

we can call the new field in New York “Bankruptcy Field.”

And that’s just the way it is.

FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today there’s a fiscal responsibility summit at the White House. I hope this summit will be the beginning of important decisions Congress is going to make in order to limit the rising cost of government.

It is disappointing that this summit came after Congress passed a \$1 trillion spending package last week that many of my colleagues and many Americans do not believe was the right way to stimulate our economy. Nevertheless, it is vital that we start anew and sincerely to make responsibility the foundation of governing.

We need reforms that protect the services and benefits promised to American families while not growing the burden of taxation, tragic inflation, or the long-term tide of wasteful spending. If we are truly dedicated to protecting and preserving services like Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security, then, indeed, we must reform them to keep them solvent.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th.

QUIT HIDING BEHIND THE SKIRTS OF MR. VAN HOLLEN

(Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to talk about a gutless move by the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee. They are currently sending robo-calls into my district criticizing me for my vote on the stimulus package. Well, maybe that’s fair game.

But last week I was home in the district and I accepted an invitation by a bipartisan group, the Public Policy Institute of California, to discuss the issue. Three Members of the other side of the aisle in my area were invited to be on that panel. They all declined, including one who had accepted and then declined when she found out I was going to be there.

You’re messing with my children and my grandchildren’s future. You’re messing with my 91-year-old mother’s current retirement.

Have the guts to appear on panels with Members of this side of the aisle, and quit hiding behind the skirts of Mr. VAN HOLLEN.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are advised that they should address their remarks to the Chair.

WASHINGTON WILL NOT FACE UP TO ITS RESPONSIBILITY

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, we have some young people here on the floor with us today, and they represent American families who are hurting and need relief. But, instead, Washington continues to engage in out-of-control spending.

There was the \$1 trillion “stimulus plan” that will only stimulate more government and more debt. We’re about to deal with a half trillion dollar omnibus spending bill to fund the government for just 7 months, which is an 8 percent increase in spending. And then we have the \$75 billion for the President’s mortgage bailout proposal. And then he’s going to present to us a way to cut the deficit, which is going to be on the backs of our troops. He’s going to cut spending for our troops.

We need to remind the American people that the number one role of the Federal Government is the defense of this Nation. And we need people to understand that we are putting these children, their children and their grandchildren into great debt because Washington will not face up to its responsibility.

HONORING LARRY H. MILLER

(Mr. CHAFFETZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Mr. Speaker, this week the people of Utah mourned the passing of a beloved community leader, entrepreneur and philanthropist. Larry H. Miller’s life is an inspiration to all of us who care about families, our communities and our country.

Larry Miller was an extraordinary businessman, building more than 80 companies, including his auto business from one dealership in 1979 to 39 today. His business holdings expanded with the 1985 purchase of the Utah Jazz and later the Salt Lake Bees and the creation of the Miller Motorsports Park.

Perhaps more important than his business success was his charitable work, much of it unseen and anonymous. Through his Larry H. Miller Charities, Miller provided for thousands, funded campus sports facilities, and established a training center for entrepreneurs, as well as a facility for public safety training.

Larry H. Miller had a profound impact upon the State of Utah, and his works will continue to be a positive force in countless lives. I honor his accomplishments, his example, his philanthropy, and wish nothing but the best for his family, and hope they understand the deep gratitude Utah shares for a truly honorable man.

STIMULUS GIVES JOBS TO LAW-BREAKERS

(Mr. SMITH of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the so-called stimulus bill gives jobs to law-breakers.

Democrats put illegal workers ahead of Americans without jobs. They removed a requirement that employers verify the legal status of workers paid with stimulus money. So now we have taxpayers’ dollars going to hire illegal immigrants instead of U.S. citizens and legal workers.

Now that the requirement that employers hire legal workers has been removed, 300,000 jobs in construction alone will go to illegal workers, according to the Heritage Foundation. If the goal of the stimulus bill is to create jobs, is it too much to ask that the jobs go to citizens and legal workers?

The American people need to know that the Democrats could have saved stimulus jobs for citizens but intentionally decided to give jobs to illegal immigrants instead.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken after 6:30 p.m. today.

GUAM WORLD WAR II LOYALTY RECOGNITION ACT

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 44) to implement the recommendations of the Guam War Claims Review Commission.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 44

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the “Guam World War II Loyalty Recognition Act”.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
- Sec. 2. Recognition of the suffering and loyalty of the residents of Guam.
- Sec. 3. Payments for Guam World War II claims.
- Sec. 4. Adjudication.
- Sec. 5. Grants program to memorialize the occupation of Guam during World War II.
- Sec. 6. Authorization of appropriations.

SEC. 2. RECOGNITION OF THE SUFFERING AND LOYALTY OF THE RESIDENTS OF GUAM.

(a) RECOGNITION OF THE SUFFERING OF THE RESIDENTS OF GUAM.—The United States recognizes that, as described by the Guam War

Claims Review Commission, the residents of Guam, on account of their United States nationality, suffered unspeakable harm as a result of the occupation of Guam by Imperial Japanese military forces during World War II, by being subjected to death, rape, severe personal injury, personal injury, forced labor, forced march, or internment.

(b) **RECOGNITION OF THE LOYALTY OF THE RESIDENTS OF GUAM.**—The United States forever will be grateful to the residents of Guam for their steadfast loyalty to the United States of America, as demonstrated by the countless acts of courage they performed despite the threat of death or great bodily harm they faced at the hands of the Imperial Japanese military forces that occupied Guam during World War II.

SEC. 3. PAYMENTS FOR GUAM WORLD WAR II CLAIMS.

