

This is entirely consistent with the Hyde Amendment, which prohibits the use of American taxpayer dollars to pay for abortions in our own country.

Yet now, only 6 months into the new Congress, the majority has decided that tying federal funding of abortions in other countries to family planning assistance is somehow acceptable.

Moreover, my friends across the aisle have enacted within the Foreign Operations Appropriations bill a provision that would make optional the requirement that 33 percent of all prevention funding be used for abstinence and marital fidelity programs.

Mr. Chairman, abstinence and faithfulness to your spouse are the only sure ways of preventing the spread of HIV/AIDS and a large number of sexually transmitted diseases. Yet now we are giving programs and groups that work against such diseases the opportunity to rely more on condoms than common sense and commitment to sexual probity.

Additionally troubling is that the State/Foreign Operations bill contained \$2.4 billion for the State of Israel. This funding is especially imperative given the fact that Hamas has just gained control of the Gaza Strip.

I voted against the Foreign Operations bill because of its strange insistence that American taxpayers fund overseas abortions. That's morally wrong. It affronts the convictions of tens of millions of our fellow citizens. It is an expression of ideology, not sound foreign policy.

Mr. Chairman, Israel has no stronger supporter in Congress than me. I have cosponsored legislation to counter Iran's efforts to obtain nuclear weapons and another measure recognizing the 40th anniversary of the reunification of Jerusalem and calling upon the President to begin the process of relocating the United States Embassy in Israel to Jerusalem. I have worked closely with my friends in Idahoans United for Israel and am proud of my association with supporters of Israel across the political spectrum.

Mr. Chairman, I urge you to bring a clean bill to the House floor so that my colleagues and I can vote for Israel and for funding for our State Department and its vital mission and for so many other important foreign relations-related programs.

The American people are weary of the legislative process being used to score political points. Both sides are guilty of this kind of maneuver and it needs to change. Support for Israel is too important for it to be held up by the vagaries of domestic politics. Let's have a clean bill and a clean vote.

SBA VETERANS' PROGRAMS ACT
OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 18, 2007

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the H.R. 2366, Small Business Administration (SBA) Veterans' Programs Act of 2007, an act to reauthorize and invest in the veterans entrepreneurial development programs of the Small Business Administration.

As a Korean War veteran, I appreciate the sacrifices the brave men and women who de-

fend our country make and how great a challenge it can be to return successfully to civilian life. I can relate to their struggle to obtain employment and start businesses after their service. I am supporting this act not only because it reminds me of the sacrifices of these veterans, but because legislation like this sends America a message that Congress believes in supporting and giving the necessary tools to our veterans to help them in their transition when they return from war. With this act, veterans will have the means and information to compete and participate in our economy. It is imperative that Congress let them know that we care about the sacrifices they have made and hardships that they have endured for this Nation.

Further, this act will benefit healthy veterans, disabled veterans, military units, federal agencies and veterans organizations by providing them the information required through an advertising campaign to promote awareness and education of the services available at the centers. Providing knowledge through the use of technology-assisted online counseling and distance learning technology to overcome impediments that veterans and Armed Forces service members can face enables veterans to access vital information.

Finally, it is up to Congress to do everything it can to ensure the most comprehensive service is given to all our service members. We will be taking one more step to accomplish that by supporting this act. We have the best military in the world. The best soldiers in the world. Let's have the best benefits for our soldiers. They deserve no less. Like General Douglas MacArthur said, "the soldier who is called upon to offer his life for his country, is the noblest development of mankind."

A TRIBUTE TO DARNELL P. SMITH

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 25, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the work and achievements of Darnell P. Smith. Darnell began to demonstrate his leadership abilities at a very young age. While attending Brooklyn Technical High School, he was named President of the 81st Precinct Youth Council. Darnell went on to attend Hampton University, where he earned the admiration and respect of his peers by founding the African Studies Cluster of Hampton University, and serving as Vice President of the Student Government Association.

Darnell Smith continued to serve his community as a probation officer and the founder of WeCare2Cure Inc. He still works with WeCare2Cure Inc, where he is committed to providing education, employment and affordable healthcare opportunities throughout the community of Brooklyn.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize the selfless efforts of Darnell P. Smith, who continues to work to improve the lives of the residents of Brooklyn.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Darnell P. Smith.

HONORING SERGEANT GREGORY J.
RUDOLPH

HON. THOMAS M. REYNOLDS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 25, 2007

Mr. REYNOLDS. Madam Speaker, with great pride and appreciation I rise today to honor a dedicated, determined and now highly acclaimed law enforcement officer who has stopped at nothing to serve his country and his neighbors.

Today I am delighted to join the chorus of well-deserved praise for Sergeant Gregory J. Rudolph, an officer who has led a life deeply committed to making his Wyoming County community a better and safer place. This year, Sgt. Rudolph was honored by both the New York State Sheriff Association and then the National Sheriff's Association as Deputy of the Year, an award reflecting Sgt. Rudolph's supreme service as an officer.

Yet more than any awards can show, Sgt. Rudolph is a true hero—a selfless individual who has risked his own life to protect the lives of others. And more than my words can demonstrate, Sgt. Rudolph is an inspiration to those in Wyoming County and beyond—a survivor who has overcome each and every challenge with a positive attitude and a steadfast strength of will.

After graduating from Genesee Community College, Sgt. Rudolph began his career of service in 1994 by enlisting in the United States Navy. While serving admirably as a Front Line Supervisor for 3 years, Sgt. Rudolph was confronted with an enemy beyond the scope of his military training—the onset of cancer. It was a battle that Sgt. Rudolph would wage with characteristic resolve and dignity, and it was a battle he would win, surviving a horrible disease and continuing on even stronger than before.

After his honorable discharge in 1997, Sgt. Rudolph returned to Wyoming County to serve in a different capacity, as a substitute teacher at Attica Central School. While teaching, he would begin his law enforcement career at the Attica Police Department in 1997, and 4 years later joined the Wyoming County Sheriff's Office as a deputy sheriff. Described as reliable, loyal, unselfish and sincere by fellow officers, Rudolph was promoted to sergeant in 2005.

Sgt. Rudolph's well-known qualities were never more apparent than on March 15, 2006, when he would again summon his tremendous willpower to serve and protect to the best of his abilities. Responding to a call of an armed man threatening suicide, Sgt. Rudolph was struck in the face by shotgun blasts after the occupant of the house opened fire without warning or provocation. Despite his injuries, Sgt. Rudolph maintained communication with other officers and provided invaluable information, eventually leading to the peaceful arrest of the gunman and saving other officers and innocent civilians from any further injuries. Sgt. Rudolph would soon fully recover and in remarkable time return to work. A partial pellet still left lodged in his face, Sgt. Rudolph today supervises the 3 to 11 p.m. shift, a survivor yet again and a role model to us all.

Thus, Madam Speaker, in recognition of his tremendous and selfless service, as a serviceman, an educator, an officer, and a Wyoming County neighbor, I ask that this honorable