

will not vote for this bill. Today I did not vote for this bill!!

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 20, 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 \$16,738,642,755,073.31. We've added \$6,111,765,706,160.23 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.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIÉRREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 20, 2013

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent in the House chamber for votes on Monday, June 17. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote 245, "yea" on rollcall vote 246, and "yea" on rollcall vote 247.

I was also inadvertently absent for the following votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote 256, and "yea" on rollcall vote 259.

IN RECOGNITION OF TERRY BUTTON'S APPOINTMENT TO THE NATIONAL FREIGHT ADVISORY COUNCIL

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 20, 2013

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Terry Button, a resident of Rushville, New York and the 23rd Congressional district that I am proud to represent. Terry is an owner-operator truck driver who has spent decades in the trucking industry; he personally understands the challenges facing the freight and trucking industry present in America today.

Terry is the owner of a one-truck operation and deals firsthand as the broker, shipper, and receiver of all of the loads he moves. He is a hay farmer who has spent years involved in the selling and shipment of agricultural goods and his combined knowledge of farming and trucking places him in a very specialized field of experienced individuals. Terry sits on the Board of Directors of the Owner-Operator Independent Drivers Association, an organization dedicated to upholding the rights and operational standards of truck drivers. In that capacity his knowledge of the trucking industry makes him an invaluable resource for mapping out the future of freight movement.

Recently, Terry was selected by the Secretary of Transportation to be a member of the

National Freight Advisory Council (NFAC). The NFAC was established to ensure that all stakeholders in the freight industry would have a voice in shaping freight policy for the 21st century. I applaud the Secretary for selecting an established and successful businessman like Terry for this important role and further acknowledge the important position he will play as a member of the NFAC.

I am honored to congratulate Terry on his recent selection to be a member of this important panel and look forward to working with both Terry and the Department of Transportation as we move forward establishing freight movement policy for the coming years. Terry's knowledge of the freight industry will prove to be a powerful and insightful tool for policymakers and I am proud to officially recognize him here today.

IN RECOGNITION OF BISHOP L.D. SKINNER, SR. AND LADY RUTH SKINNER

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 20, 2013

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Bishop L.D. Skinner, Sr. and Lady Ruth Skinner who will celebrate 20 years as Founders, Leaders, and Servants of the Bread of Life Christian Center and Explosion Ministries Fellowship Association of Churches. They will be honored at a Leadership Appreciation Banquet on Friday, June 21, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at the Columbus Convention and Trade Center in Columbus, Georgia.

Bishop Skinner was born in Elizabeth City, North Carolina, to the late Richard and Alethia Skinner. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Biblical Studies, a Master of Arts in Theology and a Doctor of Theology in Biblical Studies, all from North Carolina College of Theology.

The Founder and Senior Pastor of Bread of Life Christian Center, Bishop Skinner is also the Founder and Presiding Prelate of Explosion Ministries Fellowship Association of Churches (EMFAC), a fellowship of inter-denominational ministers, pastors and bishops who look to Bishop Skinner for instruction, covering and counsel. Bishop Skinner has several "Timothys," ministerial students that he has trained, now actively pastoring. In addition, Bishop Skinner has served in various other ministerial and civic capacities, including Vice President of the Columbus Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance and Vice President of the Columbus NAACP. He is the author of three books, Overcoming Grasshopper Mentality: How to Whip Negative Thinking in Eleven Easy Steps, Prayer: An Awesome Weapon, and Encounters with God: My Life, My Story, All for His Glory, as well as several manuals on leadership, marriage and finances.

The daughter of the late Deacon Charles McDaniel and Elder Jessie Pearl McDaniel, Lady Ruth Skinner is the First Lady of the Bread of Life Christian Center and the National First Lady for EMFAC, both roles that allow her to serve as a matriarch and nurturer to men and women at large. She also performs the role of Ruling Elder and President of the Women's Department at Bread of Life. In addition, she has served as Adult Choir President and Minister of Music, among other capacities within the church.

Bread of Life Christian Center was established in 1984 with an initial group of twenty souls meeting in the basement of Bishop Skinner's home. In the intervening years, the congregation moved several times, outgrowing each facility, until May of 1996, when they moved into their current home, a \$1.2 million facility with a 600-seat sanctuary and 30 classrooms to house an ever-growing congregation.

