

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET,
Washington, DC, May 10, 2012.

Hon. DANIEL E. LUNGREN,
Chairman, Committee on House Administration,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN LUNGREN: I write to you concerning your Committee's jurisdictional interest in the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform's April 26, 2012, amendments to title 5, United States Code, to comply with the reconciliation directive included in section 201 of the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2013, H. Con. Res. 112.

I appreciate your willingness to support expediting the budget reconciliation process. I acknowledge that the amendments contain provisions under the jurisdiction of the Committee on House Administration, and understand and agree that your willingness to waive further consideration of these amendments is without prejudice to your Committee's jurisdictional interest in this or similar legislation in the future.

I will include a copy of this letter, Oversight and Government Reform's transmittals to the Committee on the Budget, and any response from the Committee on House Administration in the Congressional Record during any floor consideration of these amendments. Thank you for your cooperation as we work towards the completion of the budget reconciliation process.

Sincerely,

PAUL RYAN,
Chairman, Committee on the Budget.

RECOGNIZING THE CAREER AND RETIREMENT OF DR. SAM H. MCGOWEN

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 17, 2012

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the career of Dr. Sam H. McGowen as he retires as Superintendent of Mascoutah Community Unit School District #19, in Mascoutah, Illinois.

Sam McGowen has built a 45-year career in education, both as a teacher and administrator. A native of Poplar Bluff, Missouri, Sam earned his Bachelor's Degree from Southeast Missouri State University in 1966 and began his education career as a social studies teacher in Bonne Terre Missouri. Sam would also earn a Master's from Southeast Missouri State and a doctorate in educational administration from St. Louis University.

Sam's career evolved into school administration and this would lead him to positions as superintendent for several Missouri school districts before coming to Mascoutah, Illinois. Part of the attraction of the Mascoutah opportunity was Sam's familiarity with Scott Air Force Base. He had visited Scott many times as part of his duties in the Missouri National Guard. Knowing that many students in the Mascoutah School District were from military families and appreciating the Mascoutah community from his previous visits, Sam was intrigued by this opportunity.

Sam McGowen's tenure as superintendent of Mascoutah Community Unit School District #19 has seen tremendous growth, both for the district and for the Mascoutah community. Enrollment has soared from 2,700 to 3,600 stu-

dents and new construction has been completed for both a new high school building and a new elementary school for students who reside on the base.

This success comes in part because Sam understood the unique challenges that schools serving military families, such as Mascoutah, face. As a member of the Board of Directors for the National Association of Federally Impacted Schools and President of the Military Impacted Schools Association in 2001, Sam worked tirelessly on behalf of these students to ensure Impact Aid schools receive the necessary resources to provide their students with a quality education. Sam's dedication has made Mascoutah the successful school district it is today.

Sam and his wife, Sue, reside in Mascoutah and have four children and eight grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in an expression of appreciation to Dr. Sam H. McGowen for his years of dedicated service to the Mascoutah community and to wish him and his family the very best in the future.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ERIC A. "RICK" CRAWFORD

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 17, 2012

Mr. CRAWFORD. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, May 15, 2012 I was inadvertently detained on rollcall votes 250, 251 and 252. Had I been present to vote I would have voted "yes" on rollcall 250, "yes" on rollcall 251, and "yes" on rollcall 252.

IN RECOGNITION OF MARGARET TERRY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 17, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Margaret Terry, who is retiring after 40 years of dedicated service with the Legal Aid Society of Cleveland.

Legal Aid Society of Cleveland is a law firm for low-income individuals and provides services in the areas of consumer rights, domestic violence, education, employment, family law, health, housing, foreclosure, immigration, public benefits, utilities and taxes. It was founded as a nonprofit in 1905. Until 1966, it operated primarily with volunteers. In 1966, staff attorneys were hired; today there are 53 attorneys, 40 staff members and more than 1800 volunteers that serve Cleveland's low-income individuals. Legal Aid's mission is to secure justice and resolve fundamental problems for those who are low income and otherwise vulnerable by providing high quality legal services and working for systemic solutions.

