

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON
THE BUDGET, FISCAL YEAR 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 23, 2000

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the concurrent resolution (House Concurrent Resolution 290) establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2001, revising the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2000, and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for each of fiscal years 2002 through 2005:

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in strong support of the amendment offered by my colleague JOHN SPRATT, the Democratic alternative to the FY 2001 Budget Resolution. This Democratic alternative is a budget plan that strengthens Social Security, provides a voluntary prescription drug benefit for all seniors, and provides more debt reduction than the Republican budget. The choice is between fiscal responsibility sustaining economic prosperity and large risky tax cuts for the wealthy.

Our national budget is a statement of our national values, and it is hard to say that the Republican budget reflects the values of many hard working families. The Republican budget requires that we cut 310,000 low-income women, infants, and children off WIC assistance; cut 1,000 FBI agents and 800 Drug Enforcement Administration agents; provide 316,000 fewer Pell Grants to low-income students; and eliminate more than 40,000 children from the Head Start program. All this for the politics of special interests and vast tax cuts.

On the other hand, the Spratt Democratic alternative supports the values of America's families. It is fiscally responsible by providing investment in families first; proposing targeted tax cuts, and allocating more funds to pay down our national debt. Specifically, the Democratic alternative extends the solvency of Social Security by 15 years and Medicare by as much as 10 years; protects the Social Security surplus and devotes \$365 billion of the non-Social Security surplus over 10 years to reduce additional debt; allows military retirees to use Medicare benefits at military treatment facilities; provides Medicare prescription drug coverage for all and protects low-income seniors from any cost-sharing requirements; and allocates additional funding for paying down the national debt.

Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan has warned that Congress should not legislate large tax cuts before security measures to pay down the national debt and sustain economic expansion. The Republican budget grants large tax cuts on money that simply is not there to pay for it. The Spratt alternative secures on-budget surpluses for the next 10 years, unlike the Republican budget. Under the Spratt alternative the entire national debt would be eliminated by 2013.

I support the values of America's working families, fiscal responsibility, and the preservation of economic expansion. In short, I encourage us all to vote in favor of the Spratt Democratic alternative.

TRIBUTE TO JACK ROBERTS

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, Jack Roberts was a renowned artist, a knowledgeable historian, but more than all of this, he was a friend to many. Jack not only lived in the West, but he spent his career depicting the West on canvas for all generations to come. His art is coveted for its unique colorful flare of those "ole cowboys" all based on authentic Western men and women of the time.

It is known that as a young cowboy Jack rode the ditch for months without seeing people. These times allowed him the solitude to accurately reflect, through art, on the life of the West. His paintings were significant and have a place in the history of the West.

Jack spent over 50 years as an artist of the West. His paintings hang in many residences, businesses, museums and private collections. Jack studied at the University of Oklahoma, The Chicago Art Institute, The American Academy of Art in Chicago, and he spent two years with the great Harvey Dunn at the Grand Central School of Art in New York. Throughout his years Jack continued his study of the arts although he was already recognized as a scholar in the field.

A point of note, from Jack's personal recovery he took many of the hands of alcoholics to help them through their path to recovery. His compassion, like his art, left strong impressions and a lasting thought in the mind.

Jack leaves behind his son Gary, Gary's wife Monica and their son Wade. Additionally Jack had many friends and students of his art.

I considered it a privilege to have known Jack as a friend and to have been fortunate enough to enjoy his art.

We mourn the passing of this fine man from the West, but we keep in mind that he has just saddled up his horse, ridden ahead on the trail—to set up the camp and put on the coffee. Jack, we will miss you, "ole cowboy."

TRIBUTE TO ARTHUR "PAPPY"
KENNEDY

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 2000

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of Florida's true heroes and pioneers, Arthur "Pappy" Kennedy. Pappy Kennedy passed away today after devoting a life time of service to the Florida political, civic, cultural and educational community. His honors are numerous, and his heroism unparalleled. As the first African American to be elected to the Orlando City Commission since Reconstruction, Pappy served with distinction and was re-elected by the largest percentage between contestants in the City's 101-year history up to that time. This was no great surprise to those who knew Pappy, who knew that his very existence depended upon his service to others. Nor was his service limited to the constituents who elected him. Having raised himself from poverty in rural Florida, Pappy was determined to

improve the lot of others less fortunate than himself. And he did all this with the quietest dignity, at a time when dignity came at a premium for black men.

