

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING NATHANIEL D. WOODSON, 2002 RECIPIENT OF THE ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE'S TORCH OF LIBERTY AWARD

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 15, 2002

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, today, in my hometown of New Haven, Connecticut, friends, family and colleagues will gather to pay tribute to one of our community's most outstanding citizens. It is with great pleasure that I rise today, both as a friend and last year's recipient, to join the Connecticut Anti-Defamation League as they honor Nathaniel Woodson with their 2002 Torch of Liberty Award.

Our communities would not be the same without the efforts of individuals whose work truly benefits our families and neighborhoods. Each year, the Connecticut Anti-Defamation League presents the prestigious Torch of Liberty Award to an outstanding leader in the community, recognizing their unique commitment and dedication. Nat is a remarkable reflection of the true spirit of community service. With extraordinary compassion and generosity, Nat has touched the lives of thousands of families throughout Greater New Haven through his participation in a variety of organizations. Yale-New Haven Hospital, New Haven Savings Bank, the Enterprise Center, the Regional Leadership Council and the United Way of Greater New Haven are just a few of the organizations who have benefitted from his work.

Nat has also been a driving force behind the economic revitalization initiatives for New Haven and the region as a whole. Working with the Regional Growth Partnership, New Haven's Empowerment Zone, and the Southern Connecticut Regional Council of Governments, Nat has put a tremendous amount of time and energy into addressing the many needs of our community. Balancing transportation, infrastructure, business and other interests has not been an easy task. Nat has worked with his colleagues and met this challenge head on—striving to enrich the lives of all residents of the Greater New Haven area.

His involvement with the community has earned him a reputation as a leader. He has built strong relationships by creating public-private partnerships that work and his service to our community has made a real difference. I am proud to stand today to join his wife, Margaret, his children, the Connecticut Anti-Defamation League and the many friends and colleagues who have gathered this evening to congratulate Nathaniel Woodson for his outstanding contributions to our community.

SUPPORTING VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 15, 2002

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I take great pleasure in rising before you today to speak out against an international problem—Domestic Violence.

Domestic violence cuts across lines of race, nationality, language, culture, economics, sexual orientation, physical ability, and religion. It affects people from all walks of life.

On October 28, 2000, President Clinton signed into law the Violence Against Women Act of 2000 as Division B of the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000 (P.L. 106-386). The original Violence Against Women Act, enacted as Title IV of the Violent Crime and Control and Law Enforcement Act (P.L. 103-322), became law in 1994.

VAWA 2000 reauthorizes VAWA through FY2005, sets new funding levels, and adds new programs. VAWA established within the Departments of Justice and Health and Human Services a number of discretionary grant programs for state, local and Indian tribal governments. Under HHS, grants include funds for battered women's shelters, rape prevention and education, programs to reduce the sexual abuse of runaways, homeless street youths, and community programs on domestic violence.

In addition to grants administered by the states, the Act includes a number of changes in federal criminal law relating to interstate stalking, intrastate domestic abuse, federal sex offense cases, the rules of evidence regarding use of a victim's past sexual behavior, and HIV testing in rape cases. In FY2002, Congress appropriated \$517.2 million for VAWA programs, \$7 million more than the amount requested in the President's budget.

As many of my colleagues know, I am a long time supporter of instituting laws to prevent violence against women. In the 107th Congress, I cosponsored H.R. 3752, the Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Victim's Act. As long as the statistics show that approximately one half million women are stalked each year in the United States by an intimate partner, I will continue to support efforts to curtail this criminal act.

It is for these reasons, Mr. Speaker, that I find it not only my duty, but my responsibility to speak out against domestic violence against women during International Women's Week. I hope my colleagues join me in paying a special tribute to the millions of victims of domestic violence.

ELIMINATE TAXATION WITHOUT REPRESENTATION

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 15, 2002

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, let this body recognize, in its own CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, where Congress draws the attention of the world to the important issues of the day, the actions of a representative group of citizens of the District of Columbia. On April 15, faced with the denial of rights by this House and by the Senate, these citizens will burn copies of their United States government tax forms for the same reason their ancestors started the Revolutionary War 227 years ago.

