

more abortions, 28,000 additional newborn deaths, and 4,000 additional maternal deaths—all stemming from denying 8.5 million women access to family planning services and by extension, 2.5 million additional unintended pregnancies.

The House FY 2011 Continuing Resolution would reduce the Development Assistance account by nearly \$750 million from 2010 levels, a 30 percent reduction, and \$1.2 billion from the 2011 request (–40 percent).

Absent deep cuts to other ongoing programs, in areas such as education, microfinance, and water, the House bill would virtually eliminate funding for the Feed the Future Initiative and the Global Climate Change Initiative.

With world food prices at their highest since the 2007/2008 global food riots, and in view of the political volatility that food prices recently helped spark in the Middle East, it is more important than ever that the U.S. engage to improve long-term food security, and assist countries to avert short-term food crises. The recent events in Egypt that continue throughout the Middle East are a stark example of food insecurity's effect on stability.

Decimating the President's Feed the Future (FIF) Initiative will mean that more than 4 million women, children, and family members—most small farmers—will go hungry this year, remaining desperately mired in poverty. More than 18 million will be at risk of chronic hunger over a five-year period. Ending funding for research and development under FIF will expose wheat crops—including here in the United States, and in Afghanistan and Pakistan—to the threats of U.G. 99 wheat stem rust strain.

In just five out of our 20 focus countries, nearly 6.5 million small farmers, mostly poor and mostly women, will remain in the grips of hunger and poverty, unable to grow enough food to feed themselves and their families.

Alternatively, spreading the 30 percent reduction across the Development Assistance Account would have significant negative effects on many congressional priorities including interventions in basic and higher education, microfinance, rule of law and governance, trade, and financial sector reform.

Microfinance institutions in nearly 30 countries around the world will be forced to significantly scale back operations or shut their doors as funding dries up, resulting in 600,000 fewer women accessing financial services to sustain their businesses and contribute to the economic livelihoods of their families and communities.

Over 20,000 Afghans will no longer have the tools they need to begin or sustain a microenterprise in the midst of the conflict, increasing the risk that they will turn to other, illicit economic livelihoods, like poppy production, to feed their families.

As many as 300,000 rural microenterprises and over 600,000 smallholder farmers will no longer be able to access the vital services and growing markets they need to generate cash income, break the cycle of subsistence agriculture, and chart a pathway out of poverty.

A 30 percent cut in Development Assistance for water would mean that than 700,000 persons will be deprived access to clean drinking water and sanitation which, according to WHO, is one of the largest causes of mortality in the world—diarrhea-related disease kills nearly 2 million every year, 90 percent of whom are children under 5.

Out of the approximately 64 million children benefitting from our education assistance worldwide, over 19 million will lose access to schooling opportunities. 10 million girls will be deprived access to basic education, causing further social and financial marginalization.

I urge my colleagues to vote NO on the Continuing Resolution and any amendments that would strip critical and life saving programs in Africa and the developing world.

#### RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF GWEN-DOLYN “GWEN” APPELQUIST MAY

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 18, 2011*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it is an honor for me to rise today to recognize the life of northwest Florida's beloved Gwen Appelquist May.

Mrs. Appelquist was a pioneer in the local business community who used her success and acumen to help support numerous charities and service organizations in the Pensacola community. Mrs. Appelquist worked for nearly 40 years in the real estate business in northwest Florida. She formed her own company, Appelquist and Associates, in 1977, and her tireless work ethic was the key to her success. She was noted for being the first one in the office, often beginning work at 5:00 a.m., and the last to leave.

Her leadership in the business community was unquestioned. She was highly respected and, in 1993, was chosen as chairwoman of the Pensacola Bay Area Chamber of Commerce. The Pensacola Bay Area Chamber of Commerce also awarded her with the Business Leader of the Year Award. She served in leadership positions at a number of local organizations, including co-chairwoman at Covenant Hospice and president of United Way of Escambia County. She also served as a board member for Baptist Hospital and the Council on Aging Foundation.

Mrs. Appelquist was noted for her dedication to her clients; however, her commitment and hard work were best personified by her support for charitable organizations in the northwest Florida community. Retirement was never one of Mrs. Appelquist's goals. Following her career in real estate, Mrs. Appelquist joined the Studer Group, a health care consulting organization, where she worked as Executive Director of charitable giving.