He suffered through segregation and discrimination, and managed to out maneuver both. His personal sacrifices in the face of such trying times are untold and countless. His professional accomplishments were numerous. His pioneering days began when he became one of the first African American men to work at the Orange Court Hotel in downtown Orlando, rising from one position to another in an effort to pay his way through college, which he did. Pappy's college training in Psychology paid off, for everyone who knew him in his later years could extoll his wonderful counseling abilities. He was never too busy to listen to the slightest concern that one of his constituents or neighbors or friends might bring to him. And no problem was too great for Pappy to tackle. One such instance involved the time he began organizing the former Orlando Negro Chamber of Commerce. His pioneering spirit and persevering manner deflected the considerable reluctance on the part of some local business owners. I will never forget his many inspirational, and sage, messages to me over the years, especially as I aspired to political office.

Though not a professional educator, Pappy's passion clearly lay in helping to enhance opportunities for minority schools and the students they served, and his efforts as President of the Jones High School PTA and the Orange County PTA Council left an indelible mark upon the City of Orlando. A spirited entrepreneur, Pappy was elected to the Florida League of Cities Board of Directors and was a Trust Officer of the Washington Shores Federal Savings and Loan Association, a black-owned and operated local financial institution.

Pappy Kennedy was first and foremost a family man, devoted to his late wife Marian, and his two children Arthur Jr. and Shirley. Like so many other politicians, I was blessed to know Pappy: as a counselor in politics, as a guide in life, and as a friend in all that mattered. He will be missed by scores of Floridians, but his legacy of service and sacrifice will endure in the extraordinary opportunities that resulted from all that he gave and all that he was. In Florida, we are proud of Pappy Kennedy and better off because of him.

A TRIBUTE TO THE ROTARY CLUB
OF HASTINGS, DOBBS FERRY,
ARDSLEY AND IRVINGTON

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 2000

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I take this opportunity to recognize the 75th anniversary of the Rotary Club of Hastings, Dobbs Ferry, Ardsley and Irvington, in Westchester County in the State of New York, and urge Americans to take a moment to pay tribute to the efforts of Rotary International.

Rotary clubs were created in 1905 to promote international understanding and peace through cultural, humanitarian and educational exchange programs. Rotary clubs are composed of a group of community leaders, each

of whom is in a different profession or business. These members provide humanitarian services, promote high ethical standards, and strive for peace in the world. Rotary clubs fund scholarships that enable students to study abroad as well as sponsor exchanges between countries of young business and professional people.

The members of Rotary clubs have assisted in health care programs worldwide, including the immunization efforts in developing countries to protect children against infectious diseases.

The Rotary Club of Hastings, Dobbs Ferry, Ardsley and Irvington was founded in 1925. The name rotary was given to the club, resulting from the tradition of members rotating the place of meeting between their businesses.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join in congratulating the Rotary Club of Hastings, Dobbs Ferry, Ardsley and Irvington on their 75th anniversary, and thanking them for their continued service of helping others and our communities.

TRIBUTE TO JACK SHARP

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 2000

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, Jack Sharp has now completed 25 years of service as a member of the Knoxville, Tennessee City Council.

Jack is a close friend of mine and is one of the finest men I know.

He has represented the entire City fairly and honorably, but he has been especially effective for his home area.

He holds one of three at-large seats on the Council and is very popular throughout the City.

He has served as Vice-Mayor and has frequently filled in for the Mayor at public functions of all types.

Jack has been a very forceful advocate for the fire fighters, police, and other City employees.

With his wife Doris almost always at his side, they have been outstanding goodwill ambassadors for Knoxville and a great team in thousands of ways for the City and its residents.

This Country would be a much better place if we had more men like City Councilman Jack Sharp. I congratulate him on his 25 years of community service and am thankful that term limits did not deprive us of his knowledge and experience many years ago.

I want to say thank you to Councilman Sharp and bring to the attention of my colleagues and other readers of the RECORD the service of a great Tennessean and great American, my friend, Jack Sharp.

TRIBUTE TO JOSEPHINE "JO" BUTLER

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 2000

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, as District of Columbia residents struggle in two lawsuits to

reclaim their full rights as American citizens, it is appropriate today to remember Josephine "Jo" Butler, who died a year ago this week.

