

would certainly harm the 554,000 people in Harris County receiving SNAP benefits in December of 2010.

This legislation would cut Federal housing aid, and impose unfair work or job training requirements that give no consideration to job market diversity or extenuating circumstances. It will also deeply reduce the LIHEAP contingency fund will affect the 500,000 low income households in Houston that were receiving heating and energy discounts last year.

Republicans may be willing to pass a budget that reduces Pell Grants by 60%. They may be comfortable eliminating \$75 million dollars to provide housing and other services to homeless veterans, but I cannot support a budget that leaves so many Americans behind.

In order to move America forward, we must give all citizens equal opportunity for success. We must invest in future generations by funding education and job training programs, not cutting this funding by \$250 billion dollars. We need to invest in clean energy, and environmentally sound technology that will foster job growth, and continue to improve our infrastructure.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AND FULL-YEAR CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 14, 2011

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my concern regarding the partisan direction our budget debate has taken this week. Although there is near unanimous agreement that we must reduce our deficit, there has been no productive discussion in this chamber as to how we can work together to accomplish that goal. We all have our own ideas about our nation's fiscal priorities, but what is missing in today's discussion is a bipartisan, centrist approach to addressing our nation's fiscal health, such as the recommendations in the report by the Simpson-Bowles National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform.

It is unfortunate that the House will not consider the Cooper amendment, mirroring the Simpson-Bowles suggestions, as an alternative to the extreme partisan proposals that have been put forth. Responsibly reducing our nation's deficit will require shared sacrifice and bipartisan consensus, and will not be accomplished if the two parties are unable to work together.

In March, I joined with my colleagues in the Blue Dog Coalition to offer a comprehensive and aggressive set of benchmarks for fiscal reform that include the largest deficit cuts in history by 2014, entitlement and tax reform, and a reduction in the overall size of government. This proposal put everything on the table, cutting the deficit by \$4 trillion dollars over the next 10 years, returning to 2008 spending levels by 2013, and addressing entitlement programs.

No one party has all the answers, and no one party can do this alone. It's time to put our economy back on the path to fiscal sustainability, and this House should consider the Simpson-Bowles recommendations that aim to accomplish that goal.

HONORING MRS. NORA LEE ADAMS

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 15, 2011

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation:

Whereas, One hundred years ago a virtuous woman of God was born in Houston County, Georgia on April 15, 1911; and

Whereas, Mrs. Nora Lee Adams moved to Dooly County, Georgia, where she married Mr. Henry Adams and through their union was blessed with 12 children, 27 grandchildren, 29 great-grandchildren and 31 great-great grandchildren; and

Whereas, this phenomenal Proverbs 31 woman has shared her time and talents as a wife, mother and motivator, giving the citizens of Georgia a person of great worth, a fearless leader and a servant to all who want to advance the lives of others; and

Whereas, Mrs. Adams has been blessed with a long, happy life, devoted to God and credits it all to the Will of God; and

Whereas, Mrs. Adams, along with her family and friends, is celebrating this day a remarkable milestone, her 100th birthday, we pause to acknowledge a woman who is a cornerstone in our community in DeKalb County, Georgia; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Mrs. Adams on her birthday and to wish her well and recognize her for an exemplary life which is an inspiration to all;

Now Therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR. do hereby proclaim April 15th, 2011 as Mrs. Nora Lee Adams Day in the 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, this 15th day of April, 2011.

IN RECOGNITION OF RACHEL
ANDRES

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 15, 2011

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Rachel Andres, the 2011 San Mateo County Teacher of the Year.

At a time when our country lags behind other nations in math and science achievement instruction, Rachel Andres has established a teaching approach in high school that is slashing the math gap. In her own words: "I respect my students and listen to the voice of each one, but then I set high standards, challenge each one to excel, provide the necessary support and require that they take responsibility for learning and be accountable for demonstrating master." She is clearly a task master with compassion.

Rachel earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree with a double major in Mathematics and Secondary Education from Lake Forest College in Illinois. After teaching four years at Winthrop High School in Massachusetts, she accepted her current position at Menlo-Atherton High School in 2005. She teaches Geometry and other math classes.

She is the coordinator of her school's effort to prepare students for college. In fact, she speaks at middle-schools for the purpose of attracting incoming freshmen to what is called the Advancement Via Individual Determination

program. She meets with parents and nurtures partnerships with local Boys and Girls Clubs and recruits tutors all in the name of nurturing a college-going culture in the community. Most significantly, a high percentage of students in the program are successful in becoming the first in their family to attend college.

