

DEBT RELIEF AND RETIREMENT
SECURITY RECONCILIATION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 19, 2000

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, there is absolutely no reason for us to be here today debating this bill. Recently the House passed the "Debt Relief Lockbox Reconciliation Act" which was nothing more than an attempt by my Republican colleagues to grandstand on their new conversion to a party that claims to care about reducing the national debt. Today, we are here with another version of a bill that does the same thing. In addition, this bill tack on a so-called pension reform bill that has also already passed the House. The Comprehensive Retirement Security and Pension Reform Act passed the House this summer by a vote of 401-25. It didn't have my support then and it won't have my support today.

So why are we here again debating the same measures we've already debated—and passed? The leadership believes it will help them in the upcoming elections. This debt relief bill is meaningless filler for the GOP agenda. And the pension bill is bad policy. It benefits the wealthy and does nothing to help low-income workers who are most in need of retirement incentives.

Although the pension bill implies that it will help all workers, it serves to help those earning an average income of \$337,800. More than forty-two percent of the pension and IRA tax breaks will go the 5% of the population with the highest incomes—those making over \$134,000 annually and an average income of \$337,000. In sharp contrast, the bottom 60 percent of the population (those making less than \$41,000) would receive less than 5% of these tax benefits.

When the Democrats offered a substitute bill to give low-income workers incentives to save for their retirement, my GOP colleagues scoffed at the idea claiming that it was too expensive. In other words, it's too expensive to help rank and file workers save for their retirement, but it's completely affordable to help top executives accumulate wealth for their retirement. The Democratic substitute offered incentives to small businesses to sponsor retirement plans for their low-wage and young workers. I supported this substitute bill because it attempted to help those workers who need it most.

If this Congress plans to spend \$55 billion on the wealthy, then we should be able to offer the same pension opportunities to those who currently do not save for retirement. I opposed H.R. 1102 when it came to the floor in July and I oppose the bill before us today.

TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF
EDUCATION FOR ALL HANDI-
CAPPED CHILDREN ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2000

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I would like to join my colleagues in voicing

my support for House Concurrent Resolution 399, which recognizes the federal government's responsibility to educate all handicapped children in our nation. November 29, 2000 will mark the 25th Anniversary of the Education for all Handicapped Children's Act passage into law (Public Law 94-142). The act was later renamed the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

The IDEA established the federal government's objective of educating all of America's children, including those with severe disabilities. In 1986, the act was amended to create a preschool grant program for children ages 3 to 5, with disabilities and an early intervention program for infants and toddlers with disabilities.

Currently, IDEA programs serve an estimated 200,000 infants and toddlers, 600,000 preschoolers and 5.4 million children ages 6 through 21 nationwide. The Houston Independent School District provides educational opportunities for about 21,000 students in the City of Houston through this important program.

I would like to recognize the outstanding work that the Council for Exceptional Children Chapter 100 located in the City of Houston has done. This organization represents the teachers who teach these special children in the Houston area. Because of the dedication of administrators, teachers, parents and the students themselves IDEA can be called an "American Success Story."

I would urge all of my colleagues to vote in favor of this important Act. I would like to also urge the Senate to act on their version of the Full Funding Bill for IDEA, which is currently awaiting action in the Senate. The House version of this bill H.R. 4055, IDEA Full Funding Act, was passed in the House on Representatives on May 3rd of this year.

TRIBUTE TO BENICIA POLICE
CHIEF OTTO GIULIANI UPON HIS
RETIREMENT**HON. GEORGE MILLER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 26, 2000

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to invite my colleagues to join me in congratulating Benicia Police Chief Otto William Giuliani on the occasion of his retirement after a very busy and successful twenty-eight years of service in law enforcement.

Otto Giuliani began his law enforcement career with the Hayward Police Department, holding numerous positions in his 15-year career there. He was awarded the Hayward Police Department's highest honor, the Medal of Valor, for extraordinary duty on the night of November 29, 1978, when he pried open the door, removed and carried an unconscious man from a wrecked vehicle stuck on the Western Pacific Railroad tracks just as the train struck the vehicle, almost sweeping Officer Giuliani and the victim back into the path of the train. For his action he was recognized by Kiwanis International as Police Officer of the year for 1979 for the California, Nevada and Hawaii Districts, and received the Nathan Hale Award for Heroism.

Otto was a member of the Hayward Kiwanis Club for fifteen years, with eleven years of

perfect attendance, he served as president in 1981. He was charter president and two-time distinguished president of the Livermore Kiwanis Club in 1986 and 1987, with seven years of perfect attendance.

He was a member of the Livermore Police Department for seven years, holding the positions of Captain of both the patrol and investigation divisions during separate and concurrent terms, and fulfilling the role of Acting Chief of Police.

Otto is a graduate of the Federal Bureau of Investigations National Academy (FBI/NA 153rd). He was Chief of Police for the Benicia Police department for eight years during which the department initiated Community Oriented Policing, began a formal School Resource Officer Program dedicating police officers to the campuses of Benicia High School and Benicia Middle School, expanded the DARE program to all fifth grade classes in each public and private school in the city; added three police officers to the department by means of federal and state grants; created a Citizen and Police Partnership Program; began the GREAT program to prevent gang activity from entering Benicia from other cities; conducted Citizen Police Academies; created a Parking Adjudication program which was the first of its kind in the nation for which the department received the Helen Putnam Award for Excellence (the League of California Cities' highest recognition); began a Citizen on Patrol program for which the department received national recognition from the International Association of Chiefs of Police in the form of the Webber Seavey Award for Excellence in Police Service to the Community, and raised the professional development of the department by successful completion of either the FBI National Academy or California POST Command College by all management personnel and enrollment or completion of the California POST Supervisory Leadership Institute by first line supervisors.

Chief Giuliani was appointed City Manager/Chief of Police for the City of Benicia in December, 1994, and served in that capacity for six years, serving the longest career in the State of California in the dual role of City Manager/Chief of Police.

Otto is a member of the Benicia Rotary Club and currently serves as President, is an ex-officio member of the Benicia Chamber of Commerce, and a member of the Board of Directors of the Benicia Police Athletic League (PAL).

Chief Giuliani and his wife Jan have been married for twenty-five years and have a set of twins, Mario and Melissa, age 22. Otto is retiring from law enforcement after twenty-eight years of service, but he will continue to serve as the City Manager of Benicia.

It is clear from his record of achievement that Chief Giuliani has never taken his positions of authority for granted and has excelled at his every endeavor. Many communities in our area have been enriched by his efforts. I wish Chief Giuliani a very happy, healthy and much deserved "retirement," and I thank him for his many contributions to law enforcement.