

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please rise with me today in honor and remembrance of a passionate and unwavering individual. Richard will forever be remembered for the hard work and dedication that he committed. I extend my sincerest condolences to his son Daniel and his daughter Rita.

FULL-YEAR CONTINUING
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

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. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to H.R. 1—legislation introduced by the House Republican majority that would cut over \$60 billion in essential funding to America's communities without making a significant impact on this year's federal deficit.

The number one priority for Congress is to keep America's economic recovery moving forward by creating jobs today and building a foundation for sustained, long-term growth. This will require strategic investments by the federal government in education, infrastructure, research and other areas that promote innovation and enable America to compete in the global economy. Tackling rising federal deficits are also part of the broader economic challenge. Federal deficits must be reduced with "smart cuts" to outdated or unnecessary federal programs including taxpayer-sponsorship of NASCAR, duplicative weapons programs at the Pentagon, and broadcasting to Cuba that never reaches its intended audience. I offered amendments to H.R. 1 to make some of these "smart cuts." Unfortunately, my Republican colleagues voted to protect taxpayer subsidies for NASCAR and instead slashed funding to homeless veterans, heating assistance for the poor, neighborhood schools, road and bridge repair, and hundreds of other critical community investments.

Because H.R. 1 undermines vital services and key long-term investments, professional economists believe the bill will put America's fragile economic recovery at risk. The Economic Policy Institute estimates that enactment of H.R. 1 would result in the destruction of 800,000 jobs nationwide. This week, Goldman Sachs economic forecaster Alec Phillips concluded that the Republicans' budget plan could slow economic growth by up to 2 percent.

If my Republican colleagues were serious about deficit reduction they would support amendments like mine to reduce wasteful programs wherever they occur in the federal government—including the Pentagon. They would end their political fixation on "earmarks" in annual spending bills that totaled \$16 billion last year and instead focus on special interest earmarks in the tax code that cost the government more than \$1 trillion in revenue every year. And if Republicans in Congress really wanted to reduce federal deficits they would

not have voted in December 2010 for a bloated \$858 billion tax cut package that included \$140 billion in tax cuts for the richest 2 percent of Americans—every cent of this package was borrowed and added to federal deficits. I believe it is wrong to ask middle class families to sacrifice the quality of their schools, roads and health clinics so the richest Americans receive a tax cut they do not need.

America's economy recovery and serious federal budget challenges require difficult choices in federal spending and taxation. But difficult choices can be made without threatening economic recovery or undermining the future competitiveness of our nation.

I urge my colleagues to join me in rejecting H.R. 1 and instead, get to work on a budget that will create jobs and lead to renewed economic growth. I was unavailable to vote the following amendments to H.R. 1 because of a longstanding obligation with the Pentagon's National Defense University in the Middle East.

Representative MCCOLLUM (MN) Amendment No. 50: Prohibits funds from being used for the Department of Defense to sponsor NASCAR race cars. Had Representative MCCOLLUM been present to vote she would have voted "yes" on Amendment No. 50.

Representative NADLER (NY)/Representative LEE (CA)/Representative STARK (CA) Amendment No. 232: Would limit funds for military operations in Afghanistan to \$10 billion. Had Representative MCCOLLUM been present to vote she would have voted "no" on Amendment No. 232.

Representative KLINE (MN) Amendment No. 214: Prohibits funds from being used to implement regulations on "Program Integrity: Gainful Employment—New Programs" published by the Department of Education. Had Representative MCCOLLUM been present to vote she would have voted "no" on Amendment No. 214.

Representative PENCE (IN) Amendment No. 11: Prohibits any federal funds from being used by Planned Parenthood Federation of America, Inc. Planned Parenthood is already prevented by federal law from using federal dollars for abortion services. This amendment takes away the money they use to provide for family planning, birth control, medical and preventive services. Had Representative MCCOLLUM been present to vote she would have voted "no" on Amendment No. 11.

