

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

GAUGING AMERICAN PORT SECURITY ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. YVETTE D. CLARKE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 26, 2012

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4005—"Gauging American Port Security Act" also known as the "GAPS Act." I would like to thank Congresswoman JANICE HAHN from California for her diligent work on this bill. I would also like to thank the efforts of the Committee on Homeland Security. This bill requires the Homeland Security Department, within one year of enactment, to conduct a study of the remaining gaps in port security in the United States and submit a classified report to Congress prioritizing these gaps and a plan to address them.

As a New York City Member on the House Homeland Security Committee, I understand how important border security is and how threats to our national security need to be reduced. I will continue to work to ensure that our nation is better prepared to terrorist attacks at our ports.

Ports are important to American commerce and a way to connect us to the rest of the world. We have more than 11 million cargo containers arrive in U.S. ports every year and we need to ensure that our ports are secure for this part of commerce.

Congress needs to continue to focus on improving security on our borders, land and port. I fully believe that this is a step to improving our port security and H.R. 4005 will help the Homeland Security Department to come up with a plan that will help with these challenges at our ports. This plan will address threats we face at maritime borders by closing the gaps in our security at our Nation's ports. The benefit of this legislation will greatly outweigh the cost. It is a way for us to adequately invest in our response capacities and security to safeguard our citizens and economy.

So today, I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

HONORING BISHOP WILLIAM P. DEVEAUX

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 29, 2012

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation:

Whereas, Bishop William P. DeVeaux is celebrating eight years (8) in leadership this year as the presiding prelate for all of the African Methodist Episcopal (AME) churches in Georgia and Dr. Patricia Ann Morris is celebrating eight years as the Episcopal Supervisor, they have both provided stellar leader-

ship to their church on an international level; and

Whereas, Bishop and Dr. DeVeaux, under the guidance of God has pioneered and sustained the African Methodist Episcopal churches in Georgia, as an instrument in our community that uplifts the spiritual, physical and mental welfare of our citizens; and

Whereas, this remarkable and tenacious man and virtuous woman of God give hope to the hopeless, feed the hungry and are a beacon of light to those in need; and

Whereas, Bishop and Dr. DeVeaux are spiritual warriors, persons of compassion, fearless leaders and servants to all, but most of all visionaries who share not only with their Church, but with our District and the world their passion to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Bishop and Dr. DeVeaux on their excellent leadership in Georgia;

Now therefore, I, Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr. do hereby proclaim June 1, 2012 as Bishop William P. DeVeaux and Dr. Patricia Ann Morris DeVeaux Day in the 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, this 1st day of June, 2012.

IN TRIBUTE TO SERGEANT JOHN "J.D." DAVID MEADOR II

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 29, 2012

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, June 20, 2012, Sgt. John "J.D." David Meador II, of Columbia, South Carolina, was killed in action while serving in the South Carolina Army National Guard in Afghanistan. Sergeant Meador began his career in service to our country when he enlisted in the United States Army in 1994. He is a graduate of Lexington High School and a member of the Lexington County Sheriff's Department. As a former high school wrestler, Sergeant Meador enjoyed coaching wrestling at his alma mater, White Knoll High School, and Irmo High School. He also enjoyed hunting, the outdoors and carpentry.

Every member of our Armed Forces sacrifices their lives to keep America and her freedoms safe. Without these sacrifices, America would not remain the most free and prosperous country in the world. Specialist Meador paid the ultimate sacrifice and died honorably protecting these freedoms that we all enjoy.

My thoughts and prayers are with his wife Christy, and their two daughters, Brianna and Elana, as well as his parents, John and Sharon Meador. His service to our nation will never be forgotten and we will always be eternally grateful. As a Guard veteran myself with four sons currently serving in the military, I particularly appreciate your extraordinary military family. Freedom is not free.

