

and experiences these athletes gain from participating in little league—learning the value of playing fair, working hard, making friends, showing good sportsmanship, and most of all, having fun—will benefit them throughout their lives. In addition to commending the players and coaches, I also want to recognize the efforts of Mel Barlow, who has been the DTQ Little League president for the past 13 years. It is thanks to the commitment of parents and volunteers like Mel that little leagues across our community and the country continue to thrive.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the players, coaches, and their families on these wonderful achievements. It is my pleasure to submit the names of the players and coaches of the Junior, Senior, and Big League All-Star Teams from the DTQ Little League into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

DTQ JUNIOR LEAGUE ALL STAR TEAM

Team Manager—Tim Jabs; Coaches—Rick Gatewood and Perry Peloquin; Daniel Hupart, #20; Robbie Stoss, #22; Anthony Stehlin, #12; Ethan Semones, #2; Carson Arguin, #9; Blake Gatewood, #5; Tommy Wells, #14; Tristan Thorgersen, #17; Darien Porter, #11; Jack Dumoulin, #18; Bennet Peloquin, #25; Connor Pedersen, #29; Jeremiah Rodriguez, #7.

DTQ SENIOR LEAGUE ALL STAR TEAM

Team Manager—Brendon Hanafin; Coaches—Bob Morrissey and Brian Blanton; Christian Colangelo, #9; Fox Semones, #2; Chris Redmon, #14; Thomas Thorgersen, #20; David Kelsey, #1; Liam Kelly, #11; Michael Morrissey, #00; Jared Bhatti, #8; Matthew Nickles, #18; Michael Nickles, #29; Patrick Hanafin, #12; Braxton Boone, #16; Daniel Shookster, #4; Riley O'Buck, #24; Ben Marotske, #10.

DTQ BIG LEAGUE ALL STAR TEAM

Team Manager—Shawn Boyce; Coaches—Ted Bridis and Jim Spellman; Kyle Adams, #23; Corbin Attreed, #12; Tyler Bailey, #29; Trey Bridis, #3; Tyler Feldman, #15; Sam Fuson, #10; Michael Hanafin, #20; Luke Harmon, #7; Chris Kennelly, #1; Stephen Laitinen, #11; Jake Moore, #34; Danny Morrissey, #2; Shawn Nickles, #18; Jacob Spellman, #14; Jake Blevins, #24.

HONORING THE 227TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DRAFTING OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 17, 2014

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 227th anniversary of the drafting of the Constitution of the United States of America by the Constitutional Convention.

It is fitting and proper to accord official recognition to this magnificent document and this memorable anniversary; and to the patriotic celebrations commemorating the occasion.

Within its very body is the framework that has allowed our great nation to prosper. The Constitution has guided us through both challenging and prosperous times as a nation, and has united us in defining the values of America.

I urge all citizens to reaffirm the ideals the Framers of the Constitution had in 1787 by vigilantly protecting the freedoms guaranteed

to us through this guardian of our liberties, remembering that lost rights may never be regained.

HONORING KARL BRITTON ON HIS 30TH ANNIVERSARY AS A U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF MEMBER

HON. WILLIAM L. ENYART

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 17, 2014

Mr. ENYART. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Karl Britton who today, September 17, 2014, celebrates his 30th anniversary as a staff member in the U.S. House of Representatives.

As an incoming freshman Member at the beginning of the 113th Congress, I, like all freshman Members, was faced with the challenge of setting up offices while also learning the workings of Congress and my role as a Member. I was extremely fortunate that Karl Britton joined my DC office staff, where his 28 years of experience and knowledge of working on the Hill were invaluable assets.

Karl Britton, a native of West Virginia, began working on the Hill on September 17, 1984, as a staff member for his Congressman, Harley Staggers, Jr., from the West Virginia 2nd Congressional District. Karl would serve on Congressman Staggers' staff until June of 1990 when he went to work for Congressman Jerry Costello, who was in his first full term representing the Illinois 21st District. Karl would work for Congressman Costello until the end of the 112th Congress when Costello decided not to run for re-election. Karl joined my staff at the beginning of the 113th Congress.

Karl has worked for three Members of Congress in his 30 years but has served during the terms of five Presidents, starting with Ronald Reagan, and seven Speakers of the House, starting with Tip O'Neill.

