

see that the House Republican agenda for 2014 does not include renewing federal unemployment insurance. The long-term unemployed cannot wait on Congress to restore this critical support any longer, and I urge my Republican colleagues to act now.

PROFESSOR MICHAEL S. GREEN &  
2013 EUGENE ASHER DISTINGUISHED TEACHING AWARD

### HON. DINA TITUS

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 15, 2014*

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with pride and pleasure to congratulate Dr. Michael S. Green, professor of history at the College of Southern Nevada in Las Vegas, on his recent selection as the recipient of the American Historical Association's 2013 Eugene Asher Distinguished Teaching Award. The AHA, a leading professional organization dedicated to the study and teaching of history, awards this prize only once a year to recognize outstanding teaching and advocacy for history. This is the first time ever that this prestigious award has gone to a community college professor.

To quote Winston Churchill, "Study history, study history. In history lie all the secrets of statecraft." Professor Green is encouraging the young people of Southern Nevada to do just that—"study history, study history." Through his excellent teaching, he is cultivating the minds of tomorrow. Many of his former students are found today in public service and media positions throughout Nevada.

A graduate of the University of Nevada—Las Vegas and Columbia University, Dr. Green specializes in nineteenth century politics and the American West, and has published several books including, *Las Vegas: A Centennial History*, and dozens of articles in scholarly journals. He writes a regular column in several popular magazines and is often called upon to serve as a lecturer, guest speaker, and expert on Nevada history and politics. He is a researcher and consultant for the City of Las Vegas Mob Museum, and is currently writing a text book on Nevada history. A man of many talents, Dr. Green is also a specialist on President Lincoln, having authored several books focusing on Lincoln and the politics of the Civil War. He is currently editing a collection of essays focusing on Lincoln as well.

Nonetheless, while many academicians often prioritize research and publications over teaching, Michael Green's number one priority has always been his students. As one remarked, "Dr. Green loves his subject and it shows." I can think of no higher compliment, and I can imagine no one more deserving of this award. I commend Dr. Green for this distinction, and am proud to have him as a friend, a colleague, and a constituent. Only in District One.

### OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

### HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 15, 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 \$17,287,251,611,151.62. We've added \$6,660,374,562,238.54 to our debt in 5 years. This is over \$6.6 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

### BIRTHDAY OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

### HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 15, 2014*

Mr. CONYERS. I rise today to honor the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., the man who so many year ago inspired me and challenged me to pursue a life in public service. His message of love, hope, and compassion ignited a Civil Rights Movement that changed the hearts of millions of Americans. His stirring rhetoric, his devotion to non-violence even in the face of grave danger, and his example of moral courage, breathed new life into the promises of freedom, equality, and justice that have always defined American democracy.

Today I remind my colleagues that the nation and world of which he dreamed of remains unrealized. We have eliminated the most invidious forms of Jim Crow, but racism still permeates far too much of our daily lives. We have made great strides in ensuring equal opportunity regardless of race, sex, or religion, but vast inequalities still exist. We have been stalled in our efforts to ensure that every American has the opportunity to grow through education, gain dignity through honest work, and receive equal treatment before the law. These are the struggles where we have failed to live up to the example set by Dr. King; these are the battles Dr. King would be fighting if he was still around to celebrate his 85th birthday.

Remember Dr. King, be thankful for the legacy he left behind, and consider what we can do to honor his memory.

Happy Birthday Dr. King. Happy Birthday to you.

### COMMEMORATING 106TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY

### HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 15, 2014*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the 106th anniversary of the founding of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., the first Greek-letter organization established by black college women in America.

This prestigious organization, founded at Howard University by nine visionary women in 1908, at a period when Jim Crow laws flourished in the law books, knew the rigors of their journey during the early 1900s. Those nine special women were: Anna Easter Brown, Beulah Burke, Lillie Burke, Marjorie Hill, Margaret Flagg Holmes, Ethel Hedgeman Lyle, Lavinia Norman, Lucy Slowe, and Marie Woolfolk Taylor.

The organization, which has grown to a sisterhood of more than 260,000 members in 975 chapters worldwide, includes an extraordinary collection of women, who now encompass diverse ethnicities and nationalities and are united by a bond of sisterhood and a commitment to service.

Alpha Kappa Alpha was founded to touch lives, improve the stature of women and serve humankind. Its mission is to develop leaders, expand educational and economic opportunity, and ensure that the Sorority is fully engaged in the civil life of the nation and each community in which it has a chapter.

Sojourner Truth once said, that "If women want any rights more than [they've] got, why don't they just take them and not be talking about it." This quote embodies the spirit that the determined women of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

Alpha Kappa Alpha is home to college presidents, deans, directors of Fortune 500 companies, judges, mayors, Members of Congress, state legislatures, city councils, and school boards. This sorority has provided the foundation for intellectuals such as Sharon Pratt Kelly, the first woman to serve as mayor of Washington, D.C.; Angie Brookes, the first woman President of the United Nations; the long revered Rosa Parks, mother of the Civil Rights Movement; Azie Taylor Morton, the only African-American to hold the position of Treasurer of the United States; and First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt.

