

Greater Cleveland Clean Air Campaign; the Cleveland Harbor Dredge Task Force; the Environmental Health and Safety Technology Advisory Committee of Cuyahoga Community College; and the Advisory Committee for Master of Arts in Environmental Studies at Cleveland State University's Levin College of Urban Affairs, among other boards. He is also a past member of the Greater Cleveland Growth Association's Water/Environmental Committee; Case Western Reserve University's Advisory Committee for the Regional Priorities Project; the St. Clair Superior Neighborhood Development Association Environmental Justice Committee; and the Earth Day Coalition's Sustainable Cleveland Neighborhood Committee, among others. In 1991 Bill received the OEPA Senior Manager of the Year Award and in 2005 received the OEPA George B. Garrett Professionalism Award.

Professional duties aside, Bill is a dedicated sports fan and family man. He plays basketball, soccer, tennis and golf and umpires elementary through high school baseball leagues. He is an avid fan of all Cleveland's professional sports teams and the Ohio State University Buckeyes. In his retirement, Bill looks forward to spending more time with his wife Debra, who recently retired from the North Royalton Board of Education, his three children Keith, Kevin and Kristen, his granddaughter Abigail, and a grandchild on the way.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in wishing Bill Skowronski the best in his much deserved retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 18, 2011

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, while I am adamantly opposed to the EPA moving forward with regulations on large utilities and refineries in our country, I believe that the Congress should be the decision maker on carbon control issues. That is why I have co-sponsored Rep. CAPITO's bill that would prohibit the EPA from issuing any greenhouse gas emission-related rules or regulations for two years so that the Congress has time to address this issue. A solution can be found for controlling carbon emissions by using nuclear and natural gas to generate electricity and I hope my colleagues on the other side of the aisle will work with me on this to give industry the certainty they need.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BLAKE FARENTHOLD

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 18, 2011

Mr. FARENTHOLD. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 87, I missed the vote due to a previously scheduled satellite interview in my district. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

HONORING SPECIAL AGENT JAIME J. ZAPATA

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 18, 2011

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to express my deepest sorrow about a tragic attack on American law enforcement that happened earlier this week in Mexico.

On Tuesday afternoon, two agents from U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement were attacked by unknown individuals while driving between Mexico City and Monterrey, Mexico. Today, I honor the incredible sacrifice of Special Agent Jaime J. Zapata, who lost his life in service of our country.

Special Agent Zapata joined ICE in 2006. He joined one of ICE's offices in Laredo, Texas, where he served on the Human Smuggling and Trafficking Unit, as well as the Border Enforcement Security Task Force. He was most recently detailed to ICE's Attaché office in Mexico City. He began his federal law enforcement career with the Department of Homeland Security as a member of the U.S. Border Patrol in Yuma, Arizona. A native of Brownsville, Texas, Special Agent Zapata graduated from the University of Texas at Brownsville in 2005 with a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice.

A second agent who was injured in the attack remains in stable condition. My thoughts and prayers are with him.

These two brave agents gave their all to shield others from harm. They worked tirelessly against dangerous criminal elements. They bravely took dangerous assignments, ultimately making a profound sacrifice.

They were two of the hundreds of ICE personnel around the globe. Honorable agents like these two individuals collaborate with their counterparts in joint efforts to dismantle transnational criminal organizations. Agents like them give their all day in and day out on fighting money laundering, contraband smuggling, weapons proliferation, forced child labor, human rights violations, intellectual property violations, child exploitation, and human smuggling and trafficking.

An incident like this serves to remind us, as a Nation, how grateful we are for the sacrifices made by these brave men and women every day. The work they do serves to make the public safe and protect the Nation's security.

I know that law enforcement is working closely with the authorities in Mexico to ensure that the perpetrators of this horrible attack are brought to justice as quickly as possible.

In the meantime, I offer my deepest condolences to the family of Special Agent Zapata. He died for a just cause and will forever be remembered as a man of courage and honor.

And a message for the second injured agent: I think I speak for a Nation when I say that I hope, and pray, for your recovery. Words cannot express our thanks for your service.

