

them to know that Margaret is a hero and her sacrifice will never be forgotten.

WHERE ARE THE REPUBLICANS?

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 13, 2012

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, where are the Republicans?

Democrats stand ready to extend tax cuts for 160 million middle income Americans, unemployment insurance, and making sure seniors can keep their Medicare doctors.

But where are the Republicans? The February deadline is rapidly approaching and conferees should be meeting.

But to date, the Republicans haven't called a single meeting to discuss these critical economic benefits. Where are they?

According to the Majority, we are in session. This is an attempt to prevent the President from making critical appointments tasked with protecting American consumers and workers.

But as I stand in this empty chamber it is clear the House is not in session. The Majority cannot have it both ways.

Under Republican rules: pro forma sessions are "real" and can stop Presidential nominee appointments, but I'm not recognized to speak on the floor.

Under their rules, critically important bills that would block the debt limit and force our nation to default for the first time in its history can be introduced, but I can't speak.

Under Republican rules, extensions of remarks that reflect the exact words I would speak on the floor can be put in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, but I can't actually be heard saying those words on the House floor.

They can introduce their bill to cause a default but I can't be recognized to talk about extending middle class tax cuts or creating jobs.

This is the absurd reality of the Republican pro forma legislative session.

The clock is ticking on the American people and the Majority seems unconcerned.

Right now, the Speaker and the Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, a member of the conference committee, are in Latin America. No meetings of the Conference Committee have been convened.

The payroll tax cut in effect for 2011 provided \$110 billion of tax relief to 159 million American workers. If the payroll tax cut is not extended by the end of February, middle class families making \$50,000 will see their taxes go up by \$1,000.

Extending the payroll tax cut will boost consumer demand, sustaining our economic recovery and encouraging job creation. Lack of demand continues to be a significant barrier to economic growth and hiring. Consumer spending represents roughly 70 percent of our economy, and consumer confidence is at levels not seen since the recession.

According to the Chief Economist of Moody's Analytics, Mark Zandi, continuing the payroll tax cut for employees will result in \$1.25 of economic growth for every \$1 of budgetary cost.

Federal unemployment programs are also slated to expire. As a result, over 6 million will lose benefits over the next year.

The Economic Policy Institute estimates that allowing these Federal unemployment benefits

to expire would hurt consumer demand and thereby cost the U.S. economy 528,000 jobs. And would mean \$45 billion less in assistance to unemployed workers, and \$70 billion less in economic activity. That reduction in purchasing power would lower GDP by 0.4 percent.

The Congressional Budget Office has indicated that providing extended unemployment benefits is one of the most effective job creation strategies available during a period of high joblessness, stating "Households receiving unemployment benefits tend to spend the additional benefits quickly, making this option both timely and cost-effective in spurring economic activity and employment."

The Federal government has never allowed emergency extended benefits to expire when the jobless rate has been anywhere close to its current level of nearly 9 percent. In fact, Congress has never allowed an emergency unemployment program to end when the unemployment rate is higher than 7.2 percent. We must not be the first Congress to do so.

The American people deserve a House Majority prepared to work for them.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF FORMER MEMPHIS STATE COACH, GENE BARTOW

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 13, 2012

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life and legacy of former Memphis State men's basketball coach and President of Hoops, L.P., Gene Bartow. Coach Bartow was born on August 8, 1930 in the tiny town of Browning, Missouri. Mr. Bartow graduated from Browning High School in 1948 and Northeast Missouri State College in 1952. After serving in the U.S. Army for two years, Mr. Bartow earned his master's degree from Washington University in St. Louis and did additional graduate work at the University of Southern California.

Mr. Bartow began his coaching career at the high school-level before moving first to Central Missouri State University and later to Valparaiso University. In 1970, the Memphis State Tigers, who had posted a dismal 3 and 45 conference record since joining the highly regarded Missouri Valley Conference in 1967, hired Mr. Bartow as their head coach. The Tigers went 18–8 in Bartow's first season as head coach and made the National Invitational Tournament, NIT, the following year. Despite never having won a National Collegiate Athletic Association, NCAA, tournament game, the Tigers reached the NCAA Championship Game in 1973, playing valiantly but ultimately falling to the John Wooden-coached and Bill Walton-led UCLA Bruins. That same year Bartow was voted NCAA Coach of the Year by his peers.

Coach Bartow left Memphis State in 1974 to coach the Fighting Illini at the University of Illinois for one season before succeeding the revered John Wooden at UCLA in 1976. After amassing a 52–9 record and leading the UCLA Bruins to the Final Four all in just two seasons, he left for the University of Alabama at Birmingham, who had offered him complete control in building an athletic program as ath-

letic director and head basketball coach. At the time, UAB had no teams in any sport. In just its second year of existence, Coach Bartow's UAB team made the NIT tournament; they followed it up with seven consecutive NCAA tournament appearances. Birmingham Southern athletic director Joe Dean, Jr. stated, "Coach Bartow started an entire Division 1 athletic program from scratch, and by his fourth year he had the basketball program in the Elite Eight of the NCAA Tournament. No other school in the history of college athletics has done anything like that in such a short period of time." It is no wonder that he was dubbed "The Father of UAB Athletics."

Coach Bartow's storied 36-year coaching career produced 647 wins and 353 losses, and only two losing seasons. He was elected to 10 different Halls of Fame, including the National Collegiate Basketball Hall of Fame, and he will be inducted into the Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame in May. UAB renamed its basketball arena the Bartow Arena in 1997.

Gene Bartow was loved and revered by many for his contributions to the city of Memphis. University of Memphis basketball coach Josh Pastner commented, "The best description I can give of Coach Bartow is he was as nice a human being and as good a human being as you'll find." George Lapedes, former sports editor of the defunct Memphis Press-Scimitar and a longtime friend of Bartow, observed, "When you consider what a gentleman Gene was, in addition to what he did for this city in the early '70s when this city was so racially divided after the assassination of [Dr.] Martin Luther King, Jr., he might be the top sports figure in Memphis history." His contribution to cancer research will continue, for each year the University of Memphis and UAB play the Gene Bartow Classic, which donates 2 dollars for every ticket sold to the Coach Gene Bartow Fund for Cancer Research.

I will remember Gene Bartow as a class act, a gentleman and one of the finest people to ever grace our city. Mr. Bartow passed away on January 3, 2012 at 81 years of age. He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Ruth, daughter, Beth B. Long, sons Mark and Murry, brother, Russell and eight grandchildren. Beloved throughout the basketball world, Mr. Bartow is perhaps best remembered for his class, humility, integrity, and genuine love not just for his players but for every person he met. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the life, contributions, and legacy of Gene Bartow. His was a life well-lived.

SALUTING BOB LAY: A TRUE LOCAL HERO AND PUBLIC SERVANT

HON. BILL POSEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 13, 2012

Mr. POSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the life and service of Colonel, U.S. Army (Ret) Bob Lay for his distinguished service to the U.S. Army and his nation. Colonel Lay honorably served his country for thirty-one years.

After an Army career as a helicopter pilot in which Colonel Lay served three tours in Vietnam, he retired from the United States Army