

I opposed from the beginning and which has already cost our country over \$400 billion. Without a strategy for success or an end in sight, the Congressional Budget Office predicts the price tag for military costs alone will reach \$600 billion by the end of this decade. The added costs of long-term healthcare for our veterans, reconstruction assistance, and economic aid will of course raise this figure exponentially, prompting some of our Nation's best economists to predict that the long-term costs of this war will rise as high as two trillion dollars. Meanwhile, the loss of our best and brightest young people can never be measured.

Going into war without the approval and support of the international community and without a plan for the post-war occupation period has resulted in a Nation less secure now than at the end of major combat operations. Despite the heroic efforts of our military, and the hundreds of billions of dollars poured into Iraq, it is now on the brink of civil war. We've seen how disastrously this administration's strategy, or lack thereof, has played out in Iraq, and yet we continue to circumvent the normal budget process, putting hundreds of billions of dollars on the national credit card without any plan for success, any plan to begin the process of bringing our troops home, or any plan to turn Iraq over to the Iraqi people.

Mr. Chairman, I voted in favor of our last emergency supplemental bill because, among other things, the bill instructed the Department of Defense to provide a detailed report to Congress of its military expenditures in Iraq and Afghanistan to finally allow us to track how the Administration was spending the taxpayer's money. Despite this language, the General Accounting Office reported in November numerous problems in DOD's processes for recording and reporting costs for operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. As a result, the GAO found that neither DOD nor Congress can reliably know how much the war is costing, nor the details on how appropriated funds are being spent. The facts are not being made available and Congress is operating and appropriating without them.

Congress is not fulfilling its responsibility to act as the steward of the National Treasury. I, along with several colleagues on both sides of the aisle, have cosponsored legislation that would restore oversight and accountability to our budget process. Several of my colleagues have called for hearings and investigations into how funds are being spent in Iraq. These efforts have been met with near-total resistance by the Majority leadership in the House, and by the administration. Time and again we who are elected to keep close watch over spending are being denied the necessary tools to do our jobs.

The good in this bill is increased funding to address the crisis in Darfur, our fellow Americans affected by the tragedy of Hurricane Katrina and the language preventing the Dubai Ports deal from moving forward. I've supported these efforts in the past and were these provisions to be considered properly under normal budget procedures, I would support them.

Whether or not Members support the war in Iraq, it's becoming clearer day by day that the President's policies are unsustainable. Without a change of direction and a clear plan for success, I cannot in good conscience continue to

pass off trillions of dollars to our children and grandchildren to fund this debacle.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 2006

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Chairman, during rollcall vote No. 58 on the Millender-McDonald amendment to H.R. 4939, I was on a leave of absence due to illness. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF JOHN PETER SMITH HOSPITAL'S DEDICATION TO CHARITY CARE

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 2006

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor John Peter Smith Hospital as it celebrates 100 years. JPS has been serving the citizens of Tarrant County since its humble beginnings in 1906.

John Peter Smith Hospital has always retained its identity and mission to providing charitable care. Starting with a very small staff and limited space, JPS has tirelessly committed itself to the improvement of their patients' health.

In the past 20 years alone John Peter Smith Hospital has expanded outside the confines of the typical hospital. They have opened an AIDS clinic, a women's center and other multiple clinics across the county. Most recently, John Peter Smith Hospital has established a new hospital with 30 beds in south Arlington.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I stand here today to celebrate John Peter Smith Hospital for its 100th anniversary of actively providing quality health care to the thousands in need. As their representative, as a doctor and as a citizen of the 26th Congressional District, I am grateful for JPS Hospital's service.

IN HONOR OF REV. DR. JOSEPH SKRHA

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 2006

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Rev. Dr. Joseph Skrha, as family and friends gather to celebrate his 80th birthday and his continued love and devotion to his North Broadway neighborhood in Cleveland, Ohio.

Dr. Skrha's joyous life is centered around family, faith and community. His closest confidant, his wife of nearly fifty-two years, Betts, along with their children—Joseph Ray, Betsy, John, the memory of their beloved son, Paul, his son-in-law Daniel, daughter-in-law Patricia and grandchildren, Katie, Christopher, Rebecca and Nathaniel—are the guiding stars of his life, illuminating a path they walk to-

gether—a journey of hope, strength and healing that he continues to share with the residents of the North Broadway community.

Dr. Skrha was born, raised and still lives on Broadway Avenue in Cleveland—in the heart of the neighborhood that he's served his entire life. He graduated with honors from both John Carroll University and Loyola University Medical School, completed his residency at St. Alexis Hospital then focused on establishing a family medical practice. Dr. Skrha could have practiced anywhere, but he turned down every offer to move away from the neighborhood that personifies the word 'home.' As a caring physician and an ordained Roman Catholic Deacon, Dr. Skrha's dedicated service has softened the hard urban edges of the North Broadway neighborhood. Dr. and Mrs. Skrha's united focus on making a difference in their community has not wavered. They continue to channel their social activism into numerous civic endeavors, including their volunteer efforts on behalf of the University Settlement, The Broadway School of Music and the Arts, and the Cleveland Sight Center.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor, gratitude and recognition of Rev. Dr. Joseph Skrha, as we join with his family and friends to celebrate his 80th birthday. Dr. Skrha's keen mind, compassionate heart and gentle energy continues to inspire, energize and strengthen the lives of the residents of North Broadway and far beyond—including my own. I wish Dr. Skrha an abundance of health, peace and happiness in his continued journey of faith and hope, today and for all time.

TRIBUTE TO THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF RAYMOND FLOYD

HON. CHARLIE NORWOOD

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 2006

Mr. NORWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Raymond Floyd for his service to our Nation, the game of golf and the Masters Tournament. Few events in the world of sports can compare to the pageantry, beauty and grace of the Masters Tournament in Augusta, GA. And there are even fewer individuals who have contributed to that prestige as much as Raymond Floyd.

Early in his career Raymond Floyd became a role model for young people with his dedication to the game of golf, his family, and family values.

Raymond was inducted to the World Golf Hall of Fame in 1989. In 1992, he was honored as Golf World's "Man of the Year." Then, in 1994, the Floyd family was named "Golf's Family of the Year" by Golf Week magazine.

Raymond Floyd's record in golf includes 62 victories worldwide. He won two PGA Championships, one Masters Championship, and one U.S. Open Championship. He played in eight Ryder Cup competitions and served as captain for another Ryder Cup Team. He holds numerous scoring and course records. He is also the only player to win on both the PGA and Senior PGA Tour in the same year. He has also joined the legendary Sam Snead in winning during each of his four decades on the professional tour.

In addition to his accomplishments playing on the course, Raymond Floyd has made a