

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

INTEREST RATE REDUCTION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2012

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, as we continue to recover economically, we must ensure that students can afford a higher education. In 2007, as we were dealing with the worst of the recession, I voted in favor of legislation to reduce interest rates on Stafford loans from 6.8 to 3.4 percent. On July 31, interest rates will go back to 6.8 percent if Congress does not act.

There are nearly 48,000 students attending a university or college in my district who have a Stafford subsidized student loan. Those loans total over \$212 million. Doubling the interest rate will add an unnecessary burden on those students as they graduate and enter the workforce. For each year that Congress does not act to keep rates at 3.4 percent, students add an additional \$1000 in debt over the life of their loans. It may prevent them from starting a family, buying a home, or getting a new car. We must do everything we can to help as they get started.

The cost of the student loan bill is \$6 billion. Unfortunately, Republicans have chosen to pay for it by repealing the Prevention and Public Health Fund included in the Affordable Care Act that invests in innovative programs, practices and treatments to prevent cancer, heart disease, diabetes, and programs particularly important to women's health. We should not have to choose how we are going to invest in our country's future; how do you decide to cut investments in the education for the workforce of tomorrow versus the health of that very same workforce?

I support the Democratic alternative negotiated between the White House and Congressional Democrats that pays for the student loan interest rate by closing a corporate tax loophole. I hope that the House leadership will allow a vote on this commonsense alternative so students and their families aren't left paying for higher interest rates to go to school. Republicans know that their proposal cannot be supported by Democrats. They don't seem to know that by not finding a compromise, they are playing politics with students, families, and the future of our country.

REVEREND PATRICK J. GENELLO

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 8, 2012

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart as people in my hometown of Hazleton, Pennsylvania, mourn the loss of a beloved spiritual leader, the Rev. Patrick J. Genello.

Father Pat, as he was known to the parishioners of Holy Rosary Parish, passed away unexpectedly, leaving a hole in the hearts of those who worshipped inside his church for the past 17 years.

A son of the late Joseph and Arline Piazza Genello, Father Pat was born in Scranton on May 15, 1957. He received his early education at William Prescott School and graduated from Scranton Central High School. In 1975, Father Pat attended St. Pius X Seminary, and graduated from the University of Scranton in 1979 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in theology and philosophy. He completed his studies for the priesthood at St. John's Seminary in Brighton, Massachusetts, where he received a Master of Divinity degree in May 1983. He served his diaconate ministry at St. John the Evangelist Parish, Honesdale, from May 14, 1983, until his ordination. His Eminence, the late John Cardinal O'Connor, D.D. and Ph.D., who at the time was bishop of Scranton, ordained Father Pat into the priesthood on November 5, 1983, in St. Peter's Cathedral, Scranton.

After his ordination, Father Pat received a degree in counseling from Marywood University.

Father Pat first served as assistant pastor of Most Precious Blood Parish, Hazleton; then at St. Lucy's Parish, Scranton. He was appointed director of religious formation at Bishop Hannan High School, Scranton, on September 5, 1989. Father Pat was appointed pastor of Holy Rosary Parish in Hazleton on June 30, 1995, and that is where he remained until his death.

In addition to his parochial duties, Father Pat was a dedicated student of Holy Scripture. He accompanied the late Rev. Robert J. Barone, S.T.D., and served as the videographer on many trips to the Holy Land and Middle East. He and Father Barone, with the help of the Diocese of Scranton's Catholic Television, produced the very popular "The World of Saint Paul" television series.

Father Pat played a substantial role in the Greater Hazleton community. He hosted dinners for the United Way at Thanksgiving and at Christmas in the parish hall. He served as chaplain for the Hazleton Fire Department. He was the driving force in establishing a September 11, 2001, memorial on the parish grounds, and he conducted an annual service marking the event.

As an avid New York Yankees fan, Father Pat would often conduct a post-game analysis of the game with his parishioners and friends. An accomplished musician specializing in the guitar, he loved music of all kinds.

Father Pat remained close with members of his family, especially his niece, Maria, and nephew, Michael.

Mr. SPEAKER, today, the Rev. Patrick J. Genello's entire family—both his biological family and his spiritual family—is shocked by his sudden passing. The Greater Hazleton area will miss his pastoral leadership, his religious knowledge, and his community spirit.

HONORING RANDY SATER FOR HIS EXCEPTIONAL POLICE CAREER

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 8, 2012

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise today to congratulate Deputy Police Chief for the Village of Bloomingdale, Randy Sater, on his exceptional career.

Randy began his career of service and commitment to the Village of Bloomingdale in 1982. During his time of service, Randy has led in many different capacities. He served early on as a Detective and was later promoted to Sergeant. After nearly four years as Sergeant, Randy was assigned as Watch Commander. Most recently, he was promoted to Deputy Chief of Operations. Through his commitment to a wide array of leadership posts, Randy has demonstrated great integrity.

From his start in the police force, Randy has been an active member of the community and has taken important leadership roles. Since 1994, Randy has served as Neighborhood Watch Coordinator. He has also worked with the youth in the community through the Character Counts Coalition. Since its inception in 1998, Randy has served on the Board of Directors of the Coalition and as Chair of the Coalition for a number of those years. The Character Counts Coalition works to uphold six pillars of character: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship. Without a doubt, Randy has carried out these six pillars of character in his own life. Valuing the safety and well-being of those in his community, he has also taken leadership as a B.A.S.S.E.T. (Beverage Alcohol Sellers and Servers Training) instructor since 2005. It is evident that Randy's involvements and reach has positively impacted the lives of many.

Mr. Speaker and Distinguished Colleagues, please join me in recognizing Deputy Chief Randy Sater on his successful career.

IN HONOR OF PRESIDENT MA YING-JEUO

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 8, 2012

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Taiwanese President Ma Ying-jeou on his reelection, and on his second inauguration, which takes place on May 20, 2012. This is a great achievement for President Ma, and for Taiwan—a country that held only its fifth direct Presidential election since it began doing so in 1996.

I take pride in the fact that Taiwan, an ally of the United States, is serving as a beacon for democracy in Southeast Asia. Through his term, President Ma has maintained strong ties

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