

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

GREAT LAKES RESTORATION INITIATIVE ACT OF 2016

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 26, 2016

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 223, the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Act of 2016.

The Great Lakes provide clean drinking water for over 40 million Americans. The region supports an estimated 1.5 million jobs, and generates over \$60 billion in annual wages. Protecting the Great Lakes supports public health, public lands and beaches, local economies, and job creation.

In Minnesota, the restoration of Lake Superior and the St. Louis River is vital to our State and our tribal nations. In 1987, the St. Louis River Estuary was classified as an Area of Concern because of contamination from decades of dumping untreated sewage and industrial waste into the water. Since that designation, millions of dollars have been invested in cleanup, restoration, and infrastructure.

We've started to see some measurable improvements along the St. Louis River that are lowering human health risks, re-establishing sturgeon spawning grounds and wild rice beds, and increasing property values. We have a clear path forward involving all stakeholders in the Roadmap to Delisting for the Area of Concern.

Mr. Speaker, the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) has been a huge driver of the progress that Minnesota has made in cleaning up the St. Louis River. Success stories like this are spread all across our region because of the federal investments made by the GLRI. These funds have driven public-private partnerships that support the health of our waters and the quality of life for all Americans.

More than 100,000 acres of wetlands and 48,000 acres of coastal, upland, and island habitat have been protected, restored and enhanced in just the first five years of GLRI partnerships between the federal agencies, states and tribal nations.

H.R. 223 would authorize \$300 million a year for the crucial work of the GLRI, which will help remediate areas of environmental concern, control invasive species, restore habitat and wildlife, and support local businesses. Every federal dollar put into Great Lakes restoration generates \$2 in economic benefit, making restoration an excellent return on investment for taxpayer dollars.

The Great Lakes are a national treasure. The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Act will build on the successes of recent years and ensure the lakes are protected for generations to come.

DISAPPROVING DEPARTMENT OF LABOR RULE RELATED TO DEFINITION OF THE TERM "FIDUCIARY"

SPEECH OF

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2016

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, the following is a letter that was submitted to our office by Christopher A. Iacovella, Esq., the Chief Executive Officer for the Equity Dealers of America, expressing the organization's support for H.J. Res. 88, "Disapproving the rule submitted by the Department of Labor relating to the definition of the term 'Fiduciary,'" on April 28, 2016:

DEAR SPEAKER RYAN AND LEADER PELOSI: The Equity Dealers of America (EDA) is writing to you today to urge the U.S. House of Representatives to take up and pass H.J. Res. 88, "Disapproving the rule submitted by the Department of Labor relating the definition of the term 'Fiduciary'".

The EDA represents the interests of middle market financial services firms who provide "Main Street" businesses with access to capital and advise hardworking Americans how to create and preserve wealth. Our geographically diverse membership includes BB&T Securities (NC), D.A. Davidson & Co. (MT), Hilliard Lyons (KY), Hilltop Securities (TX), Janney Montgomery Scott (PA), KeyBanc Capital Markets (OH), Piper Jaffray (MN), Raymond James Financial (FL), Robert W. Baird & Co. (WI), Stephens Inc. (AR), Stifel Nicolaus & Company (MO), William Blair & Company (IL), and Wunderlich Securities (TN).

We strongly believe that Department of Labor exceeded its Congressionally granted authority when it finalized its "Fiduciary Rule" on April 6, 2016. We believed prior to the passage of the rule passage, and continue to believe now, that this rule will (1) reduce access to financial advice for low and middle income Americans; (2) increase costs for retirees by pushing them into inappropriate and expensive fee based financial solutions; and (3) unnecessarily interfere with an individual's ability to make his/her personal choices about investing and saving for retirement.

We strongly support the U.S. House of Representatives as it takes up H.J. 88 and we look forward to its swift passage.

MINIMUM WAGE

SPEECH OF

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 28, 2016

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the hard work and dedication of workers in our district in Houston and Harris County, Texas who deserve a living wage, and I call on Congress to vote on raising the minimum wage.

There are over 10 million Americans working full time today who earn below the poverty line—under \$24,000 a year for a family of four.