Representative YOUNG (AK) Amendment No. 533: Would block the Environmental Appeals Board from reviewing air pollution permits related to drilling in the Arctic Ocean. Had Representative MCCOLLUM been present to vote she would have voted "no" on Amendment No. 533.

Representative NADLER (NY)/Representative CONYERS (MI)/Representative PAUL (TX)/Representative JONES (NC) Amendment No. 524: Prohibits funds to make a FISA application for an order requiring the production of library circulation records, library patron lists, book sales records, or book customer lists. Had Representative MCCOLLUM been present to vote she would have voted "yes" on Amendment No. 524.

Representative POE (TX) Amendment No. 466: Prohibits funds from being used by EPA to implement and enforce any requirements or issue permits for stationary source emissions of six pollutants that cause smog and global warming. Had Representative MCCOLLUM

been present to vote she would have voted "no" on Amendment No. 466.

Representative REHBERG (MT) Amendment No. 575: Prohibits any funds from being paid to any employee, officer, contractor, or grantee of any department or agency funded by the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and related agencies to implement the Affordable Care Act. Had Representative MCCOLLUM been present to vote she would have voted "no" on Amendment No. 575.

Representative KING (IA) Amendment No. 267: Prohibits any funds from being used to implement any provision of the Affordable Care Act. Had Representative MCCOLLUM been present to vote she would have voted "no" on Amendment No. 267.

Representative KING (IA) Amendment No. 268: Prohibits any funds from being used to pay the salary of employees of any Federal department or agency with respect to implementing any provision of the Affordable Care Act. Had Representative MCCOLLUM been present to vote she would have voted "no" on Amendment No. 268.

Representative EMERSON (MO) Amendment No. 83: Prohibits funds from being used for enforcement of the individual mandate. Had Representative MCCOLLUM been present to vote she would have voted "no" on Amendment No. 83.

Representative KIND (WI) Amendment No. 89: Prohibits a \$147 million payment to the Brazil Cotton Institute for Brazilian farmers, part of an Administration-brokered settlement to avoid retaliation by Brazil pursuant to a WTO ruling in Brazil's favor. Had Representative MCCOLLUM been present to vote she would have voted "yes" on Amendment No. 89.

Representative KIND (WI) Amendment No. 88: Prohibits funds to be used to research, develop, test, evaluate, or procure the Expeditionary Fighting Vehicle or the Surface-Launched Advanced Medium-Range Air-to-Air Missile program. Had Representative MCCOLLUM been present to vote she would have voted "yes" on Amendment No. 88.

Representative BLACKBURN (TN)/Representative JORDAN (OH) Amendment No. 104: Would cut an additional \$22 billion on top of the \$100 billion in cuts in the CR, reducing Legislative Branch appropriations by an additional 11%, and by reducing all other appropriations by 5.5%, exempting Defense, Homeland Security, and Military Construction-Veterans, and funding for Israel. Had Representative MCCOLLUM been present to vote she would have voted "no" on Amendment No. 104.

Representative BISHOP (NY) Amendment No. 414: Prohibits the use of funds for the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility in Manhattan, Kansas. Had Representative MCCOLLUM been present to vote she would have voted "yes" on Amendment No. 414.

Representative CAMPBELL (CA) Amendment No. 519: Reduces funds by 3.5% for the Departments of Defense and Homeland Security. Had Representative MCCOLLUM been present to vote she would have voted "yes" on Amendment No. 519.

Representative BROWN (GA) Amendment No. 246: Prohibits funds from being used for beach replenishment projects by the Army Corps of Engineers. Had Representative MCCOLLUM been present to vote she would have voted "no" on Amendment No. 246.

Representative BROWN (GA) Amendment No. 263: Prohibits the use of funds to pay any dues to the United Nations. Had Representative McCOLLUM been present to vote she would have voted "no" on Amendment No. 263.

