

to implement the Administrative Dispute Resolution Act of 1990, which resulted in savings estimated to be many millions of dollars. The President of the American Arbitration Association asserted that ACUS's encouragement of ADR saved "millions of dollars that would otherwise be frittered away in litigation costs."

Accordingly, the elimination of ACUS in 1995 was described by several observers as being "penny-wise, pound foolish." Even after its demise in 1995, Congress continued to assign ACUS various responsibilities apparently unaware of the Conference's termination. Finally, after a 15-year hiatus, ACUS was reauthorized and appropriated funding.

Currently, President Obama nominated Paul R. Verkuil to serve as chair of ACUS in November 2009 and he was confirmed by the Senate in March 2010. The ACUS formally resumed operations in April 2010.

Then since its recent Reauthorization the ACUS has started to do what it does best figuring out ways to decrease expenses and increase efficiency. Current cost-saving projects underway at ACUS include the following:

A study on the use of video hearings in administrative agencies and how they can generate "significant savings;" a study on rule-making that focuses on the legal and logistical issues presented by transitioning from a paper-based system to an electronic system for handling rulemaking comments, an examination into how international regulatory cooperation could be improved and lead to trade harmonization.

Over the course of its existence, ACUS has promulgated approximately 200 recommendations to improve the administrative process, many of which were implemented, which, in turn, helped save taxpayers many millions of dollars. ACUS is an invaluable instrument established by us that has resulted in significant improvements to federal administrative law.

ROBERT POLLARD TRIBUTE

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 2, 2011

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor to rise in tribute of Dr. Robert Pollard, for being recognized in "Great Stories on Halls in Walls," a program that he founded.

The Great Stories on Halls in Walls project is a great way to appreciate and share the lives and stories of the alumni, faculty, staff and friends of Adams State College. Funds raised from the donations for these dedications are given to the Adams State College Foundation to provide active leadership, direction and expertise in college fund-raising efforts.

The first member in his family to attend college, Pollard attended Adams State and returned to Alamosa after serving in the U.S. Army in the Colorado National Guard Unit. Mr. Pollard later received his doctorate degree from Stanford University.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Robert Pollard is a man who should be recognized for his outstanding and generous character, which is worthy of praise and admiration.

A TRIBUTE TO MR. HARVEY LAWRENCE

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 2, 2011

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Harvey Lawrence and his exceptional service to the public health of his community and his ongoing public service career.

Mr. Lawrence began his career by attaining a Master of Science degree in Management Science and Policy Analysis from Harriman college and SUNY Stony Brook. He is also a graduate of the Johnson & Johnson/UCLA Health Care Executive Certificate Program.

Mr. Lawrence has been serving in the capacity of President and CEO of the Brownsville Multi-Service Family Health Center since January 2009. Before his ascent to President, Mr. Lawrence served as the Corporation's Executive Vice President and COO. Working with the Brownsville Family Health Center since 1994, Mr. Lawrence has been responsible for most of the new initiatives and expansions the corporation has taken on.

Using his vast experience in public finance and non-profit development, Mr. Lawrence has been able to accelerate the growth of this corporation and provide more services to the public. Mr. Lawrence began his public service career as Management Trainee at the Port Authority of New York/New Jersey and quickly gained experience in NYC's Office of Economic Development.

Mr. Lawrence is a former non-profit developer for affordable housing and vice president in the investment banking, public finance and real estate divisions of the former Manufacturers Hanover Trust Bank. Using his knowledge, Mr. Lawrence maintains his position as the executive director of the city's industrial commercial incentive board and senior finance/development director at the NYC Public Development Corporation.

Mr. Lawrence is a man of exceptional character and one that has been humbled through his ability to serve those with greater needs.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the life and accomplishments of Mr. Harvey Lawrence.

IN HONOR OF THE WOMEN'S CIVIC IMPROVEMENT CLUB

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 2, 2011

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Women's Civic Improvement Club, WCIC, as they celebrate their 75th anniversary. It is my pleasure to recognize the Women's Civic Improvement Club's dedication to promoting the professional and personal growth of members of the Sacramento region. I ask all of my colleagues to join me in honoring their leadership.

