

Amendment 338, which would zero out funding for the Diesel Emissions Reduction Act, also known as "DERA."

Studies have shown that diesel emissions are one of the most significant threats to public health. In order to address this problem in a manner that is both responsible to businesses reliant upon diesel engines, and to protect the general public from further exposure to the damaging emission from diesel engines, Congress enacted DERA.

This voluntary program provided federal and state grant funding to retrofit diesel engines to reduce emissions. It has been endorsed by over 500 public health, environmental and industry supporters, including the American Lung Association, Caterpillar, and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

Retrofitting provides enormous environmental, and therefore health, benefits, but before this program was implemented, there was little economic benefit for vehicle and equipment owners to do so. It is estimated that DERA could reduce particulate matter emissions by 70,000 tons, generate nearly \$20 billion in economic benefit, and return \$13 of benefit for every one dollar invested.

The incentives provided by DERA support voluntary rather than regulatory efforts to assist states meet air quality standards. Zeroing out funding for this program would effectively kill those efforts. It would hamper the development and demand of "clean diesel" technology as well as put a further strain on those workers who manufacture, sell, repair, or retrofit diesel vehicles. This program has great support on both sides of the aisle and should not be eliminated here today.

For those reasons I again urge my colleagues to vote against this amendment.

TRIBUTE TO TECHNICAL
SERGEANT CHARLES SIMPSON

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 17, 2011

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, in celebration of Black History Month, I want to continue recognizing African Americans from throughout Georgia's 11th Congressional District who have a major impact on their community. Today, I rise today to recognize Technical Sergeant Charles Simpson of Marietta, Georgia.

Entering service with the Georgia Air National Guard in 2000, TSgt Simpson has held positions as Security Forces Fire Team leader, Radio Transmission Officer, Squad Leader, and as a Drug Demand Reduction Non-Commissioned Officer with the Georgia Counterdrug Task Force. This program educates children in grades K-12 on the dangers of drug use, and I am proud of the work TSgt Simpson has done in affecting the futures of over 55,000 young students in Georgia.

Mr. Speaker, TSgt Simpson has deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and four times to Afghanistan in support of Enduring Freedom. He has been awarded two Air Force Commendation medals, three Air Force Achievement Medals, the Army Achievement Medal, and has recently been selected to advance to the grade of Master Sergeant.

TSgt Simpson displays a "can-do" attitude in his daily duties and is considered by his su-

periors and peers to be one of the bright stars of the Georgia Air Force National Guard.

I ask my colleagues to please join me in thanking Technical Sergeant Charles Simpson for his service to our nation and his commitment to the betterment of his community.

CONGRATULATING CONGREGATION
NER TAMID ON THE 50th ANNI-
VERSARY OF THEIR FOUNDING

HON. DANA ROHRBACHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 17, 2011

Mr. ROHRBACHER. Mr. Speaker, 2011 marks the 50th Anniversary of the Founding of Congregation Ner Tamid of South Bay in my congressional district. People of all faiths from throughout the South Bay area of Los Angeles are conveying heartfelt congratulations to all the members and friends of Congregation Ner Tamid on this most auspicious occasion. For five decades Congregation Ner Tamid has upheld a faith-inspired tradition of service in both the South Bay region and beyond. The Congregation's programs for youth, families and seniors cast a bright light of human dignity and compassion across our community.

I also offer a special expression of our esteem to those being honored for their unique and sustaining contributions to Ner Tamid's work in our communities. The people of the South Bay are indebted to the distinguished 50th Anniversary honorees; Ruth & Leo David, Sheil Poucher, Mark Simon and Norm Lefkovich. Each of them deservedly receives the profoundly meaningful recognition of a grateful synagogue family and the community of which Congregation Ner Tamid is such an important part.

The dedicated social responsibility these honorees exemplify is replicated in a hundred programs and projects the rest of the temple members pursue. That is why Congregation Ner Tamid enjoys a valued and respected place in the life and culture of the South Bay region we are fortunate enough to call home.

So, it is with our best wishes that Congregation Ner Tamid of South Bay celebrates their 50th anniversary on March 12, 2011. I am sure the great legacy they have created in these first 50 years will only be stronger and more enduring on the occasion of the Congregation's 100th anniversary!

FULL-YEAR CONTINUING
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

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:

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Chair, I rise to reluctantly speak against the amendment offered by my friend from New York, Mr. WEINER.

The amendment offered by the gentleman from New York would cut \$298 million from NASA and increase the COPS program by a corresponding amount. While I wholeheartedly support the COPS program, and would like to work with the gentleman to find ways to restore the COPS funding, which was so irresponsibly slashed in the Republican CR, taking this money from NASA would do serious damage to NASA's ability to carry out its programs.

