

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. CAROLYN C. KILPATRICK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 10, 2003*

Ms. KILPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, due to personal business, I was unable to record my vote on four votes ordered for Nov. 7. Had I been present I would have voted "aye" on the motion offered by Representative MARSHALL to recommit the bill H.R. 1588, the Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2004, rollcall No. 616; "no" on final passage of the conference report on H.R. 1588, rollcall No. 617; "aye" on the motion to instruct conferees to H.R. 6 offered by Representative FILNER, rollcall No. 618; and "aye" on the motion to instruct conferees to H.R. 1 offered by Representative CARDOZA, rollcall No. 619.

### VETERANS DAY

#### HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 10, 2003*

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, during this season we pause to celebrate Veterans Day.

We pay tribute to the veterans who have honored us with their service, and their sacrifice. Some have even paid the ultimate price for freedom. In dying they renewed and sustained the freedom and the promise to our Nation.

In the last paragraph of his second inaugural address, Abraham Lincoln uttered the words that would ultimately comfort untold numbers of veterans and their families for generations to come. Lincoln challenged the divided nation to "Bind up the Nation's wounds; to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan."

This is the test and the measure of our Nation. Is it any wonder that architects emblazoned these words on the walls of the Lincoln Memorial? They are also engraved on a plaque on the headquarters building of the Veterans Affairs Administration in Washington.

As a Nation, we are united in honoring our war dead, we need to be as united in honoring our living veterans.

Because our Armed Forces have borne the battles of freedom, the United States enjoys an unprecedented position of international leadership.

Yet, the promise of lifelong health care that this country made to our men and women in

uniform is being threatened, not by the aggression of a foreign power, but by inadequate funding.

Mr. Speaker, as our veterans grow older, they require increased dependence on health care services.

Before I served as the chief psychiatric nurse at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Dallas during the 70's. I was privileged to serve in the day care and rehabilitation center of the facility for 15 years. I know firsthand that caring for America's veterans is the ongoing cost of war.

The Republican budget cuts will adversely affect over 70,000 Texas veterans. This number includes more than 18,000 veterans in the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

Proposed cuts to the budget for the Department of Veterans Affairs will halt enrollment in the VA Health Care System. Texas veterans will be driven from the system. It is estimated that 5,200 active patients in the Dallas-Fort Worth area will drop out of the VA Health Care System.

Thousands of other veterans in my home State face the grim prospect of increasing health care costs in the VA system. The budget will also increase fees for veterans who utilize the VA Health Care System; forcing thousands in and around the Dallas metroplex to drop out.

An estimated 60,000 Texas veterans, including over 20,000 veterans receiving active VA care, are unlikely to be able to afford this increase.

Mr. Speaker, how can Congress and this administration even consider slashing benefits at a time when our young men and women are still in harm's way in Iraq, Afghanistan and Southwest Asia.

Veterans should not be expected to wait in longer lines, and travel farther for health care services at a diminished level. If we fail our obligation to veterans, how can we justify sending more and more young service members into harm's way?

As we celebrate Veterans Day, it is fitting and proper that we honor an African-American sailor who paid the ultimate price for our freedom.

I am planning to introduce legislation soon that calls for awarding the Congressional Medal of Honor to Dorie Miller posthumously for his heroic actions during World War II. This recognition is long overdue for a man who served his country with distinction and valor during the attack on Pearl Harbor.

Dorie Miller is just one example of African-American war heroes and veterans who have gone beyond and above the call of duty to preserve freedom's full measure, although they themselves were denied it in many quarters at home.

As Americans, we owe a debt of gratitude to our veterans. It is our duty to ensure that they receive the support they need from the country they so diligently served.

As we daily witness the courageous and professional efforts of our Armed Forces engaged in Iraq, Afghanistan and in Southeast Asia, we are all reminded of the tremendous sacrifices our veterans have made on our behalf.

As we celebrate another Veterans Day this November, we must back up our promises with our meaningful action.

### HONORING SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS WEEK

#### HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 10, 2003*

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the work of school psychologists in Suffolk County, New York during the week of November 10, 2003.

The children of Suffolk County have a natural desire and propensity to learn and the inalienable right to an education. It is imperative that our society supports the needs of children and youth and invest in education as our top priority.

Children's mental health is closely linked to their successful learning and development. Schools must apply sound psychological principles to instruction, learning and oversight, cultivate children's intellectual, social and emotional development, meet the educational and developmental needs of culturally diverse student populations and promote prevention and early intervention to ensure students' achievement.

