

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