

I can tell you that the best way to honor and help this country's veterans is to get the whole government running again.

Mr. Speaker, I call on my Republican colleagues to gather the collective will to do the work the people expect of them. They are putting the economic well-being of this country at severe risk, which is beneath contempt. Enough of acting like spoiled children: It's time to be adults and get this country moving again. The responsible choice here is to get together and pass a funding resolution for the ENTIRE government. The American people demand nothing less.

IN HONOR OF MRS. EVELYN
LOWERY

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 2, 2013

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an extraordinary woman and respected civil rights leader, Mrs. Evelyn Lowery, wife of the Reverend Dr. Joseph Lowery. Sadly, Mrs. Lowery passed away on Thursday, September 26, 2013. Her life was celebrated at a memorial service on Wednesday, October 2, 2013, at the International Chapel at Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia.

Evelyn Gibson Lowery was born on February 16, 1925, to the Reverend and Mrs. Harry Gibson, who were activists in Memphis, Tennessee and inspired her to become involved in civil and human rights activism. While her father served as President of the local National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), she saw the injustices of society and had committed herself to working to improve those conditions before she had even turned eighteen. She attended Clark College and Youngstown University.

In 1950, she married the love of her life, the Reverend Dr. Joseph Lowery, and they built a life that was based on the love of God, the love of each other, the love of family and the love of people. They knew that the love of these could lead one to a close and fulfilling relationship with God because they are an embodiment of His greatest commandments: to love Him with all your "heart, mind and soul" and to "love thy neighbor as thyself."

Not only was she a pillar of strength with love and devotion for Rev. Lowery and his work with the Civil Rights Movement, but her leadership and support of women in the Movement reflected her personal commitment to gender equality as part of the larger Human Rights Movement. Mrs. Lowery founded the Southern Christian Leadership Conference/Women's Organizational Movement for Equality Now, Inc. (SCLC/W.O.M.E.N.). Through the organization, she created the Drum Major for Justice Award, an annual award recognizing outstanding people who have made contributions to social justice. She led the establishment of monuments in various parts of Alabama to honor those who were instrumental in the Civil Rights Movement and in 1987, she created the Evelyn G. Lowery Civil Rights Heritage Tour. In addition, she spearheaded many education and awareness projects and programs, including the Women's Empowerment Training Center in 1988 for GED and com-

puter training and the Bridging the Gap—Girls to Women mentoring program in 1995.

Mrs. Lowery's life's work was founded upon her commitment to justice and equality, which inspired her work to empower women and to better the community in so many different ways. During her life, she touched and enriched the lives of countless people in her community and throughout our nation and her legacy will live on through the many who were inspired by her.

Mrs. Lowery was more than a wife, she was more than a civil rights leader, she was a servant to all humankind. Nelson Henderson once said, "The true meaning of life is to plant trees under whose shade you do not expect to sit." Mrs. Lowery never stopped planting trees so that those in need could sit and rest and then stand up stronger than before. To God be the glory for blessing the world with a woman the caliber of Mrs. Evelyn Gibson Lowery. We are all better because she traveled this way.

Mr. Speaker, today I ask my colleagues to join me, my wife, Vivian, the nearly 700,000 people in Georgia's 2nd Congressional District, and all Americans, in paying tribute to Mrs. Evelyn Lowery and her exceptional life's work. We extend our deepest condolences to Dr. Joseph Lowery and the family during this time of bereavement. May they be consoled and comforted by their abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks and months ahead.

H.J. RES. 70, H.J. RES. 71, AND H.J.
RES. 72

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 2, 2013

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, this shutdown is already affecting millions of Americans, and the bills before us today represent a recognition of that fact. What they most certainly do not represent is a solution.

A small group of radical Tea Party Republicans has forced this shutdown on my constituents, on hundreds of thousands of federal employees and their families, on the businesses who depend upon them as customers, and on countless visitors to our nation's most treasured sites. Now, these same Republicans are being faced with the real-world consequences of their actions: World War II veterans blocked from visiting the memorial built in their honor. Communities losing millions of dollars in tourism activity each day. Our nation's capital at risk of suspending basic municipal services.

These are all devastating impacts, and they are among the many reasons my Democratic colleagues and I have worked so hard to prevent a shutdown. But these piecemeal bills are not a serious or honest attempt to reopen our government. They are merely an attempt to put a Band-aid over some of the most visible and unpopular fallout from the shutdown, while doing absolutely nothing to get us closer to a real solution.

