

ADJOURNMENT FROM THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2013, TO MONDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2013

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 11 a.m., Monday, December 16, 2013.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I was absent for rollcall 640. If I had been present, I would have voted “yes.”

I want to state for the RECORD that I am very disappointed that in the bill we did not include unemployment insurance. I think it is terrible that the people in the people’s House will go home without voting for unemployment for the people.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE HON. MEL WATT FOR HIS SERVICE

(Mr. PRICE of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I am going to ask our North Carolina colleagues to join me here, along with the dean of our delegation, Mr. COBLE.

Mr. Speaker, our colleague of many years, MEL WATT, has just cast his last vote in this body. MEL WATT, the Representative of the Twelfth Congressional District, from Charlotte, North Carolina, has just been confirmed by the Senate to be the Director of the Federal Housing Finance Agency, so he is going to leave us after today to take over that position.

HOWARD COBLE and I are the deans of our respective parties in the House delegation from North Carolina, and we both wanted the House to pause to pay tribute to Mel for his service and his dedication to this institution.

I am happy at this point to yield to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. COBLE), my colleague.

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, I thank my distinguished friend from North Carolina (Mr. PRICE). I appreciate that.

You have already indicated where MEL is going to be going. I hope he won’t ignore us when he meets us on the streets or in these Halls. I don’t think he will.

MEL and I have shared several counties in North Carolina for nearly two decades. We both sat as members of the House Judiciary Committee for also two decades.

MEL, we wish you and your family best wishes.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. I thank the gentleman.

I want to make note of the fact that MEL’s wife, Eulada, is in the gallery to-

night. On behalf of my wife, Lisa, and myself, we have considered the WATTS good friends, colleagues, shared many experiences together, and we are going to miss them both a great deal, although we take some solace in the thought that they are not going too far and that we will have chances to be together as MEL assumes this new role.

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Mr. Speaker, MEL WATT is a legislator’s legislator. We sometimes say that about colleagues. If there is any doubt about that, it would have been dispelled by what we just heard in the committee room this afternoon as colleague after colleague from the Judiciary and Financial Services Committees, from both sides of the aisle, paid tribute to this fine friend and colleague.

There were many stories of collaboration, of disputes and fights that were nonetheless civil and respectful, of mentorship of younger Members. There is just no question that MEL has made his imprint on this institution. As a man of great intelligence and expertise, he is admirably qualified for the job he is about to assume, but also a mainstay of legislative work in the committees that he served on during his entire time here, Financial Services and Judiciary.

We are going to miss him. I probably speak for others in the delegation; but, actually, I will just speak for myself. I know when the votes occur, the rollcall votes occur, that is a name I check, just like I used to check John Spratt’s name. There are a few colleagues that one respects so much that you want to make sure you are not going too far astray when you cast those votes. I will miss MEL in that very practical way.

We will not take much time here this evening. It is mainly a matter here, as the votes come to a close and MEL casts his last vote before this body, testifying to how highly we regard this colleague and honoring him for his service.

#### ENCOURAGING UKRAINIANS TO STAND FIRM

(Mr. SHIMKUS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I have been watching the live feed online of the protest in Kiev, and I would like to encourage Ukrainians to stand firm and continue to voice their opinions. I also call upon the Ukrainian Government to respect the Ukrainians’ right to free assembly and to refrain from using force against peaceful protesters.

I again urge Ukraine to look toward the West for their future success as the success of their nation depends upon democratic policies and freedom. The door is still open. Strengthening ties

with Russia will only bring more of the same desolation, disunity, frustration, distrust, and anger that has been so prevalent in the past.

Ukraine, the whole world is watching.

#### FAREWELL REMARKS BY THE HONORABLE MEL WATT

(Mr. WATT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WATT. Mr. Speaker, this is definitely the last time I will be addressing this House. As my colleague, DAVID PRICE, has indicated, I have been confirmed to a new position as regulator and director of the Federal Housing Finance Agency.

I just wanted to take a moment to express to my colleagues how much of an honor it has been to be a part of this body, and to grow and learn and share with my colleagues from all across the Nation. It has been a great honor, and I thank all of them for the expressions in the last few days, and I look forward to working with them in the new position that I will be assuming. I thank you.

And, of course, we have already acknowledged my wife in the gallery. I thank her. And with that, Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time once and for all.

#### MOURNING THE PASSING OF WILLIAM MALLORY, SR.

(Mr. CHABOT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mourn the passing of a legendary Ohio political figure, a great father and a tremendous role model, William Mallory, Sr., whom I had the honor to know and call a friend.

Bill Mallory’s life is a true American success story. He rose from working-class roots to become the first African American to serve as majority floor leader in the Ohio House of Representatives, a position he held longer than any lawmaker in Ohio history.

