

George W. Bush and took effect in 2008. Despite clear economic progress since then, more than four million Americans have been out of work for six months or longer. These are hard working Americans who are now struggling to pay their bills and feed their families.

Yesterday, our colleagues in the Senate took an important first step toward extending the unemployment insurance program for an additional three months. I urge our leadership in the House to allow a similar vote so that the federal government can again provide vital relief for people who worked hard, played by the rules, but at no fault of their own have lost their jobs.

I understand the need to bring our budget under control, but let us not do it on the backs of hardworking Americans. Let us not create even more uncertainty in their lives. Ending this lifeline for America's working families will not grow the economy and it will not balance our budget. Mr. Speaker, I call on you to bring an extension up for a vote today.

HONORING CATHY KIMBROUGH

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 8, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable public servant, Mrs. Cathy Kimbrough. Mrs. Kimbrough has served adults and children in numerous capacities. Some of the service area include: reading instructor in Germany, General College reading instructor at Alcorn State University, and self-contained and inclusion teacher in the Attala County School District.

Mrs. Kimbrough has served her community as local president of the Attala County Association of Educators. Mrs. Kimbrough has also served on the Board of Directors for the Boys' and Girls' Club in Kosciusko/Attala County.

Mrs. Kimbrough is a member of the following organizations: Order of the Eastern Star, National Council of Negro Women, and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated. She is also a member of Pleasant Hill M.B. Church, pastored by Rev. Osie C. Grays.

Mrs. Kimbrough earned her bachelor's and master's degrees from Jackson State University. She was a member of the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society and the Alpha Beta Alpha Library Science Fraternity.

She is married to Mr. Henry Kimbrough. She has four children: Jerry Jr. (Erica), Essence Crystal (Theodore), Sonja Merrie', and Joyanne' Faith; six grandchildren—Deontrez Jerrick, Jersia, Kamiah, Kayla and Shytianna. She enjoys creating song lyrics, writing poetry, reading and fishing.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Cathy Kimbrough for her dedication to serving others in Attala County.

COMMEMORATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WAR ON POVERTY

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 8, 2014

Mr. FALEOMAVEGA. Mr. Speaker. in his first State of the Union address on January 8, 1964, President Lyndon Baines Johnson declared an "unconditional war on poverty in America." Today, as a member of Congress and as a member of the Democratic Whip Task Force on Poverty and Opportunity, I join my colleagues to mark the 50th anniversary of this declaration and stand in solidarity to continue the fight against economic injustice.

The War on Poverty policy initiative introduced federal programs such as Head Start, Job Corps, Volunteers in Service to America, and legal services for the poor. It also strengthened America's safety net for poor through food stamps and expanding social security and healthcare programs, which American families, including those in my district of American Samoa, continue to benefit from today.

Our nation has made significant progress over the past half century. We have seen, for example, the percent of the population in poverty drop from 26% in 1967 to 16% in 2012. But the war has yet to be won. Today, poverty continues to plague our communities and Americans continue to suffer the effects of economic recession and long term unemployment.

As President Johnson declared 50 years ago today, "Our task is to help replace their despair with opportunity." Government can still play a crucial role in reducing hardship for Americans and increasing opportunities for families who struggle just to make ends meet. As we commemorate the 50th anniversary of the War on Poverty, let us be resolved to continue the fight so that all Americans can have the opportunity to attain the American dream.

SONYA ESTES

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 8, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Sonya Estes for her outstanding service to our community.

Sonya is dedicated to the health and fitness of her community. For over nine years she has promoted the sport of running and its opportunities for community involvement. She was recognized by Jefferson County Public Schools for her support of cross-country and track events, and she sponsors middle school and high school races and Girls on the Run. As the owner of Lakewood's Runners Roost Sonya has opened up her store as a lecture and event location for local charities including Team Challenge, the Alzheimer's Association of Colorado and the American Lung Association of Colorado. She also donated thousands of recycled shoes to the More Foundation. Working with the City of Lakewood Parks and Recreation she contributes to the Lakewood Trail Running Series and the Bear Creek Grin

and Bear It. Sonya doesn't walk the talk . . . she runs it!

I extend my deepest congratulations to Sonya Estes for her well-deserved honor by the West Chamber serving Jefferson County. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

HONORING WILLIE COOPER'S CAREER OF SERVICE

HON. VANCE M. McALLISTER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 8, 2014

Mr. McALLISTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the impressive career of service of Willie F. Cooper. Not long ago, Willie marked 40 years of serving as the State Executive Director of the Louisiana Farm Service Agency and now has a total of over 56 years of work with USDA.

Willie began his career with the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS) while he was still in college and began working his way up the ranks until he was eventually appointed the State Executive Director in April 1972, a role he has held ever since. During his career, Willie has distinguished himself by working tirelessly for the farmers of the state of Louisiana while remaining the approachable family man inherent in his humble roots. These attributes have led him to be named "Progressive Farmers' Man of the Year" and to be honored by the Louisiana Farm Bureau Federation with their Distinguished Service Award.

As impressive as his career has been, his service to his community and his dedication to his family has been equally as impressive. He is an active member of the Calvary Baptist Church in Alexandria, a member of the MacArthur Drive Lions Club, and holds a lifetime membership in the Louisiana Lions League for Crippled Children.

So, please join me in recognizing and honoring this great civil servant. His life and career should serve as an inspiration to all who seek to better their community and state.

HONORING MR. GEORGE "BOOMER" SCOTT

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 8, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor one of baseball's greatest contributors to the game, Mr. George "Boomer" Scott. His attitude and stature did determine his altitude.

Mr. George "Boomer" Scott knew pick'n cotton was not all he could do. The Jim Crow south prepared him for the challenges and opportunities that would be forthcoming. And his ability to tackle any task and meet any challenge was a "God given talent." Many wanted him, the University of Oklahoma, University of California in Los Angeles, Michigan State University, and Jackson State University.

In May 1962, Red Sox scout Ed Scott, recognized that God given talent and signed