

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING GEORGE P. SHULTZ

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 14, 2010

Ms. PELOSI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 90th birthday of a great leader, a true public servant, and a proud resident of San Francisco: George Pratt Shultz.

Secretary Shultz has lived by the mantra he set forth during his decades of service: “You’ve got to dream a little bit if you’re going to get somewhere.” Throughout his life, he dreamed more than “a little bit”—and his dreams led him to the height of academia, government, and business.

His dreams led him to the Marine Corps during World War II. They led him to become a celebrated and decorated professor of economics at some of our most prestigious institutions of higher learning. And they certainly drove him to “get somewhere” in the public square: serving as an advisor to Presidents; as a Director of the Office of Management and Budget; as the Secretary of the Treasury, Labor, and State.

In the closing years of the Cold War, as our leading diplomat, Secretary Shultz was a powerful, passionate voice for American values around the world—negotiating when possible to advance the interests of the United States; standing firm when necessary to defend our country; striving for peace among nations and advocating on behalf of our strong moral leadership worldwide.

In recent years, Secretary Shultz brought his experience and wisdom to two critical challenges facing our country and our planet: climate change and nuclear non-proliferation.

He understood that global warming is a threat to our national security, our economy, and our environment. And in California, he joined the campaign to halt efforts to weaken environmental protections—and fought to strengthen our clean energy future.

Forever a statesman, he issued a clarion call to build a world free of nuclear weapons, recognizing that these instruments of war are no longer necessary in this day and age, and represent a threat to global security now and in the future.

Known for his dynamic partnerships over the years, Secretary Shultz has no greater partner than his wife, Charlotte Maillard Shultz. When Charlotte served as Chief of Protocol for the city and county of San Francisco, and for the state of California, Secretary Shultz supported her with his own diplomatic acumen. Today, their partnership, in both the public and private spheres, continues to enhance our city.

Secretary Shultz has always been, and will always remain for Paul and me, a patriot, a dedicated public servant, and a friend. An economist, a business leader, and a statesman: George Shultz followed his dreams. And on his 90th birthday, we honor his service.

SENIORS PROTECTION ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 8, 2010

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, as a cosponsor of the Seniors Protection Act of 2010, I rise to express support for this important bill.

Last week, the House had the opportunity to provide relief for millions of seniors, veterans, and disabled individuals.

For 75 years, and through numerous recessions, Social Security has been a steady source of income. Since 1975, Congress has implemented automatic cost-of-living-adjustments for Social Security to guarantee that Social Security benefits are protected against the effects of inflation.

The cost-of-living-adjustment for Social Security is calculated automatically using data on inflation published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and is not a deliberate decision by Congress. I support a fairer cost-of-living calculation for Social Security in order to keep pace with the actual increases in the true costs of living for seniors. That is why I am a cosponsor of H.R. 2365, the Consumer Price Index for Elderly Consumers Act of 2009, which would change the calculation of the cost-of-living-adjustment for Social Security to reflect consumption patterns which are typical for seniors.

For the first time ever, there will be no automatic cost-of-living-adjustment for Social Security for the second consecutive year. Since there was no cost-of-living-adjustment increase for 2010, the formula used to calculate the adjustment required a comparison with 2008 costs, a year when prices were historically high. Even through the average costs of health care, food, and other essentials did increase this year compared to 2009 that was not considered by the formula. Unfortunately, this resulted in no increase in monthly benefits for millions of Americans who depend on Social Security, SSI, VA Pension and Compensation, and Railroad Retirement for the second year in a row while their real costs of living have gone up.

American seniors, disabled workers, and survivors or spouses and children of retired or disabled workers rely on Social Security benefits. For example, 60 percent of American seniors rely on Social Security for a majority of their income and 30 percent of seniors rely on Social Security for more than 90 percent of their income. With Social Security benefits being modest, only \$14,000 for the average retiree, the lack of a cost-of-living-adjustment is troubling.

The Seniors Protection Act of 2010 would provide Social Security beneficiaries with a one-time payment of \$250 to offset the lack of a cost-of-living-adjustment. This bill would provide relief for 54 million seniors, veterans, and disabled individuals. In my state of New Jersey, this bill will provide assistance to over 1.5 million individuals.