FULL-YEAR CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

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. RICHARDSON. Mr. Chair, I rise today in support of the amendment offered by my colleagues Congressman DON YOUNG and Congresswoman MAZIE HIRONO.

This amendment removes the current language in H.R. 1 that prohibits the Department of Education from funding the Alaska Native Education Equity Act and the Native Hawaiian Education Program. No additional funds are added to the underlying bill.

Alaska and Hawaiian natives historically have had lower student achievement levels due to high rates of poverty and the lack of resources available to them. Investment in Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian programs have decreased student dropout rates and improved student achievement. These programs provide students a quality education while also recognizing and building upon their unique cultural backgrounds.

As a member of the Native American Caucus, I have worked with my colleagues in Congress to address the needs of all Native Americans, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians. I will continue to advocate on behalf of all of our native populations and work to ensure that they have equal opportunities to succeed.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to support this amendment.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 18, 2011

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I was unavoidably detained and missed roll call vote 81. If present, I would have voted "no" on rollcall vote 81.

RECOGNIZING DR. LEROY HOOD, RECIPIENT OF THE FRITZ J. AND DOLORES H. RUSS PRIZE

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 18, 2011

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Leroy Hood, recipient of the Fritz J. and Dolores H. Russ Prize from the National Academy of Engineering. The Fritz J. and Dolores H. Russ Prize is a prestigious engineering award which was established in 1999 in tribute to the contributions of esteemed engineer Fritz Russ and his wife Dolores Russ. The National Academy of Engineering presents this award every two years

to recognize the outstanding achievements made in bioengineering that significantly improve the human condition.

As co-founder of several biotechnology companies in the Puget Sound Region, Dr. Hood advanced research and methods in biology and developed new DNA technologies for biomedicine and forensic science. His groundbreaking work in automation of DNA sequencing earned him this biennium's Fritz J. and Dolores H. Russ Prize. Dr. Hood is a leading scientist in the fields of molecular biotechnology and genomics where his approach to biomedicine has been utilized internationally. He has received many of the foremost awards in his field including the 2004 Biotechnology Heritage Award for his significant contributions to biotechnology through discovery, innovation, commercialization, and increasing public understanding of biology.

A pioneer of techniques that initiated the Human Genome Project, Dr. Hood is admired for his scientific innovations, his entrepreneurship, and the quality and volume of his research. Having earned his M.D. at Johns Hopkins University, and his Ph.D. at the California Institute of Technology, Dr. Hood inspires young people to follow in his footsteps and study science.

The Seattle Community is exceedingly proud to be home to Dr. Leroy Hood and the Institute for Systems Biology, a pioneering research facility that is doing critical work at the very forefront of biological science.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues in the House of Representatives please join me in honoring Dr. Leroy Hood, recipient of the Fritz J. and Dolores H. Russ Prize for his achievements in advancing genetic science.

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF MERCEDES HELEN SPOTTS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 18, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Mercedes Helen Spotts, a loving mother, grandmother, sister and friend. Mrs. Spotts' devotion to public service, and her passionate love for her family and children, has left a lasting impression on countless lives.

Born in Cleveland, Ohio to Helen and John Karpinski, Mrs. Spotts graduated from Notre Dame Academy, and earned associates and bachelor's degrees at Notre Dame College. She also earned her master's and law degrees at Cleveland State University. She was awarded an honorary doctorate from her alma mater, Notre Dame College.

Mrs. Spotts has the honor of being the first female deputy bailiff at the Cleveland Municipal Court. Throughout her career she also served as an appeals court administrator, the second female President of the Cuyahoga County Bar Association, co-founder of the East Side Catholic Shelter and the founding President of Mental Health Services. Because of her dedication, Mrs. Spotts was the recipient of three awards from the Cuyahoga County Bar Association, including the first "Day Weiner" award for public service.

