

AMERICA'S CAREGIVERS—
EVERYDAY HEROES

HON. ADAM H. PUTNAM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 6, 2001

Mr. PUTNAM. Mr. Speaker, in the 2 months since September 11, Americans have discovered that the age of heroes is not past. We have rediscovered that heroes do not live in movies or on the pages of novels, but in the everyday reality of our military units, our police stations, fire departments, and post offices. And we have discovered that, unlike our enemies, American heroes make their sacrifices in the cause of life, not death.

It is only right, then, that during this season of thanksgiving, when history demands that we give particular thanks for the many blessings that have been bestowed on us as individuals and as a Nation, we give special recognition to another group of everyday heroes; America's caregivers.

The generous support provided by caregivers to those who need help if they are to remain in their homes and communities is a reflection of American family and community life at its best. Thanks to the efforts of these everyday heroes, Americans with disabilities and a growing number of elderly Americans are able to stay in familiar surroundings and to maintain their dignity and independence. Caregivers share not only their time, but also their resources, spending some \$2 billion a month of their own assets for groceries, medicine, and other aid. Surely, their extraordinary generosity and compassion fits our definition of heroism.

A care recipient is a person who may be ill, elderly, or disabled or otherwise needs assistance with the tasks associated with daily living. A 1999 study prepared by the National Alliance for Caregivers reported that 23 percent of American adults regard themselves as family caregivers of individuals aged 50 and older. In addition, the report notes that one in five care recipients live in the caregiver's home.

But the efforts of our caregivers are not limited to caring for the elderly or disabled. The challenges of 21st Century society have created a new category of caregiving in America. Many older relatives now take care of children whose parents are not able to care for their children themselves. These generous seniors, who in many cases had already raised their own children and were looking forward to retirement, have embraced the challenges of parenting a new generation of young people. Their everyday heroism gives millions of our most vulnerable youth the opportunity to grow up in stable, loving homes, nurtured in America's traditional values.

America's caregivers—everyday heroes among us—deserve our lasting gratitude and respect. Today, it is my honor, and pleasure, to recognize the many contributions that America's caregivers make to the quality of our national life. Thank you, and may God bless America.

SECURE TRANSPORTATION FOR
AMERICA ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 1, 2001

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3150) to improve aviation security, and for other purposes:

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of the Democratic alternative to federalize our airport security. September 11, 2001 will forever be remembered as a day that evil visited our great nation as never before. Four hijacked airliners were transformed into missiles, slamming into the Pentagon and the World Trade Center. These attacks caused enormous and previously unthinkable loss of life.

The Senate has approved the Aviation Security Act by a unanimous vote of 100–0. This bill calls for a federal force of 28,000 passenger and baggage screeners and armed security guards at key checkpoints throughout airports. The bipartisan Senate plan includes many measures the President supports, including more plainclothes sky marshals on commercial flights and strengthened cockpit doors. The Aviation Security Act, as passed by the Senate, represents precisely the kind of action Congress should take to respond to the September 11 attacks.

Mr. Chairman, the primary responsibility of the federal government is to ensure the safety and security of the American people. Our recovery from the economic downturn is being hampered by the public's fears about aviation security. Improving security at our nation's airports will have positive benefits on all aspects of our economy. When people see the level of security at their local airport increase, they will no longer be afraid to return to the sky, and our country can get back to normal. This Congress must act and act now to ensure the safety of the flying public and get our economy growing again. We must show these evildoers that their efforts to terrorize us will not succeed.

I will vote in favor of H.R. 3150, the Secure Transportation for America Act, because I believe that we must get this process moving, but the Senate-passed Aviation Security Act is the far superior bill. We must put politics aside and put the interests of the American people first. I am hopeful the House and Senate will come together in a bipartisan way to pass sound airplane security legislation and send it to the President to be signed into law as soon as possible.

TRIBUTE TO REV. HARRY HENRY
SINGLETON II

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 6, 2001

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Rev. Harry Henry Singleton II, of Conway, SC, who was recently honored by the Conway Branch off the NAACP. Rev.

Singleton's contributions to his community include his work as a teacher, pastor, and community leader. Many honors have been bestowed upon Rev. Singleton for his leadership by various churches, community service organizations, and individuals.

"H.H." as I affectionately call him attended Allen University in Columbia, SC, and its J.J. Starks School of Theology. He also attended South Carolina State University in Orangeburg, SC, and the University of South Carolina in Columbia.

