

and snacks and suppers to youth participating in eligible after-school care programs.

Studies have shown that young children pay attention, behave, and stay healthy when they are well nourished. The Department of Agriculture's evaluation of the Child and Adult Care Food Program found that children in the program receive meals that were nutritionally superior to those meals served in child care settings outside of the program.

The program plays an important role in improving the quality of day care and making it more affordable for many low-income families. I stand in support of this resolution and ask for my colleagues to support it as well.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. TONKO. Madam Speaker, obviously the value of nutrition and nutrition programs provides a longtime benefit for all age demographics in our population and certainly a lifetime of benefits for our children. And I would firmly request that the House stand in full support of the resolution before us, H. Res. 442.

Mr. BACA. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 442, a resolution recognizing the importance of the Child and Adult Care Food Program and its positive effect on the lives of low income children and families. I'd like to thank my friend, Representative GEORGE MILLER, for introducing this legislation—and for his commitment to ending childhood hunger in America.

The Child and Adult Care Food Program plays a vital role in improving the quality of day care for children and elderly adults by making care more affordable for many low-income families. Through CACFP, 2.9 million children and 86,000 adults receive nutritious meals and snacks each day as part of their day care.

For many years—I have stressed the importance of a healthy diet for America's school children. We now have scientific proof that a direct connection exists between a nutritious diet and student achievement in the classroom.

As Chairman of the House Agriculture Subcommittee on nutrition—I fought to include important expansions of fresh fruit and vegetable programs for our schools in last year's farm bill. This legislation works in conjunction with programs like CACFP to create a healthier school environment for America's children.

Congress has expanded CACFP to support children in a variety of new settings including at-risk after-school programs and homeless, domestic violence and runaway shelters. In addition, CACFP has been made available to adult day care centers serving chronically impaired adults or people over age 60.

In today's terrible economic climate—the benefits of the CACFP program are having a greater impact than ever before. The program plays a vital role in creating and maintaining quality, affordable care for preschool and school-age children. I am proud to support this resolution—which gives the CACFP program much deserved Congressional recognition. I urge my colleagues to support the resolution.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today support of H. Res. 442, "Recognizing the importance of the Child and

Adult Care Food Program and its positive effect on the lives of low income children and families." I would also like to thank my distinguished colleague, Representative GEORGE MILLER of California for introducing this important legislation. There are too many in our nation that too often go hungry. It is important to extend our support to those domestic programs that alleviate suffering in our own nation.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) reported that in 2007:

36.2 million people lived in households considered to be food insecure.

Of these 36.2 million, 23.8 million are adults (10.6 percent of all adults) and 12.4 million are children (16.9 percent of all children).

The number of people in the worst-off households increased to 11.9 from 10.8 in 2005. This increase in the number of people in the worst-off category is consistent with other studies and the Census Bureau poverty data, which show worsening conditions for the poorest Americans.

Black (22.2 percent) and Hispanic (20.1 percent) households experienced food insecurity at far higher rates than the national average.

The ten states with the highest food insecurity rates in 2007 were Mississippi, New Mexico, Texas, Arkansas, Maine, South Carolina, Georgia, Kansas, Oklahoma, and Missouri.

USDA's Child and Adult Care Food Program plays a vital role in improving the quality of day care and making it more affordable for many low-income families. Each day, 2.9 million children receive nutritious meals and snacks through CACFP. The program also provides meals and snacks to 86,000 adults who receive care in nonresidential adult day care centers. CACFP reaches even further to provide meals to children residing in emergency shelters, and snacks and suppers to youths participating in eligible after school care programs.

As a Co-Chair of the Congressional Children's Caucus, the issues that plague the children of our nation are important to me. Children are the future of our nation, and it is of vital importance that we raise a strong, intelligent generation that will be able to lead our country. The Child and Adult Food Care Program ensure that families with children receive nutritious meals; meals are a staple in a healthy prosperous life that are constantly overlooked and mitigated. Nutritious food can make life more enjoyable and prolong life. People who eat a more balanced, nutrient dense diet are more likely to be physically fit, feel better, and have fewer illnesses as well as lower risk of heart disease and diabetes. In this age of epidemic obesity, eating a well-balanced diet needs to be of utmost importance for the American population, particularly the children.

Children who are well-nourished feel safe and secure, pay attention, behave, and stay healthy. Children who participate in the Child and Adult Care Food Program eat more fruits, vegetables, milk, and have a better overall diet quality. The CACFP will instill good eating habits in children from an early age. Additionally, the CACFP sponsors The National School Lunch Program (NSLP) which is a federally assisted meal program operating in public and nonprofit private schools and residential child care institutions. It provides nutritionally balanced, low-cost or free lunches to children each school day. The program was es-

tablished under the National School Lunch Act, signed by President Harry Truman in 1946.

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For the second year in a row, the study revealed Texas having the #1 rate of child hunger at 22.1 percent. Texas is also in the top five states with children under five at risk of hunger (23.3 percent). Additionally, in Texas, there are 6,644,060 under the age of 18. 1,470,704 of these children are food insecure. Food insecurity refers to the lack of access to enough food to fully meet basic needs at all times due to lack of financial resources. There are different levels of food insecurity.

According to the results of the Census Bureau survey, those at greatest risk of being hungry or on the edge of hunger (i.e., food insecure) live in households that are: headed by a single woman; Hispanic or Black; or with incomes below the poverty line. Overall, households with children experience food insecurity at almost double the rate for households without children. Geographically, food insecurity is more common in central city households. The survey data also show that households are more likely to be hungry or food insecure if they live in states in the Midwest and South.

H. Res. 442 is essential to recognizing the importance of nutrition within our national boundaries. The Child and Adult Care Food Program has been cited as one of the most important support for long-term success in building strong family child care for low-income families and has proved an effective vehicle for supporting family child care providers. During the recent economic crisis, more people have begun to rely on the Child and Adult Food Program to feed their families.

I firmly believe that H. Res. 442 contributes to and support quality child care that provides early education experiences and provides a basis for lifetime healthy eating behaviors, and I know that these are essential to building a strong foundation for our youth and our nation. I urge my colleague to support this bill as well as we come together and demonstrate our support for nutrition and the children of our nation.

Mr. TONKO. I yield back my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. TONKO) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 442.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. TONKO. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

RECOGNIZING AMERICA'S TEACHERS

Mr. TONKO. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 374) recognizing the roles and contributions of America's teachers to building and enhancing our Nation's civic, cultural, and economic well-being.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 374

Whereas education and knowledge are the foundation of America's current and future strength;

Whereas teachers and other education staff have earned and deserve the respect of their students and communities for their selfless dedication to community service and the future of our Nation's children;

Whereas the purpose of "National Teacher Appreciation Week", held during May 3, 2009, through May 10, 2009, is to raise public awareness of the unquantifiable contributions of teachers and to promote greater respect and understanding for the teaching profession; and

Whereas a number of organizations representing educators, such as the National Education Association and the National Parent Teacher Association, are hosting teacher appreciation events in recognition of "National Teacher Appreciation Week": Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives thanks and promotes the profession of teaching to encourage students, parents, school administrators, and public officials to participate in teacher appreciation events during National Teacher Appreciation Week.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. TONKO) and the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TONKO. Madam Speaker, I request 5 legislative days during which Members may revise and extend and insert extraneous material on House Resolution 374 into the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. TONKO. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today to recognize the important role teachers play in the edification of our Nation. Madam Speaker, we celebrated National Teacher Appreciation Week from May 3 through May 10. The national PTA created Teacher Appreciation Week in 1984 to show gratitude to the many teachers of our United States. It is a chance for us to thank those individuals who have contributed to society in ways that cannot be measured. It is a chance for us to recognize the selflessness and dedication that teachers continue to show, and it is a chance for us to promote greater respect and understanding for the teaching profession.

Madam Speaker, we know that having good teachers greatly improves the outcomes of our Nation's youth. During the last decade, a body of evidence has grown to support the notion that teacher quality is an important factor in determining student achievement. In fact, research tells us that teacher quality accounts for the majority of variance in student learnings and test scores. Highly qualified teachers serve

as excellent role models and instill a love for knowledge and lifelong learning in our students.

We all know that teaching is an important profession that deserves our support and respect. Teachers have the important job of shaping tomorrow's leaders. Those in the teaching profession work tirelessly for little reward, and good teachers constantly reflect on their lessons and modify instruction to reach the diverse needs of students in their classrooms.

Quality teachers hone their skills and are experts not only in their subject matter but also at connecting with young people and making learning come alive. Teaching is a dynamic profession, and educators continually attend professional development in order to sharpen their skills and increase their own knowledge.

Unfortunately, research has also shown us that negative effects of teacher shortages exist. It is imperative that schools and communities support teachers. National Teacher Appreciation Week is an opportunity for us to all pause and recognize the selfless dedication of our Nation's educators. In a survey of teachers across the country, nearly one-half said the best gift they could receive was a simple "thank you."

Madam Speaker, once again, I express my support for National Teacher Appreciation Week, and I hope this resolution serves as a big "thank you" to all of the teaching profession. I encourage everyone to take a moment and reflect on a motivational teacher that helped you realize your potential and reach your dream.

I want to thank Representative GRAVES for bringing this resolution to the floor, and I urge my colleagues to pass this resolution.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I might consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 374, recognizing the roles and contributions of America's teachers in building and enhancing our Nation's civic, cultural, and economic well-being, and supporting National Teacher Appreciation Week.

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Teachers make a lasting impression on America's young people and are key to the development of students in the classroom. I bet that almost every Member of this Chamber could name at least one teacher that had a profound impact on their lives and helped shape the person they are today.

This resolution is important because it provides public recognition to those individuals who have dedicated their lives to helping educate our youth. National Teacher Appreciation Week, which took place May 3-10, is an act of gratitude that reminds us how important teachers are and the integral role

they play in our lives. It is important that we recognize teachers for the critical work they do in improving our Nation civically, culturally, and economically.

Well-trained, dedicated, and skilled teachers are vitally important to the fabric of our country. This Chamber often discusses the importance of ensuring that our high school and college graduates are able to compete in the global marketplace. Having top-notch graduates who are able to think both creatively and analytically is vital as our country competes with other countries like China and India, who are also stepping up their efforts to produce high-quality graduates. We only get these types of graduates when we have in place a dedicated and skilled teacher workforce. Congress has placed an emphasis on these attributes which has led to an increased demand for high-quality, experienced teachers. In this vein, I am pleased to see the President's support of the Teacher Incentive Fund, which rewards principals and teachers for the hard work they do.

Teachers today devote an extraordinary amount of time to teaching young people and also spend a lot of time on professional development, their own education, and on class preparation outside the classroom, oftentimes for salaries that average about \$37,000 a year. The future of our Nation's children is dependent on the individuals that make these time, energy, and monetary commitments, and they deserve recognition for such.

I stand in support of this resolution, recognizing the roles and contributions of America's teachers and recognizing National Teacher Appreciation Week, and I thank my colleague, Mr. GRAVES from Missouri, for introducing this resolution.

I ask for my colleagues' support.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. TONKO. Does the gentleman from Kentucky have any further speakers?

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I do have one other speaker.

Mr. TONKO. Madam Speaker, I reserve my time.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE).

Mr. POE of Texas. I thank the gentleman from Kentucky for yielding.

Madam Speaker, Aristotle once wrote that "teachers are to be given the highest honor because they teach us how to live well," and of course, that's a correct statement.

Today, I am proud to rise in support of America's teachers and pleased to be a cosponsor of H. Res. 374. This measure recognizes the significant roles and contributions that America's teachers have made to building and enhancing our country.

The United States Census Bureau reports that today there are more than 6 million schoolteachers throughout the United States, not counting all the other types of teachers in this country.

I come from a long line of teachers. My mother was a schoolteacher. My wife's a schoolteacher. My three daughters are trained teachers. Two of them teach young kids at the elementary level. God bless them, and one of them is a professor at Baylor University. The most influential person that taught me in public school was my seventh grade Texas history teacher, Ms. Wilson.

But teaching isn't just a tradition in my family. Teaching has been a tradition in this country since its very inception. At our Nation's founding, of course, most of the teaching happened at home under the instruction of parents. Today, parents have many options when it comes to the education of their children. Some are taught in private schools, others in public schools. Some are charter schools, and others continue to be educated at home.

Regardless of where the education takes place, teachers play a primary role in equipping our youth to be good citizens, to take pride in the democratic heritage of our Nation, and to be competitive in the marketplace of ideas.

An American author and historian Henry Adams once said, "A teacher affects eternity. The teacher can never tell where that influence stops."

Mr. Adams was right. Let's be sure to let the teachers who have touched our lives and the lives of our children know how thankful we, as a Nation, are.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I yield back our time.

Mr. TONKO. Madam Speaker, I guess the role of teachers in our lives is quite profound. I think we can each think of that teacher or those teachers who made that impact on us to perhaps allow us to achieve our individual best or create a career path.

That being said, I was recently with some students from the State of Maryland who gathered here at the Capitol to celebrate their thank you notes in joint fashion. It's a great recognition nationwide to pay tribute to a very sound profession, one that impacts our present and our future.

For those reasons, I suggest strongly that we support the resolution before the House, House Resolution 374.

Mr. TONKO. I yield back my time, Madam Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. TONKO) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 374.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. TONKO. Madam Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

SUPPORTING NATIONAL CHILD AWARENESS MONTH

Mr. TONKO. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 438) expressing support for designation of September as "National Child Awareness Month".

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 438

Whereas millions of American children and youth represent the hopes and future of our Nation;

Whereas numerous individuals, children's organizations, and youth-serving organizations that work with children and youth collaborate to provide invaluable services to enrich and better the lives of the young;

Whereas heightening awareness of and increasing support for organizations that provide access to healthcare, social services, education, the arts, sports, and other services will assist in the development of character and the future success of our Nation's youth;

Whereas September is a time when parents, families, teachers, school administrators, and communities in general increase their focus on children and youth nationwide as the school year begins;

Whereas September is a time for the people of the United States as a whole to highlight and be mindful of the needs of children and youth;

Whereas the House of Representatives unanimously passed H. Res. 1296 in 2008 to support the designation of September as "National Child Awareness Month";

Whereas private corporations and businesses have joined with hundreds of national and local charitable organizations throughout the Nation in support of a month-long focus on children and youth; and

Whereas designating September 2009 as National Child Awareness Month would recognize that a long-term commitment to children and youth is in the public interest, and will encourage widespread support for the charities and organizations that seek to provide a better future for the children and youth of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives supports the designation of a National Child Awareness Month to promote awareness of children's charities and youth-serving organizations across the United States and recognizes their efforts on behalf of children and youth as a critical contribution to the future of our Nation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. TONKO) and the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) each will control 20 minutes.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TONKO. Madam Speaker, I request 5 legislative days during which Members may revise and extend and insert extraneous material on House Resolution 438 into the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. TONKO. I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 438, which designates September as National Child Awareness Month.

Today, thousands of individuals, such as guardians, effective teachers, and youth-serving organizations, enhance the lives of young people and prepare them for success. They recognize that without the appropriate supports, the children of our country cannot grow into healthy, educated, self-sufficient adults.

National Child Awareness Month is an opportunity for this country to honor her children's charities and youth-serving organizations across the United States that uplift our youth. Organizations such as the YMCA, one of the Nation's most prominent youth-serving organizations, is an example. It serves almost 9.5 million children each year. They have implemented over 500,000 programs nationwide to strengthen the mind, the body, and the soul of our youth.

Of course, the YMCA is not alone when it comes to serving our youth. The Boys and Girls Clubs, Big Brother Big Sister, the Children's Defense Fund, the National Education Association, and many other organizations have a long history of providing support for our children and youth.

While we want to designate September as National Child Awareness Month, we must also remember that it is a long-term commitment that will ensure the advancement of our children. This long-term commitment includes the President's education, health care, and environment agenda that I look forward to working with my colleagues in the House and Senate in making a reality. Our children deserve no less.

I want to thank Representative SANCHEZ for bringing this resolution forward.

Madam Speaker, once again, I express my support for House Resolution 438, and I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 438, expressing support for designation of September as National Child Awareness Month.

Last year, the House unanimously passed House Resolution 1296 to support the designation of September as National Child Awareness Month. In 2008, that resolution was sponsored by my colleague, Representative KEN CALVERT, the lead Republican sponsor of the resolution we are here to support today.

In preparation for each new school year, parents, families, teachers, school administrators, and communities focus even more fully on children and youth during the month of September. Designating September as National Child Awareness Month helps to