

HONORING NANDO GOMEZ

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2008

Mr. ORTIZ. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to one of my most trusted staff members, my Chief of Staff, Fernando P. "Nando" Gomez, Jr. After working in Congress for 7 years, the past 2 as my chief of staff, Nando will be joining the private sector.

Nando's dedication to and interest in public service has led him from the small town of Gregory, TX, to the corridors of two Capitols. During his senior year at the University of Texas in 1994, he began working for the Texas House Speaker James E. "Pete" Laney. Nando worked for Speaker Laney for nearly 5 years and was appointed the House reading clerk during the 74th and 75th Legislative Sessions.

He then moved to Washington, DC, in 2001 and worked for Congressman Martin Frost, serving as legislative assistant and then as legislative director. He joined my staff in 2005 and rose from legislative director to chief of staff.

Words cannot begin to describe what Nando has meant to me, my staff, and the people of the 27th District of Texas. I have relied on Nando for his professionalism, work ethic, and friendship. He takes pride in his work, which is especially personal to him because he was born and raised in the district I represent. For him, it has not just been about serving as my chief of staff—it is about advocating for the issues of his hometown, his family, and his roots.

Nando has also taken an active role with local youth. He serves in Brothers/Big Sisters Mentor program, where he has had the honor of serving as big brother to his little brother, Franklin, for nearly 5 years. Nando is an avid sports fan whose allegiances lie with the Texas Longhorns, Houston Astros, San Antonio Spurs, and the Dallas Cowboys.

Though I bid Nando a sad farewell from my office, it will certainly not be a good-bye. I look forward to seeing him around the Capitol when he comes up to catch up with old friends.

Nando remains a trusted member of my family, and I will always seek his counsel on matters political and personal. I wish him, his wife Kristy and son Dominic the best of luck during the new phase of his life.

FREEDOM FOR RAUDEL MARTINEZ GOMEZ

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2008

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak about Raudel Martinez Gomez, a political prisoner in totalitarian Cuba.

Mr. Martinez Gomez is a member of the Plantados Movement for Cuban Freedom. He along with fellow dissidents Victor Yunier Ferenandez Martinez and Joenny Alonso Asiz, were arrested in February 2006 for a crime the Cuban dictatorship calls "dangerousness."

In sham trials they were each convicted, with Mr. Martinez Gomez sentenced to 3 years in prison.

Unfortunately, his imprisonment for what is really political dissent is nothing new for his family. While Mr. Martinez Gomez was facing trial before the dictatorship's facade of a judicial system, his father was imprisoned in a Cuban gulag for nothing more than participating in a peaceful pro-democracy protest outside the French embassy in Havana. The Cuban regime released his father this past May without formally charging him with any crime.

Shortly after his father's arrest, the local chief of the so-called "Committee for the Defense of the Revolution" came to the home Mr. Martinez Gomez shared with his father. Mr. Martinez Gomez was forced out of his home along with his wife, who was 7 months pregnant at the time. But these local vigilance committee goons were not content with forcing Martinez Gomez and his pregnant wife from their home, they wanted to add insult to injury. So they sent a group of ruffians to shout insults and obscenities at Martinez Gomez and his wife as they left the home they had known for the last 11 years.

What exactly did Mr. Martinez Gomez do to cause his conviction for the so-called crime of "dangerousness?" This is impossible to fully know in the totalitarian circus of present day Cuba but perhaps the regime was afraid of the courage repeatedly demonstrated by Mr. Martinez Gomez.

Madam Speaker, this is just another condemnable occurrence in the constant pattern of brutality by the totalitarian tyranny just 90 miles from our shores. And yet, though the tyranny has attempted to stop Mr. Martinez Gomez, he will never cease in his commitment to freedom for Cuba. My colleagues, we must demand the immediate release of Raudel Martinez Gomez and all prisoners of conscience in totalitarian Cuba.

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS THAT THE UNITED STATES HAS A MORAL RESPONSIBILITY TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THOSE PERSONS, GROUPS AND COMMUNITIES THAT ARE IMPOVERISHED, DISADVANTAGED OR OTHERWISE IN POVERTY

SPEECH OF

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 22, 2008

Mr. BACA. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to address the House for 1 minute.

I rise today in strong support of H. Con. Res. 198.

Poverty is all too real an issue in America today.

As a co-chair of the Congressional Out of Poverty Caucus, I have worked with my colleagues to create a world where no child goes to bed hungry, and where every parent can put a roof over their family's heads.

We have made progress this Congress—but we still have a long road ahead of us.

And while poverty disproportionately affects our minority communities—it does not discriminate on a basis of color.

