

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2012

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, on March 7, 2012, I was absent from the House and missed rollcall votes 98 through 106.

Had I been present for rollcall 98, on agreeing to the Napolitano amendment to H.R. 2842, the Bureau of Reclamation Small Conduit Hydropower Development and Rural Jobs Act, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present for rollcall 99, on motion to recommit with instructions H.R. 2842, the Bureau of Reclamation Small Conduit Hydro-power Development and Rural Jobs Act, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present for rollcall 100, on agreeing to H.R. 2842, the Bureau of Reclamation Small Conduit Hydropower Development and Rural Jobs Act, I would have voted "no."

Had I been present for rollcall 101, on ordering the previous question on H. Res. 572, providing for consideration of H.R. 3606, to increase American job creation and economic growth by improving access to the public capital markets for emerging growth companies, I would have voted "no."

Had I been present for rollcall 102, on agreeing to H. Res. 572, providing for consideration of H.R. 3606, to increase American job creation and economic growth by improving access to the public capital markets for emerging growth companies, I would have voted "no."

Had I been present for rollcall 103, on agreeing to the Himes amendment to H.R. 3606, to increase American job creation and economic growth by improving access to the public capital markets for emerging growth companies, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present for rollcall 104, on agreeing to the Ellison amendment to H.R. 3606, to increase American job creation and economic growth by improving access to the public capital markets for emerging growth companies, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present for rollcall 105, on agreeing to the Waters amendment to H.R. 3606, to increase American job creation and economic growth by improving access to the public capital markets for emerging growth companies, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present for rollcall 106, on agreeing to the Connolly amendment to H.R. 3606, to increase American job creation and economic growth by improving access to the public capital markets for emerging growth companies, I would have voted "aye."

HONORING THE LIFE OF CONGRESSMAN DONALD M. PAYNE

SPEECH OF

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2012

Mr. COSTELLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the passing of our dear colleague, Congressman DONALD PAYNE and honoring his lifetime commitment to service and humanitarian causes.

DON PAYNE and I were classmates in Congress. I was first elected in a special election in August, 1988 and DON was first elected in 1988 and took office with the 101st Congress in 1989.

A life-long resident of Newark, New Jersey, DON PAYNE was an educator, insurance executive and President of the National Council of YMCA's, an organization with which he was involved until his passing. His passion for community service took him to elected positions on the Newark city council and as an Essex County freeholder before being elected as the first African American to represent New Jersey in the U.S. Congress.

As a Member of Congress, DON continued to be a tireless advocate for his constituents in New Jersey but he also built a reputation as a champion of human rights on an international scale. As a leader of the Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health and Human Rights, DON traveled extensively to bring aid and fight for oppressed people across the globe. DON was very involved in efforts to combat political oppression, ethnic violence, the spread of Aids and starvation in Africa but he also worked for relief efforts in Haiti and was very supportive of peace negotiations in Northern Ireland.

On this past Tuesday, March 6, DON PAYNE lost his battle with cancer, the people of Newark and the world lost a dedicated public servant, and I lost a dear friend and colleague. He will be truly missed.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in an expression of appreciation for the life and service of Congressman DON PAYNE and to keep him and his family in our thoughts and prayers.

JUMPSTART OUR BUSINESS STARTUPS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 7, 2012

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3606) to increase American job creation and economic growth by improving access to the public capital markets for emerging growth companies:

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Chair, the House today will vote on the final passage of H.R. 3606, the Jumpstart Our Business Startups (JOBS) Act. While there is no doubt that this Congress must work to create jobs and support small businesses, we must ensure that any attempts to do so are targeted in a manner that directly benefits the American people, and prevents the outsourcing of jobs.

With unemployment just above eight percent, it will take a coordinated effort at all levels of government to create jobs and rein in the high unemployment rate. Addressing the estimated 2.9 million jobs that were eliminated from the U.S. economy and added overseas by multinational corporations should be a critical component of any piece of legislation that leaves this chamber.

