

The TMDLs are tough—but they are realistic about the reductions in pollution we need throughout the 64,000-square-mile watershed to restore the Bay's health.

Over the past decades, the effort to restore the Chesapeake Bay has been largely based on voluntary agreements within and among the states.

Recent assessments of the Bay show us that the pledging of earnest promises, the utterance of heart-felt slogans, and the signing of agreements enforced only by good will have achieved water quality in the Bay that is still rated "very poor"—even though billions of dollars have been spent in support of these promises.

If we are serious about cleaning up the Bay, we must implement the TMDLs—and the EPA must be fair but insistent in applying these requirements.

It is therefore essential that the TMDL process get off to a fast, efficient, and effective start.

Eliminating funding for the enforcement of the TMDLs is tantamount to arguing that we should continue to allow the Chesapeake Bay to be a sewer—where pollutants running out of storm drains and waste treatment plants, from overly fertilized front yards, and off farm fields collect and create "dead zones" where life cannot be sustained.

The Virginia Institute of Marine Science has estimated that 40 percent of the jobs in Maryland and Virginia associated with crabbing were eliminated between 1998 and 2006—an outcome resulting from the decimation of the crab population due to the pollution accumulating in the Bay.

In the face of such losses, a vote against enforcement of the TMDL is a vote that says job losses are acceptable—and that though options are available to restore the Bay, a polluted Bay is good enough.

I urge my colleagues to reject this position by voting against this amendment and in favor of a robust effort to clean the Chesapeake Bay.

FULL-YEAR CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

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. CUMMINGS. Mr. Chair, I oppose the continuing resolution put before us by the Republican leadership, which proposes to cut \$100 billion in spending below the funding levels President Obama requested in his budget for fiscal year 2011.

According to a summary developed by the House Appropriations Committee, these cuts are "a massive down payment on the new Republican majority's commitment to drastically decrease discretionary funding in order to help our economy thrive and spur job creation."

Sadly, there does not appear to be any accompanying material that specifies exactly how cutting funds from programs that make essential investments in our communities and in our Nation's infrastructure will spur economic growth. Specifically, I would like to know how many jobs will be created by cutting \$581 million from state and local law enforcement assistance or by cutting billions in funding for the high speed rail program.

I would also like to know how cutting hundreds of millions of dollars from each of the HUD community development fund, the clean water and drinking water state revolving funds, or from transit capital investment grants will support job creation.

Frankly, I don't believe these cuts will create any jobs—nor do I believe they will support the economic growth that will move our country out of the recession created by an appalling combination of regulatory failure and corporate recklessness.

Mr. Chair, while I agree that the current deficit is not sustainable, we are also not going to create jobs by cutting aid programs for the poor.

According to an October 2010 report released by the Congressional Research Service, 3.7 million more persons fell below the poverty line in 2009 compared to the number below the poverty line in 2008. These 3.7 million people were pushed into poverty by a recession they did not create.

As a result, in 2009, a total of 43.6 million persons had incomes below the poverty line—more than at any time since we began tracking this measure in 1959.

Within that figure, 1 in every 5 children in this country lived in poverty in this Nation in 2009.

These figures can only be described as appalling.

And yet we are told that cutting billions from job training programs, cutting a billion dollars from community health centers, cutting a billion from Head Start, and cutting \$747 million from nutritional programs for mothers and infants will help eliminate our \$14 trillion dollar national debt and will also "help our economy thrive and spur job creation."

Mr. Chair, these cuts will not contribute to a thriving economy or create a single job—but they will take essential aid from the millions in our Nation who have the least.

If we are serious about cutting our debt, we must understand what has created that debt. Poor people did not create this debt.

However, an analysis developed by the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities in mid-2010 found that "just two policies dating from the Bush Administration—tax cuts and the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan—accounted for over \$500 billion of the deficit in 2009 and will account for almost \$7 trillion in deficits in 2009 through 2019, including the associated debt-service costs."

Despite the central role that tax cuts for the wealthy have had in increasing national debt, Congress voted just a few months ago to extend the Bush-era tax cuts, adding billions more to the national debt, including more than \$80 billion for the tax cuts provided to the highest 2 percent of earners.

Given this choice, it should not come as a surprise that our national debt is continuing to grow.

