

Commission established under section 254, and the regulations issued under that section, to pay for any costs associated with this title.

“(b) **OTHER FUNDS.**—The Commission may recover costs associated with this title under section 9 to the extent provided for in an appropriation Act, as required under subsection (a) of that section.

“SEC. 806. OTHER PROVISIONS.

“(a) **OMB.**—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the initial rule making required under section 802(a)(1) shall be exempt from review by the Office of Management and Budget.

“(b) **P.R.A.**—Subchapter 1 of chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code (commonly known as the ‘Paperwork Reduction Act’) shall not apply to the initial rule making required under section 802(a)(1).

“(c) **EXECUTION OF RESPONSIBILITIES.**—Except, with respect to an entity that is not the Universal Service Administrative Company, as provided in section 802(a)(2)(B), section 802(b)(1)(A)(ii), and subsections (c), (d), and (e) of section 804, the Commission—

“(1) including the offices of the Commission, shall carry out the responsibilities assigned to the Commission under this title; and

“(2) may not delegate any of the responsibilities assigned to the Commission under this title to any third party, including the Universal Service Administrative Company.

“(d) **REPORTING.**—Each fiscal year, the Commission shall submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives a report that summarizes the implementation of this title and associated enforcement activities conducted during the previous fiscal year.

“(e) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**—If the Commission, before the date of enactment of this title, has taken an action that, in whole or in part, implements this title, the Commission shall not be required to revisit such action to the extent that such action is consistent with this title.”

Mr. PALLONE (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to dispense with the reading.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

The amendment in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

The bill was ordered to be read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

HONORING DENISE WILKERSON

(Mr. PAYNE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a great public servant from my district, Denise Wilkerson.

Ms. Wilkerson is the council president for the city of Roselle, New Jersey, but her dedication to her community extends far beyond her city council work. She also is the president of the Union County National Organization for Women. She served as second vice president of the National Council of Negro Women in Roselle, as well.

She is actively involved in her local NAACP chapter, and, in addition, she is the executive director of Abounding Women Community Outreach. This nonprofit is dedicated to empowering

women through their community events and professional skills training.

She is a vibrant part of my community, and I am glad to commend her from the floor of the United States House of Representatives on this day. She deserves all the accolades we can give her and much more.

□ 1415

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF SAMI NATOUR

(Mr. BURCHETT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember the life of Sami Natour, a respected member of the Knoxville community who recently passed away at the age of 86.

Sami lived the American Dream. He was born in Palestine in 1933 and later immigrated to America in 1953. He returned to Palestine in 1956 to marry his wife, Abba, before they permanently settled in the United States and became American citizens. The Natours lived in Arlington, Virginia, before making east Tennessee their home.

In 1972, Sami opened the Copper Kettle Restaurant in Knoxville with his brothers, Samir and Naji. Sami worked extremely hard to make the Copper Kettle a success. Sami's son, Peter, remembers his father's work ethic and how he would often work from 6 in the morning until midnight.

Sami's dedication to his business clearly left an impression on his sons: all three of them own and operate restaurants in the Knoxville area. Peter runs Pete's Coffee Shop—one of my favorite places—Basel runs Rami's Cafe, and Bassam runs Sami's Cafe.

Sami will be greatly missed. His life story serves as a reminder that anyone willing to work hard can follow their dreams and be successful in our great Nation.

OPPOSING TEXAS' MEDICAID WAIVER PROGRAM

(Ms. GARCIA of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I am here today to oppose the Healthy Texas Women Medicaid waiver program, which is nothing more than a reckless attack on reproductive rights.

The ironically titled Healthy Texas Women program blocks Medicaid beneficiaries from getting care at providers that offer abortion services, like Planned Parenthood. This does nothing to expand access to family planning care. It will harm low-income women who rely on Medicaid for their healthcare.

When Texas excluded Planned Parenthood from State funding 7 years ago, 45,000 fewer women accessed care. We cannot stand for that. This waiver program will hurt women of color the

most, who already experience health disparities and barriers to access.

