

REGARDING AMERICAN
LEADERSHIP IN THE BALKANS**HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2013

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the State Department to take a more active role in resolving a important dispute between two of the United States' valued allies, Greece and the Republic of Macedonia.

Since the nation commonly called "Macedonia" declared its independence from Yugoslavia in 1991, Greece has objected to its use of the name "Macedonia". Greece considers this both a usurpation of its rich heritage and part of a potential basis for forming a territorial claim on the neighboring Greek province of Macedonia. The geographic area of the Greek province of Macedonia corresponds with the ancient Kingdom of Macedonia, whose capital city Pella, sits well within Greece's borders.

Mister Speaker, this issue is not just about names, but about security for Greece and for the entire region. In 2008, the Republic of Macedonia applied to join the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. Despite meeting all requirements for NATO membership, Greece, as a member of NATO, vetoed the entrance of Macedonia until the name issue is resolved. Greece worries that by calling itself "Macedonia," its northern neighbor risks raising the specter of future territorial accusations based on the idea of a "united Macedonia."

The United States has long been a leading partner in the NATO Alliance, and as such we should be doing all we can to resolve this issue. The Department of State should be making a concerted effort to work with both nations to bring a mutually agreed upon resolution. Greece has long been an important NATO member and ally of the United States, and once this issue is resolved the United States should encourage the acceptance of "Macedonia" into NATO as well.

Mr. Speaker, I believe it is vital to the interests of this nation in maintaining stability in the Balkans and adding a new member of the NATO Alliance.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
APPROPRIATIONS ACT,
2014

SPEECH OF

HON. YVETTE D. CLARKE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2217) making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes:

Ms. CLARKE. Madam Chair, I rise today disappointed in last week's adoption of the Steve King Amendment to H.R. 2217, the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2014. This amendment would bar implementation of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrival, DACA, for DREAMers, prevent them from acquiring work permits, and eliminate the exercise of discretion to protect victims of trafficking and crime victims.

Prosecutorial discretion and deferred action are done on a case-by-case basis and do not provide relief or legal status en masse. Instead, these practices ensure fair and just outcomes, and prompt law enforcement officials to closely consider compelling circumstances such as disability, age, or military service.

This blatant attempt to undermine the Presidents' action to address certain aspects of our broken immigration system and to restrict certain benefits of deferred action shocks the conscience. There are thousands of young Americans without legal status who want to attend school, find jobs, and start families—to participate in the American Dream.

The promise of deferred action and work authorization was affirmed by millions of Americans in November 2012. If we break this promise, we will have failed in our duty to a nation of immigrants from every part of world.

As the only New York City Member of Congress on the House Homeland Security Committee, I understand the need to fund programs that keep us safe against the threat of both physical and cyber attacks. However, to hold DACA recipients hostage for politics is unconscionable. I represent one of the largest immigrant districts in the country, with many who are currently benefitting from DACA; I could not and did not support the King Amendment, nor did I vote for the underlying bill.

IN HONOR OF THE ACS AND THE
JESSAMINE COUNTY RELAY FOR
LIFE SUBMISSION FOR THE CON-
GRESSIONAL RECORD, JUNE 11,
2013**HON. ANDY BARR**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2013

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the American Cancer Society and the Relay For Life of Jessamine County, and to thank these organizations for their work in the fight against cancer.

In May 1985, Dr. Gordy Klatt walked and ran for 24 hours around a track in Tacoma, Washington, ultimately raising \$27,000 to help the American Cancer Society fight the nation's biggest health concern—cancer. A year later, 340 supporters joined the overnight event. Since those first steps, the Relay For Life movement has grown into a worldwide phenomenon, raising more than \$4 billion to fight cancer.

The Relay For Life of Jessamine County, Kentucky was formed in 1997, and over the last 16 years has raised over \$800,000 toward the fight against cancer.

These organizations work to create a world where cancer will no longer threaten our loved ones like Abrielle, a three year old who was diagnosed in October of 2012 with acute lymphoblastic leukemia. She is currently being treated at the University of Kentucky Children's Hospital. Our thoughts and prayers are with Abrielle and her parents, Matt and Lacy, during this difficult time.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in expressing our support for Abrielle and her family, and in commending the American Cancer Society and Relay For Life for their contributions to the fight against cancer. I

would also like to extend my personal appreciation to the Relay For Life of Jessamine County for all that they have done to better our community and our Commonwealth.

VICTORIA TRUE

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2013

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Victoria True for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Victoria True is an 8th grader at Moore Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Victoria True is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Victoria True for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, on June 6, 2013, I missed rollcall votes No. 207–211. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following manner:

Rollcall No: 207 "aye;"

Rollcall No: 208 "nay;"

Rollcall No: 209 "nay;"

Rollcall No: 210 "aye;"

Rollcall No: 211 "nay."

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
APPROPRIATIONS ACT,
2014

SPEECH OF

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2217) making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes:

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Chair, I deeply appreciate the leadership and insight from my dear friend and colleague from North Carolina. Your efforts have helped keep this country safe in the midst of ongoing threats both known and unpredictable.

An essential component of these efforts is the UASI grant program, which provides financial assistance to address the unique planning, operations, equipment, training, and exercise needs of high-threat, high-density urban areas.

