

1960, and lastly, a doctorate degree in mathematics at the Illinois Institute of Technology in 1968. These are significant achievements for anyone, but even more so for someone who had to overcome the discrimination of the time.

It is this experience that has driven Milt Gordon's lifetime commitment to improving access to education for everyone. In his first convocation address at Cal State Fullerton in 1990, Dr. Gordon said, "By providing access to professional careers for the broadest cross-section of Americans, including women and members of minority and immigrant groups, our university represents a pathway into the American mainstream for individuals and families who otherwise would not have the opportunity to make this step, thus helping to ensure the stability of our free economy and of our Democratic government."

That was his first commencement address. Well, from that commencement address, I would say that the impressive enrollment and graduation statistics and the many awards and accolades that Milt Gordon has received over the last 20-some years clearly demonstrate that he more than met the challenge of his work.

Today Cal State Fullerton is one of our Nation's largest and most inclusive institutions of higher education. And I assure you, greater quality has been the hallmark of this growth. It is no exaggeration to say that Dr. Gordon has transformed CSUF from being a regional school to being a global one. His vision has provided an enriching environment which allows students to develop intellectual, cultural, and economic curiosities well beyond Orange County, California. The university in the Gordon years has been an unquestioned asset to the region, to the State, the country, and the world.

In closing, as an alumnus and the congressman who represents this university, I have to say that I am sorry to see President Gordon retire. His accomplishments are many, and the university will continue to thrive because of them, but there is only one Milt Gordon. But speaking as a friend, I am pleased for Milt and for his wife, Marge. They have dedicated their lives to education, to Cal State Fullerton, and to their community. To that end, they deserve our deepest gratitude and our most heartfelt wishes for a long and enjoyable retirement after a job very well done.

#### HOPE FOR AMERICA'S UNEMPLOYED

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. RANGEL) for 5 minutes.

Mr. RANGEL. Last Christmas the gift that we gave to the unemployed was the shock of their lives, as they thought that the Congress would not extend the unemployment compensation. So this morning, I'm joining with

Congressmen STARK, DOGGETT, LEVIN, and CROWLEY to make certain that we don't do that again this year.

The opposition to the extension last year was due to a large number of Republicans truly believing—and voting against the bill—that these people really would rather receive unemployment checks than look for work. Of course it's more than just the salary when you are working. It's the pride and dignity of knowing that you are taking care of your family, you are responsible for putting food on the table, clothing on your children's backs, and all of those things that America has come to believe as just the normal way of life.

With the poverty numbers growing so fast and the unemployment going up so fast, a lot of people are losing hope in terms of finding a job. As a matter of fact, it's oftentimes forgotten that in order to qualify for extended unemployment comp, you have to be qualifying for a job. But because jobs are so scarce and people want to remain with a little bit of dignity and not just automatically increase the rolls of poverty, we ask that this body, in the name of humanity, think about these people as they would think about themselves if suddenly they found themselves without work and without their savings and without health care and without the resources to save their families from disaster.

In addition to that, when we go home next week—and again, we will be home—talk to some of the local vendors. We all recognize that it's small businesses that are really the backbone of our economy, as it's the small businesses that produce the jobs. But one of the problems they're having is, if consumers don't buy, they can't sell, and they cannot continue to hire people, which adds to the vicious cycle of unemployment.

So if those people truly believe that they want to spur the economy, allow these people to be able to buy the goods and services that they would normally buy if they were employed. And for God's sake—since the day before yesterday we made it abundantly clear that we trust in God—so for God's sake, let's get a jobs bill on the floor. Let's put aside our party labels. Let's just put the election aside long enough to be able to get our country back to work. More and more people are not only losing their jobs, but the most important ingredient, I think, that America has: giving hope to people who don't have much.

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If we take that away from them, by seeing the solid pillars of our society without work, without the ability to take care of their families, little hope that it gives for those people that have been consistently unemployed as the job market shrinks, and so I do hope that there will come a time, and very, very soon, that there will be no need in this great country for unemployment compensation because we would have

been able to have a jobs bill that would include severe cuts in terms of expenditures that we make but also would include putting revenue on the table so that we just don't balance the budget at the expense of those people who have little or no resources.

