

July 10, 2000

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

13637

HONORING LOUIE D. CARLEO

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 10, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is a personal privilege to honor Louie D. Carleo, an outstanding member of the Pueblo business community.

Louie was recipient of the Greater Pueblo Chamber of Commerce Charles W. Crews Business Leader of the Year award. Louie was recognized for his tireless efforts to redevelop the Downtown Pueblo area, making it a beautiful vibrant metropolis. Louie's achievements in the business world are equally notable. He is a past chairman of the chamber of commerce, an active member of the Pueblo Economic Development Corporation, and the proprietor of Commercial Builders, Sound Venture Realty and LDC Properties. This award publicly notes Louie's commitment to Pueblo as well as his deep commitment to the State of Colorado, its people and its future.

Louie is not only an outstanding member of the Pueblo business community, he has been an active leader in the American Red Cross, YMCA, Junior Achievement, and Posada. In addition, Louie was also the recipient of the Sam Walton Outstanding business leader of the year award for Pueblo, Colorado.

The people of Colorado have every right to be proud of Mr. Carleo. On behalf of the people of Colorado, I thank you, Louie, for your service.

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2000

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4516) making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Chairman, Speaker, I rise today to express concerns that this body has seen too much legislation presented by the House Committee on Appropriations that does not take into consideration what the real needs of our country nor its citizens. The Legislative Branch Appropriations bill along with other bills that are intended to fund domestic appropriation's have more often than not provided a sever lack of funding of several important areas of legitimate domestic legislative needs.

First and foremost the passage of the Legislative Branch Appropriations should not result in the avoidance of a court judgment against the Library of Congress. Therefore, I join my Colleague Congressman Wynn speaking out on any attempt to pass section 208 of the bill, as it was originally introduced to this body, contains language that would negate a court ordered decree issued by the United States

Court for the District of Columbia. This would in affect rubber stamp the discriminatory practices of the Library of Congress by allowing the transfer of 84 temporary employees to permanent status without being required to undergo the federal government's competitive employee selection process.

This bill will fund Legislative Branch activity for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001. Unfortunately as we consider this appropriations for next year it is not clear whether the appropriation needs for the Capitol Hill Police have been adequately met for this fiscal year, which is scheduled to end on September 30, 2000. My assessment of this situation is based on the Capitol Police Board's request that the House and Senate Legislative Branch Subcommittees approve transfer of a little over \$16 million into their allotment for the remainder of this fiscal year. The Police Board makes this urgent request in order to address the revenue shortage of the Capitol Police for this fiscal year.

I would like to inform those colleagues of mine who are not aware of the fact that last month, May 2000, the Government Accounting Office (GAO) released a report on the finances of the Capitol Police. This report was produced in response to a letter, requesting a financial audit of the United States (USCP), sent to them by the Chairman of the Subcommittee on Legislative Appropriations of the House Committee on Appropriations. This GAO report is titled "United States Capitol Police, 1999 Financial Audit Highlights the Need to address Internal Control Weaknesses." The report found that the United States Capitol Police administration lacked internal financial control and was not effective in ensuring the following: that assets are safeguarded against loss or misappropriation. The report also stated that department transactions are executed in accordance with management's authority and with laws and regulations. Finally, the report clarified that there are no material misstatements in the financial reports.

What is more disturbing to me is that the report stated that on three occasions, involving its salaries appropriations, the USCP violated the Anti-Deficiency Act. The Anti-Deficiency Act prohibits an officer or employee of the United States from, among other things, making an expenditure from an appropriation that exceeds the amount available in the appropriation.

The report also acknowledges that the USCP is in the process of making improvements in response to earlier recommendation, substantial work remains.

For this reason, I ask my fellow members of the House of Representatives, who is policing the budget for the United States Capitol Police?

I strongly believe that this body must act to ensure that the rank and file of the Capitol Hill Police are adequately compensated for the vital work they do. The protection of this body and the thousands of visitors we receive each year is the sole responsibility of the United States Capitol Police. They have been asked by the American people to protect our nation's capitol, which includes every member of this body, from violent assault by those who would seek to do this democratic system harm. For this reason, I would like to ask that the appro-

riated authorization and appropriations committees provide a more comprehensive plan to compensate the men and women of the United State Capitol Police. After extensive research I would like to offer that at this time these officers are not being adequately compensated based on the fact that they are required to purchase uniform items and provide for their care from their own personal resources.

