

FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS, FISCAL YEAR 2010—VETO MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 111-84)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following veto message from the President of the United States:

MEMORANDUM OF DISAPPROVAL

The enactment of H.R. 3326 (Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2010, Public Law 111-118), which was signed into law on December 19, 2009, has rendered the enactment of H.J. Res. 64 (Continuing Appropriations, FY 2010) unnecessary. Accordingly, I am withholding my approval from the bill. (The Pocket Veto Case, 279 U.S. 655 (1929)).

To leave no doubt that the bill is being vetoed as unnecessary legislation, in addition to withholding my signature, I am also returning H.J. Res. 64 to the Clerk of the House of Representatives, along with this Memorandum of Disapproval.

BARACK OBAMA.

THE WHITE HOUSE, December 30, 2009.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The objections of the President will be spread at large upon the Journal, and the veto message and the joint resolution will be printed as a House document.

Pursuant to the order of the House of today, further consideration of the veto message and the joint resolution are postponed until the legislative day of Wednesday, January 13, 2010, and that on that legislative day, the House shall proceed to the constitutional question of reconsideration and dispose of such question without intervening motion.

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COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, December 29, 2009.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
The Speaker, The Capitol, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, I have the honor to transmit a sealed envelope received from the White House on Thursday, December 24, 2009 at 1:41 p.m., and said to contain a message from the President whereby he transmits a proclamation he has issued entitled, "TO MODIFY DUTY-FREE TREATMENT UNDER THE GENERALIZED SYSTEM OF PREFERENCES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

With best wishes, I am
Sincerely,

LORRAINE C. MILLER,
Clerk of the House.

TO MODIFY DUTY-FREE TREATMENT UNDER THE GENERALIZED SYSTEM OF PREFERENCES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 111-85)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

The Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) offers duty-free treatment to specified products that are imported from designated beneficiary developing countries. The GSP is authorized by title V of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (the "Act").

In accordance with sections 502(f)(1)(A) and 502(f)(2) of the Act, I am providing notification of my intent to add the Republic of Maldives to the list of beneficiary developing countries under the GSP program and my intent to terminate the designations of Croatia and Equatorial Guinea as beneficiary developing countries under the GSP program.

In Proclamation 6813 of July 28, 1995, the designation of Maldives as a beneficiary developing country for purposes of the GSP program was suspended. After considering the criteria set forth in sections 501 and 502 of the Act, I have determined that the suspension of the designation of Maldives as a GSP beneficiary developing country should be ended.

In addition, I have determined that Croatia and Equatorial Guinea have each become a "high income" country, as defined by the official statistics of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development. In accordance with section 502(e) of the Act, I have determined that the designations of Croatia and Equatorial Guinea as beneficiary developing countries under the GSP program should be terminated, effective January 1, 2011.

BARACK OBAMA.

THE WHITE HOUSE, December 23, 2009.

WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT DAVE MCCONNELL

(Mr. HOYER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to salute a Washington correspondent, Dave McConnell, who is a good friend of mine and who this month is marking his 45th anniversary with WTOP radio.

Since 1965, Dave has been a Washington radio institution; and since 1981, he has been reporting full time from Capitol Hill. I dare say that every one of us in this Chamber has had an opportunity to talk to our friend, David McConnell. He has reported with the

insight and impartiality that typified journalism at its best.

In that time, Dave's career has been repeatedly recognized by his colleagues. His honors include, among others, the A.I.R. Lifetime Achievement Award, Maryland and Virginia AP Broadcast Journalism Reporting Awards, and induction in the Society of Professional Journalists Hall of Fame. Decades of listeners have turned to Dave for inside knowledge on how their Congress works.

Along with many other Members of Congress, I am glad to call Dave a friend. We share our home State of Maryland and an abiding love of the institution of the House of Representatives. And I trust that that love will inspire Dave's works here for many years to come. As he has often said, and I quote, "As long as I have a seat covering the greatest show on Earth and can witness history being made, I'm going to keep reporting."

Dave, we hope you do. You do it well. God bless you and congratulations.

CBS' "60 MINUTES" WINS LAP DOG AWARD

(Mr. SMITH of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, CBS' "60 Minutes" is the winner of the Media Fairness Caucus' highly un-coveted "Lap Dog Award" for this week's most glaring example of media bias.

A new book called "Game Change" has brought to light comments made by the Senate majority leader that some people find offensive. On Sunday, "60 Minutes" featured a 13-minute story about the book and interviewed its authors. Not once did "60 Minutes" mention the majority leader's comments. Instead, they devoted 10 minutes to negative comments about former Governor Sarah Palin.

What an astounding example of biased journalism. It is no wonder five out of six Americans see the national news media as "very or somewhat biased," according to a recent public opinion poll.

CBS and "60 Minutes" should report the facts, not engage in double standards.

HONORING TONY CARNEMOLLA

(Mr. MCNERNEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MCNERNEY. Mr. Speaker, today I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Tony Carnemolla, who recently passed away at age 74.

Tony made a difference in the lives of countless residents of our community. His active involvement as commander of VFW Post 75 in Danville and civic organizations like the Exchange Club serves as a lasting example for the residents of Danville and the San Ramon Valley.

At age 17, Tony Carnemolla joined the Army to serve our great Nation during the Korean War. Later, he became a tireless volunteer and advocate for his fellow veterans. He spearheaded the effort to renovate the Veterans Memorial Building in Danville and volunteered at countless local events to benefit veterans.