The United States of America, unfortunately, is becoming one of the countries that have the widest gap between the handful of 1 percent of the people that own almost half of the wealth of this great Nation. That formula doesn't work economically, it doesn't work morally, and it doesn't work spiritually. So we all have to come to the table to save this Nation, whether we are wealthy or whether we hope one day to become middle class and wealthy, because without the country having hope for the future, there's absolutely no hope for the people who are looking for employment to raise their family and to forever protect this great Nation.

#### HONORING CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER W5 JOHN CURRIE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. COFFMAN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, as we approach the 236th birthday of the United States Marine Corps, I would like to take the opportunity to honor a marine whom I served with during the first Gulf War.

Chief Warrant Officer W5 John Currie, United States Marine Corps Reserve (Retired), served our Nation with distinction from his first enlistment in 1966 until his retirement in 1999. I met Chief Warrant Officer Currie late in the fall of 1990 when I volunteered to serve with a light armored infantry company that was mobilized for the first gulf war.

From the start, I was deeply impressed by his leadership, the respect his subordinate marines had for him, and by his tactical skill and the courage he demonstrated on the battlefield.

His citation for the Navy Commendation Medal reads: "Late in the afternoon of 21 February 1991, Chief Warrant Officer W3 Currie decisively led his platoon through enemy indirect fires to occupy a key defensive position opposite significant portions of an Iraqi infantry brigade. Over the next 2 days and nights of combat, his clear reasoning, calm issuance of orders, and effective employment of supporting arms against enemy forces motivated his platoon and the entire company in their efforts to hold the center of the battalion's defenses. Early on the morning of 24 February 1991, he led his platoon to a new position on the division's extreme left flank and initiated a series of aggressive actions against enemy positions which inflicted numerous casualties. Chief Warrant Officer W3 Currie's coolness, poise, and decisive actions inspired and steadied all who observed him, as he successfully gained and maintained control over a

very fluid and chaotic situation caused by the surrender of more than 800 Iraqi soldiers.”

I will never forget Chief Warrant Officer W5 John Currie and all he did not only to lead his men so effectively against the enemy, but in setting such a high standard for all of the officers in the command, to include myself.

Chief Warrant Officer John Currie is a credit to the United States Marine Corps, and it’s an honor to reflect on his service to our Nation and to the Marine Corps as we approach the 236th birthday of the Corps.

#### SEXUAL ASSAULT IN THE MILITARY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California (Ms. SPEIER) for 5 minutes.

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise again today with a heavy heart to talk about sexual assault and rape in the military, an epidemic in this country that must be addressed.

As I’ve said before, the Department of Defense, by its own statistics, has stated that 19,000 servicemembers, women and men, every year are raped by fellow soldiers. I will continue to share these stories until something changes. Survivors can email me at stopmilitaryrape@mail.house.gov if they want to speak out.

Each of these soldiers was raped by another soldier, and each was subjected to a system of justice that protects the perpetrators and punishes the victims. The story I will tell today is the story of Corporal Sarah Albertson. This gets to the rot at the root of the justice system in the military, and that is: a commander, one person, has complete and total discretion in deciding how and if sexual assault and rape are dealt with.

Corporal Albertson served in the Marine Corps from 2003 to 2008. On August 27, 2006, Corporal Albertson was raped by a fellow marine, a man who outranked her. That’s right, he outranked her and raped her.

Right after the rape, Corporal Albertson went to her commander to inform him of what had happened. Instead of detaining her alleged assailant, calling in criminal investigators, or sending Corporal Albertson to the hospital to preserve the evidence that would corroborate her story, he told Corporal Albertson that because she had consumed some alcohol, if she reported the rape, she would be charged with inappropriate barracks conduct. She was then told not to discuss her rape with anyone and was also ordered to “respect” her rapist and follow his orders because he outranked her. It soon became clear to Corporal Albertson that others knew about what had happened, and her other superiors, acting with the open support of her commander, ostracized and harassed her.

