

this process. Led by Speaker NANCY PELOSI, the majority party has taken this opportunity to add non-military provisions such as \$74 million for peanut storage costs, \$5 million for tropical fish and billions of dollars worth of special-interest pork projects. I have to ask, why would this extraneous non-emergency material be included in a war spending bill when it has nothing to do with war spending?

At what point are we going to stop playing politics with the safety and well being of our troops? I don't think there is anyone in this Chamber who doesn't believe we need to do all we can to support our brave men and women in uniform. However, I find it sad that the bill before us today is being used to satisfy the whims of lawmakers with an appetite for special interest pork projects. Such an effort amounts to nothing more than institutionalizing bribery.

In addition to the more than \$21 billion in pork spending, H.R. 1591 plays politics in a completely different way by setting a timetable for the redeployment of our troops from Iraq.

I believe that the President made a good decision by appointing General Petraeus to command all U.S. Forces in Iraq. The fact that every Democrat in the United States Senate voted to confirm the general reinforces the belief that his new plan and vision for the war on terror is the right one. Implementing a "slow-bleed" strategy will deny the general the opportunity to implement his plan and change the tide in Iraq.

Overseeing the greatest military on Earth while trying to initiate great tactical change is a monumental task, but I feel we owe it to General Petraeus to give him the necessary tools to defeat the terrorists and bring our troops home. In no way can General Petraeus, or any of our military leaders for that matter, be successful in Iraq if a timeline for redeployment becomes law.

The same restrictions should not be placed on our President. My colleagues and I were elected under Article I of the United States Constitution, an article that does not give us the authority to be Commander in Chief. Article II clearly cedes that authority to the President of the United States, whoever he or she is, and from whatever party he or she belongs to. Now, it's no secret that almost every member of the Senate harbors ambitions to one day be President, but until now, I didn't realize that everyone in the House felt the same way. This "slow-bleed" scheme represents an unconstitutional infringement upon the authority of the President as Commander in Chief.

The point is that politicians in Washington should stop trying to micromanage this war and allow the President and his generals to have the troops, equipment, and supplies to complete the goals that have been set. Our troops are not a bargaining chip to be used by congressional Democrats to leverage more excessive and unnecessary pork spending.

Rather than support a bill that provides \$25 million for spinach replenishment, I urge my colleagues to oppose H.R. 1591, so that we can get back to work and pass a clean bill free of any extraneous spending and disastrous military timelines.

RESOLUTION IN HONOR OF BISHOP GILBERT EARL PATTERSON—"BE HEALED, BE DELIVERED AND BE SET FREE"

HON. CAROLYN C. KILPATRICK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2007

Ms. KILPATRICK. Madam Speaker, such are the favorite words of proclamation that characterized the ministry thrust of presiding Bishop, Bishop Gilbert Earl Patterson, whom our Heavenly Father has seen fit to release from the cares of this life, and move from labor to reward. We must, in humble submission, yield to the infinite wisdom and divine will of God who does all things well.

Whereas, Bishop G.E. Patterson was born of humble means in Humboldt, Tennessee to Bishop W.A. and Mrs. Mary Patterson on September 22, 1939. He grew up in Memphis, Tennessee before moving to Detroit, Michigan with his family in 1952 and preached his first sermon at age 17 and was ordained an Elder in the Church of God in Christ by Bishop John Seth Bailey in Detroit in 1958. Bishop Patterson moved back to Memphis in 1961 to assist his father at Holy Temple Church of God in Christ and subsequently established a new congregation in 1975 named Temple of Deliverance, the Cathedral of Bountiful Blessings, in Memphis, Tennessee, and . . .

Whereas, Bishop G.E. Patterson led Temple of Deliverance to outgrow its first church location within three years and built a new \$1.2 million 1,200-seat sanctuary to become the first church in Memphis, Tennessee to be built by black workers that cost more than a million dollars. Additionally, in 1999 Bishop Patterson's visionary leadership moved Temple of Deliverance to purchase a \$13 million campus that featured a 5,000 seat worship center which now houses a membership of 13,000 members, and . . .

Whereas, Bishop G.E. Patterson rose to international prominence as the charismatic leader, Presiding Bishop and Chief Apostle of the Church of God in Christ and was instrumental in increasing the denomination membership ranks to more than 6.5 million members in 58 countries, as well as overseeing a global media empire that included television, radio, internet, recording, and publishing divisions; time will not remove the treasures carried in so many hearts, nor dim the shining thoughts and memories that linger as a result of Bishop G.E. Patterson's humble spirit, sage counsel, visionary leadership, anointed preaching, and spirited worshipper of God, and . . .