(a) **PAYMENTS FOR DEATH, PERSONAL INJURY, FORCED LABOR, FORCED MARCH, AND INTERNMENT.**—Subject to section 6(a), after receipt of certification pursuant to section 4(b)(8) and in accordance with the provisions of this Act, the Secretary of the Treasury shall make payments as follows:

(1) **RESIDENTS INJURED.**—The Secretary shall pay compensable Guam victims who are not deceased before any payments are made to individuals described in paragraphs (2) and (3) as follows:

(A) If the victim has suffered an injury described in subsection (c)(2)(A), \$15,000.

(B) If the victim is not described in subparagraph (A) but has suffered an injury described in subsection (c)(2)(B), \$12,000.

(C) If the victim is not described in subparagraph (A) or (B) but has suffered an injury described in subsection (c)(2)(C), \$10,000.

(2) **SURVIVORS OF RESIDENTS WHO DIED IN WAR.**—In the case of a compensable Guam decedent, the Secretary shall pay \$25,000 for distribution to eligible survivors of the decedent as specified in subsection (b). The Secretary shall make payments under this paragraph after payments are made under paragraph (1) and before payments are made under paragraph (3).

(3) **SURVIVORS OF DECEASED INJURED RESIDENTS.**—In the case of a compensable Guam victim who is deceased, the Secretary shall pay \$7,000 for distribution to eligible survivors of the victim as specified in subsection (b). The Secretary shall make payments under this paragraph after payments are made under paragraphs (1) and (2).

(b) **DISTRIBUTION OF SURVIVOR PAYMENTS.**—Payments under paragraph (2) or (3) of subsection (a) to eligible survivors of an individual who is a compensable Guam decedent or a compensable Guam victim who is deceased shall be made as follows:

(1) If there is living a spouse of the individual, but no child of the individual, all of the payment shall be made to such spouse.

(2) If there is living a spouse of the individual and one or more children of the individual, one-half of the payment shall be made to the spouse and the other half to the child (or to the children in equal shares).

(3) If there is no living spouse of the individual, but there are one or more children of the individual alive, all of the payment shall be made to such child (or to such children in equal shares).

(4) If there is no living spouse or child of the individual but there is a living parent (or parents) of the individual, all of the payment shall be made to the parents (or to the parents in equal shares).

(5) If there is no such living spouse, child, or parent, no payment shall be made.

(c) **DEFINITIONS.**—For purposes of this Act: (1) **COMPENSABLE GUAM DECEDENT.**—The term “compensable Guam decedent” means an individual determined under section 4(a)(1) to have been a resident of Guam who

died or was killed as a result of the attack and occupation of Guam by Imperial Japanese military forces during World War II, or incident to the liberation of Guam by United States military forces, and whose death would have been compensable under the Guam Meritorious Claims Act of 1945 (Public Law 79-224) if a timely claim had been filed under the terms of such Act.

(2) **COMPENSABLE GUAM VICTIM.**—The term “compensable Guam victim” means an individual determined under section 4(a)(1) to have suffered, as a result of the attack and occupation of Guam by Imperial Japanese military forces during World War II, or incident to the liberation of Guam by United States military forces, any of the following:

(A) Rape or severe personal injury (such as loss of a limb, dismemberment, or paralysis).

(B) Forced labor or a personal injury not under subparagraph (A) (such as disfigurement, scarring, or burns).

(C) Forced march, internment, or hiding to evade internment.

(3) **DEFINITIONS OF SEVERE PERSONAL INJURIES AND PERSONAL INJURIES.**—The Foreign Claims Settlement Commission shall promulgate regulations to specify injuries that constitute a severe personal injury or a personal injury for purposes of subparagraphs (A) and (B), respectively, of paragraph (2).

SEC. 4. ADJUDICATION.

(a) **AUTHORITY OF FOREIGN CLAIMS SETTLEMENT COMMISSION.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Foreign Claims Settlement Commission is authorized to adjudicate claims and determine eligibility for payments under section 3.

(2) **RULES AND REGULATIONS.**—The chairman of the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission shall prescribe such rules and regulations as may be necessary to enable it to carry out its functions under this Act. Such rules and regulations shall be published in the Federal Register.

(b) **CLAIMS SUBMITTED FOR PAYMENTS.**—

(1) **SUBMITTAL OF CLAIM.**—For purposes of subsection (a)(1) and subject to paragraph (2), the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission may not determine an individual is eligible for a payment under section 3 unless the individual submits to the Commission a claim in such manner and form and containing such information as the Commission specifies.

(2) **FILING PERIOD FOR CLAIMS AND NOTICE.**—All claims for a payment under section 3 shall be filed within one year after the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission publishes public notice of the filing period in the Federal Register. The Foreign Claims Settlement Commission shall provide for the notice required under the previous sentence not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act. In addition, the Commission shall cause to be publicized the public notice of the deadline for filing claims in newspaper, radio, and television media on Guam.

(3) **ADJUDICATORY DECISIONS.**—The decision of the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission on each claim shall be by majority vote, shall be in writing, and shall state the reasons for the approval or denial of the claim. If approved, the decision shall also state the amount of the payment awarded and the distribution, if any, to be made of the payment.

(4) **DEDUCTIONS IN PAYMENT.**—The Foreign Claims Settlement Commission shall deduct, from potential payments, amounts previously paid under the Guam Meritorious Claims Act of 1945 (Public Law 79-224).

(5) **INTEREST.**—No interest shall be paid on payments awarded by the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission.