April 15 is but one of the many days that mark the insistence of this government on 100 percent of the obligations of citizenship from D.C. residents while the same government fails in its obligation to reciprocate with the basic rights every government owes to tax-paying citizens. September 11, which so recently called D.C. citizens to war, is another such memorable date. December 7, when D.C.'s young men and women responded to Pearl Harbor, is yet another. Even more than our taxes, our contributions in sacrifices by the men and women of the District, who have fought and died for their country tell a unique story: In World War I, more D.C. casualties than 3 states; in World War II, more D.C. casualties than 4 states; in Vietnam, more D.C. casualties than 10 states.

These lives given for our country are trivialized when the Congress remains unmoved by our just demand to remove taxation with representation. The same Congress has no hesitation in taking our money, more per capita than from any residents except the residents of the state of Connecticut, while at the same time denying us a vote in the Congress that votes to impose these taxes on us. The government of the United States enriches itself with funds from the fruits of our labor. In return, the government owes us the vote in the Congress of the United States. We pay. We want to be paid with voting representation.

Expect to hear from us and other Americans often, the next occasion, a month from now on May 15, on D.C. Citizens Lobby Day for Congressional Voting Rights, focusing first on the Senate. We say to the Congress: Don't expect us to allow you to claim for yourself the title of guardian of democracy in the world while denying full democracy to your own citizens here at the very seat of our government. Nor should you take satisfaction from the fact that most D.C. citizens will pay or have paid their taxes this year. They pay under protest, but they will not pay with their silence, their dignity, or their rights. There is no quid pro quo for full representation in the Congress that votes to tell us what to do and how much to pay while denying our right to vote on what to do and how much to pay. There is only one coin of the realm we will accept. We must

• 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.

have our vote in the House and the Senate. We put you on notice in your own official record that we are coming straight at you for our vote. Look for us on May 15.

HONORING FATHER BILL
SANGIOVANNI FOR HIS OUT-
STANDING SERVICE TO THE
COMMUNITY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 15, 2002

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today to honor an outstanding member of our community and my good friend, Father Bill Sangiovanni. Father Bill has been a fixture in our community for many years and because of his seemingly endless contributions, we owe him a great debt of gratitude.

As a spiritual guide, he has nourished the souls of many—often providing much needed comfort in the hardest of personal trials. From South Dakota to Connecticut, Father Bill has touched the lives of thousands. His commitment and dedication is unequalled and as he celebrates the anniversary of his ordainment, I know that he is reflecting on his many experiences.

Father Bill has served in an array of positions in the public arena. For a number of years, he served as assistant to former Congressman Stewart B. McKinney and later as special assistant to the Minority Leader of the Connecticut General Assembly. Appointed by former Governor Lowell Weiker, Father Bill served on the Connecticut Ethics Commission in 1991 and was elected Vice-Chair just a year later. He would then go on to serve as the interim Chairman. Even with his extensive involvement with the government at both the state and federal level, perhaps his most cherished memories are from his many years in education.

Graduating from Fairfield University with a Masters in Education, Father Bill has and continues to be the consummate educator. I have often spoke of our nation's need for talented educators, ready to help our children learn and grow. Father Bill is a true reflection of this ideal. He spent two years at Assumption School and five as the Director of Ministry at Sacred Heart University. For the last sixteen years, Father Bill has been a teacher and administrator at Notre Dame Catholic High School in Fairfield, Connecticut. I have always held the firm belief that education is the cornerstone of great success. An invaluable resource to many of our young people, he has helped hundreds to obtain the knowledge and skills they will need to enjoy successful futures. Father Bill is loved and respected by students, parents, and faculty alike. This is his legacy.

On a personal note, Bill and I grew up together. We argued and challenged each other but learned the values that guided our respective ways since.

Father Bill has left an indelible mark on the hearts of many. His unparalleled commitment and dedication has made a real difference in countless lives. It is my great honor to stand today to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Father Bill Sangiovanni for all of his good work.

H.R. 2715

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 15, 2002

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2715, the Born-Alive Infants Protection Act, is a simple bill that ensures that all infants who are born alive are entitled to the same protections we all share under federal law.

This bill says that if a child is born and is showing signs of life, this child is entitled to the full protection of law. We are talking about babies who are breathing, have a beating heart, or whose muscles are moving. These children are our future and deserve to have every opportunity to embrace the privileges that were granted to each of us.

I believe that life begins at conception, and a child exhibiting these signs of a living, breathing little boy or girl should receive the full protection of law, rather than being left to die a horrible death. I am extremely saddened that today in Congress we have to debate this legislation. What is happening in America that these precious, innocent children are born alive and not protected by the law?