To some, Gwen Appelquist May will be remembered as a leader in the business community. To others, she will be remembered for her charitable work northwest Florida. To her family, she will always be remembered as a loving and devoted mother and spouse. She was an inspiration to those who knew her, and her service to the Pensacola community is her lasting legacy.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it gives me great pride to honor the life of Gwen Appelquist May. My wife Vicki and I offer our continued prayers for her entire family.

#### RECOGNIZING ESTELLE WALLINGFORD

**HON. JOHN SHIMKUS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 18, 2011*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize someone who has been a valuable asset during her time as an intern in my office, Estelle Wallingford.

Estelle came to my office from Australia as a participant in the Uni-Capitol Washington Internship Programme. Already an accomplished student at the University of Melbourne where she studies Political Science and Philosophy, as well as Economics, she left the Australian summer to join us in DC as winter set in this January. During her time in my office, Estelle has been a quick learner, picking up and understanding the similarities and differences between our U.S. Congress and Australia's Parliament. At the same time, she has excitedly shared her knowledge and culture with my staff, leading them in their first ever celebration of Australia Day.

Estelle's love of Australia and desire to share it with others in the United States was exemplified by her efforts to revive the House's Friends of Australia Caucus. During a project to update a listing of Congressional Member Organizations for my office, she realized that there are caucuses fostering friendship between the United States and a number of other nations, but not one for Australia. I am proud to report that through her efforts to reach out to other Members of Congress and her own embassy, Estelle's vision of the Friends of Australia Caucus is already taking shape.

I join my colleagues in congratulating Estelle Wallingford on her accomplishments during her time in the United States and thank her for her hard work and knowledge she has imparted to me and my staff. I wish her the best in her future endeavors as she returns home, to Australia.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF WILLIAM T. SKOWRONSKI

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 18, 2011*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize William T. Skowronski, the Chief of the Northeast District Office of the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency. Bill is retiring on February 24 after 39 years with the OEPA.

Bill Skowronski graduated from Cleveland State University in 1972 with a degree in Mechanical Engineering. He became a Registered Professional Engineer and went on to become District Engineer in the Public Wastewater Control Group; a Supervisor in the Industrial Wastewater Pollution Control Group; and the Manager of the Division of Solid and Hazardous Waste Management, before becoming the District Chief in 1987.

In his long and distinguished career, Bill Skowronski has served on many boards and committees and has received numerous awards for his service. He is an ex officio member of the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency, Northeast Ohio's Metropolitan Planning Organization; a member of the

Greater Cleveland Clean Air Campaign; the Cleveland Harbor Dredge Task Force; the Environmental Health and Safety Technology Advisory Committee of Cuyahoga Community College; and the Advisory Committee for Master of Arts in Environmental Studies at Cleveland State University's Levin College of Urban Affairs, among other boards. He is also a past member of the Greater Cleveland Growth Association's Water/Environmental Committee; Case Western Reserve University's Advisory Committee for the Regional Priorities Project; the St. Clair Superior Neighborhood Development Association Environmental Justice Committee; and the Earth Day Coalition's Sustainable Cleveland Neighborhood Committee, among others. In 1991 Bill received the OEPA Senior Manager of the Year Award and in 2005 received the OEPA George B. Garrett Professionalism Award.

Professional duties aside, Bill is a dedicated sports fan and family man. He plays basketball, soccer, tennis and golf and umpires elementary through high school baseball leagues. He is an avid fan of all Cleveland's professional sports teams and the Ohio State University Buckeyes. In his retirement, Bill looks forward to spending more time with his wife Debra, who recently retired from the North Royalton Board of Education, his three children Keith, Kevin and Kristen, his granddaughter Abigail, and a grandchild on the way.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in wishing Bill Skowronski the best in his much deserved retirement.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 18, 2011*

