

BIPARTISAN STUDENT LOAN
CERTAINTY ACT OF 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 31, 2013

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, student loan debt in our country tops \$1 trillion, burdening graduates with high repayment as they begin their working lives and preventing them from making other purchases, like a home or a car. This is a problem that requires a comprehensive solution that includes affordable financial assistance and collaboration with states and colleges to keep costs down.

Today's bill, while imperfect, will prevent rates from doubling immediately on loans for the neediest students. It locks in rates for each new loan, providing more certainty than the House Republican proposal, which I opposed when it passed the House earlier this year. It includes a cap, preventing rates from skyrocketing in the future. I remain concerned, however, about increasing rates for students in the long-term, and would urge future action on this issue as rates rise.

Ultimately, we must look at the alternatives available today. Had I been in the Senate, I would have voted against this bill in an effort to get a better long-term deal for students. However, now that it has passed the Senate and is before us on the House Floor with no opportunity for amendment, we are faced with a choice between keeping the doubled student loan rate or reducing it for this year's students. Therefore, I will vote for this bill today, but will seek to amend this law in the coming years should rates rise and further burden our nation's students.

Reauthorization of the Higher Education Act will provide a good opportunity to revisit this issue and address college costs in a more comprehensive way, and I look forward to working with my colleagues on that effort.

IN RECOGNITION OF STEPHEN S.
PEARCE**HON. JACKIE SPEIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 2, 2013

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Dr. Stephen S. Pearce, the Richard and Rhoda Goldman Senior Rabbi, who is retiring after serving Congregation Emanu-El for 20 years. Rabbi Pearce's inexhaustible empathy and commitment to others has touched and inspired thousands of people across this country. It is for good reason that Newsweek has recognized him as one of the 50 most influential rabbis in the U.S. on three successive occasions.

One of the issues Dr. Pearce is determined to solve is hunger in the Bay Area. He recently received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters at the University of San Francisco for challenging the Emanu-El congregation and the community to address this pressing topic by reflecting on how faith is translated into action. Dr. Pearce took on hunger soon after he joined Emanu-El in July 1993. In September 1994, he initiated the High Holy Day food

drive benefitting the San Francisco Food Bank. In April 1995, the Pe'ah Garden started raising vegetables for the Food Bank, Hamilton Family Center, Dream House and Raphael House. In February 2013, the Emanu-El Food Pantry on Geary Boulevard opened. In April 2004, he began a partnership with Dr. William Cobb elementary school to improve literacy and later expanded it to a food pantry. As you can see, once Dr. Pearce takes on an issue, his commitment is lasting.

He also joined and won a drawn-out fight in 1997 to preserve one of the last remaining old-growth redwood groves in California. He organized an interfaith task force to help save the Headwaters Forest in Humboldt from chain saws. The effort won him the nick name "Redwood Rabbi."

Under Rabbi Pearce's long and distinguished leadership, congregation Emanu-El established a preschool and an adult education center, held fundraising concerts for victims of Hurricane Katrina, and for the work of American Jewish World Service in Darfur, helped young adults transition out of foster care, participated in the Pride Parade, launched a pulpit exchange with the Muslim community, and was involved in countless other projects.

Stephen Pearce was born in Manhattan in 1946 and grew up in Brooklyn. He graduated with a BA in Psychology from City College of New York in 1967 and was ordained at the New York School of the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in 1972. He earned his PhD in Counselor Psychology at St. John's University in 1978 and was awarded an honorary DD by the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in 1997.

Before Rabbi Pearce joined Congregation Emanu-El, he served at Temple Sinai of Stamford, Connecticut for 16 years and Temple Isaiah of Forest Hills, New York for five years. He was a faculty member at the Rabbinic School of the Hebrew Union College for 20 years and has also taught at the University of Connecticut, St. John's University and the University of San Francisco.

He is a board member of Palo Alto University and an advisory board member of the Taube Foundation for Jewish Life and Culture. He formerly served on the board of the Graduate Theological Union and is a past president of the Northern California Board of Rabbis.

Rabbi Pearce is a renowned lecturer and has written a tremendous number of articles and poems for publications such as the New York Times, the San Francisco Chronicle and the Jewish Spectator. He is the author of *Too Short and Sweetness of Honey*, two children's books, a psychology textbook, and the co-author of *Building Wisdom's House*. He is the former editor of the *Journal of the Central Conference of American Rabbis*, wrote a column for the *Jewish News Weekly of Northern California* and produced a weekly radio show for KUSF.