As you know so well, the AUSI program is critical to helping our cities build and sustain capabilities to prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from threats or acts of terrorism.

In my district, the Portland Urban Area has been a recipient of UASI grant funds since FY 2003. This critical funding has enhanced regional collaboration and coordination within and between responder disciplines and across jurisdictions.

The Portland Urban Area is more secure as a result, but most certainly has further to go, and must continue its partnership with the UASI program.

Problematically, Portland is no longer a recipient of UASI funding, with little notice that would have allowed proper planning for alternative methods to meet their security needs, and with little transparency as to why this is the case.

The FY 2012 program funded the top 31 highest risk urban areas in the country. And while the FY 2013 appropriations bill funds the program at a nearly equal level than the year before, unfortunately it also contains language that limits use of the UASI funds to no more than the top 25 highest risk urban areas, a cap which seems arbitrary and not based in risk or threat data.

This cap is having a significant impact. Important regional areas like Portland, Orlando, Las Vegas and New Orleans have been eliminated from FY13 funding despite being national centers of tourism and commerce.

Under no circumstances are Portland and the other affected cities any less vulnerable to terrorism than they were 12 months ago.

And in the last 12 months, the Portland Urban Area has gone from a ranking of 23 11 months ago, 29 one month ago, and 27 weeks ago. How can a city plan with such drastic changes in ranking, with little notice? Clearly the metrics used by DHS are flawed, or at the very least, are not adapted to operate within a 25-city cap.

The federal government has a responsibility to be a partner with our local communities, protecting our citizens from terrorist threats, and moderating potential impacts from natural disasters. While diminished resources are a factor for all levels of government, there should be some certainty for our communities that the federal government will be a continuing partner and when.

In the long term, I would deeply appreciate an opportunity to engage with this Committee, my Senate colleagues, and all local cities impacted, to better understand this issue, and the future of the UASI program.

And in the short term, the FY 2013 appropriations for DHS included \$188 million in discretionary homeland security grant funds. The Secretary has latitude to apply these funds to previously eliminated grant programs including the UASI program.

I would urge the Secretary to use some of this funding to the jurisdictions on that have fallen below the FY13 cap. This bridge funding would greatly assist these communities to continue their anti-terrorism coordination at some level while working to achieve sustainable funding in the years to come.

There are also common-sense reforms that can strengthen the federal-local partnership for the UASI program by, for example, extending the timeline for cities to use these grant dollars. The shifting timeline from 4, to 3, and now 2 years adds another layer of difficulty to planning and utilizing these dollars as effectively and comprehensively as possible.

I sincerely appreciate the courtesy of my colleagues for taking my concerns into consideration and I look forward to addressing this issue with you in a comprehensive and thoughtful way, something you both know how to do so very well.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2013

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$16,738,726,834,732.35. We've added \$6,111,849,785,819.27 to our debt in 4 and a half years. This is \$6 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

STEPHANIE SHEPHERD

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2013

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Stephanie Shepherd for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Stephanie Shepherd is a 12th grader at Jefferson High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Stephanie Shepherd is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Stephanie Shepherd for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

HONORING SERGE MARSHALL DAVIS

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2013

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, educating our children is one of the most important functions of a society. Preparing our children for the future is the best thing we can do for them and

for our society. Serge Marshall Davis, the principal of the Sheila Mencher School in the Bronx is a man who has taken that message to heart.

He is dedicated to improving the lives of the young people in his care by meeting the challenges of providing for them a high quality education. This includes children from many different countries speaking a variety of languages and dialects.

He instituted and maintained a variety of programs including a middle school honors program, health oriented programs, the use of teacher specialists including mentors, inter-visitations by teachers, using data to improve instruction, and middle school community service among so many others. His school even won the Bronx Middle School Poetry Slam this year and was the Ball Room Dance Grand Champions in 2010.

Under Principal Davis the school and its students have flourished through a well rounded education for the children from pre-kindergarten through the eighth grade.

Serge Marshall Davis is being honored for his dedication as principal to improving the lives of the young people in his care and for meeting the challenges of providing for them a high quality education.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF ESKATON MONROE LODGE INDEPENDENT LIVING

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2013

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Eskaton Monroe Lodge as they celebrate their 40th Anniversary. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the hard-working staff, volunteers and supporters who have ensured that this fine organization is able to provide valuable senior living and social services to Sacramento's seniors.

Established in 1973 and located in the historic Land Park neighborhood of Sacramento, Eskaton Monroe Lodge was built by Eskaton, a non-profit health care organization based in Sacramento, as its first residential facility. While the buildings and property have been enhanced over the years, many of the original features and landscape have been preserved. Today, the property consists of almost one hundred apartments and continues to allow seniors to live independently and to the fullest extent possible in a comfortable and secure setting. Eskaton Monroe Lodge continues to offer a wide array of services and programs dedicated to improving the lives of Sacramento's seniors and their families.

Eskaton Monroe Lodge offers its residents a variety of services including blood pressure clinics, access to the public library's bookmobile, church services, and continuing education programs pertinent to seniors. Also offered are activities such as exercise and wellness classes, movie showings, live artistic performances, craft groups, and many more which allow for social interaction. In addition, residents have access to transportation services that can get them to doctor appointments, grocery stores, and banks, and be able to run personal errands.