Creating and retaining jobs in the United States has always been a top priority of mine, and I will only support legislation that keeps the American people at the center of its focus. In Texas, I've brought critical infrastructure investments to Dallas that have not only strengthened our roads and bridges, but more importantly brought skilled and hardworking Americans back into the labor force. Ultimately, my concern for the well-being of the American people will remain at the core of any considerations I make.

The Democratic Members of Congress have demonstrated their unwavering commitment to creating jobs at home and protecting the middle class. I am encouraged to finally see that my Republican colleagues are beginning to understand the merits of this commitment, and have refocused their efforts on these critical issues. The JOBS Act is just one step we can take to bolster our economy, and I hope to see increased efforts to address the persistent outsourcing of American jobs emerge from this legislation.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CONGRESSMAN DONALD PAYNE

SPEECH OF

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2012

Ms. RICHARDSON. Madam Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to remember the life and mourn the loss of our beloved colleague, the distinguished gentleman from New Jersey, Congressman DONALD M. PAYNE.

For twelve terms, Congressman was an effective advocate for the interests of constituents, a trusted expert on international affairs and Africa policy to his colleagues, and a tireless champion for poor, vulnerable, oppressed, and marginalized people everywhere on earth. But above all, DONALD PAYNE was a good and kind man, who with unfailing good cheer enriched the lives of all he met and served.

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Born in Newark, New Jersey, on July 16, 1934, to William Evander Payne and the former Norma Garrett, this son of a chauffeur and a dockworker went on to graduate from Seton Hall University, teach English and social studies and coach high school football, and serve as the first black president of the National Council of YMCAs before his election to Congress in 1988 to succeed Peter W. Rodino, another legendary figure in New Jersey politics and the chairman of the House Judiciary Committee during Watergate. DONALD PAYNE holds the distinction of being the first and only African American elected to represent New Jersey in the Congress of the United States.

Throughout his congressional career, DONALD PAYNE championed educational and economic opportunity and human and civil rights, both here and abroad. From his work in furtherance of the Northern Ireland peace process, to his efforts to bring attention and an end to the genocide in Darfur, as well as his indispensable work to secure full funding for PEPFAR to combat the HIV/AIDS and malaria in Africa, DONALD PAYNE made a difference and his impact has been felt around the world.

As a former chair of the Congressional Black Caucus and the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, DONALD PAYNE mentored and provided wise counsel to many of his colleagues, including me. I valued his counsel and his friendship and I will miss him very much and I extend my deepest sympathies to his family and loved ones.

ESSAY BY RAVENA JACOB

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2012

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to interact with some of the brightest students in the 22nd Congressional District who serve on my Congressional Youth Advisory Council. I have gained much by listening to the high school students who are the future of this great nation. They provide important insight into the concerns of our younger constituents and hopefully get a better sense of the importance of being an active participant in the political process. Many of the students have written short essays on a variety of topics and I am pleased to share these with my House colleagues.

Ravena Jacob is a junior at Clear Springs High School in Galveston County, Texas. Her essay topic is: In your opinion, what role should government play in our lives?

George Washington once said, "Government is a necessary evil." Even after several decades of debate on whether government should be involved heavily or lightly on people's life, his statement remains true. Since my life is inherently weaved into public and community life, apart from my personal choices, likes and dislikes, all my life is connected to public. Therefore, even when I say it is my opinion, it certainly is influenced by shared values of my family and others of the community. When I think of government I am surprised by the massive efforts by government to keep things going by implementing laws and regulation which influence my life. When I was about 8 years, my dad got a ticket for not stopping at a stop sign as he was hurrying to drop me to day care and

trying to be at work on time. I was upset with the officer who issued the ticket. But later it became clearer that the officer may be avoiding a bigger problem. Roads were not paved when automobiles were first invented, and after they were paved, there were no stop signs or traffic lights, and no rules of the road. As vehicles became faster and caused more accidents we had to improve the safety of the vehicles. Changing the roads and the rules could only be done through government. Similarly in times of crisis and disaster, I can see the importance of public service government provide. Thus government's most important role is to protect its citizens. For a business or educational field, we need appropriate control by the government. At the same time the governmental control should not be too much. Its role in my life becomes more optimal when the fine line between big vs. small government is crossed

