

know today. Faced with a variety of challenges in managing the growth of the city, the council has overseen the development of a complex but functional civic infrastructure. Mr. Anderson has been actively involved in the development of schools and libraries, a gym and swimming pool, and a series of commercial ventures that have brought flourishing businesses to the city.

In addition to his work in city government, Mr. Anderson has been a conscientious leader to the community. He volunteers as a coach with local youth sports leagues, working with multiple soccer or basketball teams at any given time. He has also been an active participant with the local Lion's Club and Veterans of Foreign Wars, including assisting their charitable efforts with his considerable organizational expertise. Finally, and most importantly, he has established a high standard during the proceedings of the city council by always treating city staff, council members, and the community with politeness and respect in the conduct of his duties as a City Councilman.

Madam Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we thank Mr. Anderson for the time he has served on the city council in American Canyon, and all of the many positive works his efforts have yielded. I know that he will remain an active and vocal member of the community even as he retires from elected office.

A TRIBUTE TO MR. WALTER M.
BOOKER, JR.—JAZZ BASSIST

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 9, 2007

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life and legacy of Walter M. Booker, Jr., jazz bassist who left this world at the age of 72 years and to enter into the RECORD an article in the Washington Post by Matt Schudel entitled “Walter Booker, 72; Jazz Bassist worked with Vaughn, Monk.”

Walter M. Booker, Jr., was born in Texas, son of the late Walter Monroe Booker, Sr. and the late Thomye Collins Booker. The family moved to Washington, D.C. when his father accepted a position with the Howard University Medical School and later became Head of the Department of Pharmacology. Booker was drafted into the United States Army in the 1950s. While serving in Europe he was fascinated with the acoustic bass and began to play the instrument at the age of 26.

Known as “Bookie,” Booker lived for over 40 years in my Congressional District. He provided the rhythmic foundation for Cannonball Adderley, Sarah Vaughan and many other prominent jazz musicians. His most notable partnership was with the Adderley brothers’ quintet, featuring Julian “Cannonball” Adderley on alto saxophone and Nat Adderley on cornet. For six years, until Cannonball’s death in 1975, Booker served as music ambassador touring the world with the popular group, which pioneered the catchy yet sophisticated style of music known as “soul jazz.”

Booker played a Viennese bass built in 1792 salvaged from the dusty basement of a German church. He is known for his bowing technique, sure intonation, ability to play high, accurately pitched notes, as well as his animated performing style, often swaying from side to side.

Booker appeared on more than 275 albums before making his first and only recording under his own name, “Bookie’s Cookbook.” He gave his final public performances in December 2004.

Even though Walter M. Booker passed away on November 24, 2006, his contributions to the world of jazz and the United States of America will continue to resonate through his music.

[From the Washington Post, Dec. 17, 2006]

WALTER BOOKER, 72; JAZZ BASSIST WORKED
WITH VAUGHN, MONK
(By Matt Schudel)

Walter Booker, a bass player who provided the rhythmic foundation for Cannonball Adderley, Sarah Vaughan and many other prominent jazz musicians, died Nov. 24 of cardiac arrest at his home in New York. He was 72.

Mr. Booker, who spent his formative years in Washington, came to the bass at a relatively advanced age, first picking up the instrument at 26 while serving in the Army. He had completed two years of medical school at Howard University in the early 1960s when he left his studies to pursue music as a full-time career.

Known for his precise, resonant tone, Mr. Booker was quickly recognized as one of the elite bass players in jazz, working for extended periods in the 1960s with singer Betty Carter, pianist Chick Corea, trumpeter Donald Byrd and saxophonists Sonny Rollins and Stan Getz. He also toured widely with Washington singer and pianist Shirley Horn.

Mr. Booker formed one of his most significant partnerships in 1969, when he joined the Adderley brothers’ quintet, featuring Julian “Cannonball” Adderley on alto saxophone and Nat Adderley on cornet. For six years, until Cannonball’s death in 1975, Mr. Booker toured the world with the popular group, which pioneered the catchy yet sophisticated style of music known as “soul jazz.”

Working in several groups at the same time in the early 1970s, Mr. Booker was in one of the last ensembles led by visionary composer and pianist Thelonious Monk. From 1975 to 1981, he was the bassist for singer Sarah Vaughan.

“They were more than colleagues,” Mr. Booker’s wife, Bertha Hope-Booker, said of her husband’s many associations with renowned musicians. “They were friends. All the music he played, he imbued with something different.”

After moving to New York in 1964, Mr. Booker studied with Homer R. Mensch, a faculty member of the Juilliard School of Music who had played under conductor Arturo Toscanini.

Mr. Booker, who played a Viennese bass built in 1792 that had been salvaged from the dusty basement of a German church, became known for his bowing technique, his sure intonation and his ability to play high, accurately pitched notes. He was also known for his animated performing style, often swaying from side to side.

“He was a ‘dancing’ bass player,” said his wife, a jazz pianist and composer in her own right. “It was like he and the bass had this connection.”

