

PROTECTING INVESTMENT IN OIL
SHALES THE NEXT GENERATION
OF ENVIRONMENTAL, ENERGY,
AND RESOURCE SECURITY ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 15, 2012

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3408) to set clear rules for the development of United States oil shale resources, to promote shale technology research and development, and for other purposes:

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to the surface transportation bill before the House of Representatives this week and the partisan and contorted process the Republican Leadership is using to ram this bill through the House.

For as long as I have served in the House, transportation bills have always been bipartisan. That's because every one of our states confront unmet transportation needs, and infrastructure investments are critical to jobs, economic growth, and competitiveness.

But this bill throws bipartisanship out the window. Secretary of Transportation LaHood—himself a former Republican House Member from Illinois—recently said that this is, and I quote, “the most partisan transportation bill that I have ever seen.” Secretary LaHood also declared that this is “the worst transportation bill I've seen during 35 years of public service.” That's quite an indictment coming from a man who is respected on both sides of the aisle.

Some of our constituents may be watching and wondering why Speaker BOEHNER decided to take the transportation package and divide it into three separate bills. The reality is that the bill probably can't pass as a single, stand-alone piece of legislation. So the Leadership has broken the bill into pieces that will move separately through the House. Later, the clerk will be directed to sew all the pieces back into one bill and it will be deemed passed without a single member of the House voting for it.

Today we're considering the portion of the bill that opens up vast swaths of the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, as well as the Eastern Gulf of Mexico and the pristine Arctic Wildlife Refuge to oil drilling. The bill also approves the controversial Keystone Pipeline and there is not even a guarantee that any of the oil that it transports to the Gulf of Mexico will remain in the country to benefit Americans. What does handing out more goodies to the oil companies have to do with transportation policy? The oil industry made record profits last year. They don't need the special interest provisions contained in this bill.

Although this portion of the transportation package is not before the House today, I want to state my complete opposition to the provision of the larger package that undercuts mass transit. This provision undermines the very structure of the highway trust fund by eliminating guaranteed funding for transit and replacing it with monies from the general fund. The loss of dedicated revenue will make it impossible for public transit systems across the country to plan for long-term investments. I will

continue to strongly support efforts to correct this unnecessary and harmful attack on mass transit.

I urge defeat of the bill before the House. We need to go back to the drawing board and craft a bipartisan transportation bill.

TRIBUTE TO JORIE DANIELS
STEADMAN

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 16, 2012

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a constituent who was a faithful supporter, and tremendous neighbor, and a fantastic elementary school teacher to two of my three daughters. Mrs. Jorie Daniels Steadman passed away on December 4, 2011, but her remarkable spirit lives on in all those whose lives she touched including my own.

Jorie Daniels Steadman was a South Carolina native; the daughter of the late Joe and Louckriser Daniels. She graduated from Booker T. Washington High School in Columbia, South Carolina and attended Benedict College where she earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Education, with a minor in Music. She completed a Master's degree in Education from Indiana University. She was awarded a cosmetology teaching certificate from Florida A&M University. Additional studies were conducted at the University of South Carolina and Columbia College.

She began her 40-year teaching career at Crossroads Elementary. She also taught at Florence C. Benson, Hand Middle School, and W.G. Sanders Middle School in Columbia, South Carolina, where she taught my two youngest daughters, Jennifer and Angela. She also inspired students at Lemon Elementary School, in Marietta, Georgia; Washington High School, Atlanta, GA; and Butler School, Barnwell, South Carolina. After retirement, she guided young minds at V.V. Reid School.

Ms. Steadman became a licensed cosmetologist in 1952. She perfected her craft in several salons before opening Jorie's Beauty Salon in 1959. Jorie had hundreds of clients from professional women to pre-school children. Her appointment book was always full and she never turned customers away. Jorie also shared her talents in the cosmetology industry by writing a weekly column, Beauty Tips, in the Palmetto Times to inspire and motivate young women to be beautiful on the inside and the outside.

She was a political activist in the Greenview neighborhood we shared. She served on the House District 73 Development Council, the Farrow Terrace-Farrow Hills Community Organization, and the Greenview Senior Citizens Club. She also was a precinct worker at my home precinct at Greenview Park. Her other memberships included the North Columbia Civic Club, the Eau Claire Community Council, the Booker T. Washington Alumni Club, the South Carolina Legislative Black Caucus Associate, the American Association of University Women, the National Education Association, the South Carolina Education Association, the Richland County Education Association, and the Richland County Education Association-Retired.