(6) **REMUNERATION PROHIBITED.**—No remuneration on account of representational serv-

ices rendered on behalf of any claimant in connection with any claim filed with the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission under this Act shall exceed one percent of the total amount paid pursuant to any payment certified under the provisions of this Act on account of such claim. Any agreement to the contrary shall be unlawful and void. Whoever demands or receives, on account of services so rendered, any remuneration in excess of the maximum permitted by this section shall be fined not more than \$5,000 or imprisoned not more than 12 months, or both.

(7) **APPEALS AND FINALITY.**—Objections and appeals of decisions of the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission shall be to the Commission, and upon rehearing, the decision in each claim shall be final, and not subject to further review by any court or agency.

(8) **CERTIFICATIONS FOR PAYMENT.**—After a decision approving a claim becomes final, the chairman of the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission shall certify it to the Secretary of the Treasury for authorization of a payment under section 3.

(9) **TREATMENT OF AFFIDAVITS.**—For purposes of section 3 and subject to paragraph (2), the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission shall treat a claim that is accompanied by an affidavit of an individual that attests to all of the material facts required for establishing eligibility of such individual for payment under such section as establishing a prima facie case of the individual's eligibility for such payment without the need for further documentation, except as the Commission may otherwise require. Such material facts shall include, with respect to a claim under paragraph (2) or (3) of section 3(a), a detailed description of the injury or other circumstance supporting the claim involved, including the level of payment sought.

(10) **RELEASE OF RELATED CLAIMS.**—Acceptance of payment under section 3 by an individual for a claim related to a compensable Guam decedent or a compensable Guam victim shall be in full satisfaction of all claims related to such decedent or victim, respectively, arising under the Guam Meritorious Claims Act of 1945 (Public Law 79-224), the implementing regulations issued by the United States Navy pursuant thereto, or this Act.

(11) **PENALTY FOR FALSE CLAIMS.**—The provisions of section 1001 of title 18 of the United States Code (relating to criminal penalties for false statements) apply to claims submitted under this subsection.

SEC. 5. GRANTS PROGRAM TO MEMORIALIZE THE OCCUPATION OF GUAM DURING WORLD WAR II.

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—Subject to section 6(b) and in accordance with this section, the Secretary of the Interior shall establish a grants program under which the Secretary shall award grants for research, educational, and media activities that memorialize the events surrounding the occupation of Guam during World War II, honor the loyalty of the people of Guam during such occupation, or both, for purposes of appropriately illuminating and interpreting the causes and circumstances of such occupation and other similar occupations during a war.

(b) **ELIGIBILITY.**—The Secretary of the Interior may not award to a person a grant under subsection (a) unless such person submits an application to the Secretary for such grant, in such time, manner, and form and containing such information as the Secretary specifies.

SEC. 6. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) **GUAM WORLD WAR II CLAIMS PAYMENTS AND ADJUDICATION.**—For purposes of carrying out sections 3 and 4, there are authorized to

be appropriated \$126,000,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2013, to the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission. Not more than 5 percent of funds made available under this subsection shall be used for administrative costs.

(b) GUAM WORLD WAR II GRANTS PROGRAM.—For purposes of carrying out section 5, there are authorized to be appropriated \$5,000,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2013.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) and the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Guam.

□ 1415

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Guam?

There was no objection.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues to pass H.R. 44, the Guam World War II Loyalty Recognition Act.

First, I thank Chairman NICK RAHALL and former Ranking Member DON YOUNG for their leadership on this issue, for their support in passing the bill in the last Congress, and for bringing it back to the floor today given that the other body was unable to pass it before adjourning last year.

Mr. Speaker, this bill, H.R. 44, is the same bill that was passed by the House of Representatives with broad bipartisan support on May 8, 2007. I have reintroduced it with the support of many colleagues.

I want to thank also Majority Leader STENY HOYER, Chairman JOHN CONYERS of the House Committee on the Judiciary, Chairman IKE SKELTON of the Committee on Armed Services, and the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENBRENNER), the former chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary, for their steadfast support of this bill.

H.R. 44 implements the recommendations of the Guam War Claims Review Commission, which was authorized by Public Law 107-333, to review the war claims program for Guam that Congress provided for following the occupation of Guam from December 8, 1941, to July 21, 1944.

The review commission, Mr. Speaker, which was appointed by the Secretary of the Interior, Gale Norton, in September of 2003, was mandated by Congress to determine whether there was parity of war claims paid to the residents of Guam under the Guam Meritorious Claims Act as compared with awards made to similarly affected United States citizens or nationals as a result of the hostilities during World War II.

The review commission was mandated to advise the Congress on any ad-

ditional compensation that may be necessary to compensate the people of Guam for death, personal injury, forced labor, forced march, and internment in order to provide parity. In accomplishing its tasks, the review commission held 2 days of hearings on Guam in December of 2003 to receive testimony from survivors of the occupation of Guam. The review commission also held hearings here in Washington, D.C., and consulted with a panel of experts in this field of law.

The review commission completed its work and reported to Congress its findings and recommendations on June 9, 2004. The review commission found that there was a lack of parity between the war claims program authorized for Guam as compared to the programs authorized for all other Americans similarly affected. It recommended that Congress remedy this injustice through the enactment of legislation which is before us today. I think it is very important that we note the first finding of the review commission's report:

"The review commission finds that there is a moral obligation on the part of our national government to pay compensation for war damages in order to ensure to the extent possible that no single individual or group of individuals bears more than just part of the overall burden of war."

Today, Mr. Speaker, we again consider a bill that would fulfill this moral obligation on the part of our national government to a group of citizens, the people of Guam, most of whom were indigenous Chamorros who bore the burden of a brutal occupation. The people of Guam were brutalized through public executions, beheadings, rape, and severe injury, forced labor, forced march, and internment in concentration camps.

