

more set out to sacrifice his livelihood when he refused to deny his sexual orientation to federal authorities than Rosa Parks intended to give up her work as a seamstress when she refused to move to the back of the bus. Rosa Parks got tired of suppressing her full identity and dignity, and so did Frank. Frank did not put in those years of hard work for his Ph.D. in order to come out as a gay man. Like Rosa Parks, Frank wanted the same kind of life as the rest of us. But at a moment of reckoning, Frank summoned something few of us have: raw, pure courage. It is a brand of courage that is the opposite of self-preservation.

Long before there was a LGBT movement, Frank lost his job and his livelihood for the rest of his life. Yet Frank lived to see historic advances that bear his signature, including security clearances for gays in the Federal Government and the admission of gays into the United States armed services.

We honor those who fight for human rights. We revere those who make sacrifices for human rights. Martin Luther King, Jr., whose memorial we dedicated in October after he sacrificed his life. Anita Hill, whose fearless testimony 20 years ago brought her controversy, while she brought record numbers of women to the House and Senate.

As we honor Frank, in a place that is part of the government that dishonored him, we remember that it is one thing to join a movement; it is quite another to start one. We revere Frank because his life tells us that great human rights victories often begin with the courage of a single individual like Rosa Parks and, yes, Frank Kameny.

PROPOSING A BALANCED BUDGET  
AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION

SPEECH OF

**HON. JESSE L. JACKSON, JR.**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 17, 2011*

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I wish to further submit for the RECORD the following letter signed by 281 different organizations opposed to this or any Balanced Budget Amendment to the Constitution. It is my intent that this letter supersedes a version previously submitted.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE/SENATOR: The 281 undersigned national organizations strongly urge you to oppose any balanced budget amendment to the United States Constitution.

A balanced budget constitutional amendment would damage the economy, not strengthen it. Demanding that policymakers cut spending and/or raise taxes, even when the economy slows, is the opposite of what is needed to stabilize a weak economy and avert recessions. Such steps would risk tipping a faltering economy into recession or worsening an ongoing downturn, costing large numbers of jobs while blocking worthy investments to stimulate jobs and growth and address the nation's urgent needs in infrastructure and other areas.

According to a new analysis of a balanced budget amendment by Macroeconomic Advisers, one of the nation's preeminent private economic forecasting firms, if a constitutional balanced budget amendment had already been ratified and were now being en-

forced for fiscal year 2012, "the effect on the economy would be catastrophic." The analysis reports that if the 2012 budget were balanced through spending cuts, those cuts would have to total about \$1.5 trillion in 2012 alone, which they estimate would throw about 15 million more people out of work, double the unemployment rate from 9 percent to approximately 18 percent, and cause the economy to shrink by about 17 percent instead of growing by an expected 2 percent.

Additionally, all versions of the balanced budget amendment being considered also contain a provision requiring three-fifths of the whole membership of both houses to raise the debt limit, making risk of default more likely and empowering a willful minority to hold the full faith and credit of the U.S. hostage to whatever other political demands they may have. The difficulty of raising the debt limit this summer illustrates how hard it can be to secure the necessary votes even when the consequences are so grave. Only three of the last 11 debt limit increases obtained three-fifths vote in both chambers; two of those instances occurred amidst the financial crisis in 2008 when the debt limit increases were included in larger legislation to respond to the meltdowns already occurring in the housing and financial markets, and the third occurred this August as part of the Budget Control Act and came only after a bitter process that led the nation to the brink of default.

In short, a balanced budget amendment is a recipe for making recessions more frequent, longer, and deeper, while requiring severe cuts that would harshly affect seniors, children, veterans, people with disabilities, homeland security activities, public health and safety, environmental protection, education and medical research. It would almost certainly necessitate massive cuts to vital programs including Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, veterans' benefits and lead to even deeper cuts than the House-passed budget.

A balanced budget amendment has no place in the Constitution of the United States. Our Constitution has served the nation well because it represents enduring principles that are the foundations of our government. It should not be used as a substitute for real leadership on fiscal policy. We strongly urge you to oppose any constitutional balanced budget amendment.

Sincerely,

9to5, National Association of Working Women; AFL-CIO; AIDS Alliance for Children, Youth & Families; AIDS Community Research Initiative of America; The AIDS Institute; AIDS Project Los Angeles; AIDS United; Alliance for a Just Society; Alliance for Excellent Education; Alliance for Justice; Alliance for Retired Americans; American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education.

American Association of Community Colleges; American Association of School Administrators (AASA); American Association of University Professors; American Association of University Women (AAUW); American Counseling Association; American Dance Therapy Association; American Educational Research Association; American Federation of Government Employees, AFL-CIO; American Federation of School Administrators, AFL-CIO; American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME); American Federation of Teachers, AFL-CIO; American Jewish Committee.

American Medical Rehabilitation Providers Association (AMRPA); American Medical Student Association (AMSA); American Network of Community Options and Resources; American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO; American Psychiatric Association; American Public Health Association; Amer-

ican Rights at Work; American School Counselor Association; Americans for Democratic Action; American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC); The Arc of the United States; Asian American Justice Center, member of Asian American Center for Advancing Justice.

Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum; Association for Career and Technical Education; Association of Adult Literacy Professional Developers; Association of Assistive Technology Act Programs (ATAP); Association of Education Service Agencies (AESAs); Association of Flight Attendants—CWA; Association of School Business Officials; Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUUCD); Autism National Committee; AVAC: Global Advocacy for HIV Prevention; Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law; Bienestar Human Services; Bread for the World.

Break the Cycle; Building and Construction Trades Department, AFL-CIO; B'nai B'rith International; Campaign for America's Future; Campaign for Community Change; CANN—Community Access National Network; Cascade AIDS Project; Center for Family Policy & Practice; Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP); The Center for Media and Democracy; Center for Medicare Advocacy; Center on Budget and Policy Priorities; Child Welfare League of America (CWLA); Children's Defense Fund.

Children's Dental Health Project; Cities for Progress, Institute for Policy Studies; Citizens for Global Solutions; Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington; Citizens for Tax Justice; Clinical Social Work Association; Coalition for Health Funding; Coalition of Labor Union Women; Coalition on Human Needs; Commission on Adult Basic Education; Committee for Education Funding; Common Cause; Communications Workers of America (CWA); Community Action Partnership.

Community Food Security Coalition; Community Organizations in Action; Corporation for Enterprise Development (CFED); Council for Children with Behavioral Disorders; Council for Exceptional Children; Council for Opportunity in Education; Council of Administrators of Special Education; Council of the Great City Schools; CREDO Action; Defenders of Wildlife; Democracy 21; Demos; Department for Professional Employees, AFL-CIO; Direct Care Alliance.

Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund; Division for Early Childhood of the Council for Exceptional Children (DEC); Easter Seals; Elev8 (Baltimore, Chicago, New Mexico, and Oakland); Every Child Matters Education Fund; FairTest, the National Center for Fair & Open Testing, Inc.; Families USA; Farmworker Justice; Feminist Majority; First Focus Campaign for Children; Food & Water Watch; Food Research & Action Center (FRAC); Forum for Youth Investment; Foster Family-based Treatment Association.

Franciscan Action Network (FAN); Friends Committee on National Legislation; Friends of the Earth; Gamaliel; Gay Men's Health Crisis (GMHC); Generations United; GLSEN; Gray Panthers; Growth & Justice; Half in Ten; Health & Disability Advocates; Health Care for America Now; Health GAP (Global Access Project); HealthHIV; HIV Law Project.

Horizons for Homeless Children; Housing Works; Interfaith Worker Justice; International Association of Fire Fighters; International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers; International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Ship Builders, Blacksmiths, Forgers, and Helpers, AFL-CIO; International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers; International Brotherhood of Teamsters; International Society for Technology in Education; International Union of

Police Associations, AFL-CIO; International Union, United Automobile, Aerospace & Agricultural Implement Workers of America (UAW).

Jewish Council for Public Affairs; Laborers' International Union of North America, (LIUNA!); Latino Commission on AIDS; The Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law; The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights; Leadership Team, Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia; League of Conservation Voters; League of Rural Voters; League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC); League of Women Voters of the United States; Learning Disabilities Association of America; Main Street Alliance; Medicare Rights Center; Mental Health America.

NAACP; National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys; National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE); National Alliance for Partnerships in Equity; National Alliance of State & Territorial AIDS Directors (NASTAD); National Assembly on School-Based Health Care; National Association for Adults with Special Learning Needs; National Association for Children's Behavioral Health; National Association for College Admission Counseling; National Association for Hispanic Elderly; National Association for Music Education; National Association for the Education of Young Children; National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (n4a); National Association of Colored Women's Clubs, Inc. (NACWC).

National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities; National Association of County Behavioral Health and Developmental Disability Directors (NACBHDD); National Association of Elementary School Principals; National Association of Federally Impacted Schools; National Association of Government Employees/SEIU; National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO); National Association of Letter Carriers; National Association of Nutrition and Aging Services Programs (NANASP); National Association of People with AIDS (NAPWA); National Association of Private Special Education Centers; National Association of School Psychologists; National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP); National Association of State Directors of Career Technical Education Consortium; National Association of State Directors of Special Education (NASDSE).

National Association of State Head Injury Administrators; National Association of Thrift Savings Plan Participants; National Black Child Development Institute; National Center for Family Literacy; National Center for Law and Economic Justice; National Center on Domestic and Sexual Violence; National Coalition Against Domestic Violence; National Coalition for Asian Pacific American Community Development; National Coalition for LGBT Health; National Coalition for Literacy; National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare; National Congress of American Indians; The National Consumer Voice for Quality Long-Term Care; National Council for Community and Education Partnerships (NCEP).

National Council for Community Behavioral Healthcare; National Council for the Social Studies; National Council of Jewish Women; National Council of La Raza (NCLR); National Council of Women's Organizations (NCWO); National Council on Independent Living; National Disability Rights Network; National Education Association (NEA); National Employment Law Project (NELP); National Fair Housing Alliance; National Family Caregivers Association; National Federation of Federal Employees; National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Action Fund; National Health Care for the Homeless Council.

