

clearly influenced the proceedings had a lot to do with that. I continue to call upon Congressional leadership to bring H.R. 2743 or H.R. 2796 to the floor for an up-or-down vote on their own merits. It should not be tucked into unrelated legislation, from which it can be plucked in conference committee. This is a serious issue and it requires our full attention.

RECOGNIZING 40TH ANNIVERSARY  
OF THE FOOD AND NUTRITION  
SERVICE

SPEECH OF

**HON. JOE BACA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 20, 2009*

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Con. Res. 164, a resolution recognizing the 40th anniversary of the Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) at the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

I'd like to thank my colleague, Rep. JIM MCGOVERN, for introducing this resolution; and for his commitment to ending hunger in America.

As Chairman of the House Agriculture Subcommittee on Nutrition, I am proud to stand today in support of the mission of the FNS—to provide access to nutritious foods to needy American families.

Since 1969, the FNS has been promoting sound nutrition and working to end hunger in America.

Every day, 36 million Americans are given access to healthy foods they may otherwise not be able to afford if not for the good work done by so many individuals at the FNS.

I am proud of the numerous improvements we made to federal nutrition programs in the 2008 farm bill.

This includes a \$10 billion increase in funding that puts food on the table for more veterans, elderly, disabled, and needy American families.

But none of these funding improvements would have made a difference if it wasn't for the great work of the FNS and its dedicated staff members stationed across the United States.

In today's terrible economic climate—the mission of the FNS, to prevent hunger in America, is more important than ever.

I urge my colleagues to express their support for the great work of the dedicated Americans at the FNS, and vote in favor of H. Con. Res. 164.

HONORING COMMAND SERGEANT  
MAJOR NEIL RUSSELL FOR 38  
YEARS OF SERVICE

**HON. PHIL GINGREY**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 21, 2009*

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a fellow Georgian, Command Sergeant Major (CSM) Neil Russell, on his retirement after more than 38 years of service in the Georgia Army National Guard. CSM Russell's dedication to duty and service throughout his career has led to numerous ac-

complishments that he will undoubtedly carry with him forever as he moves into the next phase of his life.

CSM Russell began his military career with the Georgia Army National Guard when he graduated high school in 1971, and he has been humbly serving our nation in this capacity ever since. His military education includes the Fire Direction Computer Course, the Equal Opportunity and Race Relations Course, the NCOES Advance and Senior Courses, the Battle Skills Course, the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy Course, the U.S. Army Command Sergeants Major Designee Course, and the Bradley Infantry Crewman Course at numerous military installations across the country. These experiences laid the course for an illustrious career for CSM Russell. He also holds an Associates Degree in Science from Brunswick Junior College and a Bachelor of Science from Excelsior College in Albany, NY.

CSM Russell served in the 118th Field Artillery Brigade in Savannah, GA as a Fire Direction Specialist and Operations NCO until August of 1981, when he was assigned to the Service Battery 2nd Battalion, 214th Field Artillery as the Battalion Supply Sergeant. In May of 1985, he was transferred back to the 118th Field Artillery Brigade. He remained there until September of 1992 when he was transferred to the 1st Battalion, 118th Field Artillery Battalion as the Battalion Operations NCO, and in May of 1999 he was selected and transferred to the 122nd Rear Operations Center (ROC) as the unit Operations Sergeant Major. Finally, in May of 2005, CSM Russell was selected and reassigned as the JFHQ Command Sergeant Major for the Georgia Army National Guard, and he has honorably served in this capacity until his retirement.

CSM Russell trained at the National Training Center in Ft. Irwin, CA with the 1st Battalion, 118th Field Artillery in 1996 and has participated in numerous OCONUS exercises while serving in the 122nd ROC. In November of 2000, he mobilized with the 122nd ROC in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. The 122nd ROC became the basis around which a task force was created to establish, coordinate, and manage the civil affairs mission in Afghanistan. In January of 2002, CSM Russell deployed with the task force to Kabul, Afghanistan, and he functioned as the Task Force Command Sergeant Major until June of 2002, when he re-deployed. This task force was awarded the Joint Meritorious Unit Award for exceptional achievement for the period between November of 2001 and July of 2002.