Since its inception in 1935, Social Security has provided a guaranteed benefit to hundreds of millions of retired and disabled workers and their families. For seniors, Social Security has provided financial security, independence, and dignity in their retirement years. I believe that Congress has a duty to ensure that their benefits are protected.

Congress had a chance to provide relief to millions of Social Security beneficiaries with a one-time \$250 payment. Unfortunately, Republicans blocked this measure that would have provided much needed relief to our seniors, veterans, and disabled Americans.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 14, 2010

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 611 on H.R. 5987, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, Seniors Protection Act of 2010, I am not recorded because I was absent because I gave birth to my baby daughter. Had I been present, I would have voted, “nay.”

Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 612 on H. Res. 1717, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree, congratulating imprisoned Chinese democracy advocate Liu Xiaobo on the award of the 2010 Nobel Peace Prize, I am not recorded because I was absent because I gave birth to my baby daughter. Had I been present, I would have voted, “yea.”

Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 613 on H. Res. 1540, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree, supporting the goal of eradicating illicit marijuana cultivation on Federal lands and calling on the Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy to develop a coordinated strategy to permanently dismantle Mexican drug trafficking organizations operating on Federal lands, I am not recorded because I was absent because I gave birth to my baby daughter. Had I been present, I would have voted, “yea.”

Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 614 on H. Res. 1531, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree, expressing support for designation of 2011 as “World Veterinary Year” to bring attention to and show appreciation for the veterinary profession on its 250th anniversary, I am not recorded because I was absent because I gave birth to my baby daughter. Had I been present, I would have voted, “yea.”

Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 615 on H. Res. 1752, On Agreeing to the Resolution, Same Day Consideration Rule, Waiving a requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII with respect to consideration of certain resolutions reported from the Committee on Rules, I am not recorded because I was absent because I gave birth to my baby daughter. Had I been present, I would have voted, “nay.”

Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 616 on H.R. 6495, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and

● This “bullet” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Pass, Robert C. Byrd Mine Safety Protection Act of, I am not recorded because I was absent because I gave birth to my baby daughter. Had I been present, I would have voted, “nay.”

Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 617 on H. Res. 1402, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree, Recognizing the 50th anniversary of the National Council for International Visitors, and expressing support for designation of February 16, 2011, as “Citizen Diplomacy Day”, I am not recorded because I was absent because I gave birth to my baby daughter. Had I been present, I would have voted, “yea.”

Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 618 on H. Res. 1704, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree, Honoring the 2500th anniversary of the Battle of Marathon, I am not recorded because I was absent because I gave birth to my baby daughter. Had I been present, I would have voted, “yea.”

Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 619 on H.J. Res. 1755, On Agreeing to the Resolution Providing for consideration of H.R. 3082, making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes, I am not recorded because I was absent because I gave birth to my baby daughter. Had I been present, I would have voted, “nay.”

Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 620 on H.R. 4501, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, Guarantee of a Legitimate Deal, I am not recorded because I was absent because I gave birth to my baby daughter. Had I been present, I would have voted, “nay.”

Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 621 on H. Res. 1746, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree, Recognizing and supporting the efforts of Welcome Back Veterans to augment the services provided by the Departments of Defense and Veterans’ Affairs in providing timely and world-class care for veterans and members of the Armed Forces suffering from PTSD and related psychiatric disorders, I am not recorded because I was absent because I gave birth to my baby daughter. Had I been present, I would have voted, “yea.”

Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 622 on H.R. 3082 House Amendment, On Motion to Concur and Amend to H.R. 3082, Continuing Appropriations/Food Safety Act, I am not recorded because I was absent because I gave birth to my baby daughter. Had I been present, I would have voted, “nay.”

Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 623 on H. Res. 1756, On Agreeing to the Resolution, Providing for consideration of the Senate amendments to the bill (H.R. 5281) to amend title 28, United States Code, to clarify and improve certain provisions relating to the removal of litigation against Federal officers or agencies to Federal courts, and for other purposes, I am not recorded because I was absent because I gave birth to my baby daughter. Had I been present, I would have voted, “nay.”

Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 624 on S. 3998, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, Criminal History Background Checks Pilot Extension Act of 2010, I am not recorded because I was absent because I gave birth to my baby daughter. Had I been present, I would have voted, “yea.”

Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 625 on H.R. 5281, On Motion to Concur in Senate Amend-

ments #1 and #2, and in #3 With Amendment, To amend title 28, United States Code, to clarify and improve certain provisions relating to the removal of litigation against Federal officers or agencies to Federal courts, and for other purposes, I am not recorded because I was absent because I gave birth to my baby daughter. Had I been present, I would have voted, “nay.”

HONORING RONALD G. YELENIK

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 14, 2010

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Ronald G. Yelenik, Assistant General Counsel in the Office of the General Counsel at the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC). Mr. Yelenik is retiring after 35 years of distinguished service at the CPSC.

Mr. Yelenik began his career at the CPSC in 1975. Prior to joining the CPSC staff, he was a Law Professor at Antioch School of Law, a Director of East New York Legal Services, a staff attorney at Brownsville Legal Services, and a Peace Corps volunteer in Costa Rica.

Mr. Yelenik has held various legal positions at the CPSC, chiefly within the Office of Compliance and Field Operations, and most recently in the Division of Compliance within the Office of the General Counsel. He currently manages a staff of 12 attorneys, providing leadership in devising legal strategies to ensure that manufacturers, importers, distributors, and retailers of dangerously defective and hazardous products are held responsible for harm caused to consumers. Over the years, he has been an excellent mentor to staff attorneys and legal interns.

Over the course of his long and distinguished Federal career, Mr. Yelenik helped negotiate numerous major product recalls with such firms as Wal-Mart, Cosco, and Fisher-Price. The Fisher-Price recall involved ten million battery-powered Power Wheel ride-on cars that presented a fire hazard to children. This toy recall was one of the largest and most expensive recalls in CPSC’s history.

Mr. Yelenik has also served as lead counsel in some of the largest monetary civil penalty cases in the CPSC’s history for reporting violations under section 15(b) of the Consumer Product Safety Act. The cases include a \$4 million civil penalty against the McDonald’s Corporation in 1999; a \$1.75 million penalty against Dorel USA (Cosco/Safety 1st) in 2001; and a \$1.1 million penalty against Fisher-Price in 2001. In 2009, he negotiated a \$2.3 million civil penalty against Mattel for multiple violations of the lead paint ban in children’s products. The Mattel violations were one of the catalysts that led to the passage of the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act of 2008.

During his tenure at CPSC, Mr. Yelenik has played a major role in protecting the public from unreasonable risks of injury posed by consumer products. He has demonstrated inspiring leadership and has been a valued employee at the CPSC.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to thank Ronald G. Yelenik for his honorable service to

our Nation and I wish him a rewarding retirement.

HONORING JILL K. DUFFY

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 14, 2010

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Jill Duffy for her 8 years of distinguished public service on the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors.

Born in Los Angeles, Ms. Duffy moved to Humboldt County at a young age. She completed her education at Humboldt State University, where she studied Environmental Engineering. After serving for 15 years as an Environmental Compliance Analyst for the City of Arcata and 4 years on the McKinleyville Community Services District Board, she was elected to represent Humboldt County’s 5th Supervisorial District in 2002.

Throughout her two terms, Jill has been a capable and enthusiastic voice for the citizens of Humboldt County. She has provided competent leadership on a variety of issues, including protection of our rich natural resources. She was appointed by the governor to sit on the Statewide Watershed Monitoring Advisory Committee and was the county representative for Klamath River dam removal negotiations. She was also a stalwart advocate for securing county access to water rights on the Trinity River.

Jill has been active on numerous committees and boards, including the California State Association of Counties Working Group for Compact Negotiations for Indian Gaming, Northwest California Resource Conservation & Development Council, California Water Environment Association, North Coast Pollution Prevention Committee, Humboldt Bay Shellfish Technical Advisory Committee, McKinleyville General Plan Citizen’s Advisory Committee, Redwood National Park Association, Redwood Coast Energy Authority, Humboldt County Code Enforcement Task Force Sub-Committee, North Coast Unified Air Quality Management District, Arcata-Eureka Airport Terminal Building Decoration and Advertising Committee, and the Humboldt Transit Authority.

Whether through her efforts to safeguard our region’s unique environmental assets or champion the rights of towns to participate in the county planning process, Ms. Duffy has been a proven relationship builder and diligent representative.

Madam Speaker, it is appropriate at this time to acknowledge and thank Jill Duffy for her 8 years of commendable leadership and unwavering commitment to the citizens of Humboldt County.

HONORING JOHN TROUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 14, 2010

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize John Trout. John is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy