

from Oregon, DAVID WU, experienced a disturbing incident at the U.S. Department of Energy. He has already eloquently and movingly addressed the House. Rather than recount the details of how he was refused entry to the Department and questioned repeatedly about his nationality, I would like to pose one simple question: when will it end? When will we as a society be able to free ourselves from the pain and constraints of ethnic stereotyping and racial profiling?

This practice has long been decried by Members of Congress, especially those of us who have been the victims of ethnic stereotyping. Two weeks ago, a vivid example of racial profiling was visited upon one of our own colleagues. The contrast in how my colleagues DAVID WU and MIKE CAPUANO were treated is striking. An Asian American was questioned about his nationality, even after presenting his congressional identification card and refused entry, while a white American was allowed to enter without any hassle. This incident illustrated that racial profiling extends beyond the highways and continues to persist at the very heart of the federal government.

I have become accustomed to brushing off the letters to the editor that inevitably follow meetings between Hispanic Members of Congress and officials from Latin American countries. These letters question our national identity, our loyalty and our patriotism. These letters are so absurd, I never take them seriously. Unfortunately, Congressman WU's experience this week demonstrated to all of us that the sentiment expressed in these letters is not confined to a few misguided and ill-informed souls, but that it is much more pervasive in our society.

When will it end? How many more times do we have to remind other Americans about all the Hispanic and Asian American veterans who have fought for America's freedom? How many more times will we have to provide examples of Hispanic and Asian Americans who have made invaluable contributions to the progress of this nation? How many more examples of exemplary citizenship and patriotism among Hispanic and Asian Americans do we have to present before America as a whole finally understands that we too are Americans?

Ethnic stereotyping denies minorities full access to the American promise of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. And ethnic stereotyping denies the rest of America all the talents, skills and knowledge that minorities have to offer. As my colleague from Oregon has stated, our national security is indeed at risk if we do not welcome all of the best and brightest Americans into our nation's most critical positions, regardless of their ethnic heritage or the color of their skin.

I would add that in addition to our national security, we risk the health and vitality of our country when we continue to make judgments based on ethnic stereotypes. I hope that my colleagues will join me in continuing to speak out and take action against ethnic stereotyping and racial profiling.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION
TO AMEND THE CHARTER OF
SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation which would remove the provision in the Southeastern University charter requiring that one-third of the Board of Trustees be Southeastern alumni. Southeastern University President Charlene Drew Jarvis and the Board of Trustees have asked me to introduce this corrective measure.

Southeastern University was incorporated by Act of Congress on August 19, 1937. Its charter contains a provision requiring that one-third of the University's Board of Trustees be alumni. On September 9, 1997, I received a letter from Southeastern University President Charlene Drew Jarvis asking that I introduce legislation to remove this provision. On September 9, 1997, I also received a letter from Board of Trustees Chair Elizabeth Lisboa-Farrow confirming that the Board of Trustees had authorized President Jarvis to seek this change. Copies of both letters are attached. The Board of Trustees would like this provision removed in order to let the University draw from a wider pool of potential Board nominees. Because the University was incorporated by an Act of Congress, only the Congress can effectuate this change.

Southeastern University is an important and productive institution which contributes to the economy of the District of Columbia by offering undergraduate and graduate degree programs geared specifically to the needs of working professionals. Under the able leadership of Southeastern's President, Dr. Charlene Drew Jarvis, the University has begun to rebound from difficult financial circumstances. This legislation will allow Southeastern to expand its fund raising potential to complement these efforts. I urge my colleagues to support this corrective measure.

A TRIBUTE TO DR. GLEN
APPLEBAUM

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to Dr. Glen Applebaum. Congregation Anshe Sholom of New Rochelle has chosen him as the honoree of their annual Testimonial Dinner, to be held on June 10, and they have chosen wisely. Dr. Applebaum has attained an impressive balance between family, community, and career, making a lifelong habit of high achievement.

Dr. Applebaum received a Regents Scholarship upon his graduation from Eastchester Senior High School in New York and was awarded multiple prizes for his research in college before concluding his education at the New York University College of Dentistry and the New Rochelle Hospital Medical Center. In

May of 1983, Dr. Applebaum opened a private practice in New Rochelle, which continues to serve the community today. He also shares his expertise with others, through frequent lectures and the wide publication of his work.

