

training at a time when millions of Americans are searching for ways to survive in a tough and changing economy, simplifies the financial aid process to make it easier for families to apply, and supports early childhood education so that more children graduate from high school and proceed to higher education. At the same time, this bill streamlines government programs to put an additional \$87 billion back into the federal budget over ten years.

I've heard from individuals in my home state about how this bill would impact their lives. It will mean that 20,594 students will be eligible for Pell Grants next year and the 107,677 Oregon students who applied for subsidized loans last year will be guaranteed low interest rates. An additional \$1.6 million per year will go towards Oregon's College Access Challenge Grant program, which will have a huge impact on the 25,000 students who use it to help prepare for and make undergraduate and graduate work affordable. I am also pleased that the bill reinvests in our community colleges. I am impressed by the work that the two community colleges in my district, Portland Community College and Mt. Hood Community College, have done to help individuals struggling to prepare themselves for a changing economy. I am pleased that President Obama has recognized the importance of higher education and the need to make it accessible and affordable in today's changing economy.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the Student Aid and Fiscal Responsibility Act.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 17, 2009

Mr. GALLEGLY. Madam Speaker, I wish to make the following disclosure in accordance with the Republican Earmark Transparency Standards requiring members to place a statement in the Congressional Record prior to a floor vote on a bill that includes an earmark that I have requested.

H.R. 2522, a bill to raise the ceiling on the Federal share of the cost of the Calleguas Municipal Water District Recycling Project, and for other purposes, which I introduced on May 20, 2009, contains one earmark as defined under House Rule XXI, clause 9. The earmark contained in H.R. 2522 would authorize additional appropriations for a project under Title XVI of Public Law 104–266, the Reclamation Recycling and Water Conservation Act of 1996.

The project authorized under H.R. 2522 would authorize an additional \$40 million in federal spending authority, not to exceed 25 percent of the total project cost, to allow the Calleguas Municipal Water District to fully complete their Salinity Management Pipeline, which will generate an additional 27,000 acre feet per year of groundwater and facilitate the use of an additional 16,000 acre feet per year of recycled water in the area.

Consistent with the Republican Leadership's policy on earmarks, I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge this request (1) is not directed to an entity or program that will be named after a sitting Member of Congress; (2)

is not intended to be used by an entity to secure funds for other entities unless the use of funding is consistent with the specified purpose of the earmark; and (3) meets or exceeds all statutory requirements for matching funds where applicable.

HONORING LISA CAMPBELL FOR HER EXEMPLARY SERVICE

HON. JERRY MCNERNEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 17, 2009

Mr. MCNERNEY. Madam Speaker, I am proud to recognize police specialist Lisa Campbell of San Ramon for acting on her intuition and training to jumpstart the series of events that unraveled an 18-year-old case and reunited a long-separated family. Ms. Campbell and her colleague Officer Allison Jacobs were able to make our community safer and save an innocent mother and her two young children from horrific circumstances.

As a child of only 11, Jaycee Dugard was kidnapped on her way to school. For 18 years, she suffered terribly and was denied contact with her loved ones and the outside world. Had it not been for Ms. Campbell's realization that something was awry with the man requesting a permit to hold an event on the UC Berkeley campus, the abuse of Jaycee and her daughters would not have stopped.

Lisa Campbell's and Allison Jacobs' quick action and good instincts prevented innocent people from experiencing further harm, led to the arrest of a dangerous person, and reunited a family tragically separated for almost two decades. I am honored to represent Ms. Campbell, and I am grateful for her dedicated public service.

STUDENT AID AND FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN M. SPRATT, JR.

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3221) to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965, and for others purposes:

Mr. SPRATT. Madam Chair, I rise in support of the Student Aid and Fiscal Responsibility Act. In one fell swoop, this legislation helps millions of students afford to go to college, and it reduces the deficit by making the student loan program more efficient. Rarely are we given the chance to help students, improve government services, and reduce the deficit all at the same time; today we should embrace that opportunity.

By making the student loan program more efficient, the bill reinvests some of those savings into increasing the maximum Pell Grant award next year and in the future, benefitting the six million low-income students who rely on Pell Grants to help pay for college. The legislation provides for the maximum Pell grant to increase from \$5,550 in 2010 to \$6,900 in 2019. The bill also revamps the Per-

kins loan program, expanding it to every college in the country—currently, fewer than 500,000 students receive Perkins Loans. The bill also simplifies the process for applying for federal student financial aid, and offers new services to help students both attend and complete college.

In addition to making college more accessible, this bill also invests in education for preschool and school-aged children. It expands and improves early learning systems through competitive grants for states to offer high-quality services for children age zero to five, and will support more and better training for early childhood educators. The bill also provides funding to help modernize and repair schools—elementary and secondary schools as well as community colleges across the country. The funding is targeted for projects that are energy efficient and that create healthier and safer learning environments for our children.

To help strengthen our economy, the Congressional budget resolution that we passed earlier this year called for significant investments in education—including in Pell Grants—within a framework of fiscal responsibility. Today we have before us a bill that fulfills the challenge. It makes the student loan program run more efficiently, and thus reduces the deficit, while making dramatic improvements in our education system that will help students of all ages. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill.

STATEMENT ON VOTE OF H.R. 3221, STUDENT AID AND FISCAL RE- SPONSIBILITY ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 2009

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, regretably, today we voted on yet another expansion of our federal government at a severe cost to the American taxpayer. \$100 billion dollars of stimulus money has already been given to the U.S. Department of Education in the "American Recovery and Reinvestment Act"—the so-called stimulus bill. With money borrowed from our children's future, the full appropriations of the stimulus bill have yet to be spent—and we have yet to be given an accounting of who exactly is getting and spending the American taxpayer's money. I can not support the duplicative spending in H.R. 3221, the Student Aid and Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2009, until there is full accountability from the U.S. Department of Education of how they are spending this stimulus money.

Furthermore, while I cast a no vote on H.R. 3221, I will note there are several good things in this bill. For instance, one of the proposed nine new federal programs at the U.S. Department of Education is one focused on our veterans. Members of our Armed Services should be given loan forgiveness when they valiantly serve to protect our freedoms, and they should be allowed to transfer general education credits from one school to another while they are serving. I wish this portion of this bill was given to Members for individual consideration; however, it wasn't.

Instead, this bill primarily sought to get rid of the Federal Family Education Loan Program

(FFELP) and replace it with the U.S. Department of Education's Direct Loan Program. FFELP has been around for 40 years and served our constituents in allowing them access to higher education. To replace it in its entirety with the direct Loan program would be fiscal malfeasance. The U.S. Department of Education does not have the funds to give loans to students who are eligible for college loans and, in fact, has lost money in this program. From 1995 to 2003 the Direct Loan program borrowed \$137 billion to float this program and has posted a loss in the amount repaid and the amount borrowed.

I am also troubled by particular attention in this bill in Title III directed at giving grants to Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama for losses suffered during their Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita, but no similar funding will be given to Texas for the losses they suffered during Hurricane Ike. Texas students deserve as much sound infrastructure as a result of hurricane destruction as Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama.

Furthermore, we should not have to use an education bill to address the voter fraud and tax evasion activity by the organization known as ACORN. I voted yes on the Motion to Re-commit this bill to address the ACORN issues, but considering ACORN could have access to \$1 billion—as compared to the \$50 billion the American taxpayer could lose as a result of H.R. 3221—I will continue to vote no on H.R. 3221.

This bill is just another example of the federal government getting rid of choice and mandating only a public option. Just as I have fought the battle with regards to our healthcare, I am equally concerned that our education program remains vibrant and competitive.

TRIBUTE TO DR. DEAN HARMS

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 17, 2009

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Dr. Dean Harms of Ames, Iowa as the Ames Tribune's 2009 Unsung Hero.

The Unsung Hero award honors people who quietly but generously give their time and talents to help others. In 2003, as president of the Rotary Club in Ames, Dr. Harms began searching for ways to serve people. During his search he found that his friend, Doug Perry, who served with him in the U.S. Air Force, had started a mission in El Porvenir, Honduras. Doug welcomed Dr. Harms aboard and he has since been volunteering his time off and on in Honduras for six years. Dr. Harms mostly conducts eye surgeries but does other procedures as well.

When Doug passed away, Dr. Harms took it upon himself to continue the mission along with his friends Chuck and Carolyn Jons, who nominated him for this award. With the help of his friends and the community, Dr. Harms also successfully spearheaded the construction of a high school library in El Porvenir and established reading and literacy programs for local citizens.

Dr. Harms' eagerness to utilize his talents to improve the lives of others serves as a won-

derful example of human compassion. I consider it an honor to represent Dr. Dean Harms in the United States Congress, and I know my colleagues join me in commending Dr. Harms on his well-deserved award. I wish him all the best in his continued voluntary service and future endeavors.

CELEBRATING THE 175TH ANNIVERSARY OF PHILLIPS LYTLE, LLP

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 17, 2009

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Phillips Lytle LLP, a legal institution steeped in history which was founded in 1834 by Orsamus H. Marshall in Buffalo, New York.

While the firm name has evolved through time, its mission and philosophy have remained constant. Phillips Lytle is a full service law firm possessing extraordinary capabilities to service client needs.

Originally Marshall & Harvey, then Harvey & Bass, next Bass and Bissell; in 1874 future President of the United States, Grover Cleveland, joined the practice which then became Bass, Cleveland & Bissell LLP.

While a partner with Bass, Cleveland & Bissell, Grover Cleveland was elected mayor of the City of Buffalo in 1881. In 1883 Cleveland left the firm to become Governor of New York State and in 1885 Cleveland was elected as the 22nd President of the United States.

In 1906, Former State Supreme Court Justice, Daniel J. Kenefick joined the firm and in 1911, former Deputy Attorney General of New York State, Edward H. Letchworth signed on to practice law with Kenefick, Cooke, Mitchell & Bass.

The law practice grew significantly in the early 1930's as new partners emerged. In 1946, William E. Lytle joined and in 1960, additional partners were added including former Majority Leader of the New York State Senate, Walter J. Mahoney, who was later elected State Supreme Court Justice in 1965.

In 1970, under the name Phillips, Lytle, Hitchcock, Blaine & Huber, the firm was positioned for significant growth. Throughout the 1970's and 1980's, the Buffalo-based firm expanded across the State of New York partnering with a firms in Jamestown, Rochester, Fredonia and in 1982, an office was officially opened in New York City.

Several prominent Buffalo attorney's joined the firm in 2000 and in 2003, Phillips, Lytle, Hitchcock, Blaine & Huber was shortened to Phillips Lytle, LLP. The firm's unique approach has stood the test of time as they built practice groups around clients' needs in the areas of Commercial, Corporate, Family Wealth Planning, Labor & Employment and Trial law.

Today, Phillips Lytle has the largest geographic scope of any law firm in New York State, occupying seven (7) offices with over one hundred and seventy (170) attorneys representing some of the best companies in the United States. In total, there are over 450 individuals committed to the long standing tradition of providing exceptional legal services.

Steeped in history and experience, Phillips Lytle, LLP has remained a pillar firm in West-

ern New York. It is my distinct honor, to recognize David McNamara, Firm Managing Partner, along with each and every talented Partner, Associate, and Staff Member of Phillips Lytle, LLP for their outstanding professional and civic contributions to Western New York.

Madam Speaker, I am pleased to have this opportunity to recognize Phillips Lytle, LLP a firm with a long tradition of commitment to defending the law, upon this, their 175th Anniversary.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF LAUREL GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 17, 2009

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 125th Anniversary of the Laurel Grove Baptist Church and to celebrate the triumph of human spirit that this church symbolizes.

Before the Civil War, Mrs. Jane Carroll, who was a slave of Dennis Johnston, received 10 acres of land from the estate of her owner. From these humble beginnings, a small but vibrant African American community developed.

In the mid 1800's, George Carroll, one of Jane Carroll's children, along with Thornton Gray and William Jasper, settled in what is now known as Franconia. These three men had been enslaved or were the direct descendants of those who had been enslaved in the Franconia area since the 1700's. The community that they founded became known as Carrolltown.

Carrolltown grew. Freed slaves settled there, bringing the talents and skills that form a community. A general store sprung up. A school was founded, the Laurel Grove Colored School, on land donated by William and Georgeanna Jasper. But there was no house of worship in the town. The people of Carrolltown had to worship in their homes or walk 13 miles to the Alfred Street Baptist Church in Alexandria City.

In 1884, a group of freed slaves and neighbors named George Carroll, Middleton Braxton, Thornton Gray, Laurenda Hunter, Elizabeth Lomax and William and Georgeanna Jasper, joined together in the quest to build a local place of worship. On May 10, 1884, William and Georgeanna Jasper donated a one-half acre parcel of land for the express purpose of building a house of worship adjacent to the Laurel Grove Colored School. This church became the Laurel Grove Baptist Church and has been known by many as "The Little Church by the Side of the Road".

Since that time, over the course of 125 years, the Laurel Grove Baptist Church has ministered to neighbors, friends and descendants of the original founders and the community as a whole. Laurel Grove Baptist Church has stood witness to the history of African Americans in the United States. From the bondage of slavery, to the struggle for equal rights to the election of the first African American President, the spirit and faith of the African American community has been represented by the existence of the Laurel Grove Baptist Church. The determination of the congregants, past and present, has been symbolic of the fight for freedom, equality, fairness and respect.