

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.