

Katrina. Already the Republican budget resolution cuts funds for homeland security, including port security by \$6.1 billion over 5 years, cuts essential services for working families by \$9.4 billion, and slashes funding for health by \$18.1 billion below current services. As the former Superintendent of North Carolina's public schools, I find the budget cuts for education especially disappointing. Instead of investing in our future Congressional Republicans are eliminating 42 Federal education initiatives. The budget also eliminates vocational education (\$1.3 billion); Perkins Loans (\$730 million); Safe and Drug-Free Schools State grants (\$347 million); and Even Start family literacy services (\$99 million). The Republican budget cuts \$15 billion from the amount authorized for the No Child Left Behind education reform effort and reduces the 17.7 percent Federal contribution to Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) to 17.0 percent. The loss of revenue from H.R. 5638 leaves a huge budget hole that will have to be filled by the States and the burden will be placed on middle class and low income families.

In contrast, the Pomeroy Substitute is an alternative that offers a simpler solution without the damaging economic effects of H.R. 5638. Unlike the Republican bill, the Pomeroy Substitute would offer immediate tax relief by raising the estate tax exemption level to \$6 million per couple and growing to \$7 million per couple in 2009. This would exempt 99.7 percent of all estates in the nation while costing only 60 percent of H.R. 5638. While there is no plan to make up for the huge losses in revenue resulting from H.R. 5638, the Pomeroy Substitute would be paid for by closing the gap in unpaid taxes. Additionally, the estate tax revenue collected under the Pomeroy Substitute would be transferred as receipts used specifically to shore up the Social Security trust fund. According to the Social Security Actuary, this would eliminate one quarter of the trust fund's shortfall.

The Pomeroy Substitute offers immediate tax relief without adding to the crippling debt now facing future generations. This is the type of sound tax and budget policy Congress should pass. We owe the American people nothing less.

RECOGNIZING JERRY DARNELL

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 27, 2006

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jerry Darnell of St. Joseph, Missouri. Jerry will soon be retiring from the St. Joseph Area Chamber of Commerce, after years of distinguished service as the Director of the Small Business Development Center.

As the Director of the Small Business Development Center, Jerry has provided free management assistance and guidance to current and prospective small business owners all throughout the St. Joseph area. He has offered his experience and guidance to the enterprising citizens of my district for many years, as those entrepreneurs sought advice on the start-up, expansion, sale, and marketing of their business. His job is especially important, as the collection of small business

owners are responsible for the growth and sustainability of our communities.

Before joining the Chamber in 2001, Mr. Darnell was employed as a broker for Citi-Street and served as an instructor at the Johnson County Community College. He has had over 10 years of experience in commercial lending after obtaining a Bachelor of Science degree in Math and Business from Kansas State University and a Masters in Business Administration from Louisiana State University. These varied experiences have all made for a solid background in advising the small businesses of St. Joseph. In the community, Mr. Darnell is active in the Boy Scouts of America Diversion Program and the Service Corps of Retired Executives.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Jerry Darnell. His role in developing and assisting the small businesses of St. Joseph will be difficult to replace. I commend his record of service and accomplishment to the city of St. Joseph over the years and I am honored to represent him in the United States Congress.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. ANDY ANDERSON'S RETIREMENT FROM GAINESVILLE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 27, 2006

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Dr. Andy Anderson for his 8½-year tenure as the hospital chief executive officer of Gainesville Memorial Hospital.

Dr. Anderson was the fourth administrator for Gainesville Memorial Hospital. The most notable of his achievements was his leadership in campaigning for a \$26.5 million dollar bond to build the North Texas Medical Center. Under Dr. Anderson's tenure, the quality of patient care increased, opportunities for continuing education improved, and nine tenure doctors were hired.

Retiring to pursue another challenge in life, the progress Dr. Anderson catalyzed substantially strengthened the health care quality throughout the 26th District of Texas, and I know his vision improved the lives of thousands.

As a doctor myself, I find personal inspiration in Dr. Andy Anderson and the devotion he had to his family, his hospital and his community. He is a role model, and I am proud to serve as his representative in Washington.

IN HONOR OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. HYACINTH CATHOLIC CHURCH

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 27, 2006

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of the parish community of St. Hyacinth Catholic Church, as members and leaders celebrate 100 years of faith and hope throughout Cleveland's southeast side.

