

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

AMBASSADOR KIM SOOK AND AM-
BASSADOR BYRGANYM
AITIMOVA

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 23, 2013

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to two diplomats, Security Council Ambassador Kim Sook and Ambassador Byrganym Aitimova, the Permanent Representatives of Korea and Kazakhstan both of whom are ending their terms representing their respective countries at the United Nations.

On September 16, 2013 I attended a special farewell reception and dinner in their honor hosted by my dear friends Ranju Batra, Chair of the Diwali Stamp Project and former president of the Association of Indians in America NY, and Ravi Batra, an accomplished attorney, Chairman & CEO of Greenstar Global Energy Corporation and Chair of the National Advisory Council on South Asian Affairs. It was attended by numerous UN Ambassadors, and members of the judiciary and local elected officials.

Ambassador Kim has a long and honorable record of serving his country overseas. Among his many postings, we have been fortunate to have Ambassador Kim represent South Korea in the United States. Throughout his career he has worked to keep the US-South Korean alliance strong, enhance our alliance's public diplomacy, and maintain peace and security on the Korean Peninsula. Since May 2011 he has served as South Korea's ambassador to the United Nations and I am sad to see his term come to an end. I wish him and his family all the best. I would also like to wish Ambassador Kim a happy birthday, which he celebrated on September 19th.

Ambassador Aitimova also has a long and distinguished career of serving her country. She has taken important leadership roles at the United Nations including serving as Vice-President of the Executive Board of UNICEF and as a board member of UN WOMEN. She has served as Kazakhstan's ambassador to Italy and Israel. Her public service at home has included serving as Deputy Prime Minister, the Minister for Education and Science; and of Youth Affairs, Tourism and Sport. She also served as the Chairperson of the Parliamentary Committee of Youth Affairs and Senator of the Parliament of the Republic of Kazakhstan. She is ending her tour as the Permanent Representative of Kazakhstan to return home and once again serve her country as a Senator. I congratulate her on her distinguished career and wish her all the best.

CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF
EUGENIE MOORE BEAL

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 23, 2013

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the life and honor the achievements of Genie Beal whom I was honored to represent in the House. Genie Beal lived 92 years with grace and purpose. Her Memorial Service will be held, fittingly, in the Arnold Arboretum on September 26th. She was an urban environmentalist and untiring in her commitment to a principle important to me: city dwellers need to see and experience Nature. Loving the earth does not mean only cherishing wilderness. City parks must be made and maintained and, if necessary, fought for politically. Genie Beal was a pragmatic visionary, engaged and astute, and above all persistent. Her tact and charm served her well, and everyone who worked with her knew that her silken manners cloaked steely determination. My friend, Mayor Tom Menino, eulogized her as "the mother of green space in the City of Boston."

Eugenie Beal was born to privilege in New York, grew up in Westchester County, and travelled widely in Europe even before she entered Radcliffe College. She spoke French and German well enough to qualify for a Harvard graduate seminar on linguistics. She was thus permitted to enter the stacks of Widener Library, then closed to Radcliffe "girls," to carry out her philological researches. Her college years gave her an abiding love of Boston and she eventually settled in Massachusetts.

She was active in the League of Women Voters which she encouraged to champion environmental causes. She convinced Mayor Kevin White that Boston needed a Conservation Commission, and in 1970 became its Chair. For the next forty years, her energy animated virtually all efforts to preserve open space: she served as the first director of the city's Environmental Department and on the Central Artery Completion Task Force, co-founded the Boston Natural Areas Network, and helped create the Emerald Necklace Conservancy.

Today, I join with all my constituents to honor her as we reflect on the difference she has made in our surroundings, and, thus, in our lives.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 23, 2013

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, unfortunately, on September 17, 2013, I missed three recorded votes on the House floor. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on Rollcall 460, "yea" on Rollcall 461, and "yea" on Rollcall 462.

CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS
RESOLUTION, 2014

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 20, 2013

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to H.J. Res. 59, which makes continuing appropriations for Fiscal Year 2014, because it continues the devastating cuts to education set in motion by the sequester and permanently defunds the Affordable Care Act (ACA).