National Hispanic Council on Aging (NHCOA); National Housing Trust; National Immigration Law Center; National Latina Institute for Reproductive Health; National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty; National Low Income Housing Coalition; National Organization for Women (NOW); National Partnership for Women & Families; National Pediatric AIDS Network; National People's Action; National Priorities Project; National Respite Coalition; National Rural Education Advocacy Coalition; National Rural Education Association (NREA).

National School Boards Association; National Skills Coalition; National Superintendents Roundtable; National Treasury Employees Union; National Urban League; National WIC Association; National Women's Conference Committee; National Women's Law Center; Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC); NETWORK, A National Catholic Social Justice Lobby; Not Dead Yet; OMB Watch; Paralyzed Veterans of America; People For the American Way (PFAW); Population Action International; Progressive States Action.

Project Inform; Public Citizen; Public Education Network; Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities Coalition (REHDC); Rebuild The Dream; RESULTS; Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law; School Social Work Association of America; Service Employees International Union (SEIU); Sexuality Information and Education Council of the U.S. (SIECUS); Share Our Strength; Sisters of Mercy Institute Justice Team; Social Security Disability Coalition; Social Security Works; Southeast Asia Resource Action Center; Stand Up for Rural America, Robert S. Warwick, Steering Committee; Stewards of Affordable Housing for the Future (SAHF); Strengthen Social Security Campaign.

Sugar Law Center for Economic and Social Justice; TESOL International Association; Transportation Communications Union; Transportation Equity Network; Transportation Trades Department, AFL-CIO; Treatment Access Expansion Project; Treatment Action Group (TAG); Trust for America's Health (TFAH); Union for Reform Judaism; United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry of the United States and Canada; United Cerebral Palsy; United Church of Christ Justice and Witness Ministries; United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America (UE); United for a Fair Economy; The United Methodist Church—General Board of Church and Society.

United Methodist Women; United Mine Workers; United Spinal Association; United States Student Association (USSA); United Steelworkers (USW); USAction; US Psychiatric Rehabilitation Association (USPRA); VillageCare; Voices for America's Children; Voices for Progress; Wider Opportunities for Women (WOW); Women's Institute for a Secure Retirement (WISER); The Woodhull Sexual Freedom Alliance; Working America; YouthBuild USA; YWCA USA; ZERO TO THREE.

HONORING JANICE LANGBEHN, RECIPIENT OF THE 2011 PRESIDENTIAL CITIZENS MEDAL

**HON. ADAM SMITH**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 29, 2011*

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Janice Langbehn, a recipient of the 2011 Presidential Citizens Medal, one of our Nation's highest civilian honors.

Each year, the President recognizes American citizens with the Presidential Citizens Medal who have taken exemplary steps outside of their daily lives to serve and improve their communities. Past honorees have addressed some of our nation's most persistent problems, such as hunger, homelessness, high school dropout rates, lack of access to health care, and several other pressing issues affecting the lives of millions of Americans. Citizen Medal honorees face challenging circumstances and act admirably while taking risks to help others. Out of over 6,000 nominees across the country, President Obama chose only thirteen recipients, including Janice Langbehn of Lacey, Washington.

In 2007, while on vacation with their children, Janice's partner of 18 years, Lisa Marie Pond, collapsed with a brain aneurysm. Lisa was rushed to Jackson Memorial Hospital's Ryder Trauma Center. When Janice and her children arrived, hospital officials refused to let Janice or her children see Lisa for eight long hours even though they had a power of attorney in hand. Lisa eventually slipped into a coma and passed away while her loved ones continued to fight to be by her side.

Afterwards Janice brought a lawsuit against the hospital, which was dismissed in 2009, and then turned her experience into activism, fighting to make sure no partners or parents have to go through what their family experienced. Her story attracted the attention of President Obama, who revised hospital visitation rights for same-sex couples across the country. The executive order went into effect in January 2011 for any hospital receiving Federal Medicare or Medicaid funds.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues in the House of Representatives please join me in recognizing Janice Langbehn for her efforts to improve equal treatment for all Americans and congratulate her for being honored with the 2011 Presidential Citizens Medal.

HONORING LEAUTHA LANORA  
"LEE" ANDERSON

**HON. JEFF DENHAM**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 29, 2011*

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor the life of a beloved woman in the Modesto Community, Leautha Lanora "Lee" Anderson. She was born July 26, 1921, to Mary Alena (Carl) and Lloyd Buster Nutt near El Reno, Oklahoma and died November 15, 2011, in Modesto, CA. She was the second born of seven sisters.

Her parents were poor farmers and she grew up working the fields and herding cattle. Her father had hoped for a son, so he nicknamed her "Buck". Lee was one of the few remaining true Frontier Women. She could shoot a rifle from the back of a galloping horse and could light a match from a hundred paces with a rifle that is still in the family today. April 24, 1941, Lee married Alfred Anderson Jr. after a whirlwind relationship of three weeks. They began married life in Vinita, Oklahoma. On a wintry November day in 1942, they left for California with their savings of \$80.00. They settled in Carlsbad, California where their first-born son, Dwight was born May of 1943. They enjoyed the coastal town and beaches. While