

The UT Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas is home to six Nobel Laureates—a distinction no other medical school in America can claim.

UT Arlington is the largest producer of baccalaureate educated nurses in Texas and the largest not-for-profit college of nursing in the nation, nationing nearly 8,000 on-line and in-person students.

The extraordinary emergency care doctors of UT Health Science Center Houston who manage the world's busiest Level 1 Trauma Center at Memorial Hermann Hospital were featured this year in the Lifetime Network series "Life flight: Trauma Center Houston."

UT Dallas was ranked 15th in the 2014 Times Higher Education magazine list of the world's most outstanding young universities. One of the criteria contributing to this ranking is the high standing of the university's students. The average SAT score for incoming freshman consistently is the highest among public universities in Texas.

UT Health Science Center Tyler, northeast Texas' only university medical center, is ranked by Axial and Becker's Hospital Review as one of the top 100 hospitals in the country for patient healthcare, including quality, patient satisfaction, and communication.

UT Tyler is a leading innovator for providing students with multiple options to complete a degree from remote locations. It is the only university in Texas to offer three distance-learning campuses where students can take classes close to home. In addition, the UT Tyler Houston Engineering Center provides a seamless pathway to a four-year degree in civil, electrical, or mechanical engineering in partnership with Houston Community College. Students can take lower-division courses at HCC and upper-division courses from UT Tyler at the Alief-Hayes Road Campus in Houston.

The University of Texas of the Permian Basin (UTPB) has created Early College High Schools with several West Texas school districts at which at-risk high school students have the opportunity to earn a high school diploma and up to sixty college credit hours. The first UTPB Early College High School within the Presidio Independent School District was the first in Texas where college courses are delivered online.

But, Mr. Speaker, the UT System is not resting on its laurels. In fact, it is preparing for the future on several fronts.

It is in the process of opening what will become the second-largest Hispanic-serving institution in the nation. UT Rio Grande Valley will incorporate multiple locations throughout South Texas and will have a transformative effect on the health, economy and overall well-being of the region. When UTRGV opens its doors, the UT System will also become the only university system in America to open a new university with a medical school in the 21st century.

In fact, the UT System is the only university system in the country currently building two new medical schools—in addition to UTRGV, the System is creating the new Dell Medical School as a part of UT Austin's growing presence.

Mr. Speaker, as you can see I am proud to represent the University of Texas System, which rightfully has been recognized as one of the great university systems in the U.S.

HONORING MR. JOSHUA RAY JOHNSON

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 8, 2015*

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Joshua Ray Johnson for his sacrifice and service to our country. Upon graduation from Eustace High School, Petty Officer 3rd Class Johnson enlisted in the Navy in October 2006.

Petty Officer Johnson served stateside in the Military Police before being deployed overseas. He was assigned to the MOB Accounting OPS unit. Petty Officer Johnson's assignment was part of NATO's International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) that was established after the regime change in Afghanistan in 2001. Initially, the ISAF was established to train the Afghan National Security Forces and assist Afghanistan in rebuilding key government institutions. When Josh arrived in the Middle East, the ISAF had expanded its operations to more intensive combat operations and part of this involved reconnaissance missions to evaluate, account and report on the status of residential occupants. Petty Officer Johnson was wounded in Iraq when an improvised explosive device detonated and he suffered a bullet wound in his arm. He was honorably discharged in April of 2010 and was the recipient of the Purple Heart.

While serving his country bravely and courageously, Petty Officer Johnson battled enemies and faced danger and possible death every day. Today, Petty Officer Johnson faces the toughest fight ever. He was diagnosed with Stage IV cancer that is inoperable and incurable in November 2014, on the day before Veterans Day. We will continue to keep him, his family and medical personnel in our prayers daily, that he will overcome this battle.

