

focus; the other, unwavering faith and a strong belief in the power and purpose of God. Their names: Mrs. Bernice Patton Montgomery-Johnson (Miss Bernice) and her elder daughter, Zelpha la'Marr Montgomery-Whatley, who is just called, Zep.

Zep caught her mother's dream to build a house—a great house for people who are sick, homeless, in need of housing and gentle personal care. Zep gave up her life's work of public service where she lived “up North” and having been accepted to the Peace Corps to work in West Africa.

Instead and as God would have it, Zep packed up and moved back home to Holmes County, Mississippi, breaking a long standing vow never to return to Mississippi again! She moved back home, she thought, to help her mother, Miss Bernice, to fulfill a dream to build “a house of help” for poor senior citizens of Holmes County and Mississippi. Miss Bernice convinced her daughter that “back home” was her “Peace Corps” and her “West Africa.” Zep said, “Yes,” to her mother and has since proclaimed that this is the best, most challenging and rewarding work God has ever assigned to her hands. Her boldness for the “street work” of God—“helping hurting people,” is unmatched!

To know Zep Montgomery—to really know her, is to know that she rarely considers the word, “No” as a final answer to any unsolved problem. She says her daddy taught her to “just look for another way.” She will push herself and she will push and pull others until “the way is found.” This attitude is testimony to the mere existence of Miss Bernice's House—a Personal care/Assisted Living facility, Holmes County's first and only one. When she was told “No,” by her local and State governments, she turned to Washington, D.C., and her Congressman. It was understood that “No” was not an answer, nor was it an option. The Federal government responded with an \$800,000 dollar, loan/grant package to build the house envisioned by her mother, who on the day of approval went home to be with the Lord!

Additionally, Zep knew when the mailman had trouble delivering the mail on the wet, muddy road where she lived, she put on her rubber boots and went to see the Holmes County Board of Supervisors. They said it couldn't be done; the road couldn't be built and probably wouldn't be built during the next 20 years! Within 2 years a new paved road was built, including two new concrete bridges for approximately \$500,000 dollars! Again, when the current water system could not accommodate Miss Bernice's House and her community, Zep requested assistance from the local water authority and was told, “No, it couldn't be done.” Today, a \$550,000 dollar new water system has been installed for her community and Miss Bernice's House as a direct result of Zep's faith, her tenacity and her hard work.

Zelpha is a professional helper. She believes there is no greater reason for any human being to get up in the morning other than to help another human-being.

Zep proclaims, “I'm in business to help people.”

## FULL-YEAR CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2011

SPEECH OF

**HON. LOIS CAPPS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 15, 2011*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1) making appropriations for the Department of Defense and the other departments and agencies of the Government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2011, and for other purposes:

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Chair, I rise in strong opposition to H.R. 1.

This deeply flawed bill does nothing to create jobs or promote economic growth. In fact, it actually undercut these critical priorities, threatening to destabilize our fragile economic recovery.

The bill cuts billions of dollars from programs that increase transportation and housing choices, reduce traffic on our highways, and lower energy costs for American families. It cuts Community Development Block Grants that empower local cities and counties to prioritize the housing and infrastructure projects that make the most sense for them. And it eliminates funding for the Sustainable Communities Initiative—a program that strengthens local economic competitiveness and reduces commutes to jobs, shops and schools.

These proven programs are already creating jobs and stimulating economic growth. They help local communities attract new businesses and jumpstart their economies. They help improve local business districts and provide affordable housing options nearby. And rather than build expensive new roads and highways, these programs focus on fixing what we already have.

In short, these programs create jobs. High tech jobs. Clean energy jobs. Construction jobs. High quality, local jobs that pay well and can't be shipped overseas.

Rather than enhancing these proven job creators, the Majority is eliminating them. The irrational spending cuts in this bill completely undermine these proven programs and threaten to cripple our fragile economic recovery. It makes no sense.

But I suppose we shouldn't be surprised, given the Majority's record on the issue. It's been nearly two months and we have not voted on a single bill to create jobs or promote economic growth. Not one.

Mr. Chair, we can't simply cut our way to economic prosperity.

