

bill addresses a great injustice being perpetrated by the Federal Government on those youngsters who participate in programs such as 4-H or the Future Farmers of America. Under current tax law, children are forced to pay federal income tax when they sell livestock they have raised as part of an agricultural education program.

Think about this for a moment. These kids are trying to better themselves, earn some money, save some money and what does Congress do? We pick on these kids by taxing them: It is truly amazing that with all the hand-wringing in Congress over the alleged need to further restrict liberty and grow the size of government "for the children" we would continue to tax young people who are trying to lead responsible lives and prepare for the future. Even if the serious social problems today's youth face could be solved by new federal bureaucracies and programs, it is still unfair to pick on those kids who are trying to do the right thing.

These children are not even old enough to vote, yet we are forcing them to pay taxes! What ever happened to no taxation without representation? No wonder young people are so cynical about government!

It is time we stopped taxing youngsters who are trying to earn money to go to college by selling livestock they have raised through their participation in programs such as 4-H or Future Farmers of America. Therefore, I call on my colleagues to join me in supporting the Agriculture Education Freedom Act.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE GREATER  
NEW YORK CHAPTER, THE  
LINKS, INCORPORATED—2011  
WOMEN OF DISTINCTION SPIRIT  
AWARD LUNCHEON

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 30, 2011*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Greater New York Chapter, The Links, Incorporated—2011 Women of Distinction Spirit Award Luncheon which takes place on Saturday, April 23, 2011 at the elegant and scenic Pier Sixty at Chelsea Piers in New York City.

Established in 1946, The Links, Incorporated, is one of the Nation's oldest and largest volunteer service organizations of women who, linked in friendship, are committed to enriching, sustaining and ensuring the culture and economic survival of African-Americans and persons of African descent. The Links, Incorporated is a not-for-profit organization, which consists of nearly 12,000 professional women of color in 272 chapters located in 42 states, the District of Columbia and the Bahamas.

On May 21, 1949, the Greater New York Chapter was chartered in response to an invitation extended by Margaret Roselle Hawkins and Sarah Strickland Scott, co-founders of The Links, Incorporated. Co-founder Sarah Strickland Scott attended the installation of the new charter members at Harlem's famous Hotel Theresa, which included Dorothy Reed, Bernia Austin, Myrtle Howard, Estelle Jarrott, Ethel Lowry, Emilie Pickins, Mable Trent, and Marie Vidal. The Links National Emblem was

designed by Ethel Lowry, who served as the National Corresponding Secretary.

The Greater New York Chapter was the first chapter in New York and comprises members from all five boroughs in New York City and Long Island. Today, under the leadership of President Gerri Warren Merrick, the Greater New York Chapter is committed to fostering community outreach throughout the New York metropolitan area by developing quality programs with a long-term impact on the well-being and enrichment of African-Americans.

The Greater New York Chapter honors two women of distinction and spirit—Ms. Debra L. Lee, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of BET Networks and Ms. Rhonda Mims, President of the ING Foundation and Senior Vice President of the Office of Corporate Responsibility and Multicultural Affairs.

Award recipient Debra L. Lee is responsible for helping guide BET's reinvigorated approach in producing programming that supports, embraces and encourages African American families in a very positive light, focusing on the issues that are important to the Black family, while presenting the freshest talent and entertainment to American Television and beyond.

Award recipient Rhonda Mims is responsible for creating an enterprise-wide community relations platform, focusing on financial literacy, children's education and diversity, including advancing the company's workforce diversity and inclusion strategy.

Please join me in recognizing the Greater New York Chapter, The Links, Incorporated and the Women of Distinction Spirit Award honorees.

HONORING THE LIFE OF EDWARD  
A. BURDICK, FORMER CHIEF  
CLERK OF THE MINNESOTA  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**HON. BETTY McCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 30, 2011*

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to rise in tribute to a leader, a parliamentary expert, a mentor and a friend to many, Mr. Edward Burdick, former Chief Clerk of the Minnesota House of Representatives. On March 9, 2011 he died at the age of 89 years old, and he is remembered fondly by his family and many friends and colleagues.

In 1941 at the age of 19, Ed as he was known, began a job in the Minnesota House of Representatives as a Page, earning \$5 a day. He held many jobs in the Legislature and other public service jobs, including U.S. Department of Commerce and the Minnesota Department of Military Affairs. He also proudly served our Nation in the U.S. Army. In 1967, Ed was elected Chief Clerk of the Minnesota House of Representatives, a job he maintained until his retirement 38 years later. In all, Ed provided 62 years of public service to the people of Minnesota and our Nation.

Ed was not only Chief Clerk but also House Parliamentarian, understanding every little twist of parliamentary procedure. His mastery of legislative process made him a nationally renowned expert in the field. Within the House Chamber, his booming and authoritative voice was a familiar presence as he kept decorum

in a legislative body not always known for that quality. During the decades that Ed served as Chief Clerk, he mentored a dozen Speakers of the House and many others in leadership, including myself. He took his role teaching the House rules and parliamentary procedure very seriously.

In November of 1992, I was elected to the Minnesota State House of Representatives. Prior to my swearing-in he informed me that he would meet with each new representative and explain the workings of the House and his office, ending with "if there is anything you need or anything I can do for you, do not hesitate to ask me or my office"—and he truly meant it. That was who Ed Burdick was. A gentleman, a kind and thoughtful person, a hard worker, a person willing to serve everyone who needed assistance of any kind.

Ed will be missed by many, many Legislators and State Government officials for his guidance, dignity and hard work.

I know that I am not alone in saying, that I will miss Ed's kindness, his genuine nature, his loyalty to Minnesota and his absolute and total fairness to all. Ed Burdick will always serve a Minnesotan icon to public service. May you rest in peace, my friend.

AFGHANISTAN WAR POWERS  
RESOLUTION

SPEECH OF

**HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 17, 2011*

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because the return home of our U.S. military in the absence of a declaration of war by this Congress is long overdue. Members of this House must support H. Con. Res. 28, and help reverse the course of the unconstitutional Afghan war.

First, the war in Afghanistan is unconstitutional.

Article 1, Section 8, clause 11 of the Constitution grants Congress—not the President—the power to declare war. Once that declaration is made by the Congress, the President can conduct war.

The Constitution is clear and there is no debate over the fact that the Constitution never intended any shared decision making in declaring a state of war. Such a shared decision making was rejected originally by the Framers. Thus, without a declaration of war, the President's continued use of force to continue a war in Afghanistan is unconstitutional.

James Madison, one of the key architects of the Constitution on separation of powers, said that "this requirement for Congress to be able to declare war is one of the most important provisions of the Constitution." However, ten years after the conflict began in Afghanistan, we still have no such declaration. This significant authority granted to Congress is why I rise today in support of the gentleman from Ohio's resolution.

Congress cannot hand over to the President our exclusive power to declare war. Without a declaration of war, the President's use of military force in Afghanistan is unconstitutional.

The seminal case of *Youngstown Sheet & Tube Co. v. Sawyer* rejected the President's claim that he had authority as Commander-in-