

help people save for college, retirement, healthcare and other life events—but people with disabilities have different challenges for the future, some face decades of expenses that most of us cannot even imagine. Yet, they do not have access to the same advantages that our tax code provides others.

The average cost of raising a child with a significant medical disability is more than \$1 million over the course of the child's lifetime. Continuing education, transportation, housing and medical care make up some of the predictable costs on that staggering bill. ABLE accounts would relieve some of that burden by allowing parents with disabled children or family members of disabled individuals to invest through a tax-deferred 529 account that could be drawn from for these future expenses. No longer would parents have to stand aside and watch as others use IRS-sanctioned tools to lay the groundwork for a brighter future. They would be able to do so for their children as well.

The ABLE Act amends Section 529 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the establishment of ABLE accounts for the care of family members with disabilities through tax-free savings accounts.

Mr. Speaker, this bipartisan, bicameral legislation tackles the unfairness in our tax code head-on by creating tax free savings accounts for individuals with disabilities. ABLE accounts will make long-term health, greater independence, and a fuller quality of life a possibility. No longer would individuals with disabilities have to stand on the sidelines and watch others use IRS-sanctioned tools to lay the groundwork for a brighter future.

The cost to reform the U.S. Tax Code to offer ABLE accounts would be minimal, but the positive impact for individuals with disabilities, their families and others who are struggling to cope with an uncertain future would be sizable.

We must move beyond the policies of the past that force individuals with disabilities to live in poverty. The ABLE Act allows individuals with disabilities to save, work, and earn just like any other American. As citizens of this great and prosperous country, we must speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves. Helping disabled Americans "achieve a better life experience" is a step forward toward equality with every other American—and it's a step worth taking.

IN HONOR OF THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE KOREAN WAR COMMEMORATION COMMITTEE

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the 60th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration Committee as they recognize Korean Veterans on November 11, 2011, Veterans Day.

The Korean War began on June 25, 1950 when the North Korean People's Army invaded the Republic of Korea. The Korean War was the first "hot" conflict of the Cold War and included historic battles and offensives as well as important technological and medical advances. On July 27, 1953, the United States,

North Korea and China signed an armistice. A total of 33,651 U.S. service members died in battle during the Korean War; 27,709 U.S. Army; 4,269 U.S. Marines; 1,198 U.S. Air Force; and 475 U.S. Navy. Seven thousand, one-hundred and forty Service Members became prisoners of war.

The Korean War Commemoration Committee's mission is to honor the service and sacrifice of Korean War Veterans, American service members, and their allies who fought heroically to preserve Freedom; to commemorate the key events of the Korean War; and educate the American people about the significance of the Korean War.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor of the 60th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration Committee as they pay special tribute to the more than 6.8 million servicemen and women who bravely fought in the Korean War.

COAST GUARD AND MARITIME TRANSPORTATION ACT OF 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 4, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2838) to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard for fiscal years 2012 through 2015, and for other purposes:

Mr. MICA. Mr. Chair, H.R. 2838, the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act 2011, authorizes Coast Guard funding for Fiscal Years 2012, 2013 and 2014. The authorized levels were approved in the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee's Budget Views and Estimates, and reflect the levels set in the House-passed Budget Resolution.

Following up on the Committee's Sitting on Our Assets Report, H.R. 2838 decommissions two aging icebreakers, neither of which currently operates. The bill also restricts the purchases of future National Security Cutters (NSCs) until current NSCs meet long-promised mission performance capabilities.

In addition to authorizing the Coast Guard and making improvements to the service's programs and capabilities, the bill also improves the administration of maritime transportation, including—clarifying the circumstances under which a foreign seaman injured outside the United States can sue in United States courts.

The bill incorporates H.R. 2840, the Commercial Vessel Discharges Reform Act of 2011. H.R. 2840 establishes a uniform national standard for ballast water discharges. This provision is strongly supported by the U.S. and international maritime industry. It protects the environment and makes maritime transportation more efficient.

H.R. 2838 also incorporates an amended version of H.R. 2839, the Piracy Suppression Act of 2011, which authorizes additional actions to suppress piracy. It also improves the tracking of ransom payments to pirates to assure these payments do not fund terrorism.

This bill promotes maritime safety and security and makes maritime commerce more efficient. I urge my colleagues to vote "aye" on H.R. 2838.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, today our national debt is \$14,977,884,880,834.39.

On January 6, 2009, the start of the 111th Congress, the national debt was \$10,638,425,746,293.80.

This means the national debt has increased by \$4,339,459,134,540.59 since then. This debt and its interest payments we are passing to our children and all future Americans.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE 90TH BIRTHDAY OF CHIEF APOSTLE WILLIAM L. BONNER

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to celebrate the 90th birthday of dear beloved spiritual leader, Chief Apostle William L. Bonner at the National Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ (COOLJC) Day at the Greater Refuge Temple in Harlem. Let me also note that on Saturday, November 5, 2011, the Greater Refuge Temple, which is the "Mother Church" of the Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ, paid special tribute to Bishop Bonner's 50 years of service and pastoral leadership to the greater COOLJC church family and community throughout our great Nation.

Founded by the late apostle Bishop Robert C. Lawson, D.D., LL.D., The Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ had its inception in the year 1919. Bishop Lawson, then Elder Lawson was invited to a prayer meeting, which was in progress in a basement in the 40th Street area of New York City. So energetic was his service to the Lord that his fame spread abroad and reached the ears of Mr. and Mrs. James Burleigh and Mr. and Mrs. Edward Anderson. These two blessed couples opened their homes to Elder Lawson and their home today is affectionately thought of as the "Cradle of the Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ".

Within a short period, the congregation outgrew its place of worship, having approximately 200 members, and larger quarters had to be sought. Bishop Lawson purchased the sight at 52–54–56 West 133 Street and relocated his thriving church. It was there that his vision was enlarged and the Lord lay upon his heart to conduct a tent revival and great numbers were added to the church.

Under the thriving ministry of Apostle Lawson, many preachers, missionaries, and teachers were sent into the field establishing numerous works. To the far-flung isles of the sea, to the continent of Africa and to the Caribbean, these Christian heralds went carrying the apostolic message. It was in the year 1932, that Bishop Lawson initiated the radio broadcast over the stations WGBS. He broadcasted successfully over WHOM and WINS. The broadcast is presently continuing over station WBNX every Sunday evening.

In August of 1945, as the church outgrew its quarters on 133rd Street, Bishop Lawson