After retirement, Jorie devoted time to her alma mater. She was a member of the Bene-

dict College Alumni Club #2, the Benedict College National Alumni Club, the Benedict College Booster Club, and served as the past president of the Benedict College Parent Advisory Council. She could often be found at Benedict College football games encouraging alumni to support her beloved school “where the golden sunshine falls.”

She was a lifelong member of Bethlehem Baptist Church and was actively involved in the Gethsemane Baptist Association Women's Auxiliary and Young People's Christian Assembly. Jorie served as the past president of the Trustee Wives Ministry, past president of Senior Missionary Society, and past president and secretary of the Jubilee Choir. As an accomplished musician, Jorie also served as organist and choir director in churches throughout the Midlands. She offered faithful service at Zion Benevolent Baptist, Veighle Chapel Baptist Church, Greater St. Luke Baptist Church, Second Nazareth Baptist Church, and Antioch Baptist Church.

In 1969, she married to Lee Vince Steadman, with whom she shared 42 years of marriage. The couple had three children: LaVerne Steadman, Melita Steadman Williams, and Lee Vince Steadman, Jr.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and our colleagues to join me in celebrating the life of Jorie Daniels Steadman. This ordinary citizen did extraordinary things that impacted so many people in her community. She was an extraordinary example of how one person can make a tremendous difference through their service to others. Jorie will be sorely missed, but her legacy lives on in each of those whose lives she affected in a positive way.

HONORING DAVE WOOD: INDUCTEE
TO THE CATTLE FEEDERS HALL
OF FAME

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 16, 2012

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Dave Wood for being inducted into the Cattle Feeders Hall of Fame. Dave has been a pioneer and true leader for the Cattle Industry for the past 40 years. It is fitting that a man who has dedicated his whole life to bettering an industry be recognized by his peers.

Dave has worked for Harris Ranch since he graduated from Cal Poly-San Luis Obispo in 1970. Originally hired on as a feedyard pen rider, Dave quickly worked his way up to the feedyard manager and then the company's chief operating officer. In 1989, Dave was named chairman of beef operations for Harris Farms and has held that position ever since.

During his time with the company, Dave has helped to build Harris Feed Company into the largest feeder on the West Coast and the 16th largest in the Nation. Annually they finish about 250,000 head of cattle, with a one-time capacity of 120,000 head. Under Dave's leadership, the company has taken great pride in its animal welfare. Harris Feed Company has invested in the installation of shade structures and automated sprinkler systems to control dust and to help keep the cattle cool.

Maintaining his unwavering devotion to excellence, Dave worked to ensure that Harris

Ranch's clients receive only the best quality beef. Dave helped develop the "Partnership for Quality" which was created in response to consumer demand for consistent, high-quality beef. The program now consists of about 70 families, all of whom are dedicated to the highest quality genetics, management practices and calf process and verification strategy. Individuals like Dave Woods have helped make America's beef industry one of the most trusted in the world.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the hard work and dedication my good friend, Dave Wood, has demonstrated over the past 40 years. His passion and diligence speaks to his character and truly exemplifies the best of what America has to offer. I congratulate Mr. Wood for this great achievement and ask that you join me in wishing him continued success.

HONORING DAVID SPELLICH

HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 16, 2012

Mr. McCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor and acknowledge David Spellich upon his retirement after 14 years of service with the Livonia Public Schools.

After graduating from Belleville High School in 1970, Dave attended Eastern Michigan University. As often happens, he left EMU to pursue gainful employment. In 1987, Dave returned to Henry Ford Community College where he continued his education, transferring to Eastern Michigan to graduate with a Bachelor of Science in 1990.

Dave began his career as an educator by becoming an instructor in Livonia's Adult Education curriculum and went on to teach in Ferndale, Michigan's alternative education program. He encouraged his students, most of whom had a difficult path to education, to become more than they were. He organized a student prepared annual Thanksgiving Day dinner to be shared with their families and educators.

In 1998, Dave became a Social Studies instructor at Livonia Stevenson High School. He took on the roles of sophomore class sponsor and Chair of the Social Studies Department where he launched the AP Government program in the Livonia Public Schools. Dave then moved to Franklin High School in 2008, becoming the Student Activities Director. While serving in this capacity, he developed the freshman orientation/mentoring program. Returning to teach AP Government Stevenson High School in 2010, Mr. Spellich encouraged his students to contact elected officials to better understand the process of governing and legislation.

Mr. Speaker, David Spellich has faithfully served the students of Livonia, Michigan. As he enters the next phase of his life with Linda, his beloved wife of 38 years and his son Jason, perhaps he will continue to avidly travel beyond the 50 states of this great Nation, all of which he has visited. He leaves behind a legacy of dedication, integrity, and excellence. Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating David Spellich upon his retirement and recognizing his years of loyal service to our community and country.