Tony was a warm and respected leader and a dear friend. He will be missed. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the memory of Tony Carnemolla and in sending our thoughts and prayers to his beloved family and friends.

HONORING ARMY SPECIALIST JASON JOHNSTON

(Mr. LEE of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. LEE of New York. On December 26, our Nation lost a true hero.

Army Specialist Jason Johnston of Albion, New York, was killed in action in southern Afghanistan while serving on his second tour of duty. He volunteered to return, feeling a strong commitment to his fellow soldiers and insisting on joining them for a second deployment.

Specialist Johnston was an elite soldier, the top 1 percent, according to a major general with the U.S. Army at Fort Bragg, where Jason was stationed. His bravery was without question and his valor beyond measure.

It is because of the sacrifices that our Nation's brave soldiers like Specialist Johnston make each and every day in regions far across the globe that keep Americans sleeping safely at night.

Specialist Johnston was one of the Nation's finest soldiers. As his family said last week, he "was a hometown hero who died serving the country he loved." He will be missed.

HONORING WILLIE MITCHELL

(Mr. COHEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. COHEN. This past week, the city of Memphis and the world lost a great musical producer and musical icon, Willie Mitchell.

Willie Mitchell was laid to rest today in Memphis, Tennessee. He produced a sound that included O.V. Wright, Syl Johnson, and Ann Peebles; but his most famous find was Al Green.

A great horn player and a great musician, Willie Mitchell was in Texas and Al Green was on the bill. He told Al Green, Come back to Memphis, and I will make you a star, and he did that. It happened so much in Memphis: Come to Memphis, and I will make you a star, and it happened.

Willie Mitchell was part of that great Memphis legend and soul music. He was loved by people in the studio and by his family. He received the Trustees Award from the Grammys in 2008 for a

lifetime of achievement. He gave people lots of love and happiness and reasons to stay together, he and Al Green.

He leaves two wonderful daughters, two grandsons who became his sons, a stepson, a musical history and a musical tradition that will live on forever. We will all miss Willie Mitchell and appreciate the fact that he came our way and helped produce the Memphis sound.

JOBS IN THE NEW YEAR

(Mr. PAULSEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, last week the Bureau of Labor and Statistics released its final economic report for 2009. Unfortunately, the report showed the year ending on a very disappointing note: 85,000 more jobs lost and 10 percent unemployment for the month of December.

It is very clear that the excessive borrowing and spending in Washington is not paying off where it is needed most: job creation. In fact, just this week, an investigation by the Associated Press found that large portions of the \$787 billion stimulus plan had "no effect on local employment."

Mr. Speaker, Americans across the country have already made their 2010 New Year's resolutions. Congress now needs to make its own, and that is that job creation will be our number one priority.

An economic recovery without jobs is not a recovery. I urge Congress, as we get back to work this month, to finally work together to enact real bipartisan solutions that will give the American people what they want: more jobs, without breaking the bank.

H.R. 4414

(Mr. KUCINICH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KUCINICH. I have introduced H.R. 4414, the Responsible Bankers Act of 2010. Now, many of you know I voted against both pieces of TARP legislation.

It is time that America got their money back and imposed a 75 percent tax on the bonuses that bankers are planning to pay themselves using wind-fall profits earned from massive taxpayer support of the financial services industry. The Responsible Bankers Act will not penalize banks for making a profit but, rather, will tax the bonus pools that are set aside.

As I pointed out a month ago, bankers are preparing to pay themselves record bonuses, rather than lending and investing in American prosperity. They should use their profits, and they could use their profits, to do many things to improve the prospects of the American economy, like strengthen their capital base, reduce fees charged to customers, or increase lending to

small and medium-sized companies. Well, they are not doing that. They are hoarding it. They are using the money to try to take over other banks.

H.R. 4414 draws on the movement that is happening right now in the U.K. and around the world, where people are waking up that if banks are not there to help with the economy of the Nation, then they should have to pay a serious tax on their bonuses.

OUR FOUNDING FATHERS, THE CONSTITUTION, AND THE REVOLUTION

(Mr. ROONEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. ROONEY. Mr. Speaker, James Madison said in Federalist 45: "The powers delegated by the proposed Constitution to the Federal Government are few and defined. Those which are to remain with the State governments are numerous and indefinite."

Later codified in the 10th Amendment, the Founding Fathers intended the powers of the States to act as a check on those of the Federal Government, and the Supreme Court said, in 1975, that "Congress may not exercise power in a fashion that impairs the States' integrity or ability to function effectively."

Mr. Speaker, time and time again, this Congress over the past year has forgotten the purpose of the 10th Amendment, from hate crimes to health care. We either stand with the Founding Fathers, the Constitution, and the Revolution, or we don't. And, if we do not, we do so at our peril.

AMERICA MUST ANSWER THE CALL

(Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Happy New Year to America. As we start this new year, I believe it is important to clarify a lot of misinterpretations about what the job of the Federal Government is and what this Congress' responsibility is.

We are problem-solvers. We work to solve the issues on behalf of the American people. And as we look at this health care debate, which I hope will be entirely transparent, let the underlying premise be that 36 million people are without insurance.

In addition, this health care bill will generate numerous numbers of jobs and new health professional scholarships to provide for doctors and nurses, making sure that you do not have a denial of insurance because of preexisting disease.

And jobs we must make. We must move forward on the jobs bill, and I am in particular pushing one that says if you are on unemployment insurance, you can continue to get training. Scholarships and a stipend will be given to you along with your unemployment insurance so you can train for the new jobs.