HONORING THE CARROLLTON BLACK CEMETERY

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 29, 2012

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pride and pleasure to rise today to recognize and commemorate the heritage of the Carrollton Black Cemetery. Buried beneath its soil are the men and women who forged the pathway for the Carrollton community. Today we recognize those who have gone before us, the sacrifices they have made, and the impact they have had on the lives of today's Carrollton citizens.

In 1850, the first recorded burial in the cemetery was Mary Lamer, an immigrant from Illinois and the original owner of the property. In 1871, the Carrollton Black Cemetery was established on a forty-acre site owned by Mr. Scott Boswell, an early African American Carrollton farmer. By 1915, Mr. C.B. Baxley purchased the land with a deed exclusion to keep the cemetery intact. Up until the Civil War, it was customary to bury slaves on their owner's land. After Emancipation, freed slaves and their families wished to have their own burial locations. Unfortunately, the Carrollton Black Cemetery has undergone flooding from the Trinity River which has caused the loss of many of its gravestones. In 1981, to preserve the cemetery's history, a fence was erected around its perimeter. On Saturday, June 23, the cemetery was identified as a Texas historical site.

The Carrollton Black Cemetery is referred to by many names including the Carrollton Community Cemetery and the Carrollton Memorial Cemetery. The record of the Carrollton Black Cemetery reflects the rich history of the African American community in Carrollton. Many of the people buried in the Carrollton Black Cemetery were trailblazers of growth, development, and continued successes in the Carrollton community.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize the Carrollton Black Cemetery for the heritage and history it brings to the 24th District of Texas. I ask all of my distinguished colleagues to join me in honoring the Carrollton Black Cemetery and in commending the current citizens who care for it.

TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 26, 2012

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

consideration the bill (H.R. 5972) making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, and for other purposes:

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Chair, I rise today in support of H.R. 5972. While this is not a perfect bill, it will fund important transportation and housing projects creating well-paying jobs across this country.

I am pleased that this bill provides a much-needed increase to Amtrak, which will greatly help Amtrak accommodate growing ridership and develop intercity passenger rail. It also continues to invest in the FAA's NextGen air traffic control modernization effort, which will help to keep our public airspace safe and reduce flight times. The Community Development Block Grants program is also fully funded helping local governments to address housing and social service issues unique to their communities. It also fully funds the Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing program, providing the nearly 70,000 homeless veterans with long-term housing when they need it.

However, I want to express my deep disappointment that this bill does not provide any funding to high speed intercity passenger rail or the TIGER program. Both of these programs have proven to be successful and play an integral role in bringing our infrastructure in to the 21st Century. At a time when you have labor and business—the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and AFL-CIO—calling for stronger investment in our infrastructure, it is shortsighted that we not provide this necessary funding. We cannot continue to compete with our neighbors abroad if we are not improving and growing our infrastructure. My colleagues in the House, on the left and the right, have called for a jobs package and this funding could have been that first step.

I am disappointed at the lack of funding for critical housing programs. This bill drastically cuts funds to the Project-Based Section 8 voucher program that provides rental assistance to approximately 1.2 million low-income families. Furthermore, there is no funding for programs that would help rebuild blighted communities. Not only would eliminating blight and rebuilding neighborhoods create jobs, but they would also rejuvenate communities in areas like Southeast Michigan that were hit so hard by the collapse of the housing market and the economic recession.

Taken as a whole Mr. Chair, H.R. 5972 will make needed investments in our transportation and housing infrastructure, but more must be done. As our bridges, roads, sewers, buildings, and neighborhoods crumble, we cannot afford to underfund critical programs that rehabilitate and rebuild. We cannot move in to the 21st century with 20th century investments. I call on my colleagues to pass a strong surface transportation reauthorization that will fix this oversight of needed funding and put Americans across the country back to work bettering our neighborhoods and communities.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN JOHNSON

HON. WILLIAM L. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 29, 2012

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career and service of one of my constituents, John Johnson, President and CEO of Alice Hyde Medical Center in Malone, New York. John's time as a public servant in the North Country and hospital administrator reflects an enduring commitment to our community and to improving the access and quality of healthcare for the people of Northern New York.

