

continued erosion of the Eastern District Court's ability to provide the public with a timely and effective Federal judicial service is a burden on our Nation, and the litigants should not suffer.

What Judge Wanger pointed out is it's not only a disservice to the men and women who serve the court, but the individuals throughout the region and the businesses whose cases are delayed years in some cases. This surely was not what our Founding Fathers had in mind for our country when they ensured that all Americans have a right to a speedy trial. As we know, justice delayed can oftentimes be justice denied.

Although the problem is not unique to the Eastern District of California, it is where the problem is most pronounced with by far the Nation's largest caseload per judge. Legislation has been introduced in the House and the Senate to create additional judgeships in district courts where the need is greatest. Unfortunately, it has not been acted on. It is past time for the Congress to act on these bills to ensure that all branches of government are, in fact, working for the American people.

In closing, I want to publicly thank Judge Oliver Wanger for his service to our Nation.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT,
EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA,
Fresno, California, August 31, 2011.

Re Retirement from Judicial Service.

Hon. ANTHONY W. ISHII,
Chief Judge, U.S. District Court, Eastern District of California, Fresno, CA.

DEAR JUDGE ISHII: It is with great regret that I will retire as a District Judge effective October 1, 2011, under the provisions of 28 U.S.C. §371(a) having attained the age and met §371(c)'s requirements to receive the annuity and benefits prescribed by law.

I served more than 20 years—the last five as a senior judge—and my intent was lifetime service. Obligations to my family now transcend my ability to continue in the judiciary. Necessity compels re-entry to the private sector.

I recognize that my departure will leave only two active judges in our already understaffed EDCA judiciary. My foremost concerns are for my fellow judges who labor under such formidable and unmanageable workloads and the public who need our court.

The impact on these judges is best understood by my latest five year case statistics: 161 jury trials to verdict (32 per year); 5,465 courtroom hours (1,093 per year); and 3,554 terminated criminal and civil cases (711 per year); with an individual caseload approximating 1,200 cases. Included are many complex water and environmental lawsuits affecting endangered species and California's water supply.

Who will now handle these cases?

Despite our pleas to and Congress' express recognition of the need, the continued refusal to create new desperately needed judgeships for BDCA has created a hardship for all who depend on the Federal court. It has been more than 31 years since a new district judge position has been created in Fresno, a division with over 2.5 million people. The continued erosion of BDCA's ability to provide the public with timely and effective federal judicial service is a burden our nation and litigants should not suffer.

My best wishes for the future and thanks to you and all our judges and loyal court staff members who do such outstanding work.

Sincerely,

OLIVER W. WANGER,
United States District Judge.

FOSTERING JOB GROWTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT) for 5 minutes.

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, Americans are hurting, and there's nothing more important right now for every Member of Congress than fostering job growth for the American people. House Republicans have been focused on this since day one. We passed more than a dozen pro-jobs bills that are currently awaiting a vote in the Senate. Additionally, we also passed a budget this year, something the Senate hasn't done in 888 days—888 days, Mr. Speaker.

America must lead the world out of this global recession. And I, for one, believe that if we can just get a couple of things right in Washington, we'll see our economy turn around and therefore the world economy turn around.

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In the House, we believe in helping small businesses, we believe in free trade, and we believe in shrinking bureaucracy. Measures supporting these causes have already passed the House—with bipartisan support, I might add, Mr. Speaker—only to stall in the Democratic-controlled Senate.

Mr. Speaker, House Democrats and Republicans have found common ground on many measures to build more confidence for job creators. We invite the Senate to join our efforts. Mr. Speaker, Americans can't wait. It's time for the Senate to join the House in taking action to help restore our economy.

STOP MILITARY RAPE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California (Ms. SPEIER) for 5 minutes.

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise, once again, to talk about the epidemic of rape in the military. This is the ninth time that I have stood on the floor of this House to speak about the unspeakable. Each of these military members have served proudly for their country. Each of them has been raped, and each has been revictimized by a system of justice that protects perpetrators and punishes victims. I will continue to share these stories until something changes. Survivors can email me at stopmilitaryrape@mail.house.gov if they would like to speak out.

Today, I want to tell you about Sergeant Rebekah Havrilla. She served in the Army from 2004 to 2008. Her job was as an explosive ordnance disposal tech-

nician. In other words, she was responsible for disposing of IEDs before they went off. So she took on one of the toughest jobs in the military. Yet during basic training, she heard her commanders repeatedly equate being female with being weak or incompetent. They used words to describe women that cannot be repeated on this floor.

Commanders required Sergeant Havrilla and her colleagues to attend classes regarding prevention of sexual assault and harassment once a year. Commanders made a mockery of these classes. As the instructor would describe prohibited conduct, one or more of the soldiers would begin engaging in that conduct. One soldier went as far as to strip completely naked and get on the table during a break in the middle of class. His punishment was to serve as Equal Opportunity representative and lead the next sexual assault harassment training. "Disgusting" is too benign a word to describe this conduct.

Sergeant Havrilla deployed to Afghanistan in 2006. Her supervisor sexually harassed her. He began to slap her bottom whenever he passed by. He belittled and mocked her. On one occasion, he told her exactly what he wanted to do to her in graphic detail. Nothing was done in response.

It was another colleague, one from the canine unit, that raped her. He even photographed the rape, and some of the pictures ended up on a pornographic Web site. Imagine a system of justice in such shambles that an assailant would actually take pictures of the crime and put them on the Internet. Sergeant Havrilla reported her rape under the military's restricted reporting policy.

In February of 2009, she reported for 4 weeks of active duty training. While there, she ran into her rapist and went into shock. She immediately sought the assistance of the military chaplain. The chaplain told her that it must have been God's will for her to be raped and recommended that she attend church more frequently. God's will? This is the support system for victims of rape and sexual assault in the military? Sergeant Havrilla now suffers from posttraumatic stress disorder and chronic depression.

In describing her decision to speak out, she said this: "Leadership needs to be held accountable and women need to be able to work without the fear of being assaulted by their own colleagues. This is one of the hardest things I've ever done, and I want to thank the other women who have stepped forward as well. It's never easy to put yourself out there."

Sergeant Havrilla is right. It's time for leadership to be held accountable—leadership in the Pentagon, leadership at the White House, and leadership here in Congress.

HOSPITALS ARE ABOUT JOBS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from