HONORING DR. AARON SHIRLEY
FOR HIS COMMITMENT TO SERVICE
TO THE CAUSE OF HEALTH
CARE

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 16, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor one of the original pioneers of rural and adolescent health care in the state of Mississippi, Dr. Aaron Shirley. Dr. Shirley has always worked to provide quality and accessible health care for the poor and underserved populations in the state of Mississippi.

Dr. Shirley was born in Gluckstadt, Mississippi on January 3, 1933. In 1951, he began his undergraduate studies at Tougaloo College in Tougaloo, Mississippi, where he received his Bachelor of Science degree in 1955. He received his Medical degree from Meharry Medical College in Nashville, Tennessee in 1959 and later interned at Hubbard Hospital before completing his residency in pediatrics in 1967 at the University of Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson, Mississippi.

Dr. Shirley began private practice in 1960, and for 15 years, practiced general medicine in Vicksburg, Mississippi. From 1963 to 1967, he helped to organize the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party and served as chairman for Warren County. Following this, Dr. Shirley was the director of the Mississippi Action for Progress, an organization which provided health care and education to children. From the beginning of his career, he has been committed to health care in Mississippi and was a pioneer in providing volunteer health services to Head Start centers at a time when Head Start was a budding program.

In 1970, Dr. Shirley, along with others, developed the largest community health center in the state of Mississippi, which now serves more than 40,000 low income patients annually. In 1979, he initiated a comprehensive health clinic within an inner city school to provide comprehensive health and counseling services for teens. He placed special emphasis on reducing teenage pregnancy, sexually transmitted disease, drug abuse, teenage violence, and mental health problems. This program has since served as a model for other school-based clinics nationwide.

Dr. Shirley's commitment to quality health care led him to be active in the development and/or organization of various agencies and projects which shared his dream of quality, affordable health care for all individuals. Some of those agencies included Mississippi Action for Progress, the Mississippi Association of Community Health Care for the Poor, the Medgar Evers Community Health Center, the Tufts Delta Health Center, and G.A. Carmichael Community Health Center.

Dr. Shirley has served as a member of the Southern Regional Council in Atlanta, Georgia, the Select Panel for the Promotion of Child Health, the National Health Insurance Advisory Committee, the Institute of Medicine/National Academy of Sciences in Washington, D.C., the Field Foundation in New York City, New York, and most notably, Dr. Shirley served as a working group member with President Bill Clinton's Health Care Reform Task Force in 1993.

During that same year, Dr. Shirley received the MacArthur Fellows Award which recognizes devotion, dedication, and strides made in one's field. He is the recipient of many outstanding awards both locally and nationally.

Currently, Dr. Shirley serves as Chairman of the Board of Directors for the Jackson Medical Mall Foundation, Director of Community Medical Services, and Associate Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Mississippi. His efforts are focused on developing and implementing innovative measures to access quality healthcare for the uninsured and underinsured residents of Mississippi. Dr. Shirley is working closely with the State Division of Medicaid as well as with hospitals and other not for profit agencies to reduce health disparities for Mississippians.

His model for Hinds County is currently being reviewed for possible statewide and national replication, through the Robert Wood Johnson's Communities in Charge Program. In 2005, Dr. Shirley was honored with the endowment of Chair for the Study of Health Disparities at the University of Mississippi Medical Center, and he was selected to serve as a member of the Citizens Health Care Working Group which was mandated by Congress to hold hearings and community meetings across the country on health care coverage and cost issues, and to produce a "Health Report to the American People."

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring Dr. Aaron Shirley for his tireless commitment and service to the cause of health care throughout the state of Mississippi and abroad.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 16, 2012

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, on February 15, 2012 I was unavoidably detained and missed rollcall votes 50, 51, 52, 53, and 54. If present, I would have voted "nay" on rollcall votes 50 and 51, and "yea" on rollcall votes 52, 53, and 54.

125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TURLOCK IRRIGATION DISTRICT

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 16, 2012

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor the Turlock Irrigation District as it gets ready to celebrate its 125th anniversary this year.

Established in 1887, the Turlock Irrigation District (TID) was the first publicly owned irrigation district in the state. Organized under the Wright Act, the District operated as a special district under the provisions of the California Water Code. In 1893, TID and the neighboring Modesto Irrigation District built La Grange Dam to divert water into their canal systems; and in 1900, Henry Stirling was the first farmer to receive irrigation water from TID canals in Ceres.

Beginning in 1923, TID began a system of expansion to provide electric retail energy, as