Jo Butler was not a public official or even a public person. She did not count herself among the self-important in the city. Instead, she worked tirelessly for the District's most important causes. Chief among these was statehood for the District of Columbia.

Jo Butler and I became fast friends in the fight for statehood. She was there in 1993, when this body granted my bill, the New Columbia Admission Act, a two-day debate and vote. Many of the city's elected officials and citizens were on hand. What makes Jo so memorable to me, however, is that she was always here. Jo was here when there were few residents to speak up or stand up for statehood or even the more ordinary elements of the city's control over its own affairs.

Nor did Jo ever give up on any of her issues, from peace to the environment. Whether for great causes like statehood for this capital city, or her precious Friends of Meridian Hill, Jo believed that struggle brings victory. She was a radical activist with a rare gift for bringing people together.

The people I represent abhor undemocratic intervention by the Congress. Yet perhaps, as in most great long-standing struggles, few have had the steadfast devotion of Jo Butler. Jo Butler's spirit lives on today in a reinvigorated movement for self-government pressed, in part, by two court cases for equality and democracy for our citizens, now on their way to the U.S. Supreme Court. May Jo's lifelong devotion to her causes infect and influence many more to reach for the level of dedicated struggle Jo Butler achieved.

TRIBUTE TO AMBASSADOR MORRIS ABRAM

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 2000

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in mourning the loss of my dear friend, Ambassador Morris B. Abram. He passed away a few days ago in Geneva, Switzerland.

Ambassador Abram was a dynamic leader in the Jewish community and commanded the respect and affection of all who knew him. Born in Fitzgerald, Georgia, in 1918, Abram was the former President of Brandeis University in Waltham, Massachusetts. He also served previously as the president of the American Jewish Committee and Chairman of the board of Benjamin Cardozo Law School in New York City. As a respected attorney, he argued landmark civil rights cases in the 1950s and 1960s, including the Supreme Court's 1963 "One Man, One Vote" decision.

In 1982, Mr. Abram published his autobiography, *The Day Is Short* (Harcourt, Brace, Jovanovich), detailing his legendary career and his battle with leukemia. But eighteen years ago, his career was far from over. Since that time, he served as Chairman of the NCSJ from 1983 to 1988, and Chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major Jewish Organizations for three years. In the area of public service, he was head of U.S. delegations to the United Nations Commission on Human

Rights and to the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. He was also Vice-Chairman of the U.S. Commission on Human Rights. Under President Bush, Abram was appointed U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations in Geneva. Following his ambassadorial service, he founded United Nations Watch.

Denis C. Braham of Houston, Chairman of the NCSJ, paid an appropriate tribute to Morris Abram: "The experiences that he brought to NCSJ from his leadership of Brandeis University and national Jewish groups made him uniquely qualified to head the organization at a time when the plight of Soviet Jewry was at the top of the Jewish global agenda. Morris was not just an American Jewish leader but a world Jewish leader."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 2000

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, on March 22, 2000, official business off of Capitol Hill caused me to unavoidably miss rollcall vote 65 (final passage on H.R. 3822, the Oil Price Reduction Act). Had I been present I would have voted "aye."

Opponents of the legislation were circulating comments that I made as Vice-Chairman of the International Relations Committee during consideration of H.R. 3822. My statement, accurately reported by a prominent news service, was that by the Committee passage of this legislation, "we're making ourselves feel good, but that's all it is." What the article did not include is the fact that my remarks also included the statement that the President already has all the authority to implement all the recommendations of this legislation, including the authority to exact sanctions on the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), if he chooses to do so. My statement was prefaced by my remarks that the Administration has been too slow in protesting and working to reverse or counter OPEC's production cutbacks which began last spring and which have let the prices spiral get out of hand. As I said, the Administration should have been pressuring OPEC countries five or six months ago to reduce prices. I concluded my remarks in Committee by stating that the American people are now stuck with higher prices for gasoline, diesel fuel and heating oil for at least the next half year because "the Administration was asleep at the switch" and didn't take energetic and prudent actions. If there is any blame to be distributed at the Federal level, the American people should know it falls on the Administration.

NUCLEAR WASTE POLICY AMENDMENTS ACT OF 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 22, 2000

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, today I rise in opposition to the Nuclear Waste Amendments Act of 2000. This