

Katrina. Already the Republican budget resolution cuts funds for homeland security, including port security by \$6.1 billion over 5 years, cuts essential services for working families by \$9.4 billion, and slashes funding for health by \$18.1 billion below current services. As the former Superintendent of North Carolina's public schools, I find the budget cuts for education especially disappointing. Instead of investing in our future Congressional Republicans are eliminating 42 Federal education initiatives. The budget also eliminates vocational education (\$1.3 billion); Perkins Loans (\$730 million); Safe and Drug-Free Schools State grants (\$347 million); and Even Start family literacy services (\$99 million). The Republican budget cuts \$15 billion from the amount authorized for the No Child Left Behind education reform effort and reduces the 17.7 percent Federal contribution to Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) to 17.0 percent. The loss of revenue from H.R. 5638 leaves a huge budget hole that will have to be filled by the States and the burden will be placed on middle class and low income families.

In contrast, the Pomeroy Substitute is an alternative that offers a simpler solution without the damaging economic effects of H.R. 5638. Unlike the Republican bill, the Pomeroy Substitute would offer immediate tax relief by raising the estate tax exemption level to \$6 million per couple and growing to \$7 million per couple in 2009. This would exempt 99.7 percent of all estates in the nation while costing only 60 percent of H.R. 5638. While there is no plan to make up for the huge losses in revenue resulting from H.R. 5638, the Pomeroy Substitute would be paid for by closing the gap in unpaid taxes. Additionally, the estate tax revenue collected under the Pomeroy Substitute would be transferred as receipts used specifically to shore up the Social Security trust fund. According to the Social Security Actuary, this would eliminate one quarter of the trust fund's shortfall.

The Pomeroy Substitute offers immediate tax relief without adding to the crippling debt now facing future generations. This is the type of sound tax and budget policy Congress should pass. We owe the American people nothing less.

RECOGNIZING JERRY DARNELL

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 27, 2006

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jerry Darnell of St. Joseph, Missouri. Jerry will soon be retiring from the St. Joseph Area Chamber of Commerce, after years of distinguished service as the Director of the Small Business Development Center.

As the Director of the Small Business Development Center, Jerry has provided free management assistance and guidance to current and prospective small business owners all throughout the St. Joseph area. He has offered his experience and guidance to the enterprising citizens of my district for many years, as those entrepreneurs sought advice on the start-up, expansion, sale, and marketing of their business. His job is especially important, as the collection of small business

owners are responsible for the growth and sustainability of our communities.

Before joining the Chamber in 2001, Mr. Darnell was employed as a broker for City-Street and served as an instructor at the Johnson County Community College. He has had over 10 years of experience in commercial lending after obtaining a Bachelor of Science degree in Math and Business from Kansas State University and a Masters in Business Administration from Louisiana State University. These varied experiences have all made for a solid background in advising the small businesses of St. Joseph. In the community, Mr. Darnell is active in the Boy Scouts of America Diversion Program and the Service Corps of Retired Executives.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Jerry Darnell. His role in developing and assisting the small businesses of St. Joseph will be difficult to replace. I commend his record of service and accomplishment to the city of St. Joseph over the years and I am honored to represent him in the United States Congress.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. ANDY ANDERSON'S RETIREMENT FROM GAINESVILLE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 27, 2006

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Dr. Andy Anderson for his 8½-year tenure as the hospital chief executive officer of Gainesville Memorial Hospital.

Dr. Anderson was the fourth administrator for Gainesville Memorial Hospital. The most notable of his achievements was his leadership in campaigning for a \$26.5 million dollar bond to build the North Texas Medical Center. Under Dr. Anderson's tenure, the quality of patient care increased, opportunities for continuing education improved, and nine tenure doctors were hired.

Retiring to pursue another challenge in life, the progress Dr. Anderson catalyzed substantially strengthened the health care quality throughout the 26th District of Texas, and I know his vision improved the lives of thousands.

As a doctor myself, I find personal inspiration in Dr. Andy Anderson and the devotion he had to his family, his hospital and his community. He is a role model, and I am proud to serve as his representative in Washington.

IN HONOR OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. HYACINTH CATHOLIC CHURCH

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 27, 2006

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of the parish community of St. Hyacinth Catholic Church, as members and leaders celebrate 100 years of faith and hope throughout Cleveland's southeast side.

Throughout the past century, St. Hyacinth Parish has opened wide its doors to all who

seek spiritual renewal and fellowship. Its ministry reaches beyond the parish itself through the numerous members who have joined the clergy as a result of the guidance and fulfillment they found at St. Hyacinth.

St. Hyacinth began its ministry as a response to the influx of Polish immigrants in the "Jackowo" neighborhood. Feeling crowded in the existing parish, the residents bought land from the Board of Education and have remained at that location since opening in 1906. The newly instated Cleveland Bishop Richard Lennon will lead the Jubilee Mass at the parish in commemoration of the past one hundred years of service and in celebration of the next 100 years.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of every past and current member and spiritual leader of St. Hyacinth Catholic Church. Despite a growing and changing community, St. Hyacinth Catholic Church has consistently provided compassionate spiritual direction, in the heart of Cleveland and far beyond.

SENIOR INDEPENDENCE ACT OF 2006

SPEECH OF

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 21, 2006

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this bill which reauthorizes the Older Americans Act. This act was developed with the goals of improving the lives of older people in areas of income, housing, health, employment, retirement, and community service. At the outset, I have to commend and thank Chairman MCKEON, Ranking Member MILLER, Subcommittee Chairman TIBERI, and Subcommittee Ranking Member HINOJOSA for this incredible bipartisan bill. This has been one of the most bipartisan efforts in which I have engaged during my tenure in Congress. Also, I extend my sincerest appreciation to the majority and minority staff members for working diligently to address my concerns. Also, I would like to thank the delegates of the White House Conference I on Aging for their input on and promotion of this reauthorization. I am proud to be a cosponsor of this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I have a Seniors and Eldercare Taskforce composed of a wonderful group of experts who advise me on key issues regarding seniors in my district—the great city of Chicago. I want to recognize and thank the cochairs of this taskforce—Karen Graham and Phyllis Mitzen—and the members of this taskforce for their leadership and attention to the needs of seniors in Chicago." This act advances many areas of concern to my district. Foremost, it expands access of younger grandparents to the National Family Caregiver Support Program, and it encourages states to adopt Kinship Navigator programs for relative caregivers. In the United States, 2.4 million grandparents are responsible for raising grandchildren in their homes. My congressional district has over 10,000 grandparent-headed households; it has the second highest percentage of children living in grandparent-headed households in the nation. This bill aids these caregivers with services that help in their care giving responsibilities. Further, the