

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 4205,
FLOYD D. SPENCE NATIONAL DE-
FENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR
FISCAL YEAR 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 11, 2000

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the House Armed Services Committee, I rise in strong support of the National Defense Authorization Conference Report H.R. 4205.

I would like to thank Mr. SPENCE, Mr. SKELTON, Subcommittee Chairs, Ranking Members, and of course Committee Staff for all the hard work that they put into reconciling the Defense Authorization Bill.

This year's Authorization Bill makes great strides toward improving Modernization, Quality of Life, and Military Readiness.

First, Military Health Care is getting on the right track, but we still have a lot of work to do to improve service to active duty and retired service members.

Second, Recruiting and Retention are showing signs of improvement, but will be a constant challenge during strong economies and changing demographics.

Although this committee has made significant improvements in quality of life benefits, I'm concerned that the junior ranks do not understand what these improvements mean to them.

According to a DoD survey of service members, basic pay is the number one reason to stay or leave the military.

But do they understand the value of their benefits, beyond take home pay, when they make their decision to leave?

I have introduced legislation, H.R. 4388, which provides service members information on their benefits, to including VA benefits, the value of those benefits, and how their benefits compare to civilian counterparts.

Given this information, I hope more may understand the grass is not necessarily greener on the other side and opt to make a career out of military service.

I thank the Committee for acknowledging the merits of this legislation by including reporting language in this bill requiring the Department of Defense to report on what the Department is doing in educating service members on the value of their benefits.

Third, I would like to commend the Committee on their work in improving R&D accounts, specifically Science and Technology.

R&D is the future of this Nation's defense. We should not shortchange our future to fund present day shortfalls. R&D is critical in maintaining the technological edge to combat the growing and changing threats to our Nation's security.

Finally, I would like to commend the Committee for incorporating H.R. 3396 in the Defense Authorization Bill and look at California as a potential production site for the Joint Strike Fighter.

An independent study found that building the JSF at the Air Force Plant 42 in Palmdale, California could save upwards of \$2 billion over the life of the project.

These savings are based on state and local economic incentives, such as tax credits, and inherent capabilities, such as the existing 1.2

million square foot B-2 production facility, highly trained aerospace work force, and close proximity to test facilities.

If we are asking taxpayers to support the best manned, equipped, and trained fighting force in the world, we must ensure it's the most cost effective fighting force in the world.

In closing, I commend all the Committee Chairs, Ranking Members and Staff for working with their Senate counterparts to produce a bipartisan bill that looks out for those who serve and preserve's our role as the World's premier fighting force.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

TRIBUTE TO MIRIAM GOBSTOOB
CANTER

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, October 12, 2000 the name of the Louis Wirth Experimental School in Chicago's Hyde Park neighborhood will be changed to honor one of its founders: Miriam Gobstob Canter.

Almost one year after Miriam died, it will be a fitting tribute to the life of a most remarkable woman who devoted much of her life to public education.

Miriam Gobstob was born in 1923 in Boston, Massachusetts. She attended Boston University and joined the Women's Air Corps in 1944. She devoted herself to the war effort and was a part of the successful effort to integrate her company.

After the war, and her honorable discharge, she joined the first all-women's Jewish War Veteran's Post. She became a commander of that post and later in life commander of the Chicago Jewish War Veteran's Post, the only woman to command two such posts.

In 1956 she married David S. Canter and moved to Chicago where she dived into work, family and community activism.

Their children, Marc, Evan and Anna drew Miriam into a lifetime commitment to education including President of the Kenwood-Ellis Co-operative Nursery School, President of the Shoesmith School PTA, President of Wirth School PTA, President of Kenwood High School PTA, President of Metro High School PTA, Community Representative of Wirth Local School Council.

She was recognized with awards including the Distinguished Service Award for 25 years of service to public education at Wirth School and the Achievement Award for 10 years Service for Local School Council participation.

There were many other facets to Miriam's love of community and country.

She worked for over 20 years at Michael Reese Hospital, was a founding board member of the Michael Reese Health Plan and the Women's Health Initiative. She was active in protecting the rights and interests of hospital workers.

