

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

WATER RESOURCES
DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1996

SPEECH OF

HON. JOE SCARBOROUGH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 30, 1996

Mr. SCARBOROUGH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Water Resources Development Act of 1996 which is being considered under suspension of the rules. It is my hope that my colleagues will support this bill and that it will be conferred soon and sent to the President for his prompt signature.

I would like to take this opportunity to commend Chairman SHUSTER and his staff for their work on behalf of a very important project in my district. As my colleagues are aware, last year's hurricane season was especially rough on the beaches of the Florida Panhandle. We took direct hits from two major storms, Hurricanes Opal and Erin. Major damage was inflicted on northwest Florida with the most severe destruction appearing along the beautiful beaches of the Gulf of Mexico.

Panama City Beach sustained a considerable amount of damage to structures along the beach as well as to the beach itself. Since before 1970, Panama City Beach has suffered damage due to storms and erosion, a significant portion due to federally sponsored activities. In October 1995, Hurricane Opal aggravated the deterioration of the beach significantly by washing away millions of cubic yards of sand and destroying over 1,000 homes and exposing upland development to damage from future storms.

The community has been seeking Federal help since 1970 but has yet to see a single dollar. It has, however, received the commitment of over \$10 million from the State of Florida as well as the commitment of local funds. Unfortunately, as of yet, the Federal share has not been appropriated even though the project meets all the criteria for Federal assistance.

However, through this bill, we were able to make this project eligible for Federal reimbursement through project modification language. This will give the community a much-needed opportunity to proceed with the project without waiting any longer for the Federal share. The residents of this coastal community cannot afford to wait another year to begin this essential beach protection project. However, it is my sincerest wish that the Panama City Beach project will receive its Federal share as soon as possible to help the community's efforts.

On behalf of the people of Panama City and its surrounding communities, I would like to thank the chairman for his work on this very important piece of legislation.

SPEAKING IN THE AFFIRMATIVE

HON. CARDISS COLLINS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 31, 1996

Mrs. COLLINS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, according to a recent report prepared by the American Council on Education [ACE], "Students of color have posted significant gains in college enrollment and the number of degrees they earned in recent years." However, the report warns that "this progress is threatened by attacks on the use of affirmative action policies in higher education."

Clearly, affirmative action policies that increase the opportunities to obtain secondary education for those who without them will remain unprepared to meet out Nation's challenges must continue to play a key and significant role. Now there are those affirmative action opponents who take delight in pointing out the most inconsequential problems with such policies; but shamefully close their eyes to the great strides they have made toward better educating our national populace.

Recalling for a moment may reference to the ACE report on affirmative action, we see that denying educational opportunities to the neediest is wrong. It is wrong morally. It is ethically wrong. It is the wrong path for this country to take if America is serious about remaining one of the most enlightened and better educated societies on the planet Earth.

Perhaps an economic illustration will better serve my arguments for affirmative action. It is empirically factual that denying educational opportunities negates potential economic benefits for the country. According to findings prepared by Dr. Andrew Sum, Northeastern University, Center for Labor Market Studies, and the McIntosh Commission, personal economic benefits from obtaining a 4-year college degree has increased substantially over the past two decades.

The fundamental shifts in the earnings capacity of workers with varying years of formal schooling can be seen most starkly in the earnings experiences of young adult males 20 to 29 years old in the United States over the 1973-92 period.

The year 1973 is an important year because it marks the great economic divide in the American post-World War II era. During that year the real, or the inflation-adjusted mean annual earnings of all 20 to 29-year-old men in the United States were equivalent to earnings totalling \$23,522 in 1992; but, by the year 1992, the mean earnings of men in this age group had declined to \$16,715—a reduction of nearly 29 percent.

While young men in each educational attainment subgroup, without diplomas, with diplomas, and the college graduates, experienced a deterioration in their real earnings position over this time period, the relative size of these declines varied widely by years of completed formal schooling, and cognate opportunities available for growth.

When we look at the real annual earnings we see this more clearly: those who failed to obtain a high school diploma fell nearly 42 percent; for high school graduates by 32 percent, and by holders of a bachelor's degree by just 5 percent. While the mean annual earnings advantage of young male college graduates over that of high school graduates was 15 percent in 1973, the relative size of this earnings advantage had risen to nearly 62 percent by 1992. This is significant on several levels, the least of which illustrates just how deeply divided economically the country has become when an imbalance of opportunities prevails.

