

guide for future generations of communication professionals and more notably, her personal accomplishments serve as a model for women wishing to follow in her path.

Mr. Speaker, I join the Association for Women in Communication, the Clarion Awards, Ms. Evans' family, and her colleagues at KTRH in applauding Ms. Evans' diligence in the field of communications and I look forward to sharing in her future work.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF
CHARLES SPENCER POMPEY

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2001

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in commemoration of the life of an inspirational leader and a truly committed social activist, my good friend, the late Charles Spencer Pompey. At a time when Martin Luther King Jr. had not yet shared his dream of racial equality with America, Mr. Pompey challenged the injustices of segregation with his work ethic and his passion. "If you are ever fired from a job," Spencer Pompey would say, "let it not be because of the color of your skin, or the lack of preparedness to do the job." Today, Congress must be prepared to do its job, and continue to tear down the barriers of racial inequity that linger within our nation.

When Mr. Pompey came to Palm Beach County in 1939, as one of five teachers at Washington Junior High School, it was clear that separate but equal was more of a rhetorical myth than a reality. Black students were taught in dilapidated buildings, using supplies that white schools had discarded. To make matters worse, black teachers could not join the only teachers' union of the time, the Florida Education Association. Always a crusader, Mr. Pompey organized black teachers to form the Palm Beach County Teachers Association and served as the group's first president. Twenty-four years later, he was named to the board of the Florida Education Association, which had once made the mistake of judging him by his skin color rather than the content of his character.

Perhaps the most inspirational aspect of Mr. Pompey's life was his unwavering dedication to helping youth in his community. He was the first individual, white or black, to develop a program of organized recreation for young people, working through the Naciremas Club. In addition, Mr. Pompey served as a coach of several champion football teams, emphasizing the importance of being a scholar as well as an athlete. As a principal, teacher, and coach, as well as a religious leader, Mr. Pompey taught a generation of young black Floridians to dream, to aspire, and to persevere.

Mr. Speaker, in proper tribute to the legendary activist, Charles Spencer Pompey, I urge Congress to recommit to the goal of promoting improved race relations. We cannot allow the specter of segregation to haunt our institutions, and we cannot allow glass ceilings or lack of resources to impede the progress of our growing minority communities. Let us guarantee that an individual's right to vote is held sacred, regardless of his or her race. Let us not forget the past and abandon policies of affirmative action, which will ensure that our

history of discrimination can be overcome and replaced by success for all in the twenty-first century. We have a duty to all American citizens to preserve the legacy and teachings of Charles Spencer Pompey, a true friend and a true American hero.

DEPARTMENTS OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2002

SPEECH OF

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 30, 2001

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2620) making appropriations for the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development and for sundry independent agencies, boards, commissions, corporations, and offices for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002, and for other purposes:

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 2620, the VA-HUD-Independent Agencies appropriations bill for Fiscal Year 2002.

On balance, this bill adequately addresses our national priorities and funding needs for housing, veterans' benefits and scientific research. H.R. 2620 provides modest increases for HUD programs and activities—\$1.4 billion more than last year. These increases will help address the most basic housing needs of our low- and moderate-income citizens.

This measure fully funds VA medical health care for our veterans and provides a \$1 billion increase over spending levels for FY2001, while almost tripling the funding provided for major VA construction projects. A separate provision appropriates \$300 million for safety and seismic repairs to VA medical facilities and the rehabilitation of VA research facilities. One important aspect of the bill is the extra \$128 million over FY01 for the Veterans Benefits Administration to expedite claims processing, which is a growing concern among veterans.

Additionally, I have been concerned about proposals to require military retirees to choose between military or VA health care systems, but this measure includes an amendment prohibiting the VA from using funds in FY2002 to force military retirees to permanently choose between the VA or military health care systems.

Finally, H.R. 2620 prioritizes funding for our essential research needs by increasing funds for the National Science Foundation to \$4.8 billion, \$414 million more than the current appropriation and \$368 million more than the President's request. As a member of the House Science Subcommittee on Research, I am pleased that this appropriation will allow the NSF to go forward with substantial new and ongoing initiatives in information technology, biodiversity, nanotechnology, the mathematical sciences and the social and behavioral sciences.

Mr. Chairman, while all of these programs are funded at levels that warrant the support of every single member of Congress, I have

serious concerns about one provision in this bill—a \$1.3 billion emergency designation for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Designating these funds an emergency is a clear violation of our budget rules and violates all principles of fiscal responsibility.

While I agree that the request for \$1.3 billion in emergency relief for the damage created by Tropical Storm Allison is a true emergency, the budget resolution does not allow for the allocation of emergency designations in regular appropriations bills unless those funds are offset. Under this Congress' budget rules, this bill requires a waiver from the Rules Committee as well as clearance from the Budget Committee because of this emergency designation. These waivers were provided, which irresponsibly circumvents our budget process.

