

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONDEMNING NORTH KOREAN NUCLEAR TEST

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 15, 2013

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 65 and to thank Representatives ROYCE, ENGEL and ROS-LEHTINEN for their leadership on this important issue and for working together to bring this bipartisan resolution to the floor today. H. Res. 65 condemns the government of North Korea for its flagrant and repeated violations of multiple U.N. Security Council resolutions, for its repeated provocations that threaten international peace and for its test of a nuclear device on February 12, 2013.

Since 2006, the U.N. Security Council has passed three resolutions condemning North Korea for its illegal missile tests, most recently the resolution passed last month. Then, on Tuesday, in further defiance of U.N. resolutions, the North Korean government detonated an underground nuclear device. Taken together, these events are clear indications of North Korea's flagrant disregard for international law, regional stability and for the welfare of its own people.

Instead of feeding the millions of North Koreans who are starving, the government chooses to squander what little resources it possesses on an illegal nuclear weapons program. Its actions are reckless and dangerous and the international community cannot stand by silently as it continues to oppress its people to deny their human rights and political liberties and to permit them to suffer material deprivation just so that they can pursue a nuclear weapons program at their expense.

I stand with my colleagues in condemnation of the government of North Korea for its reckless disregard for international law, for threat its actions pose to the stability of the region and for its contempt for the welfare of its own people. And I call on China, as a party of the Six-Party Talks and the closest ally of North Korea, to use its considerable influence to encourage the North Koreans to abandon their illegal nuclear weapons program.

IN RECOGNITION OF COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN ACTION

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2013

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize 40 years of service by Community Christian Action (CCA) to North Texans in need. CCA was founded February 22, 1973 when seven members of the Bible study group at St. Philip's Catholic Church in Lewisville committed to spreading God's word by helping

those less fortunate. This faith-based non-profit organization started learning about poverty and ways to improve peoples' lives through their local church congregations.

Over 35 years later, CCA has expanded their outreach of help with the support of volunteers, families, churches and local businesses to 42 communities throughout Collin, Dallas, Denton, Tarrant, and Wise counties. With 150 employees and more than 2,500 volunteers, the ministry strives to give families in crisis the education and training they need to become self-sufficient while offering a safe haven of food, shelter, medical care, and spiritual support.

In one year, CCA assists more than 12,000 individuals. They distribute more than \$1.4 million of food, provide more than 4,000 low-income patients health care in their center each year, and offer educational and vocational training programs that more than 1,660 people participate in annually. CCA ensures that more than 57,000 lunches are delivered to kids during the summer, and that 2,900 children get to experience each holiday season with Christmas toys.

It is my honor to recognize Community Christian Action and their efforts to help North Texans.

HONORING JUSTICE BERNETTE JOSHUA JOHNSON

HON. CEDRIC L. RICHMOND

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 25, 2013

Mr. RICHMOND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the continued achievements of Justice Bernette Joshua Johnson, a leader in the Louisiana community. I congratulate Justice Johnson on her pending investiture as Chief Justice of Louisiana's Supreme Court, on which she has served with distinction for nearly two decades. As the most-tenured member of Louisiana's highest court, Bernette Joshua Johnson will continue her legacy of excellence as the state's first African American Chief Justice. Her investiture is an important one for her career as a civil servant, for the state of Louisiana, and for the United States.

Before her service on Louisiana's Supreme Court, Justice Johnson began her career as the first woman to be elected to the Civil District Court of New Orleans and was elected Chief Judge soon after. A cornerstone of her career has always been advocacy for civil rights and social justice. During the Civil Rights Movement, she worked as a community organizer with the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People Legal Defense & Educational Fund. She also worked as a legal intern with the Civil Rights Division at the US Department of Justice, here in Washington, D.C. where she worked on cases filed by the Department to implement the 1964 Civil Rights Act.

Justice Bernette Joshua Johnson has received numerous honors and awards through-

out her career, including the Louisiana Bar Foundation's 2009 Distinguished Jurist Award, the American Bar Association's Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement Award, and the 2000 Medal of Honor presented by the Mayor of the City of New Orleans. In addition, she has spoken at universities and government agencies all over Louisiana and throughout the south. Justice Johnson is a prolific writer having published editorials, essays, and legal opinions since the beginning of her legal career.

Justice Johnson is a community advocate, an active member of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., and the proud mother of two. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree from Spelman College in Atlanta, Georgia, and in 2001 was honored with an Honorary Doctorate in Law from her alma mater. She was one of the first African American women to attend the Law School at Louisiana State University where she received her Juris Doctorate in 1969. She has since been inducted into the LSU Law School Hall of Fame. Justice Johnson's achievements are a testament to her commitment to public service. She is an excellent example of the value of hard work and perseverance in the face of adversity.

I wish to congratulate Chief Justice Bernette Joshua Johnson on her investiture as the Louisiana Supreme Court's first African American Chief Justice.

ELIMINATION OF 2013 PAY ADJUSTMENT

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 15, 2013

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, this legislation is nothing more than an attempt to penalize hardworking federal employees who are doing our nation's business. I support extending the freeze on Congressional pay, but there is no reason we should block federal civil servants from receiving a partial COLA of a 1/2 of 1 percent.

Federal workers have already contributed \$103 billion toward lowering our deficit through pay freezes and increases in their retirement contributions. A full pay freeze for a third year in a row would take another \$11 billion out of the pockets of these dedicated public servants.

And let's be clear: this bill does not cut spending by one dime because it does not change the overall spending caps. As a result, these dollars will be spent elsewhere in the budget. So while this bill does nothing to reduce the deficit, it does punish people doing essential work for our country. It punishes: Nurses caring for our wounded warriors; the FBI agents who helped rescue the young boy in Alabama; air traffic controllers who keep our skies safe to fly; scientists doing lifesaving medical research; meat and food inspectors

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