Specifically, the amendment would cut NASA's Cross Agency Support (CAS) account, which funds operations and maintenance of NASA's 9 Centers, component facilities and headquarters, including agency-wide management functions, and safety and reliability activities to assure safety and mission success.

This account also funds the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and the Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) programs at NASA. Cuts proposed by the Weiner amendment would cut the SBIR/STTR program and reduce the number of grants awarded to small businesses. A reduction of \$298M in CAS would represent 10% reduction to the CAS account—equivalent to shutting two of NASA's smaller Centers, for example, Dryden Flight Research Center, Stennis Space Center, or Ames Research Center.

The resulting budget after a \$298M reduction would not be sufficient to provide the minimum Center support required to safely implement NASA's mission. As these reductions would occur so late in the operating year, they would result in thousands of layoffs to on-site contractors, with 50 percent of the contractor workforce at risk. This equates to over 4,500 layoffs across all of NASA Centers.

As I said before, I am an ardent supporter of the COPS program. I am appalled that the Republican Majority has chosen to address deficit reduction by making our communities less safe by cutting the number of police officers on the street. However, I simply cannot support righting that wrong by creating another. At a time when our nation's economic competitiveness is being seriously challenged by our foreign competitors, it would be irresponsible to make further cuts to one of our nation's great innovative research and development agencies.

For these reasons, I must oppose this amendment and urge its defeat.

TRIBUTE TO SHAN COOPER

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 17, 2011

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, in celebration of Black History Month, I want to recognize African Americans from throughout Georgia's 11th Congressional District who have a major impact on their community. Today, I rise to recognize Shan Cooper of Marietta, Georgia. Shan serves as the Vice President of Lockheed Martin Aeronautics and General Manager of Lockheed Martin's Marietta facility.

She previously served as the Vice President of Human Resources for Lockheed Martin Information Systems & Global Solutions in Gaithersburg, Maryland and oversees the 8,000 Lockheed employees in Marietta.

Mr. Speaker, Shan has long been an integral part of the Lockheed Martin team, holding various positions in Mississippi, West Virginia, Maryland, and Georgia. We welcome her to Cobb County, and look forward to her contributions to our community.

IN SUPPORT OF TITLE X FUNDING

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 17, 2011

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Chair, I rise in strong support of the Lowey amendment which restores lifesaving medical services to millions of young and low-income women and men who receive their basic health care through the 4,400 clinics nationwide receiving Title X funds. Let's be very clear about what services Title X family planning programs do and do not provide. First off and very importantly, federal law prohibits any Title X money from being used for abortion care. Plain and simple.

Instead, these monies go toward breast and cervical cancer screenings, hypertension and blood pressure measurement, prenatal, postpartum and well-baby care, birth control and abstinence education.

The statistics speak for themselves: contraceptive services at Title X centers annually prevent 973,000 unintended pregnancies, which would result in 433,000 unplanned births, 406,000 abortions, and 134,000 miscarriages. Slashing this funding actually has the opposite effect of the so-called "pro-life" majority. Not only would the number of abortions rise by 40% if these funds are cut, defunding Title X jeopardizes the millions of women and their babies who benefit from these clinics.

Given the objective benefits of this program which include annual savings of \$3.4 billion, it is unclear how the anti-choice, Republican majority concludes that attacking and eliminating women's basic health care will improve our economy, erase our deficit, or create one single job. Once again, the message this majority is sending to women across this country is clear: They do not trust you to make your own decisions about your own body and will cut or eliminate programs that help you do so.

FULL-YEAR CONTINUING
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2011

HON. MAZIE K. HIRONO

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 17, 2011

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to this continuing resolution, which endangers our fragile economic recovery by throwing more Americans out of jobs. Rather than focusing on the creation and retention of jobs, this bill gives the pink slip to hundreds of thousands of Americans. Who's getting the pink slip? Nurses, teachers, police officers, and firefighters, among others. At the same time, states and counties are having to lay off these essential personnel as they struggle to balance their budgets. How will putting more people in the unemployment line create jobs? These job cuts strike at the heart of the middle class in America.

At a recent press conference in Washington DC, Speaker JOHN BOEHNER's response to the job losses (later estimated at nearly 1 million jobs) caused by the bill was, "So be it," in apparent resignation or indifference to the pain these cuts will cause to individuals and communities across our country.

In addition to increasing the ranks of the unemployed, the Republican leadership is making the cuts on the backs of the most vulnerable among us. At the same time, they are damaging our nation's long-term economic prospects by cutting needed investments in education, innovation, and infrastructure.

