

despite our efforts at reforming our own contracting procedures. This money likely comes from the opium trade and U.S. assistance and, the Washington Post estimates, totals over one billion dollars each year.

The task of establishing legitimate governing practices remains formidable. A November 17, 2009 report from Transparency International listed Afghanistan as the second most corrupt country in the world, continuing its second straight year of declining in the corruption index. Such news is disparaging and provides an important dynamic to how we consider our strategy with regards to Afghanistan going forward. In January, a UN survey found that an overwhelming 59 percent of Afghans view public dishonesty as a bigger concern than insecurity, 54 percent and unemployment, 52 percent. This is telling for a country with widespread violence and an unemployment rate of 40 percent.

As Co-Chair of the Congressional U.S.-Afghanistan Caucus, I have called for policies that allow the United States to provide benefits to the people of Afghanistan. Our effort must enhance our efforts at building both hard and soft infrastructure in Afghanistan. Change in Afghanistan is going to come through schools and roads, through health care and economic opportunity, and through increased trade and exchange. The Afghan people need our help to achieve these objectives, but I am not convinced that our military is the solution. If the Government of Afghanistan can demonstrate a responsible and non-corrupt commitment to its people, I believe that America should respond with appropriate and targeted foreign assistance.

I am also concerned that the United States is shouldering too much of the burden in Afghanistan. Although the terror attacks on American soil prompted NATO to respond with collective military action, no nation is immune from the threat of terrorism. Although the troops and resources provided by our allies have been invaluable to date, especially in regarding development for the people of Afghanistan, questions must be raised about how long other nations will remain involved in Afghanistan. France and Germany, for example have already questioned whether or not to send additional troops. NATO resources must continue to focus on improving the livelihoods of the Afghan people, but if the support of these governments waiver, American troops and Afghan citizens will suffer the consequences.

I agree with our President that a stable Afghanistan is in the best interest of the international community and I was pleased to see President Obama's outreach to our allies for additional troops. Currently, 41 NATO and other allied countries contribute nearly 36,000 troops. That number is expected to increase by nearly 6,000 with at least 5,000 additional troops coming from NATO member countries. Multilateralism is vital to ensuring that our operations in Afghanistan succeed.

Madam Speaker, today, we face difficult realities on the ground. The Taliban attacks our forces whenever and wherever they can. Agents of the Taliban seek to turn the people of Afghanistan against us as we attempt to provide them with help in every way we can. This situation is unsustainable. Afghanistan's history has earned it the nickname, "The Graveyard of Empires," and I believe that we should not take this grim history lightly. By in-

cluding a timetable for our operations in Afghanistan, we focus our mission and place it in a long-term context. But there is no need to ignore the successes and heroic work of the Armed forces and the civilian humanitarian workers. We can declare victory having achieved a stable government in Afghanistan and bring our troops home with honor.

Although development to improve the lives of the Afghan people is important, defeating al-Qaeda, and the threat they pose to America and our allies is the most important objective of our operations. To that end, I believe that Pakistan, not Afghanistan, is now the key to success and stability in the region. Over the past 8 years, Coalition Forces have successfully pushed most of al-Qaeda out of Afghanistan and into Pakistan. This has not only put them outside the mandate of our forces, but has also forced Pakistan to address an enlarged terrorist threat.

During his State of the Union Address, President Obama spoke of the importance of Pakistan when he noted "America will remain a strong supporter of Pakistan's security and prosperity long after the guns have fallen silent, so that the great potential of its people can be unleashed." As the Co-Chair of the Congressional Pakistan Caucus, I know, first hand, of the great potential of the Pakistani people, and I strongly believe that the recently approved assistance package to Pakistan will work to this end. U.S. foreign assistance to Pakistan will improve Pakistan's capacity to address terrorist networks within its own borders, but I worry that a troop increase will cause even more refugees and insurgents to cross into Pakistan.

Ultimately, we in Congress must decide what is in the best interest of the American people. Fighting al-Qaeda was in the best interest of the American people in 2001, as it continues to be today. Yet, we are now fighting an insurgency—not al-Qaeda—in Afghanistan. This should not be their mission, and we must bring our troops home.

MAKING EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS
FOR DISASTER RELIEF AND SUMMER JOBS FOR THE
FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2010 AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES

Madam Speaker, as you know, the Senate has proposed to strike out a portion of the Act that is vital to supporting the career development of our nation's youth. My amendment would reinstate the section of the bill pertaining to "Employment and Training Administration", which appropriates \$600 million dollars in grants to states to support summer employment programs for youth.

The recent recession has affected various sectors, and unemployment has been borne by many sectors of the economy, particularly in the housing and banking sectors. The suffering that comes with a major economic downturn has been felt not only by the adult population, but by our youth as well, and they have been hindered in their efforts to acquire summer employment as I speak. Statistics also demonstrate that youth minority groups have been more affected than other groups of young individuals. Data assembled by the Bureau of Labor Statistics indicates that in July 2009, 51.4 percent of young persons between the ages of 16 and 24 were involved in some form of summer employment. This was the lowest recorded rate since 1964. The youth unemployment rate, at 18.5 percent, was also a record low since the onset of the Bureau's

statistical studies almost forty years ago. In comparison to a 4 percent rise in unemployment for white youth, 7 percent more African Americans and 10 percent more Hispanics became unemployed between 2006 and 2009. These numbers are troubling, and indicate a need for intervention on our part.

It is important that in our efforts to aid in the economic recovery effort, we do not forget our young Americans. Their career development is crucial to ensuring that whatever economic strides we make today will be sustainable tomorrow. As such, we must ensure that we do not neglect the hardships that have been inflicted upon them as a result of the economic downturn. These funds will promote the intellectual development of our youth, which, in turn, will promote a healthy and innovative economy. Studies have also shown that such an initiative could work to decrease the likelihood of criminal activity by young individuals, who are less likely to engage in such activity when they are involved in productive use of their time.

This Amendment will provide an indispensable source of support for our States to help them develop our youth. For these reasons, I urge my colleagues to support my Amendment on summer youth jobs.

I thank you for consideration of H.R. 4899 for the Fiscal Year 2010 Emergency Supplemental Appropriations bill. Finally, no family, no settlement money for the Black farmers, no monies to save the jobs of teachers, police and fire personnel. This bill is lacking in helping more of the American People.

HONORING THE CAREER OF
KENNETH CANTER, D.P.M.

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM
OF MINNESOTA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Ms. McCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor the service of Kenneth Canter, Doctor of Podiatric Medicine, who recently retired after 32 years serving our veterans at the Minneapolis VA Medical Center.

Dr. Canter received his undergraduate degree from the University of Maryland in College Park, Maryland and his medical degree from the Pennsylvania College of Podiatric Medicine in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1972. He began his career with the Department of Veterans Affairs in Minneapolis in 1977 as one of the first 35 podiatrists hired to treat our veterans. For 32 years, he worked at the Minneapolis VA Medical Center, retiring as Chief of Podiatry in June 2010.

Dr. Canter cared for Minnesota veterans with compassion and respect, always taking additional care to render the finest and most effective treatments. Aside from treating his patients, he authored scientific articles and mentored podiatrists who came to the VA for post-graduate training. Dr. Canter's dedication to outstanding medical care and sincere concern for our nation's veterans are the qualities of a truly great VA doctor, and I am proud that he is a resident of my Congressional District.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring Dr. Kenneth Canter for his distinguished 32 years of service to Minnesota veterans.

HONORING THE HENDERSON
MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Mr. MICHAUD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Henderson Memorial Baptist Church for their remarkable perseverance and dedication to their community.

The Henderson Memorial Baptist Church was formed in the homes and barns of the people of Farmington in 1810. Without a building to meet in, community members met in private spaces until they built their church in 1836. From its humble beginnings, the church and its members formed a strong bond that lasts to this day.

Despite many obstacles, the congregation continues to thrive. Two major fires disrupted the ability of church members to practice in their building in 1886 and again in 1938. Both of these fires were devastating, especially considering the loss of a new Austin pipe organ bought through donations during the Great Depression. However, the congregation has always rallied to rebuild and continue their good work.

The community of the Henderson Memorial Baptist Church has always come together and united for the common goal of keeping their church and congregation alive. The resiliency shown by this congregation during their tumultuous history is highly commendable.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring the Henderson Memorial Baptist Church for their resiliency, perseverance and extraordinary dedication.

A TRIBUTE IN RECOGNITION OF
THE WEEKLY DOWNTOWN LOS
ANGELES COMMUNITY NEWS-
PAPER, THE GARMENT & CIT-
IZEN, AND ITS FOUNDER, EDI-
TOR AND PUBLISHER, JERRY
SULLIVAN

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Los Angeles Garment & Citizen newspaper in Downtown Los Angeles, which, after 10 years in publication, is closing its doors this month.

With a weekly circulation of 10,000, the Garment & Citizen covered Downtown and the adjacent areas of Echo Park, Angelino Heights, Silverlake, Westlake, Pico-Union, Chinatown, Little Tokyo, the Arts District and portions of south Los Angeles.

As the member of Congress who represents Downtown, I know the closure of this free weekly will leave a void. Jerry Sullivan, the paper's founder, editor and publisher, started the Garment & Citizen in 2000 to report Downtown area news and events that were not being reported elsewhere.

Every week, one could always count on Jerry to run news items that directly related to the diverse readership he served. The articles heralded the achievements of Downtown students, workers, families and businesses, and

provided a vehicle for residents to share a wide range of viewpoints.

I also salute the paper's contributors. They include John Fish, Roberto Porras, Sam Hassan, Rick Ness, J.C. Choe, Raby Savage, Eugene Yi, and Elias Cruz, among others. As Jerry says, they all served the Garment & Citizen and the community with great skill and dedication.

I wish Jerry well as he pursues new endeavors. While the Echo Park resident will no longer hang his notorious fedora in the office of the Garment & Citizen, all of us here in the U.S. House of Representatives will continue to have a unique connection to Jerry. We have the privilege of working closely with one of Jerry's eight siblings, John Sullivan, who has served as House Parliamentarian since May 2004. Upon learning of this tribute, John said of his brother, "It is impossible for me to overstate how proud I am to be Jerry's brother, and I know I can say the same for each of our brothers and sisters."

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to please join me in thanking Jerry and his team for their accomplishments and success in publishing the Garment & Citizen. To fully tell the story of the newspaper, I would like to submit into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD Jerry's own reflections. They clearly reveal his passion and commitment to the news industry and Los Angeles' culturally rich Downtown neighborhoods that he and I both know well, love and celebrate.

WHAT WORKED

(By Jerry Sullivan, Editor & Publisher, Los Angeles Garment & Citizen)

"A lot of famous folks have said that they wouldn't change a thing if they had it all to do over again.

I don't think any of them ever had to shut down a community newspaper.

I would change some things if I had it to do over again.

I'd make some changes—apply the lessons of experience—because whatever I did as the founder and editor and publisher of the Los Angeles Garment & Citizen didn't get the newspaper through these historically tough economic times.

I can carry the weight of that outcome because—while I would make some changes if I had it all to do over—there are so many things that I would make sure to do again.

I would again keep my eyes and my mind wide open in order to give the community the coverage it deserves.

I'd still tell everyone's truth—not just this niche or that demographic group. I'd keep striving to tell the stories of the entire community, and to explain how and why this segment or demographic group matters to the other.

I'd continue to acknowledge the fact that readers are smart.

I'd keep giving advertisers credit for their roles as members of the community.

I'd always do my best to hold both readers and advertisers accountable for their actions as community members.

I'd keep assuming that immigrants are part of our American culture—whether they've obtained citizenship or remain uncertain about taking that step.

I'd still speak truth to power in plain language.

I'd still keep a civil tone in all matters.

I'd still receive whoever found their way to my office, and listen to their story even if their only point is to let someone know that they weren't always in the shape they're in today.

I'd continue to make ideas the heart of reporting.

I'd keep in mind that important and even great ideas can come from unexpected sources buried deep in conversations.

I'd keep the Letters to the Editor section as a truly open forum for all voices and viewpoints in the community.

I'd continue to laud police officers for the job they do so well the vast majority of the time.

I'd keep calling police officers to task—and give others the opportunity to do so—on matters of public concern.

I'd continue to make space for the poets who happen to wash dishes or manufacture garments on their day jobs.

I'd keep reminding longtime, hard-pressed Downtown residents that property owners have a right to build lofts—and young, upscale tenants have a right to move into them.

I'd still tell developers and young, upscale tenants that a community existed Downtown long before anyone built any lofts—and remind them that all communities deserve respect.

I'd keep telling the folks in Echo Park about the Lions Club.

I'd continue to highlight the success stories of youngsters in Westlake and Pico-Union.

I'd keep mentioning Angelino Heights at every legitimate opportunity.

I'd always expect the unexpected in Chinatown.

I'd still keep some space reserved on deadline for late-breaking news on the latest community cause in Little Tokyo.

I'd keep asking why suffering has such a comfortable home on Skid Row.

I'd remember to always respect my elders on Bunker Hill.

I'd continue to appreciate the artists of the Arts District.

I'd continue to learn from the contentious culture of the Fashion District.

I'd keep marveling at the blend of old and new ways in the Jewelry District.

I'd still highlight folks who work hard and choose decency every day as the Local Heroes of our society.

There are many more things I would do again, because the Garment & Citizen earned some great victories. Our coverage has mattered. We saved taxpayers money. We gave credit where it was due to the mothers and fathers, sons and daughters, and workers and business owners who make our city work. We added valuable insights, criticisms and plaudits to the public debate.

The Garment & Citizen served with honor and distinct style. We developed a voice that reached our readers and earned a strong and unique connection with their lives. We reached rich, poor, working-class and middle-class individuals and families. We reached across ethnic and racial and religious lines. We reached them all—and called them a community.

The Garment & Citizen will disappear but the community shall remain.

It's now up to others to serve this community with the comprehension, courage, and clarity that's called for by the guarantee of freedom of the press that we enjoy under the 1st Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

The Garment & Citizen has demonstrated that it can be done.

Our fate also shows that it could be done better.

I will look upon the next effort with interest.

Respectfully,

JERRY SULLIVAN.