

El Paso Community College where he earned an associate in business administration. He also attended the University of New Mexico and the University of Texas at El Paso. He and his wife, Silvia, have six children.

Mr. Montoya first joined the Border Patrol in 1976 as an agent in the El Paso Sector. In 1982, he was promoted to supervisory Border Patrol agent, a position he held until 1987, when he was promoted to deputy regional chief of the Border Patrol for the INS Regional Office in Dallas, TX. In 1990, he left the regional office for an appointment as assistant chief patrol agent for the Del Rio Sector, and after another tour in the Dallas Regional Office as assistant regional director for Border Patrol, he returned to Del Rio for the position of deputy chief patrol agent. In 2004, he was appointed and selected for the Senior Executive Service, SES, which is made up of leaders with proven executive skills, who have a strong commitment to government and to public service.

As chief patrol agent for the Laredo Sector of the U.S. Border Patrol, he was responsible for an area of 110,000 square miles and 172 river miles of border, with a large staff of 987 agents on board and 126 support personnel. The Laredo Sector extends as far north as the Oklahoma border and includes the cities of Dallas, San Antonio, Austin, and Houston. His service in law enforcement and protecting our border is truly commendable. It is always sad to lose such a valued member of the law enforcement community in South Texas, and I wish him and his family the best in their future endeavors.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to have had this time to recognize the bravery and dedication of John W. Montoya.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON  
THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR  
2007

SPEECH OF

**HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 17, 2006*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 376) establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2007 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2008 through 2011:

Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong opposition to the reckless budget proposed by President Bush and House Republicans.

H. Con. Res. 376 is a \$2.7 trillion budget that will add \$1.1 trillion to our debt over the next 5 years. If this becomes the law of the land, our budget deficit will hit near record levels in 2006 and 2007. But that's only part of the story. The budget provides for no funding for Iraq and Afghanistan past 2007, although we have heard from President Bush that this war will last at least until 2009. Nor does it address tax issues facing middle class families—such as the alternative minimum tax. In addition, this bill includes a provision to raise the debt limit for the fifth year in a row—resulting in a \$3.7 trillion increase since 2001.

This budget imposes painful cuts on children and families while allowing our national deficit to continue to spiral out of control. Cuts to health care, education, veterans' services, and the environment are all made in order to pay for tax cuts for the wealthy. But because even these devastating cuts do not equal the level of tax giveaways proposed, this budget forces future generations to pay for the mistakes of today.

Mr. Speaker, this budget does not reflect American values. It cuts education—from early education through higher education—when we need to reinvest in American global competitiveness. It cuts funding for public health and health research—shortchanging potential life-saving research and health care providers struggling to serve current populations and to prepare for a possible pandemic. It cuts homeland security funding by \$6 billion—as our Nation is involved in conflicts around the world and American good will is waning. Most outrageously, this budget cuts funding for veterans' health care by \$8.6 billion over 5 years. At a time when we're asking more of our service men and women and their families, this type of across-the-board disinvestment is short-sighted and negligent and should be rejected.

Congress can and should pass a budget that is fiscally responsible and protects the priorities of the American people. Democrats offered an alternative plan investing in education, health research and veterans' benefits while balancing the budget by 2012. This plan, offered by Mr. SPRATT, would keep America competitive by making needed investments and reduce the burden of staggering Federal debt on future generations.

I urge my colleagues to support the Spratt substitute and reject the dangerous owe-as-you-go policies put forward by the Bush Administration and the Republican Majority in Congress.

PALESTINIAN ANTI-TERRORISM  
ACT OF 2006

SPEECH OF

**HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 22, 2006*

Mr. WAXMAN. Madam Speaker, Hamas is first and foremost a terrorist organization. Ideologically, its charter is clarion call for the destruction of Israel. In practice, the group has dedicated itself to murder and violence against innocent Israeli civilians. No election, no matter how democratic it is viewed by procedural standards, can wash its hands of the blood of its victims.

That is why H.R. 4681, the Palestinian Anti-Terrorism Act, is an essential piece of legislation. The bill would prohibit all direct aid to the Palestinian Authority as long as it is led by Hamas or any other group that refuses to renounce terrorism, recognize Israel's right to exist, and accept previous agreements.

There is no room for ambiguity. Last month, Hamas praised a terror attack in Tel Aviv as a legitimate act of self-defense. Just the other week, Jordanian authorities arrested 20 Hamas terrorists who were smuggling Iranian-made Katyusha rockets and tank missiles. Weapons are being smuggled across the Egyptian border as well. It cannot be tolerated.

For the most part, the Quartet has stood firm in isolating Hamas. The United States, the European Union, Canada and other nations have blocked the direct transfer of funds to the new Palestinian Authority and prohibited political contact with Hamas officials. The legislation before us codifies this approach.

H.R. 4681 also advances creative solutions to meet the humanitarian needs of the Palestinian people without empowering or enriching a terrorist regime. The legislation is carefully crafted to maintain assistance to the Palestinian people, while giving confidence to American taxpayers that aid will not be used to prop up Hamas leaders.

Direct U.S. assistance to the Palestinian people has always been primarily administered through non-governmental organizations via the USAID West Bank and Gaza aid program. H.R. 4681 makes this program, which accounts for the largest per capita U.S. aid contribution in the world, more central than ever. While some have expressed concern that requiring advanced notification and justification to Congress for non-humanitarian aid will delay or impede support for such programs, these concerns are misplaced. The modest conditions will only bring greater transparency and improve the quality and focus of the programs funded. Pre-certification is not necessary for the distribution of humanitarian aid.

In addition, the bill provides substantial flexibility to continue U.S. support for the independent Palestinian election commission and assistance to the office of President Mahmoud Abbas to support the peace process. Considering the hopes and expectations that the Hamas government will collapse, such support is imperative to build a viable political alternative that is moderate and free from the rampant corruption of Fatah candidates that alienated Palestinian voters.

United States foreign policy in the Middle East is full of nuance, but when it comes to Hamas our message must be black and white: we will not reward terrorists or terrorism.

H.R. 4681 conveys this timely and important message and it is worth our strong support.

HONORING THE LIFE AND WORK  
OF MR. JETTIE PURNELL

**HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 24, 2006*

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, today I rise and ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in honoring and celebrating the life and work of Mr. Jettie Purnell. One of Halifax County's most notable citizens, Mr. Purnell's work in civil rights and labor rights has changed forever the lives of the people of the First Congressional District and those of people far outside its limits.

As a young man, Mr. Purnell was thrust into service during World War II as a soldier in the U.S. Army. He continued his patriotic service by fighting racism at home and playing a key role in the civil rights movement. His work continued as he moved aggressively and persistently to unionize local textile mills. Mr. Purnell led the fight for justice and equal rights, and also led a successful effort to designate a section of U.S. Highway 158 as George Thomas Young Drive.