Miriam made her home a center for activism and was fiercely active in the struggle for civil rights, banning nuclear weapons and in opposition to the war in Vietnam. From freedom marches and peace meetings to fund-raising events and making sandwiches no job was too big or too small for Miriam.

She was awarded (posthumously) the Unsung Heroine Award by the Cook County Women's Commission.

Miriam's home was a joyous place to visit. She was a hostess par excellence, and, according to at least one eye witness was a key player in the greatest little floating mah jongg game in Chicago.

Miriam is survived by her husband, three children, six grandchildren and uncounted friends, neighbors and coworkers. She will be remembered not only because her name is affixed to a public middle school, but because her name is indelibly engraved in the hearts of all those who knew her.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM KOLBE

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker, on October 10, 2000, I was on an airplane returning from my district and missed the following votes: H.R. 208, to amend Title 5, U.S. Code, to allow for the contribution of certain rollover distributions to accounts in the Thrift Savings Plan; H.R. 762, the Lupus Research and Care Amendments; and S. 2438, the Pipeline Safety Improvement Act.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on all three of these votes (#519, #520 and #521).

A TRIBUTE TO MRS. DALE
STRAYHORN, PRINCIPAL OF RO-
CHELLE MIDDLE SCHOOL,
LENOIR COUNTY, NORTH CARO-
LINA

HON. EVA M. CLAYTON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, for almost two decades, Mrs. Dale Strayhorn has quietly and effectively touched the lives of hundreds of young people. As a teacher, school administrator and principal, she has helped our communities meet the challenge of child-raising.

She has now brought her considerable energy and expertise to Rochelle Middle School in Lenoir County, North Carolina, where she currently serves as principal. Since arriving at Rochelle, she has made every student feel important and has made every parent feel that the education of their child is being taken very seriously.

Dale Strayhorn is an educator, a mentor, an advisor, an advocate, a counselor, a visionary. She cares. She dares to be different, and she has made a difference. But, her path to excellence has not been easy. Like all who teach well, she first had to learn. One of eight children, she was instructed by her father to "get a job or go to college." She did both. She attended North Carolina Central University in Durham, and she took on the tough task of raising her daughter Gwen, beginning in her Sophomore year.

Over the years, Mrs. Strayhorn has taught elementary school, taught military-dependent children and taught alternative school children,

among many other experiences. In all instances, she has emphasized character building, skill development and preparation for the future.

Despite her many accomplishments and her tireless agenda, she has always found time to be a devoted wife, a loving mother, a dedicated daughter and a dutiful member of her church. While balancing many responsibilities, she has never neglected to balance her priorities—those things most important in life—family, friends, neighbors, community and church.

Those who are charged with the education, growth and development of our young people must be among the best, the brightest, the most honorable. They must love what they do and conduct themselves with the highest standards and with impeccable integrity. Mrs. Dale Strayhorn meets and exceeds all of those qualities.

While she has assumed the role of Principal at Rochelle, above all, she is a teacher, one who guides, instructs and paints a path for others to follow. She deserves our praise and adulation.

RECOGNIZING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER MEDICAL CENTER

HON. THOMAS M. REYNOLDS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 75th Anniversary of the University of Rochester Medical Center.

From quality, compassionate patient care to cutting-edge research to individualized student education, the University of Rochester Medical Center has earned a nationwide reputation for excellence. Since its founding by Dean George Hoyt Whipple, the School of Dentistry and Medicine has produced some of our country's most skilled doctors and researchers, whose commitment to the art of healing has made a real difference in the lives of countless people and families.

