

Had I been present, I would have cast the following votes:

July 7

Roll Call 390—yes

Roll Call 391—yes

July 8

Roll Call 392—no

Roll Call 393—yes

Roll Call 394—yes

Roll Call 395—yes

Roll Call 396—yes

Roll Call 397—yes

Roll Call 398—yes

Roll Call 399—yes

Roll Call 400—yes

Roll Call 401—yes

Roll Call 402—yes

Roll Call 403—yes

Roll Call 404—yes

Roll Call 405—yes

Roll Call 406—yes

Roll Call 407—no

Roll Call 408—no

Roll Call 409—no

Roll Call 410—no

Roll Call 411—yes

Roll Call 412—yes

Roll Call 413—yes

Roll Call 414—yes

Roll Call 415—yes

Roll Call 416—yes

Roll Call 417—yes

Roll Call 418—yes

Roll Call 419—no

Roll Call 420—no

Roll Call 421—yes

Roll Call 422—yes

Roll Call 423—no

July 9

Roll Call 424—no

Roll Call 425—no

Roll Call 426—no

Roll Call 427—yes

Roll Call 428—no

Roll Call 429—no

Roll Call 430—no

July 10

Roll Call 431—no

Roll Call 432—yes

Roll Call 433—yes

HONORING ANGEL GOMEZ AND  
OPERATION H.O.P.E.

**HON. BETO O'ROURKE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 15, 2015*

Mr. O'ROURKE. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the tireless work and service to El Paso of Angel Gomez.

Angel Gomez is a lifelong El Pasoan, graduate of Bowie High School, and a Veteran of the United States Navy. After serving our nation in uniform, Angel continued his life of service by making a difference in the lives of El Pasoans.

Angel Gomez founded Operation H.O.P.E. (Helping Other People Endure) with long-time friend Ron Standing in November of 2009. With the continuous loving support of his wife, Patricia, and their daughter, Rubi, Angel has been able to bring a smile to the faces of thousands of families in need within the El Paso community.

Whether it is school supplies, clothing, blankets, toiletries, toys, food, or funeral services,

Angel Gomez and Operation H.O.P.E. have consistently provided assistance and charitable work every Thanksgiving, Christmas, Easter, and throughout the year.

His commitment to helping others is truly inspiring and is an example for all Americans. I thank Angel Gomez and Operation H.O.P.E. for their passion for service and for helping so many in our community.

IN OPPOSITION TO H.R. 5021

**HON. EARL BLUMENAUER**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 15, 2015*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit the following statement I made last year on H.R. 5021:

I am pleased that Congress is finally acting today, not with a looming crisis, but one that is already upon us. This is entirely predictable.

I have been arguing for months that Congress needs to act because the stopgap measure we did last Congress was designed to create precisely this Congress at precisely this time.

Sixty-two groups may have signed on a letter of support, but they prefer us to act meaningfully for long-term funding. They accept this because it is the only alternative to shutting down activities this summer.

My Republican friends are unwilling—not unable—but unwilling to resolve the funding contradictions. Revenues have failed to keep pace with the demands of an aging growing Nation, making no change for 21 years, as our infrastructure ages and falls apart, our Nation continues to grow and transportation patterns change. It is guaranteed that we should change as well.

This Congress has refused to address its responsibilities. The House Ways and Means Committee has not had a single hearing on transportation finance. One of our most important responsibilities, uniquely ours, one that is unlike so many other items we deal with, it is possible to resolve. We haven't had a hearing in the 43 months that the Republicans have been in charge of Congress.

Now, I understand there are conflicts within the Republican Caucus. There are some that appear satisfied with locking us into a slow, steady decline called for in the Republican budget—no new projects until October of 2015 and a 30 percent reduction over the next decade, at exactly the time the Federal partnership should be enhanced, not reduced.

There are others in the Republicans whose answer is to just abandon ship, to give up on the Federal partnership, slash the Federal gas tax, and abandon any hope of a national transportation policy and partnership to help States with projects that are multistate in nature or that need to be done whether economic times are bad.

That would be tragic and wrong to abandon the partnership that has meant so much, but it is part of what is driving some of our Republican Tea Party friends. Just because there may not be a majority in the Republican ranks for either approach does not mean that we should continue to dither.

Because Republicans friends are unwilling or unable to resolve this, we have frozen the Transportation Committee in place. They don't have a bill. They are not going to have a bill unless we resolve what the budget number is: increase, continue the downward slide, or abandon it altogether.