His tireless engagement inside and outside his congregational duties has earned him universal admiration, utmost respect and many awards, including the San Francisco Planning and Urban Research Association's Silver Spur Award for interfaith community dialogue and engagement; the national Jefferson Award for inspiring worshippers to fight hunger; the San Francisco Food Bank Community Partner Award for inspiring member of Congregation Emanu-El to donate over 90,000 pounds of

food in the last two decades; and the San Francisco Interfaith Council's recognition for encouraging green sustainability at the temple.

Rabbi Pearce has been married to his wife Dr. Laurie Pearce for 36 years and they have two children, Sarah and Michael Pearce.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me to honor an exceptional human being, someone I admire greatly. His influence will forever be felt in San Francisco, the Bay Area and across the country. Rabbi Pearce has shaped his congregation and created a haven for collaborative worship, life-long education, social welfare and cultural offerings. He is retiring, but Rabbi Pearce is the type of leader who never truly retires. We wish him well in his next adventure in life.

IN RECOGNITION OF COLONEL
ALAN ORR**HON. DUNCAN HUNTER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 2, 2013

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker. I rise today to recognize a true patriot and mentor, not only to myself, but to all the Marines that served with him, Colonel Alan Orr. Col Orr recently retired from the United States Marine Corps last week on July 26, 2013. While he may be hanging up his service uniform, Col Orr will continue to serve those who have sacrificed so much in defense of our country in his role as President and Founder of Combat Marine Outdoors.

Col Orr graduated from the University of Michigan and then went off to Officer Candidate School where upon completion he was commissioned as an officer in the United States Marine Corps. Col Orr was an outstanding artillery officer, commanding several Firing Batteries, a Marine Corps Recruiting Station, an Artillery Battalion, and an Artillery Regiment. It was during this period that I had the distinct honor of serving with Col Orr when he was my Battalion Commander in 2004.

Col Orr went on to graduate from the Marine Amphibious Warfare School in Quantico, Virginia, and the Field Artillery Officer Advanced Course in Fort Sill, Oklahoma. He is also a graduate, with honors, from the Marine Corps Command and Staff College, the Army War College in Carlisle, PA, and holds several Masters degrees. In addition, Col Orr has numerous combat tours from Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, to Somalia and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

But just as he has distinguished himself in combat and with his Marines in distant battlefields, his love for our Marines, sailors and soldiers extended from the front lines to the hospitals where our wounded warriors recover, and to life after the fighting has ended. Col Orr, along with a group of devoted hunters, ranch owners and patriots, has shown to our wounded heroes that excitement and adventure doesn't end with their battle wounds.

In 2005, after visiting wounded Marines from the 1st Marine Division at Brooke Army Medical Center, Col Orr and other founding members created Combat Marine Outdoors, an organization that not only accelerates the recovery process, but restores hope in our servicemen and women. In collaboration with thousands of contributors and over 50 ranches, the

Combat Marine Outdoors has provided well over 200 wounded veterans from Balboa Hospital to Walter Reed with the opportunity to hunt and fish. These outdoor experiences foster the opportunity to engage in a challenging experience that promotes teamwork and camaraderie. In many cases, these excursions facilitated a turning point in emotional recovery through a challenging experience that helps our wounded military men and women regain confidence through a sense of accomplishment.

Col Orr is an accomplished professional, the most knowledgeable artillery officer I have ever known. But his impact to those Marines on and off the battlefield is immeasurable. I am honored to have served with Col Orr, a man who not only personifies military discipline, but exudes the compassion and love for our young warriors through a life of service above self.

I ask my colleagues join me in recognizing the exemplary military service of Col Alan Orr and his continued dedication to the young men and women of our Armed Forces.

IN TRIBUTE TO AMBASSADOR
LINDY BOGGS, DIPLOMAT,
EQUAL RIGHTS ACTIVIST, AND
FORMER MEMBER OF CONGRESS

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 2, 2013

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a great American and a former member of this House. Ambassador Corrine "Lindy" Boggs was a diplomat, equal rights champion, and a former Member of Congress from Louisiana. Lindy Boggs, who died on Saturday, July 27, 2013, was one of the most admired members of this body and was beloved by all who knew her. She will be truly missed. All of us mourn her loss and extend our condolences to her family and loved ones.

Born Marie Corinne Morrison Claiborne Boggs on March 13, 1916 on a sugar plantation in Louisiana, Lindy Boggs attended Sophie Newcomb College at Tulane University in New Orleans, where she met and later married her husband Hale Boggs. After graduation, Lindy Boggs became a history and English teacher in Romeville, Louisiana. Her husband attended law school before being elected to Congress in 1940, rising to become Majority Leader of the House of Representatives.

