

Dr. Burr, the father of Senator RICHARD BURR, was a faithful pastor to many over the course of his decades of service as pastor at First Presbyterian Church in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. His was a life well lived and his passing leaves a great void in the community in which he was very active.

During his 90 years of life Dr. Burr exemplified an ethic of service. He served honorably in the Navy during World War II. He shepherded the flock at First Presbyterian with great care and compassion. And he never neglected the needs and lives of those around him in the community.

He was a great man who lived for God, who inspired by example and who will leave a legacy of love of which his family and friends can be proud.

Today the loved ones of Dr. Burr are in my prayers as they grieve this great loss and look forward to one day being reunited with a beloved husband, father, pastor and friend.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 12, 2011

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained during the votes on July 11, 2011. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall No. 534, the Tierney amendment to restore funding to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Construction and Operation and Maintenance accounts, and I would have voted "no" on rollcall Nos. 535, 536, 537, and 538.

BETTER USE OF LIGHT BULBS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 11, 2011

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to explain my position on H.R. 2417, the Better Use of Light Bulbs Act. As a Member of Congress for nearly two decades, time and time again I have said that the best way to lower energy costs is to make homes, buildings, vehicles, and infrastructure more energy efficient. In the process, we also create jobs. I remain a steadfast supporter of energy efficiency initiatives, knowing that it is imperative for us as a country to develop an energy supply that is both sustainable and diverse in order to improve our quality of life and protect our environment.

My initial support in co-signing H.R. 2417 was to make light bulbs less expensive and more accessible for low-income families. People living in poverty and low-income elderly should not have to choose between paying their electric bill and buying food for themselves and their families. I initially added my name as a co-sponsor of this legislation with these citizens in mind; however, after hearing from the industry, my colleagues, and most

importantly my constituents, I reconsidered my position on the bill and will vote against it.

HONORING PAUL SANTORO, CRNA, MS, PRESIDENT OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF NURSE ANESTHETISTS

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 12, 2011

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to my constituent Paul Santoro, CRNA, MS. Mr. Santoro will soon complete his year as national president of the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists (AANA). I am proud that Mr. Santoro was tapped as the 2010–2011 President of this prestigious national organization.

Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs) are advanced practice registered nurses who administer approximately 32 million anesthetics to patients each year. They work in every setting in which anesthesia is delivered including hospital surgical suites, obstetrical delivery rooms, ambulatory surgical centers, and the offices of dentists, podiatrists, and specialty surgeons. They also provide acute and chronic pain management services to patients in need of such care. CRNAs provide anesthesia for all types of surgical cases and, in some states, are the sole anesthesia providers in rural hospitals.

Mr. Santoro has contributed greatly to the health care community in southeast Michigan. He is the founder and Chief Executive Officer of Anesthesia Staffing Consultants, Inc. located in Bingham Farms, MI and a member of the allied medical staff at numerous hospitals and surgery centers in southeast and mid-Michigan. He graduated Magna Cum Laude from the University of Detroit Mercy with a bachelor's degree in science, and received his master's degree in nurse anesthesia from the Henry Ford Hospital/University of Detroit Mercy Nurse Anesthesia Program.

In addition to his current service as AANA President, Mr. Santoro has held various leadership positions in the AANA, including President-elect, Vice President, Treasurer, Region 3 Director, and has served on numerous committees. He is a former president of the Michigan Association of Nurse Anesthetists.

Mr. Santoro is a distinguished speaker on anesthesia and health care economics and has lectured nationwide on the safety, value and cost-effectiveness of CRNA care. During his AANA Presidency, Mr. Santoro was an important advocate for the practice of nurse anesthesia and its patients before federal agencies and members of Congress. He has worked tirelessly to promote the value of CRNAs to our health care system.

I extend my sincere congratulations to Mr. Santoro today on a job well done. His service to the AANA and the patients of southeast Michigan is commendable, and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing his notable career and outstanding achievements.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO SABLAN

OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2354) making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes:

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Chair, I rise in support of the amendment, submitted by my good friends and colleagues, Mr. TONKO and Mr. BASS, that would amend the Energy and Water Appropriations for fiscal year 2012. This important amendment restores funds to the fiscal year 2011 levels for the Weatherization Assistance Program and the State Energy Program.