Mr. Speaker, I will not stop fighting to protect a woman's right to make her own decisions about her healthcare, and I urge the Congress to do the same.

RECOGNIZING HEAD COACH ULYSSES HAWTHORNE

(Mr. CARTER of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Alfred E. Beach High School Head Football Coach, Ulysses Hawthorne, who is retiring from the Savannah-Chatham County Public Schools system after 21 seasons.

Coach Hawthorne is a stalwart in the Savannah athletics scene. At the time of his retirement he was the dean of all the coaches in the area, but, most importantly, he has always been an exceptional role model to his players. Players he coached remember that he pushed them to become leaders on and off the field. Many of his players are now playing at the next level in college.

As a unit, his teams were successful against schools from across the State of Georgia. In 2011, Coach Hawthorne took Alfred E. Beach High School to its first appearance in the State playoffs since 1993. During his tenure at Beach, he accumulated 76 wins.

I am so proud to have someone like Coach Hawthorne in the First Congressional District of Georgia shaping the lives of young people.

SPECIAL OLYMPICS

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight the great work of the Special Olympics.

Recently, I had the pleasure of visiting with Special Olympics athletes from Souderton Area High School, a Unified Sports school.

Schools that participate in Unified Sports pair students with and without disabilities to promote inclusion through a shared love of sports. Athlete Kevin Lezynski and his unified partner Jon Booz stopped by my office recently to share their experiences with the Pennsylvania Special Olympics.

The Special Olympics is a fantastic organization representing more than 5 million athletes that teaches the value of good sportsmanship. Because of the Special Olympics, individuals with intellectual disabilities are given opportunities to not only strengthen their physical fitness, but to strengthen the lifelong friendships made with fellow athletes along the way.

I would like to wish Kevin and Jon the best of luck in their future competitions, and to all of the other brave

Pennsylvania Special Olympics athletes and their Unified Sports partners.

STATE OF FLORIDA'S BIRTHDAY

(Mr. SPANO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SPANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the great State of Florida.

On this day in 1845, Florida became the 27th State to join our Union and has had a strong impact on our Nation ever since.

From producing 70 percent of our Nation's citrus, to ranking number 2 in vegetables harvested, Florida, as an agricultural powerhouse, has long been critical in feeding hungry Americans. Our State's importance to our national security also can't be understated.

Florida is home to 3 of 11 unified combatant commands—Central Command, Southern Command, and Special Operations Command. I am so honored to represent a district home to 57,000 veterans, part of the 1.5 million who call the Sunshine State home.

Florida is also a major tourism destination as millions from around the world flock to our shores to enjoy our beaches, food, culture, and theme parks.

I am grateful to have been born and raised in Florida and to represent the 15th District. I look forward to working with the Florida delegation to continue bettering the lives of all our State residents for generations to come.

THE BACHARACH GIANTS OF ATLANTIC CITY

(Mr. VAN DREW asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4104, the Negro Leagues Baseball Centennial Commemorative Coin Act.

In New Jersey's Second District we were home to the Bacharach Giants in Atlantic City. The team was a top contender in the league and won two pennants in 1926 and 1927.

The Giants were lucky enough to host players such as John Henry "Pop" Lloyd, a player whom Babe Ruth himself once called the greatest ballplayer of all time, anywhere, ever.

Pop Lloyd would end up retiring and coaching youth baseball in Atlantic City until the day he died, and he was inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1977.

Players like Pop Lloyd would lay the foundation for future stars such as Jackie Robinson and Hank Aaron, who would change the game forever. Yet, players like Lloyd, and the leagues they played in, are slowly becoming forgotten to the annals of history.

We cannot let that happen. I thank the gentleman from Missouri for intro-

ducing this important legislation to commemorate and honor those players and the role they played in shaping America's very favorite pastime.

May God bless him.