On October 16, 1972, a tragic event occurred. A plane carrying Congressmen Nick Begich of Alaska and Majority Leader Hale Boggs perished in the Alaska wilderness. Both were presumed dead, as their bodies were never recovered. Lindy Boggs won the special election and succeeded her husband in Congress, becoming the first woman from Louisiana to be elected to the House. Mrs. Boggs was then elected to a full term in 1974 and re-elected seven times before retiring at the end of her term in January 1991. In 1976, Lindy Boggs became the first woman to preside over a Democratic National Convention.

The velvet Southern charm she had refined while growing up in Louisiana enabled her to become a very effective legislator. It was because of her amendment that discrimination

on the ground of "sex or marital status" is prohibited by the Equal Credit Opportunity Act of 1974. Mrs. Boggs also pushed for other women's economic concerns, like equal pay for government jobs and equal access to government business contracts.

In addition to champion equal rights, Lindy Boggs was a strong supporter of historic preservation. She also supported civil rights legislation at a time when such support often met with hostility in the part of the country she represented. Lindy Boggs also strongly supported and defended antipoverty programs. She said:

You couldn't want to reverse the injustices of the political system and not include the blacks and the poor; it was just obvious.

In 1991, a room that was being used as the House speakers' office in the 19th century was named in her honor as the "Lindy Claiborne Boggs Congressional Women's Reading Room." In 1994, Lindy Boggs was admitted to the Louisiana Political Museum and Hall of Fame and in 1997, President Bill Clinton appointed her Ambassador to the Holy See. In 2006, she was awarded the Congressional Distinguished Service Award for her outstanding service in the House of Representatives.

In addition to her remarkable career in public service, perhaps Lindy Boggs' greatest accomplishment are the wonderful children she raised, each of whom has been quite successful in continuing the family legacy of service: Cokie Roberts, a Washington journalist for ABC and National Public Radio; Thomas Hale Boggs Jr., a leading lawyer and chairman of the noted firm of Patton Boggs; and Barbara Boggs Sigmund, who served as Mayor of Princeton, New Jersey.

Madame Speaker, a great lady has finished her course, run the great race, and gone on to claim her great reward. We are deeply saddened by the loss of this tireless champion for equal and civil rights. But her good works will be with us for eternity. For that we can all be grateful.

Mr. Speaker, I ask a moment of silence in memory of Lindy Boggs.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 2, 2013

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 434 I was unavoidably detained at a personal doctor's appointment.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR.

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 2, 2013

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, due to my attendance at a meeting with President Barack Obama at the White House, I missed eight recorded votes on August 1, 2013. I submit how I would have voted had I been present for those votes.

On rollcall No. 428, the Waxman (CA) Amendment to H.R. 1582, had I been present, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall No. 429, the Connolly (VA) Amendment to H.R. 1582, had I been present, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall No. 430, the Murphy (PA) Amendment to H.R. 1582, had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

On rollcall No. 431, the Motion to Recommit for H.R. 1582, had I been present, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall No. 432, Final Passage of H.R. 1582, had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

On rollcall No. 433, Ordering the Previous Question on H. Res. 322, had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

On rollcall No. 434, Agreeing to H. Res. 322, had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

On rollcall No. 435, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 1897, had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

CONGRATULATING THE ALPHA EPSILON PI INTERNATIONAL FRATERNITY

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 2, 2013

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I extend my congratulations to the Alpha Epsilon Pi International Fraternity on the celebration of its centenary. With more than 177 active chapters across the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, France, and Israel, and over 9,000 undergraduate brothers, there is certainly much to celebrate.

The fraternity is celebrating the largest event in its history—the Centennial Celebration on August 8th honoring the first 100 years of its existence and its success in cultivating generations of Jewish leaders on college campuses across the world.

The first 100 years are said to be the hardest, but the success of Alpha Epsilon Pi is a wonderful start.

I wish the fraternity every success in the future and look forward to seeing more leaders from Alpha Epsilon Pi take their place in the world.

AEPi was founded in 1913 at New York University, initially as a brotherhood of young men from similar backgrounds, but expanded in time with the goal of giving them the best college and fraternity experience. Since then approximately 100,000 men have been members of the fraternity.

More important is the leadership training provided by AEPi. Its members include Wolf Blitzer, Mark Zuckerberg, former Florida Congressman Ron Klein, National Hockey League Commissioner Gary Bettman, James Brooks, a producer/director of The Simpsons, Paul Simon and Art Garfunkel, and architect Frank Gehry, plus numberless more.

Celebrating a Centennial is a rare event. AEPi has contributed to the nation and the world for 100 years and if past performance is any indication, this will continue for many generations to come.