Throughout the past century, St. Hyacinth Parish has opened wide its doors to all who

seek spiritual renewal and fellowship. Its ministry reaches beyond the parish itself through the numerous members who have joined the clergy as a result of the guidance and fulfillment they found at St. Hyacinth.

St. Hyacinth began its ministry as a response to the influx of Polish immigrants in the "Jackowo" neighborhood. Feeling crowded in the existing parish, the residents bought land from the Board of Education and have remained at that location since opening in 1906. The newly instated Cleveland Bishop Richard Lennon will lead the Jubilee Mass at the parish in commemoration of the past one hundred years of service and in celebration of the next 100 years.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of every past and current member and spiritual leader of St. Hyacinth Catholic Church. Despite a growing and changing community, St. Hyacinth Catholic Church has consistently provided compassionate spiritual direction, in the heart of Cleveland and far beyond.

SENIOR INDEPENDENCE ACT OF 2006

SPEECH OF

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 21, 2006

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this bill which reauthorizes the Older Americans Act. This act was developed with the goals of improving the lives of older people in areas of income, housing, health, employment, retirement, and community service. At the outset, I have to commend and thank Chairman MCKEON, Ranking Member MILLER, Subcommittee Chairman TIBERI, and Subcommittee Ranking Member HINOJOSA for this incredible bipartisan bill. This has been one of the most bipartisan efforts in which I have engaged during my tenure in Congress. Also, I extend my sincerest appreciation to the majority and minority staff members for working diligently to address my concerns. Also, I would like to thank the delegates of the White House Conference I on Aging for their input on and promotion of this reauthorization. I am proud to be a cosponsor of this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I have a Seniors and Eldercare Taskforce composed of a wonderful group of experts who advise me on key issues regarding seniors in my district—the great city of Chicago. I want to recognize and thank the cochairs of this taskforce—Karen Graham and Phyllis Mitzen—and the members of this taskforce for their leadership and attention to the needs of seniors in Chicago. This act advances many areas of concern to my district. Foremost, it expands access of younger grandparents to the National Family Caregiver Support Program, and it encourages states to adopt Kinship Navigator programs for relative caregivers. In the United States, 2.4 million grandparents are responsible for raising grandchildren in their homes. My congressional district has over 10,000 grandparent-headed households; it has the second highest percentage of children living in grandparent-headed households in the nation. This bill aids these caregivers with services that help in their care giving responsibilities. Further, the

bill promotes community based services via self-directed models of care. It specifically directs the Assistant Secretary on Aging to help individuals avoid depleting their assets in order to qualify for Medicaid. This bill would reduce instances of abuse and neglect and improve data collection on the subject by broadening the definition of abuse to include self neglect and better coordinating the efforts of state and local agencies, building on the ideas promoted by my colleague from Illinois, Mr. EMMANUEL. I also am very happy that the bill emphasizes the importance of mental health in many ways, drawing on the spirit of the Positive Aging Act sponsored by Mr. KENNEDY.

Mr. Speaker, The 38th Vice President of the United States, Hubert Humphrey, once said, "The moral test of government is how it treats those who are in the dawn of life . . . the children [and] those who are in the twilight of life . . . the elderly." The Senior Independence Act of 2006 ensures that our Government continues to recognize the needs of the elder within our country and continues to fulfill these needs.

HEALTH CENTERS RENEWAL ACT OF 2006

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 21, 2006

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5573, the Health Centers Renewal Act of 2006. This legislation is an important first step towards a straight reauthorization of the community health centers program. As we all know, community health centers are the backbone of our Nation's health care safety net, providing quality, affordable primary health care to over 15 million people across the country. There is overwhelming, bipartisan support for the community health centers program because the evidence of its success is undeniable. Health centers are efficient, locally controlled, and provide a high standard of care: simply put, they work.

In my District, the eighth district of Massachusetts, community health centers are not only essential to providing access to excellent health care in many of the neighborhoods I represent, but they are also pillars of the communities they serve. The community board, a majority of which is comprised of patients that the health center serves, is an essential part of keeping individual health centers inextricably linked to the community and its needs. It is significant that the bill before the House recognizes the unique, consumer-driven nature of the health centers model that has worked so well for many years. This fundamental structure of the health centers program must be maintained to ensure that the widely acknowledged success of the program continues.