No vulnerable group is safe from the Republican cuts. Head Start is slashed by \$1 billion and child care by \$39 million, ending services to more than 200,000 children. In Hawaii, newly opened Head Start classrooms serving 700 children would need to close their doors, giving these children no place to go for quality early education to prepare for success in school and in life.

This bill cuts basic K-12 education services for all low-income schools by \$700 million nationwide and cuts after-school programs by \$100 million. This anti-education bill also bursts students' dreams of college success, reducing Pell grants by an average of \$700 for some 19,000 low-income college students in Hawaii, and Direct Loans to 30,000 Hawaii college students.

The Republicans' budget cuts would completely eliminate all Native Hawaiian Education programs. I joined with Representative DON YOUNG of Alaska to offer an amendment to reinstate funding eligibility for Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian education programs. We worked hard to explain the importance of these programs to our colleagues, and the Young-Hirono Amendment passed 331 to 117.

In fact, this bill as introduced reflects a particular bias against Native Hawaiians in that it also eliminates funding for Native Hawaiian health care and Native Hawaiian housing programs.

The backbone of our health care system is dismantled by drastically cutting funding for community health centers. These centers, which serve the most vulnerable in our population, are cut by \$1.3 billion. In my rural district, spread over 7 inhabited islands, community health centers are used by everyone in the community due to the shortage of primary care physicians. In Hawaii our network of community health centers serve nearly 127,000 patients, one-third of whom are Medicaid eligible.

H.R. 1 threatens women's health by eliminating a safety net program that provides family planning services and lifesaving preventive care to 3 million Americans every year. By eliminating funding for the Title X Family Planning Program, the only dedicated sexual and reproductive health clinic on Hawaii Island may have to close its doors. The Planned Parenthood health centers on Oahu and Maui would be forced to reduce their clinic hours.

I hope seniors in our country are taking note. This bill dramatically cuts funding available to the Social Security Administration by \$1.7 billion below what they need to maintain promised service levels. Social Security already operates at very low cost. Overhead is less than 2 percent of the total budget for Social Security. The bill eliminates 3,500 jobs in the Social Security Administration and delays

payment of earned benefits for hundreds of thousands of retirees, survivors, and disabled workers.

I've heard Democrats and Republicans alike acknowledge their support for infrastructure spending. Yet this Republican bill cuts funding for transportation infrastructure and housing by 24 percent compared with the President's budget. These cuts to infrastructure are the largest cuts on a percentage basis in the bill—cuts to programs that we know create jobs and improve the quality of life in our communities. These short-sighted, short-term deficits cuts will lead to long-term continuing deterioration of our infrastructure, which will cost us more to fix down the road.

Under this bill, Hawaii would lose \$11 million in desperately needed funding to upgrade our sewers and wastewater treatment plants. Hawaii would also lose \$5 million for new energy-efficient circulator buses recently awarded by the Federal Transit Administration.

These deep cuts in infrastructure funding are opposed by groups as diverse as the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the AFL-CIO. The Republican majority hasn't brought a single measure to the floor this Congress that will help create jobs. Instead they are focused on cutting jobs. When you cut billions from programs, you are cutting jobs. No amount of rhetoric will cover up that fact.

We should be eliminating billions in tax breaks for the oil and gas industries. Instead, the Republican Majority has cut research in energy efficiency and renewable energy programs. And because many on the other side of the aisle choose to ignore science that contradicts their preferred view of the world, the bill makes radical cuts to funding for entities such as the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's climate and ocean monitoring programs.

The bill also cuts funding for medical research and for small business and economic development assistance programs. These cuts will stifle innovation, limit job creation, and threaten our competitiveness in the global economy.

I've only cited a few of the short-sighted, anti-middle class, anti-senior, anti-woman, and anti-education provisions in the bill. I'll be voting no, and I urge all my colleagues to do the same. We need to focus on creating, not eliminating, jobs; on sparking, not depressing, innovation; and on investing, not disinvesting, in education for our next generation.

TRIBUTE TO SIDNEY FORD

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 17, 2011

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, in celebration of Black History Month, I want to continue recognizing African Americans from throughout Georgia's 11th Congressional District who have a major impact on their community. Today, I rise to recognize Sidney Ford—who hails from Rome, Georgia—for his work as the Senior Pastor of St. Luke's Ministries, located in Cedartown, Georgia. Pastor Ford is a great asset not only to St. Luke's but also to the greater community where he is a mentor and a person who embodies the sentiment of "giving back."