H.R. 44 is called the Loyalty Recognition Act because the loyalty of the people of Guam to the United States during this 32-month enemy occupation should be honored. It is a tragic injustice of history that, following the liberation, Congress did not provide for war claims for the people of Guam in the same manner and with the same opportunities that were afforded to other Americans. The people who carried a disproportionate burden of the war were given less than other Americans when it came time to make our Nation whole, and those who gave more in blood got less in recognition.

Over and over at the hearings on Guam, people said, "We just want to be recognized. We just want to be treated with respect. We just want to receive the same restitution that other Americans received."

This is a matter that each one of my predecessors has worked to bring to the attention of Congress. The late Mr. Antonio Won Pat, the first Delegate to serve in this institution, first pursued a resolution of this issue, which was followed by the efforts of our second representative to Congress—retired Marine Brigadier General Ben Blaz, himself—who survived the occupation.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Blaz is with us today, and I would like to point out that he has written a wonderful account and a very accurate account of the remembrance of the occupation years in World War II. It is called "Let Us Remember." I know that many of my colleagues have read this book, and he is here today to lend support to H.R. 44. My immediate predecessor, Congressman Robert Underwood, sponsored the legislation in the 107th Congress that was passed with unanimous approval and that created the review commission.

So our work today and the historic progress of the Guam World War II Loyalty Recognition Act is possible only because of the foundation that each of these contributed to this bipartisan effort. The issue of Guam war claims has been studied and examined by this body over the past 26 years. As I stated the last time this bill came to the floor, several hearings have been held, and the record is replete with testimony from survivors, legal experts, historians, and scholars. Committee staff members have played a valuable role in this process. So the issue has thoroughly been examined.

I want to thank Jim Zoia, staff director of the Natural Resources Committee, and Tony Babauta, staff director of the Insular Affairs Subcommittee. I also acknowledge the counsels to the committee, Rick Healy, Brian Modeste, as well as Lisa Pittman and Harry Burroughs from the Republican staff, who have worked on this legislation.

Again, we stand on the brink of an historic moment for the people of Guam. I regret, Mr. Speaker, that many survivors of the occupation of Guam are not with us today, and we know that others will pass away before this bill completes its legislative journey, but we have this moment to recall why we continue this effort on whose behalf we are speaking today and why it is so vitally important to our Nation that we recognize the incredible sacrifices of the people of Guam during World War II.

I very much doubt that any foreign power will ever again occupy American soil and place American citizens under subjugation. The story of the people of Guam will, thus, be a unique story less known than the bombing of Pearl Harbor and other heroic stories of World War II. It is a story of the faith in our Nation, of hope in our God and of love for our families.

As I stated in 2007, Mr. Speaker, if I could vote on final passage of this bill, it would be my greatest honor to recognize the people of Guam by voting, but since I cannot vote as a Delegate, I offer all of my colleagues the honor of recognizing their fellow Americans by voting to pass H.R. 44 today.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

The distinguished gentlelady from Guam has adequately explained this

particular bill. I, personally, have no further comment, but I wish to yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) to speak to this particular bill.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to join in supporting H.R. 44. This bill had actually passed the House last year with bipartisan support.

I want to commend the Congresswoman from Guam for her leadership on this issue. I have had the privilege of traveling with Ms. BORDALLO around the world. Everywhere I go, she finds persons of Chamorro descent, people who are originally from the territory of Guam, and you can tell immediately there is deep affection between the people whom she represents and their Member of Congress. Additionally, you can tell how wonderful the people are of Guam by their extraordinary loyalty and service to the people of the United States.

I had the extraordinary privilege last week of participating in a program with Major General Donald Goldhorn, the Adjutant General of the Guam National Guard. I was present with Congresswoman BORDALLO and with our colleague, Congressman and Ranking Member SOLOMON ORTIZ of Texas. We were present at the National Guard program where the National Guard of Guam was recognized as the number one National Guard in the United States in terms of percentage of membership of state or territory.

I particularly was very appreciative. I am a 31-year veteran of the Reserves and Guard. I have three sons serving in the Army National Guard, and so I know of the great opportunities that can be had by serving in the National Guard. The territory of Guam has truly come forward to be first in our country of percentage of membership.

It has already been stated, but in my visit last week, we visited the memorial to the Marines who liberated Guam in July 1944. It was extraordinary to find out that, within 1 hour of the attack on Pearl Harbor, the people of Guam were under attack by the Imperial Japanese forces. They seized control of the Island of Guam. The island was inhabited by 22,000 United States nationals. The island was occupied for 31 months. It was very brutal. The people were subject to executions, beatings, rape, forced labor, and forced march. All of the residents were interned in concentration camps in the closing months of the occupation.

This week, I had the extraordinary opportunity to read a book about the occupation by former Congressman Ben Blaz, a retired major general of the Marine Corps. It was very moving to see his tribute. This was a 13-year-old boy who sadly lived his teenage years under the brutal occupation of the Imperial Japanese forces. There are so many facts in there that the American people should know, but one of them that was particularly shocking to me was that there were six Americans, military per-

sonnel, who escaped as the Japanese seized control of the island. Five of them upon capture were summarily executed. The sixth person was hidden during the 31-month occupation and survived thanks to the people of Guam.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from South Carolina.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. I also would like to point out that the Guam Meritorious Claims Act of 1945 was passed within months of the cessation of hostilities for the immediate relief of the people of Guam, but there are deficiencies, obviously, that have been discovered in the last 64 years. They need to be corrected.