Representative WU (OR) Amendment No. 526: Prohibits the use of funds by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) from spending any money on oversight of all import and export liquefied natural gas (LNG) facilities. Had Representative McCOLLUM been present to vote she would have voted "no" on Amendment No. 526.

Representative MARKEY (MA) Amendment No. 27: Requires oil companies that hold royalty-free leases allowing them to drill for free on the public's offshore lands to renegotiate those leases so that the public is paid the standard royalty charged for drilling. Had Representative McCOLLUM been present to vote she would have voted "yes" on Amendment No. 27.

Representative PRICE (GA) Amendment No. 409: Prohibits funds from implementing or enforcing the Affordable Care Act. Had Representative McCOLLUM been present to vote she would have voted "no" on Amendment No. 409.

Representative MCCLINTOCK (CA) Amendment No. 296: Would prevent the Department of the Interior from completing a science-based process on the Klamath River and deprive the public of information about whether dam removal is in the public interest. Had Representative McCOLLUM been present to vote she would have voted "no" on Amendment No. 296.

Representative MCDERMOTT (WA) Amendment No. 99: Prohibits the use of funds to be used to plan for, begin, continue, finish, process, or approve the relocation of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Marine Operations Center-Pacific from Seattle, Washington, to Newport, Oregon. Had Representative McCOLLUM been present to vote she would have voted "no" on amendment No. 99.

Representative HERGER (CA) Amendment No. 177: Stops all funding to complete the USDA Forest Service from finishing a 6-year locally oriented planning process for designation of roads, trails and off-road use of National Forests. Had Representative McCOLLUM been present to vote she would have voted "no" on Amendment No. 177.

Representative BLUMENAUER (OR) Amendment No. 323: Prohibits funds from being used to make farm commodity payments to people or entities in excess of \$250,000. Had Representative McCOLLUM been present to vote she would have voted "yes" on Amendment No. 323.

Representative BOREN (OK) Amendment No. 566: Prohibits reporting of multiple sales of rifles and shotguns. Had Representative McCOLLUM been present to vote she would have voted "no" on Amendment No. 566.

Representative FORBES (VA) Amendment No. 146: Prohibits the use of funds for the Office of the Secretary of Defense to be used for official representation purposes. Had Representative McCOLLUM been present to vote she would have voted "yes" on Amendment No. 146.

Representative KAPTUR (OH) Amendment No. 333: Reduces the amount made available in the Payment in Lieu of Taxes program by

75%. Had Representative McCOLLUM been present to vote she would have voted "no" on Amendment No. 104.

Representative POLIS (CO) Amendment No. 46: Limits the end strength level of U.S. Armed Forces in Europe to 35,000; limits the end strength level for active duty Army to 565,275; limits the end strength level for active duty Navy to 328,250; limits the end strength level for active duty Air Force to 329,275; and reduces the corresponding military personnel accounts by \$292,451,213. Had Representative McCOLLUM been present to vote she would have voted "no" on Amendment No. 46.

Representative JOHNSON (OH) Amendment No. 498: Prohibits Interior Department's Office of Surface Mining from implementing regulations that protect streams from mining waste and other pollution. Had Representative McCOLLUM been present to vote she would have voted "no" on Amendment No. 104.

Representative GOODLATTE (VA) Amendment No. 467: Prohibits the use of funds to develop, evaluate, or provide oversight to, or backstop total maximum daily loads or watershed implementation plans for the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. Had Representative McCOLLUM been present to vote she would have voted "no" on Amendment No. 467.

Representative GARDNER (CO) Amendment No. 79: Prohibits the use of funds for health insurance exchanges. Had Representative McCOLLUM been present to vote she would have voted "no" on Amendment No. 79.

Representative NEUGEBAUER (TX) Amendment No. 151: Prohibits the use of funds for repair, alteration, or improvement of the Executive Residence at the White House. Had Representative McCOLLUM been present to vote she would have voted "no" on Amendment No. 151.

