

CHADBOURN, NORTH CAROLINA, FOR HIS OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION AND YEARS OF SERVICE AS A TOWN COUNCILMAN AND MAYOR PRO TEMPORE. DAVID PASSED AWAY ON JANUARY 24, 2006, AFTER A LONG BATTLE WITH PROSTATE CANCER. DAVID'S TREMENDOUS LEADERSHIP, DEDICATION, AND ALTRUISM AS AN ELECTED OFFICIAL AND MEMBER OF THE CHADBOURN COMMUNITY WILL LIVE ON IN THE HEARTS AND MINDS OF GENERATIONS TO COME.

Born in Chadbourn, David entered first grade the year that the landmark case *Brown v. Board of Education* was decided. David went on to graduate from West Columbus High School in 1966. During high school, David enjoyed playing in the band and singing in the choir, but he was most well-known for being a star athlete of the basketball team. In fact, David was the first African-American to play in the N.C. East-West All-Star basketball game. Well-known coach Cotton Fitzsimmons recognized David's ability and spirit and recruited him to play basketball at the college level. David went on to become a freshman starter on the Moberly Junior College National Championship Team and was named the best defensive player on the 1970 Kansas State University Big 8 Championship team.

David showed his talent and perseverance off the court as well. He received his undergraduate and Master's degrees from Kansas State University. Later, David earned a second Master's degree from North Carolina Central University in educational leadership. In 1973, David became an officer in the U.S. Army Reserve and served in that capacity for 16 years. David was elected to the Town Council in 1995, and he was elected Mayor Pro Tempore just in the last year.

David utilized the skills he learned playing basketball and the knowledge he learned in school to become a very influential educational and sports leader in Southeastern North Carolina. David truly made a difference in the lives of his students. For 16 years, David worked as an educational administrator for Columbus County schools. His most recent position was as an Assistant Principal at Williams Township School. From 1970–1988, David coached basketball at Kansas State University, Jacksonville University, Pensacola Junior College, Tate High School, and Durham High School. In 1988, David's Durham High School team was the PAC6 Tournament Champs, and he was named the Durham City County Prep Coach of the Year.

Legendary UCLA Basketball Coach John Wooden once said, "Sports do not build character. They reveal it." This statement could not be more true in the case of David Lawrence. The manner in which David played basketball as a youth and coached basketball as an adult not only revealed his leadership, but also more importantly, his unselfish commitment to others and causes greater than himself.

Mr. Speaker, dedicated service to others combined with dynamic leadership has been the embodiment of David's life. May we all use his wisdom, selflessness, and integrity as a beacon of direction and a source of true enlightenment for many years to come. Indeed, may God bless to all of our memories the honored life and legacy of David Lawrence.

THE TAX CODE TERMINATION ACT

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2006

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the "Tax Code Termination Act".

This bi-partisan legislation, which I introduced with my colleague COLLIN PETERSON of Minnesota, will accomplish two goals. It will abolish the Internal Revenue Code by December 31, 2009, and call on Congress to approve a new Federal tax system by July of the same year.

The fact is our current tax system has spiraled out of control. Today's tax code is unfair, discourages against savings and investment, and is impossibly complex.

A few years ago, Money magazine asked 50 professional tax preparers to file a return for a fictional family. No one came up with the same tax total, nor did any of the preparers calculate what Money magazine thought was the correct Federal income tax. The results varied by thousands of dollars. At a time when Americans devote a total of 7 billion hours each year to comply with the tax code, we need tax simplification.

Whichever simple tax system is adopted, the key ingredients should be: a low rate for all Americans; tax relief for working people; protection of the rights of taxpayers and reduction in tax collection abuses; promotion of savings and investment; and encouragement of economic growth and job creation. Taxes may be unavoidable but they don't have to be unfair and overcomplicated.

While many questions remain about the best way to reform our tax system, I am certain that if Congress is forced to address the issue we can create a tax code that is simpler, fairer, and better for our economy than the one we are forced to comply with today. The problem is Congress won't act on such a contentious issue unless it is forced to do so. The Tax Code Termination Act will force Congress to finally debate and address fundamental tax reform.

Just like other programs that require reauthorization, the tax code must be reviewed to examine whether it is fulfilling its intended purpose and then Congress must make what changes are necessary.

There is a widespread consensus that the current system is broken, and keeping it is not in America's best interest. I urge each of my colleagues to support this important legislation.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF DR. LAWRENCE W. SCOTT

HON. DIANE E. WATSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2006

Ms. WATSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to memorialize the life of a distinguished American, Dr. Lawrence "Bill" W. Scott, who passed away on December 20, 2005.

