

Instead of spending two days debating this purely political measure, the House should be focused on debating and passing legislation to create American jobs—including President Obama's American Jobs Act.

I urge my colleagues to join me—and 270 national organizations including AARP, Paralyzed Veterans of America, Easter Seals, AFL-CIO, and the National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare—in strongly opposing H.J. Res. 2.

A TRIBUTE TO LYNN BREEDLOVE

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 29, 2011

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of Lynn Breedlove, a disability advocate, community activist, leader on disability rights and change agent. After 31 years of service, Mr. Breedlove, Executive Director of Disability Rights Wisconsin (DRW), formerly Wisconsin Coalition for Advocacy, has announced his retirement effective at the end of December 2011.

Disability Rights Wisconsin is a state-wide resource for individuals, families, service professionals, elected officials, government agencies and others concerned with disability issues and systems change. This private non-profit group is part of the federally mandated national system of disability protection and advocacy agencies across the United States established to ensure the rights of individuals with disabilities.

Lynn Breedlove has been an extraordinary leader of DRW, growing the agency from a staff of five in a small Madison office with a budget of \$160,000 to an agency with a staff of 65 in three offices—Madison, Milwaukee, and Rice Lake—and a budget of over \$5.5 million.

The list of DRW accomplishments during Lynn's tenure is impressive and includes involvement during the inception and implementation of the life changing Community Options Program, COP, Community Integration Program, CIP, and making strong lasting partnerships with agencies serving the disabled, aging and those needing long term services. DRW helps people across Wisconsin gain access to services and opportunity through advocacy and legal expertise. Mr. Breedlove and DRW regularly challenged systems and society to create positive change and improve the lives of people with disabilities.

Lynn Breedlove has served on a variety of boards at the local, state and national levels including: President of the National Disability Rights Network, Co-Chair of Survival Coalition of Wisconsin Disability Organizations, and Member of Wisconsin's Long Term Care Council. He has also been the recipient of numerous awards as a result of his deep passion for disability and other civil rights, and his commitment to the inclusion of people with disabilities as full partners in society.

People with disabilities and their families, along with all citizens throughout Wisconsin are deeply indebted to Lynn Breedlove for his years of dedicated service. I am proud to call Lynn my friend and for the privilege of having the opportunity to work with him and the DRW staff on legislation to better the lives of Wis-

consin citizens. I wish Lynn well in retirement and the next stage of his career. We will all miss this "treasure of Wisconsin" and Lynn's strong commitment "to do what is right for the people."

TRIBUTE TO JOSEPH M. SANZARI

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 29, 2011

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to all to your attention the deeds of an outstanding American and citizen of New Jersey, Joseph M. Sanzari who will be recognized on Saturday, November 19, 2011, by D.A.R.E. NJ for his many years of service to his community and as a respected individual within the great state of New Jersey.

Joe was born in Hackensack, NJ, on February 28, 1946. He was raised in Carlstadt and began learning the ins-and-outs of the construction industry at the early age of 12. He has brought innovation and expertise to this field, specializing in the construction of heavy highways, roads and bridges.

Joe has been a guiding figure for his family as well as those around him. He has been a member of many distinguished counsels in our community. His philanthropic endeavors have benefitted countless people.

Joseph Sanzari is a proud member of numerous civic and cultural organizations, sharing his unique brand of energy and talents on both a local and state level. Mr. Sanzari is currently Chairman of Hackensack University Medical Center, a member of the Board of Trustees for Hillcrest Health Service System, Inc., and a proud member of the Hackensack University Medical Center Foundation. Joe also serves as Vice Chairman on the board of the Foundation for Free Enterprises. He was a former Chairman of the Bergen County Economic Development Corporation and former commissioner of the Palisades Interstate Parkway.

As the President of Joseph M. Sanzari Inc., Joe has been involved in major construction work on the New Jersey Turnpike and New Jersey Department of Transportation highways, roads and bridges in an ongoing joint venture with J. Fletcher Creamer & Sons also known as Creamer-Sanzari. Among many of their great accomplishments, Creamer-Sanzari was responsible for the reconstruction of the Route 4 and 17 overpasses, the largest highway project in the State of New Jersey. Under Joe's leadership, this project was completed eighteen months ahead of schedule. Creamer-Sanzari was recognized by Engineering News as one of the top 25 contractors in the country.

