

of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). It was through his involvement in the NAACP that Lit developed his impressive talent for public and inspirational speaking. During WWII, he left his studies at West Chester University and served as a Tuskegee Airman. He later finished school and used his degree to become an educator at the Governor Bacon Health Center and the first black teacher in Delaware to teach white students.

Littleton considered Louis L. Redding, the Delaware lawyer who was instrumental in the landmark decision of *Brown v. Board of Education*, as a close friend and mentor. Though the two may not have always agreed on strategy, Lit credited Redding with giving him sound and sage advice—advice that would help him challenge the status quo in his quest to bring justice and equality to all people. A public servant to the highest degree, Littleton helped secure a job for the first black state trooper; coordinated marches and boycotts that confronted public officials and those in power; and worked tirelessly and successfully to eliminate the poor conditions of migrant camps. As President of Delaware's NAACP for more than 30 years, including during the height of the civil rights movement, Lit led efforts to secure fair housing, equal access to public resources, and equal education and employment opportunities.

During his lifetime, Lit was honored by many groups and organizations and served on numerous committees and commissions, including the *Brown v. Board of Education* 50th Anniversary Commission, established by Congress in 2001. In 1993, the University of Delaware awarded Lit their Medal of Merit in recognition of his unwavering commitment to community service and his trailblazing efforts in the pursuit of civil rights. This was a special honor for Lit as Jane, his high school sweetheart and wife of more than 60 years, had been awarded with the Medal of Merit 13 years prior. Referred to by Lit as his role model and the person whom he admired the most, Jane was the first black nurse to work in a state hospital and later served as the director of nursing at Delaware State Hospital. The two of them worked together to successfully end segregation in Delaware hospitals. Littleton, with Jane always by his side, was a steadfast and committed leader, universally acknowledged as a trailblazer in Delaware's civil rights movement.

An educator who advocated for the dignity and respect owed to every human being, Lit was the active and leading force behind so many of Delaware's historical "firsts." He dedicated his time and his energy to what he felt in his heart to be true. He was blessed with the ability to motivate others and to organize a community. Referred to by a young man who knew him well as a "gentle soldier," Lit was able to fight intolerance and bigotry in a manner that put people at ease. He had a truly great and peaceful approach to how he pursued his justice, and, with a way of getting things done by bringing people together, he used his extraordinary sense of understanding and his exceptional talent for speaking (what Lit himself referred to as his "acid tongue") to bring change and progress to our state. Not afraid to stand up and speak out, Lit was a man whom I greatly admired and considered a friend, a man of his convictions—just and fair with a compassionate soul and an infec-

tious smile. He was a man who may have intimidated some, but was beloved by many and respected by all. I take this opportunity to recognize Littleton P. Mitchell for his unending dedication and his immeasurable contributions and to honor his life—a life spent in service to his state and his country.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2009

Mr. CONAWAY. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the House Republican standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 3170—Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010.

In the Army Corps of Engineers Operations and Maintenance account, an earmark to complete a study in the Lower Colorado River Basin of Texas was included on behalf of the President and me. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Lower Colorado River Authority. LCRA Headquarters are located at 3700 Lake Austin Boulevard, Austin, Texas, 78703. The funding would be used to complete the draft interim feasibility studies for the highland lakes. The study area is bounded by the Guadalupe, Lavaca, and Colorado-Lavaca river basins on the west, and the Brazos and Brazos-Colorado basins on the east. This study is investigating water resource problems, needs, and opportunities to determine whether improvements for flood risk management, ecosystem restoration and protection, water quality, water supply and allied purposes have a Federal interest.

In the Army Corps of Engineers Operations and Maintenance account, an earmark for Hords Creek Lake, Texas was included on behalf of the President and me. The entity to receive funding for this project is Army Corps of Engineers Fort Worth District. The District offices are located at 819 Taylor Street, Ft. Worth, Texas, 76102. The project is in Coleman County about 13 miles west of the city of Coleman, Texas. The funding would be used to for operations and routine maintenance.

In the Army Corps of Engineers Operations and Maintenance account, an earmark for the O.C. Fisher Dam and Lake, Texas was included on behalf of the President and me. The entity to receive funding for this project is Army Corps of Engineers Fort Worth District. The District offices are located at 819 Taylor Street, Ft. Worth, Texas, 76102. The project is located in Tom Green County, on the North Concho River, near the City of San Angelo, Texas. The funding would be used to for operations and routine maintenance.

In the Army Corps of Engineers Operations and Maintenance account, an earmark for Proctor Lake, Texas was included on behalf of the President and me. The entity to receive funding for this project is Army Corps of Engineers Fort Worth District. The District offices are located at 819 Taylor Street, Ft. Worth, Texas, 76102. The project is in Comanche County on the Leon River, about eight miles northeast of the city of Comanche, Texas. The funding would be used to for operations and routine maintenance.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 10, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration to the bill H.R. 3082 making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes:

Mr. DINGELL. Madam Chair, I rise today in support of H.R. 3082, the Military Construction, Department of Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2010. This legislation continues the Democratic-Congress' dedication to our veterans by providing \$109 billion to the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

I am proud to support the passage of a bill which does so much for our veterans. This year, like every other year, our veterans deserve quality and affordable health care, the services needed to transition into civilian life and prevent homelessness, and other important benefits that will help them succeed in their personal and professional lives. I am particularly pleased the bill provides \$4.6 billion for mental health care treatment, especially in light of the growing number of returning Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) and Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) veterans with post traumatic stress disorder. The bill also provides \$440 million to increase access for veterans who live in rural areas, \$580 million for research in prosthetics, \$533 million to expand eligibility for VA health care to an estimated 266,000 "Priority 8" veterans, or those non-service-disabled veterans earning more than \$30,000 a year, and \$1.1 billion for improving our VA medical facilities.

Madam Chair, of particular concern to me are VA medical facilities in Southeast Michigan, where many of my constituents receive care. The Department of Veterans Affairs Ann Arbor Health System (VAAHS) staff believe that any plan to make the Toledo Community-based Outpatient Clinic administratively separate will have the effect of reducing their budget and inhibit their ability to provide services, including specialty services to their constituencies.

I share this concern. The VAAHS is the only VA medical facility in Michigan providing cardiac surgery, interventional cardiology, and neurosurgery. We must ensure they can continue doing so. The VAAHS has a plan that would double the size of the existing clinic in Toledo, allowing Toledo-area veterans to receive an increased amount of care at the Toledo clinic, from 75 percent currently to 90 percent. We must ensure that we move forward with plans for the existing clinic without impairing the care that is provided to veterans by VA hospitals in Southeast Michigan, including the VA hospitals Battle Creek, Detroit, and especially the one in Ann Arbor.

Madam Chair, as a veteran of World War II, I have the utmost respect for those who have served our nation. I also believe that the VA provides veterans with excellent health services, and should continue to stand out as a