In my home state of Texas, over 450,000 people are paid the minimum wage, more than any other state.

African-Americans and Hispanics are the most likely in our country to be among the working poor. Nearly 1-in-7 black and Hispanic Americans work full-time and live below the poverty line.

Eight percent of all working women in our country, 5.5 million Americans, are among the working poor.

Mr. Speaker, this is simply not right. Our country must value hard work and pay our workers a living wage if we are going to compete in the 21st century.

I am a proud original cosponsor of the Raise the Wage Act. This bill would raise the minimum wage nationwide to \$12 an hour by 2020, and index the minimum wage to inflation afterwards, giving 35 million Americans—more than one in four—a raise.

Increasing the minimum wage would raise earnings by nearly \$80 billion and grow our economy when millions of Americans can finally afford to buy a new television, automobile, or home.

This bill would end the unfair treatment of tipped workers by giving waiters and waitresses the same minimum wage as other workers.

America is a hardworking and compassionate country. We can no longer stand by while millions of our neighbors continue to live in poverty despite their great efforts.

I urge my colleagues to stand with the American people and demand a vote to raise the minimum wage.

IN RECOGNITION OF RADNOR MIDDLE SCHOOL

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Radnor Middle School on being named a Don Eichhorn Schools: "Schools to Watch." Radnor Middle School is just one of six schools in Pennsylvania to earn this distinction this year.

The "Schools to Watch" list was developed by the National Forum to Accelerate Middle Grades Reform. The program identifies middle schools where students are excelling academically and where teachers and administrators are improving curriculum and instruction, responding to the needs and interests of their students, and helping all students achieve success at high levels.

Mr. Speaker, Radnor Middle School has demonstrated its commitment to continued improvement and to educating young adolescents for future academic, social and professional success. I congratulate Radnor Middle

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

School's hardworking administrators, teachers, staff and students for earning this impressive distinction.

RECOGNIZING MATTHEW QUIROZ

HON. WILL HURD

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. HURD of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary bravery of Matthew Quiroz.

In September of 2012, Matthew, who is now 9 years old, was diagnosed with Wilms Tumor stage II. After more than 2 years of remission, Matthew was diagnosed with a metastatic Wilms Tumor last April. He has been fighting bravely for the past 4 years, spending his time between Lubbock, Texas, and his hometown of Fort Stockton, Texas, which lies squarely in my district.

Yesterday, Matthew received a warm homecoming with friends and family as he returned to Fort Stockton. Matthew's bravery and determination has been an inspiration to me and many others in Fort Stockton and I am truly honored to represent such a courageous young man. The warmth that the community of Fort Stockton has shown Matthew has been tremendous and serves as a testament to the close knit communities that can be found in the 23rd Congressional District of Texas.

I have no doubt that Matthew's extraordinary fortitude of character and incredible demonstration of bravery in the face of overwhelming adversity will continue to serve as an inspiration to anyone who learns of his story.

LEGACY OF HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, Historically Black Colleges and Universities created and fostered a generation of African American leaders who would have otherwise been denied an education due to segregation. The legacy and impact of HBCUs are far-reaching and especially worthy of praise and appreciation. Today, with more than 100 institutions across the nation, HBCUs still play a vital role in educating our youth, nurturing leaders and producing great innovators.

My district, the 7th Congressional District, is home to some of the most prominent HBCUs in the country, and I am very proud to represent those universities in the United States Congress through my work on the Bipartisan HBCU Caucus.

Education is the great equalizer that levels the playing field and can help break the cycle of poverty that affects families across the 7th Congressional District, the state of Alabama, and this nation.

Young people from every background and every walk of life deserve the right to reach their full potential.

As the daughter of two educators, I know firsthand the difference a strong education can

make in achieving the American dream, regardless of race, gender or socioeconomic background.

HBCUs play a critically important role in educating our youth to prepare them in the areas of agriculture, science and cutting edge technology. In the State of Alabama alone, we have several HBCU institutions: From Alabama A&M, where students are working with government agencies to develop new technology to make our country safer. To Tuskegee University, where students are working with local communities and farmers to increase crop production and efficiencies. To Alabama State, where students are being trained as world class teachers equipped to educate our youth all across America.

