

annuitization." However, regulations issued by the IRS in 2002 prohibited the practice of self-annuitization, although they allowed it for church retirement plans organized under section 403(b)(9). Instead, the IRS stated that plans must purchase annuities from commercial insurance companies.

Mr. Speaker, there is no good policy reason for why the two types of church plans should be treated differently regarding self-annuitization. Furthermore, the Department of the Treasury has indicated they would not oppose a legislative change on this issue. Churches should have the right to invest for retirement in the ways they see fit, and commercial insurance companies cannot and do not manage their investments according to these high standards. Moreover, the ability to offer annuities is necessary to prevent the possibility of beneficiaries outliving their retirement funds under an alternative installment payment system. In order to prevent this unfairness, my bill would use a "grandfather" approach to grant the ability to self-annuitize only to those 401(a) plans that were in existence on the date the final IRS regulations were issued in 2002.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill so that the Mennonites can continue to offer annuities invested in the way they see fit.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOE BARTON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, May 17, 2006, I was diagnosed with an inner ear infection and was unable to fly to Washington, D.C. ahead of all votes. As a result, I missed several votes on this day and ask that my statement be placed in the appropriate part of the RECORD to reflect how I would have voted on the following roll call votes, had I been present.

Wednesday, May 17, 2006:

Nay: On agreeing to the Rahall (WV) amendment Failed by recorded vote: 189-236 (Roll no. 147). Strikes section 103 of H.R. 4200, regarding expedited procedures and certain exceptions to compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

Nay: On agreeing to the DeFazio (OR) amendment Failed by recorded vote: 184-240. (Roll no. 148). Strikes section 104 of H.R. 4200, regarding "availability and use of pre-approved management practices" and replaces it with a new section 104.

Nay: On agreeing to the Inslee (WA) amendment Failed by recorded vote: 191-231 (Roll no. 149). Adds a new section to H.R. 200, stating that the Act shall not apply to any inventoried roadless area within the National Forest System.

Nay: On agreeing to the Udall (NM) amendment Failed by recorded vote: 197-228 (Roll no. 150). Adds a new section to H.R. 4200, which would require the Secretary concerned (when implementing any pre-approved management practice or catastrophic event recovery project as described in the bill) to "consider the effect of the practice of project fire risk and forest regeneration," and prohibits implementing the project unless the Secretary certifies that the practice or project will not increase fire-risk or decrease forest regeneration.

Aye: On passage Passed by recorded vote: 243-182 (Roll no. 151). H.R. 4200, Forest Emergency Recovery and Research Act.

HONORING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF LARRY KIRK

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Rutherford County's Larry Kirk, who will retire on June 30, 2006, from the Murfreesboro Electric Department after 24 years of outstanding service.

Larry has been in the electricity business for 40 years and started working for Murfreesboro Electric Department in 1982. He transferred to Murfreesboro after working in Chattanooga for 13 years and working for Mississippi Power & Light for three years.

Under his leadership, Murfreesboro Electric Department has grown from 15,000 to 45,000 customers as the population of the city has doubled.

Active in his trade, Larry has served as the President of the Tennessee Municipal Electric Power Association. He has also served on the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Public Power Association and currently serves on the Middle Tennessee Industrial Development Association Board of Directors.

Larry has served his country, as well as his community. During the Vietnam era, he served in the U.S. Army Special Forces and the Special Forces National Guard. He has served on the Board of Directors of the Rutherford County Chamber of Commerce and United Way of Rutherford and Cannon Counties, where he was once chairman and president. He has served on the Board of Directors of Heart of Tennessee Chapter of the American Red Cross, and he has donated an astounding 14 gallons of blood over the years.

Upon retirement, Larry plans to devote more of his time to his love of Middle Tennessee State University athletics. Although Larry is a graduate of Ole Miss and Delta State, MTSU is his adopted university. He has served on the Board of Trustees of the MTSU Development Foundation and is an active member of the Blue Raider Athletic Association, where he once served as president.

I commend Larry Kirk on his numerous accomplishments and his involvement within the Murfreesboro community. I wish him all the best in his retirement.

A WELL DESERVED TRIBUTE TO BENNETT CAREER INSTITUTE'S BRIGHTEST SHINING STAR, MS. BRENDA C. ARNOLD

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ms. Brenda C. Arnold, one of Bennett Career Institute's most dedicated, compassionate and qualified instructors. I applaud Ms. Arnold for all that she has done over the years to nurture, motivate, and

instill confidence in the students who have crossed her path. In her own special way she touches the lives of so many daily.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Arnold is indeed the human catalyst at Bennett Career Institute who stimulates the cosmetology students in a very unique and special way. While encouraging the students to maximize their greatest potential, Ms. Arnold lets them know that she expects nothing but the best that they have to offer. Because of Mr. Chett Bennett, Chief Executive Officer, Ms. Arnold, Freshman Instructor, and other qualified and dedicated instructors, the Bennett Career Institute has grown over the years in leaps and bounds. The opportunities and exposure that this Institute provides to its students is unsurpassed.

Mr. Speaker, I have learned that Bennett Graduates who have taken instruction under Ms. Arnold, in past years eagerly return to Bennett Career Institute to pay tribute to her and to express their gratitude for the positive ways that she touched their lives. They return frequently to Bennett Career Institute to say "thanks" to Ms. Arnold for her role in enhancing their quality of life.

Mr. Speaker, in addition to the experience at Bennett Career Institute, Ms. Arnold has provided instruction and held management positions at various other Institutions in the District of Columbia. She has worked as a Manager at Jazzmin's Hair Gallery; a Sales Representative with Barry Fletcher Products; as an Instructor with Parvane Institute of Esthetics; as an Instructor with the District of Columbia Beauty Academy; as a Freelance Stylist and Consultant with Added Attraction; as an Educational Therapy Assistant with the District of Columbia Public Schools—Central Diagnostic Placement Center; and as a Director and Instructor with Image Makers Beauty Academy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my Congressional Colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to help me pay tribute to this bright star, Ms. Brenda C. Arnold, for rekindling the life of so many of our young citizens who, but for her, may have gotten distracted and gone astray joining the ranks of far too many others who are still searching for direction and their station in life.

Mr. Speaker, I wish God's continued blessings upon Ms. Brenda C. Arnold, Mr. Chett Bennett, other members of the Faculty, Administrative Staff and the student body of Bennett Career Institute.

TRIBUTE TO KEN BORELLI

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 18, 2006

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise in gratitude to recognize the social services and social work practices of Mr. Ken Borelli so valued by the residents of Santa Clara County today. Mr. Borelli has worked with the Santa Clara County Social Services Agency for 36 years. I first met Ken over 25 years ago when I was a member of the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors which had responsibility for funding the Department of Social Services and providing oversight for the Department. Ken was a standout then and he has remained so to this day. He began his career as a Social Work