Whereas, the Members of the Congressional Black Caucus extend our deepest expression of sympathy to the entire COGIC Denomination, may God's uplifting power carry each of you through your hour of bereavement.

Therefore, be it resolved, that we Celebrate, Rejoice, Praise and Thank God for the example of Bishop Patterson's devoted and faithful life of ministry to humankind, his unselfish dedication as a world-wide spiritual leader to the saints everywhere, and especially within the Church of God in Christ.

Be it further resolved that the Patterson family will remain in our thoughts and prayers with the reminder that Jesus, the Man of Sor-

rows, understands all that transpires in our frail, human lives.

Be it finally resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the family and a copy be placed in the records of the Church.

SAFETEA-LU TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. ANTHONY D. WEINER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 26, 2007

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend my colleagues for their work on the SAFETEA-LU technical corrections bill. After extensive conversations with the local transportation authority in New York City, it has become apparent that several changes are necessary in order for very important transportation infrastructure improvements to be implemented in New York City. Included in this bill are a number of projects that will enhance transportation throughout New York City and in my district in particular.

At my urging, the technical corrections bill includes: \$1,100,000 for the New York City Department of Transportation to design and rehabilitate roads commonly known as steep streets, which connect streets on steep grades, in Bronx County in coordination with my colleagues Mr. ENGEL, Mr. CROWLEY, and Mr. SERRANO; \$2,500,000 to design and construct school safety projects in New York City to be used as part of the recently launched Safe Routes to Schools project, spearheaded by the New York City Department of Transportation; \$1,300,000 for the New York Metropolitan Transit Authority to install security cameras at the Steinway Street, Broadway, 30th Avenue, and Astoria Boulevard subway stations in Astoria, New York, at the suggestion and urging of New York Assemblyman Michael Gianaris; \$100,000 to provide for an independent study of the Newtown Creek oil spill in coordination with my colleague Ms. VELÁZQUEZ; \$500,000 for the New York City Department of Transportation to study and implement transportation improvements in the Breezy Point neighborhood of Queens County; \$500,000 for the New York Metropolitan Transit Authority's interagency task force on fencing to fence exposed track along the Long Island Railroad.

These high priority projects will make a considerable contribution to the lives of New York City residents.

Chairman OBERSTAR, Mr. MICA, Chairman DEFAZIO, and Mr. DUNCAN deserve the thanks and appreciation of every Member of this House for their tireless efforts to improve America's transportation system.

I also could not have secured these and other programs within TEA-LU without the help and counsel of individuals here in Washington, and New York City. I would like to thank Joshua Fay-Hurvitz of my staff. I would also like to thank both the Democratic and Republican staff of the Transportation Committee. In particular, I would like to thank Jackie Schmitz and Ward McCarragher of Mr. OBERSTAR's staff. I would also like to thank Commissioner Iris Weinshall, David Woloch, and Andra Horsch at the New York City Department of Transportation. Additionally, I'd

like to thank Derrick Douglas with the State of New York, and Judy Chesser and Bill Daly with the City of New York. Finally I'd like to thank Lee Sander and Chris Boylan with the New York Metropolitan Transit Authority, Mike Weiss at the Federal Highway Administration, and Jessie Torres at the Department of Transportation.

HONORING NATIONAL PEACE
CORPS WEEK

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2007

Mr. WALSH of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of National Peace Corps Week, which took place from February 26th until March 1st, 2007.

The Peace Corps was founded in the early 1960s, and has grown to a force of 7,749 volunteers in 73 overseas countries. The Peace Corps has done great work all over the world in numerous fields, including improving agriculture, business development, improving information technology, bettering education, improving healthcare, and protecting the environment.

The Peace Corps provides those who join with extensive training in language skills as well as skills in numerous other fields that give them the foundation to eventually work in any field they choose, much like how I ended up serving my constituents here in Washington after I had spent time in the Peace Corps serving in Nepal.

Today I would especially like to thank Catherine Bukowski, Terry Callan, Katie Clifford, Laurence Desein, Patrick Gannon, Kerry Goessling, Lisa Jackson, Chetou Lamare, Ryan McCarthy, Samuel Tassone, and Patrick Wayne; all constituents of mine selflessly serving overseas in the Peace Corps. All of these men and women should be commended for their tireless effort, and that is why I stand today to recognize them and all those serving in the Peace Corps.

HONORING COACH TERRY
BUCKLES

HON. RON LEWIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2007

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise to publicly congratulate Terry Buckles for achieving his 500th career win as Head Coach of the Central Hardin High School Women's Basketball Team.

Throughout his 22 year career, Coach Buckles has epitomized the qualities that make Kentucky hold its basketball heroes in high regard. His steady leadership and the lifelong lessons imparted on his players have made his teams a model of teamwork and good sportsmanship. His success is evident through his players, 26 who have continued their student-athlete careers at the collegiate level.