I also want to point out that, last week, the strategic importance of Guam was recognized by the agreement between Japan and the United States, and 8,000 Marines are being relocated from Okinawa to Guam.

I am, again, grateful to be here. We have extraordinary fellow citizens living on Guam—great Americans. Therefore, I urge that we adopt H.R. 44, which will update a statute that is flawed.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank my colleague Mr. WILSON for his very supportive words on this bill.

At this time, I would like to recognize my dear colleague from the United States Virgin Islands, the Honorable DONNA CHRISTENSEN, for 5 minutes.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise also in strong support of H.R. 44, the Guam World War II Loyalty Recognition Act, and urge my colleagues to support its passage.

I want to begin by welcoming former Delegate Ben Blaz as well but especially in commending my colleague and friend from Guam, the Honorable MADELEINE BORDALLO, for her steadfast and dedicated efforts to the enactment of this bill. Since becoming a Member of this House 6 years ago, nothing has been more important to her than the enactment of this legislation to provide compensation for those of her constituents who suffered unspeakable acts of horror during World War II.

Mr. Speaker, the people of Guam, as you heard, were subject to the severest and most inhumane public treatment—torture as well as death at the hands of the Japanese—and they have waited much too long for this compensation. The Guam War Claims Review Commission rightly found that Guam's residents were inequitably treated under the Guam Meritorious Claims Act and subsequent Federal laws meant to address World War II personal injury claims.

This commission, which was established pursuant to legislation sponsored by our former colleague from Guam, Robert Underwood, recommended that Congress enact legislation providing for additional compensation to Guam's residents, thus, the bill we are discussing today.

□ 1430

The struggle for fair compensation for the people of Guam has been ongoing now for more than 60 years. Sadly, many of the Chamorros who suffered these atrocities, as Ms. BORDALLO has said, have passed away; but we must not let their suffering—largely due to the steadfast loyalty to the United States—be in vain. Passage of this is long overdue, and by doing so today, we will honor their memories and provide compensation to these brave Americans.

I worked with Congresswoman BORDALLO during the last Congress to secure enough votes to pass similar legislation out of the House, but we ran out of time before we were able to get it out of the other body.

It's my fervent hope that our efforts will enjoy greater success in this Congress, and I again urge my colleagues to vote in favor of H.R. 44. The people of Guam have waited long enough.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN).

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 44. It has been articulated very well on this floor as to the reasons why this should be supported. I would like to suggest for Members on my side of the aisle that they might consider voting for this in tribute to our former colleague, Mr. Blaz—who was on the floor—a brigadier general of the United States Marine Corps, a Member of Congress for a number of terms, including those during which I was here the first time around; and, as importantly, a fellow graduate of the University of Notre Dame. I salute General Blaz.

We are talking about facts that go to instances or events that occurred some 60-plus years ago. Sometimes we only hear about that by reading it in the history books and we attempt to try and place ourselves there to understand.

We don't have to do that today. General Blaz is here. He went through it as a young boy. He is a credit to this country, he's a credit to Guam, he's a credit to this institution. He is an example of the triumph of American forces during World War II and what they allowed the people that they liberated to become. From rather modest beginnings in a war zone, he picked himself up, was educated in one of the finest universities in this country, became a member of the United States Marine Corps, rose to the position of brigadier general, and later had the privilege of representing those same people with whom he lived in an occupation status later on here in the House of Representatives.

If there is any question about the loyalty of the people of Guam, if there is any question about what they suffered, if there is any question about the justice of this bill, it can be answered by just looking at this gentleman, Mr. Blaz. It is an honor for me to be here

on the floor when he is here visiting us again to talk in favor of this bill.

I would hope that there would be a unanimous vote for this bill.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I would like to now recognize the distinguished gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) for as much time as he may consume.

(Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. I thank the gentelady.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 44, the Guam World War II Loyalty Recognition Act. I certainly want to thank Chairman NICK RAHALL of our Natural Resources Committee, Congressman DON YOUNG, and DOC HASTINGS from Washington for their leadership in bringing this bill to the floor for consideration.

I especially want to thank the chief sponsor, the current chairwoman of the Natural Resources Subcommittee on Insular Affairs, Oceans and Wildlife, my good friend and colleague, Congresswoman MADELEINE BORDALLO, for her tireless efforts to continue to raise this important issue, now this form of legislation, before our Members for consideration.

Mr. Speaker, in World War II, Guam, as a U.S. territory, was occupied by the Imperial Japanese military forces for nearly 3 years until the U.S. Armed Forces liberated Guam and its people in 1944. After World War II, the U.S. Congress in 1945 passed the Guam Meritorious Claims Act which authorized the Secretary of the Navy to appoint a claims commission in an effort to compensate the residents of Guam for their sufferings during the war.

Almost six decades later, Mr. Speaker—this is 60 years now—Congress established the Guam War Claims Review Commission to determine whether there is parity of war claims paid to Guam residents in 1945 as compared with awards made under other Federal laws to similarly affected U.S. citizens or nationals in territories occupied by Japanese forces during World War II.

In 2004, the review commission submitted its report which became the focus of the Natural Resources Committee oversight hearing last year. And it was further clear that awards were needed. Moreover, the commission recommended that Congress acknowledges both the suffering of the people of Guam during the enemy occupation of Guam during World War II.

The bill before us today seeks to fulfill the recommendations of the review commission. This bill recognizes the suffering and the loyalty of the people of Guam, Mr. Speaker.

Unfortunately, this bill was never passed by the Senate last year despite its having been hot-lined on multiple occasions. It was the subject of repeated objections, including a live objection on the Senate floor when unanimous consent was made to pass last year.

