

workers lose rights and protections, and the federal and state governments lose out of billions of dollars in much-needed revenue.

This legislation is similar to the measure I introduced last year, along with Representatives RICHARD NEAL, and JOHN TIERNEY. I am pleased we have joined together again this Congress to reintroduce this initiative. Our efforts to construct this bill were informed by information obtained through public hearings on this issue in the House Committee on Ways and Means and the House Committee on Education and Labor.

The Taxpayer Responsibility, Accountability, and Consistency Act would close the tax loophole that allows employers to misclassify employees as contractors at will. It aims to put all employers on a level playing field, protect workers, and reduce the federal budget deficit. The intention of the bill is not to deny businesses the ability to use legitimate independent contractors; instead it is to ensure that laws that determine what an employee or independent contractor is are evenly applied. They are not today.

I recognize that this issue is one that has vexed the Congress for some time and that forging the necessary degree of consensus to address this problem will be difficult. I intend for the legislation introduced today to serve as a basis for discussion and look forward to working with many stakeholders to perfect the bill and help push for its passage.

RECOGNIZING TREENA TUBBS

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 30, 2009

Mr. SIMPSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Treena Tubbs of Malad, Idaho. Treena is celebrating her twentieth year of work for the U.S. Government. She began her career with the USDA-FSA in the Malad office. After three years, she was recruited to work for the Veterans Administration. She traveled to Pocatello to work at the Veterans Affairs Community-based Outreach Clinic of the George E. Wahlen Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Treena quickly became known as a friendly and helpful assistant to the veterans who came to the clinic for services. Throughout her career, she has proved herself to be a compassionate ally of those who have bravely served their country and now are in need of medical care. By contributing her time and talents, Treena has ensured a brighter future for our veterans.

It is not enough for Treena to assist in meeting the needs of veterans during office hours. She always makes time from home to help fill out paperwork, answer questions, and remind of appointments. Because it is often difficult to remember all the questions while in the doctor's office, Treena welcomes calls at home to clarify issues the veteran may have regarding his or her care.

The son of one veteran tells of Treena calling in the evening to make sure his father was alright, as he had missed his appointment that day. Another vet said he spent several hours asking questions at Treena's kitchen table on a Saturday.

Although the drive from Malad to Pocatello is difficult, Treena makes it to the clinic unless the winter roads become truly impassable.

In keeping with her commitment to make positive contributions to her community and her sincere willingness to serve, Treena has recently been appointed to the Oneida County Hospital Board.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to have a constituent in my district who is dedicated to improving the lives of our veterans and who devotes her time in selfless service to others.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. J. GRESHAM BARRETT

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 30, 2009

Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, unfortunately I missed some recorded votes on the House floor on Wednesday, July 29, 2009.

Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on rollcall vote No. 655 (on agreeing to H. Res. 685), "present" on rollcall vote No. 656 (on motion to table the Boehner Privileged Resolution).

HONORING MR. DAVID HAWPE

HON. BEN CHANDLER

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 30, 2009

Mr. CHANDLER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of one of Kentucky's premier journalists, a man who has shaped countless events and policies in the Commonwealth of Kentucky for decades, Mr. David Hawpe. After 40 years of public service journalism, tough reporting, and insightful analysis as editorial director, he will retire on August 14, 2009. I cannot begin to adequately describe the immeasurable contributions Mr. Hawpe has made to better the lives of all Kentuckians.

After graduating from the University of Kentucky in 1965 with a focus in journalism, Mr. Hawpe began his career as a reporter for the Associated Press and then moved to the The St. Petersburg Times in Florida, where he was an editorial writer.

In 1969, he came back to his home state and took charge of the Hazard bureau of The Courier-Journal in Eastern Kentucky, and in 1972, he moved to the Louisville home office. Mr. Hawpe held many positions, including editorial writer, assistant regional editor, managing editor and editor of The Courier-Journal and also served as city editor of the former afternoon newspaper, The Louisville Times.

Through his decades of reporting, Mr. Hawpe's influence can be seen in nearly every corner of the state.

He covered the Hyden mine disaster in 1970, bringing to light the many hazards and realities of coal mining. In later years, he played a significant role in strengthening laws and regulations governing the mining industry, and attacked abuses related to the broad deed and strip mining.

Through his reporting and advocacy, he helped bring about new regulations of toxic

chemicals, improved school bus safety, better enforcement of drunk driving laws, and reform in the medical license system.

Through his and his colleagues' legislative coverage, Mr. Hawpe and his coworkers literally helped reshape the Kentucky General Assembly—my home state's legislative body—into a more influential, co-equal branch of state government. In conjunction with formidable investigative reporting, Mr. Hawpe also played a critical role in the momentum to rewrite Kentucky's campaign finance laws.

And also, very notably, Mr. Hawpe has been instrumental in the reform of Kentucky's public education system. Through his direction of relentless and informed reporting, he helped convince the public that Kentucky was in need of meaningful, extensive higher education reform, which paved the way for the 1997 Kentucky Higher Education Reform Act. He has been credited by many, including a former governor and key policy makers, with being the main force behind this historic legislation.

In light of these achievements, it should be no surprise the newspaper won four Pulitzer prizes under his direction.

Mr. Hawpe is a member of the Kentucky Journalism Hall of Fame and has long been a strong advocate for ethics and diversity initiatives. A Nieman Fellow at Harvard, he was also prominent in national news organizations, having served as president of the Associated Press Managing Editors Association.

Through Mr. Hawpe's editorials and columns, he has been called "the voice and conscience of The Courier-Journal" and, in my opinion, in many ways, he has been the voice and conscience of reform and good policy in the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

Over the years, he has held individuals and institutions accountable for their actions, reined in unfair practices, and been an unwavering advocate for the underprivileged. Mr. Hawpe will be sorely missed, but the impact of his work will be felt in my state, and, indeed the nation, for many years to come.

Madam Speaker, there is no doubt in my mind that he has made our great state even better.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 30, 2009

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of the Commerce, Justice Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010, H.R. 2847.

Congressman RODNEY ALEXANDER

H.R. 2997

ARS

Louisiana State University located at 156 Thomas Boyd Hall, Baton Rouge, LA 70803

Formosan Subterranean Research—\$2,600,000. The Formosan subterranean termite has infested 32 of the 64 parishes in Louisiana, with the most severe infestations in the New Orleans and Lake Charles areas. This insect has caused millions of dollars worth of damage including over \$300 million in New Orleans alone. Clearly, it is the most costly