

portrait of the late Earle B. Combs that was hung on the outside of the courthouse in Owsley County, KY, on December 30, 2010. What an honor for this athlete and legend from his hometown and home county. I ask unanimous consent that the full article be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Booneville Sentinel, Jan. 12, 2011]

EARLE B. COMBS PORTRAIT HUNG AT  
COURTHOUSE

(By Rosalind Turner)

Boonesville and Owsley County officials honored one of the community's most famous sons Thursday, December 30 when a portrait of the late Earle B. Combs was hung on the outside of the Owsley County Courthouse.

Earle B. Combs, a native of Pebworth and the son of James Jesse and Nannie (Brandenburg) Combs, was a major league baseball player, a member of the 1929 New York Yankees and was named to the National Baseball Hall of Fame. In 1917, Combs left Owsley at age 17 to pursue a degree in education at Eastern Kentucky Normal School (Eastern Kentucky University). Though he earned his degree in 1919 and taught at one-room schools in Ida May and Levi, he eventually changed his career path to play baseball.

In 1924, he earned a position as the centerfielder and leadoff hitter for the famed New York Yankees "Murderers Row" lineup of the late 1920s and early 1930s, according to the Earle Bryan Combs official website. He was a member of the 1927 World Champion Yankees team, which also featured baseball greats Babe Ruth and Lou Gehrig, and is considered by many to be the greatest team in baseball history.

As the portrait was installed on the side of the courthouse, the outgoing Owsley County Judge-Executive Cale Turner and Booneville Mayor Charles Long were joined by one of Combs' grandsons and two great-grandsons.

"We are so honored," said Craig Combs of Richmond, a grandson with very fond memories of his grandfather. "Thank you so much."

Craig Combs praised Turner, Long and others who were instrumental in seeing the project to fruition. In March, Craig Combs came to Owsley to speak to Holly Shouse's class at Owsley County Elementary School about his grandfather. He said that he was later contacted about the courthouse project and gave his permission for the officials to proceed.

"I was very honored," he said. "I was thrilled that you (the project planners) were going to include grandfather."

Turner said that it has been a long time goal of Mayor Long's to have a portrait in the city honoring the famed baseball player.

"We're tickled to be here and we're tickled that (the community) thought enough of him to put his picture on the side of the courthouse. (It shows) obviously, how proud they are of grandfather," said Craig Combs, who was accompanied by his sons, John, 17, who plans to study vocal music at the University of Louisville, and Christopher, 22, who played baseball at Madison Central, graduated from the University of Evansville and is currently working on his Ph.D. at the University of Texas in aerospace engineering.

Earle B. Combs has had many honors bestowed upon him, but for his grandson, this one is especially meaningful. "Coming from his hometown and his home county, this is something very special," said Craig Combs. "I appreciate Judge Turner and Mayor Long for being so kind to us when we came down."

Long said he is very pleased to see the community finally honor its famous son with the portrait at the courthouse.

"This has been a dream of Mayor Long's," said Turner. "He has brought it up at numerous meetings."

The portrait by Robert Johnson of Madison Avenue Designs in Georgetown joins other murals at the courthouse depicting important Owsley County scenes.

Turner acknowledged the assistance of Jo'e Short, Kacey Smith and Cassie Hudson, members of the Action Team. These ladies wrote the application to the Flex-E ARC grant program after attending the Brushy Fork Institute at Berea College that got the ball rolling. "This would not have happened without the grant," he said. Additional matching funds for the project came from the Owsley County Fiscal Court, the Owsley County Action Team and Farmer's State Bank.

As a legendary baseball player, businessman and member of the Eastern Kentucky University board of regents, Craig Combs said his grandfather was much respected. However, his grandson remembers more than baseball and business.

"He was just Pop to me," he explained, recalling nights spent with his grandfather and grandmother (Mimi), Ruth McCollum, also a native of Owsley County, on their farm in rural Madison County.

"It was a magical time to grow up and be around them because they cared so much for us. He was just a regular, loving grandfather."

Craig Combs recalls the stories about his grandfather's baseball career and said he became the family's baseball historian.

"It was a wonderful upbringing to be around them. To be their grandson was so special."

Craig Combs said he remembers his grandfather very well. He was 18 when Earle B. Combs passed away. Earle and Ruth Combs had three children. Earle Jr., Charles and Donald Combs. Mrs. Combs died in 1989.

Still a student, Earle Combs started playing baseball at Eastern. That led to playing semi-professional ball in such Kentucky towns as Winchester, High Splint and Lexington. While playing for the Lexington Reos of the Bluegrass League, he drew the attention of the Louisville Cardinals (American Association), where he honed his skill in 1922 and 1923. In 1924, he was a rookie for the New York Yankees, patrolling center field between Babe Ruth and Rob Meusel. The following season, he was installed as the leadoff hitter in the famed "Murderers Row" Yankee lineup. He kept that position for the remaining 11 years of his career. During his career, he batted over .300 nine times, had 200 or more hits three times, paced the American League in triples three times and twice led all AL outfielders in putouts. He had a career batting average of .325. In the outfield, he was known as "swift and sure-handed," according to the Earle B. Combs official website.

