

Fowler said it's a simple, quiet life in town.

"We're just a small, rural town," Fowler said. "The average age is probably sixty. What I enjoy the most about it, we have very, very, very little crime."

Walters said he remembers riding to church as a young boy, but always had to be have.

"Everyone in town was your mother or dad because we all knew each other," Walters said. "If there has ever been a Mayberry in North Carolina, it could be Proctorville."

CONGRATULATING HAYWARD HIGH SCHOOL LADY 'CANES HOCKEY TEAM FOR WINNING THE WIAA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. SEAN P. DUFFY

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 14, 2013

Mr. DUFFY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Hayward High School's Lady Hurricanes Hockey Team for winning the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association State Championship (WIAA) State Championship.

In only their sixth year playing at the varsity level, the Lady 'Canes defeated the Onalaska Hilltoppers in a thrilling 5–2 match. The Lady 'Canes out-skated their top-ranked opponent for three periods to take home Hayward High School's first state hockey championship.

The exemplary leadership set forth by the coaches combined with the perseverance of the players shows the true spirit Wisconsinites have for sports and competition. These student athletes proved their dedication to the team—starting practice at 6:45 AM, training 5–6 days per week, participating in community service, while never losing sight of academic importance.

Furthermore, the fans from Hayward and surrounding areas (affectionately known as Hurricane Nation), came out in full form to support their team, setting a record for the largest crowd in tournament history. The co-op team consists of players from Hayward, Spooner, Northwestern, and Phillips High Schools.

As a former hockey player myself, and a huge fan of the game, I am thrilled to call my hometown Lady 'Canes—State Champs for 2013. Congratulations ladies! You have earned it!

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 95TH BIRTHDAY OF BLONDELL HOLLINGSWORTH

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 14, 2013

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask for the House's attention today to recognize Mrs. Blondell Hollingsworth, who is turning 95 on April 7th, 2013.

Mrs. Hollingsworth was born on April 7th, 1918 in Burwell, GA. Later in her life, she attended Garner School of Nursing and then worked at Garner Hospital as a nurse. In 1939, she married Mr. Ralph Hollingsworth.

After that, she worked at Hollingsworth jewelry.

The Hollingsworths were blessed with one daughter, Sylvia Sue Hollingsworth, who was born in 1941. Mrs. Hollingsworth has three grandchildren, Angela, Tracey, and Holli, and she has six great-grandchildren. Their names are Ashley, Laura, Cierra, Pierre, Leigh, and Lindsay.

Mrs. Hollingsworth is a member of Central Presbyterian Church in Anniston, Alabama, where she currently resides. Her family is planning on having a quiet party to celebrate this milestone.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to join Mrs. Hollingsworth's family and friends in wishing her a very happy 95th birthday.

INTRODUCING THE CROSS-BORDER TRADE ENHANCEMENT ACT

HON. BETO O'ROURKE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 14, 2013

Mr. O'ROURKE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to help introduce the Cross-Border Trade Enhancement Act (H.R. 1108), a bill that will create jobs and facilitate trade at no cost to the Federal Government. I am proud to join Congressman CUELLAR and MCCAUL in moving forward with this bipartisan bill.

El Paso, the city I represent, and other border communities rely on cross border trade for their economic vitality. Each year, \$80 billion in trade flows through El Paso's ports of entry. Residents of our sister city, Ciudad Juarez, annually contribute \$2 billion to El Paso's economy. In the El Paso region alone, this trade supports 100,000 jobs. Nationally, 6 million jobs are a direct product of bi-lateral trade between the U.S. and Mexico. Since 1990 this trade has grown by 600 percent and continues to increase each year. Unfortunately, capacity at our ports of entry has not kept pace. Despite increased staffing and use of technology, waits at our ports of entry are often unpredictable and unacceptably long. This harms our economy and our way of life along the border. We have friends and family and sometimes jobs on the other side and we need to be able to cross in a timely manner.

The Cross-Border Trade Enhancement Act is a proactive first step to finding a solution to this problem. By authorizing public-private partnerships, this legislation would provide The Customs and Border Patrol (CBP) with effective new tools to improve infrastructure, expand capacity, and increase staffing at our ports of entry without creating new costs for taxpayers. For example, under this bill, the City of El Paso would have the ability to raise funds and enter into a partnership with CBP to cooperatively help fund increased staffing at our ports of entry. This could help keep all the lanes on one of our local bridges open for a longer period of time.