SOCIAL SECURITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2019, the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. LARSON) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the Chamber about one of the most important issues that the Nation faces, and that issue has only been underscored by the issue of the coronavirus, and also by the issue of inequality that exists today in this great country of ours, the wealthiest nation in the history of the world.

I am pleased to announce the number of people who have risen and come to support Social Security 2100. It is called Social Security 2100 because we address the needs of Social Security into the next century so that Social Security will be solvent beyond 75 years and address the vital concerns of each and every American.

In 2019, 64 million Americans received Social Security benefits totaling over \$1 trillion. For nearly one-third of our elderly beneficiaries, Social Security benefits are 90 percent of their total income. Two-thirds rely on Social Security for the majority of their income. The average benefit in 2019 per American was \$17,600 for retired workers, and that works out to be about \$18,000 for men and \$14,000 for women—not enough for most to live on.

Mr. Speaker, 178 million Americans are covered by Social Security today; 10,000, baby boomers a day become eligible for Social Security.

Social Security helps lower and middle-income Americans the most. More than 90 percent of benefits go to beneficiaries earning less than \$50,000. Let me repeat that again: more than 90 percent of all the benefits of Social Security go to people earning less than \$50,000 a year.

That is why the following individuals have supported the Social Security 2100 Act, including: Social Security Works, the National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare, the AFL-CIO, the Alliance for Retired Americans, Paralyzed Veterans of America, VoteVets, the American Federation of Government Employees, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Latinos for a Secure Retirement, the National Organization for Women, SAGE, the National Education Association, The Arc of the United States, International Federation of Professional & Technical Engineers representing the Administrative Law Judges, Consortium for Citizens With Disabilities Social Security Task Force, Justice in Aging, the Association of University Centers on

Disabilities, Senior Citizens League, the National Organization of Social Security Claimants' Representatives, the EPI Policy Center, the National Retiree Legislative Network, Public Citizen, CREDO Action, Progress America, Other 98, the Daily Kos, People's Action, the Diverse Elders Coalition, the National Employment Law Project, Freedom to Prosper, MoveOn, Union Veterans Council of the AFL-CIO, just to name a few, Madam Speaker.

I want to start today by talking about having Secretary Mnuchin before the Ways and Means Committee this morning.

I reminded Secretary Mnuchin and complimented the President for saying in his last two State of the Union messages how he was committed to protecting Social Security. While he is committed to protecting Social Security, his budgets have not reflected that, which was a point of concern we raised with Secretary Mnuchin especially since—to give President Trump credit here—that during the campaign of 2016 when faced with 16 other Republicans who tried to force him to say that Social Security is an entitlement, President Trump, to his credit, said: No, Social Security is an earned benefit.

I asked Secretary Mnuchin if he believed that Social Security was an earned benefit, and he said: Yes, it was.

I also asked then, if that is the case, and it is an earned benefit, it debunks a longstanding concern raised by the other side that Social Security is somehow an entitlement program when, in fact, every American citizen knows, because of FICA, exactly what Social Security is.

FICA stands for the Federal Insurance Contribution Act, but anyone can go to their pay stub and look at it. Federal Insurance Contribution—whose contribution?

Your contribution; every American citizen's contribution. It is not a tax. The tax that is paid by an employer to your benefit is fully deductible. The employer gets to deduct it. The benefit for your contribution goes directly to the employee, and they get that in the way of pension guarantee, disability protection, spousal and dependent coverage, and a death benefit.

□ 1430

The wisdom of Franklin Delano Roosevelt is also prescient because they realized back in 1929, after the Great Depression, in this great capitalistic and entrepreneurial society that we live in, that sometimes, through no fault of your own, when something as disastrous as a stock market crash or an unanticipated virus takes place, that disaster can prevail, and all of a sudden, you would find yourself in a situation where you had not the means.

Thus, Congress, because of President Roosevelt, adopted the Social Security Act and paid for it through the Federal insurance contribution. So this contribution, every citizen knows that it is their contribution that they make.