

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING SHAWNA MARIE
SEARCY

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 2014

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize a special member of my staff. After almost eight years of service, Shawna Marie Searcy will be leaving her post in my Kansas City District Office.

Shawna began working in my campaign office, then joined my District office staff in 2006. She has served as a field representative over the years for many counties, including Clay County, the largest county in the Sixth Congressional District.

Shawna could be relied on to listen to my constituents' concerns and represent me at meetings when I was away in Washington. Shawna has also been instrumental in helping students in my district who are seeking nominations to our nation's military academies through that process. When it came to planning events, I knew Shawna would always put together an excellent event, whether a ribbon-cutting for a new bridge, a reception for the Congressional Art Contest honorees, or the Sixth Congressional District Small Business Expo. She was always at ease speaking publicly for me, while her warm smile and happy heart left an impression with my staff and constituents that they will always remember.

I have received many kind words from constituents praising the outstanding service Shawna has provided. Her professionalism and dedication to serving my constituents was a great example of how government should work. While I am losing a valuable member of my team, I am excited for Shawna to begin the next chapter of her career.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in thanking Shawna Marie Searcy for her many years of service to the people of the Sixth Congressional District. I know Shawna's colleagues, family and friends join with me in thanking her for her commitment to others and wishing her best of luck in all her endeavors and many years of success to come.

FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSH HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2014

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5016) making appropriations for financial services and gen-

eral government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes:

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Chair, I rise today in strong opposition to the language in this bill, or rather the lack of language, regarding the elimination of funding for the Election Assistance Commission (EAC).

There is nothing more crucial to democracy than guaranteeing the integrity, fairness, and accuracy of elections. Voting should not be an act of blind faith—it should be an act of record, and the EAC helps maintain the integrity of the American electoral process. Too many people across the country lack confidence in the legitimacy of election results, and dismantling the EAC will further erode faith in our democracy.

The EAC helps maintain the integrity of the American electoral process. Too many people across the country have lost confidence in the legitimacy of the election results. In fact, a recent poll from Rasmussen Reports found that 68 percent of likely voters believe that elections are rigged (or favor) incumbents. Dismantling the EAC would further erode that necessary faith in the process.

How quickly have we forgotten the Florida recount with its hanging chads, pregnant chads, and hand counts of ballots to determine voter intent? The 2000 election exposed critical flaws and inconsistencies in how elections were conducted, and in its wake the Congress under the leadership of Whip STENY HOYER approved the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) to assist state and local jurisdictions.

Yet the legislation we are considering today willfully ignores this history. The bill defunds the EAC and assumes that Congress will pass legislation to transfer some of its vital functions of the EAC to the Federal Election Commission (FEC), an agency that does not have the capability or the expertise to do the job. The work of the EAC does not fit into the mission of the FEC.

Additionally, funding for the EAC has always included a set aside for the National Institute of Standards and Technology to continue its work on testing guidelines for voting system hardware and software. Work that will most likely stop as the House has already appropriated NIST funds for Fiscal Year 2015.

I would have liked to offer an amendment to this legislation to reinstate the EAC's Fiscal Year 2014 levels, but unfortunately, the overall budget limitations in this bill make that nearly impossible.

The lack of appropriations takes us in exactly the wrong direction. While millions of Americans are casting their ballots on un-auditable voting machines, eliminating the EAC would increase the risk that our electoral process will be compromised by voting system irregularities. Can we afford to take that risk? Certainly not. Do we want problems to go undetected? I would hope not. Less oversight, lesser standards, less transparency in reporting, less testing, fewer audits weakens our de-

mocracy. Abolishing the EAC is the wrong way to go.

CELEBRATING THE 90TH
BIRTHDAY OF IRENE WRIGHT

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 2014

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the ninetieth birthday of one of my noted and civically active constituents, Mrs. Irene Dugan Wright of Dallas, Texas.