Humbly, I echo the words of President Ronald Reagan, "We will always remember. We will always be proud. We will always be prepared, so we will always be free." And humbly, I offer my sincere gratitude to Petty Officer Joshua Ray Johnson for his service and acts of bravery that allow us the freedoms we enjoy today.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RICHARD M. NOLAN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 8, 2015*

Mr. NOLAN. Mr. Speaker, on June 1, 2015, I was unavoidably detained due to inclement weather. Had I been present and voting, I would have voted Aye on Roll Call #264 (Dingell of Michigan Amendment), Aye on #265 (Lowenthal of California Amendment), Aye on #266 (Motion to Recommit) and NO on Roll Call #267 (Final Passage of H.R. 1335).

IN HONOR OF SANDRA VOGELSON

HON. DONALD NORCROSS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 8, 2015*

Mr. NORCROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Sandra Vogelsson, for her achievements, contributions, and her service to the people of New Jersey as a community leader and a health advocate. Mrs. Vogelsson passed away at the age of seventy-three. Sandra was revered throughout her community and she will truly be missed.

Sandra graduated from my alma mater, Camden County Community College, with a degree in Art, and dedicated her life to the community of South Jersey. She served as a member of Cooper's Ferry Development Association, where she was always seeking new ways to improve the City of Camden.

Sandra founded a philanthropic event, "Pink Roses and 'Teal Magnolias.'" This event raises funds to continue the fight against breast and gynecologic cancers. Over the years, "Pink Roses and Teal Magnolias" became a staple within our community, by raising tens of thousands of dollars for research and other clinical programs at the MD Anderson Cancer Center at Cooper.

Furthermore, she took a keen interest in the education of New Jersey's young people. In 1992, Sandra established the Camden County College Foundation, and served on the board for the next two decades. Her leadership provided critical fundraising efforts for the college, allowing it to expand and serve as an exemplary educational institution for the students of Camden.

Mr. Speaker, Sandra Vogelsson was a pillar of society who lived a life full of virtue service. She left a great mark on South Jersey, and is survived three daughters, five grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren. I join the Camden County community and the state of New Jersey in honoring the achievements and the life of this extraordinary woman.

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2016

SPEECH OF

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 2, 2015*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2578) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, and for other purposes:

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Chair, I rise today to support the Cohen amendment and urge the House to oppose the excessive cuts to the nonprofit and independent Legal Services Corporation.

Legal Services has a mission to "provide equal access to the system of justice" in America. It is the most important provider of civil legal aid for Americans who cannot afford high-priced legal counsel. In fact, legal representation often is out of reach for many

American families. This amendment will make the lives of millions of American families even more challenging. Plus, if you take away legal counsel, you also complicate the resolution of disputes for businesses and others as well. You all know Legal Services is not a Washington-based bureaucratic program. To the contrary, there are legal aid attorneys and professionals in every State, with more than 800 offices. Legal Services' moneys are put to work back home across America outside of Washington.

In my Tampa Bay community, Bay Area Legal Services helps to keep the wheels of justice turning for everyone. What type of legal help? Foreclosure, consumer assistance, domestic violence. Many of the domestic violence victims are simply trying to keep their children safe and their families together. Others include veterans returning from war, families with housing issues, those that were hit hard by natural disasters and are dealing with the aftermath, and families involved in child custody disputes. I have seen these advocates in action. Many Members of Congress actually refer cases to Legal Services groups in our area. They help families navigate the justice system. They also boost the economy through avoided costs and swift resolution of disputes.

I would also like to remind my colleagues that Legal Services has already undergone significant cuts over the past few years. Funding for Legal Services was \$420 million in fiscal year 2010. It was cut—especially after sequestration in 2013—and any further cuts will do severe damage. This amendment jeopardizes access to justice and the rule of law.

This year's bill is a destructive step backwards which threatens these vital community services by slashing funding by \$75 million. This is the lowest level of funding since FY 1999. These devastating cuts will terminate over 1,000 full time staff including 430 attorney positions. Under these draconian cuts, Legal services offices across the country will be forced to close 25 offices, complete 150,000 fewer cases, and serve 350,000 fewer people.

