

Group for the roles you have played in helping me better understand the barriers confronting the African-American advertising agencies. They have been an invaluable resource to me and my staff as we have worked to shape legislation to ensure that African-Americans and African-American advertising agencies are included in the mainstream of advertising industry.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to salute the leadership and service displayed by Tom Burrell and the Burrell Communications Group. Tom Burrell's courage, vision, leadership, and creative contributions to the advertising industry have been a continuing source of inspiration and self-esteem for African-Americans.

I look forward to continuing to work with him and the African-American advertising industry as we move forward into the 21st century. I salute and thank Tom Burrell and the Burrell Communications Group for 25 years of positive images of African-American culture in American media. I am confident that the next 25 will be even more fruitful.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. BUYER] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. BUYER addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

FILIPINO WORLD WAR II VETERANS DESERVE HONOR, RESPECT, AND RECOGNITION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California [Mr. FILNER] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, this evening we have heard many moving words about bringing America together, about justice for all. I want to speak about bringing justice to another group of people. Today, Congress, after waiting for 50 years, has an opportunity to restore to Filipino World War II Veterans the respect and honor they so richly deserve.

Today, Representative BENJAMIN GILMAN, the distinguished chairman of the House International Relations Committee, joins me in introducing a resolution in the House of Representatives to recognize the brave service of these veterans and their contributions to the victory of the United States in World War II.

Joining us as original cosponsors are a representative number of Members from both sides of the aisle, including Representative BOB STUMP, the chairman of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee, and Representative G.V. (SONNY) MONTGOMERY, the ranking Democratic member of the Veterans' Affairs Committee, who support recognition for the Filipino World War II Veterans. Senators INOUE and AKAKA are also introducing this concurrent

resolution in the Senate. Many more Representatives have also joined us as cosponsors of H.R. 1136, the Filipino Veterans Equity Act.

It is truly hard to believe that soon after World War II ended—the war in which Filipino soldiers died defending the American flag in the epic battles of Bataan and Corregidor and through four long years of enemy occupation—the 79th Congress in 1946 voted to rescind the benefits and recognition that were promised to these soldiers.

It is even harder to believe that Filipino World War II veterans have been kept waiting for over 50 years for the recognition they deserve. Many have already died, and in 15 years, there will no longer be any of these veterans alive.

The bullets in World War II did not ask if their target was an American or Filipino soldier. Both Filipino soldiers from the United States mainland fought side-by-side against a common enemy. We must act now to redress the wrongs these Filipino veterans have suffered.

This concurrent resolution will finally recognize the contribution of the brave Filipino World War II veterans. I urge my colleagues to join with Representative GILMAN and me to correct this injustice.

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The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. COLLINS of Georgia). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida [Mr. MICA] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. MICA addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Alabama [Mr. HILLIARD] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. HILLIARD addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. MCINTOSH] is recognized for a 5 minutes.

[Mr. MCINTOSH addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New York [Mr. KELLY] is recognized for a 5 minutes.

[Mr. KELLY addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Tennessee [Mr. WAMP] is recognized for a 5 minutes.

[Mr. WAMP addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

TIME TO TAKE BACK THE AMERICAN DREAM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas, Mr. SAM JOHNSON, is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, is your tax bill too high? Do you worry about paying your bills. Hardly a day goes by without a call or letter from a constituent or a friend telling me how they struggle from day to day to make ends meet and how they worry about their future and their children's future.

It is wrong, simply wrong, that so many families are working harder and longer, but continue to have less and less to show for it.

I have to wonder why more people are working two jobs and why more families are forced to have both parents work, yet everyone has less money in their pockets.

I have the answer—it's the Washington tax trap. The longer and harder you work, the more taxes you pay. The more taxes you owe. The bottom line is that Washington ends up with more, and you end up with less.

Think about what the tax trap has done to society, to families, and to working parents. When I was a child, the largest investment most families made was in their home. Guess what, now it's paying their tax bill.

In 1950, taxes took just a fraction of our income. Today, almost half of what you earn goes to the Government. Half. That is more than a person spends on food, clothing, and shelter combined.

The tax trap is punishing working parents who are trying to balance career and family, and the children who are in daycare because both parents have to work are feeling the pain of high taxes.

In the America that I grew up in, if you worked hard and played by the rules, you still had enough money left over from your paycheck to put something away for the future, and enough for those little extras that made life special. That was the American dream.

The American dream was also about making a better life for the next generation—so that children would have more opportunities, more choices, and be better off than their parents.

But now, for the first time in our history, an entire generation of Americans is losing hope and confidence in the future.

And all blame for this uncertain future lies right here in Washington. For decades, Washington, DC has told America that everything is OK—don't worry, Washington can solve all of your problems.

But at the same time Washington has been spending our children's inheritance and creating a national debt that now undermines our future.

For too long, Washington has increased the debt by spending more than