To continue their tradition of excellence and prominence, the University of Rochester Medical Center will today mark the investiture of three deans, who will build on the center's successes heading into its second 75 years of service. They are Patricia Chiverton, Ed.D., R.N., EN.A.P., third dean of the School of Nursing; Deborah Cory-Slechta, Ph.D., first dean of Research of the School of Medicine and Dentistry and Director of the Aab Institute of Biomedical Sciences; and Edward Hundert, M.D., as the eighth dean of the School of Medicine and Dentistry.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that this House of Representatives join me in saluting the achievements of the University of Rochester Medical Center on the occasion of their 75 Anniversary, and that this Congress join with me in wishing continued success upon the celebration of the investiture of Deans Hundert, Cory-Slechta and Chiverton.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 3044, VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING AND VIOLENCE PROTECTION ACT OF 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 6, 2000

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, there have been many members who have supported my efforts to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act. One such member, Representative LLOYD DOGGETT, spoke in support of this legislation and also sought to become a cosponsor of this act. Unfortunately, a communication error in the clerk's office precluded him from being added as an official cosponsor. I would like to thank Mr. DOGGETT for his efforts in support and cosponsorship of this legislation

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, due to my duties at the presidential debate last night, I was unable to participate in the following votes. If I had been present, I would have voted as follows:

Rollcall vote 526, on the Motion to Instruct Conferees on H.R. 2415 to enhance Security of United States missions and personnel overseas, I would have voted "yea;" Rollcall vote 525, on agreeing to the Conference Report for the Agriculture and Rural Development Appropriations, I would have voted "nay;" and Rollcall vote 524, on ordering the Previous Question to waive points of order against the Motion to Instruct Conferees on H.R. 2415 to enhance Security of United States missions and personnel overseas, I would have voted "yea."

IN HONOR OF MRS. FARAH M. WALTERS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, today I honor Mrs. Farah M. Walters who has been awarded the title of "Woman of Achievement" for her outstanding work in the field of health services.

Farah M. Walters has led a remarkable 32 year career in the health care industry. Her commitment to the well-being of the community is an example to us all. She has received due recognition for her remarkable public service. In June 2000, Mrs. Walters was awarded the March of Dimes Golden Mile Award for her leadership and dedication to saving babies. In addition to local community service, she was appointed to Mrs. Hillary Rodham Clinton's National Health Care Reform Task Force. Later that year, "Modern Healthcare" selected her as one of 50 individuals to shape future development of American health care. She

has demonstrated commendable dedication to all aspects of the health care field.

In her career, Mrs. Walters has undertaken positions of great responsibility. As president and chief executive officer of University Hospitals Health System and University Hospitals of Cleveland, she presides over a system that includes more than 15,000 employees, working in over 100 health service locations in 55 Northeast Ohio communities. While under Farah Walters' leadership, University Hospitals of Cleveland received the Exemplary Voluntary Effort (EVE) Award from the U.S. Department of Labor. This continuing commitment to one of the most important areas of public service deserves to be rewarded with due recognition and respect.

I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me today in honoring Mrs. Farah M. Walters whose outstanding community-based work has earned her the distinguished accolade, "Woman of Achievement."

THE ENVIRONMENT

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, for me, three key issues that we must as a community and a nation address are environmental justice, sprawl and livability, and the need to protect California's and the country's ecosystems.

All three of these issues are linked to a crucial concern that is very much on Americans' minds right now: energy.

Rising oil prices and falling home fuel oil supplies both point out one clear, absolute fact: fossil fuels represent a limited and gradually disappearing resource.

We need to address this problem today.

The answer to our oil problem does not lie in pillaging the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, a precious, fragile, and unique ecosystem.

It does not lie in keeping current lax standards for gas mileage.

It does not lie in denying the basic fact that our planet is growing warmer and that the burning of fossil fuels is a significant factor in global warming.

It does not lie in polluting our soil, our water, our air, and our children with toxins.

The answers have to lie in conservation and innovation.

One answer is to raise the corporate average fuel economy standards across the board: Detroit can build more efficient cars; we need to increase the incentives to buy them and increase the disincentives to use gasoline wastefully.

California is leading the way in promoting greater fuel efficiency and searching for alternative energy technologies.

We need to work toward fuel cells, hybrid cars, and other alternative technologies.

We need to invest in mass transit. It will cost money but the dividends in reduced pollution, increased conservation, and reduced sprawl will be far greater than the initial price tags.

And we need to undertake these efforts today.

Our environment depends on it and in the long run so does our economy.