During his 28-year tenure in the Ohio House, Bill Mallory, a former teacher, championed education issues and helped create Ohio’s first statewide drug prevention program.

But perhaps his most enduring legacy is his family’s dedication to public service and community involvement. Of Bill Mallory’s five sons, one is an elections administrator at the Hamilton County Board of Elections, two are Hamilton County municipal court judges, another is an Ohio State Representative, and the fifth is the outgoing two-term mayor of Cincinnati.

Mr. Speaker, William Mallory, Sr., will long be remembered for his devotion to his family, to his community, and to the State of Ohio.

#### HELPING WEST WEBSTER FIREFIGHTERS

(Ms. SLAUGHTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, during the early morning hours of December 24, 2012, the town of West Webster, New York, suffered a horrible tragedy as a troubled individual set his sister on fire, along with her house, and then lay in wait until the firefighters arrived. He shot and killed two firemen and wounded two more.

In the days and weeks that followed, the town of West Webster, the city of Rochester, and our entire region responded with an outpouring of support for the families whose lives had been irrevocably changed because of the attack.

Donations poured into the nonprofit, volunteer West Webster Fire Department in hopes that they would reach the families whose loved ones had been killed. Unfortunately, the fire department was in no position to deal with the complex legalities of delivering these donations to the intended families. As a result, the majority of that money has still not been able to reach the families.

For almost a year now, I have worked with the people of West Webster, particularly West Webster Fire Chief Ken Smith, to finally deliver the charitable donations. And thanks to the generous efforts of Chairman CAMP and our allies in the Senate, we will finally be able to help these families today.

The assistance of Chairman CAMP and his staff, in particular, has been vital to resolving this issue once and for all. His commitment over the recent months to helping West Webster firefighters and their loved ones is a testament to his dedication to public service.

Today's vote is terribly important to the recipients. There are no words that can heal the wounds that were suffered by Ted Scardino and Joe Hofstetter, and nothing we can do will ever bring back Mike "Chip" Chipparini and Tomasz Kaczowka. But passing today's legislation can help to lessen their burden, hopefully to ease their pain, and to prove that even in our darkest hours, our country will be there to support our public servants, their families, and communities in need.

#### HONORING STAFF SERGEANT ERIC SUMMERS

(Mr. SMITH of Missouri asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, tonight southeast Missouri will welcome back Staff Sergeant Eric Summers for the last time. Sergeant Sum-

mers was tragically killed on November 18 while serving his country at Camp Pendleton in California.

Summers served 13 years with the United States Marines and is a war hero. He served five tours of duty in the Middle East and was highly decorated, earning the Navy Commendation Medal, the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, and the Good Conduct Medal.

Without men like Sergeant Summers willing to make the ultimate sacrifice for our freedoms, our country could not survive.

I would ask my colleagues and those watching to keep Sergeant Summers, his family, and all of our brave men and women in uniform in your thoughts and prayers.

#### TRIBUTE TO NICARSIA MAYES ON HER RETIREMENT

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, along with our good friend, Congressman MEL WATT, I am delighted to rise today to say farewell to a very able and important American, Nicarsia "Nikki" Mayes, who has served this House of Representatives for 36 years.

She began her career in the House of Representatives and for the people of the United States on September 7, 1977, when she was hired on the recommendation of Congressman Augustus Hawkins of California as an elevator operator and entrusted to operate the last "Members Only" manual elevator.

In 1980, Nicarsia Mayes, or Nikki as we affectionately know her to be, was hired as a staff member of then the Office of the Doorkeeper. She was the first African American woman ever hired by that office. Because of her dutifulness and her leadership, other doors were opened. In 1994, Nikki joined the staff of the Office of the Sergeant at Arms, serving as a member of the Chamber Security Division until her retirement this month, December 2013.

It is important to note that her excellent performance, distinguished service, and good cheer paved the way for more African Americans to secure appointments in the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and other important House institutions earning her the respect and friendship of her colleagues and, of course, Members of Congress.

She has a wonderful family, including her son John Mayes, III, who works for the Federal Bureau of Investigation; and David, who works for the Department of Homeland Security; and her daughter, Tira, who is a forensic specialist with the District of Columbia Metropolitan Police Department.

Inspired by her example, each of Nikki's children learned the value of helping others and chose a public service career. That is perhaps the greatest testament to the character of this great public servant.

Mr. Speaker, Nicarsia "Nikki" Mayes is a wonderful human being, a great friend, and one of the finest public servants I have the honor to know. She will be greatly missed but not ever forgotten.

#### PASS COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM

(Mr. SWALWELL of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)