H.J. Res. 59 locks in the damaging sequester cuts through December 15 and even sets funding slightly below the current, post-sequestration level.

It is long past time for Congress to reverse course from the austerity approach that included slashing education across-the-board by 5 percent this year—the equivalent of cutting nearly all education programs and Head Start by roughly \$3 billion.

We need to end the sequester now by passing H.R. 900, the "End Sequestration Now Act," of which I am an original co-sponsor.

Madam Speaker, the level of cuts imposed by sequestration have already taken federal funding back to pre-2004 levels while our nation's schools are serving nearly 6 million more students since that time.

Madam Speaker, to ensure equity for all students, Congress must reverse this course.

To date, a disproportionate share of sequester cuts have impacted higher-poverty communities and therefore, students most in need—57,000 children have already lost critical seats in Head Start classes, schools served by Impact Aid have already seen drastic reductions in funding, and additional harmful impacts are beginning to be felt in classrooms as the school year begins.

Many of these school districts and their students rely heavily on federal resources for education funding; some even up to 50 percent of their total revenue.

Madam Speaker, Americans have suffered long enough from the adverse impact of sequestration that House Republicans to seek to continue with resolution. The damage has been great and continues to get worse with each passing day the Republicans refuse to work across the aisle to reach agreement on a budget plan that is balanced and sensible.

Consider the damage inflicted or to be inflicted on the American people by sequestration:

EDUCATION

Teachers and staff for the 23 million students in high-poverty schools would be reduced by up to 47,000.

Education services for 6 million students with disabilities would be curtailed.

NATIONAL AND LOCAL SECURITY

Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) program would be eliminated, resulting in 1,400 fewer police officers on the street.

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Our national security is being weakened as Army training rotations are being canceled; earlier this year nearly one-third of Air Force squadrons were grounded; and maintenance on equipment and facilities is being deferred.

More than 600,000 civilian Defense employees (85 percent) were furloughed this summer for more than one week, meaning a pay cut of more than \$1 billion.

\$37 billion in cuts to defense this fiscal year is harming economic growth and our military readiness.

HEALTH

Cutting \$1.5 billion from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) means less research into preventing, treating, and curing diseases that affect millions of Americans, like cancer, diabetes, and heart disease.

A \$285 million cut for the Centers for Disease Control is limiting their ability to detect and combat disease outbreaks like pandemic influenza; plan for public health emergencies; and facilitate immunizations that keep you and your family healthy.

Cutting NIH by \$6.7 billion will hold back life-saving research.

SENIORS

More than 5 million fewer meals are available for low-income seniors through Meals on Wheels and related programs.

INFRASTRUCTURE AND JOB-CREATING INVESTMENTS

Community Development Block Grants to ensure decent affordable housing, provide services to the most vulnerable, and create jobs by expanding and retaining businesses cut to lowest level in its history.

Clean energy and efficiency research are cut by nearly one-half and breakthrough cutting edge advanced energy research cut 81 percent from 2013 enacted level.

Major job-creating investments in highways, transit, railways, bridges and ports through the TIGER program would be eliminated, while putting modernization of the air traffic control system at risk.

EPA cut by more than 1/3 and grants to local communities for clean water and drinking water slashed.

It is time for Congress to reject a continuation of these draconian cuts and replace the sequester with a balanced package that demands additional revenue, including closing corporate tax loopholes.

Instead of continuing sequestration levels of funding, and trying for the 42nd time to defund, delay, or impede the implementation of the Affordable Care Act, we need to work together to develop a balanced and responsible plan that makes the necessary investments that will generate economic growth and create jobs that will enable Americans to live a middle class life.

We should reject this resolution and adopt the substitute resolution offered by my colleague, Congressman VAN HOLLEN, the Ranking Member of the Budget Committee.

The Van Hollen Alternative is superior to the resolution before us because it eliminates the sequester's immediate, excessive, and irresponsible cuts to vital investments and replaces these with a roughly 50/50 combination of targeted spending cuts and limits on tax breaks to reduce the deficit in a balanced way.

Moreover, the proposal achieves over \$75 billion more in deficit reduction than the sequester would have achieved.

