

to establish a water district to help preserve Arkansas Valley water. This may sound like an incredible list of accomplishments, but it only scratches the surface of what Robert H. Rawlings has been able to do for Southern Colorado, and our nation.

Mr. Speaker, I cannot think of man more deserving of this esteemed honor than Mr. Robert H. Rawlings.

LARSEN CRITICIZES MAJORITY PARTY FOR FAILING TO PROPOSE A JOBS PLAN

HON. RICK LARSEN

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2011

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak in support of investing in our nation's infrastructure to create good, family-wage jobs.

The American people want Congress to focus on growing jobs and getting the economy back on track.

But the new majority has failed to present any plan to tackle our economic problems or create new jobs for Americans left struggling in the wake of the economic recession.

Of course oversight is important. In fact, the Democrats conducted 1,400 oversight hearings in the 110th Congress. But let's not waste two days debating something we are already doing while the American people need us to focus on jobs and the economy.

We need a jobs plan now that will invest in our infrastructure so we can rebuild our nation's crumbling roads, bridges, highways and railroads to keep our economy moving and create good jobs in our communities.

As a member of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, I am committed to improving and enhancing our infrastructure so we can expand our workforce and maintain U.S. economic leadership in the world.

I urge my colleagues to oppose this misguided effort and direct our attention instead to policies that will get our economy moving and create jobs.

TRIBUTE TO DR. CHARLES B. JACKSON, SR.

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2011

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a ministerial wunderkind who at the age of 58 has led his home church for a remarkable 40 years. Dr. Charles B. Jackson, Sr., is the spiritual leader of Brookland Baptist Church and a community leader in the Columbia, South Carolina, metropolitan area. I am proud to call Dr. Jackson a dear friend, and acknowledge that he has presided over some very important events in my life, including the marriage of my youngest daughter, Angela.

Charles Jackson is a product of West Columbia, South Carolina, and attended the local public schools. Even from a young age, there was no doubt the path that his life would take. At the age of nine, Dr. Jackson responded to the call to preach. The next year he was li-

censed, and at age 12 he became an ordained minister. At the age of 18, when most young men are searching for a direction in life, Dr. Jackson was installed as the Pastor of his home church—Brookland Baptist Church of West Columbia.

At the time he officially took over the ministerial leadership of the church, he was also a student at Benedict College. Despite the demands of his chosen career, he graduated Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics. As a dedicated student, he received the Distinguished Mathematics and Physics Award for achieving the highest academic average in those disciplines.

Dr. Jackson continued his studies by attending the Interdenominational Theological Center of Morehouse School of Religion in Atlanta. He graduated with honors in 1977 with a Master of Divinity. He was also awarded the Distinguished Board of Directors Award for High Academic Achievement. In August 1978, Dr. Jackson completed one year of certification of residency in Clinical Pastoral Education at the South Carolina Academy for Pastoral Education. He has received Honorary Doctor of Divinity Degrees from Morris College in Sumter, South Carolina, and from his alma mater, Benedict College.

During his 40 years at Brookland Baptist, the church has grown exponentially. As one of the fastest growing churches in the state, Brookland Baptist offers 65 ministries, a full-service Federal Credit Union, the Brookland Foundation—a charitable 501(c)(3)—the Brookland Center for Community and Economic Change, the Brookland-West Columbia Community and Housing Development Corporation, and the Brookland Community Pediatric Center, which is a collaborative effort with the Eau Claire Cooperative Health Center.

Nearly 12 years ago, Dr. Jackson led his growing congregation to a new 2300-seat sanctuary. In addition to the beautiful new church, Brookland Baptist also opened a 68,000 square-foot Community Resource Center in September 2005, which houses an Academy Child Development Center, a Health and Wellness Center, and a Banquet and Conference Center. In 2008, the board of Lexington School District Two awarded Brookland Baptist the building that once housed the former Lakeview/Northside School. This 94,000 square foot educational facility on 11 acres of land will be converted into the Brookland-Lakeview Empowerment Center. As a result of the church's Economic Empowerment Initiative, over 160 people are employed in Brookland's ministry.