Representative ROONEY (FL) Amendment No. 13: Prohibits the use of funds by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to implement or enforce water quality standards to protect the State of Florida's lakes and waters. Had Representative McCOLLUM been present to vote she would have voted "no" on Amendment No. 13.

Representative STEARNS (FL) Amendment No. 8: Prohibits the use of funds for the design, renovation, construction, or rental of any headquarters for the United Nations. Had Representative McCOLLUM been present to vote she would have voted "no" on Amendment No. 8.

Representative FLAKE (AZ) Amendment No. 377: Prohibits the use of funds for the construction of ethanol blender pumps or ethanol storage facilities. Had Representative McCOLLUM been present to vote she would have "yes" voted on Amendment No. 377.

Representative GUINTA (NH) Amendment No. 166: Prohibits the use of funds for a government contract that requires a project labor agreement. Had Representative McCOLLUM been present to vote she would have voted "no" Amendment No. 166.

Representative HALL (TX) Amendment No. 495: Would block scientific research efforts at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to understand the domestic and international impacts of climate change. Had Representative McCOLLUM been present to vote she would have voted "no" on Amendment No. 495.

Representative LEE (CA)/Representative Stark (CA) Amendment No. 141: Would re-

duce DoD funding to 2008 levels excluding funding for military personnel and the defense health program. Had Representative McCOLLUM been present to vote she would have voted "no" on Amendment No. 141.

Representative GRIFFITH (VA) Amendment No. 109: Would seek to stop federal agencies from regulating mountain top removal mining. Had Representative McCOLLUM been present to vote she would have voted "no" on Amendment No. 109.

Representative JONES (NC) Amendment No. 548: Would prohibit the development of approval of fisheries catch shares programs under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, which are an important tool for rebuilding fish stocks, and aiding recovery and sustainability of ocean fisheries. Had Representative McCOLLUM been present to vote she would have voted "no" on Amendment No. 548.

Representative LUETKEMEYER (MO) Amendment No. 47: Would bar funding for the study of the Missouri River Projects authorized by the Water Resources Development Act of 2009. Had Representative McCOLLUM been present to vote she would have voted "no" on Amendment No. 47.

Representative LUETKEMEYER (MO) Amendment No. 149: Would block U.S. contributions to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, limiting domestic and international scientific research efforts to understand the impacts of climate change. Had Representative McCOLLUM been present to vote she would have voted "no" on Amendment No. 149.

Representative ISSA (CA) Amendment No. 569: Prohibits federal agencies from awarding pay raises to employees who move to a higher pay grade and assume greater responsibilities. Had Representative McCOLLUM been present to vote she would have "no" on Amendment No. 569.

Representative SULLIVAN (OK) Amendment No. 94: No funds for implementation of decision by EPA administrator to increase ethanol content in gas to 15 percent. Had Representative McCOLLUM been present to vote she would have voted "no" Amendment No. 94.

Representative MCKINLEY (WV) Amendment No. 216: Would bar EPA from exercising or implementing Sec. 404(c) of the Clean Water Act EPA under which the agency regulates the discharge of dredged or fill material into U.S. wetlands and waters. Had Representative McCOLLUM been present to vote she would have voted "no" on Amendment No. 216.

Representative MCKINLEY (WV) Amendment No. 217: Eliminates funding for regulating coal ash as a hazardous waste. Had Representative McCOLLUM been present to vote she would have voted "no" on Amendment No. 217.

Representative POMPEO (KS) Amendment No. 545: Prohibits the use of federal funds for the public, searchable consumer product safety database the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act directs the CPSC to create. Had Representative McCOLLUM been present to vote she would have voted "no" on Amendment No. 545.

Representative BURGESS (TX) Amendment No. 200: Prohibits funds from being used to pay the salary of any employee of the Center for Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight in the Department of Health and Human Services. Had Representative McCOLLUM

been present to vote she would have voted "no" on Amendment No. 200.