Mr. Speaker, every former Member of Congress representing the territory of Guam has spoken about the deficiencies in making Guam whole after World War II. Our former colleague, the late Congressman Antonio Wan Pat, former Congressman General Ben Blaz, who is with us today, and former Congressman Robert Underwood had raised the issue throughout their service in this body. Through the efforts of Congressman Robert Underwood, a commission was established in the 107th Congress to review the historical record of addressing Guam's war claims.

There were some of the key findings of the commission. If the U.S. has a moral obligation to pay proper compensations for war claims, that there was a lack of parity in war claims for Guam when compared to other war claims' programs established by the Congress that Guam was erroneously—I don't know if not purposefully—excluded from the coverage under title II of the War Claims Act.

This legislation is vitally important, Mr. Speaker, because it addresses these long-standing inequities against the people of Guam. By implementing the recommendations of the review commission, it recognizes the sacrifices made by the people of Guam and their steadfast loyalty to the United States in the face of this adversity. It allows claims for death, personal injury, forced labor, forced marches, and internment. It allows compensation to certain survivors of the siege.

I strongly support this legislation. And may I remind my colleagues, our Nation committed a grave injustice, as far as I'm concerned, concerning this issue. Sixty years, Mr. Speaker. How much longer are we going to have to wait for the people of Guam to get proper compensation for this tremendous wrong that was committed against them by Japanese military forces? Atrocities were committed against the people of Guam. And this piece of legislation embodies all they're asking for.

I suspect that we have currently probably a \$40 billion military presence in this territory that is so important and vital to our strategic and military interests, and yet we cannot even provide compensation for the loss of lives these people had to suffer and endure for 3 years under Japanese occupation in World War II. Where is the justice in this, Mr. Speaker? Where is the fairness? Where are the Members of this body to give proper voters support for this long-standing injustice that has not been remedied by the Congress?

Mr. Speaker, as an example, my good friend and former colleague, Member of the Congress, Brigadier General Ben Blaz, at that time was a youth that was part of this forced evacuation. He personally witnessed some of the atrocities that were committed against his people by Japanese military forces. Our former colleague, Congressman Bob Underwood, who reiterated to our col-

leagues as some of his close relatives were beheaded Japanese style in the presence of other people of Guam. And this took place for some 3 years, 3 years, Mr. Speaker.

And I could never forget the words echoed by my good friend General Blaz. He said, "We are equal in war but not in peace." What a profound statement, as far as I'm concerned.

Yes, the people of Guam sacrificed their sons and daughters to fight our enemies in our wars, but when it comes to giving proper compensation and remedy for its people, somehow after 60 years we seem to give a blind eye not really giving any real sense of importance about what happened in the lives of these people during the 3 years the Japanese forces took over this territory.

Why, for the life of me, Mr. Speaker, it has taken all of these years in simply trying to make this inequity fair and just for the people and for the benefit of Guam, I do not understand.

And if I may just for a second, Mr. Speaker, I would like to have a colloquy with my colleague from Guam, MADELEINE BORDALLO.

As a senior Member of the House Armed Services Committee, do you think the territory of Guam has any importance as an insular member of our family as territories representing the United States in this part of the world?

Ms. BORDALLO. Yes, I do. Guam is strategically located in the Pacific. And at this particular time, we are looking at a large military buildup in Guam.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Is it your understanding that we are about to spend some \$15 billion to transfer some 9,000 Marines from Okinawa and some 40,000 dependents to be placed in Guam because of its military importance to our Nation's security interests?

Ms. BORDALLO. Yes.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. What is the gentelady's estimates in terms of the value of all of the military installations that we now have in place in Guam.

Ms. BORDALLO. The value?

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Twenty billion, thirty billion? Anderson Air Force Base, the naval bases; all of the military presence that we have in Guam?

Ms. BORDALLO. It's priceless.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. You would say in the billions?

Ms. BORDALLO. In the billions.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. And would you suppose to suggest that maybe all we're asking for is some couple of pennies compared to the billions that we have? And where are the people of Guam in terms of the sacrifices that they've had to make; the lands that have been taken, one-third of Guam is now controlled by the military?

Ms. BORDALLO. That is correct.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. I'd like to ask the gentelady also is it true that since the closing of Subic Bay and Clark Air Force base that Guam then

became vitally important, even to this day, to the defense of our national security interests in this region of the world?

Ms. BORDALLO. That is correct.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. I thank the gentlelady.

And I want to thank my good friend, the gentleman from California, for complementing and for supporting this legislation.

My good friends and Mr. Speaker, this is not a Republican or a Democratic bill. It is a bill in the interests of the needs of our fellow Americans who suffered tremendous atrocities in the hands of Japanese military forces during World War II. And all we're asking here is fair, fairness and equity, and for justice to the people of Guam.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, it's my pleasure to yield 2 minutes to the gentlelady from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX).

Ms. FOXX. I thank my colleague from Utah.

Mr. Speaker, you know, I was not aware of this bill until today, and I am sure that this is a very worthwhile program and that certainly we want to honor the people who have fought to help keep this country free; however, I am very concerned about the expenditure of another \$131 million in addition to the trillions and billions that we are recently committing ourselves to.

I mentioned earlier that I had some young people that I was concerned about. There's a little boy in my district by the name of Noah Zenger who's having a birthday very soon. And he wanted to come to Washington to see the Congress in action, and he brought his brother, Ben, and his sisters, Emma and Savannah, with him.

They are the ones that are going to bear the responsibility for our profligate spending here. Where is it going to end? How much debt are we going to place on these children and their families?

