

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. THOMAS S.P. PERRIELLO

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 2009

Mr. PERRIELLO. Madam Speaker, on April 2nd, 2009, I voted against H. Con. Res. 85, the Congressional Budget Resolution for Fiscal Year 2010. Although I was unable to cast my vote on the resolution, I made it clear to Leadership that I continue to oppose the budget resolution. While this budget represents much-needed honesty by including the cost of operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, and the inevitable cost associated with natural disasters, it does not go far enough to restore fiscal responsibility to our Nation. We are suffering in the wake of eight years of historic fiscal irresponsibility. But difficult times call for difficult decisions. We cannot climb out of the current economic crisis without returning to fiscal sanity to restore consumer and investor confidence. While this budget resolution took a significant step in the right direction by cutting the deficit by more than half in five years, we can and must do better. For this reason, I continue to oppose the budget resolution.

LEE KAMPEL

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 2009

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Lee Kampel who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Lee Kampel is an 8th grader at Oberon Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Lee Kampel is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Lee Kampel for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication he has shown in his academic career to his future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING HONOR FLIGHT OF SOUTH CAROLINA

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 2009

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, on April 15, 2009, a delegation of World War II veterans, family members, and volunteers from South Carolina, coordinated by Bill Dukes, gathered at the National World War II Memorial in Washington to recognize the service and sacrifice of our World War II veterans and honor the memory of five veterans. These five members of the Greatest

Generation had sadly passed away before they could travel with Honor Flight—an organization that brings World War II veterans to visit the memorial erected in their honor. Five American and South Carolina flags were dedicated in the memory of: Allen C. Hart, James Adkins, Robert Atkinson, John Lachenmeyer, Harold C. Reynolds.

Our liberty is not guaranteed. It must forever be defended by the courageous men and women of our military. I am honored to recognize these brave American heroes.

RECOGNITION OF GLOBAL CHILD NUTRITION MONTH

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 2009

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the School Nutrition Association, (SNA) and the Global Child Nutrition Foundation (GCNF). It is my distinct pleasure to share with you how one organization, along with some loose change, can make a dramatic difference for those around the globe who are less fortunate.

April is Global Child Nutrition Month and to celebrate, the School Nutrition Association, in conjunction with the Global Child Nutrition Foundation is collecting funds to "Change the World". SNA and GCNF encourage school nutrition professionals to take a day, a week, or the whole month to partner with students and teachers in raising funds to fight global hunger. Through the Change Our World campaign, the funds raised will be used to support GCNF and other local and international hunger organizations. Hundreds of school districts nationwide are participating this month.

For the second year during Global Child Nutrition Month, the annual Change Our World fundraising campaign continues its mission to raise awareness about global hunger. Last year, Change Our World raised \$110,000 for GCNF. I am hopeful that this year's campaign will exceed last year's efforts.

The Global Child Nutrition Foundation was created in 2006 with the mission of expanding opportunities for the world's children to receive adequate nutrition for learning and achieving their potential. I visited the GCNF Web site to learn more about its work and was delighted to see how just in a few years' time, one organization has done so much to make a difference. I would encourage all of my colleagues to visit the GCNF Web site at www.gcnf.org to learn more about its activities.

Additionally, I am delighted to report that the GCNF will hold its 2009 Global Child Nutrition Forum outside of Cape Town, South Africa, May 5–9, 2009. The Forum marks the beginning of a three-year technical assistance cycle to advance school feeding through sharing problem solving guidance and ongoing communication with country leaders from selected developing countries.

As we speak of these developing countries, we are reminded that nearly 300 million of the world's children are caught in the debilitating cycle of poverty and hunger. According to the World Food Programme, 170 million of these children attend school, but most do not receive meals there. Because a hungry child cannot learn, GCNF works to help nations

build and sustain school feeding programs to nurture and educate children.

Madam Speaker, as someone who is committed to ending hunger once and for all, I thank and commend the School Nutrition Association and the Global Child Nutrition Foundation for recognizing April as Global Child Nutrition Month.

It is my hope that all of us can work together to be a part of the solution as we continue to raise awareness in eradicating hunger.

CREDIT CARDHOLDERS' BILL OF RIGHTS ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration of the bill (H.R. 627) to amend the Truth in Lending Act to establish fair and transparent practices relating to the extension of credit under an open end consumer credit plan, and for other purposes:

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Chair, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 627, the "Credit Cardholders' Bill of Rights Act of 2009," a bill of which I am a proud co-sponsor. My friend and colleague, Representative CAROLYN MALONEY, who is the bill's author, has been a tireless advocate for protecting consumers from the abuses of the credit card industry. This legislation will mandate meaningful reform on an industry that has been permitted to run wild for far too long.

We hear daily of countless Americans, who are struggling to pay their bills. Compounding this lamentable state of affairs is the fact that workers in this country have suffered a decline in real wages over the past decade. As a result of being stretched to their financial breaking point, many families have had to resort to using credit cards to pay for unforeseen costs, such as car repairs or emergency room bills. Far too often, these families are subjected to arbitrary rate increases and also forced to pay iniquitous late fees.

H.R. 627 will help put an end to these shameful practices and require credit card companies to treat consumers fairly. Importantly, this legislation will restrict the practice known as "universal default," wherein a credit card company uses information about a cardholder's financial status, such as a change in his or her credit rating, to raise the cardholder's interest rate, even if the cardholder has not defaulted on payments or made them late. Moreover, H.R. 627 will also ban what is known as "double cycle billing," which is the collection of interest on amounts already paid by consumers to credit card companies.

In this time of severe recession, I feel it imperative that consumers be afforded fair protection from unfair credit card industry practices. I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of this common-sense legislation, which will help stem the tide of unscrupulous and predatory lending that has brought our nation to an economic precipice of gargantuan proportions.