The bill before the House authorizes appropriations for fiscal year 2007 at the same level as proposed by the President in his budget. This is a promising first step that echoes the amount authorized for fiscal year 2007 in H.R. 5201, legislation offered by my fellow cochair of the Community Health Centers Caucus, the gentleman from Florida, Mr. BILIRAKIS. How-

ever, that legislation, which I have cosponsored along with 233 Members of the House, would authorize such sums as necessary for fiscal years 2008–2011. The legislation we are considering today authorizes a specific dollar amount for each of those years, and I am concerned that the amounts in the bill may not take into account the costs of both the President's plan to expand health centers to every poor county in the Nation and the growing demands placed on existing health centers due to the increasing numbers of uninsured or underinsured, coupled with rising costs of providing medical care.

As the reauthorization moves forward, I hope that we can all remember those health centers in our districts who serve everyone who walks through their doors, regardless of ability to pay. They do extraordinary work, and we have an obligation to ensure that they have sufficient resources to continue to fulfill their essential role in our Nation's health care safety net.

RECOGNIZING DOUGLAS BURNETT FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 27, 2006

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Douglas Burnett, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 495, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Douglas has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Douglas has been involved with scouting, he not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Douglas Burnett for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE CITY OF LEWISVILLE'S COMMUNITY RE- LATIONS AND TOURISM DEPART- MENT

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 27, 2006

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the city of Lewisville's Community Relations and Tourism Department for winning two State awards by the Texas Association of Municipal Information Officers: The Best Marketing Plan and Best Special Event. Lewisville is my hometown and sits in the heart of the 26th Congressional District.

Lewisville's Community Relations and Tourism Department won "Best Marketing Plan" for its promotion of the 2005 Bassmaster Elite 50 tournament and county fair. The tournament was a huge success and was broadcast on ESPN. The Bassmaster Elite held on

Lewisville Lake gave sports fishermen around the world a glimpse of beautiful North Texas, and I am honored that the city developed an award winning plan in conjunction with the competition.

The team also won "Best Special Event" for the 2005 Holiday at the Hall Festival. The Festival is always a welcome relief to holiday stress and last year was enjoyed by more than 10,000 people. In 2005, the city held its third annual event in Old Town Lewisville highlighted by the Holiday Parade down Main Street.

I extend my sincerest congratulations to the city of Lewisville and the Community Relations and Tourism Department on their accomplishments. I am honored to represent the city and call it my hometown.

IN HONOR OF LOUIS BROWNLOWE

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 27, 2006

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Louis Brownlowe, upon his retirement that follows an exemplary, thirty-six year career as a Teacher-Counselor, Dean of Special Studies and Dean of University Studies at Cleveland State University.

Mr. Brownlowe earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Sociology from Miles College and a Masters Degree in Education from Cleveland State University. Throughout his tenure at CSU, he concentrated his efforts on programs and projects that provide access to higher education for non-traditional students, who otherwise would not have had the opportunity to enroll in college.

In 1971, Mr. Brownlowe became actively involved in the Ohio Association of TRIO Program Directors. He served on the task force of the National Council of Educational Opportunity Associates, which eventually became a significant aspect of the Reauthorization of the Higher Education Act of 1980. Mr. Brownlowe was a leading force in establishing CSU's Upward Bound Program, which began in 1999. Mr. Brownlowe continues his dedication to civic action and empowering others, especially our youth. As the Superintendent of the Sunday School and President of the Youth Ministry at Union Grove Baptist Church, Mr. Brownlowe serves as a gentle guide and inspiration and a shining role model that reflects the significance of personal strength, conviction, determination, accomplishment, and the importance of education.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor, recognition and gratitude of Mr. Louis Brownlowe, upon his retirement from Cleveland State University—a vocation of the heart, framed by thirty-six years of outstanding service, integrity and accomplishment. His dedication, expertise, leadership, and energy, focused on educational opportunity for all, extends outward into the community where he volunteers his time and talents on behalf of lifting countless lives onto a foundation of hope, spiritual strength and opportunity. I wish Mr. Brownlowe and his family an abundance of health, peace and happiness as his journey begins from here.