Irene was born on July 19, 1924, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and was the oldest of three children. Both of her parents were hearing impaired and, many years later, she would come to serve as an interpreter for the deaf at church. After spending most of her childhood in Philadelphia, Irene graduated from Commerce High School in Springfield, Massachusetts. She went on to work as a secretary for Trinity Church in Springfield and met her husband, Bob, through a church event and they married in 1951.

Irene's life in Texas began in 1954 when the family moved to Dallas on a temporary assignment from the Sun Oil Company. It did not take long for Texas to appeal to the Wrights, and they successfully requested that the assignment in the area become permanent.

Since moving to Dallas, Irene has continuously been very active in our community's civic and political life. The first time she ever voted was for Dwight D. Eisenhower after attending a debate between him and Adlai Stevenson. In 1957, the Wrights were having air conditioning installed in their home when they were asked to host a backyard event to gather and identify Republicans in Dallas County. Since then, Irene attended many state conventions in Texas and was an alternate delegate to the Republican National Convention in her birthplace of Philadelphia in 2000. She has worked on numerous campaigns, including those of John Tower, Jim Collins, and SAM JOHNSON.

Irene also maintains active ties with her faith community. She is not only a member of the Golden Corridor Republican Women's Club but also serves as a chaplain. She is a member of Christ Church in Plano, Texas, and has taught women's Bible Study for thirty-five years. Irene and Bob, who passed away in 2003, had three children together—Susan, Lisa, and John—and she has six grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasure to recognize the ninetieth birthday of one of my most civically engaged constituents, Mrs. Irene Dugan Wright. I ask all of my distinguished colleagues to join me in celebrating this milestone in her remarkable life.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF ALEXANDRIA BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 2014

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask for the House's attention today to recognize the congregation of Alexandria Baptist Church, which will be celebrating its 100th anniversary with a celebration on August 3.

The Alexandria Baptist Church was organized the first Sunday in April of 1914. There were 22 members of the original church, and the first pastor was Rev. John W. Stewart. After six years of holding services in the Odd Fellows Hall in Alexandria, plans were made to build a church. Four years later, the present church was built.

Many of the early pastors at Alexandria Baptist Church were students from Howard College. Two passenger trains carried these student pastors back and forth from Birmingham each Sunday.

The people of Alexandria Baptist Church live out the church's mission statement, "To Love God and To Love Others" each and every day.

On August 3, 2014, Alexandria Baptist Church members will gather with former pastors, leaders, members and staff to commemorate their successful 100 years. Please join me in celebrating this milestone and wishing them many more years of success.

HONORING DR. JON NACHISON

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 2014

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service of Dr. Jon Nachison, Ph.D., or Dr. Jon, as he is fondly known, co-founder of the National Stand Down for Homelessness. After twenty-seven years of continuous service as director, Dr. Jon is finally "standing down."

Dr. Jon began Stand Down in 1988 when, as Clinical Director of Psychological Services at the Veterans Village of San Diego (then known as Vietnam Veterans of San Diego), he and the Director at VVSD, Robert Van Keuren, convinced the City of San Diego and other community stakeholders to support a new program to address the needs of homeless veterans. Through his perseverance, and despite initial community resistance, San Diego embraced what has become an annual event, incorporating as many as 3500 community volunteers who return faithfully year after year. In tribute to his original creativity, over 200 other communities nationwide have adopted the model that Dr. Jon first introduced and perfected.

The term "stand down" refers to a military command to move oneself out of a war zone (the streets, in this case) to a safe place to regroup. By design, Stand Down borrows from a long history of therapeutic communities and recreates a bivouac setting of military tents and military organization. Over a three day

weekend, it recreates a sense of prior military identity and begins to restore a sense of self-worth. Showers, clean clothes, basic medical care and social services renew the veterans' faith in change being possible. Dr. Jon wants participants to regain the sense of competence and empowerment they had known during their years of military service. The isolation and stress of homelessness recedes amongst friends.