Walter Monroe Booker Jr. was born Dec. 17, 1933, in Prairie View, Tex., and moved to Washington in the early 1940s, when his father joined the faculty of the Howard University medical school. (He later was the head of the pharmacology department.)

The younger Mr. Booker studied clarinet and piano, attended D.C. public schools and graduated from high school at the Palmer Memorial Institute in North Carolina. He was a graduate of Morehouse College in At-

lanta, where he played alto saxophone in the concert band.

In the late 1950s, while serving in the Army in Europe—he was in the same unit as Elvis Presley—Mr. Booker developed his interest in the bass. After returning to Washington, he began to play in jazz bands, most notably the JFK Quintet led by Andrew White, while attending medical school.

In New York, Mr. Booker designed a recording studio based on the geodesic principles of Buckminster Fuller. His studio became a gathering place for many musicians who later had celebrated careers, including Angela Bofill, Nat Adderley Jr., T.S. Monk, Noel Pointer, Airto Moreira and the jazz-rock group Weather Report.

In the 1980s and ‘90s, Mr. Booker worked regularly with Nat Adderley, pianist John Hicks and, in recent years, his wife. He also led groups that performed Brazilian music, which he occasionally played on guitar, and the works of jazz pianist Elmo Hope, his wife’s first husband. In the 1990s, he led workshops at the New Sewell Music Conservatory in Washington.

Mr. Booker appeared on more than 275 albums before making his first and only recording under his own name, “Bookie’s Cookbook,” for the Mapleshade label in Upper Marlboro in 2000. He gave his final public performances in December 2004. Suffering from prostate cancer and other ailments this year, Mr. Booker asked that his bass be brought to his hospital, where he could play it during his final illness.

His marriages to Yvonne Blakeney and Maria Smith ended in divorce.

Survivors include his wife of 20 years, of New York; two sons from his first marriage, Randall Booker of Miami and Russell Booker of Philadelphia; a son from his second marriage, Krishna Booker, who is a percussionist with Sergio Mendes, of Los Angeles; three stepchildren, Monica Hope, Kevin Hope and Daryl Hope, all of New York; a sister, Marjorie Booker of Washington; two grandchildren; and a great-grandson.

ON THE INTRODUCTION OF THE
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA FAIR
AND EQUAL HOUSE VOTING
RIGHTS ACT OF 2007

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 9, 2007

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today Government Reform Committee Ranking Member TOM DAVIS (R-VA) and I keep our promise to reintroduce the Fair and Equal House Voting Rights Act as our first bill of the 110th Congress. Republican DAVIS was the chair of the Committee when we worked together for 4 years to get Republican and Democratic agreement on this bill to give one voting representative to the mainly Democratic District of Columbia and another to the largely Republican State of Utah. The idea arose after Utah narrowly missed getting a seat following the last census and later failed to get the Supreme Court to rule in the State’s favor. The bill also would permanently increase the size of the House of Representatives from 435 to 437 members. I want to thank my colleague TOM DAVIS, the original author of the bill, for his indispensable persistence, and for his bipartisan spirit that afforded me every opportunity to significantly contribute to the bill during the 109th Congress, when he was in the

Republican majority and I was a minority member.

Democrats have long been outspoken in their commitment to D.C. voting rights, and I appreciate their unwavering support. The bill we introduce today reflects the political history of our country that inalterably demonstrates that additional representation has been granted only on the basis of exact political equivalence, assuring neither benefit nor disadvantage to either party. This bill meets the necessary standard. Party, of course, should not matter when it comes to a democratic right as basic as representation in the legislature that taxes citizens and sends them to war. However, it is the undeniable reality that party equivalence in one form or another has driven decisions for adding voting representation. Many remember the most recent additions of Alaska and Hawaii, when these States entered the union because their voting records eliminated party advantage. However, this pattern was set throughout the nineteenth century as each State entered the union, most dramatically, of course, when no slave State could be admitted unless a free State came in at the same time.

Preserving all their rights as American citizens to voting rights in each house, the people of the District of Columbia and our civil rights and civic allies have nevertheless concluded that there can be no serious attempt to achieve the vote for our citizens that ignores precedents woven so tightly into our history. The linchpin of this legislation is its bipartisan balance, and we are grateful for the rare opportunity we believe will not come again soon, but that the Utah-D.C. bill offers District citizens now, to follow the unerring path to the vote laid out by American history.

A similar bill approved by the Committee on Government Reform last May called for the additional seat in Utah to be at-large until the 2010 census, but when the bill was referred to the Judiciary Committee, then-chairman JAMES F. SENSENBRENNER, Jr. (R-WI) insisted that Utah adopt a redistricting plan that allowed for four seats before he would approve the bill. The Utah's legislature met in early December and quickly adopted a four-seat plan, which is provided for in today's bill. However, House leadership declined to address the issue in the closing days of the 109th Congress. We now seek our seat to vote in the 110th Congress.