Representative HELLER (NV) Amendment No. 482: Prohibits the use of funds for monument designations. Had Representative MCCOLLUM been present to vote she would have voted "no" on Amendment No. 482.

Representative NOEM (SD) Amendment No. 563: Prohibits the use of funds by EPA to issue air quality standards for soot (coarse particulate matter). Had Representative MCCOLLUM been present to vote she would have voted "no" on Amendment No. 104.

Representative PITTS (PA) Amendment No. 430: Prohibits the use of funds to be used to pay the salary of any officer or employee of the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Labor, or the Department of the Treasury who takes any action to specify or define, through regulations, guidelines, or otherwise, essential benefits under section 1302 of the Affordable Care Act. Had Representative MCCOLLUM been present to vote she would have voted "no" on Amendment No. 430.

Representative CARNEY (DE) Amendment No. 241: Prohibits funds for the oil and gas research and development program at the department of energy. Had Representative MCCOLLUM been present to vote she would have voted "yes" on Amendment No. 241.

Representative MULVANEY (SC) Amendment No. 164: Cuts all funds in the bill back to 2006 levels, except for the Department of Defense, Homeland Security, and Veterans Affairs. Had Representative MCCOLLUM been present to vote she would have voted "no" on Amendment No. 164.

Representative KING (IA) Amendment No. 273: Prohibits the use of funds to administer the wage-rate requirements (Davis-Bacon) of subchapter IV of chapter 31 of title 40, United States Code, with respect to any project or program funded by this Act. Had Representative MCCOLLUM been present to vote she would have voted "no" on Amendment No. 273.

Representative BURGESS (TX) Amendment No. 154: Prohibits the Department of Education from using FY 2011 funds to execute a provision in the Education Jobs Fund which required the Governor of Texas to provide certain assurances of State effort to maintain elementary and secondary education funding. Had Representative MCCOLLUM been present to vote she would have voted "no" on Amendment No. 154.

Democratic Motion to Recommit H.R. 1. Had Representative MCCOLLUM been present to vote she would have voted "yes" on the Democratic Motion to Recommit.

Final Passage of H.R. 1—Fiscal Year Continuing Appropriations Act for FY 2011 (Representative ROGERS (KY)—Appropriations). Had Representative MCCOLLUM been present to vote she would have voted "no" on H.R. 1.

USUHS GRADUATES ARE APPRECIATED

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 28, 2011

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, January's tragedy of the shooting of Con-

gresswoman GABRIELLE GIFFORDS highlighted the military medical education and training of three extraordinary physicians. I would like to recognize these doctors not only for their extraordinary abilities and service during the events in Tucson, but also for the fact they are all alumni of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences at Bethesda, Maryland.

Retired Navy Captain Peter Rhee, serves as chief of trauma at the University Medical Center in Tucson. Dr. Rhee was trained by the USUHS to manage complex wounds under strenuous conditions. Dr. Rhee relied on more than 20 years of military medical experience to perform life-saving procedures in the hours following the tragedy in Tucson. Dr. Rhee's unique abilities helped to save the life of the Congresswoman.

Dr. Rhee was assisted by interim chief of Neurology, Army Colonel Geoffrey Ling. Following the incident in Tucson, Dr. Ling traveled to Afghanistan as part of a brain injury assessment team convened by the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Dr. Ling was accompanied by Dr. Jim Ecklund. Dr. Ecklund is a highly regarded neurosurgeon who has had much experience caring for bullet injuries to the brain and a classmate of Dr. Rhee's at USUHS.

The training provided by the military medical education allowed for these doctors to save the life of Congresswoman GIFFORDS. I am grateful for their service to this country. I know first-hand of the world-class professionalism of USUHS because my second son is a proud graduate after attending the Naval Academy.

In conclusion, God Bless our Troops, and we will never forget September 11th in the Global War on Terrorism.