After graduating with a Bachelor's of Science degree from SUNY Plattsburgh in 1971, John went on to rise through the ranks of the Franklin County Probation Department to become its Director in 1977. He later worked as Franklin County Manager in 1984 until he joined Alice Hyde as an Associate Director in 1990. He soon became the Executive Vice President of the Acute Care Facility, the Outpatient Health Center, and the Adjacent Skilled Nursing Facility. John went on to become President and CEO of Alice Hyde in 1994 where he has served till recently.

Under John's tenure as President and CEO, the AHMC has established five health centers and opened cancer, hemodialysis, ambulatory and orthopedic and rehabilitation centers. In 2009, AHMC was recognized as the Organization of the Year by the Malone Chamber of Commerce for its efforts to pursue innovative medicine, growth, and community programs.

I had the privilege to serve with John on the Plattsburgh State University College Council where he exemplified his community commitment. While I am saddened by the departure of John as President and CEO of AHMC, his work will continue to have an impact for years to come. I congratulate John on his retirement and wish him all the best in the many years ahead.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VICKY HARTZLER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 29, 2012

Mrs. HARTZLER. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, June 28, 2012, I was unable to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: on rollcall No. 442, "yea."

IN HONOR OF MIKE SEDELL

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 29, 2012

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of my close personal friend Mike Sedell, who is retiring next week as the City Manager of the City of Simi Valley, California.

Mike and I have worked together for 33 years. When I was first elected to the Simi

Valley City Council, he was Simi Valley's Deputy City Manager under then-City Manager Lin Koester. When I was elected to Congress in 1986, he came to Washington, DC, to serve as my first Chief of Staff. After three years in Washington, he returned to Simi Valley as Assistant City Manager, becoming City Manager in 1995.

Mike and I are not just professional associates. We are personal friends and have continued to be personal friends in the 17 years since he left my employ. Not a week goes by that we don't connect to discuss a federal issue, or a local issue, or our respective families.

Mike began working for the people of Simi Valley in 1972 as a California State University, Northridge, intern and subsequently served the City in a variety of assignments. He first worked as Simi Valley's Personnel Administrator and Community Services Coordinator, which included working on the Neighborhood Council Program, the Youth Council, and Youth Services. In 1975, he was asked to become part of the City Manager's office.

Once in the City Manager's Office, Mike effectively supervised several programs, including public affairs, media relations, City Council/staff relations, governmental affairs, labor relations, transit system operations, and elections.

When Lin Koester left Simi Valley to become the Chief Administrative Officer for Ventura County in 1995, the City Council unanimously appointed Mike as City Manager, a position he has held since.

In addition to serving as Simi Valley's City Manager, Mike periodically teaches an Intergovernmental Relations Seminar in the Master's Degree program in Public Administration at Cal State Northridge, and has served as past Chair of the Board of Directors of Interface Children and Family Services of Ventura County.

With his contacts developed over the years in both Washington and Sacramento, Mike is often called upon by Simi Valley, and occasionally other cities, to assist whenever a legislative or intergovernmental crisis occurs. Mike also works with Sacramento and Washington legislators on budget issues affecting Simi Valley and other California cities, and he has been a key player in developing the final funding formula for local agencies, and crafting complex intergovernmental agreements.

His liaison work between the City and The Ronald Reagan Presidential Library has been instrumental in forming a strong operating bond between the Library and the City, and Mike was proud to be a member of the coordinating team that put together the local events for the funeral of President Reagan.

Mr. Speaker, Mike Sedell has spent a lifetime in public service at the local and federal level. He has steered the City of Simi Valley through many difficult times with great success and his expertise is recognized and sought after by many other government officials. I know my colleagues join my wife, Janice, and me in thanking Mike for his lifetime of public service and in wishing our good friends Mike and his wife, Judie, the best in retirement.