

fix the breaches in the levees of New Orleans.

Ambassador Chan Heng Chee's leadership and support has been particularly helpful during this time of crisis. As our nations continue to work together, America remains grateful for its strong friendship with Singapore as allies in the war on terrorism.

In conclusion, God bless our troops and we will never forget September 11.

FREEDOM'S PROGRESS

(Mr. PRICE of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the people of Afghanistan on the elections they just held.

The saying that "freedom is not free" rings true for those who defied the Taliban, defied the warlords, and made history by freely electing their leaders this past Sunday.

During the past 4 years, people have forgotten what the Taliban stood for: public executions at soccer stadiums; banning the Internet, music, television and education; preventing women from going to school or work outside the home. A woman caught wearing fingernail polish may have had her fingertips chopped off.

This week however, Afghans, 12 million strong, have shown the world that they will not go back to tyranny, they will not take a step back into oppression, and will not buckle when taking on the challenges of democracy.

Madam Speaker, Afghanistan demonstrates the most recent chapter in freedom's march. It is a glorious story whose success should be recognized and applauded.

OPERATION OFFSET

(Mrs. BLACKBURN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam Speaker, today at 11:30 I will join some of my colleagues in a press conference for Operation Offset.

I want to thank the leadership for the opportunity to participate in providing offsets as we look at ways to fund Hurricane Katrina's disaster relief program. I want to thank them for leading the way with the 2006 budget that this body recently passed. And I want to thank them for the opportunity to focus on what I think is the heart and soul of our conference, fiscal stewardship.

As I make my remarks today, my focus is going to be on government overpayments, one of which is the earned income tax credit which is overpaid by \$9 billion annually over a 10-year period. A savings of \$90 billion could be realized here. The GAO, the CBO, and the Inspectors General have numerous ideas and suggestions and

ways that we can rein in government spending. It is time for us to heed our own advice.

PROPER CONGRESSIONAL INVESTIGATION

(Mr. BURGESS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, we are starting to hear a lot of talk about where is the proper place for the investigation into the response and the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

Madam Speaker, I submit that the proper place for that investigation is here in the United States Congress. We have the responsibility, indeed, we have the constitutional obligation to be the ones responsible for this oversight investigation. In fact, my committee, the Committee on Energy and Commerce, maintains a standing subcommittee called the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, a committee that already has subpoena power, a committee that has a history of bipartisanship.

No matter which party was in power, this committee does have a history of bipartisanship, and I think it is the correct committee to investigate the response in the aftermath to the hurricane.

An independent commission, as we have already seen in the last year, can become a side show for partisanship, and yet we still have to convene our own congressional committees in order to write the legislation.

No, the correct path for this Congress to take is to use an already established committee for the investigation of the response and aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

THANKING AMERICA'S FIRST RESPONDERS

(Mr. GINGREY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GINGREY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to America's first responders, the men and women who work every day to safeguard our communities. This Nation owes so much to the firemen, the EMTs and other emergency workers who put themselves in harm's way to keep us and our loved ones safe.

In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, our country is once again reminded of the dedication and bravery of our first responders. Their contributions in the gulf coast were felt by every person rescued from a rooftop, by every person receiving medical care, and every person evacuated from a flooded city.

These past few weeks, we have been able to watch the valor of our first responders on TV and we have read about it in the newspapers, but we should remember that these men and women are

protecting our community every single day, not just when a disaster strikes. And while it may not be televised every day, their heroism is certainly valued every day.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join me in thanking America's first responders.

APPLAUDING GOVERNOR HALEY BARBOUR

(Mr. KINGSTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KINGSTON. Madam Speaker, we just had the opportunity this morning, some of us, to hear from the Governor of Mississippi, Haley Barbour.

What a refreshing example of leadership Mr. Barbour has offered our country. Unfortunately, as compared to the Governor of his neighboring State, Louisiana, faced with the same disasters, faced with loss of life, faced with billions of dollars in property damage, Mr. Barbour did not take the opportunity to bash Washington, to whine about what the Federal Government did or did not do; but, rather, on a local level, with folks like the mayor of Biloxi and the mayors of all the other towns and the police chiefs and the police forces and the local emergency management agencies, faced up to the disaster, did everything that they could to show folks that yes, this is tough, and unfortunately government is not the answer to everything, but we can work together, we can face up to this thing and we can bring Mississippi back and bring Mississippi back strong.

I applaud Governor Barbour for the leadership he has provided. He gave us a case of one police force where the police station was flooded. The police officers did not cut and run. They did not evacuate. They went to the top floor. The top floor got flooded. They went to the roof of the building. It got flooded. They swam to nearby tree tops. They spent the night on trees. And yet the next morning rather than whine and say, oh, pity me, they came back to work and never evacuated, even though on a personal level all of those police officers from this particular precinct lost all their houses. Their homes were gone and their families had to evacuate for many weeks of separation.

That is the face of some of the great American people that we are seeing, not just in Mississippi but also in Louisiana and Alabama, but I particularly applaud Governor Barbour for his leadership.

RED TAPE HINDERING AID TO EVACUEES

(Ms. MCKINNEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. MCKINNEY. Madam Speaker, it is amazing to me that American troops can get sick off Halliburton food, yet

Halliburton continues to get contract after contract after contract after contract. But when tons of British food rations are provided to the Hurricane Katrina survivors, all they get is red tape from the FDA and the Bush administration. For crying out loud.

If the report is to be believed, tons of British aid donated to help Hurricane Katrina survivors is to be burned by the Americans because U.S. red tape is stopping it from reaching the hungry evacuees. But these are the same food rations that are eaten by the British troops in Iraq, and the USDA has condemned them as unfit for human consumption while Halliburton continues to serve unfit rations to our troops in Afghanistan and Iraq.