Miles College, a science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) institution located in Fairfield, is an outstanding HBCU that also offers quality educational options to traditional students, those going back to college, and law students.

These are just a few examples of the critical work that is being done at HBCUs in Alabama. And I must say I am quite proud of all of the work that our HBCUs do on a daily basis. The numbers speak for themselves when it comes to the value of what is produced by HBCUs:

22 percent of Black students who earn a bachelor's degree do so from an HBCU.

Among Blacks, 40 percent of Members of Congress graduated from an HBCU, 12.5 percent of CEOs, 40 percent of engineers, 50 percent of professors at non-HBCUs, 50 percent of lawyers, and 80 percent of judges.

HBCUs are still needed in this country and should be recognized and respected for their unique contributions to its students and society as a whole.

As we move forward in Congress, I remain committed to working with my colleagues in the Congressional Black Caucus and HBCUs from my district and across this country as we fight to promote the value and legacy of HBCUs.

RECOGNIZING THE 175TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TOWN OF CROGHAN

HON. ELISE M. STEFANI

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Ms. STEFANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the 175th Anniversary of the town of Croghan in Lewis County, New York. The town of Croghan was named after the famous war hero from the War of 1812, Colonel George Croghan.

One of the major shapers of Croghan was Theodore Basselin. Mr. Basselin had interests in the businesses of timber, railroad, paper manufacturing, furniture, banking, and electric power generation. He was elected to be the first President of the Village of Croghan. Upon his death in 1914, Mr. Basselin left \$25,000 for the creation of a parochial school named Father Leo Memorial School in Croghan. The Basselin mansion and family cemetery still exist in Croghan today and are considered significant landmarks.

The town of Croghan is home to the American Maple Museum and Hall of Fame, the Oswegatchie Educational Center, and the

Railway Historical Society of Northern New York Museum. One of the unique businesses in the town is the Croghan Meat Market that was founded in 1888 and is still going strong. The major businesses that are seen throughout the town are logging, farming, and the production of maple syrup. These businesses are vital to Upstate New York communities. Their products reach residents throughout New York and beyond, and will continue to be a strong asset to the state for years to come.

Congratulations to the town of Croghan on the 175th anniversary of your formation. I want to wish the people and businesses of Croghan continued success in the future.

TRIBUTE TO SHARON BAILEY

HON. DAVID E. PRICE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 29, 2016

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, for more than 30 years, Sharon Bailey served the hungry and homeless of our nation as the Vice President and Director of the Emergency Food and Shelter (EFS) program at United Way Worldwide.

Mrs. Bailey passed away on September 9th of last year. We offer our deepest sympathy to her husband and daughter and her extended family, but also to her staff at United Way, the National Board members she served over the years, and especially to the staffs at social services agencies across America that have worked with her since 1983.

The EFS program began in 1983 as a creation of the House Appropriations Committee. It was reacting to an outcry across the country to help supplement the local food and shelter providers dealing with a burgeoning problem. Later it was authorized, in 1985, as Title III of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act. It's a unique program that is administered by a National Board that determines the funding allocations across the country as well as the eligible uses of the funds.

The EFS National Board is chaired by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) with membership that includes the American Red Cross, Catholic Charities USA, the Jewish Federations of North America, the National Council of Churches, the Salvation Army and United Way Worldwide. The program is administered at the local level by an EFS Local Board whose membership mirrors the National Board but also contains a representative of local government as well as other agencies active in assisting the homeless and hungry in the community. Eligible services include the provision of overnight shelter and served meals, assistance to food banks and pantries, one month's rental or mortgage assistance to prevent evictions, and one month's utility payments to prevent service cut-offs.

The program has a very broad distribution system, annually reaching out to up to 2,500 local communities and more than 12,000 local service organizations (both charitable and governmental). In order to administer such a large program, chiefly among the non-profit community, the EFS National Board chose United Way to serve as the program's Secretariat. It is in that role that Sharon Bailey began her three decades of service to the EFS program.