Before becoming the first black male to teach at Myrtle Beach (South Carolina) High School, Rev. Singleton was employed as a Science teacher at four other schools in South Carolina. In 1994, after 30 years of teaching, Rev. Singleton retired from the teaching profession.

In 1997, "H.H." retired as pastor of Cherry Hill Baptist Church in Conway, SC and was named Pastor Emeritus of the church. During his long tenure as Pastor of Cherry Hill, he was often called upon to provide leadership to various community causes many of which were far beyond the call of duty.

Rev. Singleton has served as Chairman of the Education Committee of the NAACP, 2nd Vice President, 1st Vice President, and member of the Executive Board of the South Carolina Conference of NAACP Branches. As President of the Conway Chapter of the NAACP, Rev. Singleton is called upon for consultation on issues involving race, gender, housing, and age discrimination. He has assisted numerous individuals with obtaining educational and job opportunities in areas they were previously denied. He has encouraged many black community leaders to pursue positions on city and county councils, the county school board, and the South Carolina General Assembly. Other accomplishments of the Conway NAACP under Rev. Singleton's leadership include the introduction of the NAACP's Back to School/Stay In School Tutorial Program, implementation of Single Member Districts for the election of Horry County School Board Members, and the negotiation of Fairshare Agreement Programs with Businesses creating more upper management and other job opportunities for African Americans.

In 1989, the Rev. Singleton advised black members of the Conway High School Football Team who were protesting treatment of its black quarterback. As a result of his action, he was fired from his teaching position. Seeking redress of his firing, Rev. Singleton filed a lawsuit against the school district and was restored to his teaching position by Court mandate in 1991. Rev. Singleton also successfully fought against the privatization of Horry County's Automobile Garage which would have resulted in the permanent dismissal of seven employees. His challenging the Horry County Police Department's hiring practices in 1993 resulted in the promotion of several black officers and the elimination of discriminatory employment screening tests.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me today in honoring a personal friend, Rev. Harry Henry Singleton II for the incredible services he has provided, and I might add, continues to provide, to his congregation, and community. I sincerely thank Rev. Singleton for his outstanding contributions and commitment to pursuing justice and equality within his community, and congratulate him on receiving the Conway Chapter NAACP Tribute

award and wish him well in all of his future endeavors.

REGARDING H.R. 3090, THE ECONOMIC SECURITY AND RECOVERY ACT

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 6, 2001

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my support for enacting a fair and reasonable economic stimulus package, and to voice my strong opposition to H.R. 3090, the Economic Stimulus and Recovery Act.

For the economy to get back on track, it needs insurance against a severe recession in the short run and insurance against escalating deficits and debts in the long run. A stimulus package consisting of temporary tax relief and temporary increases in government spending can provide both.

With the exception of the household tax rebate aimed at lower- and moderate-income workers, this stimulus package does little to help those that need it most. The majority of the tax provisions contained in this package are permanent, including a cut in the capital gains tax, a retroactive repeal of the corporate Alternative Minimum Tax (AMT) and an extension of benefits for multinational insurance and finance corporations. These permanent changes will not stimulate the economy in the short run and instead will put the Social Security and Medicare trust funds at risk in the long-term.

Additionally, the acceleration of recently-enacted tax cuts would only benefit the top 25 percent of all income tax filers, who are likely to save more and spend less of these tax cuts than those with lower incomes. A more effective stimulus package would combine the household rebate aimed at lower- and moderate-income workers with a temporary incentive for business investment.

Congress has historically responded to severe economic downturns by providing additional weeks of extended unemployment benefits for workers. In fact, during the 1990–1991 recession, Congress extended unemployment insurance (UI) benefits nationally on four separate occasions. H.R. 3090 blatantly disregards these past precedents by simply giving states a mere \$9 billion worth of block grants that may or may not be used to extend or increase unemployment benefits for laid-off workers.

This measure also fails to provide laid-off workers with adequate health care coverage. The average monthly COBRA premium is unaffordable for most displaced workers, who are barely making ends meet with their monthly UI benefits. Although H.R. 3090 would (give states \$3 billion in health care block grant funds, thousands of workers who have lost their jobs since September 11th would still remain uncovered.

Equally important to these short-term stimulus policies is insurance against escalating debt. We need a multiyear budget plan that covers the real costs of both the war on terrorism and the country's commitments to current and future retirees. Unfortunately, if this measure is adopted, its permanent toll on government revenues will require even more painful trade-offs among the nation's priorities in the future.