Despite having achieved such success in his career, Dr. Applebaum considers family to be the most important part of his life. He and his wonderful wife, Dr. Cynthia Cohen, are valuable members of the Westchester community, and Dr. Applebaum serves with distinction as a member of the Board of Directors at Congregation Anshe Sholom. I am proud to congratulate Dr. Applebaum on his noteworthy achievements and his contributions to the community as a dentist, as a family man, and as a member of Congregation Anshe Sholom.

TRIBUTE TO THE ROXBURY COMMUNITY COLLEGE CLASS OF 2001

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Roxbury Community College's Class of 2001. I have a special connection to RCC because one of my District Offices happens to be located on its campus. I've also been fortunate to have several talented interns from RCC—individuals who stopped by our office to see what we were all about—and decided to sign on for a semester. They've proven to be invaluable to the work we do. In fact, one of our RCC interns is responsible for figuring out how to translate our web site into many different languages.

I would like to congratulate all of the RCC graduates who worked extremely hard to get to this point in their academic careers. I am honored to be associated with the Roxbury Community College Class of 2001 and I am proud of their accomplishments.

There were times when many of them were not sure if they would make it to graduation. But they did it! So many college students all over this country are faced with any number of difficulties during the college experience, and these difficulties range from financial to personal. I am here to say that the RCC graduating Class of 2001 has done it . . . regardless of the challenges they have faced thus far in their lives. They are to be commended for their perseverance and for keeping their sights set on their goal.

Mr. Speaker, again I stand here to publicly congratulate the Roxbury Community College graduating Class of 2001 on their outstanding achievement.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 1836,
ECONOMIC GROWTH AND TAX
RELIEF RECONCILIATION ACT OF
2001

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 25, 2001

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I wish to express my strong opposition to the conference

report on H.R. 1836, the Economic Growth and Tax Reconciliation Act, because it fails to reflect the priorities of my constituents.

This tax cut has been sold to the American public as a cure for an astonishingly wide variety of ills, from a possible recession to spiraling energy prices. The unfortunate truth, however, is that this package offers nothing to guard against an economic downturn in the near term. Instead, it provides a series of back-loaded tax cuts, overwhelmingly skewed to the wealthiest Americans, while jeopardizing our ability to fund other priorities.

Equally worrisome is the fact that this legislation creates the very real possibility of a return to deficit spending should the projected surpluses fail to materialize. Just this week, in fact, the Congressional Budget Office has made a significant downward adjustment in this year's surplus estimates, virtually wiping out the "contingency fund" that has already been promised to a variety of needs, including increased military requirements and a prescription drug benefit. We are kidding ourselves and our constituents if we believe that this is not a sign of worse news to come.

To fit this 10-year tax cut under a \$1.35 trillion budget ceiling, the conferees have provided for the entire package to sunset at the end of 2010. While this ridiculous gimmick allows the tax cuts to meet budget restrictions on paper, in reality, the agreement will substantially exceed these targets when all of the costs are factored in. In the meantime, we are left with an increasingly complex tax code whose provisions are phased in and then repealed largely at random, making it difficult for taxpayers to understand, and impossible for them to rely upon as they plan for their families' futures.

In addition, the agreement leaves out major provisions whose enactment is widely viewed as inevitable, such as extension of the research and experimentation credit and measures to address serious problems with the Alternative Minimum Tax (AMT). By sunseting the tax cuts before the end of the eleven-year budget period and simply omitting foreseeable costs, the conferees have distorted the final cost of the tax cut and used the "extra" money to throw even more last-minute provisions into the final package.

Currently, 1.5 million taxpayers are subjected to the AMT. Under this conference agreement, over 30 million more would be subject to the AMT by 2010. That is double the number of taxpayers who would be affected by this provision under current law. Consequently, these tax cuts will in effect increase tax liability for many households and may result in even greater income disparities in the future.

Some 30 percent of American taxpayers—roughly 51 million people—will not receive the full amount of the tax rebate included in the conference report. I am strongly in favor of providing immediate tax relief to hard-working families, but this legislation will leave out many of those families who need short-term relief most urgently. In so doing, the rebate will also fail to jump start a flagging economy, as the Administration continues to claim it will do.

