

and other board members to build two of Tunica's new schools: Robinsonville Elementary and Tunica Middle School.

In addition to his service, Price joined the NAACP and was elected as the President of the Robinsonville Chapter. Also, Price served as Jr. Warden at Lake Cormorant Masonic Lodge.

FULL-YEAR CONTINUING  
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2011

SPEECH OF

**HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF**

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:

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Chairman, upon further examination of the Weiner amendment, I find myself unable to support the measure. I am committed to full funding of the COPS program, but as I mentioned last night, I cannot countenance the dramatic cut to NASA. Without a clear enough pathway to restore the NASA funds that would be used in the offset, I will focus instead on defeating the broader attack on COPS in the continuing resolution itself.

HONORING MS. JACKIE SHORTER

**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 Ms. Jackie Shorter born July 25, 1960 to Mr. and Mrs. Willie and Robbie Shorter in Vicksburg, Mississippi. She graduated from Warren Central High School in 1978 and furthered her education by receiving a Bachelor's Degree and a Master's Degree in Elementary Education from Alcorn State University.

Ms. Shorter has been in education for 23 years and presently teaches at South Park Elementary School. She has dedicated all of her life to helping others. She has been the Girl Scout Troop Leader of Troop # 5119 for 12 years and serves as an active member of the Vicksburg Alcorn State Alumni Chapter for 18 years. She is also an active member of her church, Locust Grove M.B. Church, Vicksburg Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Negro Business and Professional Women Club, member of Eastern Star, Lady of Knight, Daughters of Sphinx, Heroines of Jericho, Warren County Sunday School Institute and a member of the NAACP.

While most of her passion is volunteering at nursing homes and the summer program at the local library, Ms. Jackie Shorter still finds time to share her love throughout the community helping others.

KOHLER MCINNIS TRIBUTE

**HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 16, 2011*

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Kohler McInnis of Durango, Colorado, for his courage in the face of a direct threat of his life. His recent actions protected the lives of his fellow classmates, teachers, and St. Columba Catholic School staff. Kohler's actions were celebrated with the Citizen Commendation Award, presented by Durango Police Chief David J. Felice.

Last April, Kohler was a seventh-grader at St. Columba Catholic School, when a fellow student told Kohler that he was planning on using a gun he had brought to school to harm one of the teachers. Despite a death threat from the student if Kohler told anyone, Kohler put aside his own well-being for the sake of others and informed a staff member of his classmate's intention. After a quick search of the student's belongings, a .22 caliber pistol was found.

Kohler's actions show his strong inclination to do the right thing regardless of consequence or outcome. Kohler not only protected the lives of those around him, but gave a misguided child a second chance at a successful life.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Kohler McInnis for his exceptional conduct in the face of personal harm. I thank him for his ability to stand strong for what he believes right.

HONORING REVEREND PAUL E.  
LUCKETT

**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 Reverend Paul E. Luckett. Reverend Luckett proudly serves as Elder in the Mississippi Conference of the United Methodist Church. Currently, he serves as pastor of Saint Paul United Methodist Church and Blessed Trinity United Methodist Church. His divinely anointed duties encompass serving as Chairperson of the West Jackson Vicksburg District Board of Ordained Ministry, member of the Conference Board of Ordained Ministry, member of the Bishop and Superintendent Advisory Committee, and supporting Elder of the Ethnic Ministry Church Committee.

Reverend Luckett received his formal education from Jackson State University, where he obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology. He later obtained his Master's of Divinity degree in Pastoral Care and Christian Education from the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta, Georgia. With a sound educational background and a spirit rich with love for helping others, Reverend Luckett has devoted his life to uplifting those less fortunate in his community. He is a strong advocate and member of the Clinton Branch of Habitat for Humanity, works adamantly with Campus Ministry (organization designed to assist students with financial aid and Christian

guidance), and helps to enrich the lives of the elderly and underprivileged through his volunteer work at the Clinton Christian Community Cooperation.