Even before the terrorist attacks, the enormous tax cuts scheduled over the next decade had dealt a severe blow to the nation's long-term fiscal outlook. According to both the Office of Management and Budget and the Congressional Budget Office, during the next decade, the federal surplus will be limited to funds earmarked for Social Security and Medicare. The Administration's tax cuts for the most affluent households have already wiped out the remaining on-budget surplus.

We must ensure these surpluses are replenished so that we can honor our future obligations. We must also provide every dollar needed to win the war against terrorism and to ensure the security of Americans wherever they may be. But in addressing these new and urgent priorities, we should remember the challenges that we faced even before the tragic attacks. Without compromising our vital commitments, we need to ensure that any policy changes address these new short-term challenges without worsening our continued long-term concerns.

For these reasons, I support the balanced, fiscally responsible Democratic substitute that deals with our immediate economic concerns without damaging the nation's fiscal health. It provides immediate relief to displaced workers while stimulating the economy with temporary business and individual tax cuts. Unlike H.R. 3090, the substitute promotes long-term economic stability and national security by making targeted investments in our nation's infrastructure. Finally, the substitute pays for itself by delaying the top income tax rate cut approved earlier this year, which benefits only our nation's wealthiest individuals.

I urge my colleagues to support the Democratic substitute and to reject this reckless and misguided economic stimulus package, which will further jeopardize our future fiscal security, while offering little assistance to those most vulnerable in the current economic climate.

TRIBUTE TO DR. FRANK BIASCO

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 6, 2001

Mr. JEFF MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to take a moment today to recognize and celebrate the life of a great Floridian and a great American, Dr. Frank Biasco.

Dr. Biasco would say that his specialty was human services. He was referring to his doctorate in counseling psychology and masters in social work. Those who knew him best can tell you that he loved serving his neighbors. The people of northwest Florida and the students he loved to teach were enlightened from his extensive experience in public life. Anyone who came in contact with Dr. Biasco was inundated with his infectious energy, vigor and commitment to his community. His memberships in countless organizations and professional groups, and the influence and legacy to our community will be felt for years to come.

Dr. Biasco's leadership spanned his life. He was on active duty in both WWII and the Korean war and his vast influence in local politics changed the landscape of the First Congressional District of Florida forever. He will always be remembered for his tireless fight for our environment and wetlands. Dr. Biasco was

awarded with numerous community and volunteer awards for his services, and the influence he had on our youth will continue for many years.

We are all saddened with the sudden loss of such a great man but can take solace that he will be serving us in a greater capacity. We will miss our dear friend and we will continue to celebrate the legacy he gave to our community.

ARIZONA'S SECOND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT—HOME OF THE 2001 WORLD CHAMPION ARIZONA DIAMONDBACKS

HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 6, 2001

Mr. PASTOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and pay tribute to the World Champion Arizona Diamondbacks. The Diamondbacks dethroned the mighty New York Yankees in a thrilling Game 7 to claim the 2001 World Series Championship in what many are calling the most exciting Series in history. I am proud to say that I am a Diamondback fan, but also I am proud to say that their home, Bank One Ballpark, resides in the Second Congressional District of Arizona, of which I have the honor of representing.

The Diamondbacks are the youngest expansion team to win a Major League Baseball World Series Championship, accomplishing this feat in only four years of existence. There was a tremendous amount of dedication and work by a great number of individuals toward reaching this goal and all involved should revel in this great accomplishment. And what is more important, these dedicated individuals came together to form a team—a champion team.

First, let me commend all the owners, especially the Managing General Partner Jerry Colangelo. For over 30 years, Jerry has not only been dedicated to building championship teams in Arizona but is highly regarded for his commitment to improving his community.

The Diamondback front office must be recognized as well. Rich Dozer, President of the club has supported the efforts of everyone associated with the Diamondbacks, and we would not be champions without him.

I want to congratulate General Manager Joe Garagiola, Jr. for his work in assembling this championship team. His foresight in combining the unique talents of each player into a formidable contender, truly deserves recognition.

I want to pay tribute to the man who steered the Diamondbacks to the pinnacle of baseball and became the first manager since 1961 to win the championship in his first year, Manager Bob Brenly. His coaching staff, Bob Melvin, Dwayne Murphy, Eddie Rodriguez, Glenn Sherlock, Chris Speier, and pitching coach Bob Welch, were all instrumental in the success experienced all year.

My granddaughter's favorite Diamondback, the mascot D. Baxter the Bobcat, who keeps us all laughing, even when things might not be going our way.

All these people have played an important role in bringing Arizona its first professional Championship and they each have staffs that have helped them every step of the way. The