand tall if our houses are burned, or if our country is attacked, we will still not be ruined.

We may be trapped in this world of sin, but at least we still have our pride, our courage and we can win!

An American Promise that we will make, we'll hold the flag high and this flag we won't let them take!

Sarah has also had two poems published in the 2000-01 editions of "Anthology of Poetry by Young Americans."

HONORING DESTINY FOLMER

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 6, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize an exceptional and caring young woman, Destiny Folmer, who recently help raise \$400 for the Colorado Brian Injury Association. Destiny's mom is a brain injury survivor who helped inspire her to engage in this worthy cause. Destiny recently tried to ensure that others suffering brain injuries will survive and recover by participating in the Pikes Peak Challenge. At only fifteen years old, she and her father performed the fifteen-mile hike up Pikes Peak and, after nine long hours, finished the grueling hike. By completing the challenge, she was able to raise the \$400 for the Association. Mr. Speaker, not only is her family proud of her achievements, but her community is proud and appreciative of her charitable heart. Destiny Folmer has truly displayed a caring heart and the many that will benefit from her dedication are grateful for her selfless act. She is a special young woman that is worthy of the praise of this body of Congress. I would like to thank Destiny for being a role model to us all.

COMMEMORATION OF THE
UKRAINIAN FAMINE

HON. MAURICE D. HINCHEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 6, 2001

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Speaker, today, November 6, 2001, we remember one of the most