The right in our society to terminate a human life is a grave threat to human principles. It is the most vulnerable members of our society, our newborn children, who fall victim to this fundamental legitimization of infanticide. I believe all children should be welcome and protected under the law.

I was a co-sponsor and strong supporter of this legislation. I commend the House for passing H.R. 2715, the Born-Alive Infants Protection Act and I urge the Senate to take swift action on this legislation.

“MAYOR” MICO MICONI

HON. CHARLES H. TAYLOR

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 15, 2002

Mr. TAYLOR. Mr. Speaker, on April first, the Washington Post carried the sad news that Mico Miconi will retire after more than three decades as the Clerk of the District of Columbia Subcommittee of the Appropriations Committee. Unfortunately, for the Congress, and the people of Washington, DC, the announcement was no April Fool's joke. I had the honor of working with, and some might say working for, Mico during my two year stint as Chairman of the DC Appropriations Subcommittee. Mico's broad and deep knowledge of the District's government provided a steady hand as we attempted to chart a course through the city's fiscal crisis, the school construction crisis, and the final two years of Mayor Barry's term. Mico and the citizens of Washington can be proud that our landmark legislation established true fiscal responsibility for the District.

I know my colleagues and the people of our National Capital will join me in thanking Mico Miconi for his three decades of service. I commend the following appreciation which appeared in the April 1, 2002 Washington Post.

D.C. “MAYOR” RETIRES FROM CAPITOL HILL

(By Spencer S. Hsu)

On Capitol Hill, he is known simply as “Mr. Mayor.”

After 31 years as an unseen power behind congressional members in charge of the District's finances, Americo S. “Mico” Miconi retired Friday as clerk of the House Appropriations subcommittee on the District.

“Clerk” is deceptive. From his corner office in the U.S. Capitol, the 60-year-old son of Italian immigrants has been one of the most influential anonymous figures in District life since Congress granted home rule in 1974.

A telephone call from Miconi to the right city bureaucrat was known to help resolve, say, the circumstances around a pesky \$20 parking ticket. His legislative handiwork helped when the federal government bailed out the District's \$2 billion unfunded pension liability in 1997.

“Daniel Patrick Moynihan [D-N.Y.] used to say: Everyone is entitled to their own opinions—but they are not entitled to their own set of facts,” said Miconi, who bade an upbeat farewell to the District as he packed up his small, chandeliered suite last week. As chief investigator and briefer to the representatives who hold the city's purse strings, Miconi determined which facts made it to members.

Miconi, a tall man whose craggy features strike friends as Lincolnesque and detractors as more like Ichabod Crane, was praised for his dedication and vigilance.

“He was much more demanding of the city government and how the agencies operated, sometimes, than many of the elected leaders. He seemed to care more,” said John C. Allbaugh, chief aide to Rep. Ernest J. Istook Jr. (R-Okla.), chairman of the subcommittee from 1998 to 2000. “I think every agency, from secretary to budget officer, knew his name.”

Tom Forhan, minority clerk on the panel and aide to the ranking Democrat, Rep. Chaka Fattah (Pa.), said, “He plays his cards very close to the chest, but I always believe he was working in the best interests of the District.”

Miconi, whose father was a West Virginia coal miner who named his son Americo in tribute to his adopted land, said his hard-scrabble background shaped a career spent combating bureaucratic waste and political featherbedding.

He was recruited to federal service just before graduation in 1963 from Fairmont (W.Va.) State College, near his native Caroline (population 500). He came to Congress on temporary assignment from the Treasury Department's Bureau of Accounts in 1971 and never left. After seven years as an assistant to Earl Silsby, budget chief to longtime D.C. subcommittee Chairman William H. Natcher (D-Ky.), he became chief clerk in 1978.

In a reflection of his standing among both parties, as well as his mastery of a small, arcane segment of the federal budget, Miconi was one of only two out of 13 senior House Appropriations staff members who were asked to stay on after the Republican House takeover in 1994.

Miconi, who lives with his wife in Alexandria, has had many run-ins with city officials. Over the years, some leaders of the majority-black city have chafed at congressional rule, sensing an undercurrent of racism in what they considered meddling inquiries from white, suburban aides to white, nonresident bosses.

That raw antagonism has moderated over time. Miconi has become a quiet patron and constituent to the current generation of District leaders.

“Mico Miconi is an outstanding public servant who represents institutional history. He will be missed,” said the District's chief financial officer, Natwar M. Gandhi, whose independent financial watchdog agency Miconi says is his proudest legislative achievement.