

tax burdens that hinder small businesses and ultimately overall economic growth and job creation.

Unfortunately, small businesses are often the hardest hit when aggressive states and localities impose excessive tax burdens on out-of-state companies. These businesses do not have the resources to hire the teams of lawyers that many large corporations devote to tax compliance, and they are more likely to halt expansion to avoid uncertain tax obligations and litigation expenses.

The clarity that the Business Activity Tax Simplification Act will bring will ensure fairness, minimize litigation, and create the kind of legally certain and stable business climate that frees up funds for businesses of all sizes to make investments, expand interstate commerce, grow the economy and create new jobs.

At the same time, this legislation will protect the ability of states to ensure that they are fairly compensated when they provide services to businesses that do have physical presences in the state.

I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

ENERGY TAX PREVENTION ACT OF
2011

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 910) to amend the Clean Air Act to prohibit the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency from promulgating any regulation concerning, taking action relating to, or taking into consideration the emission of a greenhouse gas to address climate change, and for other purposes:

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I rise today to oppose H.R. 910, the so-called Energy Tax Prevention Act. H.R. 910 would permanently ban the Environmental Protection Agency, EPA, from protecting human health and the environment by enforcing the Clean Air Act and confronting the threat of climate change.

This radical, anti-environmental legislation is a distraction from the number one issue facing Congress: promoting job creation and economic growth. Instead of focusing on the economy, the House Republican majority is trying to legislate science by overriding the established scientific consensus on climate change and the threat posed by greenhouse gases. H.R. 910 endangers public health and will cost American jobs by slowing our economy's transition to cleaner, more secure energy sources. A recent EPA report revealed that reducing greenhouse gas emissions will prevent the early deaths of 230,000 Americans in 2020 and produce \$2 trillion in economic benefits by that same year.

I published an editorial with climate science expert John Abraham of the University of St. Thomas to voice my strong opposition to H.R. 910. I ask that a copy of this editorial be included in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

[Published in The Hill blog on Apr. 6, 2011]

CONGRESS ON WRONG SIDE OF HISTORY IN
DENYING CLIMATE CHANGE

(By Rep. Betty McCollum (D-MN) and John
Abraham)

Right now in our hometown of St. Paul, Minnesota, we are preparing for what might possibly be record-breaking floods due to winter's heavy snowfall and the threat of heavier spring downpours. Minnesota has already experienced two 100-year floods in the Red River Valley within the past 13 years. Local doctors report an increase in cases of children with asthma and other respiratory conditions. Lake Superior has seen record low water levels in recent years, threatening not only drinking water supplies but the Duluth-Superior port that receives more than 1,200 ships and 48 million tons of cargo.

All of these public health, economic, and environmental trends have been strongly linked to climate change. Multiple studies have shown that 97 percent of the most qualified climate scientists are in agreement that humans are causing the planet to warm. If this was an illness, and 97 percent of doctors recommended a certain treatment, we would take appropriate action.

Instead, the majority party in the House of Representatives is choosing to willfully defy the diagnosis and overturn established science by voting on a bill (H.R. 910) that will gut the Clean Air Act and prohibit the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

from ever protecting the American people from the disastrous impacts of climate change.

During the committee markup of H.R. 910, not a single Republican voted to even acknowledge the validity of EPA's scientific finding that "warming of the climate system is unequivocal," caused by human activities, and a threat to public health. The rejection of those amendments is shocking to scientists who understand the serious risks Americans face from global climate change.

This places the climate deniers on the same side as those fringe extremists who denied the harmful impacts of cigarette smoking and DDT, and the causes of acid rain and ozone depletion. Proponents of H.R. 910 are denying science and dangerously on the wrong side of history.

We believe now is the time to confront climate change. If we act wisely, we can simultaneously protect the environment, create jobs, diversify our energy supplies, and improve national security.

A recent report by Pew Environment Group shows the U.S. has now fallen to number three behind China and Germany for clean energy private investment. Passage of H.R. 910 will guarantee America loses out on the jobs of the future by obstructing efforts to build the new clean energy economy. It will deepen America's dependence on dirty coal and imported oil instead of creating American jobs through investments in renewable resources and energy efficiency.