Bishop and Lady Skinner are a dynamic force of life, spirit and faith. Bishop Skinner's understanding, compassion, and kindness have made him a guiding light within the community. Lady Skinner, a woman of striking conviction, unconditional sincerity and impeccable integrity, is looked to by the congregation for nurture and example. Just like fruit trees are often planted in pairs so as to produce more fruit, God planted the lives of Bishop and Lady Skinner together so they could bring the fruit of the Word to more of His children to satiate and sustain them throughout the journey of life.

Bishop Skinner and his lovely wife, Lady Skinner, have together cultivated a large family of dedicated and faithful Christ followers. They also have raised a beautiful family of their own—three sons, Elder Darnel Skinner, Jr., Darrell L. Skinner, Darius L. Skinner and eight grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Bishop L.D. Skinner and his wife, Lady Ruth Skinner for their many, many outstanding years of Pastoral Ministry. They have transformed the lives of countless people and their leadership has inspired many others to also help lead the way to eternal life.

FEDERAL AGRICULTURE REFORM AND RISK MANAGEMENT ACT OF 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 18, 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:

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Chair, the failure by the House to pass the Farm Bill is the right outcome for a proposal that would have slashed nutrition for poor families and refused reforms to provide more benefits to most farmers and ranchers while it protected the largest agribusiness interests.

The authors of the bill refused to address the abuses in crop insurance, far greater than in food stamps which they so disdained, extended direct payments for cotton, and attacked conservation programs. The irony should not be lost on the public: the bill lavished extra payments on those who need it the least, hurt poor Americans who need the most assistance, and shortchanged typical Oregon farmers and ranchers who deserve better.

I hope that this debacle leads to legislation that is fairer to the taxpayer, does not cut support for hungry men, women, and children

(90,921 on food assistance in Oregon alone), and dials back wasteful support for large agribusinesses that don't need it.

I was encouraged that some of our reform proposals for increasing and expanding conservation, reducing support for large confined animal feed operation, and reforming sugar payments gained significant support. My amendment to allow universities to study the industrial uses of hemp was even adopted! It's worth noting that one of the amendments to implement reasonable limits on the crop insurance program received more votes than the Farm Bill itself. Ultimately these are the keys to save money, do a better job, and build the political support that is going to be necessary for enactment of a Farm Bill that works for all Americans.

IN HONOR OF ANDREW "ANDY" A. D'ARRIGO

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 20, 2013

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Andrew "Andy" A. D'Arrigo, on the occasion of his recognition by the Grower-Shipper Association with the E.E. "Gene" Harden Award for Lifetime Achievement. Andy is a remarkable American whose hard work and innovation has helped to shape the Salinas Valley and build one of the largest and most innovative family-owned produce companies in the world.

The son of Italian immigrants, Andy was born in Stockton, California, in 1924. His family later moved to the Salinas Valley where his father Stefano and uncle Andrew began a small produce business in 1932. The advent of new ice and refrigeration technologies sparked a boom in California's produce industry and the D'Arrigo brothers stepped into this opportunity and helped push the envelope even further. Andy essentially grew up in the produce business. Indeed, the D'Arrigo Brothers iconic "Andy Boy" featured Andy's face and name. In his spare time, Andy was an active Boy Scout, even earning Eagle Scout status in high school. During WWII, Andy served in the Navy. Once out of the service, Andy earned a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of California at Davis and soon after married his wife of 64 years, Phyllis.

After the death of his father in 1951, Andy took over the West Coast operations of the D'Arrigo Bros. Company. The business had been built on shipping produce east from California. Under the D'Arrigos' leadership, it introduced new crops to the American menu, including broccoli, broccoli rabe, and cactus pears, to name a few. Under Andy's leadership, the company grew into a full-service, vertically integrated, produce supplier—growing, marketing, and shipping fresh fruits and vegetables across North America, and beyond. In acknowledgement of the agricultural expertise of the D'Arrigo family, three generations of the D'Arrigo family, including Andy, have been elected president and other leadership positions of the Western Growers Association, the Grower-Shipper Association, and other agriculture industry organizations.

The D'Arrigo family has always believed in giving back to their community. Over the years

they have supported organizations such as Natividad Hospital, the United Way, the Boys and Girls Club, the American Cancer Society, the National Steinbeck Center, the Rancho Cielo Youth Campus, the YMCA, and the Breast Cancer Research Foundation, among others. As adoptive parents themselves, Andy and his wife are strong supporters of the Salinas based Kinship Center adoption services center, including its special needs counseling clinic that bears the D'Arrigo name.

Mr. Speaker, I know I speak for the whole House in commanding Andy D'Arrigo for helping Americans eat better food and the people of the Central Coast live better lives.