Since we appear to be unable to consider serious proposals that will cut the deficit while

truly supporting economic recovery, I urge my colleagues to vote against this amendment and to vote no on the continuing resolution.

IN HONOR OF THE CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 28, 2011

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support for reinstating funding for the Corporation for National and Community Service. Following the recent votes on the House floor, I urge my colleagues to recognize volunteerism as a historic and valued tradition, and we cannot close the door on millions of Americans who want to serve their country.

As a Returned Peace Corps Volunteer, I know firsthand the expansive value of service. America has an unparalleled history of extending a helping hand to lift up our neighbors in times of need. Now more than ever, we must rebuild our country and strengthen our national spirit through service in our communities.

The Corporation for National and Community Service is one of our country's finest expressions of volunteerism. Through programs like AmeriCorps, Senior Corps, and Learn and Serve America, CNCS creates important opportunities for Americans of all walks of life to offer their brains, brawn, and heart in service to others. I am proud to say that there are 1,117 folks from my district currently serving in CNCS programs. And they are part of a five-million strong corps of volunteers across the country who are dedicating part of their lives to meet our nation's critical needs in education, health, safety, and the environment.

CNCS exemplifies the best of what America has to offer. Senior Corps volunteers have given over 1 billion hours of service as foster grandparents for at-risk youth and companions to the elderly. More than 400,000 Americans have served in AmeriCorps on critical projects ranging from Hurricane Katrina and Deepwater Horizon disaster relief to homelessness and neighborhood revitalization around the country. And well over 1 million high school students have experienced the power of civic engagement through participating in Learn and Serve programs. CNCS' work touches public agencies, schools, national and local non-profits, and faith-based organizations.

Yet despite the critical mass of people wanting to serve and the widespread need for service, my colleagues have chosen to eliminate CNCS from our national budget. This dissonance between supply and demand makes absolutely no sense. For the sake of saving .03% of our total federal budget, my colleagues have taken away the ability for millions of Americans to help their fellow citizens.

Mr. Speaker, I honor the service of my constituents on the Central Coast and Americans across the country. I reject this legislation and will fight to restore robust funding so that we can continue our noble legacy of service to those in need for this and future generations.

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF
THE PARMA HOSPITAL ACUTE
REHABILITATION CENTER

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 28, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of the Parma Hospital Acute Rehabilitation Center, a multifaceted medical center that provides the people of Northeast Ohio with comprehensive physical and cognitive rehabilitation of excellent quality.

The staff at Parma Hospital Acute Rehabilitation Center consists of nurses, social workers, dietitians, pharmacists, psychologists/neuropsychologists and physical, occupational and speech therapists. These professionals work together to create individualized treatment plans for each patient they treat. The Center is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation (CARF) and consistently exceeds national averages with outstanding outcomes for patients undergoing joint replacement, total knee replacement and hip fracture repair. The Center has also been recognized for its exceptional work with stroke patients.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, the Parma Hospital Acute Rehabilitation Center is an invaluable resource for patients in Northeast Ohio. Its individualized approach, cooperation with patients' families, and dedication to returning all patients to independent living at the highest possible level of functioning make the Center an excellent source of quality health care for the people of its community.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE
VANESSA L. GIBSON

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 28, 2011

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, in honor of Black History Month 2011, I rise today to recognize a lawmaker from the Bronx whom I admire greatly, the Honorable Vanessa L. Gibson.

Vanessa is a lifelong resident of New York City and a product of its public school system. She graduated from Murray Bergtraum High School for Business Careers in 1997 before enrolling in the State University of Albany, where she obtained her Bachelor's Degree in Sociology in 2001. During her senior year as an undergraduate, Vanessa was offered an internship with Assemblywoman Aurelia Greene, a Democrat from the Bronx who would become Vanessa's most trusted friend and mentor.

Vanessa worked for Assemblywoman Greene in every capacity; learning the processes of public service from one of the ablest and most respected lawmakers in the state. Vanessa first served as Assemblywoman Greene's Legislative Analyst, with responsibilities that included drafting policies to meet the needs of residents of the 77th Assembly District. She worked with community based organizations and diverse constituencies to promote laws that offered greater protections for renters and people on Section 8, and im-

proved educational opportunities for young people from the Bronx. In 2003, Vanessa was promoted to Bronx Office District Manager, which increased not only her responsibilities but also her prominence within the community. She became the principal liaison to Community Boards 4 and 5, in addition to Secretary of the Bronx Unity Democratic Club.

