

TRIBUTE TO RITA BOWLING

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 26, 2003

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an invaluable public servant, Mrs. Rita Bowling. Mrs. Bowling recently retired from her post as a member of the Board of Supervisors for San Benito County, which is located in my Central California District. Mrs. Bowling has been a beacon of public service who sought to make San Benito County a better place by tirelessly advocating for the principles of the county residents whom she served.

Mrs. Bowling was born in Rouyn, Quebec, Canada. She moved to Hollister, California, with her family in 1946. She has lived in San Benito County continuously since then and attended local schools. In 1964, she married Mr. Linden Bowling.

For 30 years, Mrs. Bowling began working in the insurance business, and eventually owned her own agency, reminding this community that the American dream is possible through hard work and integrity.

Mrs. Bowling not only set an example for the residents of this county, but opened doors for future generations of women when she was the first woman to serve as the Foreperson of the San Benito County Grand Jury. She sprung those doors open again when she became the first woman elected to the San Benito County Board of Supervisors in 1987. Mrs. Bowling represented San Benito County's 3rd District on the Board from 1987 to January 2003, a 16-year record of public service. Mrs. Bowling served as Chairperson to the Board of Supervisors in 1991, 1995, 1998, and again in 2002. She presided over that body with great skill and with an immense sense of responsibility to the people of San Benito County. Her decision not to seek election to a 5th term means a gain for her family, but a loss to the community. She leaves a legacy of achievement that we all can admire.

In addition to her service on the board, Mrs. Bowling participated with the San Benito County of Governments (COG) where she diligently worked to improve San Benito County's transportation infrastructure. Mrs. Bowling also served on the Veterans Memorial park Commission for nearly 14 years during which time she was instrumental in obtaining funding and community support for improvements to the park, including, ball fields and restrooms benefiting the community.

Widely respected for her uncommon common sense, for speaking with candor and clarity and for her principled stands on the issues, Mrs. Bowling never withdrew from an opportunity to speak directly to the issues at hand. San Benito County will miss her "Ritaisms". All those who worked with Mrs. Bowling, share my admiration for the unmatched dignity and professionalism that she brought to her four terms on the board.

Through her enormous sense of decency, fairness, generosity, and commitment to the residents of San Benito County, Mrs. Rita Bowling has made it a better place for all residents. Mr. Speaker, it is truly an honor to recognize Rita Bowling.

TRIBUTE TO PROFESSOR EDWARD ZIGLER ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 26, 2003

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to rise today to join in paying tribute to one of New Haven's most respected and treasured citizens and my dear friend, Dr. Edward Zigler, as he celebrates his retirement from a most distinguished and impressive career. For over 4 decades, Ed, a professor of psychology at Yale University, has devoted his talent and energies to the smallest of our Nation's citizens—our children. Nationally recognized for his contributions, Ed's vision and tenacity has made the safety and security of our children and families a national priority.

As policy makers, we often look to those with field expertise for advise and counsel. There are few that have served in these halls in the last thirty years who will not recognize the name Dr. Edward Zigler. A member of the National Planning and Steering Committee for Project Head Start, Ed was instrumental in the development and implementation of this tremendous program and has been asked to serve as an advisor to each succeeding Administration since President Johnson. His efforts on a national committee of professionals charged with examining the possibility of making infant care leaves a reality in America directly inspired the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993. Founder of the School of the 21st Century, which has been adopted by over thirteen hundred schools nationwide, Ed saw his vision of adding child care to the mission of public schools become a national model. It is not often that you find an individual whose efforts have so effectively changed public policy.

Through each of his accomplishments, Ed's work has dramatically changed the face of public policy concerning our children. He has made a real difference in how we, not only as legislators but as a society, view the importance of early childhood education programs, child care standards, addressing the needs of abused children and those exposed to traumatic violence, as well as the critical need for effective family support programs. A pioneer in his field, Ed has touched the lives of millions of children across the country—giving them a strong voice and ensuring that their interests are heard at every level of government.

As a professor, Ed has taught many who have gone on to hold significant positions as policy makers and teachers themselves. Those he has trained will go on to teach others, for his is a legacy not just of books and articles but of ideas and inspiration. Through his position with the Yale Child Study Center and as Director of the Bush Center in Child Development and Social Policy, these institutions have become recognized leaders in addressing the most significant issues facing today's children and families. This weekend, leading researchers and policy-makers in the fields of child development and social policy will gather for a Festschrift entitled Child Development and Social Policy: Knowledge for Action in celebration of Ed's lifetime of work—a reflection of the impact his career has made. Ed has left an indelible mark on our community and our nation and we have certainly

been fortunate to have him call New Haven home.