Throughout his illustrious career, CSM Russell has been presented the Georgia State Active Duty Ribbon, the Georgia Commendation Medal, the National Defense Service Medal with Service Star, the Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal, the Armed Forces Reserve Medal, the Army Service Ribbon, the NCO Professional Development Ribbon, the Army Reserve Component Overseas Training Ribbon, the Humanitarian Service Medal, the Joint Services Achievement Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, and the Bronze Star Medal. Each one of these medals and ribbons signify the admirable service that CSM Russell has graciously displayed in his career in the Georgia Army National Guard.

CSM Russell has made a lasting contribution to the capability of today's United States

Army National Guard. His superior performance of duties highlights the culmination of more than 37 years of honorable and dedicated Army National Guard service. My home state of Georgia and our nation are proud of CSM Russell's exemplary professional competence, sound judgment, and total dedication to duty. He has reflected great credit upon himself and has always upheld the highest traditions of the Army National Guard. I wish Neil and his family all the best in their future endeavors as he enters into a well-deserved retirement after such a distinguished career of service.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 21, 2009*

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Madam Speaker, I am having back surgery, which will require me to miss votes the last two weeks of July. I will be returning, stronger and better than ever, to do my work for the 4th Congressional District of NY when Congress reconvenes in September.

Yesterday, I missed two votes. Had I been present I would have voted.

Rollcall No. 593, on Approving the Journal, I would have voted "yea."

Rollcall No. 594, on the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree to H. Res. 607, I would have voted "yea."

Rollcall No. 595, on the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 2245, I would have voted "yea."

THE LIBERAL SLIDE

**HON. CLIFF STEARNS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 21, 2009*

Mr. STEARNS. Madam Speaker, as the polls show disapproval for the Democrat health care up to 44 percent and now more than 43 percent of Americans now see the Obama Democrats as the old-style, tax and spend liberals. The President is starting to take note.

He has delayed the White House release of its mid-year budget review. The administration officials have rescheduled its release to conceal record-breaking deficits. At the same time, the Democrat leaders rush to take over healthcare and they continue to push cap and tax legislation.

Both of these bills will push spending out of control.

The Democrats won't even listen to the CBO Director Elmendorf who said their healthcare bill won't save money but will add to the deficit.

Madam Speaker, the Democrats need to work in a bipartisan way to gain control of our spending to create jobs for the American people.

RECOGNIZING BUREAU OF LABOR  
STATISTICS

SPEECH OF

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 20, 2009*

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the 125th Anniversary of the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

I have the privilege of serving as the Chair of the Joint Economic Committee, a committee that has a unique relationship with the BLS. The JEC was established by the Employment Act of 1946 to study matters relating to the US economy, so we are indeed a much younger sibling to the Bureau.

For roughly six decades, the Commissioner of the BLS has testified before the JEC in hearings examining the monthly Employment Situation. As Chair, I have welcomed Commissioner Keith Hall and his colleagues to the committee this year as we have closely tracked labor market conditions in the current recession.

The BLS staff is a dedicated group of public servants who themselves do important work for our nation. The numbers they provide represent real people and the trends they report on provide valuable insights into the economic well-being of families across the country.

I look forward to the first Friday of the month to arrive when the Employment Situation shows our economy has stopped shedding jobs and that more Americans are going back to work.

Policy makers from both sides of the aisle rely on the high quality, timely and non-partisan data produced by the BLS to make informed decisions that affect the millions of Americans around the country.

Too often, lawmakers fail to recognize that the data produced by BLS and other agencies are crucial to making meaningful, effective policy. But it is for that reason that I have worked to preserve funding for vital statistical programs at the BLS, like the American Time Use Survey—our most extensive source of data on how Americans are balancing all demands on their time, from work, to child care, to recreational activities.

The JEC has fought for and will continue to fight for the funding that BLS needs to maintain its international reputation for quality data that keeps pace with our always-evolving economy. We could not fulfill our mission in Congress without the hard work of the BLS.

I want to thank JEC Vice Chair SCHUMER, Senate Ranking Member BROWBACK, and House Ranking Member KEVIN BRADY for joining me in this bipartisan concurrent resolution, I hope all of my colleagues will join us in congratulating the Bureau of Labor Statistics on a job very well done for the last 125 years.

EARMARK DECLARATION

**HON. JERRY LEWIS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 21, 2009*

Mr. LEWIS of California. Madam Speaker, pursuant to Republican earmark guidance, I am submitting the following in regards to the

Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010.