These bills would not help the 800,000 dedicated public servants who have been furloughed, leaving them with mortgages, student loans, car payments and no paycheck. In Rhode Island, these furloughed employees in-

clude hundreds of civilians at Naval Station Newport, airline safety inspectors from the FAA, civilian technicians from the Rhode Island National Guard, and staff at the U.S. Attorney's office, the IRS and the EPA.

These bills would not help my constituents who are trying to apply for disability benefits from the Social Security Administration. They would not help the dozens of children with cancer who have been turned away from clinical trials at NIH. They would not help the millions of mothers who cannot afford baby formula without assistance from the WIC nutrition program. They would not help the small business owners who can no longer receive loans from the SBA. They would not help the thousands of children whose Head Start classes will be canceled as early as this week.

What these bills would do is merely prolong a disastrous situation. There is no doubt that the District of Columbia, our National Park system and most certainly our veterans are worthy of our attention and support. But what the Republicans are doing is using them all as pawns in a dangerous political game that leaves everyone else to fend for themselves.

I want to make sure the American people know that Democrats have offered repeatedly to support a clean Continuing Resolution which funds the government until November 15 at the rate the Republicans proposed—a rate which is lower than many of us would like but that we are willing to accept in order to achieve compromise and end this stalemate. This CR will allow us to completely reopen government and get back to work on the longer-term fiscal issues that demand our attention. And this CR has already been passed by the Senate and sits waiting in the House, if only the Republican Leadership would agree to allow us to vote on it.

Mr. Speaker, all Americans are impacted by this shutdown, and all Americans deserve our support to end it. A piecemeal approach is not the answer. Let us vote on a clean CR and get our constituents, our economy and this Congress back to work.

CONGRATULATING HAROLD "HB"
BRANCH III

HON. KYRSTEN SINEMA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 2, 2013

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Harold "HB" Branch III on receiving the inaugural Universal Learning Centre Courage in Learning Award. This honor is given to an individual who has overcome adversity through the utilization of education.

For Mr. Branch, this honor is well deserved. Overcoming childhood tragedy, abandonment, and poverty, he rose to receive national and international recognition for his written poetry and performance. He has also achieved notable success in public speaking and business training. Today, he serves at-risk youth of Arizona through his organization, HomeBase Poetry. This foundation gives youth a creative outlet to develop academically, socially, and professionally. I admire the efforts of Mr. Branch to help our youth grow and succeed. In doing so, he has helped lift up our communities and cultivate artistic talent.

Mr. Branch is a true inspiration and a model of excellence in service. It is my privilege to represent him in Congress. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Harold "HB" Branch III on winning the 2013 Courage in Learning Award, and on the remarkable life achievements this award represents.

RECOGNIZING UNWARRANTED
STIGMA IN SICKLE CELL DISEASE

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 2, 2013

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, Congress has designated September as National Sickle Cell Disease Awareness Month to help focus attention on the need for research and treatment of sickle cell disease. Sickle Cell Disease is an inherited condition which affects an estimated 100,000 individuals in the United States and millions globally. While the disease is most common among African Americans, it also occurs in people of Hispanic, Indian, Caribbean, Mediterranean, Middle Eastern, and South Asian descent.

Sickle cell anemia is the most common form of sickle cell disease (SCD). SCD is a serious disorder in which the body makes sickle-shaped red blood cells. "Sickle-shaped" means that the red blood cells are shaped like a crescent. They tend to block blood flow in the blood vessels of the limbs and organs which can cause pain and organ damage. Tissue that does not receive normal blood flow eventually becomes damaged. This is what causes the complications of sickle cell disease.

Creating more awareness and education about this disease remains a challenge of changing attitudes and dispelling myths about both the disease and about those who suffer from it. While those suffering from Sickle Cell are living longer, they continue to endure stigma and other psychosocial issues, including stress, that continue to be associated with the disease.

Much of the stigma is based on myths and misinformation. Imagine going to a hospital ER and hearing the term "frequent flyer" or "drug seeker" to describe someone who has had to return to the ER often for a Sickle Cell Crisis? Imagine being labeled a "drug addict" and being looked at as a common narcotic drug seeker because you require excess doses of narcotics as a form of treatment for crisis pain? Imagine being told, "You should be used to this pain by now!" These are just a sampling of stories shared by sickle cell disease sufferers.

