

With the 1981 change in administrations, Mr. Gabusi departed government service for private enterprise. He spent 2 years as General Manager of Rural Ventures Inc., the economic development arm of Control Data Corporation of Minneapolis.

He returned to Washington in 1983, and spent the next 8 years as an economic development consultant on a national and international basis.

His emphasis was on providing technical assistance to foreign ministries, and special contracts, primarily from the U.S. Agency for International Development, sent him to El Salvador, Costa Rica, Nicaragua and Panama. He also consulted with the governments of Egypt and Poland, and played a major role in establishing Poland's first retail banking system.

Back home, Mr. Gabusi provided economic development and government expertise to small businesses, Indian tribal councils, small cities and towns and one federal agency, the Economic Development Administration.

Mr. Gabusi has been struggling with renal cell cancer for nearly 3 years and it was with regret that he retired from Pima College. He was a positive and progressive force at the college and in every other venture he undertook.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION
OF H.R. 4241, DEFICIT REDUCTION
ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 17, 2005

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, earlier I spoke about how this legislation is out of step with mainstream American values. I would like to submit for the RECORD the text of a letter sent to every Member of the House from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops reflecting the misguided values that this bill embodies.

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT AND WORLD PEACE,
Washington, DC, November 8, 2005.

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE: When Congress began the process of developing the 2006 budget for the United States government last February, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops president Bishop William Skylstad urged Members of Congress to remember that budget "decisions will reflect not only economic policies but moral choices as well," and urged Congress "to give priority attention in the budget to the needs of poor and vulnerable people both here and abroad."

As the House now takes up its budget reconciliation bill, we write to reiterate the Conference's priorities and to share our views on how that bill may impact several key programs and the people they serve. We are guided by Catholic moral principles: respect for human life and dignity; the importance of family and the value of work; an option for the poor and the call to participation; and the principles of subsidiarity and solidarity. We also draw upon the Church's experience living with, and serving the poor among us. As perhaps the largest non-governmental provider of health care and

human services to vulnerable people, the Catholic community meets the poor in our soup kitchens, Catholic Charities agencies and health care facilities.

We are deeply disappointed by the budget reconciliation proposal before the House of Representatives, in particular, its lack of concern for children. Below are specific examples of programs that serve vulnerable people—often children—that will lose funds if this legislation passes in its current form.

Food Stamp Program: The House reconciliation bill includes harmful cuts to the Food Stamp program that will result in taking food away from people, including children, who are being helped now. This would be objectionable anytime, but it is particularly unfair at this time. Recently, USDA reported an increase to 38 million in the number of Americans suffering from hunger or living in homes that are on the edge of hunger. This includes nearly 14 million children. Nearly 300,000 people in low-income working families will lose Food Stamp assistance if this bill becomes law and some 40,000 children in those families will no longer be eligible for free school meals. Many of those denied Food Stamps will be legal immigrants. We were strong supporters of President Bush's successful effort to expand access to Food Stamps for legal immigrants in the last farm bill. We strongly oppose the effort to roll back this expansion, by making legal immigrants wait an additional 2 years for eligibility.

Health Care for the Poor: We recognize and affirm the sanctity of human life from conception to natural death and consider access to adequate health care to be a basic human right. No person should be denied access to needed health care because of inability to pay. We oppose the provisions in the bill that would allow states to increase the burden of co-payments, deductibles and premiums on Medicaid beneficiaries—including some children and pregnant women. Health care providers would be allowed to deny services to those who cannot pay these amounts. Another proposal would allow states wide latitude to choose which medical services it will offer to different groups of low-income people. It is important to maintain a federal standard of core benefits, necessary for the maintenance of good health, to which all Medicaid beneficiaries are entitled.

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimates that these provisions will save \$6.2 billion over five years (and \$28.2 billion over ten years), precisely because they will cause people eligible for Medicaid to get less of the health care they need. This attempt to save money by making it harder for low-income and vulnerable people to get the health care they need is simply unacceptable.