LEWIS "LUIGI" WAITES

HON. LEE TERRY

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 28, 2011

Mr. TERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to posthumously honor the extraordinary talents and accomplishments of the legendary percussionist/vibraphonist Mr. Lewis "Luigi" Waites.

Luigi was born July 10, 1927, in Omaha, Nebraska. He began playing drums at age 12 and soon after began playing local nightclubs around Omaha. While Luigi served in the U.S. Army at Camp Lee, Virginia, he met jazz drummer Elvin Jones, who gave him further drum instruction.

Over his long career, Luigi shared the stage with jazz legends such as Ella Fitzgerald, Dizzy Gillespie, Lionel Hampton, and Sarah Vaughan. He was a tireless musician; appearing weekly at a local tavern, Mr. Toad's, since 1975. In addition, he helped organize performances for the Omaha Summer Arts Festival.

Beyond his acclaim as a musician, Luigi was known for his generosity, openness and selflessness on-stage and off. As a teacher and mentor to fellow musicians, he encouraged individuals to explore their creativity and expanded their skills as evidenced by The Contemporaries, a youth drill team and drum corps he organized.

Waites' accolades include being named the Nebraska Art Council's artist of the year for 2006. In the same year, he received a lifetime achievement award at the Omaha Entertain-

ment and Arts Award ceremony. He was inducted into the Omaha Black Music Hall of Fame in 2005. After thousands of performances through several decades, Luigi died peacefully on Tuesday, April 6, 2010 at the age of 82. A family man, he was the father of 6 children, 8 grandchildren, and 13 great-grandchildren at the time of his passing.

As we celebrate Black History month, we recognize the immense contributions African Americans have made to this country—from innovations in science and technology to accomplishments in the arts and culture that have benefited us all. Luigi's legacy as an artist and teacher deserves our thanks and applause.

23RD ANNIVERSARY OF THE POGROM AGAINST ARMENIANS LIVING IN SUMGAIT, AZERBAIJAN

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 28, 2011

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the tragic massacre of Armenian civilians at the hands of the Azerbaijani regime. Next week will mark the twenty-third anniversary of the pogrom against Armenians living in the town of Sumgait, Azerbaijan. The 3-day massacre in the winter of 1988 resulted in the deaths of scores of Armenians, many of whom were burnt to death after being brutally beaten and tortured. Hundreds of others were wounded. Women and girls were brutally raped. The carnage created thousands of ethnic Armenian refugees, who had to leave everything behind to be looted or destroyed, including their homes, cars and businesses. The Sumgait Pogroms were part of an organized pattern, and were preceded by a wave of anti-Armenian rallies throughout Azerbaijan, which culminated in the 1990 Pogroms in Baku, Azerbaijan's capital city.

These crimes were never adequately prosecuted by Azerbaijan authorities. Many who organized or participated in the bloodshed have gone on to serve in high positions on the Azeri government. For example, in the days leading up to the Sumgait massacres, a leader of the Communist Party of Azerbaijan, Hidayat Orujev, warned Armenians in Sumgait: "If you do not stop campaigning for the unification of Nagorno Karabakh with Armenia, if you don't sober up, 100,000 Azeris from neighboring districts will break into your houses, torch your apartments, rape your women, and kill your children." Orujev later became the State Advisor for Ethnic Policy to former Azeri President Heidar Aliyev.

Despite efforts by the Government of Azerbaijan to cover up the events of February 1988, survivors of the pogrom have come forward with their stories. They told of enraged mobs, which threw furniture, refrigerators, television sets and beds from apartment balconies and set them afire. Armenians were dragged from their apartments. If they tried to run and escape, the mob attacked them with metal rods, knives and hatchets before the victims were thrown into the fire. One witness said of a victim, "He was still moving, trying to escape from fire, but five young men were pushing him back into the fire with metal rods." Others told of Interior Ministry troops, who stood by doing nothing.