

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 20, 2013

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 251 on the passage of the District of Columbia Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act, I am not recorded because I was absent due to illness. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

FEDERAL AGRICULTURE REFORM AND RISK MANAGEMENT ACT OF 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. TAMMY DUCKWORTH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 19, 2013

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1947) to provide for the reform and continuation of agricultural and other programs of the Department of Agriculture through fiscal year 2018, and for other purposes:

Ms. DUCKWORTH. Mr. Chair, the Farm Bill that we are considering today includes massive cuts to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) program—\$20.5 billion to be exact.

I am offering an amendment that will help us understand the repercussions of these drastic cuts.

My amendment will require the Secretary of Agriculture to report to Congress on the effects of SNAP cuts on charitable food providers, like food banks and soup kitchens. Should these devastating cuts become law, it is common sense that we should know the consequences—my amendment is about taking responsibility.

There is little room to cut this vital program. The average SNAP benefit is now only \$4.50 a day. That's just \$1.50 a meal. And this benefit will get even lower in November when the 2009 Recovery Act increase expires.

The reality is that these cuts will significantly increase demand on charitable food providers who are already stretched to the limit trying to meet the needs of our communities during this tough economic time.

These providers are facing the perfect storm—over the past few years demand for their services has been increasing as the federal, state and local, and private funding they depend on has dwindled. Higher food and fuel prices are also making it harder for them to purchase and distribute food.

Charities simply do not have the resources to fill the growing funding gaps. This means that when the SNAP program faces further cuts, hungry Americans will have nowhere else to turn.

I hope every Member in this body will agree that in the wealthiest nation in the world, no American child should go to school hungry and no parent should have to make the difficult decision between paying rent or paying for groceries. This is simply unconscionable.

At this point we've all heard the numbers—these cuts will end food aid for nearly 2 million

Americans and cut 210,000 children off of school lunch and breakfast programs.

This is a very personal issue for me. I was one of those hungry children. My father lost his job when I was a teenager and it was food stamps that kept me from going hungry. Food stamps, school breakfast and school lunch were there for me so I could worry about school instead of hunger. They nourished me so I could develop the skills to serve our country in the Army, the VA, and here in Congress.

This is also very personal for many of my constituents like Christine from Elgin, Illinois. It is because of her SNAP benefits and the Willow Creek Community Church's Food Pantry that Christine is able to provide food for her family. Her husband was laid off from the manufacturing company he worked at for 29 years. Christine, who is now disabled, can no longer work as a Nursing Assistant. Theirs is one of 3,000 families that Willow Creek Community Church in South Barrington, Illinois serves per month.

It is personal for the husband and wife who now count on SNAP benefits and the Church of the Holy Spirit Food Pantry in Schaumburg, IL after the husband lost his job as an electrician due to nerve damage in his hand, and they saw their savings quickly drain.

It is personal for the hard working employees and volunteers at the Greater Chicago Food Depository who serve 77 percent more people today than they did in 2008.

These stories are just a tiny sample. Forty-seven million Americans—most of whom are children, elderly or disabled—rely on the SNAP program.

These cuts are not just numbers on a page. They affect real human beings. They will have devastating consequences for real families.

I urge my colleagues to support this amendment and face the reality of what these devastating cuts will mean for families and charities all across the country.

PANCREATIC CANCER AWARENESS

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 20, 2013

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to draw awareness to the impact of pancreatic cancer in the United States.

My staff and I have had recent conversations with individuals from my district on the effects of pancreatic cancer on their lives and their loved ones.

Last Congress, we came together to support the Recalcitrant Cancer Research Act which provides the strategic direction and guidance needed to make true progress.

These strategic plans are desperately needed in these types of cancers for which we have made so little progress.

Pancreatic cancer is still the only major cancer with a five-year survival rate in the single digits at just 6 percent; there are still no early detection tools or life-saving treatments.

The answers that could lead to changing the statistics for pancreatic cancer could lie in one of the grants currently under review at the National Cancer Institute (NCI). However, we may never realize the potential because cuts to the NCI's budget are resulting in good grants being thrown out with the trash.

We cannot let this situation continue. I therefore urge my colleagues to support a permanent fix to sequestration and provide the resources needed to conquer these deadly cancers.

ALAMOSA COUNTY COLORADO TRIBUTE

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 20, 2013

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th anniversary of Alamosa County, Colorado. In these past-paced times, we often overlook the foundations of America—small towns with hard-working people.

Since 1913, Alamosa has been a model of American values, with a proud heritage of honest, hard work, perseverance and community. As the legend goes, Alamosa, originally intended as a rail center for the Rio Grande Railroad, was built from the ground up practically over-night. Industrious from the outset, the citizens of Alamosa built the town with bricks forged from local clay and fired in the city's own kiln.