This CR is nothing more than a negligent political gimmick. But this gimmick has real consequences. Real consequences for our local communities whose crumbling infrastructure will only deteriorate further; real consequences for the millions of unemployed Americans whose search for a job will only get longer; and real consequences for Middle Class families whose struggle to stay afloat will only get tougher.

It's time this Congress starts doing what our constituents sent us here to do—create jobs. I urge my colleagues to support jobs creation and oppose H.R. 1.

## LOWER MISSISSIPPI RIVER MAINTENANCE

**HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER**

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 17, 2011*

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address a matter of vital importance to our Nation's business and economic recovery. I am extremely concerned about recent actions by the Army Corps of Engineers and its failure to maintain the Lower Mississippi River deep draft navigation channel. Approximately 60 percent of all U.S. grain exports are shipped from the Mississippi River, and 25 percent of all large commercial bulk ships that arrive in the U.S. come through the mouth of the Mississippi River. U.S. Customs and Border Protection estimates that the river system facilitates between \$85 billion and \$104 billion annually in foreign trade through its district on the Lower Mississippi River. Without immediate maintenance dredging of that channel, domestic transportation costs will significantly increase for a wide range of U.S. products and goods, and many businesses will be placed at a competitive disadvantage for participation in the Nation's export trade.

At this time, the Corps is not meeting navigation channel maintenance requirements, and as a result, the width and depth of the channel has been reduced because of silting in the lower stretches of the river. The maritime transportation capabilities of the waterway are deteriorating rapidly, and river pilots now have imposed operating restrictions on commercial vessels transiting the mouth of the Mississippi River, restrictions that will significantly add costs and delays in the export of American products to international markets. Therefore, I urge the Corps of Engineers to maintain the Lower Mississippi River deep draft navigation channel at a depth and width that will not inhibit transportation on this vital waterway.

## LOWER MISSISSIPPI RIVER MAINTENANCE

**HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 17, 2011*

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address concerns that many of my colleagues have expressed to me regarding maintenance to the Lower Mississippi River deep draft navigation channel. As the Chairman of the House Energy and Water Development Appropriations Subcommittee, I am well aware of the economic benefits provided by the Mississippi River system that connects approximately 30 States in our Nation's heartland with international markets. Accordingly, the Subcommittee works hard to ensure that the Lower Mississippi River deep draft navigation channel is maintained by the Corps to meet export and import trade and other domestic transportation needs.

As Congress considers the Continuing Resolution for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2011, I want to assure my colleagues that I have provided sufficient flexibility within the \$2,361,000,000 in the operation and maintenance account for the Corps to maintain the

Lower Mississippi River deep draft navigation channel to adequately meet our transportation needs. It is our intent that the Corps recognizes the economic importance of navigation on the Lower Mississippi River when allocating these funds.

HONORING BESSIE BAKER

### HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 17, 2011*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Bessie Baker. Could you honestly say that "My house is your house?" Could you honestly say that "I will help you when you need me?" Are you willing to "be there when your neighbor needs you?" Are you willing to "set aside your time to do for others in any situation?" Are you willing to "feed a stranger?"

At the young age of 50, Bessie L. Baker has 3 adult children and 2 teenage children. She continues to make silent sacrifices for others within the community by being reliable, caring, and passionate about those in need. She is always willing to put one foot in front of the other, despite personal struggles and situations that we all face day-to-day. Bessie continues to be involved not only within her family's lives, but also in the lives of others. She is the epitome of selflessness in society as a whole not just today, but everyday.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF CLARENCE HARPER

### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 17, 2011*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Clarence Dominic Harper and in honor of his commitment to family, community, and country.

Clarence spent his entire life devoted to his community. In 1930 he was born in Richfield, Ohio, where he would remain and serve for the rest of his life. He left a profound mark on those with whom he lived. The denizens of Richfield will remember Clarence fondly due to his constant support and devotion to the community. Clarence had a great admiration for the natural beauty of Ohio. In fact, during his life he became a self-taught expert on animals native to Northeast Ohio.

Clarence also possessed a strong, vital love for his country. In fact, this Nation will forever be in debt to the years he devoted to serving his Nation during the Korean War.

