

Georgetown as the first site in the United States to produce hybrid vehicles. Toyota perhaps sees this as a wise investment in a potentially rewarding market. I and many in Kentucky see it as an entry into a cutting-edge technology that will continue our leading role in the U.S. auto industry, and we hope eventually provide an alternative for Americans saddled with ever-increasing gas prices.

This is a happy occasion for Toyota, for Kentucky, and for me personally. I hope to see many more such occasions over the coming years as Toyota and Kentucky continue to expand their relationship.

RECOGNIZING THE LIBERTY
SCHOOL DISTRICT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I rise to salute the efforts of the Liberty School District, the Council of Parent Teacher Associations, the Parent Teacher Student Associations, students, faculty and staff in their ongoing efforts to support a national project known as Book Relief. Book Relief is an unprecedented, publishing industry-wide effort that will distribute at least five million new books to schools and libraries displaced and destroyed by the 2005 hurricanes. These books will help to replenish school libraries as they rebuild.

In New Orleans, 118 of 126 schools sustained damage; in Mississippi, 300 schools were damaged, 24 of them severely damaged or destroyed. Nearly 190,000 Louisiana students were displaced. As organizations start to rebuild the Gulf Coast, Book Relief will be there to supply them with new books as they reopen.

For every fifty cents raised by Liberty schools, one book will be contributed to the cause. Each school in the district has been actively participating in not only Book Relief, but also Hurricane Katrina relief. Liberty Schools have raised a collective \$33,600 to go toward relief efforts. This accomplishment is nothing short of outstanding.

Liberty, Missouri has a rich history of great accomplishments in their school system. Today, I am proud to celebrate and recognize the continued dedication to community, both at home and in the Gulf Coast, of the Liberty School District and its network of staff, students and parents. Their work is truly a shining example of the great works happening in public education today.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON
THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR
2007

SPEECH OF

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 17, 2006

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration of the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 376) establishing the congressional budget for the United States Govern-

ment for fiscal year 2007 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2008 through 2011:

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong opposition to the Republican Budget Resolution.

Today, this Congress has the opportunity to send a clear message of hope for a better future to American families by investing in critical programs that enhance our children's ability to go to college, protect our public health against diseases and epidemics, and protect our public safety from gang violence and terrorist attacks.

Regrettably, the Republican leadership has chosen to squander this opportunity in order to make way for additional tax breaks for the wealthiest Americans.

The negative impact of this unnecessary and misguided budget is that programs essential to the safety, health and well-being of American families are cut and even eliminated.

Please permit me to cite examples that illustrate my point.

First, this Republican Budget Resolution sacrifices services vital to women and families by eliminating the funding for the National Resource Center on Workplace Responses. This Center was included in last year's reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). It provides critical support to help employees who are victims of domestic violence maintain job security as they empower themselves to end the violence in their lives. It also provides employers with valuable information and expertise needed to make their workplace safe from abusers who often stalk their victims at the workplace.

Second, this Budget Resolution eliminates the funding for the National Institutes of Health's crucial National Children's Study. This study is examining the effects of environmental influences on the health and development of our nation's children. When completed, this national study could answer critical questions that will enable us to more effectively protect our children's health and future well-being.

By eliminating this important program, the Republican budget once again chooses giving tax breaks to the wealthiest individuals in America at the expense of our children.

Third, this budget resolution jeopardizes the future of millions of America's children by recommending the elimination of 42 education programs designed to provide our Nation's disadvantaged and middle-income children with the opportunities for a better and more fulfilling life.

Some of the programs the Republican budget proposes to eliminate are the Even Start program, which promotes family literacy in low-income areas; the School Drop-out Prevention Program, which helps at-risk children stay in school; and the Education Technology Block Grant, which integrates technology into the classroom to help students and teachers succeed in today's 21st Century workforce.

Once again, in order to pay for the \$70 billion tax cut primarily for the wealthy, this Republican budget strips away the safety net needed to protect the future of our children who must be prepared to compete in our ever-growing and highly technical global economy.

I urge my colleagues to put the future of our children and our country first and vote against this misguided Republican Budget Resolution.

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND
IDEALS OF PEACE OFFICERS MEMORIAL DAY

SPEECH OF

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2006

Mr. STUPAK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to say thank you to the 850,000 police officers who go to work in our communities each day, and to pay tribute to the more than 17,000 who have made the ultimate sacrifice, and whose names are inscribed on the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial.