We will be no better off next May to resolve this question. In fact, we will be worse

off because we will be in the middle of a Presidential campaign, with a new Congress, maybe new committee lineups.

We should reject this approach to hand off our responsibilities. We should resolve the resource question, and we should commit that this Congress is not going to recess for August vacation, not going to recess to campaign in October, until we have worked to give the American people a transportation bill they need—deserve—to jump-start the economy, create hundreds of thousands of family-wage jobs, and strengthen communities and families across the Nation.

American infrastructure used to be the best in the world and a point of pride bringing Americans together. It is now a source of embarrassment and deep concern as we fall further and further behind global leaders.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL  
DEBT

**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 15, 2015*

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$18,151,890,180,391.62. We've added \$7,525,013,131,478.54 to our debt in 6 years. This is over \$7.5 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

IN HONOR OF MR. WOODROW R.  
PACKER, SR.

**HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 15, 2015*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding educator and respected community leader, Mr. Woodrow R. Packer, Sr. Mr. Packer departed to his eternal reward on Saturday, July 11, 2015. A funeral service will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, July 17, 2015 at St. Paul's Memorial Chapel in Lawrenceville, Virginia, where Mr. Packer's family will be surrounded by friends and loved ones paying their respects to a man who touched many lives, including my own.

Mr. Packer was born in Wilcox County, Alabama, on March 11, 1919 as the eleventh of twelve children born to the late Hal and Lucy Packer. Over the course of his lifetime, Mr. Packer exemplified the meaning of servant leadership. In 1942, Mr. Packer left his family in Alabama to serve his country in World War II, spending time in North Africa and Italy. Following his service in the war, he was honorably discharged as a Staff Sergeant in 1945.

Throughout his life, Mr. Packer always demonstrated a passion for knowledge. He earned a Bachelor of Science and Master of Education degree from Alabama State University in Montgomery, Alabama. He studied further at Carnegie-Mellon Institute of Technology in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Wesleyan University in Middletown, Connecticut; the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, Virginia; Virginia State University in Petersburg, Virginia; and the University of Georgia in Athens, Georgia.

During his lifelong pursuit of knowledge, Mr. Packer strove to impart this knowledge upon his students. In 1948, he began his career as an educator at Choctaw County High School in Butler, Alabama. Mr. Packer later became principal of Blount High School in Anniston, Alabama and then of Chickasaw Terrace School in Prichard, Alabama. In 1964, Mr. Packer moved to Farmville, Virginia to teach at R.R. Moton High School, now a historic landmark of the Civil Rights Movement.

Mr. Packer then went on to serve Saint Paul's College in Lawrenceville, Virginia for 27 years, first as an instructor, then as a Dean, before retiring as Vice President for Student Affairs. His dedication to Saint Paul's College was evident in the number of students he recruited, many from his home state of Alabama, which led to his being deemed "The Alabama Dean."

After retiring from education in 1991, he continued to contribute to the community by helping numerous friends and neighbors in Brunswick County. Mr. Packer served in countless leadership roles with organizations such as the Alberta Family Health Service, Brunswick Chamber of Commerce, Lawrenceville Rotary Club, and the Lawrenceville Town Council.

George Washington Carver once said, "No individual has any right to come into the world and go out of it without leaving behind distinct and legitimate reasons for having passed through it." We are all so blessed that Mr. Woodrow Packer passed this way and during his life's journey did so much for so many for so long. He leaves behind a great legacy in education to the thousands of students, teachers, and administrators whose lives he touched and brightened.

On a personal note, Mr. Packer and his family were close personal friends of my family, as well as a role model and mentor to me. I have truly been blessed by his friendship, counsel and inspiration throughout the years.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me and my wife, Vivian, in paying tribute to Mr. Woodrow R. Packer, Sr. for his dedication to educating young people, his passion for his country, and his deep commitment to his family and his community. We extend our deepest sympathies to Mr. Packer's family and friends during this very difficult time. May they be consoled and comforted by their abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks and months ahead.

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RECOGNIZING MICHAEL F. COLLEY

**HON. STEVE STIVERS**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 15, 2015*

Mr. STIVERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my mentor and friend Michael F. Colley, who passed away at the age of 78 on June 20, 2015.

