

in the near future that will make meaningful cuts and long-lasting reforms.

CONGRATULATING SOUTH SUDAN'S INDEPENDENCE

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 20, 2011

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the Republic of South Sudan on achieving their independence. This is a long awaited step for a nation that has experienced many years of struggle and strife.

South Sudan has fought for their independence for a long time: first from Egypt and the United Kingdom, which was achieved in 1956, and then years of civil war with Northern Sudan that culminated with the horrific genocide in Darfur. Thanks to the efforts of Secretary of State Colin Powell in 2005, an end to civil war was reached and the framework for an independent Southern Sudan was established.

There are many people who deserve credit for fostering this momentous occasion. I thank President Barack Obama and Vice-President JOE BIDEN for their leadership in rallying the international community to push this referendum through; Secretary of State Hillary Clinton for helping broker peace in the region; Ambassador Susan Rice for building support for South Sudan in the United Nations; and Special Envoy Princeton Lyman, his predecessor, Scott Gration, and numerous other U.S. Government officials who worked tirelessly to bring peace and independence to a troubled region.

A special word of praise goes out to the tireless efforts of dozens of American diplomats who, in the face of considerable danger, have been on the ground throughout Sudan. They helped to forge independence for South Sudan through guidance, advice, and collaboration with both sides and helped facilitate negotiations that culminated in the referendum for South Sudan's independence. Our heroic diplomats will continue to remain in both countries to support them through this time of transition.

The United States has worked long and hard for this moment. Our commitment, however, does not end with the declaration. I look forward to working with my colleagues and the State Department in helping the new African nation establish their economy, strengthen their democracy and meet the needs of the people. This is a joyous event for South Sudan and an inspiration to the world for achieving peace and stability.

HONORING CORPORAL FRANK GROSS

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 20, 2011

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life, sacrifice, and heroism of Army Corporal Frank Gross, of Oldsmar, Florida.

CPL Gross, a member of the 38th Cavalry Regiment, lost his life on July 16th in Khost,

Afghanistan, when the vehicle he was riding in was struck by an improvised explosive device.

As Vice-Chairman of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, I constantly find myself in awe of the sacrifices and efforts that are made on behalf of our great country by the men and women who have worn the uniform of our Armed Services. CPL Gross personified this dedication by postponing a bright career to enlist in the United States Army and follow in the footsteps of his grandfathers into military service.

Outside of the Army, Frank was an outstanding baseball player who attended college on a baseball scholarship. Off of the baseball diamond, CPL Gross demonstrated a talented artistic ability and ultimately earned bachelor's and master's degrees from Full Sail University in digital arts and entertainment business.

Mr. Speaker, though proud to have such a fine example from the Tampa Bay community, it is with great remorse that I rise to commemorate the life of CPL Gross. As I stated, I am in awe of the young men and women, such as Frank Gross, who choose to serve alongside their countrymen in our military. As professionals in all that they do, they exhibit honor, courage, and commitment in every pursuit. Their sacrifices, such as that made by CPL Gross, will not be forgotten.

COMMENDING J.J. O'CONNOR AND THE OTHER PARTICIPANTS IN THE 1918 TRENCH FEVER STUDY

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 20, 2011

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the American soldiers who participated in the 1918 Trench Fever study, conducted by the American Red Cross. Their service was brought to my attention by one of my constituents, Eugene O'Connor, whose father, Joseph John O'Connor, served as a private in the U.S. Army during World War I and participated in the study.

After volunteering along with 19 other American soldiers, Pvt. O'Connor, at the time only 19 years old, was selected to participate in the study to determine the causes and progression of trench fever, an illness that was one of the most prevalent diseases amongst soldiers during World War I. From 1915 to 1918, nearly 1 million soldiers became ill from trench fever, many of whom remained ill for months.

On February 23, 1918, Pvt. O'Connor was directly injected with 15 c.c. of plasma from soldiers suffering from trench fever, eventually becoming severely ill while researchers documented the progression, effects, and transmission of the disease. After two continuous months of the illness, and having suffered from its debilitating effects, Pvt. O'Connor recovered and returned to the front lines as an ambulance driver and stretch-bearer until the end of the war.

Mr. Speaker, Pvt. O'Connor and the other soldiers who participated in the Trench Fever study were never recognized, compensated, or acknowledged for their sacrifice. They deserve to be properly recognized for the courage and sacrifice they made to help doctors understand and treat a disease afflicting their fellow soldiers. Because of their participation,

this illness has been all but eradicated in modern times. We owe Joseph John O'Connor and these other brave men a debt of gratitude.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHARLES W. DENT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 20, 2011

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 601 and 602: I regret that I was unavoidably absent on Monday, July 18, 2011, due to a family obligation. Had I been present for the two votes which occurred, I would have voted "aye" on H.R. 33, rollcall No. 601 and "aye" on Approving the Journal, rollcall No. 602.

RECOGNIZING THE 37TH ANNIVERSARY OF TURKEY'S ILLEGAL IN- VASION OF CYPRUS

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 20, 2011

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the 37th anniversary of Turkey's illegal occupation of Cyprus. I hope that my colleagues in the House of Representatives will join me in calling for an end to this occupation.

On July 20th 1974, Turkey invaded Cyprus in violation of international law and at great cost to the citizens of Cyprus. Turkish troops established a heavily-armed force which occupied the northern part of Cyprus and continues to occupy close to 37 percent of Cyprus' territory. The invasion forced nearly 200,000 Greek Cypriots to flee their homes and made one-third of the Cypriot population refugees in their own country.

Turkey continues to illegally occupy northern Cyprus with a force of approximately 43,000 troops. This incredible number of troops amounts to almost one Turkish soldier for every two Turkish Cypriots. The military occupation of northern Cyprus continues in the face of international pressure to achieve a peaceful settlement.

While military occupation of northern Cyprus continues to be a constant threat to peace, the forcible expulsion of Greek Cypriots and U.S. citizens has resulted in the mass colonization of their homes and property. At the time of the invasion this amounted to almost one-third of the total population of the island being expelled and having their property taken. Once again this illegal colonization comes in defiance of international calls on Turkey to take action to stop the illegal occupation and ensure the return of properties to their rightful owners.

In fact, since 1974 more than 75 resolutions have been adopted by the U.N. Security Council and more than 13 by the U.N. General Assembly calling for a withdrawal of Turkish troops and the return of refugees to their rightful homes. However, the Turkish government continues to remain defiant, plainly ignoring these calls to withdraw and continuing to display blatant disrespect towards Greek Cypriots and their property.

We continue to see Turkey pursuing policies that not only hurt its relations with nations that

should serve as true democratic allies, but also policies that hurt regional stability. I have been an outspoken opponent of Turkey's irresponsible regional relations, which in many ways negatively impact the United States. Turkey plainly disrespects international law and provides support to rogue nations and organizations that threaten the United States and our regional partners.

It is unfortunate that I must again this year say enough is enough and ask my colleagues to join me in taking principled steps to prevent further destabilizing actions by Turkey. As a member of the Hellenic Caucus, I have long advocated for the withdrawal of Turkish forces from northern Cyprus and called on Turkey to support a settlement that comes from the Cypriots themselves.

Cypriot President Christofias has begun meetings with Turkish Cypriot leader Mr. Eroglu and U.N. Secretary General Ban Ki Moon in attempts to come to a peaceful settlement. The leaders have agreed to intensify their diplomatic contacts in order to establish a practical plan for overcoming the major remaining disagreements. It is my hope that this agreement will come in a fair and expeditious manner that is in the best interest of the Cypriot people.

The U.S. must also do its part to foster a united Cyprus. It is in the best interest of the United States, and I believe all involved parties to ensure that the goal is a reunified Cyprus where Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots live together in peace and security. A successful settlement effort must build on the work towards a bizonal, bicomunal federation with political equality that represents U.N. Security Council resolutions. In the end, Cyprus must have a single sovereignty and single citizenship which all Cypriots can enjoy.

Now is the time for Turkey to show that they are willing to take a sincere approach to allowing a peaceful resolution to the dispute. The leadership in Ankara must show that the will and support behind a peaceful settlement is in the best interest of Turkey and that it is fully supported. Without such a signal by the Government of Turkey, a final settlement will continue to dwindle as Turkish settlers pursue the policies of their home nation. The Government of the Republic of Cyprus has shown their willingness to work constructively with the Cypriots towards a reunified island. It is time for Turkey to do the same.

Mr. Speaker, today I am reintroducing legislation that is just one step towards achieving justice for those who have been unfairly expelled from their rightful property in occupied Cyprus. My legislation, the American Owned Property in Occupied Cyprus Claims Act, will enable U.S. citizens who own property in the Turkish-occupied territory to seek financial remedies with either the current inhabitants of their land or the Turkish government. Passage of this legislation will not only return rights to U.S. citizens but send an important message to Turkey and the international community that the status quo cannot stand.

Mr. Speaker, as we remember the 37th Anniversary of Turkey's illegal invasion and occupation of Cyprus, I remain hopeful a united Cyprus can become a reality. However, the United States can not be complacent in this goal or the protection of its citizens.

WILL COLLEGE BUBBLE BURST FROM PUBLIC SUBSIDIES?

