

filed suit to bring the elections back to the district rather than at-large, and won. He then ran again in a special election in 1972 and won. Mr. Bunton was the 7th black supervisor elected in the state of Mississippi. Mr. Bunton served on the board for 12 years with WWISCAA, served on the board of MACE for 4 years, and was also a member of the Freedom Democratic Party, which was formed because black democrats were not accepted by the regular Democratic Party, which defeated the regular Democratic Party, and was seated at the National Democratic Convention. Mr. Bunton also helped to get sufficient water and sewer for the Town of Mayersville, and also had involvement with the corporation of the town. Mr. Bunton was also seriously involved in the Issaquena County Backwater Project.

#### TRIBUTE TO DON ROBERTSON

#### HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 17, 2011*

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Don Robertson of Marietta, Georgia. For over 26 years, Don has been headmaster of The Walker School. Prior to becoming a leader in Marietta, Don had been Assistant Headmaster at a school in Princeton, New Jersey, but we are lucky that he and his family came to Cobb County and for the tremendous assets they have been to our community.

When Don first came to Walker in 1985, the school had 450 students and one building. Today, he leaves the school with a student population of 1,040, 34 acres of land, and more than 1 million square feet of teaching space.

I ask my colleagues to please join me in thanking Don Robertson for his commitment to the education of our Nation's future leaders and the betterment of his community. Don, I wish you the best in the next chapter of your life.

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

SPEECH OF

#### HON. COLLEEN W. HANABUSA

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 16, 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. HANABUSA. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to the amendment of the gentleman from Texas.

This amendment proposes to cut all funding for the East-West Center—a shortsighted and impulsive measure that takes away from a program that has done so much on behalf of our Nation.

Due to its strategic location half way between the continental U.S. and Asia, the East-West Center has served as an unparalleled

resource; a bridge between the United States and our allies in the Pacific.

For more than 50 years, it has been working to further diplomatic efforts between China, Japan, and other Asian countries through collaborations on education and research.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, let us not forget that one of America's biggest opportunities will be culminating later this year with the Asian Pacific Economic Cooperation Leaders Meeting. The East-West Center will serve as the anchor to this meeting.

For the first time since 1993, the United States will be hosting leaders of 20 other member economies. At this event, our Nation is poised to showcase our best and brightest, illustrating President Obama's goal to out-innovate, out-build, and out-educate our competitors. This is our chance to show the world what Americans are capable of.

I believe that there is no better place in America for this than the East-West Center. However, if we decide to eliminate this center for collaboration between the U.S. and Asia, if we take away the mere \$10 million that they require; we are sending a message that rejects our diplomatic relationships with Asia, rejects our strides in innovation, and rejects our ability to be capable hosts at one of the most important meetings of the next 10 years.

#### IN SUPPORT OF AMENDMENT 64 TO H.R. 1, CONTINUING APPRO- PRIATIONS ACT, 2011

#### HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 17, 2011*

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of Amendment 64 offered by my friend, Mr. THOMPSON of California.

This amendment would require Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, to adopt standards consistent with the Property Assessed Clean Energy Program of the Department of Energy.

In my hometown of Sacramento, our economy is struggling with unacceptably high unemployment, and furloughs of State employees have erased tens of millions of dollars from the economy.

Since July 6 of last year, I have worked diligently with my colleagues, specifically Representatives THOMPSON, ISRAEL, PERLMUTTER, and SARBANES, to restore the promise of the job creation program known as PACE.

The PACE program is an extremely important component in our nation's transition to a clean energy economy. It would upgrade thousands of homes with energy efficiency products, and create thousands of jobs in California alone.

Unfortunately, our efforts to expand and support the PACE program have been extremely difficult because Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, and the Federal Housing Finance Agency, are not holding up their end of the bargain.

I have heard from clean tech and business leaders about the importance of the PACE program for economic growth, achieving energy independence, and reducing our emissions. One company CEO told me that, "The only thing worse than absence of jobs, is the

illusion of jobs." And that is exactly what has happened as a result of the inaction of Fannie and Freddie Mac, and the ill-advised actions from Federal Housing Finance Agency.

Today's amendment can once again make those jobs a reality.

We have seen the job creation benefits from the PACE programs in Sonoma and Placer County, and I know my hometown of Sacramento is eager to take advantage of the program.

I am pleased to support my colleague's amendment to require the reinstatement of the program as intended.

I will continue to fight for the PACE program, which will reduce energy bills, promote a cleaner environment, and put hard-working Americans back to work. It is important for Sacramento, and for our economy as a whole.

I urge my colleagues to vote in support of Amendment 64.

#### TRIBUTE TO ANDREW MIROLLI

#### HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 17, 2011*

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Andrew Mirolli, a young student from Acworth, Georgia, who has been awarded the 2011 Prudential Spirit of Community Award. Andrew's efforts in combating poverty, both in our community and around the world, are truly deserving of this great honor.

Mr. Speaker, Andrew is working to raise money for a local food pantry and a project in Uganda to rebuild a girls' dormitory. So far, he has raised \$12,480. The world is made a better place by selfless service like Andrew has exemplified.

With his receipt of the Prudential Spirit of Community Award, Andrew has been named one of the top youth volunteers in the State of Georgia. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating this young man on his achievements.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. ADRIAN SMITH

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 17, 2011*

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Speaker, on February 16, 2011, I missed a vote on the Amendment by Representative POMPEO of Kansas, Number 84.

I would have voted "yea."

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

SPEECH OF

#### HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

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:

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I would like to talk briefly about the amendment number 260, offered by my friend from Ohio, Mr. LATTA.

