

I BELIEVE Americans must retain the principles that have made us strong while developing new and innovative ideas to meet the challenges of changing times.

I BELIEVE Americans value and should preserve our national strength and pride while working to extend peace, freedom, and human rights throughout the world.

FINALLY, I believe the Republican Party is the best vehicle for translating these ideas into positive and successful principles of government.

Mr. Speaker, the UD College Republican organization is the bedrock of virtue, morality, the paragon of freedom on the UD campus. As a UD graduate of 1984, and a former officer of the UD College Republicans, I hereby call upon our colleagues in the U.S. House to recognize the illustrious organization as one of America's finest and most worthy student-leadership institutions.

I further commend the University of Dayton for hosting the UD-CR organization. The existence of this powerful and mighty group provides an opportunity for the university's most promising intellectuals and venerable scholars to bask in an oasis of truth, justice and honesty, replete with piety and reality, and bereft of the political liberalism that has infected academia generally. They are the candle flame elevated upon the bushel—the light by which all others navigate.

Congratulations to the University of Dayton College Republicans for setting the lofty standard for American patriotism and for its embodiment of righteousness. Indeed, it is written in Ecclesiastes 10:2, "The heart of the wise inclines to the right, but the heart of the fool inclines to the left." God is on their side!

May the wise hearts of the UD College Republicans remain in the right and perpetually triumph over the foolish hearts of that other party that lurks on the left; and may they enjoy eternal recognition by all at the University of Dayton and throughout the land as "The Best Party on Campus!"

THE CONTINUING INABILITY OF
CONGRESS TO CONDUCT ITS
REGULAR BUSINESS AND SOLVE
AMERICA'S PROBLEMS

HON. MAX SANDLIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 21, 2002

Mr. SANDLIN. Mr. Speaker, once again, this body is abdicated its responsibilities by passing a 6-week continuing resolution to keep the Federal Government running through November 22, 2002. The Republican leadership has failed the American people by determining Members of Congress do not need to pass the remaining 11 Fiscal Year 2003 appropriations bills, the Fiscal Year 2003 National Department of Defense Authorization Conference report, and a meaningful prescription drug benefit for seniors. This is only a small fraction of the work that this body still needs to complete before we adjourn.

Instead of addressing pressing needs, the majority party has decided to disregard our constitutional responsibilities and go home and leave the people's business unfinished. I voted against this resolution, as I did the last, because we need to be here working and solving the vast economic problems facing this coun-

try. Again, I supported a continuing resolution that would have funded the Federal Government for one additional day. This would have forced us to remain here and address the critical issues facing our nation. Our domestic problems are not insurmountable. I will not accept the fact that this Republican-controlled Congress cannot simultaneously address national security needs while also addressing pressing domestic problems. When united in action, we can solve the problems facing everyday citizens.

America remains mired in economic doldrums. The stock market continues its decline. I read that mutual fund analysts joke that people should not open their 401(k) statements because of devastating declines in values. Hundreds of thousands filed for unemployment claims at the end of last month, and consumer confidence fell to a 9 year low. In addition to the hundreds of thousands of new unemployment claims, hundreds of thousands of out-of-work Americans have or will soon exhaust their unemployment compensation. The Republican majority has not brought any legislation to the floor to extend unemployment insurance for those who desperately need these benefits.

We will get paid for the next 6 weeks but millions of our constituents will no longer have any safety net. Because the majority has failed to do its job, countless individuals will not be able to feed their families, seek new employment, or pay their upcoming winter heating bills. The Republican majority has told working Americans that their problems do not matter.

In addition to not addressing legislation to assist unemployed workers, the House has again failed to fund important initiatives in education, healthcare, and veterans programs—leaving society's most vulnerable members at risk. This continued lack of action means schools cannot plan for next year, health care providers wonder if they will have funds to remain open, seniors will go without a comprehensive prescription drug plan, and veterans will continue to see unacceptably long waits for access to care.

By ignoring the situation, the majority acts as if this administration's failed economic policies have not had devastating consequences for average Americans. This Congress just has addressed the most compelling national security issue facing the Nation. It is time that we face the economic crisis facing America—rising unemployment, increasing job insecurity, growing budget deficits, and the lack of affordable health care.

By postponing action on passing the remaining 11 appropriations bills, the majority undermines the ability of the government to carry out its basic missions. By adopting continuing resolution after continuing resolution, we are completely ignoring our responsibility to the Nation and its citizens.

Issues such as the fight against terrorism, protecting basic services for our veterans, increasing enforcement of our security laws and making funding available to local and State governments for infrastructure investment cannot be addressed without proper appropriations.

Because the majority has failed to do its job, the people of East Texas and the country will pay the price. Republican economic policies have been devastating for this country—ignoring those policies will not make them better.

Congress' inaction touches every part of our daily lives. In a stunning act of indifference, Congress will take 6 weeks off leaving millions of Americans without hope that we will address the problems they face every day. It is for this reason that I, in good conscience, could not support another weeklong continuing resolution.

RECOGNITION TO VICTOR J.
FERLISE

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 21, 2002

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I come to the House floor today to honor a longtime friend and supporter of the people of the Sixth District of New Jersey, Mr. Victor J. Ferlise, Deputy to the Commanding General of the Communications-Electronics Command (CECOM) at Fort Monmouth, New Jersey. Vic Ferlise has been awarded the Roger W. Jones Award for Executive Leadership.

The American University presents this award each year to two career executives of the federal government who have demonstrated superior leadership that resulted in outstanding organizational achievements and strong commitment to the effective continuity of government by successfully bringing about the development of managers and executives. The award is named for a former professor and public servant committed to the education and training of managers and executives.

Since 1992, Mr. Ferlise has direct responsibility for the five major business units of CECOM: the Research, Development and Engineering Center, the Logistics and Readiness Center, the Acquisition Center, the Software Engineering Center, and the Information Systems Engineering Command. As the largest employer in Monmouth County, New Jersey, CECOM is a key component of the economy of central New Jersey, and Mr. Ferlise has direct oversight of more than 10,000 employees.

Before being appointed as the Deputy of the Commanding General, Mr. Ferlise served as the Chief Counsel of the Legal Office at Fort Monmouth. He has received numerous civilian awards and decorations, most notably the Distinguished and Meritorious Presidential Rank Awards and the Army Exceptional Civilian Service Award. President George Bush personally presented the Distinguished Presidential Rank Award to Mr. Ferlise during a ceremony in Washington, DC in October 2001.

Mr. Ferlise has been an instructor in the Graduate Acquisition Program at Monmouth University, a member of the Executive Advisory Council for its School of Science, Technology and Engineering and a member of the Governor's Council on Armed Forces and Veterans' Affairs. He is the author of "Innovations in Logistics Modernization," an article published in the May-June 2000 issue of Program Manger Magazine.

I ask my colleagues to join with me in commending and honoring the distinguished gentleman, Mr. Victor J. Ferlise, for his superior leadership and strong commitment to the effective continuity of this Government.