I was shocked to learn that our nation's capitol police are required to purchase uniform items and provide for their care at their own personal expense. These uniforms are not being worn by our Hill police officers for any other purpose than as a direct requirement of their jobs. Therefore any expense associated with the officer's uniforms should be treated as if they were the department's operational expense.

As written the Legislative Branch Appropriations legislation before us today will only pay for the cleaning of the officer's pants—not their shirts, which are the most visible feature of their uniforms. Those who administer the budget for the Capitol Hill For this reason, I beseech this body to allow for the budgeting for the cleaning expenses for the shirts of our capitol hill police uniforms. If these officers did launder and iron their own shirts, as the under funding of their annual uniform cleaning expense by this body suggests that they should do, then the crisp professional look that we have all come to see in our Hill Police Force would be difficult to maintain. However, because these law enforcement officers are professionals in every sense, they use their own income to ensure that their uniforms are adequately dry cleaned.

This body's actions in not passing legislation with sufficient appropriations nor legislative directives for the proper expensing of items of the Capitol Police budget rest with the lack of guidance of the United States Capitol Police in this area by this body.

The signs of under funding of our capitol hill police extends to their having to provide their own personal protection from work related injury to their feet, legs, and lower back. For this reason, many Capitol Hill Police spend up to \$150 dollars for a pair of Red Wing foot ware. This foot ware provides the best protection to the front line Capitol Police officers who are required to work for hours on the unforgiving marble floors or concrete of the Capitol grounds. In addition to the expense of the shoes, the ware on the instep of the shoes requires a \$15 to \$20 replacement for each shoe every six months. I will not ask that each of you respond to a question regarding how many pairs of shoes have been worn through the soles while you have been working on Capitol Hill.

I do not want to make light of the hardship these men and women face in serving to protect the democratic heart of this nation. I do not need to remind each of you that in 1998, Officer Jacob J. Chestnut, and Detective John M. Gibson offered the ultimate—their lives—in their commitment to provide public service to our nation as Hill law enforcement officers.

At that time this body responded by making special appropriations for the administration of the police function on the Hill by providing an additional \$1 million a week in funds in order to fill the obvious need for increased security.

It is also disturbing that the two-year salary cycle of the Capitol Hill Police is not taken into consideration during the appropriations process. It is a documented fact that after each presidential and or congressional election the overtime costs of the Capitol Police budget, during that December following the November election, increases substantially in anticipation of the swearing in festivities, which will take place during the month of January. It is my hope that this body will allow for the Capitol Hill appropriations for those years, of which the year 2000 is one of them, to flex in order to insure that adequate overtime compensation is ready and available to the Capitol Hill Police Department.

We all know that these individuals are more than just police, they secure the well of this House so the legislative and deliberative affairs of the people of the United States may be conducted in an environment free from threats of violence. In providing this vital protection, they also act as hosts to the thousands of visitors who come to the Hill each year to see the democratic process up close.

This is a role that our Hill police officers fill very well. They act as greeters and provide tour references for persons who are unfamiliar with our Capitol grounds. For this reason, I would offer that, it would be very proper to consider action that would provide authorization and funding for the development of a professional roster of Hill greeters who are on the grounds to fill this void in customer service to our guest and constituents.

In closing, I would like to make it clear by noting in the record that I was not approached by any Capitol Hill Police officers to speak on this subject—on the contrary I have waited for an opportunity to discuss this matter for some time. I do so now—because I have eyes that can see and a thinking mind and I know that what we have done to these—our own public servants is not right.

I was on the Hill after the 1996 elections and know that the Capitol Police force were required to work thousands of hours in overtime, but these officers were not compensated for their labor until well into the next year. I was also here in 1998, when Officer Jacob J. Chestnut, and Detective John M. Gibson were killed, and several others including civilians, were wounded.

For this reason, and this reason only, I ask that my colleagues consider my words as they deliberate and vote on this important appropriation.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE WALTER
JOHNSON

HON. THOMAS M. BARRETT

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 10, 2000

Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to pay tribute to a dedicated teacher, community visionary, and loving family man who passed away unexpectedly last week.

Walter Johnson was a man who loved life and all the important things in it—his family, his friends, his church, his students, his Afri-

can American heritage. He loved the difference that he was making in our community through his work as an educator with the Milwaukee Public Schools, through his commitment to expanding low income housing for seniors and the disabled, and through his long time involvement with the Milwaukee branch of the NAACP.

Behind his dignified, gentle manner was a fierce determination to gain opportunity for all members of our community. He taught his students to do well by doing good. He was a leader at Calvary Baptist Church where he set an example for others in our city; that there is need and a way for people of faith to actively address poverty and prejudice. He served with the Milwaukee NAACP in many capacities, guiding the organization in its work to attain an integrated, diverse society—open to all Americans.

Shortly before he died, Martin Luther King, Jr. asked God to grant us all a chance to be participants in the newness and magnificent development of America. Walter Johnson heard the call and is now reaping his reward. I offer my condolences to his beloved wife, Minerva, and to his children, Christopher and Hilary. He will be missed.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. MARIANNE
NESTOR

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 10, 2000

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to Mrs. Marianne Nestor, Vice-President of Fund Development and Volunteer Services of St. Joseph Mercy-Oakland Hospital. Mrs. Nestor resigned her post on June 30, 2000, after serving her community for over 20 years. It is a rare occurrence that any person serves an institution so well for so long. Mrs. Nestor has been an asset to the hospital and community and will be sorely missed.

Marianne Nestor's distinguished career with St. Joseph Mercy-Oakland Hospital began in 1978 when she began serving as Vice-Chairwoman Board of Directors. Shortly after, she became Director of Volunteer Services, and later Director of Fund Development. In 1984 she was named the Director of the consolidated Fund Development, Volunteer Services, and Gift Shop department. At this post, Mrs. Nestor served of St. Joseph Mercy-Oakland Hospital for 15 years with the utmost concern for the hospital's patients and guests. In 1998, she became Vice-President of Fund Development and Volunteer Services. As a member of the President's senior management team, she has advised the hospital on overall operation of the hospital.

Despite the rigorous time constraints due to her hard work at the hospital, Mrs. Nestor found the time to additionally contribute to the community by volunteering for countless activities. Mrs. Nestor has been a volunteer Board Member, and later, President of the Rotary Club of Pontiac; a founding member of the Mental Illness Research Association; and a board member of the Russ Thomas Scholarship Foundation to name a few.

The residents of Oakland County have been fortunate to have Mrs. Nestor serve the community with the diligence and commitment rarely found today. She and her outstanding team of hospital volunteers have made of St. Joseph Mercy-Oakland Hospital one of the finest hospitals for health care in the country. She has been a great friend of mine and I wish her all the best.

TRIBUTE TO MR. AND MRS. RICHARD E. BURKE OF HUNTSVILLE, AL

HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 10, 2000

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, on July 15th, a wonderful couple, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Burke will celebrate their 50th, wedding anniversary. In 1950, Mrs. Frances McAllister Burke and Mr. Richard E. Burke exchanged wedding vows to spend a lifetime together.

Now 50 years later, they shine as pillars of matrimony. The Burkes are a loving man and woman who have come together to share their lives, raise a family and prove that family values and selfless commitment still have a place in this world whose fleeting values can be confusing and impermanent.

Their son Waymon, daughter-in-law Jan and grandson Jason look up to this remarkable couple as role models on how to live and love successfully.

This tribute is a fitting honor for the Burkes who have shown us that commitments can be honored through five decades of the trials and tribulations of life. The Burkes have spent a good portion of their lives working hard with their landscaping company and with GTE. Now they are enjoying their well-deserved retirement together in the Big Cove community where they have lived since their marriage.

I commend Mr. and Mrs. Burke on their happy and strong marriage and I join their family and friends in wishing them a joyous and special celebration at the Bevill Center on July 15th.

REMEMBERING MR. CHET SHIELDS

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 10, 2000

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I ask that we take a moment to celebrate and remember the life of a great man, Chet Shields. In doing so, I would also like to remember this individual who has exemplified the notion of public service and civic duty.

Mr. Shields passed away after battling with Parkinson's disease. Mr. Shields was devoted to the environment and to his family. He had a prestigious career spanning three decades working for the Forest Service. Mr. Shields was born in Olathe, Colorado in 1928 and was part of the first graduating class at Smiley Junior High. Mr. Shields was active in many areas. He spent two years at Fort Lewis College before and after serving his country in