It's this spirit of industry that drives Alamosa County's 9,000 residents today. It provides opportunities for the next generation to grow and prosper at Adams State College and Trinidad State College, in one of Colorado's most diverse landscapes that boasts the Great Sand Dunes National Park and the Alamosa National Wildlife Refuge.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize the 100th anniversary of Alamosa County and pay tribute to the people, past and present, who have built this community and continue to embody hard work and dedication, values which have made our country strong.

COMMEMORATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF ACDI/VOCA

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 20, 2013

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to congratulate ACDI/VOCA on the occasion of their 50th anniversary. This outstanding organization was founded in 1963 with the mission of empowering people around the world to take advantage of economic opportunities and improve quality of life for their families and communities. To this date, ACDI/VOCA continues to fulfill this mission, as they help millions of individuals and families fight their way out of poverty. Their notable accomplishments include contributing to the launch of the Green Revolution in India, strengthening Ethiopian co-ops to bring their coffee into global prominence, and pioneering grassroots financial services across the former Soviet Union. With a staff comprised of 90 percent locally-hired employees, and working through a network of over 3,000 local partner organizations, ACDI/VOCA combines the best in international development expertise with powerful grassroots capacities to implement effective programming that has a real and sustained impact. I commend ACDI/VOCA on their history of outstanding service and am confident

that they will continue to make a difference in people's lives around the world long into the future.

A TRIBUTE TO W.A. "BILL"
KRAUSE

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 20, 2013

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and memory of Kum and Go founder W.A. "Bill" Krause who passed away on Wednesday, June 19, 2013.

Bill was born on January 13, 1935, and was raised near Hampton and Eldora, Iowa. After graduating from Eldora-New Providence High School, Bill went on to receive a degree in Journalism and Public Affairs from the University of Iowa where he developed his renowned passion for Hawkeye athletics. Just two years later in 1959, Bill embarked on two journeys that would change his life forever. The first was marrying the love of his life, Nancy, and the second was forming a business partnership with his new father-in-law to pioneer the idea of a "convenience store." Together, Bill Krause and Tony Gentle began the Krause Gentle Corporation that offered customers a one-stop shop to fill their vehicles with gasoline and buy essentials such as milk, bread, and eggs. Once Bill and Tony acquired Hampton, Iowa-based Viking Oil, the wheels were set in motion to develop one of the greatest and most widespread businesses our State has ever seen. By 1976, the Kum and Go brand was developed and today has spread to more than 440 stores in 11 States. From humble Iowa beginnings, Bill's leadership and intelligence has driven his business to become one of the largest family-owned chains in the country.

In addition to his successful professional life, Bill consistently served his community in a variety of meaningful capacities. A strong advocate for the Catholic Church, Bill was an active member of West Des Moines' St. Francis of Assisi parish. Bill also served on the Holy Family School Foundation Board and was named a Lifetime Member of the Dowling Catholic High School Honorary Foundation Board. Last year, Bill and Nancy were chosen to receive Dowling's highest honor, the Civitas Award.

Of course, one could never speak of Bill without mentioning his numerous contributions to his alma mater. As a lifelong and die-hard fan of the University of Iowa, Bill served his school in numerous ways including the National I-Club Board and the Tippie School of Business Board. In 1993, Bill earned the coveted "Hawk of the Year" title, and today the Krause Family Pavilion at Kinnick Stadium continues to serve as a reminder of his enthusiasm and support for the school he loved.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Krause lived his life in an extraordinary fashion and he is a testament to the power of a strong Iowa work ethic and commitment to family. It has truly been an honor to represent such an exemplary Iowan in the United States Congress, and his contributions to our great State will be deeply missed. I offer Nancy and the entire Krause family my sincerest sympathies and best wishes in this difficult time as we mourn the passing of a true Iowa legend.

RECENT EXPERT REPORTS, DISPARITY STUDIES AND CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS ADDRESSING PUBLIC PROCUREMENT AND MINORITY- AND WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISES

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 20, 2013

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following information:

CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS

2013

Strengthening the Entrepreneurial Ecosystem for Minority Women, Hearing Before the S. Comm. on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, 113th Cong. (2013)

2012

Closing the Wealth Gap Through the African-American Entrepreneurial Ecosystem: Roundtable Discussion with the U.S. House Comm. on Small Business, 112th Cong. (Sept. 9, 2012).