For example, sixty-two percent of those taxpayers who make less than \$44,000 a year will get less than the full rebate amounts, with

42 percent of these taxpayers receiving nothing at all. In Rhode Island, 44 percent of taxpayers—over 123,000 individuals—making less than \$40,000 a year will receive no rebate. Although these taxpayers may not have the highest income tax liabilities, they incur a disproportionately high payroll tax liability, which is not figured into the rebates.

I am also frustrated with the conferees' decision gradually phase out the estate tax—culminating in its repeal for only one year before the bill sunsets and the estate tax is again in full effect—instead of providing an immediate and permanent increase in the exemption, which would protect the vast majority of families, small businesses and family farms from estate tax liability. The provision contained in this agreement would allow the wealthiest two percent of our population to pass wealth to their heirs without taxation, while hard-working families would continue to be taxed on every dollar earned. It would also have a devastating impact on charities, foundations, universities and other philanthropic organizations.

Additionally, I am disappointed that the conferees have failed to provide immediate marriage tax relief for couples. The agreement before us does not even begin to address the marriage penalty until 2005, and relief will not be fully phased in until 2009. Married couples who have been contacting my office seeking relief from this unintended consequence of our tax code will surely be disappointed when they realize that their wait will continue for at least four more years.

This tax package will cause enormous revenue losses and threaten our ability to address national priorities like extending the solvency of Social Security and Medicare, reducing our national debt, implementing a prescription drug benefit for seniors and improving education and health care for all. Furthermore, the agreement will jeopardize resources and programs that are absolutely vital to our nation's small businesses, workforce, environmental protection, energy efficiency and housing needs. We should use our current prosperity to enhance those federal programs relied upon by some of the most vulnerable members of our society.

Without a doubt, American taxpayers deserve a substantial tax cut. But they also deserve a strengthened Social Security system, a Medicare program that covers prescription drugs, a military that is equipped to protect our nation, a quality health care system that is affordable and accessible to every family, and a world-class educational system that prepares our children for the 21st century. These needs are great and they must not be ignored. They will require additional spending by the federal government, but this tax cut leaves room for no such investment. I urge my colleagues to reject this ill-advised tax cut, which will jeopardize our future fiscal security, while doing nothing to address immediate economic needs.

RECOGNIZING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST DIAGNOSED CASE OF ACQUIRED IMMUNE DEFICIENCY SYNDROME (AIDS)

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Ms. DEGETTE. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the 20th anniversary of the first diagnosed case of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) in the United States. The past twenty years have heralded many medical advances, especially in drug treatment therapies for AIDS patients. However, despite an increased understanding of the disease and an improved quality of care for patients, more than 438,000 people have died from the disease since the early 1980s in the United States alone.

Efforts towards prevention and education have helped decrease the magnitude of the epidemic, however there are currently more than 750,000 people living with AIDS in the U.S. Among new infections, the fastest growing segment is women and children. In fact, national statistics indicate that AIDS is the seventh leading cause of death among youths between the ages of fifteen and twenty-four. Surveys also indicate that approximately 87 percent of young Americans do not believe that they are at risk for contracting HIV. A growing number of cases of infection in youths clearly demonstrates a need for a greater emphasis on education, and prevention. While the AIDS scare of the late 1980s and the early 1990s appears to be over, the persistence of this insidious disease is not. Complacency about this disease and its reach must not be allowed to grow.

Among the federal government's programs and legislation addressing the issue of AIDS, one of the most effective is the Ryan White Care Act, which was signed into law in 1990 and reauthorized in 2000. The ultimate goal of this act is to improve health care and make it more accessible to patients and their families. In order to achieve this, the Ryan White Care Act provides funding to states as well as nonprofit organizations that develop and organize the distribution of necessary health care and services to patients and their families.

This act has been helpful to residents with HIV/AIDS in my home state of Colorado, where there were 6,761 reported cases of AIDS in 1999. During the 2000 Fiscal Year, the state of Colorado qualified for over \$4 million under Title I of the Ryan White Care Act, which provided funding to improve health care in metropolitan areas disproportionately affected by the HIV epidemic. Title IV appropriated over \$600 K in additional dollars to fund programs focusing on women, infants, children, and youth in Colorado.

This funding has been put to good use in Colorado, as it has not only helped children receive better care, but has also improved their access to necessary treatment. Considering that children are one of the fastest growing groups affected by AIDS, we must do all we can to stem the tide of its growth. We must continue to support measures that insure all patients receive adequate care, and continue