

Lowrey, and her five grandchildren. We honor the memory of Trish Hooper for the life she lived so well and for her extraordinary service to our Nation. She was a force of nature and will be sorely missed and never forgotten by anyone who was privileged to know her. Trish made our community better and our country stronger. Her brand of citizenship stands as the highest standard for all of us to emulate.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY
OF DR. WALTER LEAR

HON. CHAKA FATTAH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 30, 2010

Mr. FATTAH. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the life of Dr. Walter Lear. Dr. Lear was a committed physician, outspoken health advocate for gay and lesbian people, and a great Philadelphian. A native of Brooklyn, New York, he was born in 1923 and went on to receive degrees from Harvard College (B.S.), Long Island College of Medicine (M.D.), and Columbia University (M.S.). In the 1960s, Dr. Lear left New York to become the Philadelphia health commissioner and later became the executive director of Philadelphia General Hospital and then the regional health commissioner for the Pennsylvania Department of Health. As one of few "out" gay public officials, Dr. Lear was a leading advocate for the inclusion of sexual orientation in civil rights provisions barring discrimination. Additionally, he was influential in ensuring the passage of the Philadelphia Gay Rights Bill in 1982.

Throughout his career, Lear sought to improve the lives of ordinary people by broadening access to quality healthcare, especially to those who were marginalized in society because of their sexuality. In 1979, Lear and a small group of others founded Lavender Health, which would become the first health center in Philadelphia dedicated to meeting the unique needs of the city's gay and lesbian community. Lavender Health, now known as the Mazzoni Center, continues to provide a much needed resource in Philadelphia as it is the only organization to provide comprehensive health and wellness to LGBT people. Furthermore, the Mazzoni Center is the oldest AIDS organization in Pennsylvania and the fourth oldest in the nation.

Lear's determination to help others was truly unmatched and the extent of his work is far reaching. He helped found the Gay and Lesbian Community Center (now the William Way Center), the Philadelphia AIDS Task Force, and the Maternity Care Coalition of Greater Philadelphia. In addition, he also convened the first national conference on AIDS in the 1980s before the disease received any widespread attention from the media or government. In the 1970s, he was a part of a small group that helped to desegregate medical schools in Philadelphia. Moreover, Lear was visionary in his advocacy for expanded access to healthcare beyond gays and lesbians, to include communities of color facing similar barriers to care. Toward the end of his life, his research interests included documenting the 100+ year struggle to obtain universal healthcare.

Lear was not only an advocate for LGBT issues, but also vocal in his support for the

wellbeing of all Pennsylvanians. As an active member in the American Public Health Association (APHA) for over 50 years, Lear championed a number of causes involving minority health, social justice, and health issues facing lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people. The APHA recognized Lear's vast work and activism at their 134th annual meeting where they awarded him the Helen Rodriguez-Trias Award for Social Justice. Sadly, Dr. Lear died on May 29, 2010. He is survived by his loving partner of over 50 years, James F. Payne, his former wife, Evelyn Lear; a son, Jon Stewart, and a daughter, Bonnie Stewart. I express my sincere condolences to his family and friends, and honor the great work he has done for the City of Philadelphia and the Nation.

REPUBLICAN YOU-CUT PROPOSAL

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 30, 2010

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today in solidarity with Americans who are telling this Congress to stop spending.

More than a million votes have been cast this week as part of the You-Cut initiative, which gives Americans the chance to say what spending we need to eliminate.

This week, the American people said we need to stop paying federal workers to conduct union activities.

These are bureaucrats who are paid by taxpayers but spend 100 percent of their time helping their unions. Their salaries should be paid for by union leaders—not hard-working American families.

These workers cost taxpayers \$1.2 billion

This is not the ethical government the American people were promised, and today, I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to vote to stop this unfair funding.

INTRODUCING THE END BIG OIL
TAX SUBSIDIES ACT

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 30, 2010

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to introduce the End Big Oil Tax Subsidies Act, legislation that will end the expensive and unnecessary subsidies that the American people provide to the world's largest and most profitable companies. The legislation leaves untouched the tax treatment for small, independent companies.

Every year, Americans file their tax forms, contributing to our nation's defense, education, and infrastructure. Yet the biggest oil companies retain staggering tax benefits that shield these companies from their tax burdens. These benefits may have made sense decades ago for a fledgling industry, but today there is no need to protect the largest and most profitable companies in the world from burdens that every other taxpayer faces.

In 2008, the top five oil companies made a combined profit of \$100 billion. In 2009, ExxonMobil hit an all-time record \$45.2 billion

in profits, yet paid no U.S. federal income taxes. In fact, they received a \$156 million tax refund. To be sure, these companies face other tax liabilities. But the cornerstone of financing the federal government is the federal income tax and here Big Oil can largely offset its income with these tax subsidies. It is patently unfair that ordinary Americans must pay into a system that subsidizes this mature industry.

At time when we are working to rebuild our economy and curb the deficit, America cannot and should not subsidize the most profitable corporations in the world. President Obama's FY 2011 Budget proposed ending many of these tax breaks, which could reduce the deficit and fund national priorities from education to clean energy. At the recent G-20 Summit in Pittsburgh, the administration agreed with the other G-20 nations to eliminate these subsidies.

The unique tax breaks enjoyed by the oil industry provide unnecessary and harmful incentives for exploration, drilling, and refining activities that keep America anchored to oil, a threat to our environment and our national security. The United States consumes 25 percent of the world's oil but has less than 3 percent of the proven reserves.

By continuing to artificially subsidize fossil fuels, we undermine investments that will guarantee our energy dependence. It is time for our country to shift gears, end the billion dollar carve-outs for the largest oil companies, and start investing our limited taxpayer dollars in America's future rather than America's past.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2194,
COMPREHENSIVE IRAN SANCTIONS,
ACCOUNTABILITY, AND
DIVESTMENT ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2010

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Conference Report for The Comprehensive Iran Sanctions, Accountability, and Divestment Act of 2010.

I can think of nothing more pressing to our national security than putting a stop to Iran's nuclear plans. Today, Iran learned that the United States Congress will not stop until we end the tyranny Iran's leadership is promoting.

As a member of the House Appropriations Committee's Subcommittee on State and Foreign Operations, I spend a great deal of time focused on preventing Iran from developing an enrichment program that leads to nuclear weapons. Their current leadership is unstable, provocative, and would be a danger to the entire region armed with nuclear weapons.

Non-military options—including activities to disrupt Iranian research—are similarly problematic. This then leads us to consider military options. Here, all we need to do is look at Iraq to understand the difficulties of a military response in Iran.

In fact, during an unofficial "war-game" on Iran, former National Security Council official Ken Pollack said, "Compared with Iraq, Iran has three times the population, four times the land area, and five times the problems."

Some suggest precision strikes at Iran's nuclear facilities, as the Israelis did when they