

our citizens informed, educates our children, and makes our communities stronger. I will fight against these “dumb-cuts” because Minnesota Public Radio and Twin Cities Public Television are critical community assets that deserve federal support.

Given Republicans’ frantic attempts to slash federal spending in even the most detrimental ways, eliminating CPB is a very real possibility. In my position on the House Appropriations Committee, I will do everything in my power to prevent public broadcasting stations nationwide from being forced to shut their doors, but I cannot do it alone. I urge my colleagues to protect this valuable public good and vote against H.R. 1.

HONORING MINNIE CARTER

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 16, 2011

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Minnie Carter. Ms. Carter grew up in Tunica County, Mississippi and is extremely proud to continue her work in her community. She is a graduate of Rosa Fort High School and Jackson State University. She is a member of the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority.

In 1987, Minnie was hired by the Tunica County Department of Human Services in Tunica, Mississippi. Her responsibilities included determining the initial and continuing eligibility of applicants and recipients for welfare assistance and provide other services related to the programs of the county offices.

When not busy at work Minnie has volunteered at community pride fairs, community health fairs, schools and churches. She has served several years as a member of various community and civic groups such as the Tunica County United Voters League, Tunica County PUSH, Concerned Citizens of Tunica, Leaders of Tomorrow, and African-Americans for A Better Tunica County and Tunica County NAACP. In her spare time she enjoys traveling, reading, walking and working out.

Minnie has been recognized and honored for her work. She has received numerous awards and accolades. She has been a recipient of the Community Service Award, Woman of the Year Award, and the Distinguished Citizen of the Year Award.

Minnie has over 24 years experience in community organizing, program implementation and nonprofit management. She is presently the Executive Director of Tunica County Housing Project, Inc. Since its beginning Tunica County Housing Project, Inc. (TCHP) has had as its goal, “to provide decent affordable housing for families with low incomes living in Tunica County, Mississippi.” For 19 years, Tunica County Housing Project, Inc. has been a leader in promoting affordable housing in Tunica County. “Minnie Carter believes that homeownership contributes to the Tunica County economy, builds strong communities and is a powerful tool for building economic stability and self-esteem for families.” Tunica County Housing Project, Inc. is especially committed to improving the quality of life for the people of Tunica County.

One of TCHP greatest accomplishments has been the creation of a subdivision, Nellie

Johnson Village in Tunica County. This subdivision consists of sixty-one affordable houses owned by families with low and very low incomes.

In 2004 TCHP assumed the Tunica County Housing Rehabilitation Program. This program is designed to bring a person’s house up to compliance with the Standard Housing Code published by International Residential Code as adopted by Tunica County and all other relevant codes adopted by the local governing bodies. TCHP has repaired and rehabilitated 146 homes for families with low incomes. It has provided replacement mobile homes for 23 families whose homes were beyond repair.

In 2007 TCHP received a Housing Preservation Grant in the amount of \$117,921.71. This program is designed to assist homeowners with low and very low incomes with the repair and rehabilitation of their homes to bring their dwellings up to development standards. The HPG funds were used to complement the funds committed by Tunica County. TCHP has repaired and rehabilitated an additional 24 homes for families with low and very low incomes utilizing these funds.

In 2008 TCHP assumed the Tunica County Mortgage Assistance Program (TMAP) which provides up to \$25,000 to first time homebuyers purchasing a home in Tunica County. The grant may be used for down payment and/or closing costs.

Since 2010 Minnie has been a mentor for the Tunica County Mentoring Program. She plans to help mentees make positive connections between the world of work, school and the community. She believes this will help mentees develop personal skills and career awareness in order to make better life-long decisions.

A LIFE OF SERVICE: SERGEANT MAJOR JAMES BOWLING

HON. JOSEPH J. HECK

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 16, 2011

Mr. HECK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and honor the life of Sergeant Major James Franklin Bowling, Jr., United States Marine Corps (Retired). Sergeant Major Bowling was born the son of a marine on July 21, 1952, in Quantico, Virginia. He served his nation as a marine for over 30 years, retiring in 2001, but remaining active in his local community.

Sergeant Major James Franklin Bowling joined the United States Marines Corps in 1970 where he served for 31 years. He completed tours in Okinawa, Saudi Arabia, Desert Storm and Desert Shield. Jim’s true passion in the Marine Corps was serving as a Drill Instructor. He served as a Drill Instructor for two tours at Quantico for Officers Candidacy School and three tours at Parris Island. At Parris Island he met a then-Sergeant in the Marine Corps who would become his wife; Gunnery Sergeant Jacqueline Bowling (née Milton), USMC (Retired).

