

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SPENCER BACHUS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 2008

Mr. BACHUS. Madam Speaker, on June 19, 2008, I was unavoidably delayed and missed the vote on House amendment No. 1 to H.R. 2642, the Supplemental Appropriations Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall 431.

CONGRATULATING DONNA
SHALALA—RECIPIENT OF THE
PRESIDENTIAL MEDAL OF FREE-
DOM

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 2008

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today in honor of a great public servant, Dr. Donna Shalala. On June 19, 2008, Dr. Shalala received the Presidential Medal of Honor, the Nation's highest award given to civilians for exemplary accomplishments that have benefitted the American public.

Dr. Shalala currently serves as the president of the University of Miami, where she works tirelessly making UM a leading, world-class institution. South Florida and the Nation truly benefit from the cutting-edge research now being conducted at the University of Miami.

Prior to taking that position, she served as Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services, where she was considered one of the most successful Government administrators of modern times. She managed programs, including Social Security, Medicare, the National Institute of Health, and the Food and Drug Administration.

In 2007, President George W. Bush appointed her along with Senator Bob Dole as a co-chair of the Commission on Care for the Returning Wounded Warriors. They evaluated and made recommendations on how wounded service members can transition from active duty to civilian society while receiving the healthcare they deserve.

In addition to her various roles in education and Government, Dr. Shalala was also one of the first Peace Corps volunteers, where she served in Iran from 1962 to 1964.

Her résumé of accolades and accomplishments is commendable. I wish her continued success and thank her for her many contributions to our great Nation. It is a great honor to call her my friend.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. ANGELA
MARTIN

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 2008

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I respectfully ask the attention of the House today to recognize to the work of Dr. Angela Martin.

On August 9, the Martin Foundation will help open the doors to a new medical facility in Anniston, Alabama. The center will provide much-needed acute and chronic medical services for children of all ages and backgrounds, as well as new treatment opportunities for more citizens of Calhoun County.

I am pleased to recognize Dr. Martin today for achieving this noteworthy accomplishment, and for helping bring this important new healthcare facility to our community.

IN HONOR OF DAVE MORA

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 2008

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dave Mora, who is retiring after 35 years of exemplary public service to his community and his country. Dave's public life began with the Boy Scouts and culminates with 17 years as city manager of Salinas, California. Dave began his career in California local government in 1973 with the city of Santa Barbara as Director of Community Relations. He also served as the city manager of the city of Oxnard and Town Manager of Los Gatos, but Mora said the years in Salinas were some of the best in his life. This is where he and his wife Judy raised their two daughters, Gabi and Teresa.

In 1990, Dave Mora came to Salinas to serve as the city manager. Salinas is the largest city in my congressional district and the seat of Monterey County government, so I have had the pleasure of working closely with Dave Mora since I was elected to Congress in 1993. During his tenure as city manager, Dave has faced continuing challenges resulting from State budget crises, yet he was able to restore Salinas' budget from red ink to black ink by making tough decisions while ensuring that the most critical public safety and social services remained in place. Dave's financial acumen enabled city leadership to assure city residents that their shared sacrifice, however painful in the short-run, would result in a financially stronger Salinas.

Dave's city manager skills have been honed by his participation in the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) where he served as president and was involved in a number of international initiatives, including work in Mexico, Brazil, Argentina, and Chile. He currently serves on the ICMA Retirement Corporation Board of Directors. Mora is also a member of the National Academy of Public Administration and has worked on such issues as citizen engagement, social equity, environmental management, and economic development.

Mora's interest in these issues and his career in public service may have been shaped by his experience in the Peace Corps whose motto is, "The toughest job you'll ever love." Dave served in the Philippines from 1967 to 1970, after he graduated from California State University Los Angeles. Following his Peace Corps service, Dave earned a master's degree in public and international affairs at University of Pittsburgh.

Madam Speaker, I know my colleagues in the House of Representatives join me in wishing Dave Mora happiness in his well-earned

retirement from "the toughest jobs he ever loved." His commitment to public service is a life well lived.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF
COLONEL RAYMOND G. MIDKIFF

HON. JOHN A. YARMUTH

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 2008

Mr. YARMUTH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding service of COL Raymond G. Midkiff, who has served as commander of the Louisville District, Corps of Engineers since July 2005. Colonel Midkiff will retire from active duty with the U.S. Army on September 1 of this year, with over 26 years of dedicated service to our Nation.