Our country must turn the problems presented by climate change into an opportunity. Instead of devoting its time to discrediting scientists and undermining the EPA, Congress should put more faith in the genius of the American spirit to protect our environment and human health while creating economic growth. With the right clean energy incentives and framework, we believe America can out-innovate and out-build anyone in the world. The proponents of H.R. 910 not only deny climate change, they undermine America's ability to find solutions that benefit consumers, workers and the environment.

Every single member of Congress has a choice: deny the science of climate change or take real steps to confront a changing climate. Congress must accept scientific reality and act on climate change.

THE NECESSITY TO RECOGNIZE
BUDGET REDUCTION STRATE-
GIES THROUGH REORGANIZA-
TION OF THE DEFENSE BUDGET

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 8, 2011

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about the current debt crisis our Nation faces and a strategy to rein in some significant federal spending, while strengthening our national defense initiatives. A paper written by Mallory Factor, published by Forbes on March 9, 2011, identified a strategy intended to reduce the defense budget. As the defense budget represents nineteen percent of the total federal budget, the cuts would have a significant effect on deficit reduction and highlight our commitment, as a Congress, to the American public that we will leave "no stone unturned" as we work to reduce the total budget deficit.

Mr. Factor's article does not suggest that we take an undiscerning approach to cutting the

IN REMEMBRANCE OF MARY HOLT

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 8, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Mary Holt, who was a dedicated neighbor to her community and a pioneer for many.

Mary was born Asheville, North Carolina and later moved to the Fremont area in Ohio. She began her career working at a record shop and her skills eventually attracted the attention of the radio station WSRS. She jumped to a different radio station in 1952, and by the end of the decade she worked for multiple radio stations and all three local television networks. Eventually her duties entailed news, fashion, and music.

She was also active in her community. She ran for city council, organized the Black Political Women of Cleveland and a Grandmother's club. She also volunteered in many social organizations. It was not uncommon to find her reading to wounded veterans, or teaching reading and writing at community centers. In recognition of her many accomplishments she was honored with the Trail Blazer Award from the Cleveland chapter of the National Council of Negro Women and was named to the short list of the Plain Dealer's leading African-American Clevelanders.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the life of Mary Holt. Her life was marked by dedication to community and pioneering for both women and African Americans. Her devotion and duty to her community should set an example to us all.

defense budget, rather “Congress must reconsider the military’s mission and what activities it should undertake.” In this assessment by Mr. Factor, and supported by myself, there is no indication that American military power be restricted in missions concerning American security. Rather, that auxiliary duties performed by the military (e.g., humanitarian missions, peacekeeping, nation building and disaster relief) ought to be separated from the core mission of the military; to provide for the common defense of our great Nation.

Further, by separating and focusing these mission directives, we will produce a Department of Defense budget that clearly defines where our money is being spent. This will allow for a thorough and honest review of the allocation of such dollars and produce the foundation upon which a responsible debate can be held in this chamber on an issue of our generation, spending and debt.

Therefore all options must be on the table as we, the 112th Congress, have committed ourselves to deficit reduction. For our future, and for the future of our children and grandchildren, it is imperative that we undertake this difficult task in the short term to ensure our Nation’s viability for the long term.

IN HONOR OF THE ANNIVERSARY
OF THE SLOVENIAN WORKMEN’S
HOME

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 8, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Slovenian Workmen’s Home, an establishment that has been very dear to the Cleveland community for well over 85 years.

The idea of this home first came about on November 10, 1916. The original purpose of the home was to accommodate the various fraternal, cultural, social, and civic activities in which more than a dozen Slovenian groups participated. The building was finally completed in 1926 and consisted of an auditorium, recreation hall, library, business offices, and meeting rooms. As the years passed, the establishment began to expand to include a school in 1931, a gymnastic group in 1932 and a junior chorus in 1934; A year after that a bar was added and by 1939 the building had eight bowling alleys.