Therefore, the role of government in my life can be analyzed in terms of big or small Government that is usually debated by political parties to describe a large public sector. The term Big Government is used by conservatives in relation to government policies that regulate private or personal matters. Conservatives argue that big government attempts to have federal control on traditionally private institution-based programs. Proponents of small government describe money paid to the government in taxes as money taken away from the private economy. This argument is not true as government spends what it receives. Small-government advocates argue that government can't do anything right. The recent fall of Solyndra, the company that was awarded millions for solar technology expansion, is a good example. Both government and private institutions make mistakes. However, government's mistakes are usually exposed to public and the mistakes of businesses and nonprofits are often unknown.

Government's main weaknesses in deciding what to do are based on the special interests that support election or reelection. In some cases extreme governmental control sometimes question a person's freedom. A good example is governmental influence on dictating what we eat and drink. Yes, it is true that sodas and ice cream undoubtedly leads to obesity and other health issues. However, instead of controlling what we intake, government should create awareness of childhood obesity. In a recent discussion Glenn Beck, argued that the government shouldn't be regulating his Doritos intake or how many miles he can drive. President Obama's response was, "We have also clearly seen the dangers of too little government. Like when a lack of accountability on Wall Street nearly leads to the collapse of our entire economy."

When considering governmental role in my life I would conclude by saying that governmental duplication and control of existing social institutions should be avoided. Government should never forget its preliminary and preeminent role: establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity.

CELEBRATING THE 175TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY OF MASCOUTAH, ILLINOIS

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2012

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the 175th Anniversary of the City of Mascoutah, Illinois.

In the early 19th Century, much of the development in Southwestern Illinois had been concentrated along the Mississippi River which formed its western border. By the 1830's the county seat of Belleville was the easternmost town in St. Clair County. Roads were sparse, with the St. Louis—Shawneetown mail route being the road that provided transit for mail, goods and travelers between the Ohio and Mississippi rivers.

In 1837, a group of German settlers platted the town of Mechanicsburg along the St. Louis—Shawneetown mail route and a post office immediately relocated there. Since postal records indicated there was already a Mechanicsburg, Illinois, the post office and town were renamed, Mascoutah, a name taken from the Mascouten tribe of Native Americans.

The low, swampy terrain of Mascoutah would prove challenging for the early settlers, but a saw mill and flour mill attracted customers among area farmers and a wave of German immigration in the 1850's helped to swell the population. By 1880, Mascoutah was the third largest town in St. Clair County with a population of 2,576.

As the region developed, many changes had an effect on the growth of Mascoutah. In addition to mills and breweries, coal mining brought employment to many in St. Clair County and drew more people looking for work. In 1917, the U.S. War Department leased land near Mascoutah to develop one of the new "flying fields." Scott Field would grow into Scott Air Force Base which would have a tremendous impact on every aspect of life in the Mascoutah community.

From its founding 175 years ago, Mascoutah has experienced considerable growth and has positioned itself to continue that trend. It offers a small-town feel within a major metropolitan area and prides itself on excellent schools and a great quality of life.

It has been an honor to represent the City of Mascoutah for over two decades in the U.S. Congress.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the 175th Anniversary of the City of Mascoutah, Illinois and to wish them the best for a bright and prosperous future.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF LIEUTENANT JAMISON KAMPMEYER, COLBY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. SEAN P. DUFFY

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 8, 2012

Mr. DUFFY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate and honor the life and service of Lieutenant Jamison Kampmeyer, from