

TAX COUNSELING FOR THE ELDERLY IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2018

**HON. DARREN SOTO**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 11, 2017

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, Soto amendment, Soto number 27 to Division D, the Department of Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2018, increased funding to the Tax Counseling for the Elderly Program by \$1,000,000. It did so by making an additional carveout of money from the overall Taxpayer Services Account.

I support increased funding for the Tax Counseling for the Elderly Program and thank Chairman GRAVES and my colleagues for their support of my amendment.

**CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018**

SPEECH OF

**HON. CEDRIC L. RICHMOND**

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 4, 2017

Mr. RICHMOND. Mr. Chair, I include in the RECORD a letter from the National Education Association.

NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION,  
Washington, DC, October 4, 2017.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE: On behalf of the more than three million members of the National Education Association (NEA), and the 50 million students they serve, we urge you to Vote No on the FY 2018 budget resolution (H. Con. Res. 71) being brought to the House floor this week, and offer our views on the alternative budgets that have been proposed. The budget should reflect the priorities of our nation and should especially meet the needs of children and those most in need. Actions on this issue may be included in the NEA Legislative Report Card for the 115th Congress.

In addition to urging a NO vote on H. Con. Res. 71, we urge you to:

Vote YES on the Democratic substitute budget. This budget stresses the need to invest in our economic future. It lifts the budget caps, broadens access to education, defends and strengthens the Affordable Care Act, invests in infrastructure, raises the minimum wage, and supports tax reform that supports American families and workers.

Vote YES on the budget presented by the Congressional Progressive Caucus offered by Reps. Pocan (D-WI) and Grijalva (D-AZ). This budget provides a practical, progressive vision for our country by investing in 21st century infrastructure and jobs, tackling inequality, making corporations pay their fair share, and strengthening essential public programs.

Vote YES on the budget presented by the Congressional Black Caucus offered by Rep. Scott (D-VA). This budget would establish funding levels to allow for investments in key programs like education, infrastructure and job training, makes the tax code more progressive and fair, repeals the Budget Control Act and ends the threat of sequestra-

tion, and create jobs while also reducing the deficit.

Vote NO on the budget presented by the Republican Study Committee authored by Reps. Walker (R-NC) and McClinton (R-CA). This budget goes beyond the Budget Committee proposal in terms of balancing the budget on the backs of those least able to afford it by cutting spending \$5.7 trillion over the next 10 years. The budget also would repeal the Affordable Care Act, increase the Medicare eligibility age, and block grant Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program.

We strongly oppose H. Con. Res. 71 because it takes us in the wrong direction as a nation by making dramatic cuts to essential programs and services in order to finance tax cuts for the wealthy. Specifically, we oppose:

Doubling down on deep cuts to education and other domestic programs. This proposal would cut Non-Defense-Discretionary programs (i.e. education, health care, job training, etc.), which are already at historically low levels (as a percentage of GDP), by lowering the already inadequate spending caps by \$5 billion in 2018 and cutting spending for NDD programs by \$1.3 trillion over the next decade. This would force even deeper cuts to crucial investments like education depriving students of the opportunity they all deserve for a quality education.

Making dramatic cuts for essential programs to finance a massive tax cut for the wealthy and add \$2.4 trillion to our country's debt. According to the Tax Policy Center, the top one percent of households would get 80 percent of the framework's next tax cuts, or more than \$200,000 annually on average.

Slashing Medicaid and other health programs, which provides healthcare for more than one-third of our nation's children. Overall funding for Medicaid and other programs would be cut by \$1.5 trillion over the decade, while Medicare would be cut by \$487 billion over the decade.

Voucherizing Medicare and shifting costs to seniors. Under the proposed plan, seniors would receive "premium support"—fixed payments to help buy coverage, which would likely fail to keep pace with rising healthcare costs. The plan also could also lead to the gradual demise of traditional Medicare by making the pool of beneficiaries smaller, older, and sicker—and increasingly costly to cover.

Student aid cuts, which appear to include deep cuts to the Pell Grant program and student loans. We should be working to make college more affordable for more students.

For too long Congress has tied its own hands with senseless and untenable budget caps, resulting in wholly inadequate funding levels for critical programs like education. This budget would make that problem much worse and sets the stage to enact massive tax cuts for the wealthy. We urge you to Vote NO on the FY18 budget resolution (H. Con. Res. 71).

Sincerely,

MARC EGAN,

Director, Government Relations,  
National Education Association.

