

JUBILEE ACT FOR RESPONSIBLE
LENDING AND EXPANDED DEBT
CANCELLATION OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 16, 2008

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2634) to provide for greater responsibility in lending and expanded cancellation of debts owed to the United States and the international financial institutions by low-income countries, and for other purposes:

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to express my full support for H.R. 2634, the Jubilee Act for Responsible Lending and Expanded Debt Cancellation of 2008. This is extremely important legislation that will have no budgetary impact on the United States Federal budget but stands to have a lasting and life changing impact for up to 24 additional poor countries. The Jubilee Act is one of the most humanitarian efforts this Congress could undertake.

Poverty is one of the greatest ills to plague mankind. We have recent evidence of the impact of poverty in the demonstration of desperately hungry people for food no longer affordable because of economic forces beyond their control. Those who survive in poverty are under constant threat of death. The debt forgiveness offered by the Jubilee Act will enable poor countries to address the issues of poverty, create opportunities for economic growth and establish sound governing practices. The Jubilee Act also promotes responsible development assistance by prioritizing grants over loans, which is an important measure to prevent these countries from falling back into debt.

It is inconceivable for the United States not to act immediately in passing this legislation; there are many poor countries desperately awaiting our assistance. By granting authorization for the U.S. Treasury Department to begin negotiations within the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and other multilateral creditors is the first step towards improving the lives of so many impoverished people. Above all other reasons, we are morally obligated to help those less fortunate, therefore I urge my colleagues to support the Jubilee Act for Responsible Lending and Expanded Debt Cancellation Act.

TRIBUTE TO JUDGE DAVID
BRELAND

HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 22, 2008

Mr. CRAMER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the outstanding career of Judge David Breland.

On April 12, Judge Breland was honored with the Newton B. Powell Loyalty Award by the Democratic Party of Morgan County, AL.

Judge Breland has served the people of the State of Alabama for over 25 years as a District Judge in Morgan County. Judge Breland

is best known as a tireless advocate for the children of the Tennessee Valley. During his judicial career, Judge Breland established over 35 programs throughout the State of Alabama designed to assist at-risk youth.

Additionally, Judge Breland was the Chairman of Northwest Alabama Corrections for Youth, the Co-Chairman of the Morgan County Children's Policy Council, and a member of the President's Summit on Youth. His efforts have helped countless young people throughout Alabama become successful and responsible adults.

Judge Breland's civic involvement has inspired many in North Alabama. He has received commendations from organizations such as the Boys and Girls Club, the NAACP, and the Rotary Club. In 2008, Judge Breland was named as the Citizen of the Year by the Decatur-Morgan County Chamber of Commerce.

I commend Judge David Breland's work on behalf of North Alabama and, on behalf of the United States House of Representatives, I congratulate him on a distinguished career.

CONGRATULATING ROBERT AND
CAROLYN CRAWFORD FOR RE-
CEIVING THE MOTHERS AGAINST
DRUNK DRIVING (MADD) HERO
AWARD

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 22, 2008

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Robert and Carolyn Crawford for receiving the Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) Hero Award. The Lewisville couple received the award on Saturday April 19th, 2008, for their commitment to educating others about the dangers of drunk driving while volunteering for MADD.

The Crawfords' mission began back in 1993 when their daughter, son-in-law, granddaughter and another unborn grandchild were killed in a car wreck by a drunken driver. From that moment the couple has made it a priority to inform others of the dangers involved with drunk driving.

Since 2007, Robert Crawford has traveled all across the country participating in the MADD speaker's tour. He has spoken to over 10,000 people, and in these first few months of 2008, Robert has talked to almost 400 convicted drunk drivers at Victim Impact Panel meetings at the Denton County courthouse. Robert has also attended court trials to provide moral support to victims' families affected by drunk driving.

MADD was founded in 1980 and has more than 2 million members and supporters nationwide. Like Robert and Carolyn, the organization's goal is to stop drunken driving. The Crawfords' avid participation in MADD can be attributed to their passionate aspiration of trying to ensure that no other families endure the pain and devastation they suffered as a result of a drunken driver's poor decision.

Madam Speaker, I proudly rise today to honor two worthy citizens who strive every day to make this world a better place. Robert and Carolyn Crawford are truly deserving of the honor MADD has bestowed upon them. I am proud to represent them in the 26th District of

Texas and greatly appreciative for their ongoing service to their local community and the Nation. Their passion and devotion to such a worthy cause is admirable.

CONGRATULATING DENNIS
KAVANAUGH, RECIPIENT OF 2008
SHELLEY ARTS ADVOCACY
AWARD

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 22, 2008

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dennis Kavanaugh, recipient of 2008 Shelley Arts Advocacy Award from the Arizona Citizens Action of the Arts. As a member of the Mesa City Council and a leader within numerous boards and organizations, Dennis has been a tireless advocate for the arts in Arizona. Dennis recognizes the importance that the arts have on strengthening communities and enhancing our quality of life.

Dennis currently serves as Chair of both the Mesa Arts Center Foundation board and the Development Committee of the National Association of State Arts Assemblies. Through his work on the National Association of the State Arts Assemblies, Dennis has been a champion for efforts to increase federal funding for the National Endowment of the Arts.

Dennis was also instrumental in building the new Mesa Arts Center which has become a point of pride for the entire community. Dennis served for more than 6 years on the Center's Architect Selection and Design Committee. The center now serves as a place to showcase world-class performances and exhibits but also houses studio space for art education.

I commend the Arizona Action of the Art's for selecting such a deserving arts advocate. Dennis truly understands the tremendous impact that the arts have in achieving educational excellence and a greater sense of community. Dennis was recently elected to the Mesa City Council where he has displayed his leadership skills previously and where I am sure he will continue to support public policy that will advance the arts in Arizona.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing Dennis Kavanaugh's continued work and advocacy for the arts in Arizona.

JUAN SEGUIN—TEXAS FREEDOM
FIGHTER

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 22, 2008

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, as Texans we are proud of our fight for independence. We often celebrate the courage and sacrifice made by the Alamo defenders. We boast of the cunning and valor displayed by the victorious troops at the Battle of San Jacinto. When celebrating these two historic events, I would be remiss not to mention the vital role that Juan Seguin played in both of those battles.

Juan Seguin was born in 1806 at San Antonio, in what was then Mexico. He soon grew