Requesting Member: Congressman JERRY LEWIS

Project Name: University of California, Riverside School of Medicine

Account: HRSA Health Facilities and Services

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: University of California, Riverside

Address of Requesting Entity: 900 University Avenue Riverside, CA

Amount: \$3.4 million

Description of Request: The funds will be used for renovation of an anatomy lab and a biomedical sciences building that will become part of the planned School of Medicine at the University of California, Riverside. The new School of Medicine will address the severe physician shortage in Inland Southern California, one of the most rapidly growing regions in the country. With the regional physician shortfall is forecast to be high as 53 percent by 2015, the Inland Empire faces a health care challenge of crisis proportions. The regional focus of the medical school's research and clinical enterprises will help mitigate that crisis and will improve health care for the many low- and moderate-income residents of Riverside and San Bernardino counties. The results will be a model that can be applied in areas throughout the nation.

Requesting Member: Congressman JERRY LEWIS

Project Name: Salvation Army of San Bernardino Family Services Program

Account: Administration for Children and Families—Social Services

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Salvation Army of San Bernardino

Address of Requesting Entity: 746 W. 5th Street San Bernardino, CA

Amount: \$160,000

Description of Request: The funds will help the Salvation Army Family Services program provide a full spectrum of community services designed to assist families that struggle with difficult challenges. The funds will also support emergency shelter services to families in crisis. The program serves families throughout the Inland Empire, which has one of the highest foreclosure and unemployment rates in the nation. The economic situation is causing increased demand for these services, at the same time that donations and State funding have declined creating a dire situation for providing services.

Requesting Member: Congressman JERRY LEWIS

Project Name: San Geronio Hospital Computed Radiography

Account: HRSA—Health Facilities and Services

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: San Geronio Memorial Hospital

Address of Requesting Entity: 600 N Highland Springs Ave, Banning, CA

Amount: \$340,000

Description of Request: The funds would help purchase a Computed Radiography system to replace x-ray film and create a digital image. San Geronio Memorial Hospital is a not-for-profit community hospital that is serving a rapidly growing area of Riverside County. As Riverside County struggles with high unemployment and foreclosure rates, the hospital is providing more unreimbursed medical care,

making it difficult to meet payroll and impossible to purchase any new equipment. Computed Radiography is the standard of care in diagnostic imaging and has been show to greatly increase patient safety.

Requesting Member: Congressman JERRY LEWIS

Project Name: Redlands Community Hospital PET/CT Scanner

Account: HRSA—Health Facilities and Services

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Redlands Community Hospital

Address of Requesting Entity: 350 Terracina Boulevard, Redlands, CA

Amount: \$500,000

Description of Request: The requested funds would help support the purchase of combination Positron Emission Tomography, PET, "64 slice" scanner/Computed Tomography, CT, machine. Currently RCH rents a PET scanner 3 days a week to accommodate patient demand. Redlands Community Hospital is one of a handful of remaining independent nonprofit hospitals in Southern California, and provides annually over \$8 million in charity care to the community. The equipment will help insure access to diagnostic services in the face of rapidly increasing levels of demand.

Requesting Member: Congressman JERRY LEWIS

Project Name: St. Bernardine Medical Center Endovascular Suite

Account: HRSA—Health Facilities and Services

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: St. Bernardine Medical Center

Address of Requesting Entity: 2101 North Waterman Ave San Bernardino, CA

Amount: \$500,000

Description of Request: The funds requested will help the hospital renovate space and equip an Endovascular Surgical Suite, which is a specialized surgical room capable of advanced imaging to view smaller, obscure vessels, which leads to minimally invasive surgical procedures. In 2008, the Medical Center performed over 800 vascular procedures and is ranked as one of the top ten by volume in heart diagnostic and interventional procedures within the state of California. St. Bernardine serves one of the fastest growing areas in the state and nation and is located in one of the most densely impoverished areas in Southern California. Current health care capacity and equipment cannot keep pace with the growing demand.

Requesting Member: Congressman JERRY LEWIS

Account: FIE

Project Name: We Care San Jacinto

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: We Care San Jacinto

Address of Requesting Entity: 300 West First Street, San Jacinto, CA 92583

Amount: \$100,000

Description of Request: Funds for this project will go toward continuing a program that provides tutoring, homework assistance and after-school classes for low income families at no cost. In the City of San Jacinto, low-income elementary and high school students are faced with gang-related and drug activity in the local community every day. The We Care tutoring program has influenced those who might very well be inclined to drop out of school or not seek secondary education, and