**IN HONOR OF DONALD G. FREEMAN**

**HON. JIMMY PANETTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 11, 2017

Mr. PANETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Donald G. Freeman, a constituent of California's Twentieth Congressional district

on the occasion of his retirement. Don began his tenure as City Attorney for the City of Carmel-by-the-Sea in 1983. Since then, he has worked with seven mayors and is the longest serving city attorney in the city's history. During his tenure, he has provided a full range of legal services as the chief legal advisor to the city council, city administrator, the city's departments, boards and commissions. He has consistently provided sound legal advice to the council during the course of innumerable meetings and has served as counsel for several special districts, including the Carmel Area Wastewater and the Seaside Redevelopment Agency. He is also an active member of the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments, as well as the Mayor's Water Authority. He has also gone out of his way to provide the council, city staff, board and commission members with mentoring and training in areas of ethics, conflicts of interest, and the Brown Act.

In the performance of his duties, Don regularly evaluated projects that involved complex legal issues, recommended options to minimize legal risk, and ensured due process in city decisions. As he managed and guided the city through various types of litigation, he demonstrated a mastery of negotiating lease agreements, and drafting ordinances and resolutions that helped protect and preserve the character and integrity of Carmel-by-the-Sea.

In addition to the vital role he played in service to the City, Don maintained a strong belief in public service, helping others, fundamental fairness, and the importance of law and education. Over time, he developed a keen appreciation for the history of Carmel and for its unique village character, eventually becoming one of its staunchest defenders. His understanding of Carmel-by-the-Sea, and his many contributions have proven to be indispensable to the city's officials and residents.

Don has built strong ties that have benefitted Carmel. His counsel, guidance, and support to the City Council, city employees, and the community have made him a valued colleague. His historical and institutional knowledge will be missed by those who will carry on the work of the City or Carmel.

In honor and recognition of his service, I would like to express my gratitude and appreciation to Donald G. Freeman for his more than 33 years of counsel, advice, and dedication to the city of Carmel-by-the-Sea. I ask that my colleagues join me in wishing Mr. Freeman the very best in his future endeavors, and a very happy retirement.

**HONORING THE LIFE OF ROBIN MADSEN—LABOR LEADER AND FRIEND**

**HON. BETTY McCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 11, 2017

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a dear friend, a committed public servant, and a fierce labor leader from St. Paul, Minnesota—Ms. Robin Madsen. Robin passed away last week at the age of 69 after a battle with cancer. Her death is a personal loss for me since I have known her for more than thirty years. Robin was a wonderful woman, a tireless believer in organized labor,

a champion for children, and one of the kindest souls you could ever meet.

For thirty-six years Robin drove the St. Paul Public Library bookmobile. She was the “bookmobile lady” to thousands of children who were able to explore their interests, new ideas, and the world because Robin’s bookmobile came to their neighborhood.

Robin also became the president of AFSCME 1842 where she served as a committed advocate for workers, public employees, and political candidates who were willing to invest in community services to meet the needs of families and children.

From my first campaign for Congress in 2000 I was honored to have Robin as a friend and supporter. She helped organize a Women of Labor effort and was never shy about speaking her mind or helping behind the scenes. Robin was all about getting results without worrying about getting credit.

Robin Madsen was a true friend and a strong woman who I admired and respected greatly. My prayers and condolences are with Robin’s children, grandchildren and countless friends.

Robin will be missed.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

##### HON. DAVID ROUZER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

##### IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 11, 2017

Mr. ROUZER. Mr. Speaker, on October 10, I was attending the funeral of a friend. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 558 and YEA on Roll Call No. 559.

#### HUANGLONGBING MULTI-AGENCY COORDINATION EFFORTS IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2018

##### HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

##### IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 11, 2017

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, Soto amendment, Soto number 24 to Division B, the Department of Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2018, moved \$1,000,000 from the Office of the Economist account to the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service’s Specialty Crop Pest Program, specifically the Huanglongbing Multi-Agency Coordination Efforts.

I support increased funding for the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service’s Specialty Crop Pest Program’s Huanglongbing Multi-Agency Coordination Efforts and thank Chairman ADERHOLT and my colleagues for their support of my amendment.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF DELEGATE LACEY E. PUTNEY

##### HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

##### IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 11, 2017

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I, along with my colleagues, Representatives ROBERT

J. WITTMAN, H. MORGAN GRIFFITH, DAVE BRAT, THOMAS A. GARRETT, Jr., and SCOTT TAYLOR, rise today to honor the life and service of Lacey E. Putney, a dear friend and the longest-serving state legislator in Virginia’s history.