We must remember poverty is not just a Hispanic, or a Black, or an Asian issue—it is a "people" issue.

Whether it's a family trying to put food on the table, or a child in need of basic health care—when poverty affects one of us, it affects all of us.

I urge my colleagues to join the Out of Poverty Caucus in voicing their dedication to creating a better America for everyone, not just the privileged few.

I ask my colleagues to vote in favor of H. Con. Res. 198.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PHIL HARE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2008

Mr. HARE. Madam Speaker, on Tuesday, January 22, 2008, I was unavoidably detained. I ask for unanimous consent that the RECORD reflect had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall No. 19, H.R. 4211—To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 725 Roanoke Avenue in Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina, as the "Judge Richard B. Allsbrook Post Office"; and I would have voted "aye" on rollcall No. 20, H. Res. 866—Honoring the brave men and women of the United States Coast Guard whose tireless work, dedication, and commitment to protecting the United States have led to the Coast Guard seizing over 350,000 pounds of cocaine at sea during 2007, far surpassing all of our previous records.

HONORING DALLAS CHRISTIAN SCHOOL ON ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2008

Mr. HENSARLING. Madam Speaker, today I would like to rise to recognize Dallas Christian School and join with them in celebrating their 50th anniversary.

In 1957, Dallas Christian School was established with a mission to train students academically, physically, and spiritually. Five decades later, this nationally recognized Blue Ribbon School continues to accomplish its mission by supplementing its academic curriculum with daily Bible classes and chapel services, college courses, extracurricular activities, and an athletic department.

Located in Mesquite, Texas, 90 percent of Dallas Christian School graduates attend institutions of higher education, and since 1992, 20 seniors have qualified for the National Merit Scholarship.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the Fifth District of Texas, I am honored to recognize Dallas Christian School's 50th anniversary, and I would like to commend the students, board of directors, faculty, and staff for helping to shape a brighter future for our community and our country.

RECOGNIZING REV. CHARLES L. MOSELEY ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. J. RANDY FORBES

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2008

Mr. FORBES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize my pastor and dear friend, Rev. Charles L. Moseley on the occasion of his retirement from nearly 40 years of service as pastor of Great Bridge Baptist Church in Chesapeake, VA.

Charles Moseley was born in Camden, SC, the fifth child and only son of Fred and Julia Moseley. Growing up in a small town, Charles felt the influence of his godly mother and father. One evening in October 1949 after a revival service at First Baptist of Camden, while Charles and his friends were watching an eclipse of the moon, he felt the call of God to full-time Christian ministry.

Charles started his higher education achieving his associate of arts degree from Wingate Jr. College in January 1952. He went on to receive his bachelor of arts degree in English from Coker College in January 1954. Continuing to be led by the Lord, Charles then entered Southeastern Seminary at Wake Forest, NC, and graduated with a bachelor of divinity in January 1958. He later earned a master of divinity from Southeastern Seminary in the early 1970s. Throughout these years of college, Charles continued to see God's hand on his life in many ways through financial help, mentoring from professors, and preaching in churches in the area.

During his time at seminary, Charles preached in many churches but was led to pastor two churches in Dillon County, SC. He would travel between the two churches on Sunday preaching at one at 10 a.m. and the other at 11 a.m. It was during this time in December 1956 that he met his future wife, Louise Martin. At the time, Lou was serving as education director of the First Baptist Church of Dillon, SC. They were married in June 1957.

As a senior at seminary, many offers from churches came for him to serve as pastor but Charles was not led to any of them until he received an offer from a small church in Valdeese, NC, in early 1958. Abbee's Grove Baptist was a small country church located in the mountains of North Carolina with a Sunday morning attendance between 100 to 150 people.

Pastor Moseley and his family left this church in 1962 to begin a ministry at the First Baptist Church of Carthage, NC. Located near Pinehurst, NC, First Baptist was a dignified little church with a beautiful pipe organ, stained glass windows and friendly congregation.

From the beginning of his studies, Charles had the desire to be a chaplain in the Air Force but that was not the Lord's path for him. He did however, serve in the National Guard and proudly retired from the U.S. Army Reserve with 23 years of service.

Even in the beginning of his ministry, Charles had always thought he would be the pastor of a small church, never imagining that the Lord would lead him to shepherd a large,

vibrant, and growing church. However, in 1969 Charles and his family felt the call to Great Bridge Baptist Church, a church of 650 members in a rural area near Norfolk, VA. Throughout his ministry at Great Bridge Baptist, Pastor Moseley has always maintained that he is a pastor first, serving his people wherever their needs are. His greatest desire is to be a servant reaching out to his congregants during their most important times—marriage, birth, death, crisis, sickness, sorrow, fear, joy.