Further, Rachel has expanded learning boundaries for her students through creative curriculum development. For example, she has designed strategies to enable students to use writing as a means to solve math problems. While her teaching has been recognized with local awards, she is quick to say that the most important recognition comes from students who thank her for helping them succeed.

Mr. Speaker, I ask this body to rise with me to honor a teacher who has raised the bar of excellence in the classroom. Our country simply needs more math teachers like Rachel Andres.

TRIBUTE TO HONOR FLIGHT OF
OREGON

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 15, 2011

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 27 World War II veterans of Oregon who will visit their memorial here in Washington, DC, later this month. On behalf of a grateful state and country, we welcome the Honor Flight of Oregon.

The following are the distinguished veterans who will be representing the Honor Flight of Oregon: Elbert Bales, Donald Cameron, Kenneth Deacon, Henry Dorig, Robert Eddings, Noel Eng, William Grisso, Paul Potts, Eugene Sheffler and Harold Weigand, U.S. Navy; Ruth Waldruff, U.S. Marine Corps; Calvin Clayton, Stephen Graves, Warren Lancaster, John Lortz, John Mast, Laurel McClelland, Hans Running, Donald Smith and Don West, U.S. Army; John Couch, Calvin Hanscom, Jerry Johnson and James Johnson, U.S. Army Air Corps; Barbara Euler and Baldwin Thurman, U.S. Women's Army Corps; Shirley Marcy, U.S. Cadet Nurse Corps.

Mr. Speaker, these 27 veterans from Oregon are joining a camaraderie of over 63,000 veterans from across the country who, since 2005, have been transported from their home states to our nation's capital at absolutely no cost to them or their families, to visit and reflect at memorials built here in their honor.

The fact that these soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines would uproot themselves from their homes and families and put themselves in harm's way for our country is very humbling. The debt of gratitude we owe them can never be repaid, for without their honor, courage, commitment, and—above all—sacrifice we would not be able to enjoy the freedoms we have today.

Please join me in thanking these Oregon veterans and the volunteers of Honor Flight of Oregon for their dedication, commitment, and service to this great nation.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON
THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR
2012

SPEECH OF

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 14, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H. Con. Res. 34) establishing the budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2012 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2013 through 2021, with Mr. Terry in the chair.

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Chair, I rise today in strong opposition to the Republican budget plan.

The federal budget should reflect the priorities and values of our nation, but the Republican plan instead looks out for the likes of big corporations who would get enormous tax breaks. What's more, the Republicans are asking America's seniors to pay for it. In fact, the Republican budget would end Medicare as we know it. And it would devastate Medicaid. Moreover, the Republican budget hurts our economy and in particular investments in innovation.

Mr. Speaker, the Republican budget proposal will severely unravel our nation's gains in the clean energy economy. At the same time, it proposes significant tax subsidies for Big Oil. There is something not right with that picture. In fact, I believe the Republican budget is severely short-sighted. It offers our competitors, China and Germany, a free-pass to dominate an ever-growing clean energy manufacturing economy and job creation.

The Sacramento area has over 220 clean energy companies, and I can tell you that many of those small business CEOs are seeking continued investment and support from this Congress.

Mr. Chair, we should be promoting policies like the Make It in America agenda to boost America's manufacturing industry and make products here this country. In order for America to remain competitive, innovative, and a global leader, we must make responsible choices.

Unfortunately, the Ryan budget does not. I urge my colleagues to vote against this misguided Republican budget plan.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TRENT FRANKS

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 15, 2011

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona. Mr. Speaker, I missed rollcall vote No. 270 for H. Con. Res. 35. If I were here, I would have voted "yea."

INTRODUCTION OF THE
SUPERFUND REINVESTMENT ACT

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 15, 2011

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, today, I am pleased to introduce the "Superfund Rein-

vestment Act" along with my colleagues Rep. FRANK PALLONE and TIMOTHY BISHOP. This legislation will provide resources to communities across the country to clean up hazardous waste sites and at the same time will save taxpayers more than \$20 billion over 10 years.

The Superfund program was enacted in 1980 to provide money to clean up toxic waste sites where the responsible party was out of business or could not be identified. Before they expired in 1995, the money for Superfund cleanup came from taxes on the polluters themselves. However, Congress has never reauthorized the tax, making the burden of funding cleanups of toxic waste sites fall on the shoulders of taxpaying Americans. It is time to make public health, not protection for polluters, a priority.

