

and congratulating the Saint George Serbian Orthodox Church of East Chicago, Indiana on its 100th Anniversary. Throughout many hardships and trials, the members of Saint George have dedicated themselves to preserving Serbian heritage, tradition, and spiritual beliefs. For their commitment to serving so many in need, the church leaders and congregation are to be admired and are worthy of the highest praise.

HONORING THE LIFE AND
ACHIEVEMENTS OF JUDGE J.C.
MCLIN

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 9, 2011

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a just and wise servant of the people, an even-handed and merciful adjudicator of the law, and a humble and decent man, Judge J.C. McLin. He lost his battle with pancreatic cancer on Sunday, September 4, 2011. Judge McLin was born in Trenton, Tennessee to Reverend Henry McLin and Louise Doaks McLin. After graduating from Rosenwald High School, he attended and graduated from Lane College. He received a master's degree in Education from University of Tennessee at Martin and a law degree from University of Tennessee College of Law. He was commissioned as a First Lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps and was honorably discharged in 1975.

Judge McLin's selfless commitment to our community has made a lasting impact on the lives he touched. After working as an attorney for 25 years, including nine years in private practice, 19 years as a prosecutor and a staff attorney at Memphis Area Legal Services, he was elected to the Shelby County Criminal Court in 2000 where he presided as a judge. In 2004, he was appointed to the Tennessee Court of Criminal Appeals by Tennessee Governor Phil Bredesen, only the second African American to hold a seat on that bench. Judge McLin was noted for his gracious, calm and efficient approach to work. He was also regarded as a fair and hard working judge who served on the bench with great dignity and integrity.

Judge McLin was a faithful member of Mt. Pisgah Missionary Baptist Church, where he served as an associate minister. He supported the work of local organizer Stevie Moore to fight youth violence and he founded the Information, Assistance, and Monitoring program which gives criminal offenders a chance to rehabilitate themselves. He served on the board of the Memphis Second Chance Program which aims to help ex-offenders find a job. He leaves behind a legacy of service and faith that will continue to resonate in the Memphis community for many years to come.

Judge McLin was 64 years of age. He is survived by his beloved wife of 42 years, Mollie Jenkins McLin; his sons, Jason and Thebe; his daughter, Monette; his mother, Louise; two sisters, Shirley Drake and Patsy Smith; and a wealth of other family, friends and colleagues who will cherish his memory. His was a life well-lived.

STATEMENT ON SOCIAL SECURITY
FROM JOHN BURTON

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 9, 2011

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker. I commend to my colleagues' attention the following statement on the debate over Social Security from John Burton, our former colleague here in the House, the former president of the California State Senate, and the current chair of the California Democratic Party. John has a long and distinguished career in standing up for the economic interests of the middle class and the long-term strength of the American economy.

NO SOCIAL SECURITY CUTS ON THE TABLE

(By John Burton)

Chair, California Democratic Party
Member of Congress 1975–1982
California State Assemblyman 1998–1994
California State Senate President 1998–2004

There has been a lot of pressure from Republicans, the Chamber of Commerce, and newspaper editorials to put everything on the table, including Social Security, in order to deal with the federal deficit. That is a load of baloney.

No way in the world should Social Security be put on the table to deal with the deficit. One thing should be abundantly clear—Social Security has nothing to do with the current budget deficit or any budget deficit for that matter. It is a self-funding program that pays for itself. The program has actually lent the government money by purchasing U.S. Treasury notes and bonds.

Furthermore, Social Security, as a separate trust fund, was never included in the U.S. budget until President Lyndon Johnson decided to include it to demonstrate that domestic spending had increased even though our military spending went up during the Vietnam War.

The social security system is in sound fiscal shape. It has a surplus that will be present until 2037. There is a great deal of fuss about the fact that benefits paid out of the program would exceed the Social Security tax revenue and the fund has to be tapped to make the difference. That is exactly how the social security trust fund is supposed to work. That's why Congress created it. The bonds in the trust fund earn interest. Therefore the total value of the fund will continue to grow after that day. If nothing else changes, the total payout benefit will not exceed tax revenue plus interest on the bonds until 2024.

Some claim that the trust fund has constantly been looted. Now it is little more than a pile of worthless paper. They are not telling the truth. That paper is in fact a pile of U.S. Treasury bonds, even now considered to be the safest investment in the world. Under the law, the federal government is obligated to pay the bonds held by the trust fund, just as it has to pay interests on other government bonds. The thought that the government would default on its bonds owed to the social security trust fund is a pipe dream.

If there are perceived future problems with the Social Security system, that is a separate issue unrelated to the "deficit crisis" and could be solved in an orderly manner. A point of fact is that if the government pays what it owes the fund, it will be solvent for another 26 years.

If the Social Security issue is "to be dealt with," the easy solution is to raise the pay-

roll tax ceiling, which is now around \$107,000. When the ceiling was set, it was assumed that payroll tax would cover 90% of all wages. When the ceiling was set in 1983, the top 1% of Americans received 11.6% of total income. Today that 1% takes in more than 20% of the total income. If the formula pushes it back up to 90% of all wages envisioned in the 1983 legislation, the ceiling would rise to \$180,000. The long-term social security problem would be solved.

In the meantime, the fund is safe and solvent through four presidential elections. It is solvent for twelve more years, if not twenty-six more years before there are any problems.

COMMEMORATION OF THE ANNI-
VERSARY OF THE WARSAW UP-
RISING

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 9, 2011

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, as Chairman of the Helsinki Commission and Co-Chairman of the Poland Caucus, I have long been struck by the way in which history casts both long shadows and rays of light in Poland. I have had the privilege of traveling to Poland, one of America's closest allies, and was overwhelmed by the weight of history when I met with those who are building the Museum of the History of Poland's choice. Institutions like this are not only critical for Poland's future generations, but for what all of us, around the world, can learn from Poland.

Today, I rise today to commemorate the 67th anniversary of the Warsaw Uprising, a courageous act of defiance by the people of Poland against the brutal Nazi occupation during the Second World War.

On August 1, 1944, the Polish Underground began its struggle to liberate Warsaw, to further weaken the collapsing German eastern front and to establish Polish sovereignty in response to the Red Army's advance to the city's outskirts. Despite the courage and fortitude of the Polish people, the Underground could not overcome the Nazis' determination to oversee the complete destruction of the Home Army and the city, bolstered by official orders and a directive that the massacre was to serve as a "terrifying example" to Europe.

More than 200,000 civilians and members of the Home Army were killed in Warsaw over a 63-day period. Between August 5 and August 8, the Nazis murdered more than 40,000 people—overwhelmingly civilians—in the Wola district of Warsaw alone. Survivors, describing the horror of the executions, told of the indiscriminate slaughter of thousands of women and children. Approximately 700,000 Warsaw residents were expelled from their homes and forced out of the city—many sent to death, labor, or POW camps.

Hitler ordered that Warsaw should be razed to the ground; Heinrich Himmler declaring in the most chilling terms that Warsaw "must completely disappear from the surface of the earth." To that end, the Nazis systematically targeted buildings filled with deep meaning for the Poles, including cultural treasures, monuments, palaces, libraries, churches, and the Old Town. By the beginning of October, the Polish capitol was reduced to rubble—85 percent of the buildings in Warsaw had been destroyed.