Born on June 27, 1928, Lacey passed away on August 26, 2017, at the age of 89. He was born and raised in Big Island, Virginia, and remained a well-respected member of the community his entire life. After earning his undergraduate degree in 1950 from Washington and Lee University, Lacey enlisted in the United States Air Force where he served for four years. He later graduated from the Washington and Lee University School of Law and went on to practice law for more than 55 years in Bedford.

Lacey was first elected to represent the 19th District in the Virginia House of Delegates in 1961. During his time in office, he held many important leadership positions, including Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, Chairman of the Privileges and Elections Committee, and as acting Speaker of the House in 2003. Lacey was a true force in the state legislature, and he knew how to get things done. Anyone who worked with him witnessed that firsthand, and his hard work can be seen throughout western Virginia. He was instrumental in establishing the Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine and Research Institute in Roanoke and the Virginia Horse Center in Lexington, creating the National D-Day Memorial in Bedford, and restoring Thomas Jefferson’s Poplar Forest. He led many successful legislative initiatives during his tenure, including the creation of the Virginia Tuition Assistance Grant program, the Virginia Retirement System, and the Virginia community college system. In 2013, Lacey retired from public service after 52 years. It was only fitting that upon his passing Lacey lie in state in the rotunda of the State Capitol.

Lacey’s legacy is one of service, kindness, and action. He was trusted by the people he represented and respected by his colleagues. He exemplified the role of a citizen legislator and set an example for all of us through his passion for serving his fellow Virginians. We are honored to have known Lacey Putney over the years, and the Commonwealth of Virginia is better because of individuals like him. With his passing, Virginia lost one of its greatest treasures.

We offer our condolences to his beloved wife, Carmela, as well as the entire Putney family. Our prayers are with them as they mourn this loss and celebrate his life. May God give them comfort and peace. While he may be gone from this earth, there is no doubt that his legacy will live on.

#### TRIBUTE TO JERRY KLECZKA

##### HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

##### IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 11, 2017

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Jerry Kleczka. He was a true public servant and legislator. He passed away on October 8, 2017. He was 73 years old.

Jerry Kleczka grew up on the south side of Milwaukee. He graduated from Don Bosco High School, attended the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee for two years, worked as an

accountant and served in the Wisconsin National Guard. Jerry Kleczka was elected to the Wisconsin State Legislature at age 24 where he served in both the Assembly and Senate. In 1984, he won a special election to replace Clement Zablocki in Congress and served for over two decades until his retirement in 2005. I succeeded Jerry Kleczka in the 4th Congressional District and appreciate his kindness in assisting me through the transition to Washington. He gave me a gift of African cloth from one of his trips that I cherish to this day.

While in Congress, Jerry Kleczka served on the powerful House Ways and Means Committee; he formed a warm and lasting friendship with Representative JOHN LEWIS during that tenure. He twice voted against going to war—the Gulf War in 1991 and the invasion of Iraq in 2003. Some of his signature legislation included support for seniors and preventing “drive-through” baby deliveries when insurance companies forced some women to leave hospitals too soon after giving birth.

Jerry Kleczka was a serious, hard-working legislator with a strong work ethic. He took pride in being the guy from the south side of Milwaukee.

When my alma mater, Marquette University began an internship program in Washington, D.C., in 1984 for students interested in careers in government and public service, Kleczka was a strong supporter. Jerry Kleczka donated his campaign funds of \$300,000 to endow what became in 2005 the Kleczka Internship Program. He was awarded an honorary doctorate of law degree in 2005 by Marquette University. Many of the interns serving in my office were members of this program; this is Jerry Kleczka’s lasting legacy to the entire community.

Upon his retirement, Jerry moved to Middleton. Middleton was Bonnie’s, his wife of 39 years, hometown. He lived quietly and was busy with hobbies that included gardening, woodworking and remodeling projects.

Mr. Speaker, Jerry Kleczka was a valued member of Milwaukee, the 4th Congressional District, and the entire State of Wisconsin. I applaud and value his stewardship. I urge you and my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in a salute to the late Jerry Kleczka.

#### CONGRATULATING DR. R.W. BOBBY MARTIN ON A LIFETIME OF CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE

##### HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

##### IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 11, 2017

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Bobby Martin on his retirement from the Dallas Baptist Association. For the past 48 years, Dr. Martin has devoted his time and efforts to providing Christian leadership and education to churches.

Dr. Martin has demonstrated a lifetime of passion for Christian education, including his own. Dr. Martin earned his Bachelor of Arts degree at Lamar University in 1972 and went on to earn his Master of Religious Education and Doctor of Educational Ministry both from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas. In 1976, Dr. Martin married