It is a crying shame. When will the incompetence end?

□ 1030

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. MILLER of Michigan). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

RECORD votes on postponed questions will be taken later today.

PROVIDING FOR ACCEPTANCE OF STATUE OF PO'PAY FOR PLACEMENT IN NATIONAL STATUARY HALL

Mr. NEY. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 242) providing for acceptance of a statue of Po'Pay, presented by the State of New Mexico, for placement in National Statuary Hall, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 242

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring),

SECTION 1. ACCEPTANCE OF STATUE OF PO'PAY FROM THE PEOPLE OF NEW MEXICO FOR PLACEMENT IN NATIONAL STATUARY HALL.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The statue of Po'Pay, furnished by the people of New Mexico for placement in National Statuary Hall in accordance with section 1814 of the Revised Statutes of the United States (2 U.S.C. 2131), is accepted in the name of the United States, and the thanks of the Congress are tendered to the people of New Mexico for providing this commemoration of one of New Mexico's most eminent personages.

(b) PRESENTATION CEREMONY.—The State of New Mexico is authorized to use the Rotunda of the Capitol on September 22, 2005, for a presentation ceremony for the statue. The Architect of the Capitol and the Capitol Police Board shall take such action as may be necessary with respect to physical preparations and security for the ceremony.

(c) DISPLAY IN ROTUNDA.—The statue shall be displayed in the Rotunda of the Capitol for a period of not more than 6 months, after which period the statue shall be moved to its permanent location in the National Statuary Hall Collection.

SEC. 2. TRANSMITTAL TO GOVERNOR OF NEW MEXICO.

The Clerk of the House of Representatives shall transmit an enrolled copy of this concurrent resolution to the Governor of New Mexico.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. NEY) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. NEY).

Mr. NEY. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of House Concurrent Resolution 242. As the chairman of the Joint Committee on the Library, which has the privilege and responsibility for the acceptance and placement of statues, the National Statuary Hall collection, I want to first thank my colleagues from the New Mexico delegation and their constituents for the statue of the Indian Pueblo leader Po'Pay. This resolution was introduced by the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Mrs. WILSON) and also supported by the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) and the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. PEARCE). I also want to thank all three of those Members for bringing this resolution before us.

Po'Pay was the San Juan Pueblo Indian leader and organizer of the Pueblo Revolt of 1680 that drove the Spanish colonials from Pueblo lands. It was not until after his death that the Spanish recolonized the land. But because of Po'Pay, they granted the Pueblo more rights and freedoms during their recolonization.

This statue will join the six other Native American leaders honored in the collection. It is significant because not only is it New Mexico's second; it is the 100th and final original statue to be accepted into the National Statuary Hall collection.

Approximately 3 years after the bare 7.5-ton mass of Tennessee marble arrived in New Mexico, Native American sculptor Cliff Fragua unveiled his statue of Po'Pay at San Juan Pueblo.

Again, I want to thank the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Mrs. WILSON), the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. PEARCE), and the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL). I want to thank the gentlewoman from California (Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD), who serves as our ranking member but also as a member of the Joint Committee on the Library for helping us get this work product out so swiftly and for her concern about this issue.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD. Madam Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I am pleased to support House Concurrent Resolution 242, authorizing use of the Capitol Rotunda on September 22 for a ceremony to receive the statue of the Indian leader Po'Pay, leader of the Pueblo Revolt of

1680 against the Spanish, from the State of New Mexico.

This is New Mexico's second statute to be submitted for the National Statuary Hall Collection and the last of the 100 statues authorized to be submitted by the States since the collection was established by law in 1864. The collection is now finally complete, though in the future, some States may choose to replace their existing statues with different significant historical figures.

In 1998, the New Mexico legislature selected Po'Pay as a subject of the State's second statue for the National Statuary Hall Commission and created the New Mexico Statuary Hall Commission, whose members were appointed by the Governor. Sculptor Cliff Fragua, a Pueblo Indian himself, was awarded the commission to create the statue in December 1999.

The 7-foot-high statue is carved from pink Tennessee marble and will stand on a 3-foot-high pedestal comprised of a steel frame clad in black granite.

Po'Pay was born around 1630 in the San Juan Pueblo, in what is now called New Mexico. As an adult, he became a medicine man and was responsible for his people's spiritual life. He also shared their suffering at the hands of Spanish settlers and missionaries, who forced them to provide labor and food to support the Spanish community. The Spaniards also pressured them to give up their religion and way of life and to adopt Christianity, and those found practicing their religion were tortured and flogged, while others were executed.

In 1675, Po'Pay and 46 other Pueblo leaders were convicted of sorcery. He was among those flogged while others were executed.

In 1680, Po'Pay organized the Pueblo Revolt against the Spanish. To coordinate the timing of the uprising, he and his followers sent runners to each pueblo with knotted deerskin strips. One knot was to be untied each day, and the revolt would begin on the day the last one was untied. After the Spaniards arrested two of the runners, the pueblos were quickly notified to accelerate the revolt. The attacks began on August 10, 2 days before the last knot would have been untied. The Spaniards took refuge at Santa Fe; the besieging Indians cut off their water supply, but soon permitted them to leave the area.

While the Spanish ultimately returned in 1692 and restored control over New Mexico as a Spanish territory, their interest in and ability to disrupt the native cultures were severely diminished. The Pueblo Revolt helped to ensure the survival of the Pueblo culture and shaped the history of the American Southwest.

Madam Speaker, as a member of the Joint Committee on the Library, which supervises the National Statuary Hall Collection, I am pleased to participate in this significant milestone for such a piece of art to be placed in the Nation's Capitol Building.