

The budget resolution helps enhance and expand educational opportunities for millions of American students who have been left behind by the misguided policies of the Administration. The No Child Left Behind Act was enacted to ensure that every child, regardless of race, income, or background, receives a high quality education. Unfortunately, over the past 6 years, the Administration has never fully funded the program, forcing schools to comply with the Act's high standards without the resources needed to succeed. This budget resolution puts the education of our children first, by increasing funding for the implementation of No Child Left Behind. In addition, it increases funding for special education, the Head Start program, and student aid for higher education.

Madam Speaker, there are millions of children without health insurance, including over one million in my home state of California. This Democratic budget resolution also makes investments in the health of our Nation's children by increasing funding for the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) by \$50 billion. This increase will help parents who worry every day about their ability to care for their children in time of illness and injury.

Equally as important, this budget resolution upholds our Nation's sacred commitment to our servicemen and women by providing for the largest veterans funding increase in the history of our Nation. The \$32 billion increase in veterans health care and services over the next 5 years is critically needed to improve existing VA healthcare facilities, and to ensure that disability claims for our returning servicemembers are quickly and accurately processed. This Democratic budget helps ensure that our veterans receive high quality and accessible care that is worthy of their sacrifice.

This fiscally responsible Democratic budget reflects the beginning of an important shift in which government truly works on behalf of the American people. I urge my colleagues to support America's future by voting for this fair and responsible Democratic Budget Resolution.

WIRELESS INNOVATION ACT, H.R.
1597

HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 19, 2007

Mr. INSLEE. Madam Speaker, there will be under-utilized wireless spectrum in the gaps or "white spaces" between TV broadcast channels when the transition from analog to digital television is complete. These white spaces could provide broadband access to millions of Americans and enable a wide range of innovative wireless devices and services which cannot be utilized in other frequencies. White spaces spectrum must remain unlicensed because the availability of this "Swiss cheese" pattern of spectrum nationally makes licensing it impractical. An unlicensed regime would also lead to a more efficient use of the frequencies.

Unlicensed white spaces devices will avoid harmful interference with all incumbents. Cognitive radio uses spectrum sensing technology to identify and avoid occupied TV channels. This method has been approved by the Defense Department for unlicensed devices that

share spectrum with military radar. This unlicensed spectrum can be used for wireless broadband, public safety communications, and numerous at-home and business devices.

For the reasons listed above I have introduced the Wireless Innovation Act, H.R. 1597, which mandates that white spaces be used nonexclusively for unlicensed fixed or portable devices while mandating that incumbent licensees be protected from harmful interference. This legislation would provide interference protection to full power television, low power television, wireless microphones, and all other incumbent users of this spectrum. The bill also requires that the FCC permit use of unlicensed devices not later than February 18, 2009.

COMMENDING THE ACHIEVEMENTS
OF RUTGERS UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM

SPEECH OF

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 18, 2007

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to convey my support of H. Res. 300, which commends the achievements of the Rutgers University Lady Scarlet Knights Basketball Team and applauds the character and integrity of their student-athletes.

This group often 10 extraordinary women, led by Coach C. Vivian Stringer, made the State of New Jersey proud by representing Rutgers University in the NCAA championship game. They were the first ever athletic team from Rutgers to play in any national championship.

Not only did the Lady Scarlet Knights finish their outstanding 2006–7 season with a 29–7 record, coming back after losing four of their first six games, but they also managed to maintain a combined B+ grade point average. They truly excelled both on and off the court.

I am especially proud to report that junior Essence Carson is a native of my hometown, Paterson, NJ. Essence attended two high schools, graduating from the Rosa Parks School for Fine and Performing Arts in 2004 where she studied piano, bass guitar, drums, and saxophone. She also competed athletically at Paterson Eastside High School in track and field where she won the 2004 state 400-meter title, volleyball where she was a three-time all-State selection, and basketball where she led her team to three straight county championships.

Named to the Parade All-America Second Team and the USA Today Super 25 All-America Team as a senior in high school, Essence shined in the McDonald's and Women's Basketball Coaches Association—WBCA—All-America Games. In 2003, she played for the USA Basketball Youth Development Festival East Team, which won a gold medal.

Now in her third year at Rutgers, Essence is a back-to-back Big East Defensive Player of the Year, a 2007 First Team All-Big East Honoree, a Region I All-American selection, and was named to the Big East and NCAA East Region All-Tournament teams. In only 3 years, she has managed to make more appearances in a Scarlet Knights uniform than any other

player and averaged over 12 points and 6 rebounds per game this season.