2011

Closing the Gap: Exploring Minority Access to Capital and Contracting Opportunities: Hearing Before the S. Comm. on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, 112th Cong. (2011)

2010

Assessing Access: Obstacles and Opportunities for Minority Small Business Owners in Today's Capital Markets, Hearing Before the S. Comm. on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, 111th Cong. (2010)

Minority Contracting Opportunities: Challenges for Current and Future Minority-Owned Businesses: Hearing before the U.S. House Committee on Oversight & Gov't Reform, Subcommittee on Government Management, Organization and Procurement, 111 Cong. (Sept. 22, 2010)

Minorities and Women in Financial Regulatory Reform: The Need for Increasing Participation and Opportunities for Qualified Persons and Businesses: Hearing Before the U.S. House Comm. on Financial Services, Subcomm. on Oversight and Investigations and Subcomm. on Housing and Community Opportunity, 111th Cong. (2010)

Full Committee Hearing on Small Business Participation in Federal Procurement Marketplace: Hearing Before the U.S. House Comm. on Small Business, 111th Cong. (2010)

2009

Infrastructure Investment: Ensuring an Effective Economic Recovery Program: Hearing Before the H. Comm. on Transportation and Infrastructure, 111th Cong. (2009)

The Federal Aviation Administration Reauthorization Act of 2009: Hearing Before the H. Subcomm. on Aviation of the H. Comm. on Transportation and Infrastructure, 111th Cong. (2009)

Full Committee Hearing on the State of the SBA's Entrepreneurial Development Programs and Their Role in Promoting an Economic Recovery: Hearing Before the H. Comm. on Small Business, 111th Cong. (2009)

Full Committee Hearing on Oversight of the Small Business Administration and its Programs: Hearing Before the H. Comm. on Small Business, 111th Cong. (2009)

The Department of Transportation's Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Programs: Hearing Before the H. Comm. on Transportation and Infrastructure, 111th Cong. (2009)

The Role of Small Business in Recovery Act Contracting: Hearing Before the S. Comm. on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, 111th Cong. (2009)

Trends Affecting Minority Broadcast Ownership: Hearing Before the H. Judiciary Comm., 111th Cong. (2009)

Roundtable on Healthcare Reform: Small Business Concerns and Priorities: Hearing Before the S. Comm. on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, 111th Cong. (2009)

Doing Business with the Government: The Record and Goals for Small, Minority and Disadvantaged Businesses: Hearing Before the H. Comm. on Transportation and Infrastructure, 111th Cong. (2009)

Minority Entrepreneurship: Evaluating Small Business Resources and Programs: Hearing Before the S. Comm. on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, 111th Cong. (2009)

The Minority Business Development Agency: Enhancing the Prospects for Success: Hearing Before the H. Subcomm. on Commerce, Trade, and Consumer Protection of the H. Comm. on Energy and Commerce, 111th Cong. (2009)

2008

Full Committee Hearing on SBA's Progress in Implementing the Women's Procurement Program: Hearing Before the H. Comm. on Small Business, 110th Cong. (2008)

Holding the Small Business Administration Accountable: Women's Contracting and Lender Oversight: Hearing Before the S. Comm. on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, 110th Cong. (2008)

Diversity in the Financial Services Sector: Hearing Before the H. Subcomm. on Oversight and Investigations of the H. Comm. on Financial Services, 110th Cong. (2008)

Military Base Realignment: Contracting Opportunities for Impacted Communities: Hearing Before the H. Comm. on Government Management, Organization, and Procurement of the H. Comm. on Oversight and Government Reform, 110th Cong. (2008)

Community Reinvestment Act: Thirty Years of Accomplishments, But Challenges Remain: Hearing Before the H. Comm. on Financial Services, 110th Cong. (2008)

Doing Business with the Government: The Record and Goals for Small, Minority, and Disadvantaged Businesses: Hearing Before the H. Subcomm. on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management of the H. Comm. on Transportation and Infrastructure, 110th Cong. (2008)

Subcommittee Hearing on Oversight of the Entrepreneurial Development Programs Implemented by the Small Business Administration and National Veterans Business Development Corporation: Hearing Before the H. Subcomm. on Rural and Urban Entrepreneurship of the H. Comm. on Small Business, 110th Cong. (2008)

Women in Business: Leveling the Playing Field: Roundtable Before the S. Comm. on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, 110th Cong. (2008)

Subcommittee Hearing on Minority and Hispanic Participation in the Federal Workforce and the Impact on the Small Business Community: Hearing Before the H. Subcomm. on Regulations, Health Care, and Trade of the H. Comm. on Small Business, 110th Cong. (2008)

Opportunities and Challenges for Women Entrepreneurs on the 20th Anniversary of the Women's Business Ownership Act: Hearing Before the S. Comm. on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, 110th Cong. (2008)

Business Start-Up Hurdles in Underserved Communities: Access to Venture Capital and Entrepreneurship Training: Hearing Before the S. Comm. on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, 110th Cong. (2008)

How Information Policy Affects Competitive Viability of Small and Disadvantaged Business in Federal Contracting: Hearing Before the H. Subcomm. on Information Policy, Census, and National Archives of the H.