Throughout his illustrious life, Dr. Scott could claim many "firsts." In 1944, he was the first black student body president of Foshay Middle School. In 1947, he graduated with

honors from Polytechnic High School, where he participated in track and field and also served as the first black student body president. In 1948, he attended the University of California at Berkeley and later became the student body "representative at large." After receiving his degree from Berkeley, in 1951, Dr. Scott was drafted into the U.S. Army and stationed at Fort Lewis, Washington, where he served for two years during the Korean War. He eventually attained the rank of Captain.

After his discharge from the Army, Dr. Scott enrolled in the pre-med program at the University of California at Los Angeles. In 1957, the then new UCLA School of Medicine accepted Dr. Scott as its first African American medical student. Upon graduation, Dr. Scott interned at Harbor General Hospital, ultimately specializing in obstetrics and gynecology. He subsequently opened two women's clinics in Los Angeles.

At the age of 52 and after 14 years of medical practice, Dr. Scott returned to law school and received his J.D. from Southwestern University School of Law in 1980. After passing the bar, he initially thought he would pursue missionary work; however, he worked as a forensic attorney and represented victims in malpractice suits.

Dr. Scott's achievements, honors, and awards are numerous. He was the first African American resident at Queen of Angels Hospital in Los Angeles. At one time, he held the record for the most infants delivered at Cedars-Sinai Medical center. He also served on the Board of Governors of the UCLA Foundation in the mid-1980s.

His interest in people and his special affection for children was evident. He enjoyed sports and was an avid tennis player. He also loved music, from jazz to the classics. He will be remembered by many for his wonderful humor and his black book of jokes.

Dr. Scott is survived by his devoted wife of 8 years, Maria; his three children, Rebecca, Brian, and Onjale Scott; his sister, Darling Scott Herod; his brother, Paul Richard Scott; mother-in-law, Loretta Domer-Wilson; and other beloved family and friends.

Dr. Scott truly enjoyed this journey called life and lived it to its fullest.

IN CELEBRATION OF VIRGINIA DENTAL ASSOCIATION'S MISSION OF MERCY TO NEW ORLEANS

HON. ROBERT C. SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2006

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, the wealth and generosity of the American people is possibly the greatest story to come from the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. Upon seeing their fellow citizens in need, Americans pledged millions of dollars to the Red Cross and other charitable organizations. Families hosted displaced evacuees, while others welcomed strangers into their homes, schools, and houses of worship. I would like to commend one group of volunteers who have put their specialized skills to use in bringing critical services back to New Orleans.

This past Sunday, forty dentists and forty support volunteers from the Commonwealth of Virginia, in conjunction with the Virginia Dental

Association, left Virginia on a Mission of Mercy. They joined with 400 medical professionals and 150 support volunteers from thirty-eight different states and transformed the New Orleans Zoo into one large health care clinic. They will spend this week staffing this clinic, providing health care free of charge to anyone who needs it. The dentists from Virginia are not just providing checkups, but are performing extractions, fillings, partial realignments, and all other procedures that one would normally receive in a dentist's office. The 500 dental patients that will be treated daily are just a portion of the 1600 patients that will be triaged through the clinic coordinated by Remote Area Medical of Knoxville, Tennessee.

The doctors and support volunteers participating in the Mission of Mercy are paying for their own transportation and lodging. On top of those costs, many of them are forced to close their own practices in their home states in order to participate in the mission.

This simple gift to the people of New Orleans is a much needed one. The image of homes flooded by Katrina's waters is prevalent in our minds. It is easy to forget that businesses, such as doctor's offices, were also destroyed. For the parts of New Orleans that weren't flooded, many still lack power and potable water. For many of the brave citizens and aid workers that still inhabit the city, health care is a creature comfort that is either unavailable or too expensive. It is a necessity that sadly takes a backseat to more immediate concerns.

The federal government has yet to fully live up to its responsibility to the citizens whose lives were ravaged by Hurricane Katrina, and until the federal government fulfills this responsibility, the job is left to private citizens to put a great city back together again. I salute the medical professionals and volunteers from around the country and especially those from the Virginia Dental Association who are giving of their time, money, and expertise to help bring normalcy back to the lives of their fellow citizens. The entire Virginia Congressional delegation salutes the Virginia Dental Association as ambassadors of goodwill and Virginia values.

DISABLED VETERANS TAX
FAIRNESS ACT

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2006

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, today Representative BILIRAKIS and I are introducing the Disabled Veterans Tax Fairness Act. This bipartisan bill serves disabled veterans who have been caught in the cross hairs of the bureaucracy at the Department of Veterans Affairs and an Internal Revenue Service statute of limitations. The Disabled Veterans Tax Fairness Act would add an exception to the IRS statute of limitations that would allow disabled military retirees whose disability claims have been pending for more than 3 years to receive back taxes for all the years that their claim was pending.

