

In the 2000 census, many members of immigrant and minority groups did not fill out the form—skewing the results and costing their communities federal funds. Many of these communities are the ones in greatest need of housing, education and legal services. We need to let our constituents know what is at stake so they will take the time to engage and participate.

Standing up and being counted is not only a constitutional requirement, but an American tradition. It illustrates the size and diversity of the United States of America in the 21st century. That is why I hope all of my colleagues will work in their districts to ensure that we have the highest participation than any other census before. And, it is why I hope my colleagues will support the money in this bill for the 2010 census.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2346,
SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS
ACT, 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. TODD TIAHRT

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 15, 2009

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, in response to the devastating attacks of September 11th 2001 our nation was forced to take strong and decisive action in Afghanistan and throughout the world with the Global War on Terror to protect and defend the values and national interests of the American people. For eight years, Congress has dutifully provided the resources our troops need to carry out the will of this nation.

Today we are considering H.R. 2346, the FY2009 War Supplemental Appropriations bill, to once again provide these resources our troops require. Sadly Congressional Democrats have chosen to use this vitally important funding bill to advance the Obama administration's reckless national security and economic policies. I cannot support a bill that places our citizens and military servicemembers at risk, as well as advances irresponsible economic policies that put our economy at risk.

The detainees currently housed at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba are among the world's most dangerous, hardened terrorists. These detainees masterminded the September 11th terrorist attacks, plotted numerous terrorist attacks around the world, and killed American troops and civilians. In developing a policy to deal with such dangerous people, though, the Obama administration has focused on one single goal: close the detention facility at Guantanamo Bay. Although the facility at Guantanamo Bay is the world's most secure prison, the administration has instead developed a two-pronged plan to abandon these facilities and bring detainees to the United States either for release into our streets or release into our prisons.

I do not want terrorists to come to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, or any American town. Bringing detainees to Fort Leavenworth would conflict with its primary mission of being the educational center of the Army and is impractical from a facilities and logistical perspective. Most importantly, it would place the citizens of Leavenworth, Johnson County, and the greater Kansas City metro area at unnecessary risk.

Unfortunately, this policy, which is designed to placate anti-war activists, fails to address the serious national security concerns that are clearly seen by the American people. In multiple opinion polls, the American people overwhelmingly reject the notion of bringing terrorists-detainees to the U.S. They know that bringing terrorists to our street or prisons places our nation at risk.

Democrat leadership has rejected the views of the American people and included a provision to create a process for the administration to bring terrorist-detainees to the United States. This provision provides little of the protections and guarantees the American people expect. Let me be clear, this provision will do nothing to prevent the Obama administration from moving terrorists from a secure military facility to our hometowns.

In addition to placing American citizens at risk, this legislation also places American military servicemembers in harm's way by the removal of the bi-partisan Lieberman-Graham amendment. This critical amendment would have blocked the release of photographs of individuals captured or detained by the U.S. military during overseas operations. Senators JOE LIEBERMAN (ID-CT) and LINDSAY GRAHAM (R-SC) who sponsored the original amendment, clearly stated, "the release of the photos will serve as propaganda and recruiting tool for terrorists who seek to attack American citizens at home and abroad." Even President Obama has said that the release of these photographs would "put our troops and civilians serving our nation abroad in greater danger." Instead of acting in the best interests of our troops, however, Congressional Democrats have sided with the extremist left and lawyers from the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) by removing this important provision.

Although Congressional Democrats left out language to prevent terrorists from being brought to our shores and to protect our troops, they found room to add two unrelated provisions that continue this administration's favorite cure-all for our economic woes: bailouts.

Perhaps most concerning, the War Supplemental Appropriations bill contains a \$108 billion loan authority for the International Monetary Fund (IMF)—a Global Bailout. Unrelated to the war effort, this Global Bailout represents a ten-fold increase in the U.S.'s current IMF contribution to fund an expansion of IMF lending. In addition, through the IMF Special Drawing Rights (SDRs), countries that oppose U.S. values and national interests would receive access to additional hard currency. Iran will receive a benefit up to \$1.8 billion, Syria \$305 million, Venezuela \$3.2 billion, and Sudan \$202 million. I find it very disturbing that Democrats would use a war spending bill to prop-up state sponsors of terrorism.

Finally, I object to the "Cash for Clunkers" provision included in H.R. 2346. The automobile manufacturers have already received \$110 billion in bailouts from the federal government. Yet, Congressional Democrats have decided to funnel another \$1 billion in bailout dollars to the very same industry. I have opposed the bailouts from the beginning. Instead of enacting real solutions to address this economic crisis, Democrats are again pushing their tired, old ideas of more and more government spending. Bailouts and more government spending have proven ineffective in jump-starting the economy. These are the wrong solu-

tions for our economy, and however well-intentioned, will only prolong our economic woes.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in opposing this bill. As currently written, this bill offers the wrong solutions to real problems. It places our citizens, troops and economy at risk. H.R. 2346 should instead return to the Conference Committee and focus on funding our troops and keeping the American people safe.

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO PAUL
NAVARRO

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2009

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in special tribute to an outstanding public servant and community leader, Paul Navarro. Today it is my honor to join the Members of the East Harlem Asthma Working Group, Inc. (EHAWG) and the public service sector of the City of New York to pay tribute to a courageous New Yorker and exceptional human being, for his commitment, and tireless efforts, in improving the lives of so many affordable homeowners and renters throughout my Congressional District and beyond.

Born and raised in the South Bronx, where he still lives, Paul graduated from Lehman College in 1980 with a degree in Public and Group Communications. Troubled by the poverty and urban blight that plagued his neighborhood, Paul got involved in community activism by becoming an active member of his Community Planning Board; he also served as President of his Homeowner's Association for 15 years; created a green thumb garden; and helped to identify buildings which required renovation and repair and improved the quality of the life of the surrounding neighborhoods. He later became an executive board member and treasurer of the Diego-Beekman houses, a thirty-one building development housing over 1200 families in the South Bronx.

Paul joined Mayor Koch's Division of Labor Services in 1980, responsible for monitoring equal employment opportunities and prevailing wage rates in the construction industry. His career continued with the New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD) as a Property Manager in East and Central Harlem, helping tenants with rent and repair issues. In 1987, Paul was named Director of the Crisis Management Unit in East Harlem.

During the 1990's, while living through kidney failure, dialysis treatments and receiving a kidney transplant, Paul served as HPD's Director of Anti-Abandonment Program for the Borough of Manhattan. In 1999, late and former New York City Council Member Philip Reed presented Paul a special Citation for Outstanding Service to the Community for all of his positive efforts in the Anti-Abandonment Program.

In 2001, as a member of the East Harlem Asthma Working Group (EHAWG) Paul shared a City Council Proclamation from former City Council Speaker A. Gifford Miller. In 2006, New York City Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly presented Paul with the prestigious Isaac Lieberman Award for Outstanding Performance by a Civil Service Employee. Paul continues to stand up for fair and decent housing