Stand Down becomes a transformational experience and Dr. Jon's energy, vision, and unwavering commitment have been the cornerstone of this program. That he has created a program to address two national problems, homelessness and the successful societal re-entry of our returning veterans, establishes him as a treasure, not only for San Diego, but for our Nation. I rise to honor Dr. Jon for his many years of creative service.

RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 2014

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th anniversary of what we now know as the Congressional Research Service.

Today's Congressional Research Service—CRS—was first established in the Library of Congress in 1914 as the Legislative Reference Service to provide reference information to Members of Congress to assist in their legislative work. Over the past 100 years, the LRS evolved into today's CRS. Today, CRS employs more than 600 experts to assist Congress with research and analysis.

CRS and its employees provide an invaluable service to Members of Congress and their staff. In an era of political gridlock and partisan rhetoric, CRS consistently provides in-depth, authoritative, and consistently non-partisan work product in order to ensure that we have an informed legislature.

In the 1950s, the press called LRS "Congress's right arm." I believe that description would be just as accurate about today's CRS. CRS has taken that role seriously—it has continued to modernize and evolve, while maintaining its core mission of independent research and policy analysis. It has kept up with modern technology, updating its website to be more user-friendly and providing Members and staff with quick access to timely reports and detailed analysis.

Mr. Speaker, CRS at 100 is a critical tool to an informed Congress, and I look forward to working with CRS as it embarks on its second century of service.

HONORING THE CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 2014

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Congressional Research Service

(CRS) on the occasion of its centennial anniversary. For 100 years, the experts at CRS have worked to provide Members and staff with timely information and research to help them serve their constituents, develop legislation and conduct strong oversight.

Since its founding in 1914, CRS has evolved from a small agency providing basic reference services to a group of nearly 600 expert, highly-trained and collaborative professional staff members who are dedicated to supporting the work of the Congress.

I can attest from my time in Congress that the objective, nonpartisan work of CRS is essential to the legislative process. When we face difficult policy problems or international crises, we turn to CRS for reliable information and analyses. CRS enables the Congress to make informed decisions for the United States and its citizens.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating CRS for all of its accomplishments over the last century, and I look forward to strongly supporting the institution as it embarks on its next century of service to our nation.

A TRIBUTE TO MOTHER CORENER HINES-HERRING

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 2014

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a great woman of faith, Mother Corener Hines-Herring. She was a pastor's wife, musician, songwriter, mother, and grandmother from the Fourth Congressional District of Wisconsin. Mother Hines-Herring was born on September 12, 1937 and passed away on July 10, 2014.

Mother Corener Hines-Herring was born in Haynes, Arkansas to Governor and Corener Harris and had 15 siblings. She was married to the late Reverend Willie L. Hines, Sr., and their union produced 10 children. Reverend Hines, Sr. led the congregation at the Greater Westside Church of God In Christ where Mother Hines served as first lady to the church.

Mother Hines-Herring was a Member of Christian Faith Fellowship Church of God in Christ, Inc., where her eldest son, Bishop Darrell L. Hines, Sr. is pastor. Mother Hines-Herring was a prayer warrior and lived to praise God. She loved to dance before the Lord in church and played the piano.

Mother Hines-Herring would always open her home and heart to those in need. Although she gave birth to 10 children and raised them well, she was a mother to thousands. She was never a complainer but rather a doer.

She leaves behind many friends, admirers and family members to mourn her passing including children: Bishop Darrell L. Hines, Sr. (Pamela), former Milwaukee Common Council President Alderman Willie L. Hines Jr. (Janel), daughter songstress, Phebe Hines Holmes, Janet Hines Samolyk, Daven Hines (Tonya), Robin Hines Young (Harold), Bridgette Hines Flowers (Curtis), Sharon Hines Monroe (Mark), Rhoda Hines Turner (Jason), Richard Hines (Liza) and her husband, Mr. Timothy Herring.

I am honored to pay tribute to Mother Corener Hines-Herring. She was a prayer