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 20, 2011

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, it shocks students at the University of Tennessee when I tell them it cost me only \$270 tuition my freshman year and \$405 my senior year in 1969.

George Washington University, where I attended law school, was private and "expensive" at around \$1,000 a semester. Students there now marvel at that figure.

Students could attend college in the late 60s and early 70s and pay all their expenses just by working part time.

No one got out of school deeply in debt for tuition and fees.

But costs simply explode on anything the federal government subsidizes. Healthcare was cheap and doctors even made house calls until the government got into it.

Since the federal student loan program started, college tuition has gone up three or four or five times the rate of inflation, ranging from school to school, almost every year.

Before the government started "helping," tuition went up at the rate of inflation. Now costs are 300 or 400 percent higher than if we had just left things alone.

A few years ago, I heard excerpts from a book called *Going Broke by Degree*. That is what many students are doing today by incurring huge student loan debts.

And the colleges and universities have been able to tamp down any opposition to tuition increases by encouraging an attitude of "don't worry—we'll just give you an easy, no-interest student loan."

I have been concerned about this for several years and especially after I started noticing so many college graduates working as waiters and waitresses in restaurants.

This is why I was so pleased to read a great column on this topic by Michael Barone in the July 20 edition of the *Washington Examiner* newspaper.

Mr. Barone is very respected, and he is right on target in this column, which I would like to call to the attention of my colleagues and other readers of the *RECORD*.

[From the *Washington Examiner*, July 20, 2011]

WILL COLLEGE BUBBLE BURST FROM PUBLIC SUBSIDIES?

(By Michael Barone)

When governments want to encourage what they believe is beneficial behavior, they subsidize it. Sounds like good public policy.

But there can be problems. Behavior that is beneficial for most people may not be so for everybody. And government subsidies can go too far.

Subsidies create incentives for what economists call rent-seeking behavior. Providers of supposedly beneficial goods or services try to sop up as much of the subsidy money as they can by raising prices. After all, their customers are paying with money supplied by the government.

Bubble money as it turns out. And sooner or later bubbles burst.

We are still suffering from the bursting of the housing bubble created by low interest rates, lowered mortgage standards, and sub-

sidies to Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac. Those policies encouraged the granting of mortgages to people who should never have gotten them, and when they defaulted the whole financial sector nearly collapsed.

Now some people see signs that another bubble is bursting. They call it the higher education bubble.

For years government has assumed it's a good thing to go to college. College graduates tend to earn more money than non-college graduates.

Politicians of both parties have called for giving everybody a chance to go to college, just as they called for giving everybody a chance to buy a home.

So government has been subsidizing higher education with low-interest college loans, Pell Grants and cheap tuitions at state colleges and universities.

The predictable result is that higher-education costs have risen much faster than inflation, much faster than personal incomes, much faster than the economy over the past 40 years.

Moreover, you can't get out of paying off those college loans, even by going through bankruptcy. At least with a home mortgage you can walk away and let the bank foreclose and not owe any more money.

Peter Thiel, co-founder of PayPal, is adept at spotting bubbles. He cashed out for \$500 million in March 2000, at the peak of the tech bubble, when his partners wanted to hold out for more. He refused to buy a house until the housing bubble burst.

"A true bubble is when something is overvalued and intensely believed," he has said. "Education may still be the only thing people still believe in in the United States."

But the combination of rising costs and dubious quality may be undermining that belief.

For what have institutions of higher learning accomplished with their vast increases in revenues? The answer in all too many cases is administrative bloat.

Take the California State University system, the second tier in that state's public higher education. Between 1975 and 2008 the number of faculty rose by 3 percent, to 12,019 positions. During those same years the number of administrators rose 221 percent, to 12,183. That's right: There are more administrators than teachers at Cal State now.

These people get paid to liaise and "facilitate" and produce reports on diversity. How that benefits Cal State students or California taxpayers is unclear.

It is often said that American colleges and universities are the best in the world. That's undoubtedly true in the hard sciences.

But in the humanities and to a lesser extent in the social sciences there's a lot of garbage. Is a degree in Religious and Women's Studies worth \$100,000 in student loan debt? Probably not.

As economist Richard Vedder points out, 45 percent of those who enter four-year colleges don't get a degree within six years. Given the low achievement level of most high school graduates, it's hard to avoid the conclusion that many of them shouldn't have bothered in the first place.

Now consumers seem to be reading the cues in the marketplace.

An increasing number of students are spending their first two years after high school in low-cost community colleges and then transferring to four-year schools.

A recent New York Times story reported that out-of-staters are flocking to low-tuition North Dakota State in frigid Fargo.

Politicians, including President Obama, still give lip service to the notion that everyone should go to college and can profit from it. And many college and university administrators may assume that the gravy train will go on forever.