More worrisome, however, is the fact that this Congress is perilously close to spending Medicare and Social Security surplus funds. I am concerned that by releasing these funds under the emergency designation—without offsets—this Congress sets an early precedent in the FY '02 appropriations process to spend more than budget resolution allocations.

As you are aware, recent press reports suggest that the updated economic forecast the Congressional Budget Office will release in August is likely to show no available surplus beyond the Social Security and Medicare trust funds in fiscal year 2002 and that Congress may have to dip into those trust funds by nearly \$41 billion in FY 2003. More troublesome is the fact that these shortfalls do not even account for many of our other stated needs like a comprehensive energy policy, a prescription drug benefit, and the President's request for additional defense spending.

This Congress made a commitment to the American people that we would not vote to spend one single penny of the Medicare and Social Security Trust Funds. I will honor that commitment. Spending restraint, fiscal responsibility, and honoring our commitments do not come about by good intentions, but by resolute actions.

Mr. Chairman, in an effort to honor that commitment, I will adhere to the levels in the budget resolution enacted by a majority of this Congress. I will oppose any efforts to increase spending beyond those levels without offsets. This includes any emergency designation, regardless of its merit.

The VA-HUD appropriations bill violated the budget resolution and, despite the many good programs contained in this bill, it busts the budget and threatens the Social Security and Medicare Trust Funds. I urge my colleagues to honor their commitment to protect these funds; I urge my colleagues to vote no on H.R. 2620.

THE UKRAINE CELEBRATES 10
YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE AND
PROMOTION OF DEMOCRATIC
IDEALS

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2001

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, on August 26, 2001, the Wisconsin Branch of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America and the Cooperation of Ukrainian Churches and Civic Organizations will commemorate 10 years of

Ukrainian independence from the United Soviet Socialist Republics.

For over a thousand years, the Ukraine nation and the Ukrainian people have bravely faced adversity and have struggled to gain independence as a sovereign nation.

The Ukraine was a country constantly under siege, suffering onslaughts from Muscovy, Poland, Lithuania and the Austro-Hungarian Empire. In the 13th century, the empire gradually began to disintegrate into city-states that would become the modern-day countries of Russia and Belarus. The Ukraine was able to gain independence for a very brief period in the mid 1600's and again achieved a brief independence following WWI, from 1917-1918. However, during the inter-war period, the Ukraine was partitioned between the Soviet Union and Poland and remained under the communist regime until 1991.

The 20th century history of the Ukraine is marked by the repression of the Soviet regime. In 1986 Americans watched in horror along with the rest of the world as the tragedy of Chernobyl unfolded before our eyes. The Chernobyl disaster, along with the USSR's mishandling of the environmental cleanup, sparked a new spirit of nationalism in the form of "Rukh," the Ukrainian People's Movement for Restructuring. Rukh nationalism and increased freedom brought about by Gorbachev's "glasnost" policy led to the declaration of Ukrainian independence on August 24, 1991.

The years of exploitation by the communist government left the Ukraine struggling to establish a viable socio-economic infrastructure. The residents of the Ukraine, with the assistance of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA) are committed to help strengthen Ukraine's development as a democratic, market-orientated state.

The Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA) is a non-profit educational and charitable institution that seeks to preserve and disseminate the rich intellectual and cultural heritage of Ukrainian Americans. The UCCA also serves as a vehicle by which Ukrainian Americans provide humanitarian aid and assistance to the residents of the Ukraine and Ukrainians throughout the former Soviet Union.

So, it is with a spirit of hope for the future of the nation of the Ukraine, that I join with the Wisconsin branch of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America and the Cooperation of Ukrainian Churches and Civic Organizations to congratulate the Ukrainian people on 10 years of independence. May the Ukraine prosper and enjoy many more decades of independence, freedom and democracy.

REMEMBERING PROF. LAWRENCE P. KING

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2001

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, along with my colleagues Representative CONYERS and Representative WATT, to fondly remember Prof. Lawrence P. King who passed away on April 1, after a long and courageous struggle with cancer.

Prof. King was the most widely renowned bankruptcy scholar of our time, and had

served as an invaluable advisor to Congress and the Courts regarding Bankruptcy Law. For years, Prof. King generously gave of his time through his involvement with the National Bankruptcy Conference, which has served as the leading non-partisan adviser on the nation's bankruptcy laws since the 1930's. Prof. King has frequently testified on the bankruptcy laws, and was particularly valuable in offering advice in connection with the seminal Bankruptcy Reform Act of 1978. As a result of his tireless assistance, it is no understatement to say that Prof. King has had as significant an impact on our bankruptcy laws—which are the envy of the world—as any other individual.

I first came into contact with Prof. King when I became the Ranking Democratic Member of the Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law. Prof. King's knowledge of the law, compassion for the common man, and extraordinary sense of humor continued to be a tremendous help to the work of the committee especially during the very challenging struggles over the past few years to maintain the integrity of the Code. He both lived and taught in the Eighth Congressional District of New York, a fact about which I remain especially proud. My colleague, the distinguished Ranking Member from Michigan, met Prof. King while still a student at Wayne State School of Law, and like many other lawyers, whether starting out or seasoned, was touched by Prof. King's personal and professional greatness.

Time and space do not permit me to recite all of Prof. King's accomplishments, but a few highlights deserve notice. He taught at New York University School of Law from 1959 until his death. For the last 22 years, he was the Charles Seligson Professor of Law. He also served as a member of the Judicial Conference's Advisory Committee on Bankruptcy Rules; as a consultant to the Commission on Bankruptcy Laws of the United States, which produced what ultimately became the 1978 Bankruptcy Code; as a Senior Advisor to the National Bankruptcy Review Commission, established by Congress as part of the Bankruptcy Act of 1994; and, perhaps most importantly, as the editor-in-chief of the authoritative treatise "Collier on Bankruptcy." In addition to serving as a member of the National Bankruptcy Conference, Prof. King has been honored as a fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy, and had received the College's Distinguished Service Award and the Law School's Alumni Achievement Award.

He was the founder and driving force behind the NYU Workshop on Bankruptcy and Business Reorganization which, for 26 years, has trained attorneys in the field of bankruptcy and insolvency law, keeping experienced practitioners up to date with the latest developments in the law, and giving those just beginning in this complex and highly technical area a firm foundation in its basics. I am proud to note that staff from the Judiciary Committee, from both sides of the aisle, have attended this program and their service to the Congress and the American people have been greatly improved by it. The workshop has also raised sufficient funds to endow two chairs at the law school.

Prof. King's remarkable professional achievements and intellect are only part of the story. He understood the ethical and moral underpinnings of the fresh start and the rehabilitation of debtors. Everything he did was in-

fused with his personal compassion and ethical standards. In his final speech to the American College of Bankruptcy, just two days before his death, Prof. King made an impassioned plea for the preservation of the fresh start and the coherence, fairness and balance of the current Code. The Code, a model of fairness, is in peril right now. Prof. King, who did so much to build the system we have now, who contributed so much to bankruptcy scholarship, articulated the many concerns with the pending legislation better than anyone. I can think of no more fitting tribute than to commend his final comments to the attention of my colleagues in the hope that they will help us to remember this great man and take heed and work for fair and balanced legislation.

REMARKS BY PROF. LAWRENCE KING TO THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF BANKRUPTCY

I appreciate very much the honor of being asked to deliver the keynote address at this induction ceremony, which itself is a very auspicious occasion. It marks with emphasis the regard in which each of your peers hold you all and you are entitled to be very proud of this accomplishment. Of course, as a member of the College, I agree with everything I just said.

In considering what the focus of my remarks should be, the first thought was something having to do with the philosophy of the bankruptcy law. But that would be too short of a speech because, after all, that philosophy could be summed up as granting a new financial life to a financially distressed debtor and providing for an equitable distribution of the debtor's nonexempt assets among the debtor's unsecured creditors.

At least that was the philosophy until the advent of the 105th, 106th and the current 107th Congresses. It seems that today's philosophy is to damn the poor and struggling in order to pay the rich, who will not get paid anyway. So it is not worth heaping further ridicule on these past Congresses, the members are beyond caring, having pocketed the largess offered them and gone home to count what is in their campaign coffers. So, on to another theme.

Particularly as a member of the College, although not by virtue of that fact alone, we all have responsibilities to our profession and to our community, however that may be defined. Over a number of years of long and hard work, we have achieved a modicum of success and a time comes when some of our efforts should be used to return some good to the communities from which we come. Naturally, as all good sayings go, that is easier to state than to accomplish. Nevertheless, I want to plant some ideas by way of example.

When I was in law school, I decided that my careers should encompass three aspects. I wanted to practice law in order to help people with their problems, people being defined to include all legal entities. I wanted to teach law in order to educate others on how to help people through the practice of law as well as to help fashion the law by research and writing. And, thirdly, I wanted to be a judge in order to help make and interpret the law.

Those were pretty lofty dreams, perhaps subject even to a charge of naivete. Interestingly, as I reminisce, it seems to me that I did accomplish two of those desires, that is, the actual working at them. Whether or not it was of help to others is not for me to say. I have found, however, that within my work in whichever capacity, I have been able to accomplish all of my goals. That has occurred because throughout my career, I was involved in, let's say, extracurricular activities, almost always for no recompense whatsoever.