Michael Colley was born in Youngstown, Ohio and grew up in Columbus, Ohio. After graduating from St. Charles Preparatory School, Michael attended the Ohio State University where he served as President of his fraternity, Kappa Sigma, and was a member of the baseball team. Michael continued his education at Ohio State after graduation in law school, where he earned his Juris Doctoral degree in 1961.

Following his graduation from law school, Michael served in the Ohio National Guard and as an Assistant Prosecutor in the Columbus City Attorney's Office. Soon after, he went into private practice where he had an extremely successful career for his clients in personal injury, medical malpractice and product liability. Throughout his career, Michael served as president of state and national legal organizations: Ohio Academy of Trial Lawyers, the Franklin County Trial Lawyers Association, the Association of Trial Lawyers of America, and the American Board of Trial Advocates. Michael is distinguished as the only person to serve as president of both the Association of Trial Lawyers of America and the American Board of Trial Advocates.

Outside of the courtroom, Michael remained involved in his community and his alma mater. In 1968, Michael helped form the Direction for Youth and Families to help struggling youth and families in central Ohio. In 1991, Michael was appointed to the Board of Trustees for Ohio State and later served as Chairman of the Board. Michael rarely missed a Buckeye football or basketball game throughout his lifetime.

Michael showed an incredible dedication to his community and public service throughout his life.

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HOMETOWN BASKETBALL STARS

**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 15, 2015*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Harrison twins from Richmond, TX in Fort Bend County for their outstanding performance and success in their young basketball careers.

Together, they won a basketball state championship for Travis High School, competed in two NCAA Final Fours and were prospects in the 2015 NBA draft. Andrew Harrison was selected by the Phoenix Suns to play in the NBA before being traded to the Memphis Grizzlies. Aaron Harrison has the opportunity to play in the NBA summer league for the Charlotte Hornets. These young men have made their parents, coaches, and the rest of Fort Bend County proud.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations to the Harrison twins on all of their achievements. We look forward to hearing more about their continued success on and off the court.

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HONORING THE LIFE OF  
JONATHAN ROSADO

**HON. BRENDAN F. BOYLE**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 15, 2015*

Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, Jonathan Rosado, senselessly murdered in the Cayuga section of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania late last year, was a model citizen who generously shared his strong character and kind spirit through the act of teaching tennis to disadvantaged children. Jonathan's commitment to his students was moti-

vated by far more than the perfection of the game's technique, though; he was deeply committed to serving as a thoroughly positive role model for his pupils. Jonathan fostered the Legacy Youth Tennis program's presence in the Hunting Park community, a groundbreaking addition to youth programming for this North Philadelphia neighborhood.

Jonathan's ingenuity and steadfast commitment to community service has served as a tremendous benefit to the many lives he has touched. Jonathan's sense of responsibility and dedication was instilled in him by his own childhood participation in the Legacy Youth Tennis program, and he chose to contribute those attributes right back into the program as he ascended into adulthood. His selflessness helped to cultivate the potential of the children in his community, who will in turn grow up to follow Jonathan's constructive example.

Although he is sorely missed by all, Jonathan's bright spirit will continue to be felt in Hunting Park long into the future. I submit this statement so that Jonathan's example can be more widely witnessed across the nation and across time.

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IN HONOR OF THE 70TH  
ANNIVERSARY OF TRINITY TEST

**HON. BEN RAY LUJÁN**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 15, 2015*

Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of those who have fallen ill or passed on due to radiation exposure from the Trinity test. On this day 70 years ago, rural New Mexico became ground zero for the detonation of the first nuclear bomb. While it would usher in the start of the atomic age, it also marked the beginning of sickness and suffering for generations of people who lived and grew up in the Tularosa Basin and other areas downwind of the test site.

Today, we remember those who continue to bear the costs of nuclear testing decades later and recommit to seeking recognition and compensation for the men and women who have been gravely impacted. As a nation we have a responsibility to act and acknowledge the pain that so many New Mexicans and other downwinders have experienced following the Trinity Test. The legacy of that moment in our nation's history is still alive and continues to be felt to this very day by all those battling cancer and other diseases as a result of radiation exposure.

It is long past time for Congress to take action and pass legislation expanding the Radiation Expose Compensation Act so that these individuals are no longer left behind, and so that we can come to terms with the full impact of the nuclear age.

Though we can never fully compensate these Americans for what they have lost, they deserve to be recognized and receive just compensation that will help generations of families who have gotten sick because of uranium mining or nuclear testing. The men and women who have suffered from radiation exposure must not be forgotten.