

INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA NATIONAL DISASTER INSURANCE PROTECTION ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2011

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the District of Columbia National Disaster Insurance Protection Act. The bill would exempt from federal income taxation catastrophic insurance reserves held by insurance companies in the District of Columbia. Under current federal law, catastrophic insurance reserves are subject to federal income taxation, which has led insurers to hold these funds in offshore jurisdictions, such as the Cayman Islands and Bermuda, where they are not subject to U.S. income taxation.

The bill would serve important national purposes by protecting individuals and businesses across the country from unpaid insurance claims in the event of a natural catastrophe, as well as U.S. taxpayers. Today, if a natural catastrophe occurred in the U.S., and offshore insurance companies did not pay claims, the U.S. government might need to step in and taxpayers could be on the hook for the claims. Indeed, after the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, the U.S. government had to establish a federal backstop for losses due to terrorist attacks, the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act, which is still in place today. As the recent financial crisis showed, the U.S. government has a strong interest in preventing systemic financial risks. However, U.S. individuals and businesses now rely on offshore jurisdictions to preserve and protect catastrophic insurance reserves.

Rather than leaving little alternative to locating these vital catastrophic insurance reserves offshore, it makes sense for the funds to be held in the nation's capital, the most protected and secure city in the U.S., to eliminate an existing but overlooked vulnerability in the financial system. My bill is particularly timely considering that the president issued a record number of Major Disaster Declarations in 2010 (81) and has issued 87 so far this year.

MR. FRANK CIAMPI, JR.

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2011

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Frank Ciampi, Jr., an outstanding Italian-American, for his 56 years of dedicated service in UNICO, the Italian-American service organization. Born and raised in West Pittston, Luzerne County, Mr. Ciampi moved to Hazleton to begin his career as president/owner of International Printing Company. Prior to this, Mr. Ciampi served his country in the Korean Conflict from 1950 to 1953. In 2006, he had retired after serving as president/owner of his company for 50 years.

Mr. Ciampi has been active in many organizations. Since 1958, he was a proud member of the Hazleton chapter of UNICO. During his many years in the Italian-American organization, he has served as its president as head

of the "Lick-A-Pop" committee. He played an instrumental role in raising money for the first dialysis machine in Hazleton and for the Salvation Army. Mr. Ciampi was recently named the recipient of the prestigious Presidential Citation from UNICO President Andre DiMino. He was also honored by the Italian American Association of Luzerne County with the Career Achievement Award for his efforts to improve his community.

Mr. Ciampi is not new to lasting relationships. In addition to his 56 years as part of UNICO, he recently celebrated 58 years with his wife, Ann Marie. His efforts and contributions coincide with his reputation as a family man; he has four children and seven grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, Frank Ciampi, Jr., has contributed much to the community and to UNICO in time, effort, and financial support over the course of his long and dedicated membership. He is to be commended, and his legacy should not be forgotten.

HONORING U.S. NAVY CAPTAIN CHARLES LASOTA

HON. LARRY BUCSHON

OF INDIANA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, October 6, 2011

Mr. BUCSHON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor U.S. Navy Captain Charles LaSota.

Captain LaSota took command at Crane Naval Surface Warfare Center in 2008 and today is his retirement ceremony.

I would like to congratulate Captain LaSota for a distinguished career. His many achievements in academics and the Navy have made him an officer that all sailors and citizens should emulate. His dedication to our nation has spanned many decades and many posts and for that I would like to thank Captain LaSota.

At Crane, Captain LaSota not only added more than 800 personnel during his command, but he also made sure to give back to the community that supports the base through organizations such as the Boy Scouts, American Red Cross, Ride to Recovery, and the Crane Learning and Employment Center for Veterans with Disabilities.

IN HONOR OF REVEREND DR. J.H. FLAKES, JR.

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, October 6, 2011

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding Man of God who has been a long-standing source of personal inspiration, spiritual guidance and moral leadership to me and the Columbus, Georgia community at-large, the Reverend Dr. Johnny H. Flakes, Jr. Later this year, Dr. Flakes will celebrate his fiftieth anniversary as the distinguished pastor of the Fourth Street Missionary Baptist Church in Columbus. What makes this extraordinary feat even more remarkable is that his fifty years of accomplished service at Fourth Street Missionary Baptist Church runs concurrently with his fifty-

two years of service as the senior pastor of Good Hope Baptist Church in Phenix City, Alabama.

Dr. Flakes' dynamic ability to successfully multitask the management of two flourishing churches, in two different states, over the last fifty years, is a monumental accomplishment that highlights his passion to reflect Christ through his thought-provoking sermons, pastoral leadership, unyielding love for the members of his congregations and his deep and abiding faith.

