

CONCURRING IN SENATE AMENDMENT TO HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 122, FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS, FISCAL YEAR 1966

SPEECH OF

HON. LOUIS STOKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 20, 1995

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of the amended House Joint Resolution 122 continuing resolution which will keep the Government operating through December 15. I appreciate the efforts that have been made to develop a workable continuing resolution—one which would not only reopen the Government, but equally important, help to ensure common sense and responsible budgeting.

As one would expect, the 6-day shutdown of the Government has created a backlog of veterans and Social Security claims which now must be processed—not to mention other important services the American people were denied by the shutdown. It was most unfortunate that the American people were forced to suffer because the Republicans did not want to negotiate a quality of life budget with the Democrats and the President.

It is absolutely critical for the American people to realize that those 6 days of hardships and inconveniences cannot begin to compare with the real pain and suffering that would have resulted if the President had not forced the Republican majority to bring the budget negotiations back to the center.

Those 6 days of temporary hardships and inconveniences cannot begin to compare with the real pain and suffering that would have resulted if the American people had allowed the Republicans to blindly gut \$270 billion from Medicare, \$163 billion from Medicaid, \$5 billion from student loans, and \$6 billion from child nutrition programs including school lunches.

Those 6 days of temporary hardships and inconveniences cannot begin to compare with the real pain and suffering that would have resulted if the American people had allowed the Republicans to blindly raid pension funds, give a \$245 billion tax break to the wealthy, and increase taxes on working families. The list goes on.

Mr. Speaker, passage of the workable continuing resolution, along with the President's veto of the Republican budget measure, H.R. 2491, will allow real work on the budget to get underway.

The American people have spoken they do not want an extremist agenda, or an extremist budget. I know the backs of seniors, children, and hard working families cannot withstand the harsh realities of what they would be forced to pay in long-term suffering and pain just to allow the Republicans—to give—a tax cut to the rich.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote for the amended continuing resolution in order to allow the Government to resume its work, and to allow real budget negotiations to begin.

NATIONAL HIGHWAY SYSTEM DESIGNATION ACT—CONFERENCE REPORT

SPEECH OF

HON. BUD SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, November 18, 1995:

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise for the purpose of clarifying a statement I made during the floor consideration of the conference report of S. 440, the National Highway System Designation Act of 1995.

In my statement, I discussed that lock and dam No. 4 is a critical transportation project that requires \$4 million in funding to complete the bridge. I inadvertently referred to lock and dam No. 4 as a project in my district. Lock and dam No. 4 is located in the Fourth District of Arkansas.

The NHS bill provides the State of Arkansas with \$7 million total in additional funding from rescissions—from this fund. These funds are on top of Arkansas' regular Federal highway funding. Arkansas could use these funds to complete lock and dam No. 4.

NATIONAL HIGHWAY SYSTEM DESIGNATION ACT—CONFERENCE REPORT

SPEECH OF

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, November 18, 1995

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to thank you for your willingness to work with Ms. MOLINARI, Mr. TOWNS, and myself on the crisis surrounding the Gowanus Expressway. This legislation will begin to address the devastating effects that this project will have on the community.

While the proposed reconstruction of the Gowanus Expressway is one of the costliest highway projects in the State's history and will profoundly shape both west Brooklyn and regional transportation for decades to come, its planning and environmental review to date have been inadequate. The bill encourages the State to take a comprehensive new look at the project. This guarantees that the total cost and benefits of both the State's plan and other proposals effecting the surrounding communities and the region as a whole will be examined.

The provisions require that the State of New York mitigate the economic and social impacts this project will have on the neighboring communities. Congress has clarified this with accompanying report language that instructs the State to minimize long-term impairment of local businesses, appoint a community engineer, and undertake traffic calming studies.

As the State moves forward with reconstruction of the Gowanus Expressway, it must hold to a minimum the harmful effects to businesses, housing, quality of life, and maintain the citizens' ability of movement with their communities. I am especially concerned that steps are taken to protect the welfare of children, the aged and others vulnerable to the effects of heavy traffic, air, and noise pollution.

While there is still much that must be done before the Gowanus Expressway rehabilitation adequately protects the community, adopting this language is the first step in insuring that this project is completed in an efficient manner, and with the safety and best interest of the surrounding community in mind.

TRIBUTE TO MARY DAGRAEDT

HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 28, 1995

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am deeply heartened by this great moment as I pay tribute to a colleague of mine, Mary Dagraedt, who is retiring from Miami-Dade Community College after a 35-year distinguished career. As the premier golf coach, Mary is one of the most outstanding professionals who have immensely contributed to making the college the Nation's most prestigious community college in the fields of both academics and athletics.

Mary led the Lady Falconettes College golf teams from 1963 to 1981 during which her teams went undefeated in match plays in junior intercollegiate competitions. In fact, she was instrumental in garnering 18 consecutive junior college State championships. From 1970 to 1977 the Falconettes competed in the senior college national collegiate events, and in 1975 her team was honored the No. 1 collegiate team in the Nation.

Voted in 1981, the first National Coach of the Year by the Ladies Professional Golf Association, Mary was also selected as the National Junior College Athletic Association Women's Golf Coach of the Year in 1980 and 1981. Throughout her career, she has been named to five different sports hall of fame.

More than 60 of her students, including Pat Bradley, have now become the mainstays of the LPGA. Her commonsense approach to personal responsibility and discipline has earned her the utmost respect of her hundreds of students and the praise of her colleagues.

In fact, she was recently recognized with an endowed teaching chair for faculty excellence by the college and was subsequently honored this year as 1 of 10 faculty members by the National Institute for Staff and Organization Development at a ceremony in Texas for achieving preeminent "educational excellence and superior leadership."

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
GIFT REFORM ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 16, 1995

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my strong support for the gift ban legislation before the House, House Resolution 250.

Twice during the 103d Congress, this House approved similar gift ban legislation by solid bipartisan majorities only to see these measures stalled by filibusters in the other body. I am pleased that the Leadership has seen fit to allow us to consider this important bipartisan

legislation offered by Representatives SHAYS, MEEHAN, and BARRETT.

H. Res. 250 would limit the total value of gifts that a Member or staff member could receive to \$100 from any one source; only gifts costing more than \$10 would count toward this limit.

Furthermore, no Member or staff member could accept an individual gift, including meals or entertainment, that costs more than \$50. These provisions would cover all employees of the House, including employees of Members, committees, joint committees, and Leadership offices.

By contrast, the substitute offered by Representative BURTON is a washed-out version of congressional gift reform. Under the Burton substitute, Members could still accept lobbyist trips, go to golf tournaments free of charge, and accept gifts up to \$250.

My colleagues, let's take a stand in favor of real gift reform. Vote "yes" on H. Res. 250 and "no" on the Burton substitute.

FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS, of the House have said many times that we are in favor of a balanced budget and

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SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, November 18, 1995

Ms. JACKSON-LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the continuing resolution before us this evening. I am deeply gratified that the majority leadership and the President were finally able to reach a mutually acceptable agreement and reopen the doors of Government. By returning Federal workers to their jobs, both sides have demonstrated their determination to put the good of the American people above both minor political and major philosophical differences. I applaud the work of the leadership, but now, we must roll up our sleeves and get down to work closing the gap between the priorities of both the Democratic and Republican Parties. And priorities is what this entire debate has been about. We on the Demo-

I personally have voted for one. However, along with this desire for a zero deficit, I also have a fundamental set of beliefs and principles which I can not abandon. Throughout, it has been above all else, for me, a question of getting the fairest budget possible for the working men and women of this country. It is imperative that we pass a plan that is both fiscally responsible and socially accountable. It must address the needs of those very families and individuals who voted for each and every Member of this House of Representatives. The immediate crisis has passed, but we can not rest for there is yet a long road to travel before our work is done and the President has signed all 13 appropriations bills. Only after that is done and the motor of the Federal Government returned to full throttle, should we contemplate resting. I look forward to working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to make our Federal Government more effective and efficient.