As Washington operates under serious fiscal constraints, we need this legislation more than ever. Earlier this month, as a result of sequestration, CBP officers along our border received furlough notices of 14 days. Secretary of Homeland Security, Janet Napolitano, has warned that failing to undo sequestration cuts could lead to 4 or 5 hour wait times at our ports of entry. The reality is clear—Congress

is unlikely to provide the resources we need to facilitate the legal and efficient flow of goods and people across our borders. We need innovative policies that allow communities who depend on cross-border trade to find creative solutions to our fiscal problems. The Cross-Border Trade Enhancement Act is such a solution. At a time of heightened partisanship, this legislation is proof that when Democrats and Republicans work together, we can advance common sense ideas.

We need a 21st Century border policy that not only secures our border, but also recognizes the significance the border and our partnership with Mexico represent for our country and the economy. The Cross-Border Trade Enhancement Act is an important part of that policy. I urge all of my colleagues to join with me in supporting this critical legislation.

PRESERVING THE WELFARE WORK REQUIREMENT AND TANF EXTENSION ACT OF 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 13, 2013

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I am disappointed to say that I must rise today in opposition to this legislation. Yet again, the House is taking programs that should enjoy bipartisan support—such as the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families—and adding such partisan provisions that make it wholly impossible to support.

In July 2012, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) issued a memo outlining a program for states to consider that would allow for demonstration projects to test alternative job placement performance measures for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) recipients. This was in direct response to the requests from at least 29 states who wanted more flexibility on how they measured work participation. Many of these states requested a waiver so they could focus on more outcome-based measures, rather than job placement rates. The memo released by HHS outlines specific conditions that must be met by a state to receive a waiver: a clear and detailed explanation of how the alternative proposal would increase employment by 20 percent, as well as show that there are clear, measurable goals for work placement.

Unfortunately, my Republican colleagues would have you believe that the Administration is gutting the work requirements under TANF. This could not be further from the truth. In fact it should be obvious to any honest man who is not blind that this proposal does not waive the work requirements. Rather, this is the Administration being responsive to the needs of the states and providing them with more flexibility to test which strategies they think will work best for their residents. This type of state flexibility is routinely called for by Republican colleagues in federal programs, and now that this Administration has embraced the concept, my colleagues want to claim that welfare recipients will be able to stay on welfare and not work. In my experience, when the Administration has heard your complaints and takes the steps necessary to address these complaints you claim victory.

TANF is a necessary and important program that will give families who are struggling a hand-up, not a hand-out. I wish I could vote to reauthorize it today. But I cannot support a baseless partisan measure targeting flexibility for the states to improve this program. As President Clinton said, "The requirement was for more work, not less."

I urge my colleagues to reject this nakedly political legislation. Let's do the business of the American people in an honest, thoughtful, and proper way. I would remind my Republican colleagues that you are entitled to your own opinion, but you are not entitled to your own facts. The facts are that the Administration's proposal would increase work requirements and increase the ability of Americans to get back to work.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA LOCAL FUNDS CONTINUATION ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, March 14, 2013

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer the District of Columbia Local Funds Continuation Act, to permanently protect both the more than 600,000 residents of the District of Columbia and the federal government from an unintended catastrophe in any future federal government shutdown. The bill would allow the District government to spend its local funds at the start of a fiscal year if Congress has not approved the District's local budget by such time, thereby avoiding a District government shutdown if the federal government shuts down. Although the District government raises and manages an \$8 billion local budget, Congress technically appropriates these local funds back to the District government, a hold-over and throwback to the pre-home-rule period. Several years ago, Republican appropriators and I reached a bipartisan agreement to approve the District government's local budget in continuing resolutions (CRs), allowing the District government to spend at next year's level, if the District government's regular appropriations bill has not been signed into law by the start of a fiscal year. We are grateful that this agreement has held through Democratic and Republican congresses and administrations. This agreement has enabled District officials to operate complex, big-city functions more effectively than during the many years when the city's local budget was only approved by Congress months after the start of a fiscal year.

However, last Congress, we saw the limits of even this helpful agreement when the federal government almost shut down on multiple occasions. While Congress appears poised to pass legislation to keep the federal government open for the remainder of fiscal year 2013 by acting before the expiration on March 27 of the CR that is keeping the federal government (and therefore the District government) open, the D.C. government should never have to wonder whether it will be shut down. If the District government shuts down, it could default under certain financing agreements and leases. When Congress cannot reach agreement on regular appropriations bills, it often operates under successive CRs

to avoid a federal government shutdown. However, successive CRs greatly hinder the operations of the District government. Not only do they make it difficult for the city to plan its activities for the year, successive CRs greatly increase the city's costs of doing business. The city's partners, from Wall Street to small vendors, may charge it a risk premium due to the uncertainty created by successive CRs.