Although we came close to securing passage in the 109th Congress, the District's vote was already long past due. We're in overtime in the 110th. We will proceed based on the same win-win approach that carried us through last Congress. In the spirit of the partnership promised by the new Democratic House majority, I am optimistic that Democrats will see the bill as a historic opportunity to make good on promises for voting rights and equality for the people of the District of Columbia.

Finally, I ask to be forgiven a personal allusion. Throughout this process, I have never referred to the District's vote as my vote or to what the vote would mean to me personally because the vote will not belong to me. I have never mentioned the special reason I person-

ally wanted to be the first to cast the vote because the Fair and Equal House Voting Rights Act is for D.C. residents now and in the future, not for me. However, my 16 years in Congress has been defined by the search for a way to achieve full representation for the city where my family has lived since before the Civil War. That search has included the two-day debate followed by a vote on statehood more than 10 years ago that Speaker Tom Foley afforded me, and the vote I subsequently won in the Committee of the Whole because of the long commitment of the Democratic majority to D.C. voting rights and the commitment of my party to maximize the rights of the citizens who live in the Nation's capital until voting rights could be achieved. The struggle has been driven by its own terms, by the here and now, by the residents of the District of Columbia for over 200 years. Yet, I cannot deny the personal side of this quest, epitomized by my family of native Washingtonians, my father Coleman Holmes, my grandfather, Richard Holmes, who entered the D.C. Fire Department in 1902 and whose picture hangs in my office, a gift from the D.C. Fire Department, and especially my great-grandfather, Richard Holmes, a slave who walked off a Virginia plantation in the 1850s, made it to Washington, and began our family here. I cannot help but think today of this man I never knew, a slave in the District until Lincoln freed the slaves here 9 months before the Emancipation Proclamation. I am mindful of my great grandfather, who came here in a furtive search for freedom itself, not the vote in Congress. I wonder what a man who lived as a slave in the District, and others like him would think if he could know that his great-granddaughter might be the first to cast the first full vote for the District of Columbia in the House of Representatives. I hope to have the special honor of casting the vote I have sought for 16 years. I want to cast that vote for the citizens of this city, whom I have had the great privilege of representing, who have fought with me every step of the way, and who have waited interminably for justice. Yes, and I want to cast that vote in memory of my great-grandfather, Richard Holmes.

THE MILITARY FAMILIES
FINANCIAL SECURITY ACT

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 9, 2007

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Madam Speaker, With the support of my colleague, Rep. JIM McDERMOTT, I rise today to introduce the Military Families Financial Security Act. This bill will ensure the brave men and women who serve our country will not have to worry about losing critical services their dependent children need.

The men and women who serve in our Armed Forces are everyday heroes. I know about the valor of military families from my own experience as a military wife when my

husband was stationed in Japan during the Vietnam War. As a wife and mother in a foreign country with two young children, I observed that many servicemembers were also mothers and fathers and were making the same sacrifices I was. Just as these brave men and women are working to protect our Nation, we must likewise protect them and their loved ones through the laws and policies we enact.

In San Diego and around the country, some military families rely on the Supplemental Security Income program (SSI) for means-tested financial assistance. This safety net program is designed to protect qualifying families from poverty and provides access to valuable social services such as Medicaid. Without SSI, some special-needs families would not be able to cover their medical expenses.

Current regulations threaten some military families' eligibility. They face a unique risk of losing benefits due to the way military pay is treated under SSI rules. The Social Security Administration (SSA) considers anything outside basic pay as "unearned income." This method hurts servicemembers and their families since there are more than 30 types of military pay in addition to basic pay. These different pays, considered unearned income, result in higher countable income and affect eligibility. Just a few dollars can make all the difference in the world to these military families.

My legislation would change how the SSA calculates income for SSI eligibility by treating most military compensation as earned income. This simple change will keep families eligible for SSI benefits and simplify the administration of this program.

In testimony before the Human Resources Subcommittee of the Ways and Means Committee, Social Security Commissioner JoAnne Barnhart has indicated her support for such a proposal.

The provision would treat cash military compensation and civilian wages alike, and thus eliminate the present unfair and disadvantageous treatment of cash military compensation other than basic pay under SSI. The proposal would increase SSI benefits for most military families with disabled children, which are currently about 3,000 families. It would be a significant program simplification in these cases and would have a relatively small program cost of only \$2 million over 10 years.

She also mentioned how "determining the difference in the types of military pay is time consuming and error prone, and the guidelines for making such determinations covers 14 pages in SSA's operating instructions."

As a proud member of the House Armed Services Committee, I am committed to improving the quality of life of the men and women who serve our country. This legislation is fair, overdue and demonstrates our Nation's appreciation. This legislation will give servicemembers peace of mind from knowing that their duties will not jeopardize their families' eligibility for SSI benefits and related services.

I urge you, Madam Speaker, and all of my colleagues to pass this critical legislation into law.