The Weatherization Assistance Program funds are intended to assist low-income residents across America and in the Northern Marianas to improve energy efficiency, and reduce energy use and fossil fuel emissions in their homes. The State Energy Program funds are used to upgrade the efficiency of government facilities, promote consumer products that carry the Energy Star® label, or invest in alternative fuel infrastructure. Both of these funds create an immediate benefit to those being helped and a long-term benefit to all of us by investing in our future and making America more energy efficient and independent.

Where I live in the Northern Mariana Islands, electricity rates are unusually high and energy efficiency is especially important due to the fact that the Northern Mariana Islands is warmer in climate. As of January 2011, the current base electric rate is 28 cents per kilowatt hour. While electricity rates are one of the highest in the nation, our minimum wage is only \$5.05 an hour. Therefore, we rely on Weatherization Assistance Program to give funds to those who need the assistance the most and to alleviate the financial burden that energy use places on these low-income households.

The Northern Mariana Islands also benefit from the funds under the State Energy Program by creating programs like the Green Energy Project, which provided for solar panels and wind turbines at eleven of our public schools on Saipan, Tinian and Rota.

In addition, both programs have the potential and a record of creating local jobs in the construction and energy sectors for all of our economies. I ask that my colleagues support the Tonko-Bass amendment. It is an amendment that helps those that need it most and invests in our future. Taking money away from these very important programs hurts our progress in energy efficiency and job creation.

HONORING THE LIFE OF LEONARD
EARL ROBERTS, SR.

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 12, 2011

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Leonard Earl Roberts, Sr., a public servant and community leader, whose impact has been felt not only in Southern California but throughout the country. On July 5, 2011, Mr. Roberts passed away, leaving a legacy of service and patriotism. He will be dearly missed by all who knew him, but his example lives on in all of the lives that he touched.

Leonard Earl Roberts, Sr. was born in 1925—at the height of the Harlem Renaissance—to Mary Queen Dorsey in Vidalia, Louisiana.

Leonard, Sr. was no stranger to meeting and overcoming adversity. In his desire to serve his country, he joined the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) at the young age of sixteen, where he participated in the efforts to rebuild our Nation's infrastructure during the economic recovery efforts from the Great Depression. Later that year, Leonard, Sr. stepped forward to defend our country following the events of Pearl Harbor, despite being under age, and quickly advanced to the rank of staff sergeant. Leonard, Sr. was in the first wave to land on Omaha Beach during the Normandy invasion on June 6, 1944, as part of Operation Overlord, now known to most of the world as D-Day. He successfully led his platoon in many battles until his honorable discharge on December 7, 1945 at the close of the war. His entire outfit received the Bronze Indian Arrowhead for Assault Trooper, the Cor-De-Guerre—France's highest military honor—and several other medals and honors.

Upon his return home after military service, he sought out and married his childhood sweetheart, Dessie. Leonard, Sr. and Dessie moved to Boston, Massachusetts, taking advantage of the GI Bill and attending the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), where he received an Engineering degree. In the following years, Leonard and Dessie welcomed three children to the family—Donna, Janet, and Leonard, Jr.

Leonard, Sr. soon moved his family to Los Angeles, California—where children Jacqueline and Keith were born—to begin his lifelong career in the Aerospace industry which was his civilian way of continuing his service to our country. He designed a four axis machine for specialized production of precision oversized aircraft parts which revolutionized the industry. In 1972, Leonard, Sr. established Roberts Aerospace Manufacturing Engineering Corporation (RAMEC), and continued to receive coveted government contracts, as a result of his expertise in precision manufacturing for nearly four decades until the time of his passing. Equally of note, Mr. Roberts was well known in the industry as a man of integrity.

Leonard, Sr. valued God, Country and, above all else, family, which is demonstrated by his marriage to Dessie for sixty-five years and his commitment to his children. His love will live forever in the hearts of his grandchildren Allen Talbert, Kellie Clay (deceased), Chanel Troy-Thompson, Danielle Benoit-Williams, Natalie Roberts, Raquel Roberts-Rich-

ards and Bridgette Craddock and Grandchildren Tealor Chanel Mason, Jeraud, Jeremiah Jr. and Jehman Williams, Carl Quincy Clay, II, Lauren, Sydney and Brandon Talbert, Rameses Earl Roberts Richards, and Marcus Sebastian Mason.