Ms. Terry graduated from East Carolina University in 1967 before enrolling in the University of North Carolina Law School. Upon graduating in 1970, she joined Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA) and relocated to Cleveland, Ohio. Margaret was placed at the Legal Aid Society of Cleveland, working in the Juvenile Unit during her second year of serv-

ice with VISTA. She was permanently hired by the Legal Aid Society of Cleveland in January 1973. Throughout her career, Ms. Terry handled a wide range of cases. She developed knowledge in a variety of aspects of the law led to her becoming a supervising attorney for Legal Aid's Intake Unit.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in congratulating Margaret Terry on retiring after 40 years of unparalleled service to the underprivileged who sought her help through the Legal Aid Society of Cleveland.

RECOGNIZING OLDER AMERICANS DURING THE ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 17, 2012

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the achievements of Asian and Pacific Americans and their invaluable contributions to the American family.

It is a privilege to represent an extremely diverse district in Orange County, where many Asian Pacific Americans call home. As a Member of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus (CAPAC), I am a proud cosponsor of House Resolution 621, recognizing May as Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. It is also a time to honor the rich traditions and immense contributions Asian and Pacific Islander Americans have made to our nation.

May is also Older Americans Month, a time where we recognize older adults and show our appreciation for their guiding wisdom and commitment to our communities. I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge three extraordinary APIA community members from Orange County for their distinguished contributions that have enhanced the moral fabric of my district, the state of California, and our country.

Arts and music play an instrumental role in preserving and promoting the Vietnamese American culture. I would like to honor Mr. Tu Cong Phung, a renowned musician. Composer Phung arrived in the United States in 1980, as a boat refugee from Vietnam. His romantic music captures the essence of love that has become an integral part of Vietnamese music-lovers across for over 50 years.

Mr. Minh Tam Nguyen is a businessman, educator, and a veteran. Mr. Nguyen and his family immigrated to America in 1975 and began serving the community as a social worker in California. Mr. Nguyen founded Tam's Beauty Salon and Tam's Beauty Colleges and has educated over 25,000 students during his career and is proud to serve the Orange County immigrant community.

RECOGNIZING DUQUESNE, MISSOURI

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 17, 2012

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the resilience of the Duquesne, Missouri community.

One year ago the community of Duquesne and surrounding area was devastated by an EF-5 tornado, but showed the nation and the world what it means to help your neighbors in their greatest time of need.

The tornado that wreaked havoc on our friends and neighbors was ½ mile to ¾ mile wide and traveled approximately 13 miles in Duquesne, Joplin and surrounding area. The tornado damaged over 500 residential and commercial structures in Duquesne, forever changing the landscape of the community and lives of those who call the area home. This destructive force of nature claimed 161 lives in the area.

I saw the immediate aftermath of this disaster with my own eyes, and I know it is vital to get the right resources to the right people as quickly as possible, because lives depend on it. As their representative in Congress, it was my job to make sure the federal government worked with local and state officials to provide disaster relief. As a neighbor, it was my job to help in any way I could, from setting up cots in aid stations with other volunteers to helping with search and rescue. Missouri is called the Show-Me State, and Missourians and Americans from across our great country showed the nation and the world the compassion and generosity of the American spirit. Over 120,000 volunteers poured into the area to offer their help and support, and some are still assisting with rebuilding efforts.

As we commemorate the one-year anniversary which changed the lives of all families impacted by this horrific disaster, we treasure the good times in the past and look forward to a promising future for Duquesne and all who call this wonderful place home.

Even though we can't explain why tragedy strikes, we can use what happened here to remind us of the good inside us all and to remind us that even though we lost a lot, we did not lose everything. If anyone thinks that there are not good, generous and compassionate people in this world, then they need to come down here to see firsthand how this community came together during their time of need.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF THE
HONORABLE ROBERT E. FEIGHAN

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 17, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Judge Robert E. Feighan.

Judge Feighan was born on September 4, 1927 to Edward and Catherine Feighan. He was a lifelong resident of Euclid, Ohio and long-time member of the St. Vincent de Paul Society of Holy Cross Church. He attended St. Ignatius High School for three years before enlisting in the U.S. Marine Corps. He served in China for a year before returning to graduate from Euclid Shore High School. He went on to John Carroll University and the Cleveland State University's Cleveland Marshall Law School, from which he graduated in 1955.