One of the many organizations Joe is passionate about is Drugs Awareness Resistance and Education or D.A.R.E. The D.A.R.E. program works with local law enforcement and schools to bring fun and educational material about the personal and social consequences of substance abuse and violence. D.A.R.E. NJ has been a pillar in the community for raising awareness and educating our youth in the dangerous perils of drug abuse and violence.

Joe is a devoted husband, father, and grandfather. His family consists of his wife Donna, son Joseph Jr., daughters Theresa,

JoAnn, and Tina, and six grandchildren. Joseph Sanzari exemplifies the sound fundamental characteristics of an extraordinary individual who is being honored by D.A.R.E. NJ for his enormous contributions to the great State of New Jersey.

The job of a United States Congressman involves so much that is rewarding, yet nothing compares to working with and recognizing the efforts of dedicated individuals like Joseph M. Sanzari. I am lucky enough to be able to call a man like him my friend.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, Joe's wife Donna, their family and friends, the members of the D.A.R.E. NJ and me in recognizing Joseph M. Sanzari's outstanding character and service to his community.

IN HONOR OF DR. ANTHONY O. PARKER

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 29, 2011

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding academic, college administrator, education expert, community leader and good friend to me and the community of Albany, Georgia—Dr. Anthony O. Parker. On Monday, November 21, 2011, the administration at Albany Technical College, the institution of higher learning where Dr. Parker currently serves as President, paid tribute to him for his years of dedicated service to the college by having the school's library named in his honor.

Throughout his successful career in the higher education field, Dr. Parker has had a profoundly positive impact on the lives of thousands of college students. One of the reasons he has been able to triumphantly guide the academic careers of so many students, is due in part to the impressive endeavors he was able to accomplish as a young collegiate scholar and graduate student.

Dr. Parker's post-secondary academic career began at South Carolina State College in Orangeburg, South Carolina where he received his Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting. He commenced his graduate studies at Augusta State University where he obtained an Educational Specialist degree in Education Administration. Additionally, he later would go on to receive his Ph.D. in Higher Education from the University of South Carolina in Columbia, South Carolina.

Over the course of his professional career in academia, Dr. Parker has successfully served in a multitude of roles in which he has progressively advanced the intellectual aptitude and social development skills of collegiate students. As Vice President of Student Services at Aiken Technical College and later at Southeastern Technical College, he was able to proactively develop programs, advise various student organizations and conduct research surveys designed to improve the schools' standards of educational enrichment. Additionally, as an instructor at Augusta Technical College, Dr. Parker played a hands-on role in counseling students, developing curriculum and teaching various classes aimed at improving the prospects of students looking to enter the workforce or acquire new occupational skills.

During his 16 years at Albany Technical College, President Parker has established the school as a premier institution within the Technical College System of Georgia and as a stable workforce development training facility in Southwest Georgia through his vision of excellence and steadfast commitment to increasing enrollment rates and placing Albany Tech graduates in sustainable employment opportunities. By using his positively transformative vision as a guiding post for success, over the last two decades Albany Tech has propelled forward as one of Southwest Georgia's leading technical institutions.

Dr. Parker 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 38 years and junior high school prom date, Sandra Parker. Dr. and Mrs. Parker are the proud parents of three children—Dr. Kimberly Parker, a professor at Texas Woman's University; Andrea Parker, a Lt. Commander in the United States Coast Guard; and Richard Parker, an employee at the United Parcel Service.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in paying tribute to Dr. Anthony O. Parker for his life of selfless service to the students, institutions of higher learning and working families in the state of Georgia and throughout our United States of America.

ON THE BIRTH OF CECILIA ANNE SCHWARTZ

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 29, 2011

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I am happy to congratulate Lawrence Schwartz and his wife Allison on the birth of their new baby girl, Cecilia Anne Schwartz, who was born on Monday, November 28, 2011, at 11:26 a.m. in Falls Church, Virginia. Cecilia Anne was 5 pounds, 6 ounces.

I am so excited for this new blessing to the Schwartz family and wish them all the best. I want to also congratulate Cecilia Anne's grandparents Debra and Barry Shulman of Fayetteville, New York, and Joanne and Lawrence Schwartz, III, of Anaheim Hills, California, on this wonderful new addition to their family.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 29, 2011

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, on January 26, 1995, when the last attempt at a balanced budget amendment passed the House by a bipartisan vote of 300–132, the national debt was \$4,801,405,175,294.28.

Today, it is \$15,051,673,595,197.90. We've added \$10,250,268,419,903.62 dollars to our debt in 16 years. This is \$10 trillion in debt our Nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

RECOGNIZING JOSHUA TREE NATIONAL PARK

HON. MARY BONO MACK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 29, 2011

Mrs. BONO MACK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleague and fellow Californian, Representative JERRY LEWIS, to pay tribute to Joshua Tree National Park.

Joshua Tree National Park has been a special and unique place of recreation and refuge in San Bernardino and Riverside Counties for the last 75 years. The park was first conferred National Monument status on August 10, 1936 by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt. Today, 1.3 million visitors a year from throughout the world enjoy this biologically diverse gem encompassing almost 800,000 acres.

Located just outside some of the most densely populated parts of our Nation, the park provides numerous recreational opportunities for American families and international visitors. Campgrounds, scenic drives, and hundreds of trails comprise just a few of the multitude of ways to enjoy the spectacular desert landscape.

Thriving gateway communities in the Coachella Valley and Morongo Basin have prospered in large part from the tourism opportunities created by the park. It is estimated that as an economic engine the park generates over 32 million private-sector dollars and supports over 500 jobs. The park has also created a shared regional identity and provided a common link of interest. A testament to the devotion and passion instilled in the park's supporters, last year alone 1,059 individuals volunteered at the park donating 35,000 hours of work.

Joshua Tree National Park is a crown jewel of the National Park Service. It deserves all the support it has received to preserve its ecological, historical and cultural integrity. Congratulations to everyone who has supported the park over the years and here's to ensuring the park continues to flourish and improve for another 75 years.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF JUDGE NICKOLAS GEEKER

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 29, 2011

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Judge Nickolas Geeker upon his retirement from Florida's First Judicial Circuit Court in Escambia County. Judge Geeker spent his career serving the Northwest Florida community, including more than 25 years presiding as a judge in the First Judicial Circuit, and I am proud to recognize his dedication and service.

Judge Geeker and his family are deeply rooted in Northwest Florida. The Geeker family settled in Escambia County in the early 1900's and has been a fixture in the Northwest Florida community for more than 100 years.

Following his graduation from Louisiana Tech University, Judge Geeker attended law school at Florida State University where he

was part of the College of Law's charter class of graduates. After serving as a law clerk in the office of U.S. District Judge D. L. Middlebrooks, Judge Geeker returned to Escambia County. He served as an Assistant State Attorney, Assistant U.S. Attorney and as a U.S. Attorney for the Northern District. In 1984, Judge Geeker was elected to Florida's First Judicial Circuit Court, where he has remained since being invested as Circuit Judge in January 1985.

Throughout his 40-year career, Judge Geeker has served with honor and distinction, and his unwavering commitment to upholding the law in an unbiased manner is a prime example of our legal system working at its best.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am honored to recognize Judge Nickolas Geeker for his service to Northwest Florida and to the United States of America. My wife Vicki and I wish him and his wife Jan all the best.

IN HONOR OF BARBARA CORNETT

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 29, 2011

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to recognize Barbara Cornett, who is retiring from her work as a member of the Monterey County Board of Education, a role she has filled with great integrity since December 2003.

Mrs. Cornett's career in California public education spans six decades. She has served as a classroom teacher, school nurse, director of special education and assistant superintendent with Salinas Union High School District before retiring in 1992.

A clinical nurse as well as an educator, Mrs. Cornett is respected by both the medical and educational communities for her understanding of the needs of the special education students.

She earned her Bachelor of Arts at Vanderbilt University, and Master of Arts, School Administration, at San Jose State University. As a member of the Monterey County Board of Education, Mrs. Cornett served as its liaison to the Special Education Local Plan Area and the Monterey County Schools Insurance Group.

Mr. Speaker, I have no doubt that the Monterey and Salinas school systems will continue to thrive because of her longstanding work. Barbara deserves our deepest gratitude and our most heartfelt wishes for a job well done.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF PFC THEODORE B. RUSHING

HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 29, 2011

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, November 11, 2011 a central Florida Soldier, PFC Theodore B. Rushing, lost his life in service to our nation from wounds suffered when enemy forces attacked his unit with an I.E.D. in Kandahar Province, Afghanistan while assigned to 3rd Squadron, 71st Cavalry Regiment; 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division, Fort Drum, New York.