Corporal Albertson sought counseling. The military counselor that Corporal Albertson went to, in no uncertain terms, advised her commander

that she should not be forced to interact with her rapist and that Corporal Albertson was suffering from panic attacks due to these interactions. Her commander ignored the professional advice and forced her to interact with her rapist for another 2 years. And when she had panic attacks, she was punished.

This same commander also refused Corporal Albertson’s request to change housing. Instead, he forced her to live one floor below her rapist for 2 years. The commander also required her to disclose medications she had been prescribed to counter the trauma. Now, Corporal Albertson never filled those prescriptions; but, nonetheless, by having to disclose those prescriptions, she lost her security clearance.

But what happened to her rapist? Not a thing. In fact, I venture to say he has been promoted, not just once, probably twice, maybe three times. I have become painfully aware that at the rate DOD is working to address this issue, the epidemic of military sexual assault will never end.

Mr. Speaker, this is a national travesty. Congress, the administration, the Department of Defense, all of us, all of us should be ashamed of what is going on in the military.

#### SUPPORTING KEYSTONE XL PIPELINE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. NUNNELEE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. NUNNELEE. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of the Keystone XL pipeline.

Opponents of this pipeline claim it will damage the environment, that it will ship oil from Canada to China, and that increasing the supply of oil will somehow raise gas prices.

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The truth is that this pipeline has been through the most thorough environmental review of any pipeline in history, the oil carried by it will go to American markets, and it will help lower energy prices by moving capacity from growing basins in Canada, Montana, North Dakota, Oklahoma, and west Texas that are comparable in volume to nearly half of the U.S. Persian Gulf imports.

The Keystone XL pipeline will also benefit America by increasing the percentage of our energy supply provided by a stable neighbor and ally. More North American oil means less oil from Venezuela and Iran. This pipeline will create 20,000 high-wage construction jobs and 100,000 indirect jobs. Keystone XL will also provide a new and stable supply access to gulf coast refiners, like the one in Pascagoula, Mississippi, who set the price of gasoline and are vulnerable to OPEC and supply disruptions. We in the House are focused on jobs and the economy, and this pipeline is an obvious, direct example of what

real stimulus looks like—stimulus that comes from the private economy and produces real value.

The fact of the matter is that Canada is going to develop their resources, and if we do not want their oil, that supply will go elsewhere to our competitors such as China. The Canadians have the supply, and we have the demand. And the Keystone XL pipeline has gone through a rigorous environmental review. There’s no reason not to move forward with this vital project. The President needs to get off the campaign trail long enough to get his administration out of the way so that the Keystone XL pipeline can be developed.

#### THE HOUSE-PASSED JOBS AGENDA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. WOODALL) for 5 minutes.

Mr. WOODALL. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the time this morning. I came down to talk about jobs too, and I brought with me a card that folks may have seen—I know you’ve seen it, Mr. Speaker—that goes through the House-passed jobs agenda. I try to keep it here in my pocket so I’ll be accurate when we talk about all of the good work that is happening in the people’s House to promote jobs and promote the economy.

Because the truth is, Mr. Speaker, as you know, we only have two pockets we can dig into. We can dig into the pocket where we talk about government regulations that we are repealing to help job creators, we can dig into the pocket where we talk about government mandates that we’re repealing to take the foot of government off the throat of small businesses, or we can dig into the other pocket. And the other pocket is where America’s checkbook is. Because it’s not my checkbook, as your Congressman. As you know, Mr. Speaker, when I dig into the pocket for the checkbook, I’m digging into your pocket. Every penny that we spend comes out of your pocket.

So we have two choices as we talk about jobs and the economy. Are we going to dig into the pocket of the American taxpayers’ checkbook? Or are we going to get the regulatory burden off of America’s small businesses? For me, the choice is easy. But the choice hasn’t always been easy in this House. Time and time again, this House goes to the American people’s checkbook to find solutions for America’s problems. And I will tell you that there’s no problem in America that taking money out of somebody else’s pocket is going to fix.

The challenges in America are going to come when we get government out of the way. I represent, Mr. Speaker, as you know, a wonderful district in Georgia. I go back home and I talk about what’s going on in the United States House. I ask folks what they want to happen on the United States House of Representatives floor, and they say, ROB, stop helping. Stop. Just get out of