Despite the numerous challenges he has encountered along his life's journey, Dr. Flakes has not relented nor retreated in the face of insurmountable hardships. While his rebellious early life was filled with challenges—being a high school drop-out and suffering with both alcohol and gambling addictions—he surrendered his life to the calling of God through Christ Jesus and was transformed. He was called to pastor Good Hope Missionary Baptist Church and Fourth Street Missionary Baptist Church and while pastoring both churches full-time, drove from Columbus, Georgia to Nashville, Tennessee and back each week over four years to earn his GED and Bachelor of Arts degree from American Baptist College.

He later would go on to serve as Chairman of the Board of Trustees for American Baptist College and recently the administration building on the school's campus was named in his honor.

Always pressing towards the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus, to better improve the craft of Christian ministry and discipleship, he became a catalytic leader in the National Baptist Congress of Christian Education, for many years served as President of the Congress of Christian Education for the General Missionary Baptist Convention of Georgia and ultimately served on the Executive Committee Board of the National Baptist Convention. Dr. Flakes has also received honorary doctorate degrees from A.B. Lee Theological Seminary in Jacksonville, Florida and his beloved alma mater, American Baptist College.

Throughout his pastoral career, Dr. Flakes has played a leading role in several other religious-affiliated and community-based organizations. He served courageously as President of the Columbus branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) for several years; is the President and Founder of "A Call To Talk" (ACTT); Chairman of One Columbus; and Chartering Pastor of the General Missionary Baptist Church Convention of West Germany.

Reverend Flakes has been repeatedly acknowledged for his outstanding achievements, service and public distinction. He is the recipient of the Outstanding Personality of the South Award; Ten Outstanding Ministers in the State of Georgia Award; Alpha Phi Alpha Martin Luther King, Jr. Award; Operation PUSH Martin Luther King, Jr. Award; and the Knight-hood Award from the Congress of Christian Education.

Dr. Flakes has achieved numerous successes in his life, but none of this would have been possible without the grace of God and his loving wife of more than fifty-seven years, Robena Gaines Flakes. Dr. and Mrs. Flakes are the parents of three children—Sincera, Johnny and Merle—and the proud grandparents of three granddaughters.

One of Dr. and Mrs. Flakes' sons, Johnny H. Flakes III, is an emerging community leader in Columbus, Georgia and now co-pastors at Fourth Street Missionary Baptist Church and Good Hope Missionary Baptist Church with his father. As the scripture tells us, "Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it." Dr. Flakes has encouraged his children and grandchildren not to be carbon copies of him but to glean from his wisdom and experience and be available to the leadership of the Holy Spirit.

On a personal note, Dr. Flakes has served as a spiritual advisor to me for many years, particularly during the twenty-four years I was a member of the Fourth Street Missionary Baptist Church. Through trouble or triumph, he was always available and has always given me wise counsel. Mrs. Flakes is like a mother to me and I am proud each time she refers to me as "son."

The great theologian and mystic scholar, Dr. Howard Thurman, once said that: "There is something in every one of you that waits and listens for the sound of the genuine in yourself. It is the only true guide that you will ever have. And if you cannot hear it, you will all of your life spend your days on the ends of strings that somebody else pulls." To God be the glory that the Rev. Dr. Johnny H. Flakes, Jr. heard the sound of God's voice and answered the call for his life. Because he answered that call, my life and the lives of countless others throughout the world are better for it.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in paying tribute to Dr. Johnny H. Flakes, Jr. for his life of selfless service to God, the church and to humankind.

ENSURING THE EFFECTIVE USE OF UNITED STATES AID TO PAKISTAN ACT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2011

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to end all U.S. economic aid to Pakistan and to suspend all U.S. military aid until the Obama administration can certify to Congress that the Government of Pakistan is effectively using the aid against the Taliban and other al Qaeda affiliates that are planning and executing attacks on U.S. targets.

My legislation will send a clear signal to the Government of Pakistan that they can't have it both ways. They can't be stridently anti-American and expect U.S. economic aid to continue and they can't be complicit in supporting some of the same radical Islamists groups that target Americans and expect to receive more U.S. military aid.

There is a growing pattern of incidents whereby elements within the Pakistani government are blocking cooperation between the U.S. and Pakistan and are providing covert support to some of the same organizations that are targeting U.S. troops and their coalition allies fighting in Afghanistan.

Recently, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Admiral Mike Mullen, testified to Congress and accused Pakistan's intelligence agency of providing strategic support for the

Haqqani network, which the U.S. blames for the recent attack on the U.S. Embassy in Afghanistan. In his testimony, Admiral Mullen said, "The support of terrorism is part of their national strategy. . . . And that's got to fundamentally shift."