Judge Feighan first gained notoriety as an assistant Cuyahoga County prosecutor; a position he held from 1961 until 1981. He made headlines for convicting a man who committed a stabbing at Higbee's Department Store. In 1980, Judge Feighan was elected as a Cuya-

hoga county Common Pleas Court Judge and served until 1988. Uninterested in furthering his career politically, Judge Feighan neglected to run for another term and began a twenty year stint as a visiting judge. He retired in 2008.

I offer my condolences to his sister, Patricia Feighan and his many nieces and nephews.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Judge Robert E. Feighan, who dedicated his life to serving the Greater Cleveland community.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF HOUSE REGARDING IMPORTANCE OF PREVENTING IRAN FROM ACQUIRING A NUCLEAR WEAPONS CAPABILITY

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 16, 2012

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss my vote in favor of H. Res. 568.

I would like to clarify that nothing in this resolution authorizes or empowers military action by the United States or U.S. encouragement of the use of force by any other country at this time. I have long made plain my conviction that all options should be available with respect to the Iranian nuclear program. I do not believe the military option should be taken off the table for future discussion at a future time. However, this is not an appropriate time to seriously consider or even to hint at military strikes. Most informed observers believe sanctions are heavily affecting the Iranian regime and may be moving it to recognize that the international community is united in opposition to its nuclear project. This is not the moment to loosen the screws, nor is it the moment for cheap bellicosity. Issues of peace and war should not be exploited for political advantage.

I vote yes despite these concerns. I regret that the leadership of this House has chosen this moment to make an unnecessary and untimely political statement. I believe this is profoundly ill timed and injudicious. I call upon the House leadership to stop holding such unhelpful votes at politically charged moments. This resolution heightens the rhetoric in a way that is at best unhelpful to ongoing, promising diplomatic efforts and may be actively damaging.

In addition, I note that the inclusion of language regarding Iran's "nuclear weapons capability" is overly broad and undefined. When considering such weighty issues, clarity is of the utmost importance, and Congress should be precise in what we are asking for in this resolution so that we may avoid misinterpretation.

Finally, I point out that the last resolve clause, which "urges the President to reaffirm the unacceptability of an Iran with nuclear-weapons capability and opposition to any policy that would rely on containment as an option in response to the Iranian nuclear threat," is unnecessary and insulting. President Obama has always been clear, forceful, and mature when dealing with the Iranian nuclear program. It is evident that this clause is a political statement meant to score points during a political season.

Nonetheless, with these concerns I am required to vote. Though I considered answering present, I want to be clear about my strong stance on this issue. I do believe that a nuclear armed Iran would pose a danger to the peace of the region and the world. So, today I vote in favor of H. Res. 568, with the clear concerns I have stated.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. JOE EDWARDS

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 17, 2012

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a distinguished community leader in Cartersville, Georgia, Dr. Joe Edwards is celebrating his 25th anniversary as pastor of the Church Liberty Square.

Under his direction, Liberty Square has grown into a "life-based" church complex, boasting a K-12 school, family home communities, and a food distribution center that serves the needy. Pastor Edwards is a man who lives his faith; he and members of the Church at Liberty Square have positively transformed their community.

Pastor Edwards' devotion to Christ's ministry is an example to us all. I wish him continued blessings in his work. There is no doubt that Cartersville is a better place because of Pastor Edwards.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Pastor Edwards and the Church at Liberty Square.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. LOUISE MCINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 16, 2012

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4310) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2013 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 2013, and for other purposes:

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Chair, I rise today in support of my amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act, which will assist victims of sexual harassment or sexual assault in the military. There are countless current and former members of the military who have bravely reported sexual harassment or assault, only to be retaliated against. My amendment would educate these service members about the resources available to them to help them get justice.

These brave men and women, who serve our nation with honor and distinction, should not have to live in fear of reprisal for doing what is right. My amendment will ensure that they are informed of the resources available, and the processes in place, to protect them from any retaliatory personnel actions after reporting sexual harassment or abuse.

The Board of Correction for Military Records (BCMR) is the vehicle by which a current or