To understand the scope of Karl's popularity on the Hill, one only needs to walk with him anywhere within the crowded corridors of the Capitol complex. You cannot go more than 10 feet without someone calling out to Karl and everyone seems to be his friend. Karl knows someone in just about every office. He knows how to get things done and who to ask for any information. Karl has conducted countless tours for constituents and has provided assistance for dignitaries, all with the same professional courtesy.

Karl has two children, a son, Andrew, 24, and a daughter Aliyah, 14.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Karl Britton on his 30th anniversary of congressional service and wishing him all the best for many more years to come.

FEDERAL RESERVE TRANSPARENCY ACT OF 2014

SPEECH OF

HON. MAXINE WATERS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 16, 2014

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 24, a bill that would under-

mine the Federal Reserve's independence and politicize its monetary policy decision making.

Mr. Speaker, this so called "Federal Reserve Transparency Act" has little to do with bringing transparency and accountability to the Federal Reserve. The truth is—this bill is nothing more than an effort to pressure and discourage the Fed from ever again being able to take the extraordinary action it has taken in recent years—action which has lowered unemployment, stabilized prices, and kept our economy from entering a second Great Depression.

Mr. Speaker, the Federal Reserve is already subject to extensive transparency, oversight and disclosure requirements, including regular audits with limited exemptions.

The fact is, since 1982 the Government Accountability Office has had the authority to audit the books of the Federal Reserve Board and the Federal Reserve Banks. And in 2009, as part of the Dodd-Frank Act, Congress required GAO to audit the emergency lending facilities created in response to the financial crisis. This has already been accomplished and the results of the audit are posted on the Federal Reserve's website.

If that wasn't enough, the Board's financial statements are audited on an annual basis by an outside auditor—and the results are published in the Board's Annual Report.

In addition to audits of its financial statements and emergency lending programs, the Federal Reserve provides comprehensive communication on monetary policy deliberations—releasing statements, publishing minutes and issuing transcripts following the completion of Federal Open Market Committee Meetings.

Furthermore, since 2011 the Chairman of the Federal Reserve has held regular press conferences to discuss the outlook for the economy and explain the rationale for its Federal Reserve policy decisions.

I find it baffling that we are here debating whether the Federal Reserve should be more open and transparent—even as Janet Yellen is scheduled to hold a press conference to discuss the outlook for monetary policy tomorrow afternoon.

While the Fed's decisions are—and must continue to be—transparent, it is also imperative that monetary policy decision making remain insulated from short-term political pressures—in order to promote economic growth and keep inflation in check.

But Mr. Speaker, this legislation would empower the GAO to investigate any and all policy decisions made by members of the Federal Reserve's rate setting committee, including decisions about when, and how, to unwind the Federal Reserve's ongoing stimulus program.

Doing so would wipe out all of the statutory protections that ensure deliberations, decisions, and actions on monetary policy matters are shielded from second guessing.

By empowering the GAO to challenge the decisions of Fed policy experts, and make legislative or administrative recommendations to the Congress, this measure aims to inject political pressure into monetary policy decisions—something that would undermine Fed's ability to make the tough—and sometimes unpopular—decisions that are necessary for the good of the economy.

But this is not the Republican Majority's first politically motivated assault on the Federal

Reserve's independence. We've seen this time and again.

Earlier this year Financial Services Committee Republicans took up and passed the "FRAT Act", a bill which virtually eliminates any discretion the Fed has to set monetary policy—by forcing it to make decisions in accordance with a mathematical formula and by requiring GAO to investigate any deviation from it—even in the case of changing economic conditions.

Such absurd constraints on the Federal Reserve would inevitably increase uncertainty surrounding policy decisions, and decrease the public's confidence that the Fed can act appropriately in response to new economic realities.

In closing I would reiterate that it is important for the American people to understand that these bills are not designed to address real problems, or a lack of transparency. Rather, the FRAT Act—and the bill before us today—are unnecessary.

They will cause needless uncertainty and undermine the Fed's ability to conduct monetary policy in an independent manner.

I urge my colleagues to oppose this legislation.

RECOGNIZING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF ADULT CARE OF CHESTER COUNTY

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 17, 2014

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Adult Care of Chester County on its 30th anniversary of exemplary service in providing exceptional adult day services to the community. This is a great milestone and a considerable accomplishment and I take great pleasure in being able to honor the men and women of Adult Care of Chester County for their dedication and outstanding service.