As a former officer with the Michigan State Police and Escanaba City Police Department, as well as founder and co-chair of the Law Enforcement Caucus, I am proud to be a cosponsor of this resolution, and I want to thank Congressman HEFLEY for introducing it again this year.

Everyday, our Nation's police officers face danger and uncertainty in order to keep us safe. There are 56,000 assaults against law enforcement officers each year; and last year, 155 peace officers were killed in the line of duty, including five from my own state of Michigan. They leave behind husbands, wives, parents, and children, who supported them and believed in their work, and who now need and deserve our support.

I want to take a moment to thank organizations like Concerns of Police Survivors and Thin Blue Line that work to help give a voice and a helping hand to the families of officers who are killed. These compassionate organizations help to remind us that the law enforcement community goes beyond those who wear the uniform to include the families who share the risks that come with a career in police work. The ceremonies of this past weekend are for them, to commemorate their commitment and their sacrifice, and to let them know that their Nation shares their loss and that their loved ones did not die in vain.

I also think that we need to go beyond the usual gestures to offer the families of fallen officers real, material support. We need to fully fund critical law enforcement programs like the Byrne Grant program, which was named for a fallen officer and which has helped to provide vital funding for organizations like Thin Blue Line. This program has been under attack by the administration in recent years, and I call on my colleagues to show the families and officers gathered here this week that we mean to support them with our resources as well as our words.

In addition, I am especially proud to have introduced a piece of legislation that will provide health insurance coverage to the survivors of public safety officers who are killed in the line of duty. This bill, H.R. 4424, has been endorsed by leading national law enforcement organizations, and will help to relieve the financial strain on police survivors in the wake of the most traumatic possible loss. I think this legislation is an example of the kind of practical support that we can provide to law enforcement officers and their families, and I hope to see it move forward in the coming year.

After September 11, this Congress seemed to recognize the heroic nature of the work that our law enforcement officers do, and the importance of supporting them fully. However, I

am concerned that we have begun to lose sight of our priorities in recent years. Funding for essential programs like COPS has been declining, and even highly successful programs like the Byrne Grant are being threatened with elimination. I believe that we need to go back to the model that helped to radically reduce crime across this country in the Clinton years: funding to put cops on the streets, support for successful local programs, and federal commitment to initiatives, like communications interoperability, that help to make our first responders more effective.

This week should serve as a chance for us to renew our commitment to the men and women of the law enforcement community. Today, we have the chance to honor them with our words, through the excellent resolution that Mr. HEFLEY has introduced. For the rest of the year, let's make sure that we are honoring and supporting them through our priorities and our actions. It is the least we can do for the officers and families who do so much for us every day.

THE 65TH ANNIVERSARY OF JACKSON MEMORIAL TEMPLE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Jackson Memorial Temple Church of God in Christ as it celebrates 65 years of fellowship and worship in my hometown of Flint Michigan. Jackson Memorial will commemorate this event with two days of festivities on August 12 and 13.

Founded in December 1941 by Reverend Leo J. Jackson as the Pilgrim Temple Church of God in Christ, the first services were held on the same day Pearl Harbor was bombed. After Reverend Jackson passed away the church was re-named in his memory. Bishop H. J. Williams is the current pastor and along with First Lady, Mother Iola Williams, he provides the leadership, inspiration and example of a life in Christ to the congregation and community.

Dedicating their lives to Jesus Christ, the congregation is pledged to the following beliefs: That there is one God, eternally existent in three persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. In the Blessed Hope, which is the Rapture of the Church of God, which is in Christ, at His return. That the only means of being cleansed from sin is through repentance and faith in the precious blood of Jesus Christ. That regeneration by the Holy Ghost is absolutely essential for personal salvation. That the redemptive work of Christ on the cross provides healing for the human body, in answer to believing in prayer. That the baptism in the Holy Ghost according to Acts 2:4 is given to believers who ask for it. In the sanctifying power of the Holy Spirit, by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a holy and separated life in this present world.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Jackson Memorial Temple Church of God in Christ as it celebrates their 65th anniversary. I commend them for 65 years of joyful

service to the community and pray they will continue to provide spiritual guidance to the residents of Flint for many years to come.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 17, 2006

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration of the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 376) establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2007 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2008 through 2011:

Mrs. SCHWARTZ of Pennsylvania. Mr. Chairman, this chamber is in the final stages of the annual budget process—a process that provides an important opportunity to discuss the things we value as a Nation.