A favorite of Yankee fans, nicknames bestowed upon him included "Kentucky Greyhound," "Silver Fox" and "Kentucky Colonel." After an injury, he retired in 1935 and coached for the team until 1944. The first year he coached, he trained his replacement, Joe DiMaggio. He coached for several other teams before retiring in the mid-1950s and returning to his Madison County farm. He served as Kentucky banking commissioner during Gov. A.B. Chandler's second administration (1955-59). He served on Eastern Kentucky University's board of regents from 1956-1975 and was chairman from 1972-74. A dormitory at ECU (Earle Combs Hall) bears his name and the school gives an athletic scholarship in his honor. He also is a charter member of ECU's Athletics Hall of Fame.

Earle B. Combs was named to the National Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, NY in 1970. His baseball career included being part of nine World Championships as a player and coach in New York.

Many from Owsley County, including Mayor Long and Judge Turner who watched the portrait go on the courthouse wall, are proud of the numerous honors and accolades bestowed upon this Hall of Fame baseball player. They are also gratified that he found fame for himself while practicing the values he learned growing up in Pebworth in Owsley County, Ky.

FEDERAL EMPLOYEE INCOME  
TAXES

Mr. COBURN. Mr. President, on February 17, 2011, I introduced a bill that will provide assurance to taxpayers that Federal employees are on equal footing with the American people and are held accountable to the same rules they enforce.

In 2009, the Internal Revenue Service, IRS, found nearly 100,000 civilian Federal employees were delinquent on their Federal income taxes, owing over \$1 billion in unpaid Federal income taxes. When considering retirees and military, more than 282,000 Federal employees owed \$3.3 billion in taxes.

This legislation will save taxpayers at least \$1 billion by requiring the Internal Revenue Service to collect unpaid Federal income taxes from civilian Federal employees.

Federal employees have a clear obligation to pay their Federal income taxes. The very nature of Federal employment and the concept inherent to "public service" demands those being paid by taxpayers to also pay their fair share of taxes. Federal workers should not be exempt from the laws they enforce. In fact, they should lead by example. Failure to do so is an affront to taxpayers and to the rule of law.

Unfortunately, Congress has allowed this abuse of taxpayer dollars to occur throughout the Federal Government and failed to implement the proper safeguards to hold culprits accountable. Considering our national debt recently surpassed \$14 trillion, it is critical Congress quickly pass this legislation. Surely this milestone is a wake-up call for Congress to find ways to get control of the Federal budget and help get our country back on the right track towards fiscal responsibility.

The bill I recently introduced requires all Federal employees to be current on their Federal income taxes or be fired from their jobs. This is a commonsense bill that most Americans would believe is reasonable, necessary, and likely surprised that it is not already the standard throughout the Federal Government.

It is not the intention of this legislation to single out the majority of Federal employees who work hard and pay their taxes. Instead, the bill would carefully reach only those who have willfully neglected to pay their income taxes and would direct the IRS to only collect money already owed under the Federal Tax Code.

This legislation excludes Federal employees who make oversights in their personal taxes but willfully agree to pay them or are challenging the delinquency in court or through the IRS.

Specifically, it excludes Federal employees from termination if (1) the individual is currently paying the taxes, interest, and penalties owed to IRS under an installment plan; (2) the individual and the IRS have worked out a compromise on the amount of taxes, interest and penalties owed, and the compromise amount agreed upon is being repaid to IRS; (3) the individual has not exhausted his or her right to due process under the law; or (4) the individual filed a joint return and successfully contends he or she should not be fully liable for the taxes, interest, and/or penalties owed because of something the other party to the return did or did not do.

I recently introduced this bipartisan legislation, because Congress has failed to responsibly manage taxpayer dollars and serve in the best interests of the American people. This legislation will provide a solution to level the playing field between Federal employees and the American people when it comes to paying Federal income taxes.

It should be a priority of this Congress to pass this solution as a way to provide equal treatment under the law and to seek out commonsense opportunities that will reduce our national debt. Now is the time for Congress to get a grip on the federal budget and find responsible ways to save in order to preserve the heritage of service and sacrifice that made our country great.

I thank my colleagues for the opportunity to speak in support of this legislation. I ask my colleagues on both sides of the aisle for their support.

#### COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS RULES OF PROCEDURE

Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD "Rules of the Committee on Foreign Relations."

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

##### RULES OF THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

###### RULE 1—JURISDICTION

(a) *Substantive*.—In accordance with Senate Rule XXV.1(j), the jurisdiction of the committee shall extend to all proposed legislation, messages, petitions, memorials, and other matters relating to the following subjects:

1. Acquisition of land and buildings for embassies and legations in foreign countries.
2. Boundaries of the United States.
3. Diplomatic service.
4. Foreign economic, military, technical, and humanitarian assistance.
5. Foreign loans.
6. International activities of the American National Red Cross and the International Committee of the Red Cross.
7. International aspects of nuclear energy, including nuclear transfer policy.
8. International conferences and congresses.

9. International law as it relates to foreign policy.

10. International Monetary Fund and other international organizations established primarily for international monetary purposes (except that, at the request of the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, any proposed legislation relating to such subjects reported by the Committee on Foreign Relations shall be referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs).

