

Our Nation's basic social safety net improves access to affordable housing, childhood education, and adequate nutrition, and serves as a lifeline for millions of Americans. Providing a helping hand to the nearly 50 million Americans who are living in poverty should be at the forefront of Congress' priorities. Instead, we are still living with the sequester, which has delivered devastating cuts to many of our essential safety net programs. I call on my colleagues to prioritize our most vulnerable communities and replace the sequester with an agreement that protects vital safety net programs.

In particular, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or SNAP, helps low-income families across the country put food on the table. Of the 47 million Americans who rely on SNAP for access to nutritious food, nearly half are children. Even more strikingly, nearly half of all American children will receive SNAP benefits at some point in their lives. SNAP is one of our Nation's most effective anti-poverty programs, helping families get back on their feet while providing an economic stimulus to the local economy.

We must not balance our budget on the backs of children and families struggling to make ends meet. With our economy still recovering, it is time to invest in Americans and in our Nation's future, by supporting important programs like SNAP.

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, first I want to thank Mr. HORSFORD and Mr. JEFFRIES for leading this important effort for the CBC this evening—so that we can discuss a particularly important issue for me, my district, and this nation, and that is: "Lifting Americans out of Poverty."

As many of my constituents and colleagues already know, the great recession cost this country roughly 13 trillion dollars in household wealth, and pushed millions of Americans into poverty.

The poverty rate is at levels not seen in twenty years, and the most recent numbers show that more than 46 million Americans are currently living below the poverty line.

The most distressing fact is that the youngest Americans represent a disproportionate share of the poor in the U.S.

Though children make up less than a quarter of the population, they constitute more than one-third of Americans in poverty.

And, studies by the American Psychological Association have found correlations between poverty in children and higher rates of illness, abuse, neglect, developmental and educational delays, participation in risky behaviors such as smoking or sexual activities, and problems with self-esteem and depression.

And worse, growing up in poverty has a lasting negative impact on lifetime earning potential.

As a joint Princeton University—Brookings Institute study reported, the U.S. has decreasing income mobility, and increasing income inequality.

This means that more than ever, youths that grow up in poverty are more likely to remain in poverty for the duration of their lives.

But we have programs designed to buffer our youth from some of the harshest effects of situations for which they deserve no blame, and over which they have no control.

Programs like the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program which provides nutritional support for the most vulnerable families, and

which will face cuts in just a few months without intervening Congressional action.

Or programs like Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers. The Housing Choice Vouchers provide subsidies to landlords directly by public housing agencies, to create housing options for very low-income families.

Though it varies from state to state, on average, a family earning \$26,000 per year would be making too much to be eligible.

This program for the least fortunate among us will likely have to cut aid to 125,000 families immediately, due to cuts from sequestration.

Or programs like the Earned Income Tax Credit. This tax credit for low-to moderate-income couples, primarily those with qualifying children, not only provides a tax refund to the most deserving, but it dually functions to incent work even if the pay isn't great.

This is the type of progressive tax system that encourages self-sufficiency and in the long-run can reduce the need for government dependence.

Yet even this simple, long-standing beneficial tax credit is being offered up by some as ripe for elimination.

I can talk about the children and families who need these programs, in the abstract, as if they are some sort of different Americans—people who didn't work hard, or didn't spend wisely.

But the reality is: this type of poverty can happen to anyone.

Anyone in this Chamber, or watching at home on Wall Street or Main Street—this can happen to you.

One unexpected illness, one lost job due to "just a bad economy," or one elderly family member whose medical and caretaking bills continue to pile up, and anyone can find themselves unable to make it without a little help.

That's what these vital programs do. That's why these programs are so important.

We as legislators have the opportunity and obligation to make sure that we put safeguards in place to ensure that no one is left out from the chance to pursue the American dream.

It's not just about helping the poorest Americans. It's about doing the right thing to help our neighbors, knowing that at any time, the shoe could be on the other foot.

I thank you for the opportunity to speak on this most important issue.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2216, MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2014; AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2217, DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2014

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 113-95) on the resolution (H. Res. 243) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2216) making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes; and providing for consideration of 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, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois (at the request of Mr. CANTOR) for today on account of personal reasons.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled a bill of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 258. An Act to amend title 18, United States Code, with respect to fraudulent representations about having received military decorations or medals.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 8 o'clock and 36 minutes p.m.), under its previous order and pursuant to House Resolution 242, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, June 4, 2013, at 10 a.m., for morning-hour debate, as a further mark of respect to the memory of the late Honorable FRANK R. LAUTENBERG.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

1689. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's semiannual report from the office of the Inspector General for the period October 1, 2012 through March 31, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act), section 5(b); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

1690. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting the Commission's semiannual report from the office of the Inspector General for the period October 1, 2012 through March 31, 2013; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

[Pursuant to the provisions of H. Res. 232, the following report was filed on May 28, 2013:]

Mr. CULBERSON: Committee on Appropriations. H.R. 2216. A bill making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes (Rept. 113-90). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk

for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

[Pursuant to the provisions of H. Res. 232, the following report was filed on May 29, 2013:]

Mr. CARTER: Committee on Appropriations. H.R. 2217. A bill making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes (Rept. 113-91). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

[Submitted June 3, 2013]

Mr. UPTON: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 1919. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to the pharmaceutical distribution supply chain, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 113-93). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. MILLER of Florida: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. H.R. 357. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to require courses of education provided by public institutions of higher education that are approved for purposes of the educational assistance programs administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to charge veterans tuition and fees at the in-State tuition rate; with amendments (Rept. 113-94). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida: Committee on Rules. H. Res. 243. A resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2216) making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes; and providing for consideration of 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 (Rept. 113-95). Referred to the House Calendar.

