

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY
OF PEDRO IRIARTE BORJA

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2014

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Pedro Iriarte Borja, the former mayor of the municipality of Chalan Pago-Ordot in Guam. Mayor Borja passed away on May 31, 2014 at the age of 85.

Pedro Iriarte Borja was born on July 1, 1928 to Francisco Borja Borja and Ana Benavente Iriarte Borja. Affectionately known as "Pete," he married Maria Crisostomo Arceo, his wife of 62 years, on July 7, 1951 and together they had seven children.

Pedro Borja was elected mayor of Chalan Pago-Ordot in November of 2004 and served from 2005 to 2009. During his term, Mayor Borja made significant improvements in the community. He oversaw the restoration of the Jose Atoigue Park and erected monuments to honor fallen servicemembers from Chalan Pago-Ordot.

Prior to his term as mayor, Pete Borja attended the Territorial College of Guam, which subsequently became the University of Guam, where he served as Student Body President. He then joined the United States Navy and served in the Korean War. He was honorably discharged in 1956, and subsequently returned to Guam.

After his service in the Navy, Pete worked at the Navy Public Works Center (PWC), Ship Repair Facility (SRF), U.S. Post Office, and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). In 1967, he joined the Military Sealift Merchant Marines. He retired as a civil servant after 30 years.

Following his civil service, Mayor Borja remained an active member of our community. He was instrumental to developing and supporting activities for senior citizens of Ordot. His advocacy was key to developing the Ordot Community Advancement Association (OCAA) Bingo operations, which helped to raise funds for the San Juan Bautista Catholic Church. He was also the Director of Tita's Day Care, his wife's daycare business.

Mayor Borja served as the President of the Korean War Veterans Association and was recognized as Veteran of the Year in 2011. He was also an active member of the Guam Caregiver's Association and served as the organization's treasurer.

Mayor Borja was a dedicated public servant and leader who worked to help others in our community. I am deeply saddened by his passing, and I join the people of Guam in mourning a great veteran and public servant. My thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends. Though he will be missed, his legacy will live on in the memories of the people of Guam.

TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND
URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RE-
LATED AGENCIES APPROPRIA-
TIONS ACT, 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 9, 2014

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4745) making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes:

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Chair, while I extend my appreciation to Chairman LATHAM and Ranking Member PASTOR for their hard work on the FY15 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Bill, unfortunately, it is another example of the inadequacy of the FY15 budget allocation, and I regretfully rise in opposition.

The bill before us fails to address our nation's growing infrastructure and transportation needs, and the critical housing needs of the most vulnerable among us.

On paper, it looks like the THUD allocation is nearly \$1.2 billion higher than last year. But as we've heard, due to a discrepancy in FHA receipt estimates, this bill is actually \$1.8 billion lower than the FY 2014 bill.

This means that funding for McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance grants falls \$20 million short of what is required to prevent vulnerable residents from being evicted from their current housing. It also means federal efforts to end chronic homelessness by 2016 will be stalled, despite evidence homeless assistance grants have contributed to a significant drop in the number of homeless people with serious disabilities and mental illness.

In addition, this bill does nothing to restore the 40,000 Section 8 Housing Choice vouchers eliminated by sequester cuts. Yet the demand for affordable housing is acute. In Los Angeles County alone, at least 490,340 more affordable housing units are needed to ease the housing burden on the county's poorest residents.

Furthermore, this bill cuts funding for the public housing capital fund by \$100 million to \$1.775 billion, which is a level not seen since the 1980s. These cuts add to the already chronic capital underfunding of deteriorating public housing and the living conditions of the more than one million families who live in public housing.

Unfortunately, the FY15 THUD bill also significantly underfunds critical transportation and infrastructure programs.

The bill cuts the funding for the TIGER Grant Program by 83 percent. That's a \$500 million cut to a crucial tool for investing in our nation's deteriorating transportation infrastructure. Without robust funding for Tiger Grants, many critical transportation projects will go unfunded and infrastructure needs will be unmet.

The Federal Transit Authority's Capital Investment Grant Program is cut by \$252 million. The program funds projects that create jobs and encourages future growth and sustainability for my district and for cities across the country. Unfortunately these cuts will severely limit investments in new projects and have a detrimental effect on current projects and jobs.

Amtrak's capital grants program is cut by \$200 million. This will impact both current and future projects. People rely on Amtrak to commute to work, shop, visit family and friends and travel to other cities. These cuts to critical infrastructure investments will leave my constituents and thousands of transit dependent Americans with limited and unreliable transportation.

Transit research is cut by \$28 million, or 65 percent. This is unacceptable and must be fixed. We have now learned that there has been a significant human contribution to climate change, and without more reliable and accessible public transportation, we will never be able to combat this very real and very serious problem which will negatively affect many generations to come.

Mr. Chair, this bill is grossly underfunded in almost every regard. The programs that meet the most critical needs in our country have been stripped to unacceptably low levels. I urge my colleagues to support the people and communities who need these programs the most, and vote no on the FY15 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Bill.

HONORING AYRIS EVANS GRANBY

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2014

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, few professions are as rewarding, or demanding, as nursing. Ayris Evans Granby knew that this was her calling from a young age, and has worked diligently to establish herself as one of the leading practitioners in her community.

Ayris, the third of nine children, was born and raised in New York. Her dream finally came true, when she was accepted into the Harlem Hospital School of Nursing. Her passion later led her to teach nursing, including as an instructor and the chair of the Central School of Practical Nursing where she was instrumental in developing a curriculum that trained nurses' aides to be practical nurses. She later became the Assistant Director of Nursing at her alma mater, the Harlem Hospital School of Nursing.

Ayris has also served as the Associate Director of Nursing, Acting Director, before rising to Associate Executive Director for Hospital Administration. As the Associate Executive Director for Hospital Administration, Ayris was responsible for the development and implementation of key programs at Harlem Hospital,

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