This legislation will simply reinstate the Superfund taxes to their previous levels. This includes excise taxes of 9.7 cents per barrel on crude oil or refined oil products, excise taxes of \$0.22 to \$4.87 per ton on certain chemicals, and a corporate income tax of 0.12 percent on the amount of a corporation's modified alternative minimum taxable income that exceeds \$2 million. The President's FY 2012 budget, which calls for reauthorization of these taxes, estimates that these fees would raise about \$2 billion per year and \$20.8 billion over 10 years.

Superfund sites are some of the most contaminated in the nation. 70 million Americans—including 10 million children, live within four miles of a Superfund site. They are exposed to toxic waste such as arsenic, benzene, PCBs, mercury and a range of solvents, leading to health problems such as infertility, low birth weight, birth defects, leukemia and respiratory difficulties. Communities home to these sites can face restrictions on water use and recreational activities as well as economic losses as property values decline due to contaminated land.

My community of Portland, Oregon, has been struggling to clean up one of the nation's most complex Superfund sites, the Portland Harbor site on the Willamette River. I hope that this bill to reinvest in the Superfund program will provide additional resources to the Environmental Protection Agency to keep the cleanup on track.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON
THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR
2012

SPEECH OF

HON. MAZIE K. HIRONO

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 14, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H. Con. Res. 34) establishing the budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2012 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2013 through 2021:

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. Chair, I rise in strong opposition to H. Con. Res. 34, the FY 2012 Budget Resolution. Instead of having the wealthiest pay their fair share, this budget just helps the "haves" at the expense of everyone else.

The Republican majority has brought this bill to the floor for a vote today, claiming that this budget will resolve our fiscal crisis and lead our country back on the "path to prosperity." Sadly, this path to prosperity only applies to those who already have a lot and don't need more. Millionaires and billionaires will like the tax breaks that they'll get from this budget. The wealthiest Americans will get the Bush tax cuts permanently extended to the tune of \$1 trillion. Big Oil companies will get tens of billions of dollars in subsidies. Special interests that send jobs overseas will also like this budget's tax giveaways.

What should scare us most about this FY2012 budget is that it pays for all of these tax breaks—over \$4 trillion in tax cuts—on the backs of working and middle-class people. It asks those who are struggling the most to sacrifice even more.

The recession has increased the child poverty rate in Hawaii to its highest level in years. This reverse Robin Hood budget would drastically cut food programs for poor children, Head Start, and child care for working families. Today, my staff and I are fasting in solidarity with the 50 million people in America who don't know where their next meal is coming from. HungerFast.org is coordinating this effort with over 30,000 people, including Members of Congress, Ambassador Tony Hall, faith leaders, MoveOn and SEIU members, Moby, and others.

H. Con. Res. 34 ends Medicare as we know it. All of you under the age of 55 will not be able to enroll in the original Medicare program. In Hawaii, the under-55 population is slightly less than a million. When you are age 67—yes, that's right, Republicans are raising the Medicare enrollment age by two more years—you will receive a voucher that you will use to buy insurance from a private company. We don't know what the amount of the voucher will be or whether it will keep up with the rising costs of health care. This scheme privatizes Medicare.

You're 67 years old. Is trying to buy health insurance with your voucher what you want to be doing? Every year? And who knows if the doctor you like is even going to participate in your private insurance plan. One thing is for certain—privatizing Medicare will mean more business for the insurance companies.

The Republican plan doesn't take on the 48 million Americans already on Medicare or those that will enter the program in 10 years because the Republicans know that this voucher plan would make these seniors mad as hell. Many of you have parents on Medicare. My mom is on Medicare. Without Medicare, we would be worried sick about how our parents will pay for health care.

Before Medicare became law in 1965, half of all seniors had no health insurance. The Republican budget is not only out of step with the priorities of the nation, but it is also a step backwards when it comes to health care for those who need it the most.

This budget also takes away important health care reform benefits for seniors who are already on Medicare. It repeals the gradual elimination of the Medicare "donut hole" in prescription drug coverage. It also repeals free access to key preventive services and annual checkups. Over 48 million seniors with Medicare, including 208,500 in Hawaii, would have to pay more if they want to stay healthy by getting regular check-ups.