This issue was brought to my attention by a constituent who had a disability claim pending at the VA for 8 years. After he finally won his

disability claim and was awarded retroactive disability compensation, he was denied 5 years of back taxes due to the IRS 3-year statute of limitations. This veteran and perhaps thousands of others are being penalized through no fault of their own.

To determine the scope of the problem, I requested a report in the FY06 TT/HUD appropriations bill directing the IRS to tell the committee how many disabled military retirees have been and will be penalized by this IRS statute of limitations. I look forward to the results in mid-March.

Those who have dedicated their lives to the security of this country should not be penalized by the IRS for bureaucratic inefficiency by the VA disability claims process. This bill is supported by the Military Officers Association of America and The Military Coalition. Please join Representative BILIRAKIS and me as a co-sponsor of H.R. 4727.

PLANNED PARENTHOOD: TIME TO
TAKE A SECOND LOOK AT CHILD
ABUSE INC.

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2006

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to set the record straight about significant misinformation that continues to be disseminated concerning an amendment I offered last summer. Planned Parenthood has refused to admit the truth about the true genesis of this amendment. Because Planned Parenthood boasts that "trust is the cornerstone of why people choose [them]," I cannot allow its lies to continue unanswered. And I believe it's time Americans take a look at Planned Parenthood on other issues as well, including abortion.

Several years ago I became aware of a devastating condition called fistula. Fistula is a terribly painful disorder that marginalizes women in many parts of the developing world, yet is relatively inexpensive to treat. I authored legislation to authorize USAID to provide much-needed assistance to women desperate for treatment. Unfortunately, with the help of organizations like Planned Parenthood, some of my colleagues tried to weaken the authorization by adding language that would have prevented crucial faith-based health care providers from helping women through this program.

Women suffering with fistula need treatment, and provisions mandating contraceptives would have prevented some health care providers most suited to provide treatment from doing so. These women need speedy treatment, not politicized language.

As the prime author of H.R. 2601—The Foreign Assistance Authorization Act of FY 06 and 07—I personally wrote the section in the bill, (Sec. 1001) that authorizes the President to establish at least 12 treatment centers to provide surgery and healing therapies for women suffering from a devastating condition known as obstetric fistula. The bill also provides for the dissemination of educational information so that women will know where to go for affordable treatment and how to protect against the occurrence of this preventable, curable condition.

Obstetric fistula is an excruciatingly painful hole or rupture in tissues surrounding a woman's birth canal, bladder, or rectum that is caused by rape, physical abuse or untreated, obstructed labor. Tragically, the constant leaking of urine and feces leads to sickness, desertion by husbands and family, extreme social isolation, and poverty.

Amazingly, for \$150—\$300, a woman victimized by fistula can obtain a surgical repair which gives her back her life. No woman should be denied this minimal, life-saving surgical repair. For several years now, I have asked USAID and the Congress to establish a program to assist women who suffer from obstetric fistula. According to USAID, an estimated 2 million women suffer needlessly from fistula, with 50–100 thousand new cases added every year, mostly in Africa.

USAID has begun to provide support for fistula centers, and that's great. They hoped to put \$3 million into the program by the end of 2005 and they have already identified a dozen medical facilities ready to participate and help these women. My bill, which originally authorized \$5 million for 2006 and \$5 million in 2007, ensures that the program is properly implemented and able to aid as many women, and young girls, as possible.

During committee mark-up on H.R. 2601, Rep. JOE CROWLEY (D-NY) amended my language in H.R. 2601, to mandate that the new centers "expand access to contraception." At first blush, the language looked OK, but it became very clear that it would have had the dire consequence of excluding certain faith-based health providers who, while deeply committed to mitigating the pain of fistula, would be barred from receiving funds. For example, the Crowley language would have excluded NGOs and church-based organizations opposed to chemicals that act as abortifacients—those that prevent implantation of a newly created human life—from getting any U.S. funds. Had my amendment not succeeded, several hospitals selected by USAID as "fistula centers" would have lost funding.

The amendment I offered that passed on the floor in July corrected this problem so that the faith-based sites including those already identified for the program by USAID—and perhaps others in future—could participate and provide assistance to women in need. My amendment to my own bill also increased the funding in 2007 to \$7.5 million, since it is obvious that once the centers are up and running the demand for the cure will be even greater. To participate in the program, providers must offer critical treatment care—including increased access to skilled birth attendants—and may offer information about a number of preventative practices such as abstinence education, encouraging postponement of marriage and childbearing until after teenage years, and family planning services for women whose age or health status place them at high risk of prolonged or obstructed childbirth.

Nothing in my original fistula language or my amendment adopted on the floor restricts access to family planning services. Rather, my amendment made a variety of preventative practices optional and as such is sensitive to and consistent with the values of the people—and the hospitals that serve them—in developing countries.

Despite all this, Planned Parenthood still insists on praising the people who would have killed the amendment and attacking me. The