

WAIVING POINTS ON ORDER AGAINST CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 4939, EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT FOR DEFENSE, THE GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR, AND HURRICANE RECOVERY, 2006

SPEECH OF

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 12, 2006

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the FY2006 Emergency Supplemental Appropriations bill, which provides \$2.325 billion for international assistance programs, \$162 million above the House-passed level. The bill provides \$1.485 billion for Iraq reconstruction and fully funds the administration's request for Afghanistan.

I am particularly pleased that the conference report provides \$50 million above the President's requests for Sudan, Liberia and Jordan as well as \$20 million for Haiti. I am also pleased that we were able to include an additional \$25 million for refugee assistance and \$25 million in disaster assistance above the request level.

In light of the escalating security costs in Iraq and Afghanistan, I regret that we were not able to fully fund the administration's request for operating expenses, but I am pleased that the conference report significantly increases funding above the House-passed level.

While the conference report fully funds the President's request for assistance to Afghanistan, \$46 million in program funds for that country is not even a drop in the bucket. In light of the increasing violence and fragile political situation in Afghanistan, it is shameful that the administration failed to push for the \$600 million that Ambassador Neumann indicated was necessary.

I applaud the funding in this bill for Sudan and for other humanitarian needs in Africa. However, I was disappointed that the administration did not seek robust funding for the fledgling democracy in Liberia and the critical transition in Haiti. The funding added by Congress—an additional \$50 million for Liberia and \$20 million for Haiti—will provide critical short-term support to meet refugee and humanitarian needs as well as help to stabilize these countries during the initial months of their transitions.

I regret that our conference allocation only allowed us to maintain half of the \$100 million for Jordan that was passed by the Senate. Jordan has been a steadfast and important ally in the war on terror, as was clearly demonstrated by the assistance of Jordanian intelligence in the targeting of Abu Musab al-Zarqawi. It is a shame that arbitrary limits placed on this supplemental have prevented us from fully funding this priority country.

Finally, let me speak to the bulk of the funding in the Foreign Operations section of the bill, which is for activities in Iraq. I support the additional funding because I think we owe our men and women in uniform in Iraq every chance to enhance their safety and return home speedily. To this end, I am glad that the conference report includes at least \$50 million for democracy and governance activities and \$50 million for the Community Action Program. These programs are having a tremendous im-

pact and are more cost effective than many of the investments we have made thus far.

However, I am dismayed that neither the House nor the Senate included placed these additional funds under the oversight mandate of the Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction. By failing to include this language, the House and Senate majority sent a clear message to American taxpayers that while Congress expects them to bear the burden of reconstructing Iraq, we are not interested in taking every precaution necessary to ensure that their money is accountably and effectively spent.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the conference report.

HONORING DR. DONALD R. KENNON ON HIS 25TH ANNIVERSARY AT THE U.S. CAPITOL HISTORICAL SOCIETY

HON. NORMAN D. DICKS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. DICKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor and pay tribute to a friend who, today, is marking his 25th anniversary with the United States Capitol Historical Society. Dr. Donald R. Kennon is the Society's Chief Historian and Vice President of Scholarship and Education.

A humble man, Dr. Kennon's career has been marked by accomplishment. He is the author of two books for the Society, including *The Speakers of the House of Representatives: A Bibliography* (Johns Hopkins University Press, 1985), and *The Committee on Ways and Means: A Bicentennial History, 1789–1989* (Government Printing Office, 1989), and has edited more than a dozen volumes of the Society's symposia publications.

He has been Chief Historian since 1987 after joining the Society in 1981 as an Associate Historian. He holds a Ph.D. in American History from the University of Maryland and has taught as a visiting professor at the University of New Mexico. His doctoral dissertation focused on antebellum reform in a changing society, both legally and morally in the years surrounding the Civil War.

He is treasurer of the Abraham Lincoln Institute, a scholarly organization founded in 1998 to garner public attention on writings and research regarding our nation's 16th president.

Dr. Kennon has also very ably directed educational symposia, publications and outreach programs, while writing and lecturing about the history of this body, Congress, and the Capitol.

An avid collector, Dr. Kennon has one of the area's largest collections of antique stereographic images, including many of the Capitol building and Congress. He has a keen sense of humor and loves baseball. When he's not at games, he collects antique radios and vintage slot machines.

Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to honor Dr. Kennon and I ask my colleagues to rise and join me in congratulating him on 25 years at the United States Capitol Historical Society and in wishing him continued success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to vote on the following bills on June 12, 2006:

H. Res. 794, Recognizing the 17th anniversary of the massacre in Tiananmen Square, Beijing, in the People's Republic of China, and for other purposes (Rollcall No. 251): Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

H. Res. 804, Condemning the unauthorized, inappropriate, and coerced ordination of Catholic bishops by the People's Republic of China (Rollcall No. 252): Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

H. Res. 608, Condemning the escalating levels of religious persecution in the People's Republic of China (Rollcall No. 253): Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

H. Con. Res. 338, Expressing the sense of Congress regarding the activities of Islamist terrorist organizations in the Western Hemisphere (Rollcall No. 254): Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

And finally, Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted "aye" with regard to Ordering the Previous Question on H. Res. 857, waiving points of order against consideration of the conference report to accompany the bill (H.R. 4939) making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006 (Rollcall No. 255).

HONORING ZACH SHEEHAN

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate a student from Southerland Hills Middle School in Boulder, Colorado.

Zach Sheehan has been selected to present his award winning history project at the Smithsonian National Museum of America. Zack's project was one of a handful selected by the National History Day program from hundreds of thousands nationwide.

Each project reflected on this year's National History Day theme, "Taking a Stand in History: People, Ideas, Events." Zack's project highlighted a scientist in Boulder who has had a major impact on increasing public awareness of global warming and helping spur the government to slow global warming.

It is my view that, as the world leader in science and technology, the United States must develop solutions that will reduce greenhouse gas emissions. These solutions are of vital importance to protecting our planet's resources and permitting the economic and social progress for our Nation and the world.

In the Old Hall of the House of Representatives, Clio, the Muse of History, stands in a winged chariot representing the passage of time. Clio is looking back; recording events as they occur. Mr. Speaker, this statue served as a poignant reminder to our forbearers of the importance of history as a guide to and a watchdog for the history that is made here every day.