I urge all members of the House to join me in voting to reject this irresponsible resolution that will not create jobs, places our economic recovery at risk, threatens the health security of millions of Americans, and jeopardizes the creditworthiness of our nation.

CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS
RESOLUTION, 2014

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSH HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 20, 2013

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, I oppose this flawed continuing resolution, H.J. Res. 59. As the Congress lurches from self-imposed crisis to self-imposed crisis, it is easy to understand why members of the public shake their heads in disgust at the inability of the government to do the important work of America to help Americans.

Today we go through another farce—the 43rd time we will vote to stop the Affordable Care Act. It's another gimmick. It's another charade to appease the Tea Party.

This bill takes a slightly different tack than the others that have tried to kill health care reform. The attempt to defund Obamacare is tied to the legislation that would fund the federal government. On October 1st, the government will shut down if a budget is not passed before then.

One of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle said, "We've got to play the game." Running our country is not a game. Shutting down the government is not a game. It's the height of irresponsibility.

This bill will not become law, I am very sure. The House Republicans know that this is a terrible idea, but they are proceeding with it evidently with the expectation it will fail. But they seem not to care that shutting down the government puts in jeopardy our servicemembers, our veterans, those who are experiencing hard times as our economy is still in the midst of recovery. It puts children's health care in peril. Talk about absurdity.

Once again the House Republicans have decided to put party ideology above the needs of the American people. Once again the House Republicans have made senseless accommodations to the callous and vociferous shouting of those who simply don't care how devastating shutting down the government is to Americans.

The radical games need to stop. We have played them over and over again. Playing with American lives is not what a responsible government does.

CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS
RESOLUTION, 2014

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 20, 2013

Mr. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to H.J. Res 59, the Con-

tinuing Appropriations Resolution of 2014. With only ten days left until funding for the government expires, it shocks me that we are considering legislation that will do nothing to solve our problems. This is yet another political stunt by my friends on the other side of the aisle who clearly want the government to be shut down, and it should be rejected.

Our economy is recovering, but much more work needs to be done. A government shutdown would destroy all that progress and would cause much damage to middle class families across our nation. Social Security beneficiaries would not get their checks, veterans services would be cut, and every American would feel the impact. Furthermore, this resolution continues the misguided policy of sequestration. If this continues it will cost our economy 1.6 million jobs in 2014 and will prohibit our nation from making critical investments in education and life saving medical research. Democrats have an alternative that ends the sequester in a responsible manner and keeps the government running for the next year. My friends on the other side of the aisle do nothing but slow our nation's recovery with these futile efforts. Government funding remains in jeopardy. These stunts provide only further uncertainty for our businesses, left unable to hire workers, expand facilities, or make any of the necessary decisions to prosper in this economic environment. Madam Speaker, I plead with you to work with us in a bipartisan manner rather than wasting precious floor time on a bill that is going nowhere.

We all know my friends on the other side of the aisle oppose Obamacare. They have already voted 41 times in this House to repeal or undermine the law, and this bill increases this number to 42 by defunding Obamacare entirely. The American people spoke just last year in the elections, and the Supreme Court has spoken as well: Obamacare is the law of the land, and this effort is not going anywhere. In less than 2 weeks time, people who have never had access to health insurance for their entire lives will be able to purchase an affordable plan that gives them the health coverage they deserve. Even if you oppose the President, you should agree that this is a reasonable goal to have. And this bill goes beyond just defunding the parts of the law they don't like. It would let insurance companies deny coverage for people with pre-existing conditions, they could drop coverage when people get sick, and would prevent young Americans from staying on their parents plan until age 26. We should not turn back the clock when we are so close to making real, measurable progress. I look forward to full implementation of the law in the coming weeks so the American people can receive the full benefits of Obamacare.

In closing, this is a waste of our time. With such little time left to avoid a government shutdown, I would expect the Majority in this body to work with us in a bipartisan manner rather than continuing to play political games. I know we can come together to prevent a government shutdown and prevent miserable harm from being inflicted on the American people. But today, I urge my colleagues to join me in voting against this misguided bill.