The Women's Civic Improvement Club began in 1936 as the Negro Women's Civic

Improvement Club. The Club was created to provide housing for African American women that had moved to Sacramento to work at the McClellan Air Force Base. At the time, racial segregation and the financial devastation of the Great Depression made finding a safe home next to impossible for many women. In 1945, the Club's Board of Directors signed incorporation papers and the name was changed, making it the WCIC that we know of today. Throughout all of the changes our nation has faced since 1936, the WCIC has remained strong and relevant to those of us in Sacramento.

Over the course of the last 75 years, the WCIC has evolved into an organization that helps people from low-income and disadvantaged families. The Club has expanded to include several new programs, helping individuals of all ages grow through community involvement. Their congregate meal program provides food and recreational activities for senior citizens, allows members of the program to get a healthy meal, and provides opportunities to socialize and be involved in the community. Moreover, the Playmate Head Start Program provides quality childcare to its members and has maintained an excellent focus on healthy child development.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to the Women's Civic Improvement Club on their 75th anniversary, and to their outstanding commitment to improve our community. I ask my colleagues to join with me in congratulating them on their 75 years of success.

PROCLAMATION

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 2, 2011

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker,

Whereas, forty one years ago a virtuous woman of God accepted her calling to serve in the Fulton Atlanta Community Action Authority in Atlanta, Georgia; and

Whereas, Mrs. Sarah Fitten began her career with a heart for the people and today retires as a longtime Assistant Director who has touched the lives of many; and

Whereas, this phenomenal woman has shared her time and talents, giving the citizens of our District a friend to help those in need, a fearless leader and a servant to all who wants to insure that the system works for everyone; and

Whereas, Mrs. Sarah Fitten is a cornerstone in our community that has enhanced the lives of thousands for the betterment of our District and Nation; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Mrs. Sarah Fitten on her retirement from the Fulton Atlanta Community Action Authority and to wish her well in her new endeavors;

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim July 30, 2011 as Mrs. Sarah Fitten Day in the 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, this 30th day of July, 2011.

PHIL PEARCE TRIBUTE

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 2, 2011

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor to rise in remembrance of Mr. Phil Pearce, for his service in the Air Force, as well as in the National Guard. Mr. Pearce was a true patriot and a man of tremendous character.

Born in Wilson, North Carolina in 1953, Mr. Pearce received his commission as a Second Lieutenant through the U.S. Air Force Academy in 1975, and he later received his Master's degree from UCLA.

During his military career, Mr. Pearce flew B52's at Barksdale Air Force Base in Louisiana, and served with the Louisiana National Guard. He also built artillery shells, missiles, jets, and infrared technologies for the U.S. military and our allies. Mr. Pearce was also a great businessman who constructed the largest pharmacy distribution systems in the world.

Mr. Pearce and his wife Christine Pearce have three children, Sean, Shannon, and Brandon.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Phil Pearce is an ideal embodiment of service and passion for his country. He will be fondly remembered.

BUDGET CONTROL ACT OF 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, August 1, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, S. 365, the Budget Control Act of 2011, is a landmark in American history, but for the wrong reasons. It is a fake solution to a phony crisis. It provides for a radical transformation of the structure of government. It is an attack on the principle of government of the people. All this in the name of fiscal accountability.

The choice we have today, default or dismantling of the social compact through draconian spending cuts, is a false choice. The President could have simply told Congressional leaders back in December of last year that the debt ceiling was not negotiable, and invoked the 14th Amendment as a backstop.

The "debt crisis" was spurred on by credit rating agencies of dubious integrity threatening a downgrade of the nation's credit unless the government cut spending. Most of the cuts are guaranteed to hurt those who live at society's margins, while S. 365 protects the investor class whose interests are served by the rating agencies.

Unelected credit ratings agencies like Standard and Poor's, the self-declared arbiter of U.S. Government creditworthiness, must themselves be subjected to a new level of scrutiny absent in the run-up to the Wall Street crisis. The credit raters helped to create that crisis too by procuring business through selling rating marks. The very idea that the sovereign United States must genuflect to dishonest rating agencies is antiquated and counterproductive to America's economic recovery.

This bill fails on its own terms, which are allegedly about fiscal accountability. The debt has three main drivers:

The first is the recession. If we want to reduce the debt, we have to stimulate the economy, which is hobbled by a jobless recovery. America has 14 million people out of work. We have over \$3 trillion of infrastructure which must be replaced or rebuilt. We should be investing in America, rebuilding America, stimulating the American economy, priming the pump of our economy instead of capping our economic water well. Our GDP is lagging. This bill cuts nearly \$3 trillion in government spending, which is one of our main tools for fighting the recession. So much for the recovery. So much for putting America back to work.