Suffolk County schools must ensure a safe, healthy learning environment for all children and be able to recognize and respond to their emotional and psychological difficulties.

Suffolk County school psychologists and other trained school-based professionals have the opportunity and ability to help parents identify and access needed community resources to help their children.

Suffolk County school psychologists are leaders in delivering mental health services to children. It is appropriate that Americans recognize the important and vital role that school psychologists play in the personal and academic development of our Nation's children.

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

## SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, November 11, 2003 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

## MEETINGS SCHEDULED

## NOVEMBER 12

Time to be announced

Commerce, Science, and Transportation  
Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.

S-216, Capitol

9:30 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation  
To hold hearings to examine state use of tobacco settlement funds.

SR-253

Environment and Public Works

Business meeting to consider S. 1072, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and the nomination of Rixio Enrique Medina, of Oklahoma, to be a Member of the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board.

SD-406

10 a.m.

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine judicial and executive nominations.

SD-226

Armed Services

Strategic Forces Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine space acquisition policies and processes.

SR-222

2 p.m.

Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Scott J. Bloch, of Kansas, to be Special Counsel, Office of Special Counsel; to be immediately followed by a hearing on S. 1358, to amend chapter 23 of title 5, United States Code, to clarify the disclosure of information protected from prohibited personnel practices, require a statement in non-disclosure policies, forms, and agreements that such policies, forms, and agreements conform with certain disclosure protections, provide certain authority for the Special Counsel.

SD-342

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

Securities and Investment Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the Financial Accounting Standards Board and small business growth.

SD-538

4 p.m.

Armed Services

To hold closed hearings to examine ongoing military operations and areas of key concern around the world.

SR-222

## NOVEMBER 13

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine current Army issues.

SH-216

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine GAO's report on cable rate increases.

SR-253

Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine sources of past and present support for terrorist forces in Afghanistan relating to terrorism financing.

SD-342

Judiciary

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.

SD-226

10 a.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To resume hearings to examine proposals for improving the regulation of the Housing Government Sponsored Enterprises.

SD-538

Indian Affairs

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.

SR-485

10:30 a.m.

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe

To hold hearings to examine Azerbaijan's flawed presidential election.

1300 LHOB

2 p.m.

Judiciary

Immigration, Border Security and Citizenship Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine state and local authority to enforce immigration law relating to terrorism.

SD-226

2:30 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources  
Water and Power Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine S. 1085, to provide for a Bureau of Reclamation program to assist states and local communities in evaluating and developing rural and small community water supply systems, S. 1732, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to establish a rural water supply program in the Reclamation States to provide a clean, safe, affordable, and reliable water supply to rural residents, S. 1211, to further the purposes of title XVI of the Reclamation Projects Authorization and Adjustment Act of 1992, the "Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act", by directing the Secretary of the Interior to undertake a demonstration program for water reclamation in the Tularosa Basin of New Mexico, S. 1727, to authorize additional appropriations for the Reclamation Safety of Dams Act of

1978, and S. 1791, to amend the Lease Lot Conveyance Act of 2002 to provide that the amounts received by the United States under that Act shall be deposited in the reclamation fund.

SD-366

## NOVEMBER 14

10 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold oversight hearings to examine the implementation of the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program.

SD-366

## NOVEMBER 18

9:30 a.m.

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine America after the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

SD-226

Governmental Affairs

Investigations Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the role of accountants, lawyers and financial professionals relating to the U.S. tax shelter industry.

SH-216

2:30 p.m.

Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of James M. Loy, of Virginia, to be Deputy Secretary of Homeland Security.

SD-342

Energy and Natural Resources

Public Lands and Forests Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine S. 1467, to establish the Rio Grande Outstanding Natural Area in the State of Colorado, S. 1209, to provide for the acquisition of property in Washington County, Utah, for implementation of a desert tortoise habitat conservation plan, and H.R. 708, to require the conveyance of certain National Forest System lands in Mendocino National Forest, California, to provide for the use of the proceeds from such conveyance for National Forest purposes.

SD-366

## NOVEMBER 19

9:30 a.m.

Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the threat of agroterrorism.

SD-342

## NOVEMBER 20

9:30 a.m.

Governmental Affairs

Investigations Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the role of accountants, lawyers and financial professionals relating to the U.S. tax shelter industry.

SH-216

## CANCELLATIONS

## NOVEMBER 12

2 p.m.

Judiciary

Administrative Oversight and the Courts Subcommittee

To hold oversight hearings to examine activities of the United States Sentencing Commission.

SD-226