

shootings in Omaha, Nebraska, on Wednesday, December 5, 2007. On the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree (rollcall No. 1163), I would have voted "aye."

H. Res. 851, Resolution honoring local and State first responders, and the citizens of the Pacific Northwest in facing the severe winter storm of December 2 and 3, 2007. On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree (rollcall No. 1164), I would have voted "aye."

H. Res. 873, Resolution waiving a requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII with respect to consideration of certain resolutions reported from the Committee on Rules. On Ordering the Previous Question (rollcall No. 1165), I would have voted "no."

H. Res. 873, Resolution waiving a requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII with respect to consideration of certain resolutions reported from the Committee on Rules. On Agreeing to the Resolution (rollcall No. 1166), I would have voted "no."

H. Con. Res. 271, Sine Die Adjournment resolution of the 1st Session of the 110th Congress. On Agreeing to the Resolution (rollcall No. 1167), I would have voted "no."

H. Res. 878, Resolution providing for consideration of the Senate amendment to H.R. 2764, State, foreign operations appropriations, FY 2008. On Ordering the Previous Question (rollcall No. 1168), I would have voted "no."

H. Res. 878, Resolution providing for consideration of the Senate amendment to H.R. 2764, State, foreign operations appropriations, FY 2008. On Agreeing to the Resolution (rollcall No. 1169), I would have voted "no."

H.R. 4286, To award a congressional gold medal to Daw Aung San Suu Kyi in recognition of her courageous and unwavering commitment to peace, nonviolence, human rights, and democracy in Burma. On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass (rollcall No. 1170), I would have voted "aye."

H.R. 2764, Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations for FY 2008. On agreeing to Senate amendment with 1st House amendment (rollcall No. 1171), I would have voted "no."

H.R. 2764, Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations for FY 2008. On agreeing to Senate amendment with 2nd House amendment (rollcall No. 1172), I would have voted "no."

H. Con. Res. 254, Resolution recognizing and celebrating the centennial of Oklahoma statehood. On the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree (rollcall No. 1173), I would have voted "aye."

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SUPPORTING THE "PERFORMANCE RIGHTS ACT"

**HON. DARRELL E. ISSA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 18, 2007*

Mr. ISSA. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the "Performance Rights Act," which was introduced today. This legislation, long in the making, has the simple goal of requiring that those who generate revenue from the use of music, pay for the use of music.

Terrestrial broadcasters have a strong and meaningful relationship with the American public. There are few of us who do not have wonderful memories that are accompanied by

music played over a radio, and fewer still who have not tuned in to hear news, traffic or emergency information. The American radio tradition is akin to apple pie or baseball. It is part of the American consciousness, and, with the help of HD radio, will remain so.

Even so, the past few decades have seen huge changes in how people consume music. Terrestrial radio once dominated new music awareness. This fact meant that if a consumer wanted to buy a song, they were likely to hear it on the radio first. Radio therefore had a dramatic promotional impact on music sales. However, even at the outset of mass music broadcasting in the United States, when Congress exempted terrestrial radio from paying artists a royalty, terrestrial radio was making money off of artists' work and paying nothing for it.

As time went on and records lost market share to 8-tracks, cassettes, CDs, and now MP3s, and terrestrial radio lost market share to cable radio, internet radio and satellite radio, consumer dependence upon terrestrial radio gradually decreased. Terrestrial radio no longer serves the same promotional role for music sales that it once did, but terrestrial radio is still exempt from paying a royalty to artists. Additionally, the other music platforms do pay for the right to broadcast music.

The "Performance Rights Act" encourages parity in music broadcasting by requiring terrestrial broadcasters to pay for the music they use. Stations that gross over \$1,250,000 will negotiate with artists to pay a fair royalty. "Small" stations, those grossing under that amount, can opt to pay a flat rate of \$5,000. Public broadcasters can elect to pay a flat rate of \$1,000. Talk radio that only uses music incidentally is exempt from paying as are religious services. All together, approximately 77 percent of all radio will have to pay artists virtually nothing to use music. This bill is not the boogeyman that detractors will make it out to be.

However, this bill is, I believe, unfinished. The songs that individuals consume via terrestrial, satellite, cable, and internet radio contain the same notes and the same voices regardless of which platform does the broadcasting. Yet they pay different rates, sometimes vastly different rates. We need to look further into these disparities, and I look forward to working with Chairman HOWARD BERMAN and others on correcting any inconsistencies in current law.

The arguments that supported exempting terrestrial radio from paying a performance right have been eroded by the passage of time and technological innovation. We all yearn for the nostalgia of yesteryear and American terrestrial radio is a big part of that, but our recollections of the past do not support injustices into the future. Radio has changed. Terrestrial radio should pay for the right to use the music from which it benefits.

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INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO CODIFY TITLE 41, U.S. CODE

**HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 18, 2007*

Mr. CONYERS. Madam Speaker, Ranking Member LAMAR SMITH and I are introducing a bill to codify into positive law as title 41,

United States Code, certain general and permanent laws related to public contracts. This bill was prepared by the Office of the Law Revision Counsel, as part of its functions under 2 U.S.C. § 285(b).

This bill is essentially identical to H.R. 5414, favorably reported by the Committee on the Judiciary in the 109th Congress, updated to incorporate enactments that took place after the earlier bill was prepared.

This legislation is not intended to make any substantive changes in the law. As is typical with the codification process, a number of non-substantive revisions are made, including the reorganization of sections into a more coherent overall structure, but these changes are not intended to have any substantive effect.

The bill, along with a detailed section-by-section explanation of the bill, can be found on the Law Revision Counsel Web site at <http://uscode.house.gov/cod>.

The Committee on the Judiciary hopes to act on this bill after providing an opportunity for public review and comment. In addition to sharing concerns with the Committee, interested persons are invited to submit comments to Ken Paretzky, Senior Counsel, Office of the Law Revision Counsel, U.S. House of Representatives, H2-304 Ford House Office Building, Washington, DC, 20515-6711, (202) 226-9061.

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TRIBUTE TO DR. RICHARD AMOS

**HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 18, 2007*

Mr. CRAMER. Madam Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise today to recognize Dr. Richard Amos upon his departure as Deputy to the Commanding General of the U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command (AMCOM) at Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville, AL. Dr. Amos is stepping down at the end of this year to pursue opportunities outside of Federal service.

Madam Speaker, this is the second time that I have risen to honor Dr. Amos in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, a rare tribute in my 17 years in Congress. Dr. Amos, a native of Huntsville, has served as the Deputy to the Commanding General since 2004. In this position, he is the top civil servant at Redstone. He is responsible for managing over 11,000 military and civilian employees and tasked with providing our Nation's warfighters with the most up-to-date technology and tools.

Dr. Amos was promoted to the Senior Executive Service in 2000 and previously served as the Director of the System Simulation and Development Director at the Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center (AMRDEC) also located at Redstone. Throughout his tenure, he has diligently worked to serve our soldiers and ensure the Army is able to meet the ever-changing needs of our country.

Madam Speaker, today his family, friends, and colleagues throughout the North Alabama defense community celebrated his Federal service and accomplishments. I rise to join them in their tribute and to thank Dr. Amos for his many years of Federal service. I wish him the very best for the future.