It is my great privilege to join all of those gathered in extending my sincere thanks and appreciation to Dr. Edward Zigler for his invaluable contributions. I have been honored to have the opportunity to work closely with Ed on issues both here in Washington as well as in Connecticut. He has been an invaluable resource and I look forward to continuing to look to him as we continue to work to improve the quality of life for all of America's children.

SYMPATHY EXPRESSED FOR TEAL FAMILY IN DALLAS, TEXAS

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 26, 2003

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, just 7 days ago, many Members in this House, including myself, supported the continuation of diplomacy in the Iraqi crisis as an alternative to immediate war. This House and the Senate, however, voted to authorize the use of force last October, and we have now used that force.

We will never know what result might have come from having stayed the diplomatic course. We do know now, however, that our Nation is at war. We do know that the sons and daughters of all our many communities are engaged in the dangerous and unpredictable duties that are carried by the Armed Forces in a time of war.

Our purpose here today is not to revisit the debate over the policies that lead us to war. My position on a peaceful solution to the Iraqi crises has not diminished. My conviction that untold and unwanted consequences await us in the future has not receded. My heartache over the potential loss of innocent lives, on all sides of this conflict, has not lessened.

But, our purpose now is to unite solidly behind our troops and all those who are commanding our Armed Forces.

Let no one, least of all Saddam Hussein, doubt that whatever the nature of our democratic debate may have looked like last October, today, or even next week, we are all united in prayer for a swift conclusion to hostilities. We are also united in our support for our soldiers and their families. Congress will not deny our men and women in the field whatever they need to accomplish their mission, including moral support from Capitol Hill.

Mr. Speaker, I cannot let this moment pass without honoring one of our constituents from Dallas Metroplex. On Monday, I was informed that our community has suffered a great and tragic loss in the person of John Teal of Dallas, Texas. Staff Sergeant Teal was one of the 6 U.S. Air Force Members whose lives were lost on Sunday evening in the Ghazni area of Afghanistan.

The HH-60G Pave Hawk helicopter, from the 41st Rescue Squadron at Moody Air Force Base, crashed Sunday in the Afghan. The two medics and four-person crew were on their way to rescue two Afghan children with serious head injuries. Though this is not the war that is so heavily covered in the media right now, Staff Sergeant Teal and the rest of that helicopter crew were at war protecting innocence and our well-being right here at home.

Mr. Teal will always be remembered by his friends, family and loved ones and will surely be honored by the entire constituency of the Dallas/Forth Worth Metroplex community for his bravery and heroism.

Our hearts go out to all of the families who have lost a loved one. I also hope and pray for the safe and quick return of our Prisoners of War and all members of U.S. Armed Forces engaged in overseas conflicts.

Mr. Speaker, I join with this House and with the people of Dallas/Forth Worth Metroplex and Americans all across the country in declaring our unequivocal support for the brave young men and women in the Persian Gulf.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON
THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR
2004

SPEECH OF

HON. MAX SANDLIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 20, 2003

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 95) establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2004 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2003 and 2005 through 2013:

Mr. SANDLIN. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to express my strong opposition to the Fiscal Year 2004 budget resolution.

The Republican budget is completely divorced from reality, and operates under the fantasy that our country can afford a tax cut of \$1.35 trillion as the United States embarks upon a necessary mission to liberate Iraq. The attempt to proceed with new tax cuts during a time of war is without precedent in American history, and for good reason; past administrations and Congresses have understood that our country cannot have its cake and eat it too. The Republican budget resolution does not take into account our country's current economic and military situations, and is stubbornly stuck in the past. The majority's efforts to pile new tax cut upon new tax cut are not without costs or consequences, and many groups in our society and in my district in East Texas will pay for these efforts.

In their attempts to provide new tax cuts while simultaneously balancing the budget, the majority will succeed only in balancing the budget on the backs of our Nation's senior citizens, veterans, students, farmers, and economically disadvantaged. How the majority can propose spending cuts in veterans' health care during a time of war is beyond me, and the Veterans of Foreign Wars and Paralyzed Veterans of America share my amazement at that effort.

Further, Chairman NUSSLE's original FY04 budget required nearly every authorizing committee to cut 1 percent in spending from last year's levels. The reconciliation instructions to the House Ways and Means and Energy and Commerce committees would have resulted in cuts of \$260 billion and \$110 billion, respectively, over the next decade. These draconian cuts would have drained funds from both Medicare and Medicaid, and would have balanced the budget at the expense of seniors and the poor.

The original Republican budget was so harmful and irresponsible that it had to be changed before it came to floor for consideration. Yet even after the Republicans "improved" their budget, the majority required spending cuts of \$169 billion, with much of that total being slashed from the federal government's share of Medicaid funding. These required cuts are outrageous, and undermine the majority's persistent claims of pursuing an agenda of compassionate conservatism.