Due to the tremendous growth in the church family, Dr. Jackson opened a second campus of the church. Brookland Baptist Church Northeast opened on October 5, 2008, and Dr. Christopher Leevy Johnson was installed as the Campus Pastor. He has also expanded his ministry overseas. Dr. Jackson has partnered with Providence Baptist Church in Liberia to provide a weekly radio broadcast in that African country.

Dr. Jackson held and still holds membership in a number of denominational, civic and community organizations. He is a former president of the South Carolina Baptist Congress of Christian Education and the Gethsemane Baptist Congress of Christian Education. He is also Past Moderator of the Gethsemane Baptist Association. Dr. Jackson is a member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., Golden

Square Lodge #283, NAACP, 100 Black Men of Greater Columbia, Inc., and the Cayce-West Columbia Rotary Club.

He serves on the Board of Governors for the Capital City Club, the Board of Directors of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, the Board of Trustees for Morris College in Sumter, SC, the Board of Directors for Morehouse School of Religion in Atlanta, the Board of Visitors for the University of South Carolina and is the Chairman of the Distressed Areas Task Force for New Carolina.

His honors include: the 1995 Affirmative Action Award from the Black Faculty and Staff Association of the University of South Carolina; the Lincoln C. Jenkins Achievement Award for Economic Empowerment by the Columbia Urban League; the Whitney M. Young, Jr., Service Award by the Boy Scouts of America, the Distinguished Service Award by the Greater Columbia Community Relations Council (2004), West Metro Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year (2005), Lifetime Achievement Award by the 100 Black Men of Greater Columbia, Inc., and the March of Dimes African American Achievement Award (2006).

He has preached revivals throughout the United States and delivered lectures at more than fifteen colleges and universities. In observance of his 30th anniversary as Pastor of the Brookland Baptist Church, Governor Jim Hodges awarded him the Order of the Palmetto, which is the highest honor that the State of South Carolina confers upon its citizens.

Dr. Jackson is married to the former Robin Hoefler, and is the father of two children, Reverend Charles B. Jackson, Jr., pastor of the New Laurel Street Baptist Church in Columbia, SC, and Candace, a graduate of Duke University School of Law, and an associate of Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP. A daughter-in-law, the former Iva Gaymon and four grandchildren Kayla, Charles III, Caleb and Carter.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues join me in congratulating Dr. Charles Jackson, Sr., on his extraordinary 40 years in the ministry. We are extremely fortunate that Dr. Jackson is still in the prime of his career, and we can look forward to many more years of his growing ministry and his dedicated service. He embodies the admonition of our Christian faith to do "good works." His ministry has touched countless lives over the past 40 years, and he deserves our commendation.

HONORING PRESIDENT RONALD WILSON REAGAN

SPEECH OF

HON. ADRIAN SMITH

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 9, 2011

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 40th President of the United States, Ronald Reagan. As Americans celebrate the 100th anniversary of his birthday this month, we not only commemorate his life, but also, and more importantly, the legacy he left to America and the world.

Throughout his life, whether as an actor, spokesperson, governor, or President, he passionately pursued his vision for America, which was rooted in freedom, opportunity, and prosperity.

President Reagan understood the greatness of our nation lies in its people—not an overbearing government. He knew the hard work, resilience, and optimism of Americans would overcome any challenge we face.

Like many others, President Reagan is one of the reasons I entered public service. I was in 4th grade when President Reagan defeated President Carter. It was the first election I closely followed. I remember asking my parents questions about the candidates, learning the differences, and deciding to support President Reagan. While I did not understand the complexity of the issues at the time, it sparked my desire to serve.

Now, as I represent Nebraska in this great chamber, I rely on the same principles he

championed. Facing deep economic challenges, like we are today, President Reagan championed solutions to reduce the size of government, promote free enterprise, and empower individuals. He knew these timeless ideals would ensure our nation always remains a “shining city on a hill.” I believe these same foundations, which to succeed rely on the individual, instead of the government, will build a stronger America in the 21st century.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DAVID N. CICILLINE

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2011

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, on January 25, 2011, I was listed as “not voting” for House Resolution 49, to provide Capitol-flown flags for recipients of the Medal of Honor. I intended to vote “yea” on this resolution, as I support the provision of flags flown over the Capitol for those who receive the Medal of Honor. I also wish to express my appreciation for Staff Sergeant Salvatore A. Giunta for his valiant and courageous service to our country.