REPORTED BILL SEQUENTIALLY REFERRED

Under clause 2 of rule XII, bills and reports were delivered to the Clerk for printing, and bills referred as follows:

[Pursuant to the provisions of H. Res. 232 the following report was filed on May 29, 2013:]

Mr. LUCAS: Committee on Agriculture. H.R. 1947. A bill 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; with an amendment; referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs for a period ending not later than June 7, 2013 for consideration of such provisions of the bill and amendment as fall within the jurisdiction of those committees pursuant to clause 1(i) of rule x; referred to the Committee on the Judiciary for a period ending not later than June 7, 2013 for consideration of such provisions of the bill and amendment as fall within the jurisdiction of those committees pursuant to clause 1(i) of rule x. (Rept. 113-92, Part I). Ordered to be printed.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. MCKINLEY (for himself, Mr. PETERSON, Mr. WHITFIELD, Mr. ENYART, Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky, Mr. BARROW of Georgia, Mr. RAHALL,

Mr. KIND, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. STUTZMAN, Mr. WALZ, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. WOMACK, Mr. HARPER, Ms. JENKINS, Mr. GIBBS, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. NUNNELEE, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. BARLETTA, Mr. MATHE-SON, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. LONG, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. BARR, Mr. ROKITA, Mrs. ELLMERS, Mr. YOUNG of Indiana, Mr. BUCSHON, Mrs. LUMMIS, Mr. RENACCI, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. SHIMKUS, and Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania):

H.R. 2218. A bill to amend subtitle D of the Solid Waste Disposal Act to encourage recovery and beneficial use of coal combustion residuals and establish requirements for the proper management and disposal of coal combustion residuals that are protective of human health and the environment; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. YOUNG of Alaska:

H.R. 2219. A bill to reauthorize the Integrated Coastal and Ocean Observation System Act of 2009; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. POE of Texas (for himself, Mr. FLORES, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mrs. BLACK, and Mr. GINGREY of Georgia):

H.R. 2220. A bill to provide for operational control of the international border of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security, and in addition to the Committees on Armed Services, Rules, Energy and Commerce, and Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CRAWFORD (for himself, Mr. COTTON, Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas, and Mr. WOMACK):

H.R. 2221. A bill to create a centralized website on reports issued by the Inspectors General, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. FITZPATRICK (for himself and Mr. MEADOWS):

H.R. 2222. A bill to prohibit performance awards in the Senior Executive Service during sequestration periods; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. BENISHEK (for himself, Mr. CONYERS, Mrs. MILLER of Michigan, Mr. CAMP, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. DINGELL, Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan, Mr. AMASH, Mr. WALBERG, and Mr. KIL-DEE):

H.R. 2223. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 220 Elm Avenue in Munising, Michigan, as the "Elizabeth L. Kinnunen Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. DOYLE:

H.R. 2224. A bill to amend the Animal Welfare Act to ensure that all dogs and cats used by research facilities are obtained legally; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Ms. HANABUSA:

H.R. 2225. A bill to restore the traditional day of observance of Memorial Day, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio:

H.R. 2226. A bill to amend the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensa-

tion, and Liability Act of 1980 relating to State consultation on removal and remedial actions, State concurrence with listing on the National Priorities List, and State credit for contributions to the removal or remedial action, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. NOEM:

H.R. 2227. A bill to improve the response to and prevention of sexual assaults involving members of the Armed Forces; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. PETRI (for himself and Mr. BUTTERFIELD):

H.R. 2228. A bill to increase assessment accuracy to better measure student achievement and provide States with greater flexibility on assessment design; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. ROSS (for himself and Ms. CASTOR of Florida):

H.R. 2229. A bill to require the Commissioner of Social Security to issue uniform standards for the method for truncation of Social Security account numbers in order to protect such numbers from being used in the perpetration of fraud or identity theft and to provide for a prohibition on the display to the general public on the Internet of Social Security account numbers by State and local governments and private entities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California:

H.R. 2230. A bill to address the prevalence of sexual harassment and sexual assault in the Armed Forces; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey:

H. Res. 242. A resolution relating to the death of the Honorable Frank R. Lautenberg, a Senator from the State of New Jersey; considered and agreed to. considered and agreed to.

By Ms. NORTON:

H. Res. 244. A resolution expressing support for Lunchtime Music on the Mall in Washington, DC, to benefit the District of Columbia, regional residents, and visitors and recognizing the public service of the performers and sponsors; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. CULBERSON:

H.R. 2216.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The principal constitutional authority for this legislation is clause 7 of section 9 of article I of the Constitution of the United States (the appropriation power), which states: "No Money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in Consequence of Appropriations made by Law . . ." In addition, clause 1 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution (the spending power) provides: "The Congress shall have the Power . . . to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States.