My legislation would immediately suspend all military aid to Pakistan until the Obama administration can certify that the Government of Pakistan is fully cooperating with the U.S. and is effectively using U.S. military aid in conducting operations against the Taliban, al Qaeda, and the other radical Islamic organizations engaged in terrorist operations.

I don't think that other legislation in this area goes far enough. I believe that the U.S. economic aid Pakistan receives is a complete waste of U.S. tax dollars because it hasn't done anything to improve the U.S./Pakistani relationship, as intended. Instead, the relationship has actually deteriorated despite the fact that the U.S. has increased assistance to the Government of Pakistan—which has received over \$2 billion in economic aid over the last two years.

By cutting off all economic aid and suspending all military aid we will be sending a clear message to the Pakistani government that they are not to take our support for granted.

So long as we have troops fighting in Afghanistan, who need the supply lines that run through Pakistan, it would be irresponsible to immediately eliminate all military aid to Pakistan. I do believe that the Pakistani military is capable of effectively using the aid to help defeat some of the same radical Islamic forces that U.S. troops are fighting, who cross from Pakistan to the Afghan side of the border.

150TH ANNIVERSARY HOMECOMING SERVICE FOR ST. PHILIP'S EPIS- COPAL CHURCH

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2011

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a storied institution of faith in the Third Congressional District. This year, St. Philip's Episcopal Church is celebrating its 150th anniversary, and I would like to take a moment to reflect on the history of this esteemed church and its contributions to the greater Richmond community.

St. Philip's Episcopal Church was founded in 1861 as a mission of St. James Church by freemen/women and indentured servants of Virginia aristocrats and landowners. The congregation flourished during the following four years and provided a number of services to its members, including a school. Unfortunately, at the end of the Civil War in 1865, St. Philip's physical structure was destroyed in what the church describes as "mysterious circumstances." The church persevered in spite of its overwhelming loss and continued to congregate in the homes of its members. In 1869, with the support of the Diocese of Virginia, St. James Church and the family of J.E.B. Stuart, the church was able to rebuild its physical structure.

In 1920, the church became a self-supporting Parish and since then has ventured to serve God, the community and the world.

Over the years, they have been involved in various service projects including St. Francis Pantry, Girl Scouts, and Narcotics Anonymous. They have also been involved with Caritas, a volunteer organization providing food and shelter for the homeless, and Modern Maturity, an outreach program with a focus on providing recreation and fellowship for individuals who are at home during the day.

Today, St. Philip's prevails as the oldest and largest of the seven predominantly African-American congregations in the Diocese of Virginia. It also has the distinction of being the sixth oldest historically African American congregation in the Episcopal Church and was the first to be founded in the South. Currently, St. Philip's consists of nearly 230 members.

As St. Philip's Episcopal Church gathers to celebrate this historic milestone, the church can truly remember its past, celebrate its present, and focus on the future as it continues "Celebrating, Living, Dreaming." I would like to congratulate Rev. Phoebe Roaf and all of the members of the St. Philip's Episcopal Church on the occasion of their 150th Anniversary. I wish them many more years of dedicated service to the community.

IN HONOR OF JERRY DICK, FIRE
COMPANY PRESIDENT FOR
CHERRY HILL TOWNSHIP FIRE
COMPANY IN PENN RUN, PENN-
SYLVANIA

HON. MARK S. CRITZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2011

Mr. CRITZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Jerry Dick, the Company President of the Cherry Hill Township Fire Company for his fifty years of active service to the department, the community, and its citizens. Mr. Dick has played a vital role in the fire company from the beginning. In 1951, when Jerry was just 11-years-old, he accompanied his father to city meetings on the construction of the community's new firehouse. He participated in laying the actual brick for the building that the Cherry Hill Township Fire Company is housed in today. Four years later at the young age of fifteen, Jerry joined the fire company as a volunteer.

Except for a brief stint away from Pennsylvania in the 1960s, Mr. Dick has served his community at the firehouse since 1954. During the Johnstown Flood of 1977, Jerry proved himself to be a true hero. While the rivers and creeks surged through the area, a family got trapped in their home, unable to reach higher ground. Jerry, along with firefighter Bob Zack, stretched a ladder across a large stream of water and extricated three children from the home. After getting them to safety, the water rushing through the area became more treacherous. Jerry made the decision that he and Bob could not safely traverse the waters to get back to safety. Both firefighters used a rope to tie themselves around a utility pole and remained in the danger zone for over nine hours. Not until the morning could they safely remove themselves from harm's way.

Jerry Dick is only the second member of the fire company to achieve such an amazing long-standing tenure of service. In his fifty