Sergeant Major Bowling was truly a dedicated marine. His drive to serve leaves a positive impression on his family, his community, and his country. His exceptional tour of service saw the end of the Vietnam War, the end of the Cold War and the beginning of the Global War on Terror.

After retiring from the Marine Corps almost 10 years ago, the Bowlings moved to Henderson, Nevada. Sergeant Major Bowling became active with veterans in Henderson. He joined the Black Mountain Detachment of the Marine Corps League and served as its Detachment Commandant from 2007 to 2009. He served as an officer with the Devil Dogs, an honorary degree within the Marine Corps League. The Sergeant Major also dedicated part of his life to the Devil Pups Youth Leadership Program of America, serving as a sponsor and Volunteer PT Instructor with them. At the Department of Nevada level of the Marine Corps League, he served as Junior Vice Commandant from 2008 to 2009, and was serving as Detachment Junior Past Commandant and Detachment Chaplain when he passed away.

Sergeant Major Bowling’s career is also distinguished by the many decorations and awards he received during his service: Meritorious Service Medal (2nd Award); Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal; Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal; Navy Unit Commendation; Meritorious Unit Commendation; Good Conduct Medal (9th Award); National Defense Service Medal (2nd Award); Southwest Asia Service Medal (2nd Award); Sea Service Deployment Ribbon; Overseas Service Ribbon; Drill Instructor Ribbon (4th Award); Kuwait Liberation Medal (Saudi Arabia); Kuwait Liberation Medal (Kuwait); Rifle Expert Badge (3rd Award); and the Pistol Sharpshooter Badge.

Sergeant Major Bowling is survived by his wife of 22 years, Gunnery Sergeant Jacqueline Bowling (née Milton), USMC (Retired). He also leaves behind his son, Jonathan; his mother, Hattie Trombley; two sisters, Becky Bird and Lode Silcox; and two brothers, David Bowling and Stephen Bowling.

Sergeant Major Bowling will be remembered for his sacrifice and willing service, and for the extraordinary qualities he displayed as a husband, father, and friend. His personal warmth, sense of humor, and unfailing optimism brightened the lives of everyone around him. We will long remember the great impact he made on us all—he will be truly missed.

FULL-YEAR CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1) making appropriations for the Department of Defense and the other departments and agencies of the Government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2011, and for other purposes:

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to Sections 1628 through 1634, and 1648 of the bill, which cuts funding to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

I oppose these provisions because they are unwise, irresponsible, and undermine our nation’s ability to prepare, respond, or mitigate natural and man-made disasters and terrorist attacks. In short, I oppose the bill because it puts the security of our homeland at risk.

This bill that the Republicans are bringing to the floor today is reckless not only to our

economy and American workers, but also to our national security.

The terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001 revealed the catastrophic consequences of the inability of first responders, fire, police, and rescue personnel to communicate with each other via radio during emergencies.

Communication glitches also occurred during the response to Hurricane Katrina. Yet the Republicans want to terminate grants for interoperable emergency communications. Have we not learned anything from the communications failure during 9/11?

These draconian cuts will put our first responders at risk and slow down the response to terrorist attacks and natural disasters. I cannot in good conscience accept these cuts to interoperable emergency communications.

The irresponsible Republican plan also put our nation's fire fighting ability at risk. I am from California and we know about fires. The bill eliminates the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response Grant program, (SAFER), which is why it is strongly opposed by the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAAF).

The IAAF estimates that these cuts will result in the loss of 5,200 jobs on top of the 5,000 fire fighter jobs lost since 2008. These cuts will put our communities at risk.

The City of Compton in my district is home to an Emergency Operations Center operated by FEMA. My district is also home to several major oil refineries, gas treatment facilities, and petro chemical facilities. California's 37th Congressional District is also home to the Port City of Long Beach and is located on the outskirts of Los Angeles. A centralized emergency response center is vital to my district and the surrounding communities.

This Republican job-destroying continuing resolution seeks to eliminate these Emergency Operations Centers. Not only will the elimination of these centers result in the loss of jobs, they will put my constituents and other Americans across the country at risk. This Emergency Operations Centers are needed to coordinate the necessary resources during an emergency.

I cannot support depriving first responders, firefighters, and police officers of the tools needed to respond to public emergencies, natural or man-made. Why would we want to risk a repeat of the disaster we witnessed in the response to Hurricane Katrina? How are we better off by depriving our first responders the ability to communicate with each other during an emergency? It defies common sense.

Terrorists that are trying to attack our country are modifying their techniques to try to find our nation's vulnerabilities. Unfortunately, the Republican's bill reduces Federal, State, and tribal capabilities to secure our nation against terrorist and other catastrophic threats. This bill also diminishes our ability to protect our borders and significantly scales back our ability to detect chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear threats.