Both young black and white men with only high school diplomas have lost considerable economic ground during the past two decades. As a consequence, the earnings advantages of young male college graduates widened to a substantial degree, increasing from 15 percent in 1973 to 62 percent in 1992.

This is precisely what must be understood. Denying individuals an opportunity to attend college or graduate school in the 1990's has considerably greater personal economic consequences that it would have had two decades ago. This is the threat alluded to by the American Council on Education. It is a real treat. It is a threat we should not treat lightly.

Now you may ask, "just who are the beneficiaries of Affirmative Action?" I believe they are America's poor, its forgotten, its disadvantaged. I believe that it is America's mosaic melting pot of people all linked by opportunities denied.

Therefore, instead of wasting our time undermining educational programs that have worked, we should be seeking ways in which to enhance them and thus grant greater opportunities for educationally and economically disadvantaged Americans. My Republican colleagues need to understand that the lack of educational opportunity, entrepreneurial and business growth, heavily contributes to the problems of crime, drug trafficking, hopelessness, and overall poverty.

It is ironic that at the same time the Republicans in Congress are moving forward with their attack an affirmative action, they are also madly swinging their budget axe to chop down all of the programs that work to alleviate these crises, programs such as those for Head Start, child nutrition and school lunch, job training initiatives, student loans, COPS funding, public housing assistance, and so on. This is shortsightedness at its highest level.

CONTINUATION OF TRIBUTE TO
HAMILTON FISH

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 1996

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of a beloved Congress-

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

man from New York, Hamilton Fish. Congressman Fish's death is an extraordinary loss to a community he faithfully served for over 25 years, and to all of us in this House and around the world who knew him well.

Although I only had the privilege of serving with Rep. Fish in the 103d Congress, I quickly saw his impact on this institution, and on me. His warmth and openness made a junior Member feel welcome and confident in an organization that can be overwhelming. Even though Rep. Fish worked hard as one of the busiest members of Congress, he always had time to serve as a teacher and mentor to other Members. I will always remember him as the example of how to serve New York State and how to serve our country in a truly bipartisan manner.

Hamilton Fish died on July 23d, but his service to the mid-Hudson Valley constituency will ensure that he has an everlasting memory to all. During the years he lived among us, Congressman Fish was a pioneer and supporter of Civil Rights legislation. He was the principal Republican sponsor of the Civil Rights Act of 1991, and also worked with Democrats to sponsor amendments to the Fair Housing Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act.

However, his concern for others was not limited to the borders of this country. He was an outspoken advocate for human rights around the globe and worked on behalf of Soviet Jews who for years were battling to emigrate from tyranny to freedom. As a member of the House Judiciary Committee, Representative Fish worked to expand refugee assistance programs. He wanted to ensure that all people, no matter from what background, had an opportunity to fulfill the American dream.

Rep. Fish was born to a family whose political legacy dates back to the Revolutionary War. One of his ancestors Nicholas Fish fought with George Washington during the birth of our nation. His great-grandfather, Hamilton fish, served as governor of New York before serving in the Senate and as Secretary of State to Ulysses S. Grant.

His grandfather, of the same name, served in the 61st Congress after a long career in the New York Assembly. Congressman Fish's father, Hamilton Fish, Sr. served in Congress from 1920 to 1945. Thus, Congressman Fish brought a legacy that was 200 years old the first day he sat in his seat in 1968.

He received his B.A. from Harvard, and his LL.B. from the New York University School of Law. His college career was interrupted twice. Once in 1944 by World War II, and the second time by Fish's enlistment to the Foreign Service. Despite these interruptions, Fish was admitted to the New York Bar in 1958.

Hamilton Fish's dedication to seeking the truth can never be questioned. As a member of the Judiciary Committee during Watergate, Fish was one of the first Republicans to vote in favor of impeaching the President. His action went against the beliefs of many in his party, including his father, but Fish recognized that the need for truth and justice was greater than party and individual loyalties.

This is the legacy of Hamilton Fish. The legacy of a man who carried the responsibility of representation with grace and dignity. He was a kind and gentle mentor I am proud to have served with in Congress. Always seeking the truth and compassion for those who were less fortunate, he will truly be missed.

