

BALART, FL–21); Ms. Dodie Kasper and Ms. Maria Arena (JOHNSON, TX–3); Mr. Jeffrey Boogaard (ANDREWS, NJ–1); Mr. Christopher Moreno (LOWEY, NY–18); Ms. Latasha Jones (ENGEL, NY–17); Mr. Eric Major (COSTELLO, IL–12); Ms. Mollie Huber and Ms. Yvonne Jackson Pittman (PAUL, TX–14).

Madam Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to join me in thanking the Office of the Historian for sponsoring this program. Thanks to Dr. Robert Remini and Dr. Fred Beuttler for their outstanding leadership, and Dr. Thomas Rushford, Dr. Charles Flanagan, Mr. Anthony Wallis and Mr. Benjamin Hayes for providing the crucial staff support. Thank you also to the Office of the Historian interns: Mr. Maurice Robinson, Mr. Parker Williams, Ms. Kaitlin Utz and Ms. Debbie Kobrin.

HONORING THE JUNIOR MATRONS  
OF MORRISTOWN, NEW JERSEY

**HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 24, 2009*

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Junior Matrons of Morristown, New Jersey who are celebrating their 50 Anniversary this year.

The Junior Matrons of Morristown was started in 1959 by a motivated group of young African American women. They concentrated their time and energy on addressing the lack of young African American high school graduates pursuing post secondary education. For the past 50 years the Junior Matrons have focused on fulfilling their motto, "Service through Scholarship". This has been done through providing financial assistance to over 3,000 high school students, totaling over \$2 million over the past half century. The beneficial and residual impact of this assistance cannot be over-estimated.

The Junior Matrons sponsor an annual Graduation Ball and Cotillion. The purpose of this night is threefold. First, it helps to raise awareness among the African American community about how a college education can provide an avenue to economic, political and social advantage. Second, it recognizes and rewards those who have been committed to achieving their first major educational milestone. And finally, it generates the funds necessary for a high school graduate's dream of college to become a reality. This single evening can be summed up in a statement that these women pride themselves on, "There were a lot of things we didn't know were impossible so we just went ahead and did them."

The passion and energy behind the founding of the Junior Matrons has continued unabated for these last 50 years, and is a credit to the collective vision of twelve charter members: the late Sue Graddick, Harriet Britt, the late Frances Younginer, my dear friend Dr. Felicia B. Jamison, Emma L. Martin, Mattile Drew, Muriel Hiller, Nadine Alston, the late Emanueline Smith, Natalie Holmes, the late Marie Davis, the late Natalie Thurmond Lattimore and Cecelia Dowdy.

Over the years the Junior Matrons have been honored by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the National Urban League, among many others.

Although a few of the original group are no longer with us, new leaders have taken on the mantle and are endowed with the same zeal and vision.

Madam Speaker, I am quite certain that the Junior Matrons will continue to promote the cause quality education and help provide opportunities for our young people to pursue college degrees and productive, fulfilling careers. I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Junior Matrons of Morristown as they celebrate 50 dedicated years of serving our community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. KEVIN BRADY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 24, 2009*

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Madam Speaker, I was unable to be present for several votes on Tuesday, June 23, 2009 due to a personal situation I needed to attend to in Texas. Nevertheless, I would request that the record indicate that I would have voted "yes" on each of the bills considered in the House had I been present. Specifically, S. 407, the Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2009; H.R. 1016, the Veterans Health Care Budget Reform and Transparency Act of 2009; H.R. 1211, the Women Veterans Health Care Improvement Act; and H.R. 1172 are each common sense reforms that will improve the health and education benefits provided by the Veterans Administration. Our veterans and their families sacrifice so much on our behalf, it is important that Congress continue to do all it can to ensure that they receive the respect and support they deserve.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. PATRICK T. MCHENRY**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 24, 2009*

Mr. MCHENRY. Madam Speaker, had I been present to vote on S. 407 "Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2009" my vote would have been cast in support of this bill. In addition, had I been present I would have cast my vote in support of the following bills, H.R. 1016 "Veterans Health Care Budget Reform and Transparency Act of 2009", H.R. 1211 "Women Veterans Health Care Improvement Act", H.R. 1172 "To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to include on the Internet website of the Department of Veterans Affairs a list of organizations that provide scholarships to veterans and their survivors" and H.R. 1777 "Making technical corrections to the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended".

IN OPPOSITION TO CAP-ON-A-TAX  
LEGISLATION

**HON. TODD TIAHRT**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 24, 2009*

Mr. TIAHRT. Madam Speaker, I heard of a climatologist who went to apply for a job re-

cently. During his interview, he was asked, "What do you predict will happen with the earth's climate next year?" He immediately replied, "Whatever you want me to predict."

Unfortunately, this joke seems to hit a little too close to home, when we are considering global warming legislation. Rather than responding to serious questions with serious answers, Congress is replying with what we think people want to hear. Rather than considering all angles before offering a solution, Congress is rushing through legislation in hopes to score points with voters back home. And instead of basing a bill on sound scientific data, we will be considering legislation that is devoid of input from this side of the aisle.

I rise today to express my strong opposition to Waxman-Markey "cap and tax" bill. I believe there are three interrelated problems with this misguided legislation. I am concerned with the process by which we have arrived at the point we are today. I am concerned with the political showmanship that has gone on as the bill was written. And I am concerned with the policy itself, which bears the tragic scars of both the process and the politics.

Madam Speaker, from the beginning of the 111th Congress to the present, the cap-and-tax bill has been subjected to unfortunate abuses of the legislative process. In April, the Energy and Commerce Committee held four days of hearings, with the intention of, according to the Committee's website, "examine the views of the Administration and a broad range of stakeholders," on a discussion draft of Chairman WAXMAN's bill. However, these hearings reflected only the Chairman's perspective. Only four of the twenty-one witnesses called before the Committee expressed any opposition to cap-and-tax, despite a petition signed by more than thirty thousand meteorologists, climatologists, and other scientists stating their skepticism about the evidence of man-made greenhouse gases being responsible for increases in the earth's temperature. Contrary to claims made by the Committee, and witnesses at the hearing, there is no "overwhelming consensus" in favor of the hypothesis of human-caused global warming.

The bill was drafted without input from our side of the aisle. At no point was any Republican consulted regarding the contents of the bill. In the rush to get the legislation passed through Committee, it seems no one had time to read the entire bill, or figure out what it means. Committee members repeatedly asked questions regarding the potential cost of particular provisions or amendments, but received no answers.

All of this raises the question, "why"? Why was the bill rushed through the Committee, with hardly enough time to read it, let alone determine the impact that it would have on American taxpayers, farms, and businesses? The only answer I can come up with is the desire on the part of some in this body to score points with their voters back home.

What I see happening here is similar to what happened at the end of World War II. When American soldiers first reached Nazi extermination camps, they found men, women and children that were gaunt, emaciated, and starving. A few soldiers offered children chocolate bars, not realizing that the very thing they thought would be helpful actually ended up killing the children, because their digestive systems were unable to handle the chocolate. The same sort of thing is happening here. In