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, while I am adamantly opposed to the EPA moving forward with regulations on large utilities and refineries in our country, I believe that the Congress should be the decision maker on carbon control issues. That is why I have co-sponsored Rep. CAPITO's bill that would prohibit the EPA from issuing any greenhouse gas emission-related rules or regulations for two years so that the Congress has time to address this issue. A solution can be found for controlling carbon emissions by using nuclear and natural gas to generate electricity and I hope my colleagues on the other side of the aisle will work with me on this to give industry the certainty they need.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. BLAKE FARENTHOLD

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 18, 2011*

Mr. FARENTHOLD. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 87, I missed the vote due to a previously scheduled satellite interview in my district. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

HONORING SPECIAL AGENT JAIME J. ZAPATA

### HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 18, 2011*

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to express my deepest sorrow about a tragic attack on American law enforcement that happened earlier this week in Mexico.

On Tuesday afternoon, two agents from U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement were attacked by unknown individuals while driving between Mexico City and Monterrey, Mexico. Today, I honor the incredible sacrifice of Special Agent Jaime J. Zapata, who lost his life in service of our country.

Special Agent Zapata joined ICE in 2006. He joined one of ICE's offices in Laredo, Texas, where he served on the Human Smuggling and Trafficking Unit, as well as the Border Enforcement Security Task Force. He was most recently detailed to ICE's Attaché office in Mexico City. He began his federal law enforcement career with the Department of Homeland Security as a member of the U.S. Border Patrol in Yuma, Arizona. A native of Brownsville, Texas, Special Agent Zapata graduated from the University of Texas at Brownsville in 2005 with a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice.

A second agent who was injured in the attack remains in stable condition. My thoughts and prayers are with him.

These two brave agents gave their all to shield others from harm. They worked tirelessly against dangerous criminal elements. They bravely took dangerous assignments, ultimately making a profound sacrifice.

They were two of the hundreds of ICE personnel around the globe. Honorable agents like these two individuals collaborate with their counterparts in joint efforts to dismantle transnational criminal organizations. Agents like them give their all day in and day out on fighting money laundering, contraband smuggling, weapons proliferation, forced child labor, human rights violations, intellectual property violations, child exploitation, and human smuggling and trafficking.

An incident like this serves to remind us, as a Nation, how grateful we are for the sacrifices made by these brave men and women every day. The work they do serves to make the public safe and protect the Nation's security.

I know that law enforcement is working closely with the authorities in Mexico to ensure that the perpetrators of this horrible attack are brought to justice as quickly as possible.

In the meantime, I offer my deepest condolences to the family of Special Agent Zapata. He died for a just cause and will forever be remembered as a man of courage and honor.

And a message for the second injured agent: I think I speak for a Nation when I say that I hope, and pray, for your recovery. Words cannot express our thanks for your service.

FULL-YEAR CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2011

SPEECH OF

### HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 16, 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. RICHARDSON. Mr. Chair, I rise today in support of the amendment offered by my colleagues Congressman DON YOUNG and Congresswoman MAZIE HIRONO.

This amendment removes the current language in H.R. 1 that prohibits the Department of Education from funding the Alaska Native Education Equity Act and the Native Hawaiian Education Program. No additional funds are added to the underlying bill.

Alaska and Hawaiian natives historically have had lower student achievement levels due to high rates of poverty and the lack of resources available to them. Investment in Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian programs have decreased student dropout rates and improved student achievement. These programs provide students a quality education while also recognizing and building upon their unique cultural backgrounds.

As a member of the Native American Caucus, I have worked with my colleagues in Congress to address the needs of all Native Americans, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians. I will continue to advocate on behalf of all of our native populations and work to ensure that they have equal opportunities to succeed.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to support this amendment.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 18, 2011*

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I was unavoidably detained and missed roll call vote 81. If present, I would have voted "no" on rollcall vote 81.

RECOGNIZING DR. LEROY HOOD, RECIPIENT OF THE FRITZ J. AND DOLORES H. RUSS PRIZE

### HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 18, 2011*

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Leroy Hood, recipient of the Fritz J. and Dolores H. Russ Prize from the National Academy of Engineering. The Fritz J. and Dolores H. Russ Prize is a prestigious engineering award which was established in 1999 in tribute to the contributions of esteemed engineer Fritz Russ and his wife Dolores Russ. The National Academy of Engineering presents this award every two years