Before we cast our votes, each of us should consider the following:

1. Does the Republican budget value fiscal discipline and honest budgeting? And, did the Republican leadership make the tough choices needed to balance the budget and pay down the debt?

No. The Republican budget continues the majority party's borrow-and-spend policies. As a result, it not only fails to balance the Federal government's checkbook, but will actually run a deficit of \$348 billion for 2007—further increasing the mounting debt being, passed onto our children and grandchildren.

2. Does the Republican budget value our shared economic future? And, did the Republican majority make wise investments in education, workforce development and alternative fuels that will favorably position us in the highly competitive global marketplace?

No. The Republican budget cuts education funding by \$2.2 billion, reduces support for renewable energy and energy-efficiency initiatives, and impedes access to health care for women and children.

3. Does the Republican budget value enhanced security at home and a strong defense? And, did the Republican majority provide for the men and women who protect us, both while they are on the front lines and after they have fulfilled their duties and return home?

No. The Republican budget cuts funding for veterans' health care by \$6 billion, and will reduce our ability to maintain current homeland security efforts due to a lack of consistent and reliable funding.

4. Is the Republican budget based on sound, fair tax policies to recognize the priorities of everyday Americans?

No. The Republican budget has one purpose: to provide tax cuts to the wealthiest Americans. In fact, this budget provides \$228 billion in new tax cuts—90 percent of which will go to the wealthiest ten percent of taxpayers.

This budget fails to meet sound fiscal principles, and it sets us on an irresponsible path for years to come—with mounting annual deficits, and an increasing national debt. In fact,

the Republican majority went to great lengths to mask the fact that their spending plan does not include some of our Nation's largest financial commitments—commitments that we must meet.

Their plan almost completely ignores the cost of ongoing military operations in Afghanistan and Iraq, which according to the Congressional Budget Office will be at least \$298 over 10 years. Except for a one year fix, it does nothing to address the Alternative Minimum Tax, which will increase taxes for middle class families by an estimated \$844 billion over the next ten years.

Even with these cuts, omissions, and gimmicks, the majority's budget will add another \$2.3 trillion to our national debt by 2011—or nearly \$1 million of debt per minute. Under President Bush, and his Republican Congress, our Nation has incurred more debt than it did under the 42 presidents before him.

But there is a better way.

As a member of the House Budget Committee, I assisted Ranking Member SPRATT in the creation of a fiscal year 2007 budget that makes the necessary tough, fiscally disciplined choice. This Democratic alternative meets the basic budgetary principles of meeting our obligations, working within the resources we have, and making smart investments that will ensure the Nation's current and future fiscal well-being.

The Democratic budget will put our nation back on the right track by closing tax loopholes that provide incentives to companies to ship jobs overseas, by cracking down on tax cheats that avoid paying nearly \$350 billion a year in taxes, by rescinding the tax breaks and subsidies for the oil and gas industry, and by rolling back Medicare overpayments to HMOs. We would then reinvest these savings in the priorities that matter to most Americans: national and homeland security, energy independence, education, and health care. And, it will do so while balancing the Federal Government's budget within 6 years, and begin to pay down the debt by 2013.

Our plan would secure our homeland through investments in our military and defense networks. Our plan would ensure that we are prepared here at home, while also pursuing smart foreign policies that encourage stability in nations throughout the world. And, our plan would meet our obligations to the men and women who have fought to protect our Nation.

Second, our plan would help secure our economic future by educating our children for the twenty-first century economy, promoting the development and innovation of small businesses, upholding environmental protections, and advancing the production of alternative sources of energy to end our dependence on foreign oil.

And, third, our plan would expand access to affordable health care for all Americans and improve retirement security with particular attention to the dramatic and costly needs of the baby boomers who will begin to reach retirement in 2007.

Mr. Chairman, I believe that we have a responsibility to meet our obligations and balance the budget. I am also well aware that the Federal Government's budgets have consequences. If the majority's budget passes, it will hurt State and local budgets by forcing them to cover the shortfalls—likely through increased local taxes. If the majority's budget