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families: The House reconciliation bill includes the House bill to reauthorize the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) welfare program. We reiterate our concern that the House approach to TANF reauthorization increases the work requirements on all TANF recipients, generally single mothers, and repeals the rule allowing a lower work requirement for mothers of children under 6 years old. While the House reconciliation bill does include small increases in child care funding, the amount is insufficient to pay for current child care services given inflation, let alone cover the need for additional child care created by increasing the TANF work requirements. We are also disappointed that the bill does not restore TANF benefit eligibility to recently-arrived legal immigrants. However, we note our support for funding programs—separate from the basic block grant—to promote marriage and healthy families (although we believe it would be better to target this spending on marriage and family services for low-income families).

Child Support Funds: The House reconciliation bill cuts Federal funding for state child support services which will make it harder for states to collect child support for low and moderate-income families. According to CBO estimates, over the course of ten years families could receive \$21 billion less in child support payments. Child support payments can be crucial to the economic viability of some families, keeping them out of poverty and off public programs. They also encourage parental responsibility and can help to maintain the connection between children and their non-custodial parent. Undermining the collection of child support is not good for children or families.

Agricultural Programs: We are disappointed that the reconciliation bill reduces spending on key conservation programs. The bishops have stated that protecting God's creation must be a central goal of agricultural policies, and our conference supports policies that promote soil conservation, improve water quality, protect wildlife, and maintain biodiversity.

The bishops' conference also endorses targeting limited government resources for direct federal payments and other forms of domestic agricultural support to small and moderate-sized farms, to help them through difficult times caused by periodic price shocks or unpredictable natural disasters, such as the recent hurricanes. Limiting U.S. farm supports and targeting them to those who need them the most would also increase the possibility that poor farmers around the world would be able to sell their products and support their families. We would welcome efforts to begin the process of redirecting agricultural subsidies to those most in need.

We urge you to remember that the federal budget is more than a fiscal plan; it reflects our values as a people. Budget choices have clear moral and human dimensions. A just society is one that protects and promotes the fundamental rights of its members—with special attention to meeting the basic needs, including the need for safe and affordable health care, of the poor and underserved. In these difficult times, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops urges you to work for a budget that does not neglect the needs of the "least of these" in our nation and the world.

Sincerely in Christ,
Most Rev. NICHOLAS
DiMARZIO,
*Bishop of Brooklyn,
Chairman, Domestic
Policy Committee.*
Most Rev. JOHN RICARD,
SSJ,
*Bishop of Pensacola-
Tallahassee, Chair-
man, International
Policy Committee.*

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION
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SPEECH OF

HON. JOE BARTON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 17, 2005

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I recognize the value of finding additional spectrum

below 1 GHz for unlicensed devices to meet the growing consumer demand for robust wireless broadband connections. As outlined in the committee report, the Federal Communications Commission should evaluate whether the presence of unlicensed devices operating in the broadcast television bands will produce harmful interference to television stations broadcasting in that band.

Unlicensed devices that utilize spectrum below 1 GHz could be used by neighbors who want to communicate with each other, by wireless Internet providers who want to improve their coverage, or by other service providers who want to expand their capabilities. Unlicensed use of these bands has the potential to foster additional broadband competition, technological innovation, and economic development. In addition, wireless broadband devices can be deployed rapidly in areas where wireline communications infrastructure has been wiped away, such as has occurred during recent disasters. I agree that the FCC should act expeditiously on this proceeding, and we were therefore pleased to provide the FCC with a deadline to complete its work.

HONORING DAVID MITCHELL ON HIS CAMPAIGN TO BE ELECTED TO THE CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT 8

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2005

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor David Mitchell, a resident of Chautauqua County for his quest to become the elected representative to the eighth legislative district in Chautauqua County Legislature. Although Mr. Mitchell was not able to realize his dream he has been able to make an impact on other's lives in a different way.

The campaign trail is a difficult path to take. Any person with a dream may enter but only a few are able to reach the end. Mr. Mitchell traveled that path with his head held high and a smile on his face the entire way. I have no doubt that his kind demeanor left a lasting impression on the voters of district 8.

David Mitchell is a former Jamestown police officer that was wounded while on duty. Through his courage and determination to rise above his injuries David has made a tremendous recovery. It is inspiring to see a man with such conviction to better his community run for public office.

Chautauqua County is blessed to have such strong candidates with a desire to make this county the wonderful place that we all know it can be. Mr. Mitchell is one of those people and that is why, Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor him today.

