is the result of these policies and this does not include funding for ongoing operations in Iraq and Afghanistan.

A serious concern for people who care about the environment and the economy is the failure to fund even the inadequate level required by the House passed transportation reauthorization. The Republican budget resolution assumes $273 billion for transportation, $11 billion less than the $284 billion provided in House legislation and $45 billion less than the Senate-passed funding level. This is wholly inadequate and will have serious consequences for every State in America.

Tax cuts during wartime that benefit the wealthy, shifting fiscal burdens to our children, shortchanging America's priorities, risking the Social Security and Medicare funding on which retirees rely—this budget is at once shameless and shameful.

MILLER MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES ON OVERTIME

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of Representative MILLER's Motion to Instruct Conferees on Overtime.

The Bush Administration recently released their final regulations on overtime pay—regulations that originally called for the elimination of overtime pay for millions of workers including America's police and firefighters.

While the final regulations omitted this group at the last possible minute—due to extreme Democratic pressure—let's remember their true intentions, that of eliminating overtime pay to the police and firefighters of America.

It is so hypocritical for the Republicans to come up here and pass resolutions celebrating the New York City fire and police departments—and then cut their pay.

No one enters law enforcement or becomes a firefighter for the money—but Republicans had the audacity to suggest that these hard-working men and women are not entitled to overtime that they and their families depend on.

While they have had the incredible vision to reconsider their original request, everyone in this chamber knows—and more threatening to the Republicans—every police officer and firefighter in America knows—or will know—that if the Bush Administration and the Congressional Republican majorities are back next year, it is a foregone conclusion that they will revisit these overtime regulations and will succeed in their initial dream of eliminating all overtime for all cops and firefighters in the U.S.

The Administration and this Congress have a sad track record of shortchanging police and firefighters, while pretending to stand with them.

And now their revised ''compassionate conservative'' overtime regulations eliminate overtime protections for millions of other American workers.

I received a letter from a woman in the Bronx who is a dedicated and experienced health care provider.

She, like other health care providers that support us in our times of need, is being told by the Republicans that she might not be entitled to overtime.

She writes that she is concerned that overtime work without overtime pay will not only hurt workers like her, but will also hurt patients.

How can that be construed as being supportive of American workers or as being supportive of America?

Sadly, this Administration's record does little to suggest that they understand or care about the needs of American workers.

This Administration's record on labor issues is horrific—besides working to destroy the entire concept of overtime pay, they have attacked and tried to eliminate the Davis-Bacon prevailing wage provisions for our road builders and building trades workers.

This Administration has started denying COLAs to federal civilian employees—COLAs they are more than happy to reward themselves with.

This Administration has opposed legislation to allow workers to create unions so that they get better wages and benefits that benefit themselves and their families.

The destruction of 3 million jobs, the serious attempt to eliminate overtime provisions in our country, and working to crack the Davis-Bacon law—this is an Administration that does not care for working people.

Support the Miller amendment and let the Republicans know—you are sick and tired of these overpaid, underworked people trying to cut your pay while raising theirs.

TRIBUTE TO ANTHONY HO

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Mr. Anthony Chung Yi Ho, Senior Officer with the Taipei Economic Council and Cultural Representative and Senior Assistant to the Honorable C.J. Chen, Taiwan's chief representative in the United States. Mr. Ho has been with the Washington, DC, office of the Taiwan Ministry of Foreign Affairs for 6 years, and his presence will be sorely missed when he returns to Taiwan later this year. Mr. Ho is a true asset to the Taiwan Ministry of Foreign Affairs. His leadership and expertise have been invaluable in working with my Washington, DC, staff and many other congressional offices as well.

Traditionally, Idaho maintains a close relationship with the Taiwan Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Idaho State University has developed a strong partnership with the Taiwan Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in large part because of ISU's English and Professional Development Program. This unique program, the only program of its kind in the United States, provides a language and cultural education program for junior diplomatic officers in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Over 40 students have completed the program since its inception in the early 1990s, and many of these graduates now serve their country in diplomatic postings throughout the world. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs Language and Culture Training Program at ISU is an excellent collaborative relationship that is strengthening our countries through a better understanding of each of our cultures.

While serving as a Senior Officer, Mr. Ho has worked closely with my office. Largely thanks to his efforts, I have been able to meet and work with many of Taiwan's junior diplomatic officers attending this program at Idaho State University. They are an intelligent, energetic group who are eager to serve their country. They are very interested in gaining as much knowledge and insight as possible during their stay in America and look forward to using what they have learned as they progress in their diplomatic careers.

Under Mr. Ho's guidance, our office has cultivated a valuable relationship with the Taiwan Foreign Ministry. He arranged a dinner among the junior diplomatic officers and myself in Pocatello, and he has also worked with our office to arrange the stay of a junior officer from ISU in our Washington, DC, office. For 2 years, I have had the privilege of hosting a junior officer from the ISU program in the Capitol.

Mr. Ho's excellent collaborative relationship with my office plays a critical role to strengthening relations between the United States and Taiwan through strong communication and a better understanding of each of our cultures. I commend Anthony Ho for his dedication and guidance. It has been an honor and a pleasure to work with him, and we will greatly miss him when he leaves Washington, DC.

RECOGNITION OF ASIAN/PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the designation by President Bush that the month of May be known as Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month.

The more than 13 million Americans who have Asian/Pacific heritage have worked diligently to enrich the culture of our Nation and of our lives.

Asian/Pacific Americans are a growing and welcome force in my home state of Illinois. Their continuing contributions to our communities, whether as large as Chicago, or as medium sized as my hometown of Collinsville, are immeasurable.

Asian/Pacific Americans bring with them a heritage of pride, hard work, commitment to family and faith, and a love of freedom that serves as an example and reminder for all of us.

I am proud of the President for his recognition of the Asian/Pacific American community and of their overall value to our nation's future. I salute the Asian/Pacific American community and join them in celebrating their heritage.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I would like to state for the record that my vote yesterday on the amendment to H.R. 4200 offered by SUSAN DAVIS of California was intended to be a ''no'' vote. I oppose this amendment.