In exacting such severe cuts, your advice to families is, "You can't get help". "You can't avoid a foreclosure". "You can't escape an abusive relationship or defend yourself against consumer scams".

We cannot allow hundreds of thousands of American veterans, elderly victims of foreclosure, and women and children desperate to escape domestic violence to be denied assistance.

So I strongly urge a "yes" vote on the Cohen amendment.

#### TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2016

SPEECH OF

**HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 3, 2015*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2577) making appropriations for the Departments of Trans-

portation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, and for other purposes:

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Chair, I rise today in opposition to the FY16 Transportation and Housing and Urban Development Appropriations bill.

In short, this bill is shortsighted and fraught with handouts to special interests at the expense of the safety of the American people.

Once again, the Majority in this body has squandered an opportunity to invest in our nation's crumbling roads and infrastructure, and it has squandered an opportunity to combat homelessness and provide access to safer, affordable housing for millions.

Our future prosperity and economic growth depend on the investments we make now to ensure America remains the most competitive nation in an increasingly global economy.

Instead of investing in safer rail to prevent accidents like the recent and fatal derailment of Amtrak in Philadelphia, this bill cuts Amtrak's budget by nearly \$290 million and subsequently hampers its ability to implement proven technologies that would have prevented this tragedy and countless others.

Instead of supporting the Federal Aviation Administration's efforts to implement NextGen technologies to keep our skies the safest in the world, this bill cuts the agency's capital investment program by \$100 million from the FY15 enacted level and \$355 million below the President's budget request.

This bill cuts funding to programs like Choice Neighborhoods and the Community Development Block Grants that would revitalize our communities, the Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes programs that would keep our families safe from harmful materials, and programs such as Housing for the Elderly that helps deliver the dignity and assistance for our most vulnerable populations.

This is just a bad bill, Mr. Chair, and these are just a few of the reasons why this is a terrible bill, and one that will surely be vetoed by the President.

I urge my colleagues to reject this bill and bring this legislation back to the drawing board.

HONORING MR. JOHN J. DAWDY

**HON. JEB HENSARLING**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 8, 2015*

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Mr. John J. Dawdy for his courageous service to our country. A graduate of Mabank High School, Private First Class Dawdy served in the 1 Marine Expeditionary Force (1 MEF) during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

On March 19, 2004, Pfc. Dawdy was driving a seven-ton truck in his unit's convoy. Shortly after leaving Camp Fallujah, Iraq, the convoy hit an improvised explosive device. With his leg torn with shrapnel, Pfc. Dawdy still managed to maintain control of his truck and maneuvered nearly one hundred yards before pulling off to the side of the road and losing consciousness. As a testament to his bravery and leadership, a fellow Marine called Pfc. Dawdy a "father figure" who made "all the

wise decisions." Pfc. Dawdy was awarded the Purple Heart for the injuries he sustained in combat while bravely serving his country.

Humbly, I echo the words of President Ronald Reagan, "We will always remember. We will always be proud. We will always be prepared, so we will always be free." And humbly, I offer my sincere gratitude to Pfc. John J. Dawdy for his service and acts of bravery that allow us the freedoms we enjoy today.

#### 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 Tuesday, June 9, 2015 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

#### MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JUNE 10

Time to be announced

Committee on Finance

Business meeting to consider the nominations of Anne Elizabeth Wall, of Illinois, to be a Deputy Under Secretary, and Brodi L. Fontenot, of Louisiana, to be Chief Financial Officer, both of the Department of the Treasury, and Rafael J. Lopez, of California, to be Commissioner on Children, Youth, and Families, Department of Health and Human Services.

TBA

9 a.m.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Peter V. Neffenger, of Ohio, to be an Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security, and David S. Shapira, of Pennsylvania, to be a Governor of the United States Postal Service for a term expiring December 8, 2019.

SD-342

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Environment and Public Works

Business meeting to consider S. 1140, to require the Secretary of the Army and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to propose a regulation revising the definition of the term "waters of the United States".

SD-406