For 30 years, the men and women of Adult Care of Chester County have dedicated themselves to serving dependent adults, having provided services to over 2,000 individuals and their families during that time. In recognition of their outstanding efforts, Adult Care of Chester County was named 2012 Outstanding Adult Day Center by the National Adult Day Services Association. For three decades, they have admirably pursued their mission to support and empower families in their caregiving experience by providing state-of-the-art care from a highly trained and compassionate staff.

Mr. Speaker, in light of its 30 years of outstanding service, I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing Adult Care of Chester County for its invaluable contributions to the quality of life of the citizens of Chester County, Pennsylvania.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF SAMUEL C. LOPEZ

HON. ALAN GRAYSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 17, 2014

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, to recog-

nize Samuel C. Lopez. Samuel was born in Brooklyn, New York and graduated from the Bronx Vocational High School. Samuel went on to attend New York State School of Industrial & Labor Relations at Cornell University. After graduating, Samuel worked as a Journeyman Electrician Craftsman with the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local Union Number 3 for over 30 years.

Samuel has always been involved with politics and helping his community. First getting involved in electoral campaigns in New York in the 1970s, he has remained active in politics since moving to Florida in the 1990s. Samuel has participated in numerous national, state, and local elections.

Samuel has taken the lead as Founder, Chairman, and President of numerous organizations including U.T.B., United Third Bridge, Inc. (U.T.B.), the Florida Puerto Rican/Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Inc. (FPRHCC), the Florida Puerto Rican/Hispanic and Minority Empowerment Committee, Brevard County's Annual Puerto Rican Day Parade, and the Royal Order of Juan Ponce de Leon Historical V Centennial Celebration Committee.

Samuel is currently a member of the Brevard County School System's Minority Advisory Committee, the Eastern Florida State College Police Advisory Council, the Brevard Community College Minority Partnership, and is a past member of the Brevard County Historical Commission.

Samuel partnered with the Equal Opportunity Commission in bringing 19 successful discrimination lawsuits against the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local Union Number 3, which resulted in a hiring practice that promotes hiring minorities. Through his work with U.T.B. and the FPRHCC, Samuel spearheaded the effort for the installation of a Juan Ponce de Leon statue and sponsorship wall at the Ponce de Leon Historical Landing Site at Melbourne Beach.

I am happy to honor Samuel C. Lopez, during Hispanic Heritage Month, for his leadership and contributions to the Central Florida community.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 17, 2014

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 \$17,760,739,788,762.62. We've added \$7,133,862,739,849.54 to our debt in 5 years. This is over \$7.1 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

URGING A STRONG FUNDING COMMITMENT TO THE CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT ACT

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 17, 2014

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I want to express my strong support of this welcome bipartisan reauthorization of the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act—an act first championed by my friend and mentor Senator Chris Dodd. But I also think we need to go further as an institution to support families with the high costs of this critical care.

We all know that, given the realities of today's workforce, quality child care is both a necessity in today's economy, and very expensive. It is often a family's biggest expense, bigger even than their mortgage. Families living in poverty pay almost a third of their income—30 percent—on this care.

The Child Care and Development block grant—CCDBG for short—is the only federal support available to offset the high costs of child care for low-income families. It helps children in working families have access to the quality care they need to learn and thrive in life later on.

But if anything, we are moving in the wrong direction in terms of covering eligible children. In the poorest families in the United States, only one in six eligible children receives child care assistance. And, at a time when nearly one in five working mothers with very young children are working low-wage jobs, our commitment to these families has dwindled.

Since 2006, over 250,000 eligible children have lost access to CCDBG-funded child care. The monthly average of children receiving this aid has fallen to its lowest levels since 1998. And because of budget cuts, many states have seen waiting lists grow and rates for providers plummet. That means less quality care.

I support the new requirements in this reauthorization—They include conforming to state health and safety standards, unannounced on-site monitoring visits, and criminal background checks for providers. But these requirements will cost money. And according to the states, without additional funding, the number of families who receive this aid could be cut by as much as 20 percent.

Mr. Speaker, time and again families all across this nation have told us that we can make a positive difference for them by facilitating access to quality child care.

Countless educational studies have stressed the importance of good care at an early age for children. And countless economic studies have told us that the return on these sorts of investments, in our kids and our future, are amazing.

So I urge all of my colleagues to support this bipartisan reauthorization today. And I also urge them to match this vote with a strong budgetary commitment to CCDBG, and other critical child care investments, in the future.