Leonard, Sr. will be lovingly remembered by his sister Dottie and his nieces Cheri, Donna and Shanel, along with a host of other relatives and friends.

He recently imparted the profound statement to his loved ones, a motto which he lived by, "Everything is manageable in a family." Leonard, Sr. lived his life by anticipating the outcome of an effort before beginning the task. It mattered not how straight the gate or how charged with punishment the scroll, Leonard Sr. was the master of his fate, he was the captain of his soul.

My thoughts and prayers are with the Leonard E. Roberts family. His passing is an enormous loss for my district, Southern California, and the Nation as a whole.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2354) making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes:

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Chair, today I rise in opposition to the H.R. 2354, the Fiscal Year 2012 Energy & Water Development Appropriations Bill. In particular, I oppose the provisions of this legislation that would rescind all remaining unobligated high-speed rail American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds. The rescission would eliminate rail funding for the high-speed Chicago to Detroit line, eliminate thousands of jobs, and provide fewer travel options for my constituents.

Well over \$492 million is cut from three projects, which are critical components of this high speed rail line. Even worse, these cuts would eliminate more than 13,000 jobs in a community where good paying jobs are few and far between.

High speed rail would give my constituents a viable and green commuting option in the Midwest. Having the ability to travel from Detroit to Chicago with the speed of a plane flight would open the doors to new business investments in the Metro Detroit area and connect major markets in the Midwest. It would be a win-win for consumers and business.

Mr. Chair, it is appalling that this body seems to lack the courage to strive for greatness for America.

Franklin Coolidge had that courage. He worked with Congress to create the Hoover Dam.

Dwight Eisenhower had that courage. He worked with Congress to create the National Highway System.

John Kennedy had that courage. He and Congress sent our country to the moon.

Where is this body's courage? Where is the belief that America can still do and build great things? Do we still have the desire to be the best, or will we let China lead the way on when it comes to manufacturing and high speed rail in the 21st Century?

I for one believe America can, and must, be a leader when it comes to investing in our country's economic future. I urge my colleagues to reject this defeatist bill and embrace a 21st century transit system.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF FORMER FIRST LADY BETTY FORD

HON. MARY BONO MACK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 12, 2011

Mrs. BONO MACK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of the most influential and transformative First Ladies of our time, Betty Ford.

Born Elizabeth Ann Bloomer on April 8, 1918, Betty grew up in Michigan and studied dance, which ultimately helped lead her to the city of New York where she found work as a model and taught children to support her studies. In 1948, Betty married Gerald R. Ford, the future President of the United States, shortly before he began serving the first of his 13 successful terms in the U.S. House of Representatives. Mrs. Ford made it clear early on that her first priority was her family, but, it soon became apparent that would not be her only role in public life.

As First Lady during a particularly turbulent time for our Nation, Mrs. Ford spoke plainly and openly about the challenges confronting all Americans; and the people loved her for her candor and common sense. The Ford family reflected the core values of the American people, but, they were also not afraid to let the Nation see that their family was not perfect simply because it resided in the White House. Mrs. Ford spoke openly about the struggles their family faced and became one of the first women in public life to discuss her own battles with breast cancer and prescription drug addiction. Sharing her story raised the level of public consciousness and understanding of these important issues and made it "OK" for people to seek treatment and recovery.

Although her actions as First Lady had an immediate and profound impact on American culture, her work after she left the White House may have had the biggest impact on ensuring her lasting legacy as a leader in the recovery movement.

Following their time in the White House, President and Mrs. Ford relocated to Rancho Mirage, California and Vail, Colorado. As full-time residents of Rancho Mirage, they resided in the Congressional District which I would come to have the honor of representing, and I was incredibly proud to call the Fords constituents and dear friends. The Fords were fixtures in our desert community and many local residents counted them as friends. President and Mrs. Ford contributed greatly to countless worthwhile causes and generously shared that most precious of commodities, their time. In 2008, I proudly authored a bill designating their neighborhood post office as the "Gerald