

I would appreciate your sharing this letter with your Board of Directors and in particular with the Board's Corporate Integrity Committee.

Sincerely,

PETE STARK,
Member of Congress.

IN HONOR OF NEW YORK STATE
ASSEMBLYMAN DENIS BUTLER
ON HIS RETIREMENT AFTER
TWENTY-FOUR YEARS IN OFFICE

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 31, 2000

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to New York State Assemblyman Denis Butler, who is retiring this year after twenty-four years of service in the New York State Assembly, where he has represented the residents of his native Queens, New York district superbly.

First elected in 1976, and reelected every year since, Assemblyman Butler has led a remarkably distinguished career in the State Assembly, where he rose to the rank of Assistant Speaker Pro Tempore in 1993. He has served as a senior member of the Assembly labor and Aging Committees, and currently serves as a member of the Rules, Analysis and Investigations, Economic Development, and Oversight Committees. He is also the Chairman of the Subcommittee on the Special Problems of the Aging as well as the Chairman of the Assembly Queens Delegation.

Assemblyman Butler has been a champion of the aging, disabled, and underprivileged, and has worked tirelessly for the working men and women of his district. With the support of the Assembly leadership, Assemblyman Butler created SCRIBE (Senior Citizens Rent Increase Exemption), which has helped low income seniors remain in their homes. Additionally, he was a prime sponsor of EPIC, New York's prescription drug buy plan, which has helped thousands of elderly new Yorkers pay for necessary medication.

Assemblyman Butler has also been extremely active in civic affairs and has worked alongside local community activists on a wide range of issues, from improving educational and youth programs, to strengthening the local police presence. His caring guidance and enthusiasm have truly made his neighborhood a more pleasant place to live and work. Assemblyman Butler's service in Albany has been extraordinarily beneficial to his Queens, New York constituents, and I applaud him on such an esteemed career.

Assemblyman Butler began his career in politics after completing his education, which included a significant amount of time at seminary school, and working as an account executive and sales manager in the fields of television and radio broadcasting. Throughout his years serving his community in the legislature, time and again. Assemblyman Butler has proven to be a community-driven and compassionate legislator. He is one of the original founders of the 114th Auxiliary Police Corps, the past president of St. Joseph's Home School Association, and has also served as a member of the St. Joseph's Parish Council. For twenty-eight years, Assemblyman Butler has organized the annual Toys for Tots Drive.

Assemblyman Butler has been honored by numerous organizations, among them, the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2348, the Long Island Chapter Knights of Columbus, and the Federation of Italian-American organizations of Queens, Inc.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to pay tribute to such a respectable man. Assemblyman Butler has demonstrated that the work of a legislator is not only a rewarding opportunity for the person in office, but also immeasurably helpful to local communities. Assemblyman Butler has served as an enormously valuable resource and public servant to his Queens constituents and I am sure his services will be missed.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE
WILLIAM L. CLAY, SR.

SPEECH OF

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 2000

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I stand here this evening to acknowledge the accomplishments of one, United States Representative WILLIAM CLAY, my friend and colleague.

WILLIAM CLAY, United States Representative from the 1st Congressional District of Missouri, was first elected to Congress in 1968. He has served in these hallowed chambers for 15 succeeding Congresses from 1969 through January 2001.

His commitment to public service has been lifelong. His work includes serving as Alderman in St. Louis and serving as Education Coordinator, Steamfitters Local No. 562. Mr. CLAY, throughout his business and professional life, has always been a people's fighter, championing the cause for those left out, the voiceless and the poor.

Representative CLAY, senior member, Missouri congressional delegation, currently serves as Ranking Member, House Education and Workforce Committee. He also served as Chairman, Committee on the Post Office and Civil Service in the 102d and 103d Congresses. Representative CLAY was the chief architect of H.R. 1, the Family and Medical Leave Act, a major piece of legislation. In addition, it was Representative CLAY who worked tirelessly to have the Hatch Act reform bill signed into law.

Representative CLAY's work in the areas of education, labor and workforce will stand long after he leaves Congress. His work to ensure equal access to education and to promote educational excellence are testaments to his belief in providing opportunities for all Americans. In addition, Representative CLAY has boldly stood, where many others would not, to ensure fair wages as well as safe, healthy working conditions for American workers.

In 1969, Representative CLAY and twelve other African American representatives of the 77th Congress joined together to form the "Democratic Select Committee." This committee was later renamed the Congressional Black Caucus. Founding members included Representatives WILLIAM CLAY, Shirley Chisholm, George Collins, JOHN CONYERS, Ronald Dellums, Charles Diggs, Augustus Hawkins, Ralph Metcalfe, Parren Mitchell, Robert Nix,

CHARLES RANGEL, Louis Stokes and Walter Fauntroy. Representative CLAY, through the Congressional Black Caucus, worked and dedicated himself to removing barriers and helped to mold a Nation to its higher calling for a government "of the people, for the people and by the people."

Representative CLAY has authored two books, *To Kill or Not To Kill* (published in 1990) and *Just Permanent Interests* (published in 1992). Moreover, Mr. Speaker, Representative CLAY has also founded the William L. Clay Scholarship Fund, a fund that presently enrolls fifty-six students in twenty-one different schools.

Today, Mr. Speaker, I recognize a Statesman, an educator, businessman, author, and more importantly, a father and husband to Carol Clay for 43 years. I stand today to personally thank him for his friendship, guidance, love and his long-time friendship with my predecessor, Congressman Louis Stokes. Congressman Stokes gave me the opportunity that I possess today and now I am able to bask in the sunshine too!

Mr. Speaker, I stand to recognize and to say thanks to the outstanding Representative from the 1st Congressional District of Missouri, my friend, Representative WILLIAM LACY CLAY, Sr. Mr. Speaker, America is better off . . ., this Congress is better off, . . ., the Congressional Black Caucus is better off . . . because of Representative WILLIAM LACY CLAY, Sr. I salute you and America salutes you.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2614,
CERTIFIED DEVELOPMENT COM-
PANY PROGRAM IMPROVEMENTS
ACT OF 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. BOB RILEY

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2000

Mr. RILEY. Mr. Speaker, in an effort to ensure that our nation's seniors will continue to have access to quality health care, Congress is again providing a financial infusion into our nation's Medicare program.

I want to ensure that the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) implements the provisions of this Medicare "giveback" bill in accordance with congressional intent. Section 111 of this legislation would help alleviate the high out-of-pocket payment our seniors face today in hospital outpatient departments. HCFA has previously interpreted this provision in a manner that may result in a beneficiary paying more for a procedure done on an outpatient basis than they would pay if the procedure were done on an inpatient basis. I believe this interpretation of the Balanced Budget Relief Act (BBRA) of 1999 fails to carry out congressional intent.

While I am pleased that this year's bill would gradually begin to diminish these overcharges to our seniors, HCFA should interpret Sec. 111 on a "per incident" or "per procedure" basis or seniors will not be able to fully avail themselves of the help we have tried to include for them in this bill. Under HCFA's narrow interpretation of this provision in the BBRA of 1999, seniors may be faced with paying two or more separate copays for the same procedure and would likely pay less out-