HONORING DAVE SMITH, NEWARK'S RECENTLY RE-ELECTED MAYOR

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2005

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Newark, CA's Mayor Dave Smith. His

recent re-election makes him the second longest serving mayor in the country as he embarks on his 28th consecutive year of service.

Mayor Smith began his career in public service as the Fremont chapter president of the Jaycees, a fraternal business group. He then ran for, and was elected to, the Newark city council in 1976. Two years later he was elected Mayor, where he has remained ever since.

During his tenure, Newark has become a model for the country to follow. It has a \$35 million surplus, a low crime rate, beautiful parks and well-maintained streets. Newark city council meetings are efficient and exemplify Mayor Smith's ability to build consensus among the city's leadership.

He has steered Newark through the dot-com boom and bust, avoiding the common pitfalls that plague many other cities. His plans for managed growth have allowed Newark to thrive. Also, he is a respected governmental figure—not an easy trick for a Republican representing a city that is registered 55 percent Democratic.

Smith's nickname, Mr. Newark, is well deserved. With an easy style prone to practical jokes and trombone solos, he has become an accomplished politician, a beloved public servant and a committed member of his community.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Dave Smith's dedicated commitment to the city he serves. His ability to lead Newark, one of the jewels of the East Bay, is unquestionable and I for one hope he continues to serve for another 28 years.

RECOGNITION OF PRESIDENT MARGARET A. MCKENNA'S 20 YEARS OF LEADERSHIP AT LESLEY UNIVERSITY

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2005

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Margaret A. McKenna, president of Lesley University since December 4, 1985.

Dr. McKenna became president of Lesley College 20 years ago and her leadership has created Lesley University, with a School of Education, a Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, an Art Institute and the School of Integrative and Experiential Studies. Over these two decades, Lesley University's enrollment, endowment and programmatic reach have each expanded dramatically. While these achievements would be laudable on their own for any university president, they are only a portion of the success Dr. McKenna has fostered at Lesley University.

Dr. McKenna has placed a very strong emphasis on educating our educators. Under her stewardship, Lesley has grown to be the Commonwealth of Massachusetts's largest producer of new teachers. Lesley has also become one of the largest providers of graduate professional education to classroom teachers in the Nation. The faculty and students have become an important resource to local public school districts. This is due, in no small part, to her commitment to pioneering on-line and distance learning. With President McKenna's imprimatur, Lesley University has placed many re-

sources and much energy toward providing quality education for teachers specializing in the hard sciences.

President McKenna has also used her position as the head of a leading university to call attention to important causes. One need only glance at her published work to know she sees education as an opportunity to build a citizen, not just a student. Clearly, from her perspective, there is no civics topic that is not enmeshed with higher education.

In closing, I salute President Margaret McKenna for 20 years of outstanding leadership and vision.

STATEMENT HONORING SFC
RICHARD SCHILD

HON. STEPHANIE HERSETH

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2005

Ms. HERSETH. Mr. Speaker, I am saddened to report the passing of SFC Richard Schild. He was killed while serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The lives of countless people were enormously enhanced by Richard's goodwill and service. He inspired all those who knew him. Our Nation is a far better place because of his life. All Americans owe Richard, and the other soldiers who have made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of freedom, a tremendous debt of gratitude for their service.

Every Member of the House of Representatives has taken a solemn oath to defend the constitution against all enemies, foreign and domestic. While we certainly understand the gravity of the issues facing this legislative body, Richard lived that commitment to our country. Today, we remember and honor his noble service to the United States and the ultimate sacrifice he has paid with his life to defend our freedoms and foster liberty for others.

Mr. Speaker, I express my sympathies to the family and friends of SFC Richard Schild. I believe the best way to honor him is to emulate his commitment to our country. I know he will always be missed, but his service to our Nation will never be forgotten.

HONORING NANCY PETRUCCELLO ON HER CAMPAIGN TO BE ELECTED TO THE CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT 10

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2005

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Nancy Petrucello, a resident of Chautauqua County, for her quest to become the elected representative to the 10th legislative district in the Chautauqua County Legislature. Although Ms. Petrucello was not able to realize her dream, she has been able to make an impact on others' lives in a different way.

The campaign trail is a difficult path to take. Any person with a dream may enter but only a few are able to reach the end. Ms. Petrucello traveled that path with her head held high and a smile on her face the entire