

Obama's pledge that the funding for our actions in Iraq and Afghanistan would be done through the usual appropriations process. By passing this unfunded bill, we will be adding tens of billions of dollars in new debt. I cannot support such reckless policy.

Further, the bill does not include funding that is essential to stop massive layoffs among teachers and other public servants we count on. The recession that began in 2008—the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression—has hit our communities hard, forcing school districts to layoff teachers and cut services. Previously, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act made several sound investments in public education to keep teachers in the classroom and help school districts avoid painful cuts.

Most, if not all, of this emergency funding has been spent.

I cannot in good conscience vote for a bill that is so at odds with the most basic of our values, and I urge my colleagues to join me in voting against it.

RECOGNIZING N. PATRICK RANGE,
SR.

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 30, 2010

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize and congratulate Mr. N. Patrick Range, Sr., a friend as well as a constituent in my Congressional district and recipient of this year's Robert H. Miller Professional of the Year Award. He will be honored by the National Funeral Directors and Mortician's Association during its 2010 convention in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Mr. Range is the third Floridian nominated for the award, named after Mr. Miller, the first NFDMA executive director. It is because of his outstanding service and commitment that he undoubtedly deserves this great honor for his many years of devotion to the South Florida community.

"He's had a significant role in supporting colleagues and in serving the community in a comparable manner," said Henry Postell, president of the Florida Mortician Association. "Professionalism is there regardless of the families' financial situation."

Mr. Range is the current owner of Range Funeral Homes of Greater Miami, founded in 1953. He has been in the funeral industry as a licensed funeral director and embalmer for over 50 years. He obtained his license in 1965 after matriculating at the New England Institute of Anatomy following the death of his father and founder of Range Funeral Homes, Oscar L. Range, Sr., in 1960.

After obtaining his license, Mr. Range returned to Miami to partner with "my mentor, my guide, my inspiration, my mom," M. Athalie Range, in a relationship that would last 45 years in the family-owned funeral home. After his mother's death in 2006, Mr. Range continued his parents' legacy as the principal of Range Funeral Homes.

A member of the Epsilon Nu Delta Mortuary Fraternity, Mr. Range also serves on the advisory board of the Miami-Dade College Department of Funeral Service Education. An active member in a host of other professional organizations, Mr. Range was most recently recog-

nized by his peers as the "Mortician of the Year" in 2006 by both the First Regional District of Florida and the State of Florida Mortician's Association. He has done an abundant of fundraising work for mortuary science scholarships and career-related organizations, such as 100 Black Women in Funeral Service.

Madam Speaker, Mr. N. Patrick Range, Sr. is an inspiration not only to the South Florida community, but to the nation at large. Morticians provide a service like no other. The care and dedication you provide our loved ones before their homegoing services stay in our hearts and minds forever. Please join me in applauding the achievements of Mr. Range.

EXPLANATION REGARDING SUB-
MISSION OF AMENDMENTS TO
COMMITTEES

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 30, 2010

Mr. SHERMAN. Madam Speaker, I should note that I sometimes submit amendments to committees so that they are available for discussion. I do not necessarily support any amendment drafted by myself and my staff unless I formally offer the amendment. Accordingly, no conclusion can be drawn from the process of simply providing the text of a possible amendment to the clerk of any committee.

HONORING JOSEPH H. HAMILTON

HON. JIM COOPER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 30, 2010

Mr. COOPER. Madam Speaker, to a boy from Louisiana, the building blocks of life are food, faith, and a healthy dose of Southern hospitality. Joseph Hamilton, grew up to learn that our world is not so simple.

By January 2010 Hamilton had played a crucial role in an astounding discovery. He helped find something that no one knew existed. His work was critical in forming a multinational research team, and carrying out the discovery of Element 117—Ununseptium—the newest addition to the Periodic Table of Elements.

Hamilton's life started like that of any southern boy. Born in the humble town of Ferriday, Louisiana, he stayed true to his Baptist upbringing. He attended Christian Mississippi College, where God's calling led him to be a physicist. Hamilton then took his studies to Indiana University, where he studied nuclear physics and the elements. Their tiny atoms and their nuclei are invisible except to a select group of scientists with very advanced equipment. For everyone outside this elite group, the existence of atoms and their nuclei is purely a matter of faith. The only way to observe individual atoms of elements is through their impact on the world.

A skeptic may say that Christianity and physics, the two most important parts of Hamilton's life, cannot coexist, but Hamilton disagrees. He has pursued his passion without abandoning his beliefs, and has found that the

two go gracefully hand in hand. As a professor at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee, he and his wife have coauthored more than twenty papers on the harmony of physics and religion.

Professor Hamilton has dedicated himself to the growth of his students. Recognizing that they will soon take his place in research, Hamilton has supervised over 60 PhD dissertations and over 100 post-doctoral fellows at Vanderbilt. He includes his students in almost everything he does. One of his few regrets in his storied career is that he did not intimately involve his students in the discovery of Element 117.

Hamilton's research career at Vanderbilt over the last fifty-two years has taken him around the world. Russia, China, Sweden, and Germany have been but a few stops on his journeys. The creation of Element 117 in Dubna, Russia, just north of Moscow, was the result of a multinational project that Hamilton helped create. He believes that scientific discovery is a global effort, not a local one. Collaboration is key because science is one of the few things that unite us all in peaceful ways. Scientific principles apply around the world, regardless of race, creed, and nationality.

The first collaborative project that Hamilton initiated, the University Isotope Separator, has been a key operation at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory for more than forty years. This began as a collaboration of 11 Southeastern universities, ORNL and the State of Tennessee. Hamilton is also a founder of the Joint Institute for Heavy Ion Research, a co-operation of Vanderbilt, the University of Tennessee, and Oak Ridge National Laboratory. This Institute has become a world-class scientific resource. Moreover, this Institute opened doors that helped transform ORNL through the development of three major new joint institutes.

By January 2010, Hamilton's critical role in a joint Russian-American project came to fruition in the creation of six atoms of Element 117. While this new radioactive element has a half-life of only 78 milliseconds faster than the blink of an eye—its discovery points towards a fascinating possibility. Its half-life is longer than that of other recently discovered super heavy elements, and suggests that we may be on the path towards finding new, more stable, super heavy elements.

Hamilton and his coworkers' discovery will be forever emblazoned on the walls of chemistry and physics labs worldwide as the newest member of the Periodic Table of Elements. Generations of scientists will discover Element 117's properties, but no matter what is learned about Element 117, this Southern gentleman will always know that his work added to the building blocks of our world.

CONGRATULATING MAJOR GENERAL ROBERT WILLIAMS ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. TODD RUSSELL PLATTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 30, 2010

Mr. PLATTS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Major General Robert Williams, 47th Commandant of the United States Army