Mr. Chairman, I believe that tax relief is important, and I have supported the president's efforts to cut taxes in the past. I was one of only 28 House Democrats who voted for the president's \$1.35 trillion tax cut package in May 2001, and one of only 9 House Democrats to support an effort to make these cuts permanent. Since the time of those votes, however, our economy and fiscal situations have deteriorated significantly, and the United States is now engaged in a potentially lengthy and costly war. Our country simply cannot afford to press ahead with the effort to pass new tax cuts, totaling \$726 billion, on top of the continuing effort to make the president's 2001 tax cuts permanent.

I am pleased that the Rules Committee made in order the Blue Dog budget alternative, and I urge my colleagues on the other side of the aisle to take this opportunity to support a responsible budget. By allowing the Blue Dogs to offer our budget substitute, the Republican leadership has finally acknowledged that the House needs to have an honest debate on a sensible alternative to the majority's unrealistic and irresponsible budget resolution.

The Blue Dog substitute will balance the federal budget in ten years without relying on the Social Security surplus and without sacrificing our nation's veterans and seniors for new tax cuts. At the same time, the Blue Dogs provide both immediate and long-term tax relief to American taxpayers. This tax relief consists largely of an acceleration of cuts already scheduled under current law, with the exception of rate cuts in the top two marginal brackets. It is both reasonable and necessary to defer reductions in the top two upper brackets until the costs of our current war effort are paid for and the federal budget is back in balance.

Further, the Blue Dogs are committed to sticking with the president's overall funding levels for defense and non-defense discretionary spending. I urge my colleagues on the other side of the aisle to join the Blue Dogs in our support of the president's total funding levels, and I urge every member of the House to support the reasonable, responsible Blue Dog budget alternative.

TRIBUTE TO CHUCK NORRIS

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 26, 2003

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to pay special tribute to a true American patriot and civic leader from Oregon's Second Congressional District. Mr. Chuck Norris has served his country honorably in the United States Army, his State in the Oregon State Legislature, and his

community as a volunteer in many capacities. His dedicated spirit and devotion to his fellow citizens has been his most enduring trait over the years, and I'm proud to call Chuck and his wonderful wife, Betty Lou, my friends.

Chuck Norris was born in Pasadena, California, in 1925. Shortly after his birth Chuck's family moved to a 160-acre farm in east-central Kansas, where he was raised. In July of 1943, following his graduation from high school, Chuck left Kansas and the family farm to serve our country as an officer in the U.S. Army. After his commissioning as a 2nd Lieutenant, Chuck was stationed around the globe, from Japan and Turkey to Germany and Vietnam. He commanded a platoon, company, and battalion before being stationed in Umatilla, Oregon, where he served as the commander of the Umatilla Army Depot. During Chuck's service he attended the Army Command and General Staff College, the Armed Forces Industrial College and the Executive Program of the University of Chicago.

In times of crisis the soldier is revered by one and all, but quickly forgotten about when danger passes. Today as we find ourselves at war and we shower our troops with well-deserved praise, we would do well to also remember the men like Chuck Norris who quietly and stoically served our country in uniform and protected our freedom with little thanks in return.

In 1971, Chuck Norris retired from the Army, but not from public service. In 1986 Chuck was elected to the Oregon State Legislature, where he represented the people of eastern Oregon for five terms. Among his many accomplishments was his effectiveness in shaping natural resource policies, especially water management. As Chairman of the House Committee on Water Policy, Chuck crafted legislation creating voluntary local watershed councils across the State, providing local citizens an opportunity to work with one another in managing and preserving Oregon's many watersheds. As everyone who hails from a Western State understands, where I come from water is among the most precious commodities. Those who help us conserve water and put it to wise uses are particularly deserving of our praise and gratitude.

Following retirement from the State Legislature, Chuck Norris continued his distinguished career of public service and his devotion to improving the way we use our natural resources in eastern Oregon. As a volunteer and member of the Umatilla Watershed Council and as an advisor to the Oregon Water Coalition, he selflessly devoted his time and energy to helping his fellow Oregonians. Since I have served in the U.S. House, Chuck has also taken the time to keep me informed about issues of concern on the ground in eastern Oregon and I value the input he offers. I would like to extend my personal thanks to Chuck for all that he has done for the people of Umatilla County, the Second District, the State of Oregon and the United States.

Holding true to his proud role as a father and grandfather, Chuck and Betty Lou, his wife of 57 years, are about to embark permanently to Florida to be with their children and grandchildren. Countless eastern Oregonians will miss them, but will always count them as lifelong friends.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in saluting Chuck Norris, an extraordinary man and great American. I wish Chuck and Betty Lou the very best in the years ahead.