FEDERAL AGRICULTURE REFORM AND RISK MANAGEMENT ACT OF 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. YVETTE D. CLARKE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 18, 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. CLARKE. Madam Chair, today, I stand in opposition H.R. 1947, the Federal Agriculture Reform and Risk Management Act. I vehemently oppose this bill's \$20 billion cuts to the Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program also known as SNAP. This program currently provides food assistance to forty seven million Americans, who otherwise would not have access to one of our most basic human needs—food.

This bill would result in irreparable harm to families, not just in my home district of Brooklyn New York, but in every part of the United States.

Almost two-thirds of the people enrolled in SNAP are children, senior citizens, or persons with disabilities. These low income Americans would lose their food assistance as a result of these draconian cuts.

In addition to the SNAP cuts, this bill also restricts some categorical eligibility options for States. In New York, more than 300,000 households participant in the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program. Participation in this program usually results in a higher SNAP benefit for the household.

If this state option is restricted, SNAP benefits for these households will decrease by roughly 90 dollars per month. This cruel provision takes the food out of the mouth of children and increases the administrative burden on New York.

The bill under consideration today would create even more difficulties for the families that receive SNAP benefits. I ask my colleagues to vote no on this heinous bill.

HONORING NANCY JOE

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 20, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Nancy Joe of

Saint Joseph, Missouri. Nancy is active in the community through her work and has been chosen to receive the YWCA Women of Excellence Support Services Award.

Nancy Joe, who is affectionately referred to as 'mom' by her co-workers has established herself as a treasured fixture at Commerce Bank. Nancy has been praised for no only knowing how things need to be done, but for taking time to help train and mentor others rise to meet her exacting standards.

Nancy also carries those same standards of excellence into the Saint Joseph community through her time volunteering. Whether she is serving her community in her church, delivering meals through Meals on Wheels or as the long standing co-chair for Open Door Food Kitchen Nancy can be counted on to do her very best.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Nancy Joe. She has made an amazing impact on countless individuals in the St. Joseph community. I am honored to represent her in the United States Congress.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CAROLYN McCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 20, 2013

Mrs. McCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent during the week of June 10, 2013. If I were present, I would have voted on the following.

Tuesday, June 11, 2013: rollcall No. 212: H.R. 251, South Utah Valley Electric Conveyance Act, "yea"; rollcall No. 213: H.R. 1157, Rattlesnake Mountain Public Access Act, "yea".

Wednesday June 12, 2013: rollcall No. 214: H. Res. 256—Rule Providing for consideration of H.R. 1256 and H.R. 1960, "nay"; rollcall No. 215: H.R. 634—Business Risk Mitigation and Price Stabilization Act of 2013, "yea"; rollcall No. 216: H.R. 742—Swap Data Repository and Clearing House Indemnification Correction Act of 2013, "yea"; rollcall No. 217: Democratic Motion to Recommit H.R. 1256, "yea"; rollcall No. 218: Final Passage of H.R. 1256—Swap Jurisdiction Certainty Act, "yea"; rollcall No. 219: H.R. 1038—Public Power Risk Management Act of 2013, "yea".

Thursday June 13, 2013: rollcall No. 220: Motion on Ordering the Previous Question on the Rule for H.R. 1960, "nay"; rollcall No. 221: H. Res. 260—Rule providing for further consideration of H.R. 1960, "no"; rollcall No. 222: Blumenauer of Oregon Part B, "no"; rollcall No. 223: Lummis of Wyoming Amendment, "no"; rollcall No. 224: Coffman of Colorado, "no"; rollcall No. 225: Rigell of Virginia Amendment, "no"; rollcall No. 226: McGovern of Massachusetts Amendment, "aye"; rollcall No. 227: Goodlatte of Virginia Amendment, "no"; rollcall No. 228: Smith of Washington Amendment, "aye".

Friday, June 14, 2013: rollcall No. 229: Turner of Ohio Amendment, "no"; rollcall No. 230: Holt of New Jersey Amendment, "no"; rollcall No. 231: McCollum of Minnesota Amendment, "aye"; rollcall No. 232: Nolan of Minnesota Amendment, "no"; rollcall No. 233: Larsen of Washington Amendment, "aye" rollcall No. 234: Gibson of New York Amendment, "no"; rollcall No. 235: Coffman of Colorado Amendment, "no"; rollcall No. 236: Walorski of Indiana Amendment, "no"; rollcall No. 237: Smith