American families are hurting and need relief. And yet, we continue to engage in out-of-control spending.

Now, I have to say at least this bill is being debated out in the open. It is not like the bills that have been debated or have been settled on recently in secret, the Reid-Pelosi secret Congress, which has been bringing these very expensive bills to us to vote on. The \$1 trillion stimulus bill that's only going to stimulate more government and more debt. There's going to be a half trillion dollar omnibus spending bill that's going to fund the government for only 7 months.

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And then we've got this \$75 billion bill for the President's mortgage bail-out proposal. Where is it going to end? We just continue to spend, spend, spend.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire as to how much time is remaining on both sides.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlelady from Guam has 1½ minutes,

and the gentleman from Utah has 12 minutes.

Ms. BORDALLO. I would like to yield the balance of our time to our next speaker, who is the gentleman from Puerto Rico (Mr. PEDRO PIERLUISI).

Mr. PIERLUISI. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 44.

I want to begin by commending the gentlelady from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO), who has worked tirelessly for years to steer this important bill through the legislative process. Ms. BORDALLO's legislation was approved by the House in 2007 but was not taken up by the Senate. I believe that passage of her bill is long overdue, and I respectfully urge my colleagues in both Chambers to support it.

H.R. 44 will acknowledge the courageous loyalty shown by the U.S. nationals of Guam during the Japanese occupation in World War II. Chairman RAHALL, in remarks delivered several years ago, summarized life in occupied Guam in stark terms: "For more than 2½ years, brutal atrocities were committed against the people of Guam. The horrific acts of public beheadings, beatings and rapes were burned into the memories of parents and children. And in an island community of 22,000, everyone knew one another, and so no one escaped the tragedies of war-time occupation."

Mr. Speaker, this bill is more than a symbolic gesture. It reflects the view that solemn speeches about sacrifice and loyalty are nice, and they are necessary, but they are not enough. This legislation embodies the determination of a grateful Nation to move beyond rhetoric and to provide tangible assistance to a relatively small universe of U.S. citizens whose bravery and suffering have yet to be adequately addressed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. If the gentleman from Puerto Rico is not complete, I would be happy to yield him 1 minute.

Mr. PIERLUISI. I will continue.

Ms. BORDALLO's bill would authorize the Federal Government to pay compensation to two categories of persons; first, to living Guam residents who were seriously injured or interned during the occupation; and second, to the surviving family members of those Guam residents who were killed or seriously injured in the course of their occupation. The eligibility criteria established by the bill are fair and transparent, and the amount of compensation prescribed is reasonable.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 44 would essentially implement the recommendations of the Guam War Claims Review Commission, which was established by the Congress. The Review Commission submitted its final report in June 2004. The report concluded that the war claims process created in 1945 to compensate the people of Guam was deficient in key respects. The Commission observed that many residents of Guam

missed the window in which to file claims as a result of language barriers, high illiteracy rates, and the lack of newspapers and telephones on the island.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. I yield the gentleman another 30 seconds.

Mr. PIERLUISI. Thank you so much.

The Commission recommended that the United States provide additional compensation to the two categories of claimants I mentioned earlier.

Mr. Speaker, it is likely that more pages have been written about World War II and its aftermath than any other subject. Today, we have an opportunity to write an important new chapter about an aspect of the conflict that has not received the attention it deserves.

I am proud to join Ms. BORDALLO in what is clearly a sacred mission for her and the good people of Guam and in what ought to be viewed as a worthy endeavor by all Americans.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. ROE).

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, this week the House is scheduled to consider the fiscal year 2009 Omnibus Appropriations Act, which is going to spend an additional \$410 billion. After spending \$700 billion to bail out Wall Street, another \$787 billion for what is supposedly stimulus, perhaps supporters of this week's bill just believe that spending another \$410 billion has lost a lot of its significance and will go unnoticed. It cannot and it will not.

The folks in Tennessee assume that when you spend \$2 trillion in just discretionary spending—never mind spending on Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid—that it gets easier to find some savings and set priorities because \$2 trillion is a staggering amount of money. I have to tell them that, in Congress, the opposite is true; the more you spend here, the more difficult it is to set priorities.

It's time to get our Nation's financial house in order. We can only do that by debating the spending package, but once again, it appears we will be faced with a take-it-or-leave-it package of priorities that will be subject to almost no scrutiny or debate. If we're going to restore fiscal responsibility, we must carefully review this package and demand that excessive spending be eliminated.

I thank the general for his service.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. May I inquire if there are any other speakers that the gentlelady from Guam has.

Ms. BORDALLO. I have no further speakers, but I do want to go on record to thank you, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP), for the courtesy of giving us extra time on this side. Thank you.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. So that we can maintain this in some kind of order, I do not have any other speakers. I would just like to say in conclusion

that we start a process here today which is somewhat strange as we enter into this next week. We have eight bills that are coming up from our particular committee—seven of which I actually support, including this one—and yet we are now committing them over to the death now of the Federal graveyard known as the United States Senate, where they shall probably languish for the next 2 years, only to be resurrected in the 112th session of Congress in some kind of omnibus form. We're doing probably the son of S.R. 22 even as we speak.

However, having said that, I appreciate the words that have been spoken about this particular bill.

And I would be willing, Mr. Speaker, to yield 2 minutes to the gentlelady from Guam if she would like to conclude on this debate, and then that would be sufficient for me.

Ms. BORDALLO. I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

I want to take this moment just to read a passage here: "Why is the United States Government, not the Government of Japan, paying for these war claims? This may be a question that many would ask. Well, following World War II, American nationals and citizens were awarded some compensation from the Federal Government for certain war-time losses, yet Guamanians were excluded.