Born in Dayton, Ohio, and raised in Texas, Colonel Midkiff was commissioned in the Corps of Engineers upon graduation from Texas A&M University where he earned a degree in agricultural engineering. Colonel Midkiff completed his graduate studies at Murray State University receiving a masters of science degree in environmental management. During his military career, Colonel Midkiff's leadership, vision, and dedication to duty have contributed significantly to the national defense, economic prosperity, and quality of life for our citizens.

As commander of the Corps of Engineers' Louisville District, Colonel Midkiff oversaw Army, Air Force, and DOD military construction projects valued in excess of \$1.2 billion annually. Major military installations supported include, Fort Campbell and Fort Knox in Kentucky, Scott Air Force Base near St. Louis, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton as well as Army and Air Force Reserve facilities nationwide. Additionally, Colonel Midkiff has been responsible for comprehensive water resources and project operations in 76,000 square miles of the Ohio River watershed, providing flood damage reduction, ecosystem restoration, and commercial navigation.

Colonel Midkiff extended his leadership well beyond the assigned missions of the Corps of Engineers by personally participating in regional events and promoting a strong partnership between Army and civilian engineers. As current president of the Society of American Military Engineers Kentuckiana Post, Colonel Midkiff hosted the 2007 Louisville District Open House, attended by over 400 people, and the 2007 Kentuckiana Post Small Business Workshop attended by over 200 small businesses. Upon his arrival in the Louisville District Colonel Midkiff initiated the district's annual small business workshop which was instrumental in awarding \$344 million under the Small Business Program in FY07.

Prior assignments also reflect Colonel Midkiff's commitment to military readiness and willingness to share his considerable talents for the good of others. Colonel Midkiff has served in a variety of troop and facility assignments that had a tremendous impact on the support of the Army during peace and war. He began his military career overseas as an engineer platoon leader in an atomic demolitions munitions company. He also served as an assistant operations officer during his tour in Germany. He served as an engineer battalion logistics officer, company commander, and facility engineer with the 326th Engineer Battalion. During his time with the 326th Engineer

Battalion he deployed with the battalion to Saudi Arabia and was instrumental in preparing base camps necessary to support the heavy inflow of soldiers and equipment into the region prior to the commencement of Desert Storm. He was a project officer and the deputy commander for the Ft. Worth District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. He was assigned to the 1st Infantry Division, Fort Riley, Kansas, where he was the engineer group logistics officer, 1st Engineer Battalion operations officer, and executive officer. He also served as secretary to the general staff for the 1st Infantry Division commander as well as the installation's director of public works. Colonel Midkiff commanded the Albuquerque District, where he was instrumental in working with State and local sponsors in the management of critical water resources and endangered habitat along the Rio Grande River from Colorado through New Mexico and into Texas. He also provided outstanding support to our Air Force customers with design and construction services at the three Air Force bases located in New Mexico. He again served our Nation overseas as the chief of plans and operations for engineer activities in support of 8th Army in Korea.

His leadership has truly been visionary. His accomplishments will have lasting impacts on our Nation's water resources and construction support for military customers for years to come.

A good neighbor and valued steward of our defense assets and natural resources, I am proud to honor Colonel Midkiff for his spirit of service, patriotism, and dedication to our Nation. On the occasion of his retirement, I know my colleagues will want to join me in extending wishes of continued success and happiness to Colonel Midkiff, his wife Tammy, and their daughter Rae.

THE ENERGY MARKETS ANTI-MANIPULATION AND INTEGRITY RESTORATION ACT

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 2008

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, it is with a sense of urgency and purpose that I am introducing the Energy Markets Anti-Manipulation and Integrity Restoration Act today.

With high fuel prices squeezing our constituents and burdening our economy, we in Congress have a responsibility to act. While individual Members of Congress clearly disagree over whether we will ever really be able to drill our way out of this challenge—or whether next generation alternatives and improved energy efficiency offer the most promising way forward, there is one principle on which we should all agree: Our energy markets should serve the legitimate needs of energy consumers and producers—not enrich a narrow group of “hot money” speculators at the public's expense. With hedge fund and institutional interest in commodities exploding nearly twenty-fold over the past 5 years, and the price of oil recently spiking over \$11 in a single day, it is clear that today's energy prices reflect something more than the fundamental laws of supply and demand.