Mr. Speaker, Essence Carson and her teammates on the Rutgers University Lady Scarlet Knights Basketball Team are truly the best that this Nation has to offer. They are more than just diligent students and talented athletes. They are exceptional role models for young women throughout this country. I wish them the best of luck in their future endeavors, and I know we can expect great things from them in the years to come.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY CARBON CAPTURE AND STORAGE RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT, AND DEMONSTRATION ACT OF 2007

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 19, 2007

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to introduce the Department of Energy Carbon Capture and Storage Research, Development, and Demonstration Act of 2007. This bill will expand and enhance the Department of Energy's carbon capture research and development program to spur the creation of economically feasible and environmentally sound carbon sequestration technology. It is companion legislation to a bill introduced in the Senate by Senator BINGAMAN, chairman of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee.

Several events over the past year have helped clarify the agreement among scientists, the public, industry, and public officials that climate change is a challenge that our society must address.

Most recently, Working Groups I and II of the Intergovernmental Panel of Climate Change—IPCC—released reports as part of the panel's fourth assessment report. The first report highlighted the growing scientific consensus that human influence is causing the climate to change. The second report provides a powerful statement of the impacts of climate change around the world. The IPCC international process has government support from over 100 countries, including strong involvement from the United States. These reports document that the "warming of the climate system is unequivocal" and that sea temperatures are rising, glaciers are melting, and air temperatures worldwide are increasing, all of which will have major impacts on the world that we know.

The climate is changing and we as a society must begin addressing these changes before the economic and environmental consequences devastate our planet. And that will involve decreasing the amount of carbon dioxide, a known greenhouse gas, in the atmosphere.

Yet, it is important to come to terms with the fact that we cannot end our dependence on fossil fuels overnight. For example, coal is the most abundant energy source in the United States and one of the cheapest energy resources. My home State of Colorado is ranked sixth in coal production in the U.S. In Colorado, coal provides more than 70 percent of our electricity and employs more than 2,000 people.

Coal is a critical component of our economy and our energy supply, but unfortunately coal is also a major contributor to climate change. We must find a way to maintain our energy production while decreasing our carbon emissions. Carbon sequestration will be key to that effort.

Carbon sequestration refers to taking carbon dioxide out of the atmosphere and storing it so that the gas does not re-enter the atmosphere. Right now, companies and governments around the world are enhancing natural carbon storage sources by planting trees and advocating no-till agriculture, among many other activities. But we are still not even close to slowing the increase in greenhouse gases in our atmosphere.

Eventually, technology may allow us to remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and funnel it underground in long-term, airtight storage areas. But there are many obstacles to the development of technologies and methods that can significantly decrease CO₂ levels in our atmosphere. For example, we still don't know enough about the long-term stability, safety, and reliability of aquifers, coal seams, and other geological formations for CO₂ storage. Nor are we familiar with the technologies to accomplish this on the scale needed to truly decrease global carbon levels.

My legislation will build upon DOE's current carbon capture and storage program created in the Energy Policy Act of 2005. It will improve DOE's regional carbon sequestration partnerships and create seven test projects across the country to learn more about the economics and design of carbon capture and storage technology. It will also help ensure that DOE has the necessary funds to conduct this cutting-edge research.

Although it is already too late to stop the climate from changing, carbon capture and storage—in conjunction with smart energy policies—can help minimize the impact of climate change on future generations.

We must not view taking action against global warming as bringing doom and gloom to industry. Making the right choices about how to address climate change can lead to new technological innovations, a boom in American jobs, and a strengthened economy. But we must begin to make these choices now by investing in the research and development of carbon capture and storage technologies that can address the climate change challenge.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CANDICE S. MILLER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 19, 2007

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Madam Speaker, had I been present on rollcall No. 226 and rollcall No. 227, I would have voted "yea" and "yea."

TRIBUTE TO SOUTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY'S ROTC PROGRAM

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 19, 2007

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great source of pride for my alma mater, South Carolina State University, and our nation's military. The SC State Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) celebrates its 60th anniversary on April 20, 2007. This tremendous program, known as the Bulldog Battalion, has commissioned nearly 2,000 officers in the armed forces, and it has produced nine Army Generals, two Marine Corps Generals and one Air Force General, while contributing a significant number of highly qualified and dedicated soldiers to our nation's military.

