

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. ANN M. KUSTER

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 31, 2020*

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire. Madam Speaker, on Monday, December 28, 2020 I was unavoidably detained and missed Roll Call vote No. 253. Had I been present, I would have voted AYE on Roll Call vote No. 253.

## CONGRATULATING DOUG CRANDALL ON HIS RETIREMENT

### HON. COLLIN C. PETERSON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 31, 2020*

Mr. PETERSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of Doug Crandall, who will retire at the end of this year after 13 years with the U.S. Forest Service. The Members and staff of the House Agriculture Committee wish to express our thanks and best wishes to Doug for his service. We had the opportunity to work closely with Doug and his staff as Director of Legislative Affairs for the Forest Service, and we'll miss his dedication and professionalism. Together we've worked on several important efforts, including the landmark Wildfire Funding Fix in 2018, and most recently the Great American Outdoors Act. During his time with the Forest Service, Doug has answered the Secretary's call several times, serving as Acting Assistant Secretary of Congressional Relations for one year, as well as Acting Deputy Under Secretary of Natural Resources and Environment. Doug came to the Forest Service from right here in the House, where he served for eight years as Staff Director for the Natural Resources Subcommittee on Forests and Forest Health. Prior to that, Doug represented the Society of American Foresters, the National Forest Foundation, and the American Forest and Paper Association. We will miss Doug's hard work and we send our sincere gratitude and wish him all the best in retirement.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. JIM HAGEDORN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 31, 2020*

Mr. HAGEDORN. Madam Speaker, had I been present for the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 9051, I would have voted "nay." Had I been present for the vote to Override the President's Veto Message on H.R. 6395—Mac Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021, I would have voted "nay."

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. NEAL P. DUNN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 31, 2020*

Mr. DUNN. Madam Speaker, I was unable to travel to Washington, D.C. on December 28 due to illness. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 253.

## CONGRATULATING BILL DAWSON

### HON. EARL L. "BUDDY" CARTER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 31, 2020*

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Bill Dawson on his retirement from the Georgia Ports Authority after more than forty years of dedicated work.

Bill was born and raised in Brunswick, Georgia, and he has been a pillar in his community for many years. The Georgia Ports Authority, which was founded in 1945, operates port facilities in the state of Georgia. Bill has been with them as long as they have been in Brunswick.

He was previously employed as Assistant Manager for the Brunswick Port Authority and then joined the GPA as Terminal Manager for Brunswick Operations.

Throughout his career, Bill has been a professional and a mentor to many. He has been known as the go-to person for the GPA customers and community, and he set the tone for GPA's business at the Port of Brunswick for decades.

Bill's contributions to GPA expanded beyond his job responsibilities in operations, as he always went above and beyond to oversee the success of GPA in many other areas such as sales and public relations. Although he is very passionate about the Georgia Ports Authority, he is most passionate about his grandchildren. I hope that Bill is able to cherish many more special times with them as he begins his retirement.

I wish Bill the best, and I want to thank him for his lasting impact on Brunswick.

## CARING FOR AMERICANS WITH SUPPLEMENTAL HELP ACT OF 2020

SPEECH OF

### HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 28, 2020*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, as a senior member of the Committees on the Judiciary, on Homeland Security, and on the Budget, I rise in strong support of H.R. 9051, the "Caring For Americans With Supplemental Help Act of 2020, or CASH Act, which pro-

vides an additional \$1,400 in recovery payments directly to Americans, who are desperately struggling to get by during the twin disasters of COVID-19 and a faltering economy.

Because I had seen first-hand the pain and devastation caused by the pandemic, in March of this year, during the debate on the CARES Act, I advocated that the amount of direct payment should be \$3,000.

Madam Speaker, I see the disparities in the lives of so many of my constituents who suffer disproportionately from medical conditions that make COVID-19 deadly.

They work low wage or no wage jobs to make ends meet, and they have no health insurance and rely on community health centers or public health services for routine care.

I call them friends and neighbors because they are that to me.

I am pleased to have this opportunity to vote in favor of this legislation that will provide them with the help they need to survive and recover from COVID-19.

No one is benefiting from the COVID-19 economy.

The U.S. poverty rate has grown at a historic rate over the past five months, with 7.8 million Americans falling into poverty after the expanded \$600 a week in unemployment assistance expired at the end of July.

This represents the greatest increase since the government began tracking poverty sixty years ago.

In the city of Houston, nine key service sectors, accounting for 70 percent of all jobs, hemorrhaged more 1,343,600 jobs, which to average folks is another way of saying that more than 1.34 million persons lost their livelihoods.

Houston workers lost jobs in the following areas: Healthcare: 391,000; Retail: 303,600; Food services: 267,000; Finance: 166,000; Private Education: 63,400; Arts and Entertainment: 37,400; Accommodations: 28,700; Air Transportation: 20,200; Other Services: 115,800.

In addition to these positions, jobs were also lost in other areas, the largest of which was the construction industry, which shut down 30,700 jobs.

Professional and business services followed, with 25,300 jobs lost, although 13,900 were in temporary and provisional jobs in employment services; upstream oil lost 12,300 in March/April; and non-oil manufacturing lost 7,700 jobs.

Americans out of work due to COVID-19 have generated 86 million jobless claims, with new claims being filed in recent weeks topping 800,000.

Millions of Americans who lost their jobs during the pandemic have fallen thousands of dollars behind on rent and utility bills, a clear warning sign that people are running out of money for basic needs.

If this is not enough evidence of what is happening just look at the miles of vehicles lined up outside of food distribution centers for assistance, we see nightly on our television screens and in our communities.

• 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.

Moody's Analytics warned in November 2020 that 9 million renters said they were behind on rent, according to a Census Bureau survey.

The Bureau of the Census reports that twenty-one percent of all renters are behind on their rent, of which twenty-nine percent are African American families and seventeen percent are Hispanic households.

According to the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia's analysis of persons who were employed prior to the pandemic, 1.3 million of these households are now, on average of \$5,400 in debt on rent and utilities, after the family breadwinners lost their jobs.

The new COVID-19 relief legislation passed last week by Congress and reluctantly but finally signed by the President Trump restores unemployment assistance, but cuts that assistance from \$600 a week to \$300 a week without consideration of the facts on the ground, which are that millions of Americans remain out of work due to COVID-19 public health policy, and have been without sufficient income since August 1, 2020.

Today, we have twenty million Americans who are receiving some kind of unemployment aid, and about 12 million of the unemployed stopped receiving their benefits.

The nation is on the cusp of a recession that is in danger of becoming a double dip event that would plummet the economy into a precarious economic state that will take much more than a \$2000 payment to each individual to overcome.

These are the reasons why I will vote for the CASH Act—it increases direct payments to individuals from \$600 to \$2000, which will be of help to families struggling with the economic impacts of COVID-19.

COVID-19 is not waning or wearying as it continues its deadly work, and there are new reports indicating there is a new strain that is seventy percent more contagious.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reported that as of December 23, 2020, 18.17 million cases of COVID-19, resulting in 321,734 deaths, had been reported in the United States.

The new year will mark a terrible milestone for the United States—the last time we witnessed death on this scale in our nation was during the 1918 Flu Pandemic, which recorded a total of 675,000 deaths in the United States.

What the costs will be to our nation for the over 320,000 deaths have yet to be fully calculated.

It is a tragedy that too many households who have lost a member to COVID-19 are struggling to accept these deaths, but it is also the friends, co-workers, business owners, professionals, students, teachers, wives, husbands, brothers, sisters, aunts, cousins, and grandparents who also are feeling these losses because someone that mattered to them is no longer here.

Each of these lives impacted dozens of other lives, too many of whom were not allowed to be present with them during their final moments on this earth, but whose suffering is too often overlooked because we unduly preoccupy ourselves with only the immediate family.

My deepest concerns are for the medical professionals who are seeing more death day after day than our soldiers saw on distant battlefields in foreign lands defending our nation going back to World War II.

Our medical professionals and health care deliverers pride themselves on robbing death by keeping the very ill or critically injured alive but they are themselves wounded by each loss in ways that we cannot understand.

Too many of our medical professionals are losing the battle with death as they attempt to treat extremely ill COVID-19 patients because they do not have access to sufficient amounts of essential therapies or the special trained staff to administer interventions that could save lives.

Medical people also have not had the universal support of political leaders who are willing to promote wearing of face coverings, social distancing and handwashing to limit the spread of severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) the infection that causes COVID-19.

There is a hidden cost to this foolhardy disregard for the seriousness of this moment in American history.

My concerns are for the economic impact and the long-term damage to our nation's health care delivery system.

Today we will focus on the economic injuries caused by COVID-19, and I look forward to working with my colleagues on addressing the systemic long-term damage caused by unequal access to the health care.

Small businesses and working men and women of this great nation, who are the life blood of the economy and who pay the lion's share of federal taxes now find themselves, through no fault of their own, in need of assistance in the form of direct payments that will provide a bridge to them and to the economy for the next few weeks so that the next Administration will have time to assess and craft the relief package needed to get the nation over the last hurdles of the pandemic's economic impact.

Since the 1980s, corporate income tax revenues have become a smaller share of overall tax revenues paid to the federal government.

In 2017, President Trump signed into law P.L. 115-97, the tax scam which substantially and permanently changed the U.S. federal tax system for the wealthy and large corporations.

Most of the changes to the individual income tax system in P.L. 115-97 for those less well-off are temporary and scheduled to expire at the end of 2025, after which the rates for these individuals will return to what it was for 2017.

In contrast, many of the tax cuts made in P.L. 115-97 affecting corporations and wealthy individuals are permanent, in other words they will keep the drastic cut in corporate taxes.

The facts are that working individuals and small businesses support the U.S. government's federal tax system.

The largest source of revenue to the federal government is the individual income tax, which in 2019, generated \$1.7 trillion.

The second-largest source of federal revenue is payroll taxes, which is collected by employers and is often paid quarterly.

In FY2019, payroll taxes generated \$1.2 trillion in federal revenue or thirty-six percent of the total revenue for the federal government.

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) projects that federal income tax revenues in FY2020 will be \$1.5 trillion, and payroll tax revenue will be \$1.3 trillion.

In FY2020, it is projected that about 47 percent of federal revenue will be generated through the individual income tax.

In FY2019, corporate tax receipts were only \$230 billion, or nearly 7 percent of federal revenue, and in FY2020, corporate tax receipts are expected to be \$151 billion, less than 5 percent of federal revenue.

Receipts from other sources are also projected to increase in FY2020 to \$298 billion, from \$271 billion in FY2019, which will result in 9 percent of total revenue up by from the 8 percent the previous year.

Obligated social insurance federal program payments for Social Security and Medicare are paid through payroll taxes and are expected to generate an additional estimated \$1.3 trillion, or 35 percent of revenue in FY2020.

The \$2,000 in payments to individuals will be used to pay bills, rent, utilities, car notes, or purchase needed items like food and winter coats, and other essentials, which will translate into income for small businesses.

All of this spending will generate local, state and federal tax revenue as it fuels consumption and the provision of services that are still available through the economy.

Overtime basic Keynesian economics has proven itself to be the most durable and reliable economic model and has repeatedly proven that money turning over in the economy makes more money.

There is a reason why it is important to stimulate the economy during a deadly unchecked pandemic, chief of which is to stem the depressing of the national and global economies which exacerbate negative economic conditions.

We know the end of the COVID-19 pandemic's grip on the economy is in sight with the development and distribution of a vaccine, but we are not there yet; we must help the American people, and our small businesses, endure until we reach seventy percent inoculation in the general population.

The use of direct payments is the Keynesian solution that is winning the day across the globe for countries able to support their economies in this way.

Payments to individuals allows them and not the government to make spending decisions on their household's essential life sustaining needs such as paying for housing, utility bills, food, and clothing which allows money they spend to circulate through the economy like blood throughout the body.

The American people can and should be trusted to make decisions regarding how they spend the funds provided by the stimulus because they best know the needs of their own families.

Consumers will spend money with small businesses who should have the freedom to pay their workers and suppliers, workers and suppliers will be free to buy goods from other businesses, and those businesses will pay their workers and suppliers, and so on.

In this way, the \$2,000 in spending by each individual is actually spent more than once as the effect of each dollar spent creates more spending.

This is called the "money multiplier" effect: an initial increase in spending, cycles repeatedly through the economy and has a larger impact than the initial \$2,000 amount spent.

The economy needs to be inoculated against recession, which is what the \$2,000 in individual payments will do, and it will need a booster in about thirty to sixty days.

This is why the decision to provide a \$600 a week addition to unemployment benefits is a

good idea for those in labor markets with high costs of living like New York and Washington, D.C., but may have far outstripped the going rate for labor where the cost of living is much lower and \$600 a week exceeded the going rate for labor.

The Congress may need to revisit models for future programs of this type and provide a formula that is based on the actual spending power of funds provided so the ability of meeting the cost-of-living needs can be more in line with the intent of the funds provided, while ensuring that the spending power is equal.

This may mean that depending on where someone lived at the time a disaster of this nature was declared the amount, they would qualify for receiving may be different depending on the spending power of a dollar where they live.

If the overwhelming majority of those who will receive the \$2,000 payment were planning to deposit the funds in a bank account rather than spend it, then this bill would not be needed, but we know this is not the case.

For all these reasons, I urge all Members to join me in voting for H.R. 9051, the CASH Act, to increase individual payments from \$600 to \$2,000.

FAREWELL REMARKS FOR  
CONGRESSMAN KENNY MARCHANT

**HON. DEVIN NUNES**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 31, 2020*

Mr. NUNES. Madam Speaker, public service calls us at different times and in different ways. Some lead with loud voices, but often the most significant leaders are humble folk who quietly and tirelessly work to serve their constituents. My friend KENNY MARCHANT is one of those great leaders, and I am proud to have served with him.

Service comes natural for the Bonham, TX native, something he learned from his father Hobart, who was a barber and World War II Veteran. Throughout his thirty-five years of public service, from zoning committee and city council to state representative to the U.S. House of Representatives, KENNY has ceaselessly worked to make both Texas and America great.

Everyone that knows KENNY knows of his love and adornment for his family, his wife Donna, sons Matthew, Luke, and Kenny, Jr.,

and his daughter Dallas. But if you really want to see him smile, ask him about his grandchildren, Kendall, Hayden, Carolina, Sadie, Walker, Neyland, Conway, and Carter Bailey.

Congressman MARCHANT served this House, the state of Texas, and the people of District 24 with honor, respect, and dignity. I will greatly miss him on the Ways and Means Committee where we served together for many years. His impact in helping pass the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 and the U.S.-Mexico-Canada trade agreement cannot be understated. And, during this Congress, Congressman MARCHANT was selected as Ranking Member of the House Ethics Committee, a position in which he continued his devotion to humble public service.

I very much wish KENNY wasn't retiring at the end of this Congress, but he has earned a well-deserved retirement. I ask all of my colleagues to join me in congratulating our friend and colleague on his many years of service. We wish him, and the Marchant family, all the best on his retirement.