The Energy Markets Anti-Manipulation and Integrity Restoration Act would once and for

all close the so-called Enron loophole by adding energy to the list of commodities that cannot be traded on deregulated, exempt commercial markets. Additionally, this focused legislation would close the Foreign Board of Trade (FBOT) loophole currently enabling unregulated energy futures trading on American soil by forbidding an exchange from being deemed an unregulated foreign entity if its trading affiliate or trading infrastructure is in the U.S., and it trades a U.S.-delivered energy contract that significantly affects price discovery in the markets. If enacted into law, these two common-sense steps would go a long way towards eliminating market manipulation and excessive speculation currently distorting today's energy marketplace.

I am especially pleased to be offering this timely legislation today with my colleagues Representatives ROSA DELAUNO, BETTY SUTTON, ROBERT WEXLER, ADAM SCHIFF, XAVIER BECERRA, PETER WELCH, BRIAN HIGGINS, BILL DELAHUNT and RAUL GRIJALVA—and I look forward to working with them and the rest of the House to address this important issue on behalf of our constituents in very short order.

TRIBUTE TO REGINA CORRELL

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 2008

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise to inform the House of the passing of Regina Correll, a truly great lady, in my hometown of Somerset.

Regina and her husband of 56 years, Ward Correll, started their marriage with meager belongings, but through hard work during their life together, were able to become the largest philanthropic givers to the good and the needy in their home county's history.

Caring for others has been the hallmark of the Corrells. Regina's greatest love though, was for her seven children, 13 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren, and she saw them continue the culture of helping others.

Her and Ward's other great love was for their church, the First Baptist Church of Somerset. They rarely missed attending Sunday services in their 50-plus years of membership. It is astonishing to note that during the last year of her life, in spite of a seriously disabling illness, she missed only two Sunday school classes of the group she taught. The church has been a major receiver of their sacrifice. The Corrells subscribe to what Mark Twain once wrote: “To get the full value of joy, you must have people to divide it with.”

No one will ever know just how many underprivileged people, young and old, have seen that joy with the Corrells and been helped over a rough patch, and mostly without publicity. And in addition to their church, there are the good institutions that promote hard work and caring for others they have helped in major ways—such as the Somerset Christian School and Victory Christian School, to which they gave millions of dollars. The Clear Creek Baptist Institute, a ministers school, the University of the Cumberlands, Somerset Community College, Bluegrass Council of Boy Scouts, Little League Baseball, and others too numerous to mention. They agreed with actor Leonard Nimoy who said: “the miracle is this—the more we share, the more we have.”

Regina's loving and devoted husband, Ward, continues the extremely successful business empire they built together. His heart is heavy with her loss but his spirit remains light and optimistic. His work is not over.

Madam Speaker, I have known the Corrells for all my adult life. I have witnessed innumerable acts of kindness and generosity by these humble, caring and loving people. Never, though, have I heard them complain about their difficult course, the hard work, the huge risks taken or their deep personal, family losses. Always forward looking, always faithful, always cheerful.

Regina Correll was a graceful, quiet, deeply faithful woman. She was a devoted wife, and mother; a God-fearing, God-loving Christian, who, no doubt, now basks in the glory of her Savior.

If ever anyone could be compared to the Bible's Timothy as he described his life at its conclusion, it is Regina Correll. He said: “I have fought the good fight. I have completed the race. I have kept the faith.” 2 Timothy 4:7

And Regina Correll did.

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 2008

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, today we are voting yet again on legislation that will provide approximately \$165 billion in funding for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Unfortunately, the bill does not include the necessary language that I and many of my colleagues support to ensure that this war funding is not simply a blank check. I cannot vote for legislation to fund the administration's wrongheaded policies in Iraq without provisions that ensure that American troops will be coming home by a date certain.

However, I will support the amendment that will provide critical funding for domestic priorities. This amendment will expand veterans' education benefits and extend unemployment insurance by 13 weeks for all States. Additionally, this amendment will direct nearly \$3 billion to efforts to aid those who have been affected by the devastating floods in the Midwest.

It is time for the President to listen to the American people who want the war in Iraq to end.

FEDERAL EMPLOYEES PAID PARENTAL LEAVE ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 2008

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 5781, the Federal Employees Paid Parental Leave Act of 2008. I am proud to be an original cosponsor of this important legislation.