Among SC State's notable ROTC graduates are Major General Abraham Turner, a 1976 graduate, who served as the Commanding Officer of Fort Jackson, the Army's largest training base in my hometown of Columbia, South Carolina. Second Lieutenant Jerrette Lee, class of 1983, was chosen during his senior year for the coveted Hughes Award, becoming the first African American and graduate of a Historically Black College or University to receive the honor granted to the top ROTC graduate of the year.

Another proud Bulldog Battalion graduate, Colonel Stephen Twitty, led an infantry battalion into Iraq during the early stages of the war on August 18, 2003. His leadership earned him the Silver Star medal for valor.

The remarkable record of the SC State ROTC is due in part to its rich history and tradition. The program was established in 1947 for the purpose of training infantry officers for the United States Army. In 1949, the program graduated its first class with five of the six graduates receiving Army commissions and the sixth joining the Army Reserves.

In 1954, the program expanded its mission beyond producing only infantry officers. Instead, the ROTC became a General Military Science Program, which enabled graduates to serve in any branch of the Army for which they qualified. From 1947 until 1968, all freshman and sophomore male students were required to enroll in the ROTC program at SC State. Since I am a 1961 graduate, I had the privilege of being part of this tremendous Bulldog Battalion program.

In 1968, SC State partnered with Claflin University, Voorhees College, Orangeburg Technical College and Denmark Technical College to provide ROTC training through SC State's program. The program expanded again in 1972 to allow female cadets to enter for the first time. Today, a total of 254 women have graduated from SC State's ROTC.

Graduates of this prestigious program have participated in every military conflict from World War I to the current conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan, representing America with great skill and honor. Today the Bulldog Battalion averages an enrollment of 100 cadets.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in honoring South Carolina State University's ROTC program on the occasion of its 60th anniversary. It is my great privilege to have experienced this wonderful

ROTC program firsthand and to congratulate the program and its graduates today for their extraordinary contributions to our country. America owes a debt of gratitude to South Carolina State for supporting this extraordinary tradition of military excellence and to its graduates for making their alma mater and their nation proud.

THE "KATRINA HOUSING TAX RELIEF ACT OF 2007" H.R. 1562

HON. EARL POMEROY

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 19, 2007

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1562, the "Katrina Housing Tax Relief Act of 2007," a bill to extend and enhanced credit available for building low income housing under the Gulf Opportunity Zone Act of 2005. For far too long the residents of the Gulf Coast have struggled to rebuild their homes, their lives and their communities. They continue to face construction delays that could cost them the Federal assistance promised in the 2005 legislation. I want to encourage my colleagues to support this legislation that will encourage the construction of low-income housing in the areas damaged by Hurricane Katrina while assuring accountability for the tax credits.

The Gulf Opportunity Zone Act of 2005 made the affected areas eligible for larger credits to encourage building low-income housing. "GO Zone" benefits are available if the project was built and placed in service before the end of calendar year 2008. H.R. 1562 recognizes the magnitude of the struggle to rebuild the housing stock and it extends the credits for two additional years—2009 and 2010.

As the Member of Congress from North Dakota where 10 years ago the City of Grand Forks was destroyed by a flood and a fire in its aftermath, I know that government can effectively provide Americans help to rebuild our communities when a disaster strikes. The 50,000 residents of Grand Forks were fortunate to have an effective Federal Emergency Management Association (FEMA) under the leadership of James Lee Witt there to assist them with the momentous task of starting from the ground up after the flood waters receded. Today Grand Forks is flourishing thanks to a well coordinated effort on the part of FEMA. The rebuilding effort drew upon Federal government resources such as Community Development Block Grants which served as a catalyst to encourage accelerated investments in Grand Forks.

This bill permits Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), available because of prior liberalizations, to be combined with all of these enhanced low-income housing credits for affected areas. Under the Katrina Housing Tax Relief Act, qualified projects will not be treated as having below market Federal loans solely by reason of assistance provided under the CDBG. Since many of the GO Zone communities have lost much, if not all, of their economic base, CDBG assistance is vital and will not restrict an otherwise qualifying building from utilizing the higher 9 percent credit. This will encourage builders to deliver more housing to the Gulf Coast communities in desperate need of homes for those who want to return and help rebuild their lives.