In May 2009, Vanessa received her Master's Degree in Public Administration from Baruch College, part of the City University of New York, CUNY. Later that year, with support from across the state, Vanessa ran for public office and was elected to a seat in the New York State Assembly, representing the people of the 77th District, who after nearly a decade of service had come to know and respect and trust Vanessa's judgment.

Mr. Speaker, Vanessa L. Gibson earned her public profile through loyalty, hard work, but above all, on the power of her considerable gifts. Her youth and talent have led many to regard her as one for New York's future; but this should not outshine the fact that Vanessa is also one for New York's present. She is among the most promising in a new wave of elected officials in this country; women and men who learned government from the inside and took away its best lessons; lessons of respect for ethics; of honesty in public dealings; and of fidelity to the best interests of one's constituents. Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing a hugely gifted woman, and someone who carries with her the hopes of thousands of New Yorkers, including myself, The Honorable Vanessa L. Gibson.

TRIBUTE TO MARY ANN SUDOVAR

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 28, 2011

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention an outstanding individual and a source of inspiration to many, Mrs. Mary Anne Sudovar, who celebrated her 100th birthday on September 18, 2010.

Born in Shelton, CT, in 1910 as Mary Anne Sullivan, she is the oldest of nine children. As a result of her father's job as a construction foreman in the 1920's, Mary's family was forced to relocate frequently. Consequently, they lived in Massachusetts, North and South Carolina, Virginia, and New Jersey in addition to Connecticut.

Mary's propensity to travel extended outside the United States as well. During her lifetime she has visited France, Egypt, Israel, Rome, and Scotland.

In 1938, Mary was wed to Stephen Sudovar (d. 1998) of Garfield, NJ. Shortly afterwards, the couple moved to Wayne, NJ, where they began to build a life together. Mary and Steve had four children: Marianne, Kathleen, Stephen, and Barbara. Mary has 16 grandchildren and is fortunate enough to also enjoy 16 great-grandchildren with one more on the way.

Mary recalls some of her fondest memories over the past century: walking around Packanack Lake, dancing the Polka with her husband, Steve, storytelling, and relaxing on cool summer evenings.

Today, Mary continues to be the life of the party and constantly has visitors. She serves

as a source of inspiration to her soon-to-be 37 person family with her beautiful smile, encouraging words, and upbeat attitude. When asked about the secrets to a long and healthy life, Mary quickly declared, "Hard work and always managing to smile—regardless of the situation."

The job of a United States Congressman involves much that is rewarding, yet nothing compares to recognizing outstanding members of the community like Anne Mary Sudovar.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, Mary's family and friends, the residents of Wayne, NJ, and me in congratulating Mary on her 100th birthday.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RUBÉN HINOJOSA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 28, 2011

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, I regret that I had to return to my district because of the illness and subsequent death of my sister. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall No. 95, 114 and 146 and "nay" on rollcall No. 93, 94, 96–113, 115–145, 147.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF RICHARD
DISTELHORST

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 28, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Richard Distelhorst, a man who devoted himself to the well being of his community and the nation.

Richard was born on August 24th, 1921 to his loving parents Oscar and Esther Distelhorst. He graduated from Burlington High School in 1939. After graduating he met the love of his life, Virginia. The two married in 1944 and celebrated 60 years together before Virginia's death in 2004. As a young man Richard enlisted in the Marine Corps and served as a master sergeant in the South Pacific during World War II.

His service and devotion to his local community will be remembered by those who knew him. He was a member of his local Kiwanis Club, a grand knight of the Knights of Columbus and chairman of the local Service Corps of Retired Executives. He also dedicated his time to the Burlington Alliance for Citizen Action.

Richard also possessed a passion for politics. He volunteered countless hours for local grass roots political action. He was an active member of the Des Moines County Democrats and was eventually awarded for his service to them by being inducted in the Des Moines county Democrats Hall of Fame in 2006. He worked tirelessly organizing peace rallies, educating the community about pertinent political issues and assisted with the 2004 Kucinich for President Campaign. Additionally, Richard was an active member and senior advisor of the American Monetary Institute (AMI). The director and co-founder of the AMI referred to Richard as one of "the most knowledgeable Americans regarding the workings of the Federal Reserve system."