The second reason for the size of the debt is the Bush tax cuts. This bill fails to end the Bush tax cuts for the rich, which added a trillion dollars to the deficit. Not only are the wealthy not paying a fair share of the taxes but their privileged position is locked in, to the detriment to the rest of the society. This single action makes clear that this bill is a vehicle for the rich to get richer and the poor to get poorer.

That working Americans are being offered a tax holiday is one of the cruel ironies of this bill in that the tax holiday adds more to the deficit on one hand, while requiring cuts to pay for it on the other. Those very cuts will undermine the social and economic position of those whom the tax holiday is alleged to help.

The third reason for the size of the debt is the wars. This bill fails to realize savings from ending the wars. Instead it continues the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan at current funding levels for at least another 10 years. According to the Congressional Budget Office, CBO, "The caps would not apply to spending for the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq and for similar activities (sometimes referred to as overseas contingency operations) . . ." If this bill required a slow drawdown of troops as the Reid bill did, it would save at least \$1.2 trillion.

It is inexplicable that we are creating more space for war and less space for jobs, housing, education, caring for our elderly, home heating assistance and a wide range of activities of any government which truly cares for its people.

A policy of no limits for war and hard limits on domestic spending, coupled with hundreds of billions of dollars in tax cuts for the rich, disproportionately affects the poor and middle class. Wall Street has swelled with bailouts, multiple editions of largesse through quantitative easing, skyrocketing executive pay and bonuses, and freedom to gamble the public's money through hedge funds. Main Street has suffered a massive loss of retirement savings, housing security, access to affordable health care, real wages and benefits, full employment and massive loss of small businesses. The wealth of America is being accelerated to the top and this bill pushes that acceleration.

This bill is a direct assault on representative government. The House of Representatives and the Senate consist of 435 and 100 Members, respectively. With the creation of a super-committee, the Congress has been reduced to a czardom where 7 of 12 members are given the power to determine the course of the American economy, with hordes of K Street lobbyists already poised to swoop in to protect their narrow interests against \$1 trillion in deficit reduction measures.

The Congressional committee and subcommittee process, with its membership composed of individuals with expertise in specific areas, is designed to encourage thorough consideration of measures which affect the lives of hundreds of millions of Americans. This process is now abandoned. Abandoned with it is the intent of the founding Fathers when they established the House of Representatives specifically to avoid such a dangerous concentration of power. The super-committee is poised to cut Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security while limiting accountability.

We could have avoided this hostage-taking if the President chose to apply his expertise in Constitutional law to invoke the 14th Amendment of the Constitution to raise the debt ceiling. Instead, we are taking America from the New Deal of 1932 to the Raw Deal of 2011. We should be focusing on strengthening Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid and creating jobs. The Democratic Party is running away from its traditional role of protecting the poor, the elderly, and the working class. To whom do these groups now turn?

A TRIBUTE TO MR. OLEG SMURYGIN

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 2, 2011

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mr. Oleg Smurygin for his continued contribution to the health care initiatives of his community.

Mr. Smurygin was born to a middle class Jewish family to Yuriy and Bella Smurygin on April 7, 1966, in Kiev, Ukraine. He attended school in Kiev from 1973 until 1983, when he was recruited into the army for 2 years. Mr. Smurygin served as a Sergeant in the army from 1985 until 1987 under Special Forces by the border of China, Khabarovsk City. Once Mr. Smurygin was discharged in 1987, he attended the University of Kiev, where he graduated with a Bachelors Degree in the Arts in 1991.

In 1992, Mr. Smurygin and his family decided to relocate to the United States as refugees. He supported his family working at Victoria Memorial Hospital in Brooklyn, New York as a full time regular security guard. With more experience, Mr. Smurygin was promoted to shift supervisor and eventually to Director of Security in 2006. Spending over 10 years at Victoria Memorial Hospital, he was awarded Victory Memorial Hospital 10 Year Award of Excellence.

When the Victory Memorial Hospital closed its doors in 2009, Mr. Smurygin headed to the PAIN Institute as a Business Manager.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the life and accomplishments of Mr. Oleg Smurygin.

PROCLAMATION

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 2, 2011

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker,