

Earlier this year, I stood before you and called for serious and smart reductions in spending.

I committed to opposing any spending that would not lead to at least a one percent total cut in the budget, excluding entitlements such as Medicare, veterans' pensions, and Social Security. According to last year's budget numbers, a cut of this size would save approximately \$12 billion in just one year.

Going above and beyond that promise, and frustrated with the current approach to deficit spending, I joined three of my house colleagues in introducing 4 bills, each highlighting specific programmatic cuts that together would save \$70 billion over the next ten years.

While small, across the board, percentage cuts on spending bills as many of my colleagues in the House support is one way to begin to reduce our overall spending, I believe that now is the time to bring specific ideas to the table. This prospect is not easy, and must be done carefully and thoughtfully.

To that end, I joined with a group of colleagues similarly committed to cutting spending and drafted an amendment that would have put in place a number of these types of cuts. However, it became clear that my amendment did not have the support it needed to pass. The Majority party was unwilling to make the tough choices to cut spending, and the Minority party refused to support an amendment offered by the opposite party.

The intent of the Latham Amendment mirrors the intent Peters Amendment. The cuts in this amendment are also in the spirit of the recommendations set forth by the Administration. In his budget proposal, the President worked with the Secretaries of each federal agency to determine which programs work and which programs don't work. They worked to determine which programs need more funding to reach their intended goal, and which programs must be reorganized and even in some cases terminated because they are ineffective or duplicative.

We must listen to our cabinet secretaries, those with the most acute knowledge of the inner workings of their agencies, and fund their programmatic needs while cutting funding for programs that they deem either ineffective or complete in achieving their intended purpose.

Cutting budgets is never easy. Vulnerable people who need assistance depend on our help. Forward-thinking investment is critical to long-term prosperity. Of particular importance to me are housing programs—programs that I have dedicated a significant portion of my career to improving and creating. I support these programs in principle and am committed to ensuring their functions remain fulfilled. However, in these situations where duplicate, inefficient, and nonexistent programs are still receiving funding, we must take action and make cuts, both to protect taxpayer dollars and to protect the populations these programs are intended to serve. I am also acutely aware of the struggles of those in the transportation industry, especially in Connecticut, where the unemployment rate continues to grow. I intend to continue to look for ways to spur job creation while bringing down our federal deficit.

The federal budgeting process should reflect an effort to make cuts where alternative programs—public or private—could work better; make investments in areas, like education and infrastructure, that will fuel future prosperity;

and change programs where efficiencies can be achieved.

The amendment I supported today maintains those priorities while helping put our country on a path toward fiscal sustainability.

INTRODUCING A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE BLACK BARBERSHOP HEALTH OUTREACH PROGRAM'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE NATIONAL FIGHT AGAINST HEALTH DISPARITIES

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 30, 2010

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution that recognizes the Black Barbershop Health Outreach Program, a unique initiative that seeks to improve health outcomes in black communities across the country through education, community involvement, research, and culturally relevant strategies.

African American men are especially vulnerable to the impacts of racial health disparities, with the lowest average life expectancy of any group in the United States. Due to various factors, including inadequate access to quality health care services, African American men suffer from disproportionately high rates of hypertension, diabetes, and other health conditions that are largely preventable and manageable. While a lack of trust, culture, and access to routine primary care has prevented many black men from significantly benefiting from interventions and treatments for these conditions, black-owned barbershops have served as cultural institutions in the black community for generations and provide health advocates with an opportunity to empower and educate black men about their health in a trusted and familiar space.

In 2007, the Black Barbershop Health Outreach Program was launched by the Diabetic Amputation Prevention Foundation in an effort to increase public awareness about cardiovascular disease, diabetes, and hypertension among black men. By partnering with black-owned barbershops, as well as local leaders, facilities, and organizations, the Black Barbershop Health Outreach Program provides culturally specific education and health services to black men. These include screening for hypertension and diabetes; disseminating information on early detection, management, and prevention; conducting research; and referring men to facilities that can address additional health and medical needs.

Since its founding, the Black Barbershop Health Outreach Program has expanded its initial focus on hypertension, diabetes, and heart disease to include prostate cancer, and continues to build upon its success. To date, it has screened over 10,000 men in 230 black-owned barbershops for diabetes, hypertension, and prostate cancer across the country. The project's organizers plan to screen 20,000 men in 2010 and 500,000 men by 2012. Furthermore, the Black Barbershop Health Program will also target black-owned beauty shops to reach black women, and take a holistic approach to diagnosing, preventing, and managing cardiovascular disease, hypertension, and diabetes in the black community.

My resolution commends the Black Barbershop Health Outreach Program for its valuable contribution to community health and the national fight against racial health disparities. In addition, my resolution expresses a commitment to supporting organizations, programs, and initiatives like the Black Barbershop Health Outreach Program that empower individuals to become informed health advocates in their communities.

Madam Speaker, culturally competent health education and delivery methods are essential to preventing and combating racial health disparities, and to maximizing the effectiveness of interventions and treatments that seek to achieve and support better health at the community level. I commend the Black Barbershop Health Outreach Program for the important work it does and remain committed to supporting community-oriented approaches to health reform in health legislation and initiatives arising at both the state and federal levels.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 30, 2010

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, today our national debt is \$13,246,508,860,572.07.

On January 6th, 2009, the start of the 111th Congress, the national debt was \$10,638,425,746,293.80.

This means the national debt has increased by \$2,608,083,114,278.27 so far this Congress.

This debt and its interest payments we are passing to our children and all future Americans.

CELEBRATING THE 60TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY OF FRANCIS AND HOBART MARCHANT

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 30, 2010

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the marriage of Francis Helen Marchant and Hobart Clay Marchant. Francis and Hobart embody everything a couple should and have created a legacy in their commitment to one another that their 5 children carry on in their own lives. As one of those five, I know this very well. Throughout their lives, they have dedicated themselves to the betterment of those with whom they meet and know.

Francis Helen Jones was born in Cooper, Texas on January 14, 1930. Hobart Clay Marchant was born in Hilger, Texas on October 23, 1920. They were married on August 18, 1950, after Hobart served 5 years in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II and returned home. Hobart and Francis were both raised by farming parents in Northeast Texas but married in Grand Prairie, Texas, where both worked.

Early in their marriage Hobart worked as a carpenter. Soon after they wed, Hobart completed barber school in Fort Worth and worked

as a small businessman while he and Francis raised 5 children. Francis stayed at home to raise the children, and sold Highlights Magazines, babysat, and ironed clothes to help make ends meet.

Later in life, when their kids were grown, both Francis and Hobart Marchant worked in real estate. Hobart worked in the construction of residential homes and Francis sold homes for her husband and sons. Francis and Hobart raised their children in Dallas, moving to Carrollton in 1963 where they have lived ever since. They began attending the Church of the Nazarene over 50 years ago, and raised their children in the church. They currently attend Carrollton Church of the Nazarene, where they are still actively involved.

Their children have grown up and blessed them with 15 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren. All of the siblings still live in the area close to their parents. Francis and Hobart Marchant have created a legacy of enduring love and commitment to family, church, and service to their community. It is with recognition of these accomplishments that I ask all of my distinguished colleagues to join me in honoring Francis and Hobart Marchant and congratulating them on 60 years of marriage.

HONORING ASSISTANT CHIEF BORDER PATROL AGENT WILLIE BARBER

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 30, 2010

Mr. CUELLAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the retirement of Assistant Chief Border Patrol Agent Willie Barber of the Laredo, Texas Sector Border Patrol. Mr. Barber has recently retired with a total of 31 years of government service to our great Nation.

Willie Barber was born and raised in El Paso, Texas. He has spent his career in 6 cities, driven by his devotion to service to our country. Agent Barber and his wife, Maria L. De La Rosa, have two children, Willie III and Renee DeLu.

He began his career by serving 8½ years in the United States Air Force. He joined the U.S. Border Patrol in 1988 and worked 7½ years in the station of Rio Grande City, Texas. He was later stationed in Brownsville, Texas, where he served as a Supervisory Border Patrol Agent. Following that, Agent Barber worked in Douglas, Arizona, as a Field Operations Supervisor. Afterwards, he traveled to El Paso, Texas, where he worked as Special Operations Supervisor. Barber then worked in Washington, DC, as an Assistant Chief in the Office of Border Patrol. Most recently, Agent Barber served as Assistant Chief Patrol Agent of the Laredo, Texas Sector Border Patrol.

Agent Barber is a 2008 distinguished graduate of Harvard University's "Senior Executive Fellows" program and a 2004 graduate of the University of Texas at El Paso.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to have had the time to recognize the dedication, commitment and leadership of Assistant Chief Border Patrol Agent Willie Barber.

REGARDING JED WUNDERLICH

HON. JASON CHAFFETZ

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 30, 2010

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Madam Speaker, I come before the House of Representatives to honor an extraordinary young man, Jed Wunderlich, from the heart of Utah's third congressional district, Milford, Utah.

Jed was born with hydrocephalus, and has undergone numerous surgeries for his condition. Jed has experienced more physical pain in his short life than many of us wily ever experience throughout our lifetimes. Yet through his many surgeries and hospitalizations, he has remained positive and serves as an inspiration for his Milford All South Cal Ripkin summer all-star baseball team.

Although Jed has never been on a baseball team before, he has proven himself to be an important member of Milford's team. Despite having no experience pitching, Jed's coach, Jacob Ihde, recently put Jed in as pitcher. Jed proceeded to strike out three batters.

Jed is an inspiration to his classmates, the people of Utah, and those who suffer from hydrocephalus. I am proud to honor his accomplishments and hope to see many more from this motivating young man.

[From the Deseret News, July 22, 2010.]

MILFORD BOY INSPIRES TEAM, COMMUNITY

(By Cynthia Kimball Humphreys)

Milford, Beaver County.—Jed Wunderlich's positive attitude is probably why he wasn't cut from Milford's All South Cal Ripkin summer all-star baseball team even though he'd never been on a team before.

And perhaps it was why coach Jacob Ihde, after noticing the 11-year-old seemed down after sitting on the bench for the first four innings of a recent game, asked him if he wanted to pitch. There was just one small problem. Jed had never pitched before.

For a split second, Jed looked at his coach in disbelief. Then he bolted to the mound as though he knew what he was doing.

"I was afraid for him," said Jed's mother, Trish Wunderlich. "But I trusted the coaches knew what they were doing."

Three strikeouts later, Jed was flying high, smiling incessantly.

The crowd went wild standing and cheering on their feet, moved to tears.

"I just bawled," said Milford coach Gary Mayer.

Even umpire Merlin Figgins took off his mask to wipe away tears.

Trish Wunderlich couldn't contain herself. After all, she'd seen her boy in pain and held him so many times when it was unbearable—especially in 2006 when he had what she calls "the big surgery" at Primary Children's Medical Center where he had his whole face moved forward. An incision was made from ear to ear, skull bone was cut then made bigger and eventually put back together again in an 11-hour surgery.

A mid-face distracter was inserted behind his right ear that Jed's parents would have to turn twice daily to help his skull grow. The pain was excruciating for Jed and for his parents, who not only had to turn the distracter, but also had to watch and hear Jed scream and cry out in agony.

Jed was born with hydrocephalus (water on the brain) and had undergone 60 surgeries by the time he turned 11, the first when he was just 8 months old after his parents wondered why his head was so large at 2 weeks old. By age 7, he would be diagnosed with Crusins

Syndrome, a genetic disorder characteristic of swelling on the brain. Most of his many surgeries were shunt surgeries, where fluid is drained from the brain. The Wunderliches know Primary Children's Medical Center all too well, often staying there with Jed for 30 days at a time.

Even so, when his mother asks him, "How come you smile so much?" He simply and matter-of-factly replies, "Because I'm happy."

"He just draws people to him wherever he goes," she said.

"I've had a couple of complete strangers come up to us and say they get some kind of vibe off of him," added his father, Ryan Wunderlich. "They don't even know his name or circumstances."

"How did you feel when you were pitching?" Trish Wunderlich later asked her son. "Excited and happy," is all he said.

"None of his teammates say, 'Why are you putting Jed in?'" said grandmother Susan Nettle proudly.

Milford Elementary School Principal Ben Dalton, who has known Jed for five years, spoke of how Jed was in and out of school for several years, but worked hard to keep up with his studies, never complaining, so that he kept on track with his class.

"He never asks to be treated differently," he said.

"The other kids in school really like him. He has a lot of friends. He looks out for them, and they look out for him even though Jed's been described as socially backward, uncoordinated and quite shy," Trish Wunderlich said. "In addition, he's been self-conscious of his surgeries and the medical equipment."

When asked how he likes playing on the baseball team, Jed said, "I'm having a lot of fun," unaware of the positive impact he has on others.

"He's always smiling, always happy, always pumped up," Ihde said. "There aren't even words to describe what he means to our team. We appreciate what he does. . . . It makes us closer."

Asked to describe Jed in one word, 12-year-old teammate Garreth Mayer quickly replied, "Inspirational. We're happy he's on our team. He's the heart of our team."

"There's a lot more to coaching young kids than wins and losses," said tournament director Greg Excel.

And with determination and opportunity, anything is possible.

Even three strikeouts from a boy who never pitched a day in his life.

EPA WATER QUALITY REGULATION ON FLORIDA'S ECONOMY

HON. ADAM H. PUTNAM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 30, 2010

Mr. PUTNAM. Madam Speaker, on October 15th, the EPA will finalize the first phase of an unprecedented statewide water quality regulation which will have significant impacts on Florida's economy. While these regulations only apply to Florida, it could have a regional impact if our State's taxpayers are held accountable for the quality of water flowing from neighboring States. My colleagues should take note of this as these regulations are likely to arrive in your States and districts soon without your input and without a debate on this floor.

Last year, the Obama administration and the EPA entered into a legally binding agreement with environmental activists seeking to