



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 112th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 158

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, JUNE 7, 2012

No. 85

House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BARTON of Texas).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
June 7, 2012.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JOE BARTON to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 17, 2012, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to 1 hour and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes each, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m.

HONORING CLARENCE "SONNY" SZEJBACH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. BENISHEK) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BENISHEK. Mr. Speaker, let it be known that it's an honor and pleasure to pay tribute to Clarence "Sonny" Szejbach for his extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam, for which he was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross.

Clarence Szejbach served as a United States Army Specialist 4 in Company

B, 3rd Battalion, 22nd Infantry, 25th Infantry Division. On June 6, 1969, while serving as a radio-telephone operator at Fire Support Base Crook in Thai Nin Province, when the base came under intense rocket and mortar attack, Specialist Szejbach secured his radio and followed the company commander to the defense perimeter to observe and report enemy movements. Exposing himself to the rain of enemy fire, he assisted in resupplying ammunition to troops in the bunkers. When the enemy blew gaps in the wire defenses and attempted to breach the perimeter, he helped lead and organize a reaction force which beat back the hostile surge. After the battle subsided, he moved with the command group through the combat area to inspect enemy casualties and equipment. As the group searched the area, a wounded enemy soldier threw an anti-tank grenade at the company's commander. Specialist Szejbach unhesitatingly moved in front of the officer, deflected the armed weapon, and then picked it up and threw it. The grenade exploded as it left his hand, inflicting severe wounds on him.

Specialist Four Szejbach's extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the Armed Forces and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

Clarence "Sonny" Szejbach was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross on December 7, 1969, the second-highest military decoration that can be awarded to a member of the United States Army. Mr. Szejbach, however, was unaware that he received this honor until nearly 42 years later, when an Antrim County Veterans Service Officer discovered the citation in his personnel file.

Clarence Szejbach returned to his childhood home of northern Michigan after his injuries to take over the family business, Ed and Son Food Market,

in Elk Rapids, Michigan. He and his wife of 42 years, Christine, raised three children.

On behalf of the citizens of Michigan's First District, it's my privilege to recognize Clarence Szejbach, an American hero, for his service, sacrifice, and continued patriotism.

ENSURING CHILD CARE FOR WORKING FAMILIES ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Washington (Mr. McDERMOTT) for 5 minutes.

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, earlier this month, I introduced the Ensuring Child Care for Working Families Act to help low-income workers stay in the workforce. My bill creates a guarantee of Federal child care assistance for children up to the age of 13 in families with incomes up to 200 percent of the Federal poverty level. This program would be matched with State funds and administered by the State.

Low-income families and single parents have been bearing the brunt of this recession. They want to work, but often can't afford reliable and appropriate child care, so they are forced to either leave their jobs or to leave their kids in unhealthy or dangerous environments. For many poor people, there simply are no better options.

In the 1990s, Federal assistance for child care programs was established to address this very problem. It was created to help low-income families transition from welfare to paychecks. Over the years, funding for this program has dwindled, despite growing demand. The Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, the TANF legislation, was passed in 1996 to "end welfare as we know it." But we failed to provide the necessary support services to enable poor working families to succeed. One of those services is high-quality child care.

This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

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



Printed on recycled paper.

H3581