In addition to his remarkable record of wins, Coach Buckles has coached his teams to six Kentucky High School Athletic Association Regional Championships. In 1996, he took the

Central Hardin Lady Bruins to the state finals and later coached his team to a Kentucky AAU State Championship victory. His success has continued this season, leading the Lady Bruins to a 23–6 record, ranking fourth in the state. With his 500th win, Coach Buckles has joined only seven other coaches who have reached this milestone. He currently stands as the all time leader in wins in the Fifth region and ranks in the top ten for career wins for women's coaches in state history.

Coach Buckles hard work and success at Central Hardin High School has been recognized throughout the Commonwealth. He has received numerous "Coach of the Year" awards; is an inductee of the Fifth Region Hall of Fame; and was honored last year with induction into the Kentucky Association of Basketball Coaches "Court of Honor," the highest tribute a basketball coach in Kentucky can receive.

I would like to recognize Terry Buckles today before the entire U.S. House of Representatives for his recent coaching milestone. His contributions to education and athletics make him a remarkable citizen worthy of our appreciation and respect.

HONORING RON BOONE

HON. RON LEWIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2007

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the memory of Ron Boone, a remarkable public servant and friend from my home state of Kentucky. Mr. Boone, a long-time radio news broadcaster in Elizabethtown, passed away unexpectedly in February, 2004. He will be posthumously inducted into the Kentucky Journalism Hall of Fame early next month.

Ron Boone was a legend in Central Kentucky, broadcasting on radio stations WIEL, WASE, WSAC, WRZI and WKMO throughout his 31 year career. He was affectionately known among his colleagues as "The Dean of Newscasters", and was universally praised by listeners and interview subjects for his unbiased reporting.

I have fond memories of Ron Boone dating back to my first days as a candidate in the spring of 1994. Ron reported extensively on my election that year, subsequent elections, and on countless votes and official events that occurred over the course of my first six terms in Congress. I always enjoyed my conversations with Ron, particularly his thoughtful and well-informed observations on our community and Kentucky politics. Indeed, he was very good at what he did.

In addition to his upcoming induction into the Kentucky Journalism Hall of Fame, Ron has also been recipient to the Kentucky Associated Press Broadcasters Association Distinguished Service Award, the Kentucky Mic Award from the Kentucky Broadcasters Association, and was inducted into the Elizabethtown-Hardin County Chamber of Commerce Hall of Fame.

Despite many deserved professional accolades, Ron Boone's most enduring legacy was his love of family and his unwavering dedication to his friends, neighbors and community. Though the years were too few, his was a life very well lived.

It is my great privilege to honor the memory of Ron Boone today, before the entire U.S. House of Representatives, and to send our collective congratulations to his wife Judy who will accept the Kentucky Journalism Hall of Fame Award on his behalf.

IN HONOR OF PRIVATE CLARENCE
SPENCER, UNITED STATES ARMY

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2007

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor one of the bravest and most dedicated young heroes of North Texas and of our Nation.

Army Private Clarence Spencer was killed in Blad, Iraq while fighting against enemy forces in one of the most important conflicts our Nation has ever engaged in.

Clarence Spencer gallantly and selflessly gave his life for his country while fighting alongside his fellow soldiers of the First Cavalry Division from Fort Hood, Texas.

Private Spencer is survived by his mother, son and loving wife, Army Private Charlotte Spencer, who has also devoted herself to our Nation's noble military profession.

Clarence Spencer served three tours in Iraq, two of which were as a marine. Wounded in Iraq on a previous tour, he demonstrated tremendous courage by deploying into harm's way once again.

Private Clarence Spencer is gone, but he will never be forgotten. His memory lives on in our hearts and America is eternally grateful for his spirit and dedication.

As Clarence's Dunbar High School football coach said about him, "I've coached faster, stronger and more talented students, but I've never coached anyone that I was more proud of."

That is precisely the way that the Fort Worth community and our Nation feel about soldiers such as Private Clarence Spencer—a true American hero.

TRIBUTE TO DR. KEN GIBSON,
PRESIDENT OF DONNELLY COLLEGE

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2007

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Ken Gibson, who recently announced his retirement, effective June 30th, following nine very successful years as president of Donnelly College of Kansas City, Kansas.

Donnelly College is an important part of the Kansas City, Kansas, community, and offers more than just an education to students. As Dr. Gibson reflected in a recent article in the Kansas City Kansan, "Donnelly College is essentially about hope. If you are not satisfied, you can change it and you can achieve what you are capable of. We have some really good students and I think we give them a great education."

The recipient of a master's degree from the University of Kentucky and a Ph.D. from