Persons with Sickle Cell Disease may face this stigma throughout their lives but especially immediately after transitioning from pediatric to adult care when coordination of health care services are limited or non-existent for this population. One way our Nation can make progress in addressing the issue of stigma and other issues related to Sickle Cell Disease is to identify the areas where we can move forward quickly while debating the broader areas of concern.

That is why I urge Congress to reauthorize the Sickle Cell Disease Research, Surveillance, Prevention, and Treatment Act of 2013 (SCTA). The reauthorization of this bill will

highlight the need to increase awareness and understanding of this disease, promote education and research, provide funding for treatment, new drugs and expand the development of transition services for adolescents to adult health care.

As we consider our strategy toward improving care and treatment for Sickle Cell patients, I believe we must consider the long-term costs of stigma and other psychosocial issues. I applaud Sonja L. Banks, President and Chief Operating Officer of the Sickle Cell Disease Association of America, and the members of the organization for their efforts to promote awareness of this important issue. We must continue to educate ourselves, health care providers, school health nurses, and the business community about the specific and broad aspects of this crippling and chronic disease and advocate for new discoveries, advancements and breakthroughs for Sickle Cell, the most common and oldest inherited blood disorder.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL
DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 2, 2013

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$16,747,478,675,335.18. We've added \$6,120,601,626,422.10 to our debt in 4 years. This is \$6.1 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

TRIBUTE TO STAYUNITED

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 2, 2013

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a nonprofit organization in California's 33rd Congressional District, StayUNITED, and its founders, Mark and Ismini Svensson.

StayUNITED has created a number of initiatives to improve lives in the United States and throughout the world. The organization has recently launched an initiative entitled '50 Acts of Giving Back' to promote voluntarism and demonstrate how social media can be used to transform the way acts of social good can be communicated and replicated across the globe. Mr. and Ms. Svensson are traveling to all 50 states and performing 50 acts of kindness to encourage an online community to inspire others across state, national, and international lines to help make the world a better place.

I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing the vision of Mark and Ismini Svensson and their commitment to charitable giving.

CELEBRATING NICHOLAS SENN
HIGH SCHOOL'S CENTENNIAL
YEAR

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 2, 2013

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Nicholas Senn High School, an excellent Chicago Public High School in my district that is celebrating its centennial year.

With its mission to develop life-long learners who value diversity and social awareness, Nicholas Senn High School is teaching its students critical-thinking skills that allow them to be active, responsible, and productive citizens. For the past 100 years, Senn has been promoting and supporting education for local students, adapting to an ever changing, ever vibrant community. Today there are over 55 nationalities represented and 35 languages spoken at Senn High School.

Senn High School recently became the first school in Chicago to offer a wall-to-wall International Baccalaureate (IB) program, aided by a unique partnership with Loyola University, which provides a robust academic curriculum throughout the school. Senn students can also participate in Senn Arts, a Fine and Performing Arts Magnet Program where creative Chicago students pursue artistic and academic excellence. The school ensures they are helping all members of the diverse community by offering additional programs in Special Education, ELL and Smaller Learning Community Programs.

Over the past several years, Senn High School has seen major improvements under the leadership of Principal Susan Lofton. Senn was recently named among the city's top high schools and is a Level 1 school, the highest designation possible. Superior leadership, excellent teachers, the partnership with Loyola and strong community support all helped to make Senn the school it is today.

Nicholas Senn High School is celebrating these achievements with a centennial celebration and a fundraiser to aid them in accomplishing their future goals on Saturday, October 5th, 2013. I want to congratulate Nicholas Senn High School on its success over the last 100 years and its lasting impact on the students of the City of Chicago.

I am proud to have Nicholas Senn High School in my district and wish for its continued growth and success.

THE HOPPERS—A NORTH
CAROLINA MUSICAL TREASURE

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 2, 2013

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday, October 5, 2013, the town of Madison, North Carolina, will unveil an historical marker to honor a legendary musical family known as The Hoppers. I am proud to say that The Hoppers live in the Sixth District of North Carolina, and that I have been invited to participate in the unveiling of this plaque.

The Hoppers, known as Hopper Brothers and Connie until 1981, are musical legends