Disputes over the federal budget have nothing to do with the District government's local funds. I do not believe that any member of Congress wants to shut down the D.C. government and bring a large, complicated city to its knees due to a purely federal matter. Moreover, D.C. residents are not alone in relying on vital District government services. Federal officials, including the President, federal buildings, foreign embassies and dignitaries, and businesses rely daily on the city's services, as well.

A bipartisan consensus on preventing D.C. government shutdowns emerged last Congress. President Obama included a provision in his fiscal year 2013 budget that would permanently authorize D.C. to spend its local funds if the federal government shut down. The Senate Appropriations Committee-approved fiscal year 2013 Financial Services and General Government Appropriations bill included the shutdown-avoidance provision. Although the House bill did not include the provision, the Republican-led committee's report accompanying the bill acknowledged that the District government would face considerable hardships if it had to shut down due to a federal government shutdown, and encouraged the passage of legislation to avoid D.C. government shutdowns.

We continue to work to pass a budget autonomy bill, which would free the District government's local budget from congressional approval, and is, of course, the best long-term solution. There is also increasing bipartisan support for budget autonomy. President Obama has indicated his support for budget autonomy, as have House Majority Leader ERIC CANTOR, Representative DARRELL ISSA, Chairman of the Oversight and Government Reform Committee, which has jurisdiction over D.C., Senator SUSAN COLLINS and Virginia Governor Bob McDonnell.

It is time we remove the District government and the multiple, unintended consequences of a District government shutdown from federal government shutdown fights. I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

HONORING FREDERICK KARL

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, March 14, 2013

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and accomplishments of Mr. Frederick Karl. His extensive contributions to numerous private and public agencies, including all levels of government in Florida, have left an unforgettable legacy for community leaders across the country to learn from and follow.

Mr. Karl was born in Daytona, Florida, where he attended high school and was voted "Most Personal" by his senior class. He was born into the Great Depression, but also born

into a family of public service; his mother, Mary, was a public school teacher who later founded a vocational school, now Daytona State College. She was inducted into the Florida Women's Hall of Fame in 2011.

The attack on Pearl Harbor compelled Mr. Karl to join the U.S. Army in 1942 and he was commissioned as a lieutenant at age 18. After fighting throughout Europe, he came home at the end of World War II, bearing the silver and bronze stars for valor and a Purple Heart for injuries he sustained from German shrapnel during the Battle of the Bulge. Upon his return, he pursued higher education and earned a law degree from Stetson University. He started a distinguished career practicing law.

By 1956, Mr. Karl's calling for public service steered him towards politics. He was elected to the Florida House of Representatives, where he served for eight years. His devotion to fairness and high ethical standards earned him the reputation as "Conscience of the House"—this would become his legacy.

Serving as a state representative was the beginning of a long career in public service for Mr. Karl. After a run for the Governor's office, beginning in 1968, he spent four years in the state Senate. He presided over the trials of 52 officials suspended by the Governor, establishing a Rules for Suspension and Removal of Public Service from Office. In 1974, he was named Florida's first public counsel, a lawyer who argues for citizens on utility rate cases before the Florida Public Service Commission. In 1976, he became the last state Supreme Court Justice to be elected by Florida voters.

In between service at the state level, Mr. Karl also contributed to his local community, as attorney for the Volusia County School District, and the Cities of Daytona Beach and Ormond Beach.

In 1984, Mr. Karl's stature was called upon after ethics and credibility rocked Hillsborough County government following the arrest of several commissioners on bribery charges. Mr. Karl soon became Hillsborough County administrator, where he was known for his keen balance of thoughtfulness and decisiveness. He helped establish a new health care plan that integrated social services to provide a link to the various problems and challenges faced by indigent residents. The program has since been acclaimed nationally and served as a model for communities across the country. As a proponent of fairness, he took the lead on establishing diversity within county government, naming special officers that would ensure inclusion at all levels of government, from hiring, to procurement to leadership.

Today, a 28-story building where most Hillsborough County government business is conducted bears Mr. Karl's name. Capitalizing on the real estate recession of the early 1990s, he engineered the purchase of the building to bring together more than 1,700 employees and more than 30 county departments and agencies under one roof, saving taxpayers money and increasing customer convenience for those seeking multiple services from their county government.

Even after more than 50 years of dedication, Mr. Karl left Hillsborough County and continued sharing his wisdom and leadership. He served as president of Tampa General Hospital, lead attorney for the City of Tampa and a consultant for Poe Financial Group in Tampa as well as the Tampa-Hillsborough County Expressway Authority.