"In 1945, the United States Congress acknowledged and attempted to remedy the needs of Guamanians by passing the Guam Meritorious Claims Act within weeks after the cessation of hostilities. The bill was an attempt to provide immediate relief to the people of Guam for the sacrifices and the sufferings they endured during the Imperial Japanese occupation of the island. Unfortunately, the intent of the legislation was never fully realized. Then, the United States signed a treaty of peace with Japan on September 8, 1951 which precluded American citizens from making claims against Japan for war reparations." I think that's very, very important; it precluded American citizens from making claims against Japan for war reparations.

"The treaty closed any legal mechanism for seeking redress from the Government of Japan. And moreover, bureaucratic bungling of the Guam Meritorious Claims Act of 1945, post World War II, hindered many Guamanians from receiving the appropriate level of support. Since Guam had no representation in Congress until 1973, it was difficult for Guamanians to advocate for better implementation of the legislation."

So, again, I thought it was important to explain this. Many people have asked why isn't Japan responsible for this. And so I thought I would include this in the RECORD, Mr. Speaker. And I urge my colleagues to vote for the bill, H.R. 44.

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support legislation that has been introduced by my colleague, Congresswoman

BORDALLO. H.R. 44, the Guam World War II Loyalty Recognition Act, would honor the residents of Guam for their loyalty and compensate them for the atrocities they suffered during the long and violent Japanese occupation of Guam.

During World War II, Guam was invaded, seized and occupied by Imperial Japanese forces for nearly three years. The war destroyed much of Guam, including housing, public buildings, utilities and infrastructure. In addition, the people of Guam suffered many deaths and an untold number of acts of brutality. This ruthless brutality has left a lasting impact on the survivors of the war and the descendants of victims. These sufferers wanted nothing more than survival and liberation under the U.S. flag.

In 1947, the Secretary of the Navy commissioned a civilian committee on the Naval Administration of Guam and American Samoa to prepare a report with specific recommendations. The report became known as the Hopkins Report and was submitted to the Secretary of the Navy in 1947. Among other things, the report addressed deficiencies in the war claims process for Guam immediately after the war ended. In the cover letter submitted with the report, the committee stated, "Only so can justice be done to a valiant group of Americans who at great cost to themselves remained steadfastly loyal during the war . . . in so special a case this government could well be very generous in method of distributing its relief as well as generous in amount awarded. It has been neither."

Many decades later, the 107th Congress authorized the Guam War Claims Review Commission to determine if the people of Guam received parity in claims as compared to other Americans who experienced losses and damages during the war. In 2004, the Commission submitted their final report to Congress and found that Guam's residents were inequitably treated.

There has been legislation to address this inequitable treatment in every Congress since 1985. Two hearings have been held, one in the 108th Congress and one on in the 109th Congress. In the 110th Congress, the House passed H.R. 1595 under a suspension of the rules but the Senate was not able to act on the measure before final adjournment. It is time to follow the recommendations made by both the Hopkins report and the Guam War Claims Review Commission by providing adequate reparations for the people of Guam. It is time to honor them for their sacrifices.

Congresswoman BORDALLO continues to call for a resolution to this open wound and has done a fantastic job over the years to create the most fair and equitable legislation that Congress can pass. I hope the people of Guam know that this issue is being addressed and the people have not been forgotten.

I urge my colleagues to support the people of Guam and vote for final passage.

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, as Chair of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, I rise today in support of H.R. 44, the Guam World War II Loyalty Recognition Act, which recognizes the great suffering and loyalty of the people of Guam during the Japanese occupation of Guam in World War II.

On December 8, 1941, concurrent with the attack on Pearl Harbor, Imperial Japanese forces invaded and seized control of the island of Guam, a United States Territory. Guam was

occupied for the following thirty months, during which time its people were subjected to executions, beatings, rape, forced labor, and forced marches. In the final months of the occupation, all residents were interned in concentration camps.

The Guam Meritorious Claims Act of 1945 provided some relief to residents of Guam, but in 2004, the Guam War Claims Review Commission determined that there was a lack of parity in war claims for the people of Guam compared to other war claims programs authorized by Congress for similarly-affected U.S. citizens and U.S. nationals. The Commission felt that the U.S. government had a "moral obligation" to provide redress for the people of Guam, which is the goal of H.R. 44. As an original cosponsor of the bill, I support this objective wholeheartedly.

I am proud to honor and recognize the patriotism shown by the people of Guam and the sacrifices they made during World War II and I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on H.R. 44. This is long-overdue legislation to compensate eligible residents of Guam for deaths and injuries suffered during the Japanese occupation.

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, let me express my support for H.R. 44, the Guam World War 2 Loyalty Recognition Act.

As my colleagues know, during World War II, the people of Guam endured great suffering under the occupation of the military forces of the Japanese Empire. H.R. 44 would give appropriate recognition to the extraordinary hardships endured by the people of Guam and the loyalty they demonstrated to the United States of America during 32 months of occupation. The bill would also provide for compensation for the victims and relatives of those who suffered and for research, education, and media efforts to memorialize the occupation.

I recently had the opportunity to visit Guam and I was reminded of the strategic importance it plays in preserving the security of our nation. We must never lose sight of what the people of Guam have done, and continue to do, for the United States.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 44.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

CAPTIVE PRIMATE SAFETY ACT

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 80) to amend the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 to treat nonhuman primates as prohibited wildlife species under that Act, to make corrections in the provisions relating to captive wildlife offenses under that Act, and for other purposes.