In addition to her formal role as deputy bailiff, Mrs. Spotts was known around the commu-

nity as the organizer of the annual International Folk Festival in Playhouse Square. She was also an active member of the Dimple Darlings of Ireland, a tap-dance group that performed for nursing homes and hospitals. Mrs. Spotts was named a "Grand Lady of Pulaski" by the Polonia Foundation and received its annual Heritage Award. She also received the Ellis Island Medal of Honor in 2005.

Mrs. Spotts is survived by her two sons, David and John, her grandson David, and sister, the Honorable Diane Karpinski.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in remembering Mercedes Helen Spotts, whose legacy of professionalism and service to others will not be forgotten.

HONORING THE LIFE OF HAROLD BROCK

HON. BRUCE L. BRALEY

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 18, 2011

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the work and generosity of the late Harold Brock of Waterloo, Iowa.

In January, Harold passed away at the age of 96. For decades he was a leader and innovator in the Cedar Valley and State of Iowa. Harold began his career as an engineering apprentice at Ford Motor Company working alongside Henry Ford. He headed tractor engineering at Ford for 20 years, before moving to Iowa to work for John Deere in 1959. Harold became the company's first worldwide director of tractor engineering. Throughout his career he supported multiple community programs including Junior Achievement, Cedar Valley Hospice, and the Grout Museum.

One of his greatest contributions was helping establish the Hawkeye Institute of Technology, which we now know as Hawkeye Community College. Harold's vision, energy, and intelligence enabled Hawkeye to become the premier institution it is today. Thousands of students, families, and businesses are stronger now because of Harold's leadership.

A few months before his death, Harold was featured in the Waterloo Cedar Falls Courier for his work and generosity. In that story he stated he was grateful for the opportunity "to build a better world for people." He wanted to be remembered for contributing to the success of people and the community.

Mr. Speaker, Harold Brock will be remembered for a long and productive life where he truly helped build a better world for people. I rise today to honor his memory and the legacy he's left.

MOVEMENT IS LIFE

HON. DONNA F. EDWARDS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 18, 2011

Ms. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, arthritis is the number one cause of disability, according to the Centers for Disease Control, CDC, and among the leading reasons for doctor visits and missed work. In addition, the CDC finds that arthritis costs \$128 billion annually in medical costs and lost wages. In September

2010, a national summit on arthritis and musculoskeletal health disparities, "Movement is Life," was held in Bethesda, Maryland. The summit facilitated a national dialogue about musculoskeletal health disparities among women and the largest racial/ethnic minority groups, African Americans and Latinos. The findings of "Movement is Life" show that women, African Americans, and Latinos face more severe osteoarthritis and disability but receive less than optimal access to diagnostic, medical, and surgical intervention than other demographic groups. These disadvantaged communities also face significant health disparities in chronic diseases such as diabetes, obesity, and heart disease. By promoting early intervention, "Movement is Life" hopes to slow musculoskeletal disease progression, reduce disability, and encourage physical activity and daily movement to improve the overall health of the Nation.

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. CONNELLY of Virginia. Mr. Chair, I rise to strike the last word. This Continuing Resolution would cripple our Nation's transportation infrastructure and terminate crucial investments in public safety. It also would close down community health centers across America, leaving many children and the elderly without vital health care. For example, in my district this proposed cut could close the Prince William Community Health Center. That would eliminate necessary health care for 19,000 of my constituents. In Louisa County, Virginia, which is represented by the new Majority Leader, this proposal could close the lone health facility where residents can receive care. Statewide, 93,000 Virginians would lose health care while 163 employees of community health clinics would lose their jobs. These clinics do not provide optional or cosmetic care. They offer the most basic services necessary for survival. These clinics, which serve virtually every Congressional district, serve some of the hardest working Americans who have been victims of long-term increases in health insurance premiums, which have put affordable care out of their reach.

This Continuing Resolution demonstrates extraordinary callousness and hypocrisy on the part of the Republican leadership. They claim to be interested in the sanctity of human life while cutting off the only source of health care for tens of thousands of Virginians. Incredible, the Republican leadership blocked an amendment by Representative BALDWIN which would have restored \$1 billion in funding for community health centers.

I urge my colleagues to reject the unconscionable cuts in community health center funding and defeat this Continuing Resolution.