

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 21, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2551) making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes:

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Chair, our Nation faces a significant budget deficit and a growing national debt, and we must look for simple, common sense solutions to cut spending as Congress and President Obama work toward a comprehensive, balanced deficit reduction package that will put our Nation on a path to fiscal stability. Members of Congress must lead by example.

As a State Senator in Michigan, I ran my office so efficiently that I was able to return a full year's operating budget to Michigan taxpayers. When I came to Congress at the beginning of 2009, I made it a priority to run my office efficiently, come in under budget, and return the difference to taxpayers. Last session, my office came in \$320,000 under budget, and I am continuing my efforts to save taxpayer dollars at every opportunity.

I rise today to express my support for Section 101 of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act for fiscal year 2012. This provision ensures that all unused fiscal year 2012 funds from each congressional office account, known as a Member's Representational Allowance (or MRA), be deposited in the Treasury and used for deficit reduction.

Last session, I sponsored legislation that would require all future unspent MRA funds be put toward deficit reduction, and give this requirement the force of law. This bill passed the House with overwhelming bipartisan support. Unfortunately, the Senate did not take action.

While it is encouraging that the legislation we consider today contains a similar provision, this will only apply to unused funds for next year. This is why I introduced H.R. 262, the bipartisan Mandatory Returning of Allowances Act with my colleague, Representative STEVE SCALISE. This bill will ensure that all future unused MRA funds, not just fiscal year 2012 funds, are automatically and permanently used for deficit reduction.

I urge my colleagues to support the Mandatory Returning of Allowances Act, and hope that House leadership will consider bringing this legislation to the floor for a vote.

A TRIBUTE TO REVEREND
REGINALD LEE BACHUS**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 26, 2011

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Reverend Reginald Lee Bachus on the occasion of his installation as pastor of the Mount Ollie Baptist Church in Brooklyn, New York.

Brooklyn has long been known as the "Borough of Churches" and has a rich history of outstanding contributions by churches of many denominations to enhancing the quality of life for its residents. The Mount Ollie Baptist Church is one such religious institution that has a long history of service to Brooklyn and has been led by a succession of outstanding clergy.

The Mount Ollie Baptist Church was organized and founded in 1932 by the late Reverend Henry Milerson and was incorporated on October 4, 1937 in Brooklyn, New York. The present edifice built under the leadership of Pastor R. D. Brown, established Mount Ollie Baptist Church as the first Baptist church to be constructed in the Brownsville community. In 1987, Reverend Spurgeon E. Crayton was called to pastor Mount Ollie Baptist Church and directed a ministry with many innovative programs that impacted the entire Borough of Brooklyn.

The installation of Reverend Reginald Lee Bachus as pastor of Mount Ollie Baptist Church continues the tradition of outstanding preachers who have led this great church. Reverend Bachus is a product of Prairie View A&M University where he earned a B.S. in electrical engineering, and Yale Divinity School where he earned his Master of Divinity degree and distinguished himself as a member of the 2009 Admissions Committee, Senior Class Officer, Chair for the Yale Divinity School Baptist Student Fellowship, and an officer of Yale Black Seminars.

The son of Reverend Reginald E. Bachus, pastor of the historic Friendship Baptist Church in Chicago, IL and grandson of Reverend Dr. C.L. Bachus, pastor of the Mt. Zion Baptist Church in Kansas City, KS, Pastor Bachus embodies the spirit of prophets and lives by the creed, "woe is me if I do not preach the gospel!" (1 Corinthians 9:16).

On behalf of the residents of Brooklyn, New York, I am delighted to welcome this outstanding preacher to our Borough and look forward to many years of his leadership as pastor of Mount Ollie Baptist Church.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the life and accomplishments of Reverend Reginald Lee Bachus.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF MRS.
JOANNE NOLAN**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 26, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Mrs. Joanne Nolan, a loving wife and mother and an active member of the Northeast Ohio community.

Joanne was born in Cleveland, Ohio on October 5, 1933. She grew up in Cleveland's West Park neighborhood and attended John Marshall High School. After graduating, Joanne worked for the Erie Railroad writing reports on accidents.

Joanne married Earl Nolan, on August 2, 1957. This year would have marked their 54th anniversary. A few years later, their daughter, Janet, was born and Joanne left Erie Railroad.

Mrs. Nolan was active within her community throughout the years. She was extremely active in the PTA and could often be found at community parades. Joanne was also a dedicated member of Ward 19 Democratic Club.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in remembrance of Mrs. Joanne Nolan. I offer my condolences to Joanne's husband, Earl, their daughters, Kathy and Janet, and the entire West Park community. Joanne will be sorely missed.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEVE KING

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 26, 2011

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 630, I was not present to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

ALL IN DARKNESS'S LIGHT IN
HONOR OF A REAL AMERICAN
HERO SGT. JOSHUA W.
YARBROUGH 1/5 BRAVO COM-
PANY THE UNITED STATES MA-
RINES

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 26, 2011

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to honor a Star of Texas, a United States Marine, an American Hero, Sgt. Joshua Yarbrough of Port Arthur Texas, of 1/5 Bravo Company. On June 15, 2011, in Helmond Province in Afghanistan Sgt. Yarbrough was almost mortally wounded in an IED blast which took his two fine legs and parts of his fingers while gallantly trying to save the lives of his fellow Marines in the fog of war. After an IED explosion, which left a fellow Texan

• 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.

from Dallas, Eric Galvan, near death, he ran immediately to his side. Pulling him to safety and applying tourniquets on both his lost legs and hand, he proceeded to run to Cpl. Wheeler who was hit by shrapnel from the IED. But on the way he stepped on an IED himself, which threw him 10 ft. into the air. Losing both of his legs and parts of his fingers, his new battle had just begun. Josh joined the Marines in June of 2004, and has done tours in both Iraq and Afghanistan. He was married to his wife Rachael, in November 2004, and while on his 31st MEU in July of 2006 his baby boy Sean was born. Its only been only a few short weeks, but his will to live and his attitude would make any Marine proud. Hooo Rah! And with his family's support, these quiet unsung heroes. . . . Joshua has amazed us to see how far and how fast he has come. I place this tribute to Sgt. Joshua Yarbrough, penned by Albert Caswell in his honor.

ALL IN DARKNESS'S LIGHT

All
All In Darkness's Light
All in that fight!
But, comes something so very special
oh so very bright!
All in the times of war, all in such hearts of
faith that which so insures!
That which so ignites!
But come such men of honor, whose hearts
take flight!
While, all around them such hell so breaks!
YOU GO I GO!
As its there, they will not so hesitate!
United States Marines, whose own most pre-
cious lives will so forsake!
All In The Darkness of Evil's Light, both day
and night!
Armed with but that kind of courage, which
so make's the Angel's hearts so break!
All In The Darkness of War's, Most Evil
Light
All in its fog, but comes such souls which
burn so bright!
Who so lead the way, to turn that
darkness into the light!
Because of them, and you Joshua so
many of your Brothers In Arms live on
this night!
Who by all of your most gallant acts, but
buy the time and to so save their lives!
Is that but not what Heaven is for?
All in that blood which binds you, you go
ever forth!
By all of their most heroic deeds, Bless Them
All My Lord God Speed, God
Speed!
For all of their Brothers In Arms, they die
and bleed!
While, all in the face of hell Sargent's
die and Sargent's lead!
As have you Joshua, running into that face
of death we see!
Armed with but only your most heroic creed!
To help a Marine all in need, all in your
most magnificent shades of green!
Damn right you did, with your heart of
gold Texas T!
For you are a United States Marine!
As the eyes of Texas are upon you Josh, and
we so like what we so see!
As it was on that day in June, when your two
strong legs were so taken away
After one Marine's life you had so saved, to
another one you ran that day
As when a bomb went off, as you looked
down all at the cost!
All at what this war had made!
As on the morning when you awoke, and
your fine heart to you so spoke!
As you so wiped all of those tears away, as
from your heart you invoked
The will to live, as you so realized that all
that you so had left was but hope!

