

The 18th International President, Dr. Mattelia B. Grays; the 21st International President, Ms. Faye B. Bryant; the 20th South Central Regional Director, Dr. Polly Sparks Turner; and the 23rd South Central Regional Director, Mrs. Gwendolyn J. Brinkley.

Inspired by a dedicated investment of human capital and a bold commitment to the principles of basic human rights, the sisters of Alpha Kappa Omega Chapter dedicates their talent and resources to the betterment of their community and live by this motto: "Global Leadership through Timeless Service."

Among the signature program initiatives of Alpha Kappa Omega Chapter are the following:

Emerging Young Leaders Program, which—impact the lives of 10,000 girls in grades six through eight by providing leadership development, civic engagement, enhanced academic preparation and character building.

Health Initiatives—encourage personal fitness and healthy life styles to reduce health disparities, save lives.

Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability an initiative to encourage energy efficiency, conservation, eco-living, reforestation, urban gardening, education and empowerment of consumers, and opportunities for women owned businesses.

Global Poverty Initiative, a program to hunger, preserve the environment and empower women by providing food production skills and training in self-reliance through gifts of seeds, livestock and training in environmentally sound agriculture.

Social Justice and Human Right Initiative, which addresses gender equality issues including human trafficking and domestic violence, services for children with incarcerated parents, youth aging out of foster care and children in homeless shelters.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize the extraordinary achievements of this extraordinary organization that has been providing leadership for our nation for 106 years.

**SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

**HON. DINA TITUS**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 15, 2014*

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, nearly 350,000 Southern Nevada residents regularly struggle

to secure enough food to feed themselves and nurture their families.

During the recent recession, demand for nutrition assistance increased dramatically. As a result, charitable organizations across the country have been asked to do more with less. In my district, Three Square Food Bank has witnessed former donors becoming clients due to layoffs and long-term unemployment.

As the Farm Bill is finalized, I'd like to urge the members of the joint committee to protect funding for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and reauthorize categorical eligibility so Southern Nevadans struggling in this economy can continue to access the programs they rely on to make ends meet.

Let me tell you about Jennifer who lives in Southern Nevada. Jennifer, her two children, and her sister are considered a household under existing law. They live together, buy food together, and eat meals together as a family. Jennifer and her sister each own a car, which they rely on to get to work on time every day. These are not luxury cars; both are eight years old and in need of repair.

The problem for Jennifer and her family is that the SNAP program has strict eligibility requirements that make it very difficult for families with even moderate assets, like aging cars, to qualify for the nutrition assistance program. Categorical eligibility helps solve this problem by recognizing that many low-income families who qualify for other assistance programs also need basic food assistance. If categorical eligibility is eliminated, Jennifer and millions of other low-income families with gross incomes or assets just above the federal SNAP limit would become ineligible for SNAP benefits simply because of the value of the modest cars they own.

Categorical eligibility has been demonized in recent months, but it plays a critical role in helping families like Jennifer's access the programs they need so that their basic expenses are met each month. It also enables these families to keep assets, like an aging car, without having to make the difficult choice between food assistance and transportation. This is especially important for the nearly 40,000 unemployed Nevadans who need a reliable vehicle to search for jobs and secure employment once they've been hired.

I urge the members of the joint committee to protect the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and maintain categorical eligibility so working families like Jennifer's can continue to receive this vital food assistance.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, January 16, 2014 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JANUARY 28

10 a.m.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine S. 1600, to facilitate the reestablishment of domestic, critical mineral designation, assessment, production, manufacturing, recycling, analysis, forecasting, workforce, education, research, and international capabilities in the United States.

SD-366

FEBRUARY 4

10:15 a.m.

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine privacy in the digital age, focusing on preventing data breaches and combating cybercrime.

SD-226