TRIBUTE TO LEONA BRADY WATSON

HON. VICTOR O. FRAZER

OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 31, 1996

Mr. FRAZER. Mr. Speaker, Leona Brady Watson was born on the north side of the island of St. Croix in Estate Two Friends. At the tender age of 3, she began her education, which involved walking from Estate Two Friends to Frederiksted town where she attended St. Patrick's School. After finishing the third grade, she journeyed to the United States, and completed her formal education there.

Upon returning to St. Croix in the late 50's, Mrs. Watson came home with a special yearning for her culture. She spent many years learning about what was a dying art in the Virgin Islands—the art of cariso. From the elders, particularly the ones on the north side of the island and the Frederiksted area. Leona was able to attain and maintain our delicate culture through their stories, soups, and music of days gone by. Leona continues to be honored by various cultural organizations as a tradition bearer for her untiring contribution to the cultural growth of the Virgin Islands, and the knowledge of the history of our beloved homeland.

Some of Leona's famed works include: Quoted in three published books; actress in the film "The Story of Cariso" nationally acclaimed; performance in numerous stage shows, on island and abroad; participated in the 24th Annual Festival of American Folklife—the Virgin Islands; program sponsored by the Smithsonian Institution and the Virgin Islands Government.

Leona is also a highly respected herbologist who has been asked most recently to participate in cultural exchange between Africa (Senegal), China and Switzerland.

Mrs. Leona Watson resides at Estate Grove Place, St. Croix.

GORDON GUYER RETIRES—AGAIN

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 31, 1996

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, few people are synonymous with the experiences we have in life, but there exists a rare and pleasant exception: Dr. Gordon Guyer, who has announced his resignation as director of the Michigan Department of Agriculture, and, at long last, another in a series of retirements.

For those who know Gordon, they know that he bleeds green for Michigan State University, where over his distinguished career he served as professor of entomology, director of the cooperative extension service, vice president for government affairs at Michigan State University, and finally interim president of the University. He lives and breathes Michigan. He has served as a member of the commission on natural resources, director of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources under Governor Blanchard, and most recently director of the Michigan Department of Agriculture. His mind is always working like a combine, sepa-

rating the less useful from the most useful, but always looking for ways to make what is left behind even more useful.

Gordon has served as a skilled motivator. There is not a person he has ever touched that hasn't come away feeling like the most important and most valuable person in the world. He has marshalled resources like no other individual, turning everyone around him into his informed advocates. Just ask any of our staff who have been privileged to participate in one of the legislative staff agricultural seminars that he created. Or ask any current or recent member of our delegation who has always felt politely challenged a strongly invigorated by his careful encouragement. I can speak most directly to this point from my experiences of having worked with him while I served as chairman of the Senate agriculture committee during my days in the Michigan State Senate.

And to top all of this Gordon has a wonderful family which he always promotes and compliments with equal vigor. His wife, Norma is both blessed to be with Gordon, and perplexed to always keep up with his new ideas. His daughter, Dawn, learned the value of a caring father, and his son, Dan, has the challenge in following in his father's image as an assistant professor of MSU.

Mr. Speaker, Gordon's blood is green. He does live and breath Michigan. He dreams fishing, and he thrives on retirement parties. That's why after retiring from extension, and DNR, and MSU—twice, he now will retire from the formal position of director of agriculture, not from his continuing and devout interest in making our State the best one of all. I urge you and all of our colleagues to join me in wishing Gordon a long and happy retirement.

LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION AP- PROPRIATIONS BILL

HON. PATSY T. MINK

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 31, 1996

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my opposition to the Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education appropriations bill. It is disheartening to come to the well today to oppose a bill that funds the most important investment our Federal Government makes in the basic human needs of our Nation—health care, education, employment and training, and support services for families.

Unfortunately, this bill falls far short of fulfilling our responsibility to the American people and reflects the majority's continued policy to reduce Federal resources in some of the most significant aspects of our lives.

Nothing should take precedence over the health and economic security of our people. Yet this bill makes clear that these goals are not a priority for the current congressional majority.

Sadly, education has been the area hardest hit, denying school districts around the country of desperately needed funds to improve or maintain the quality of education in their local schools.

This bill sustains the \$2.2 billion cuts in education made by the Republican majority last year. In addition, it targets several important