As you so reached so deep down inside, to
find the strength to so cope!
For you had so much to so live for, a fine
wife and son as you went off to
war
And now also too for all of your Brothers In
Arms, who live no more!
As now you have new mountains to so climb,
for you did not die!
As somehow once again my Son, the courage
you will so find!
Already, so far you have so come as
Thy Will Be Done!
For from your Heart of Texas, your courage
comes
For you will walk, and you will run!
As you Marine, so shine like the morning
sun!
And you Will Teach Us And You Will
Beseech Us as You So Reach
Each and Everyone!
Step by step, day by day Marine,
you're already on your way!
And if I ever have a son, I wish his heart
could be as big as your one!
You United States Marine, you're one of the
best things this country has ever seen!
As one day up in Heaven you will run!
To our Lord God, when he so says
"come here my son!"
Because in your life Joshua, you would not
so let the darkness overcome!
As your heart of faith, and your soul of cour-
age has shone so bright!
All, In Darkness's Light to lead us all
the way back home!
All In Darkness's Light!
And that's just the way it is.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE HAWAIIAN HOMEOWNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES ACT OF 2011

HON. MAZIE K. HIRONO

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 26, 2011

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Hawaiian Homeownership Opportunities Act of 2011. I would like to thank Congresswoman COLLEEN HANABUSA and Congressman DON YOUNG for cosponsoring this important bill.

This bill does two things. First, it reauthorizes a section of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA) that supports programs that create homeownership opportunities for low-income Native Hawaiian families on Hawaiian Home Lands. Second, it would continue and expand access to U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) section 184a loan guarantees, which would reduce the cost of homeownership for low-income Native Hawaiian families and would also reduce risk by lowering monthly mortgage payments.

The Congress has a long and bipartisan history of supporting Native Hawaiian housing issues. The Hawaiian Homeownership Opportunities Act of 2011 continues that tradition.

Passed by Congress in 1996, NAHASDA reauthorized a system of housing assistance provided to tribes by HUD through the Indian Housing Block Grant program. This program provides funds directly to tribes for housing development and other new approaches to create housing.

In 2000, the Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grant was established under NAHASDA to allow another indigenous group support for af-

fordable housing activities. Funds for this grant are administered by the State of Hawaii Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, the entity charged with carrying out the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act. The funds are used primarily to develop infrastructure on Hawaiian Home Lands, which tend to be in the most isolated parts of the state.

In 1921, Congress passed the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act with the purpose of establishing a homesteading program to place eligible Native Hawaiians on lands in Hawaii designated for such purpose. The law was passed at the urging of the Territory of Hawaii's Delegate to Congress, Prince Jonah Kuhio Kalaniana'ole. Some 204,000 acres were set aside for the purpose of providing Native Hawaiians with land.

With the passage of the Statehood Act of 1959, the control and administration of the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act was transferred from the federal government to the newly formed State of Hawaii. The Department of Hawaiian Home Lands was created in 1960 to administer the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act.

While homeownership rates in Hawaii are typically lower than national rates, homeownership rates for Native Hawaiians in the state are even lower. In Honolulu, 38 percent of Native Hawaiians own their homes compared with 48 percent for non-natives. This disparity continues in other areas of Hawaii, where 51 percent of Native Hawaiians own their homes compared with 60 percent for non-natives.

Native Hawaiian households in Hawaii are also more likely to be low-income than non-native households. Owner households on Hawaiian home lands are among the poorest of Native Hawaiian households with approximately 25 percent having incomes at or below 50 percent of the median income for the given area.

There is a continued need for the Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grant. I urge my colleagues to support the Hawaiian Homeownership Opportunities Act of 2011.

Mahalo nui loa (thank you very much).

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEVE KING

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 26, 2011

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 631, I was not present to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GEOFF DAVIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 26, 2011

Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, July 25, 2011, I was unable to vote during the first vote series of the day.

Had I been present I would have voted: on rollcall No. 630—"yes"—H. Res. 363, Rule providing for consideration of H.R. 2584, Department of Interior, Environment and Related Agencies Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2012; on rollcall No. 631—"yes"—On Approving the Journal.