This amendment would cut \$10 million from the construction budget of the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

NIST's buildings were constructed in the 1950s and 1960s, and are no longer adequate for the research needed to support U.S. innovation and industrial competitiveness, particularly in emerging technology areas like nanotechnology and biotechnology.

Independent analysis of NIST's maintenance needs recommends an annual investment target of \$70 to \$80 million to address critical deferred maintenance and bring the NIST facilities to fair condition.

The CR already slashes NIST's construction budget to \$58 million. This is an \$89 million reduction (60%) below the FY 2010 enacted level and significantly below what NIST requires.

Further cuts to the construction budget as proposed by the Latta amendment will erode basic repair and maintenance capability and hamstring NIST's ability to deal with emergencies like water or gas line breaks, storm damage, and power outages.

Improving and maintaining its laboratory facilities is critical for NIST to continue to engage in cutting edge research, delivering high quality science and research to foster innovation and technological advancement for the benefit of U.S. industry.

For these reasons, I must oppose this amendment and urge its defeat.

#### TRIBUTE TO MARK WILSON

#### HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 17, 2011

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, in celebration of Black History Month, I want to continue recognizing African Americans from throughout Georgia's 11th Congressional District who have a major impact on their community. Today, I rise to recognize Mark Wilson of Kennesaw, Georgia, who is the founder and CEO of Ryla, Inc.

Mr. Speaker, Ryla is a leading call center solutions provider with expertise in customer contact solutions and business process outsourcing. As owner, Mark utilizes a "Small Yet Big" approach to managing his clients giving each of them the attention a small company can yield yet consistently delivering the results of a larger organization.

I have visited the call center on many occasions and one thing that consistently stands out is that I always see the employees wearing a smile on their faces. It is a credit to Mark that he has created the type of environment that brings out the best in his employees.

I ask my colleagues to please join me in thanking Mark Wilson for his contributions to his community.

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

SPEECH OF

#### HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

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. GRIJALVA. Mr. Chair, a strong definition for gainful employment is vital to protect vulnerable borrowers from unmanageable debts incurred from heavily overpriced programs. The failure of the regulatory agency to define gainful employment up to this point has left open an avenue by which bad actors have taken advantage of the lack of regulation and created a number of overpriced programs of dubious academic quality targeted at underserved communities, people of color, and low-income students who have not been adequately prepared for a form of employment that will make it possible for those students to pay their loans back.

This amendment stops this process in its tracks. A student who borrows large amounts of money to pay for a higher education should have a reasonable expectation that the degree or certificate she is working for will qualify her for employment at a job that will allow her to repay those loans at a manageable rate.

The vast majority of programs around the country subject to this definition, whether public or private, for-profit or not-for-profit, are doing a good job of providing quality education and training at a reasonable price. Those schools and programs that are doing an effective job have every reason to distance themselves from the ones taking advantage of a lack of oversight, who make the entire industry look bad.

This definition will not impede access to federal aid for any of these programs. In fact, if the rule were to be implemented in its current form, it would affect very few programs and many bad actors who are not concerned about the debts their students will be saddled with will continue to qualify.

It's incredible to me that this amendment is being sold as a move to protect minority students. I, myself, cannot fathom how low-income people of color are protected by being tied to unmanageable and unforgivable debts from federal loans that don't require a shred of evidence that the program will lead to any form of gainful employment for the borrower.

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

SPEECH OF

#### HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 16, 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. MATSUI. Madam Chair, I rise today in opposition to the CR put forward by my Republican colleagues, and specifically to the amendment offered by Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey and Mr. MACK of Florida, and a separate amendment by Mr. WALBERG of Michigan, which would either eliminate or drastically reduce funding for the National Endowment for the Arts.

In tough economic times, funding for the arts may appear to be an easy area to cut. But we cannot forget that the arts industry is an active and crucial part of the American economy.

The non-profit arts industry generates \$166.2 billion annually, and supports 5.7 million full-time jobs across the United States. Spending in the arts stimulates local economies, creates attractive communities, and supports tourism. Cultural tourism alone contributes \$192 billion annually to our country's economy.

And the federal government is not the lone supporter of these projects, but the federal funding is critical to leveraging local, state and private dollars. The direct grants from the National Endowment for the Arts that reach each and every congressional district around the country are often matched by other resources.

In my hometown of Sacramento, California, NEA funding is helping to support a thriving arts scene that is putting our city on the map. In addition to bringing intellectual diversity to the region, it is helping to support young artists, smaller museums, and cultural programs. NEA funding supports galleries and exhibits that are part an extended classroom for our students.

As a former docent of the Crocker Art Museum, I can tell you firsthand the effect that an individual piece of art, or a trip to a museum, can have on a child. Many children would never have the opportunity otherwise to participate in these inspiring experiences.

And the commitment of federal funding for our local artists and art venues sends a strong signal that we are a nation that thinks art is important, and that symbol's influence cannot be overstated.

We must make tough choices. But the question is where. I do not believe gutting our nation's cultural institutions is the place to do so. We cannot afford to stifle the creativity of our students and our citizens.

I urge my colleagues to vote against these harmful amendments and against this CR.

#### TRIBUTE TO MASTER SERGEANT STERLING T. WIMBERLY

#### HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 17, 2011

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, in celebration of Black History Month, I want to continue recognizing African Americans from throughout Georgia's 11th Congressional District who have had a major impact on their community. Today, I rise to recognize Master Sergeant Sterling T. Wimberly of Dallas, Georgia. MSG Wimberly is currently serving in an Active Guard Reserve role as the Senior Supply NCO for the 78th Aviation Troop Command.