11. Intervention abroad and declarations of war.

12. Measures to foster commercial intercourse with foreign nations and to safeguard American business interests abroad.

13. National security and international aspects of trusteeships of the United States.

14. Ocean and international environmental and scientific affairs as they relate to foreign policy.

15. Protection of United States citizens abroad and expatriation.

16. Relations of the United States with foreign nations generally.

17. Treaties and executive agreements, except reciprocal trade agreements.

18. United Nations and its affiliated organizations.

19. World Bank group, the regional development banks, and other international organizations established primarily for development assistance purposes.

The committee is also mandated by Senate Rule XXV.1(j) to study and review, on a comprehensive basis, matters relating to the national security policy, foreign policy, and international economic policy as it relates to foreign policy of the United States, and matters relating to food, hunger, and nutrition in foreign countries, and report thereon from time to time.

(b) *Oversight*.—The committee also has a responsibility under Senate Rule XXVI.8, which provides that ". . . each standing committee . . . shall review and study, on a continuing basis, the application, administration, and execution of those laws or parts of laws, the subject matter of which is within the jurisdiction of the committee."

(c) *"Advice and Consent" Clauses*.—The committee has a special responsibility to assist the Senate in its constitutional function of providing "advice and consent" to all treaties entered into by the United States and all nominations to the principal executive branch positions in the field of foreign policy and diplomacy.

###### RULE 2—SUBCOMMITTEES

(a) *Creation*.—Unless otherwise authorized by law or Senate resolution, subcommittees shall be created by majority vote of the committee and shall deal with such legislation and oversight of programs and policies as the committee directs. Legislative measures or other matters may be referred to a subcommittee for consideration in the discretion of the chairman or by vote of a majority of the committee. If the principal subject matter of a measure or matter to be referred falls within the jurisdiction of more than one subcommittee, the chairman or the committee may refer the matter to two or more subcommittees for joint consideration.

(b) *Assignments*.—Assignments of members to subcommittees shall be made in an equitable fashion. No member of the committee may receive assignment to a second subcommittee until, in order of seniority, all members of the committee have chosen assignments to one subcommittee, and no member shall receive assignments to a third subcommittee until, in order of seniority, all members have chosen assignments to two subcommittees.

No member of the committee may serve on more than four subcommittees at any one time.

The chairman and ranking member of the committee shall be *ex officio* members, without vote, of each subcommittee.

(c) *Meetings*.—Except when funds have been specifically made available by the Senate for a subcommittee purpose, no subcommittee of the Committee on Foreign Relations shall hold hearings involving expenses without prior approval of the chairman of the full committee or by decision of the full committee. Meetings of subcommittees shall be scheduled after consultation with the chairman of the committee with a view toward avoiding conflicts with meetings of other subcommittees insofar as possible. Meetings of subcommittees shall not be scheduled to conflict with meetings of the full committee.

The proceedings of each subcommittee shall be governed by the rules of the full committee, subject to such authorizations or limitations as the committee may from time to time prescribe.

###### RULE 3—MEETINGS

(a) *Regular Meeting Day*.—The regular meeting day of the Committee on Foreign Relations for the transaction of committee business shall be on Tuesday of each week, unless otherwise directed by the chairman.

(b) *Additional Meetings*.—Additional meetings and hearings of the committee may be called by the chairman as he may deem necessary. If at least three members of the committee desire that a special meeting of the committee be called by the chairman, those members may file in the offices of the committee their written request to the chairman for that special meeting. Immediately upon filing of the request, the chief clerk of the committee shall notify the chairman of the filing of the request. If, within three calendar days after the filing of the request, the chairman does not call the requested special meeting, to be held within seven calendar days after the filing of the request, a majority of the members of the committee may file in the offices of the committee their written notice that a special meeting of the committee will be held, specifying the date and hour of that special meeting. The committee shall meet on that date and hour. Immediately upon the filing of the notice, the clerk shall notify all members of the committee that such special meeting will be held and inform them of its date and hour.

(c) *Hearings, Selection of Witnesses*.—To ensure that the issue which is the subject of the hearing is presented as fully and fairly as possible, whenever a hearing is conducted by the committee or a subcommittee upon any measure or matter, the ranking member of the committee or subcommittee may call an equal number of non-governmental witnesses selected by the ranking member to testify at that hearing.

(d) *Public Announcement*.—The committee, or any subcommittee thereof, shall make public announcement of the date, place, time, and subject matter of any meeting or hearing to be conducted on any measure or matter at least one week in advance of such meetings or hearings, unless the chairman of the committee, or subcommittee, in consultation with the ranking member, determines that there is good cause to begin such meeting or hearing at an earlier date.

(e) *Procedure*.—Insofar as possible, proceedings of the committee will be conducted without resort to the formalities of parliamentary procedure and with due regard for the views of all members. Issues of procedure which may arise from time to time shall be resolved by decision of the chairman, in consultation with the ranking member. The chairman, in consultation with the ranking member, may also propose special procedures to govern the consideration of particular matters by the committee.