FULL-YEAR CONTINUING  
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2011

SPEECH OF

**HON. SILVESTRE REYES**

OF TEXAS

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:

Mr. REYES. Mr. Chair, I rise in strong support for the amendment to H.R. 1 to restore funding for the Pell Grant and stand in firm opposition to the underlying bill.

The Pell Grant is extremely vital to help economically disadvantaged students pay for higher education. In fact, over 55,000 students in my congressional district use the Pell Grant to pay for their higher education costs.

I am highly disappointed that after years of hard work by previous Congresses to increase the maximum Pell Grant award to \$5,500, the Republican Continuing Resolution today would cut Pell Grant resources by \$5.6 billion reducing the maximum Pell Grant award by \$845. Indeed, this cut would translate into a loss of tens of millions of dollars in financial aid for students in my congressional district alone.

As Congress looks to enact the full year Continuing Resolution for fiscal year 2011, H.R. 1, I urge my colleagues to oppose amendments that seek to cut critical education funding and severely impact the future of our students, communities, and nation. While cutting the deficit is important, doing so at the expense of special education grants for local school districts, Head Start for children, and Pell Grants to underserved college students, among other educational initiatives, is the wrong approach and unacceptable.

As it stands, H.R. 1 would not only make it more difficult for college students to afford a higher education, but it also would make it difficult for K-12 schools to provide beneficial services like after school tutoring, or much needed literacy, math and science supplemental education. In fact, as written, H.R. 1 will cut:

Head Start by over \$1 billion, leaving an estimated 127,000 poor children without access to early childhood education, health, and social services and the potential loss of over 14,000 jobs;

ESEA Title IA funding by \$693 million, eliminating critical resources that help schools assist educationally underserved children in high-poverty schools and by some estimates would reduce or eliminate services for 957,000 high-risk children and result in the loss of over 9,000 education jobs;

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, IDEA, state grants by \$557 million, leaving already struggling states and school districts with fewer resources to meet the needs of over 324,000 students with disabilities and resulting in the loss of another 7,000 education jobs;

Job Corps by \$300 million and eliminate any advance funding appropriated in FY 2010 for use in FY 2011, resulting in a \$900 million cut to the program. These cuts will force the closure of 75 out of 124 Job Corps centers, the loss of over 21,000 jobs, and leave 36,000 at-risk-youth without the mentoring and educational services of Job Corps, and;

Hispanic Serving Institutions by \$100 million, leaving many outstanding universities without the needed funds to educate and prepare the fastest growing demographic group in the country.

Every child deserves a quality education. H.R. 1 threatens America's progress and vision to remain competitive in the global arena. While the deficit should be a top priority, I urge my colleagues to ensure that this bill provides schools and universities the necessary resources to prepare our students for the future.

#### FULL-YEAR CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2011

SPEECH OF

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

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:

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Chair, I rise to speak against language in the underlying bill that would prevent HUD from spending money on a Sustainable Communities Initiative. The language in the bill would end a very successful HUD program that has helped communities plan for growth and halt a successful partnership between HUD, DOT, and EPA that promotes redevelopment and new transportation infrastructure. Secretaries Donovan, LaHood, and Administrator Jackson and their agencies have spent the last year cutting red tape and coordinating investments to meet multiple economic, environmental, and community objectives. Northern Virginia is already benefitting from these investments, by winning a TIGER grant to expand bus service dramatically, including in the congested I-95 and Route 7 corridors. The Sustainable Communities Initiative actually represents a conservative principle, because it emulates long-standing efforts by developers and local governments around the country. In Northern Virginia, Fairfax and Arlington counties have led the way with Transit Oriented Development years before the Federal Government figured it out. In Northern Virginia, developers led the way with visionary replanning proposals for Tysons Corner Center Mall, Merrifield Town Center, and numerous other Transit-Oriented Development proposals. These grants go to communities all around the country, large and small, urban and rural. The interest in these has been extraordinary. In 2010, when HUD announced their challenge grants, to be awarded jointly with DOT, a total of 630 communities requested \$1.2 billion in funding. HUD was able to award 61 grants worth \$69 million. HUD's sustainable communities re-

gional planning grants were as popular: 225 regions applied for \$450 million, and HUD was able to award 45 regions a total of \$98 million. It is high time the Federal Government emulated our local efforts in Northern Virginia, and I therefore strongly oppose Republican efforts to repeal this program and prevent federal support of our local programs.

