

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.