Mr. Chairman, H.R. 1 continues the Republican avoidance of bringing job creation bills to the floor. Since the Republican's have been in control of the House, they have not brought one job creating bill to the floor. Not one. Worse, the bill before us today will actually kill jobs. Thousands of Americans will lose jobs under this Republican bill. Instead of our keeping our economy moving forward as was the case during the Clinton Administration and

during the 111th Congress, this bill will reverse the economic progress we have seen for the last several months.

I urge my colleagues to vote against H.R. 1. Let's work together to ensure our first responders have the tools and resources needed to respond to natural and man-made disasters and terrorist attacks.

HONORING RIA JUDGE

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 16, 2011

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, Mrs. Ria Judge was born on January 23, 1968 in Vicksburg to Ms. Lucinda Williams and reared by her grandparents Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Williams.

Mrs. Judge graduated from Vicksburg High in 1986 and furthered her education by obtaining a Bachelor in Elementary Education from the University of Southern Mississippi, followed by a double Masters in Administration and Education from Alcorn State University.

Mrs. Judge has been teaching in the Vicksburg-Warren Public School system for the last 17 years and presently serves as Assistant Principal at Beechwood Elementary School.

Children and the elderly have always been Mrs. Judge's passion. She has been the assistant troop leader for Girl Scout Troop #5119 since 2005, dedicated Sunday School teacher, served on Mountain of Faith Restoration Shelter for Homeless Women and Children Board, volunteers at local nursing homes and has worked in many local campaign elections because of the concern she has for her community.

Mrs. Judge is married to Terry Judge and they have two children, Tavarius and Isla.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE FLOYD BUCKNER

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 16, 2011

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a remarkable public servant who has served the people of South Carolina's lowcountry for more than four decades. Mr. Floyd Buckner has been a member of Colleton County Council for 28 years, and was an educator in Colleton and Dorchester County School Districts for 39 years. He has earned the praise and respect of his fellow citizens and is deserving of this recognition.

Floyd Buckner graduated from Colleton County's Ruffin High School in 1960. He went on to earn a bachelor's degree from Benedict College in 1964, and a master's degree in Education from South Carolina State University in 1970.

He began his teaching career in the mid-1960s in Dorchester County schools and rose to the position of principal of Jenkins Hill Middle School in Harleyville in 1972. The following year, his home county hired Mr. Buckner to serve as Principal of Forest Hills Elementary School in Walterboro. In 1975, Mr. Buckner became the director for the Title I Program in

the Colleton County School District, a position he held until his retirement in 2002. In this capacity, he instituted a classroom on wheels designed to serve the educational needs of pre-school children, and received recognition from the U.S. Department of Education for the program's effectiveness. His commitment to the Colleton County School District was rewarded with the dedication of the Floyd Buckner Title I Parent Center in Walterboro in 1995.

Mr. Buckner also contributed to the education of young people statewide. Governor Dick Riley appointed him as a member of a state committee tasked with drafting legislation for the Education Improvement Act. He also served as President of the South Carolina State Association of Elementary Secondary Education Act Board in 1980-1981.

In addition to serving our youth in the schools, Mr. Buckner felt called to run for elective office. In 1982, he ran for a seat on Colleton County Council, and the race earned him the distinction of being the first African American to win a run-off election in that county. Mr. Buckner has served on Colleton County Council since his swearing-in on January 1, 1983.

During his service on County Council he has been committed to delivering the best service to the people of Colleton County with limited resources. He is known for ensuring equitable treatment in areas such as education, access, and quality of life. He is an expert on policy, protocol and procedures, having spent a number of years serving as the County Council Chairman. He also helped lead the restoration of the historic Old Jail into the building that houses the current County Council Chambers. His tremendous service has been recognized by Colleton County with the naming of the building at North Jefferies Boulevard in Walterboro in his honor.

Mr. Buckner has also been a committed member of the community. He has served on a number of boards including the Lowcountry Council of Governments, the Lowcountry Community Action Agency, and the South Carolina Migrant Workers Board. He is currently a member of the Walterboro-Colleton County Regional Airport Board and the Hollings Cancer Center Disparities Advisory Board at the Medical University of South Carolina. Mr. Buckner is the first president of the Arabian Temple #139, the Walterboro Shrine Club. With his appointment to the First Federal Savings and Loan Board, he became the first African American in Colleton County to serve on a bank board. He is also the first African American to own and publish a newspaper in Colleton County.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in commending Floyd Buckner for his outstanding lifetime of public service. He is a trailblazer and a role model for so many in South Carolina's lowcountry, and I am proud to call him a friend.

FULL-YEAR CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. LINDA T. SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under