When the 1940s arrived, the use of the ‘Home’ changed due to World War II. It opened its doors to the Red Cross, war bond drives and any other program that assisted America’s war effort. By the time 1945 came around, ‘Home’ changed its charter from a corporation to a non-profit organization.

The Slovenian Workman’s Home has always been a welcoming location for workers’ unions, at one point providing roof and shelter to any of the 23 unions that met on the premises.

As the years passed, the Slovenian Workmen’s Home began to be bought out and other establishments began to move in. However, by the 1990s, efforts were underway to recover and restore the remaining area of the original home.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join in recognition of this phenomenal establishment. It has been a consistent part of the fabric of

the Cleveland community for many years, and many years to come.

INTRODUCING THE POST 9/11 GI
BILL PAYMENT RESTORATION ACT

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 8, 2011

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Post 9/11 GI Bill Payment Restoration Act.

At the end of the 111th Congress, the Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Improvements Act of 2010 (P.L. 111-377) made changes to the Post 9/11 GI Bill program.

Most of these changes were positive; however, provisions were included to eliminate certain living stipend “interval payments” for veterans using their education benefits.

These interval payments cover periods between academic terms, such as the winter holiday break, that do not exceed eight weeks. They also cover periods when a student transfers between educational institutions if the period between the consecutive terms does not exceed 30 days.

Interval payments also apply if the school is temporarily closed under an established policy based on an Executive Order of the President or due to an emergency situation.

Stopping the payments will put strain on veterans trying to obtain an education.

The Post 9/11 GI Bill Payment Restoration Act would reinstate these interval payments before the benefit cut becomes effective on August 1, 2011 and help veterans and service members in school.

This preemptive action would help veterans continue to receive the living stipends they need while attending school.

We must strongly support those who have served as they attend college. Our service members earned and deserve their educational benefits. We have a responsibility to keep these benefits worthy of their dedication and sacrifices to the nation.

I urge passage of the Post 9/11 GI Bill Payment Restoration Act.

IN HONOR OF 1ST LIEUTENANT
ROYAL A. STRATTON

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 8, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of World War II rescue pilot, 1st Lieutenant Royal A. Stratton, who died on May 29, 1945, after being mortally wounded while saving 9 crewmembers from a downed B-29. Royal hailed from Ellwood City, Pennsylvania. His love of flying led to his enlistment in the Army Air Corps where he excelled to become one of only a few pilots to wear both Army and Navy wings.

Royal joined the 4th Emergency Rescue Squadron and with his crew of six, would fly off of Iwo Jima and police flight paths searching for B-29 bombers in jeopardy. On the 29th of May, 1945, Royal spotted the crew from a downed B-29 from the 444th Bomb Group,

676th Squadron stationed at Tinian. After landing and taking on the survivors, tragedy struck during take off when a swell broke over Royal’s PBY Catalina and tore one propeller off, killing him. The entire contingent of servicemen on Royal’s plane that day survived the incident and were picked up by the Lifeguard Submarine, USS *Tigrone*. On May 30, 1945, Royal A. Stratton was commissioned to the sea. By the end of the war, the 4th Emergency Rescue Squadron had amassed over 650 rescues and Royal Stratton was posthumously awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Royal A. Stratton for his selflessness and valor, for putting others before himself in his service of saving the lives of his fellow servicemen.

HONORING ALEXANDER M. SPOON

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 8, 2011

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Alexander M. Spoon. Alexander is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 180, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Alexander has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Alexander has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Alexander has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commanding Alexander M. Spoon for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING MS. EUBIE ENRIGHT

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 8, 2011

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ms. Eubie Enright, a beloved matriarch of the 17th Congressional District, who is celebrating 104 years of life.

Ms. Enright was born to sharecroppers in Metter, Georgia. It was here that she experienced back-breaking work as she planted and raised many crops under the Georgia sun. A young Ms. Enright exuded a tenacity that would later serve her well.

South Florida became home to Ms. Enright more than 50 years ago, when she migrated to Miami with her family. Living and thriving during the civil rights movement, she held several jobs, including housekeeping and cooking in private homes. She said, “I don’t care what you have to do, you have to work”. Frankly, Ms. Enright understands the investment that must be made for your family and for your community.