When asked what he would say is a highlight of his ministry at Great Bridge Baptist, Pastor Moseley recalled that one of the greatest of his delights is experiencing someone coming to know the Lord. The blessing of leading a person to know Christ as his/her Savior is the joy of his life.

Madam Speaker, in the nearly 40 years of service at Great Bridge Baptist Church, Pastor Moseley has steadfastly led his congregation in the footsteps of Christ, touching thousands of lives with the joy and peace of the Lord. Through the many years that my family and I have attended Great Bridge Baptist, I have come to know Rev. Moseley as a model of selfless service and great spiritual leadership. Today we thank him for his service to us and most importantly his service to the Lord and we ask God's special blessing on him and his family as they pursue the joys and challenges of this next phase of his life.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2008

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker, unfortunately yesterday, January 22, 2008, my flight to Washington, DC was delayed, and I was unable to cast my votes on H.R. 4211 and H. Res. 866 and wish the RECORD to reflect my intentions had I been able to vote.

Had I been present for rollcall No. 19 on suspending the rules and passing H.R. 4211, naming the Judge Richard B. Allsbrook Post Office, I would have voted "aye".

Had I been present for rollcall No. 20 on suspending the rules and passing H. Res. 866, honoring the brave men and women of the United States Coast Guard whose tireless work, dedication, and commitment to protecting the United States have led to the Coast Guard seizing over 350,000 pounds of cocaine at sea during 2007, far surpassing all of our previous records, I would have voted "aye."

AMERICAN JOBS CREATION AND ECONOMIC STIMULUS ACT OF 2008

HON. DONALD A. MANZULLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2008

Mr. MANZULLO. Madam Speaker, last week, the Congressional Budget Office, CBO, released its report outlining options for re-

sponding to the Nation's short-term economic weakness. One key finding of the report contains a warning: Any stimulus that a short-term economic package "can provide to the economy depends on how much of the resultant spending goes to purchase domestically produced goods. The degree of stimulus that a policy can provide to the economy also depends on how much of the resultant spending goes to purchase domestically produced goods. If the additional consumption, or investment, demand is satisfied by imported goods, the income of foreign producers will rise, and the stimulus essentially will be exported."

Simply put, the benefits of the proposed \$145 billion U.S. economic stimulus package should not go abroad. The benefits of this package should help Americans as much as possible. That's why I, along with Representatives BILL LIPINSKI, ERIC CANTOR, WALLY HERGER, and JEFF FORTENBERRY, am proud to introduce today the American Jobs Creation and Economic Stimulus Act of 2008. This bill will provide a quick power boost to the economy that does not cost too much and rewards companies for keeping and adding jobs in America. This proposal simply accelerates the phase-in of the domestic manufacturing tax benefit by 2 years. Any economic stimulus package that is crafted by Congress should include this provision.

The domestic manufacturing tax deduction, now section 199 of the U.S. Tax Code, started in 2005 at 3 percent as part of the 2004 law that replaced the Foreign Sales Corporation/ Extraterritorial Income, FSC/ETI tax structure, which was ruled as an illegal export subsidy by the World Trade Organization, WTO. Last year, the domestic manufacturing tax deduction increased to 6 percent. The final phase—raising the domestic manufacturing deduction to 9 percent—is scheduled to start in 2010. The American Jobs Creations and Economic Stimulus Act of 2008 simply changes the start date of the 9 percent domestic manufacturing tax deduction from January 1, 2010, to January 1, 2008, thus providing an additional 3 percent tax incentive for all domestic manufacturers right now.

According to the Internal Revenue Service, IRS, 378,627 small and large manufacturers, as broadly defined by the U.S. Treasury, were helped by this benefit in 2005. One year later, that number grew to over 400,000. The domestic manufacturing benefit applies to firms of all types—C Corporations, S Corporations, Limited Liability Companies, LLCs, and sole proprietorships.

This tax deduction is ideal because it only applies to revenue generated by operations based in the United States and discourages the "off-shoring" of American production. No other economic stimulus idea ties tax relief to requiring companies to keep production and jobs in the United States. The American Jobs Creation and Economic Stimulus Act of 2008 is a simple bipartisan low-cost idea that will make a real difference right now. It also fits within the parameters, as outlined by the President on Friday, of what could be included in an economic stimulus package.

Madam Speaker, I respectfully urge the inclusion of accelerating the phase-in of the domestic manufacturing tax deduction in any economic stimulus legislation that will be voted on by the House this year.