Alpha Kappa Alpha women have served in the United States Armed Services and devoted their lives to saving ours. I salute those women today who are active or retired military personnel. They are the heroes that should be emulated by the next generation.

AKA's have long referred to founder Ethel Hedgeman Lyle as the "guiding light," a figurative phrase that emphasizes the central importance to AKA sisters of aptitude, resilience, unwavering service, and valor.

President George W. Bush, in his address at the 55th Inauguration, stated that:

Our nation relies on men and women who look after a neighbor and surround the lost with love. Americans, at our best, value the life we see in one another, and must always remember that even the unwanted have worth.

I am honored to commemorate this historic milestone and commemorate the 106th anniversary of the coming together of an amazing sisterhood, born of the passion for humanitarian service and educational excellence of nine extraordinary young women.

As a member of the Alpha Kappa Omega Graduate Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority in Houston, Texas, I take great pride in the fact that the legacy of the founders lives on in the work of the Omega Graduate Chapter under the leadership of Marianne Young Walker, Chapter President; and Jeanne Cherise Story, Chapter Treasurer.

Alpha Kappa Omega Chapter located in Houston, Texas is also the home chapter of:

The 18th International President, Dr. Mattelia B. Grays; the 21st International President, Ms. Faye B. Bryant; the 20th South Central Regional Director, Dr. Polly Sparks Turner; and the 23rd South Central Regional Director, Mrs. Gwendolyn J. Brinkley.

Inspired by a dedicated investment of human capital and a bold commitment to the principles of basic human rights, the sisters of Alpha Kappa Omega Chapter dedicates their talent and resources to the betterment of their community and live by this motto: "Global Leadership through Timeless Service."

Among the signature program initiatives of Alpha Kappa Omega Chapter are the following:

Emerging Young Leaders Program, which—impact the lives of 10,000 girls in grades six through eight by providing leadership development, civic engagement, enhanced academic preparation and character building.

Health Initiatives—encourage personal fitness and healthy life styles to reduce health disparities, save lives.

Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability an initiative to encourage energy efficiency, conservation, eco-living, reforestation, urban gardening, education and empowerment of consumers, and opportunities for women owned businesses.

Global Poverty Initiative, a program to hunger, preserve the environment and empower women by providing food production skills and training in self-reliance through gifts of seeds, livestock and training in environmentally sound agriculture.

Social Justice and Human Right Initiative, which addresses gender equality issues including human trafficking and domestic violence, services for children with incarcerated parents, youth aging out of foster care and children in homeless shelters.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize the extraordinary achievements of this extraordinary organization that has been providing leadership for our nation for 106 years.

#### SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

**HON. DINA TITUS**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 15, 2014

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, nearly 350,000 Southern Nevada residents regularly struggle

to secure enough food to feed themselves and nurture their families.

During the recent recession, demand for nutrition assistance increased dramatically. As a result, charitable organizations across the country have been asked to do more with less. In my district, Three Square Food Bank has witnessed former donors becoming clients due to layoffs and long-term unemployment.

As the Farm Bill is finalized, I'd like to urge the members of the joint committee to protect funding for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and reauthorize categorical eligibility so Southern Nevadans struggling in this economy can continue to access the programs they rely on to make ends meet.

Let me tell you about Jennifer who lives in Southern Nevada. Jennifer, her two children, and her sister are considered a household under existing law. They live together, buy food together, and eat meals together as a family. Jennifer and her sister each own a car, which they rely on to get to work on time every day. These are not luxury cars; both are eight years old and in need of repair.

The problem for Jennifer and her family is that the SNAP program has strict eligibility requirements that make it very difficult for families with even moderate assets, like aging cars, to qualify for the nutrition assistance program. Categorical eligibility helps solve this problem by recognizing that many low-income families who qualify for other assistance programs also need basic food assistance. If categorical eligibility is eliminated, Jennifer and millions of other low-income families with gross incomes or assets just above the federal SNAP limit would become ineligible for SNAP benefits simply because of the value of the modest cars they own.

Categorical eligibility has been demonized in recent months, but it plays a critical role in helping families like Jennifer's access the programs they need so that their basic expenses are met each month. It also enables these families to keep assets, like an aging car, without having to make the difficult choice between food assistance and transportation. This is especially important for the nearly 40,000 unemployed Nevadans who need a reliable vehicle to search for jobs and secure employment once they've been hired.

I urge the members of the joint committee to protect the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and maintain categorical eligibility so working families like Jennifer's can continue to receive this vital food assistance.

#### SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, January 16, 2014 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

#### MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JANUARY 28

10 a.m.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine S. 1600, to facilitate the reestablishment of domestic, critical mineral designation, assessment, production, manufacturing, recycling, analysis, forecasting, workforce, education, research, and international capabilities in the United States.

SD-366

FEBRUARY 4

10:15 a.m.

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine privacy in the digital age, focusing on preventing data breaches and combating cybercrime.

SD-226