Most importantly, Clarence was a family man. He spent 55 years of his life with his loving wife Helene. He was an active role model for his children, Stacy, Gregory, and Mary, for whom he was always a loving and caring father.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in remembering Clarence Dominic Harper whose legacy of commitment towards community, country and family is an inspiration. I extend my sincere condolences to his wife, his three children and three grandchildren.

## FULL-YEAR CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2011

SPEECH OF

### HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 15, 2011*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1) making appropriations for the Department of Defense and the other departments and agencies of the Government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2011, and for other purposes:

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Chair, I strongly oppose this bill's elimination of funding for Title X family planning services.

This extremely successful program helps both men and women access lifesaving preventative healthcare, including breast exams, cancer screenings, and HIV tests.

The proposed cuts in H.R. 1 would eliminate these, which is unconscionable.

If my colleagues across the aisle really want to reduce the number of abortions in this country, they should support Title X funding which helps prevent unintended pregnancies through education and access to contraception.

In my home state of California, Title X helps more than 200,000 women avoid unintended pregnancies.

The birth rate among California teenagers has decreased by more than half since 1992. Without Title X funding it would be 37 percent higher!

Eliminating the \$2.2 million in Title X funds that San Diego County receives every year will mean taking away care in a state already struggling with limited resources.

I will not let San Diego families lose these valuable health services.

When women have better access to family planning, it leads to healthier outcomes for both mother and child.

Leadership proposes these cuts under the guise of being "fiscally responsible," but that is far from reality, particularly for states that are in budget crises like California.

The contraceptive and other reproductive health services provided at Title X—supported centers in my state saved \$581,890,000 in public funds in 2008 alone.

Cutting family planning is fiscally irresponsible.

Eliminating it doesn't save taxpayers any money; in fact, it puts their health and potentially their lives at risk. That is a cost we cannot afford.

## FULL-YEAR CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2011

SPEECH OF

### HON. JEFF DUNCAN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 15, 2011*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1) making appropriations for the Department of Defense and the other departments and agencies of the Government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2011, and for other purposes:

Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina. Mr. Chair, with the federal budget deficit soaring past \$1.5 trillion dollars, our national debt is no longer simply a pressing economic problem. It is a looming catastrophe. If we do not reduce government spending immediately and by massive amounts America will never recover. The annual deficit alone equates to nearly \$5,000 for every man woman and child. That means we are spending \$5,000 per person more than we take in each year. The amount of total debt our government has accumulated is much too great for our citizens to even fathom at \$14 trillion.

I agree with the nonpartisan Eagle Forum citizen advocacy group which recently stated that if we do not drastically reduce spending now, the problem won't simply be that our children and grandchildren will be saddled with debt. Our currency will become worthless, economic growth will become nearly impossible and our nation will be plunged into a modern equivalent of the dark ages. Our only choice is to drastically reduce the size and cost of our government. It is not possible to raise taxes high enough to pay for all the spending the President wants. Despite the tremendous work ethic and resourcefulness of the American people, it is no longer even possible for the United States to grow our way out of this mess. Freezing spending is not enough. Merely trimming spending is not enough. We need to cut and cut deeply. Representatives JIM JORDAN and SCOTT GARRETT and Senator JIM DEMINT have proposed \$173 billion of discretionary spending cuts over the next two years, \$16.1 billion in cuts to Medicaid, ending the "stimulus" program which will save \$45 billion, and ending government ownership of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, saving another \$30 billion. This proposal is an excellent start. It is necessary. And it may be America's only hope if we wish to avoid an economic calamity.

HONORING MARY FRANCES MOORE

### HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 17, 2011*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the long and distinguished life of Ms. Mary Frances Moore.

For more than twenty years she spent numerous hours campaigning for the person she thought was the best candidate for political position. Whether it was going door to door collecting absentee ballots or campaign at the polls, she was always there. She campaigned for offices of President, Representatives, Supervisors, Mayors and numerous others. If there is ever a political rally, you can count on her to be there.

She represents the many voices, faces and ideas that we may never hear, see, or even understand. She knows what is most beneficial for our town, state and country. She takes her political experience and uses it in a positive manner and that is to provide our citizens the opportunity to be heard by a ballot cast.

To know her is to love her and to be on the opposing side, well, you are in trouble.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Ms. Mary Frances Moore for her role in the political arena.