#### HONORING VERN MOSS

**HON. JEFF DENHAM**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 16, 2011*

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor Madera County Supervisor Vern Moss on his retirement from the Madera County Board of Supervisors; and to thank him for his dedicated, life-long spirit of community service.

Vern Moss was the first child of hard working parents who set an example Vern would adhere to his whole life. Vern grew up working in the fields picking cotton and cutting grapes. After graduating high school and briefly attending the College of the Sequoias, Vern enlisted in the U.S. Air Force in 1963.

Vern served honorably in both the U.S. Air Force and the U.S. Army before his retirement in 1983 as a Lieutenant Colonel. His military service included a tour in Vietnam as the Executive Officer of the MACV 16, and an assignment to the Joint Chiefs of Staff at the Pentagon. For his service, he has received countless honors, including a Bronze Star. During his military service, he earned a Bachelors and a Masters Degree.

In addition to a long and successful career in the banking industry, Vern has participated actively in his community. He served twice as the Mayor of Chowchilla, as well as President of the Chowchilla Rotary Club and Chamber of Commerce. The Chowchilla Chamber of Commerce has named him Citizen of the Year and Business Person of the Year. During his three terms as a member of the Madera County Board of Supervisors, Vern committed his time to various commissions and projects aimed at improving the life and welfare of Madera County citizens. While his retirement is well-deserved, his dedicated leadership on the Board of Supervisors will be missed.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Madera County Supervisor Vern Moss on his retirement and wishing him the best of luck and health as he moves on from this role.

#### FULL-YEAR CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2011

SPEECH OF

**HON. STENY H. HOYER**

OF MARYLAND

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:

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Chair, our country is in deep fiscal trouble, and cutting wasteful or

low-priority spending is part of getting back to fiscal balance. But there is nothing low-priority about the firefighters who protect our communities, our families, and our homes. It is another example of Republicans' short-sighted and reckless approach to cutting spending that they are willing to take 2,400 firefighters off of the streets by passing this spending bill. To prevent that blow to public safety, I support Rep. PASCRELL's amendment, which would protect funding for the vital FIRE and SAFER grant programs.

FIRE and SAFER help fire departments across America recruit, train, and retain skilled firefighters, and help departments equip them with the up-to-date tools they need to protect property and save lives. These grant programs have helped our community firefighters afford protective equipment that helps them enter burning buildings, backup power generators that keep their stations running during emergencies, and full staffing, so that fire departments are not sitting empty or underprepared when disasters strike. In an independent study, the U.S. Fire Administration found that grants like these are making fire departments across the country more prepared for emergencies, and better equipped to do their job.

The Republican spending bill would not only cost us the jobs of thousands of public servants who risk their lives for our safety—it would put communities across the country at greater risk. I urge my colleagues to pass this amendment and restore these vital investments in public safety.

#### FULL-YEAR CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2011

SPEECH OF

**HON. SAM FARR**

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:

Mr. FARR. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to the dangerous and irresponsible cuts to the State and Foreign Operations budget. This short-sighted budget slashing generates petty savings at the expense of America's long-term national security and economic growth.

There are no two ways about it: Our national security depends on investments in development, diplomacy, and defense. As Department of Defense Secretary Robert Gates has said, "The challenges confronting our nation can't be dealt with by military means alone." But this legislation and many of the amendments to it are tone deaf to this common sense.

Mr. Speaker, this fiscal negligence will come back to haunt us if we cripple our efforts to prevent conflict, promote rule of law, and support the creation of stable allies.

I am particularly upset that the Peace Corps, one of our government's most cost-effective tools of peacebuilding, is slashed by \$70 million. Do you know what Peace Corps could do with that money? Send 1,400 Americans to high-priority countries in the Middle