

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

DEATH TAX REPEAL ACT OF 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 16, 2015

Ms. DeLAURO. Madam Speaker, I rise in opposition to this reckless and regressive bill.

My colleagues in the Majority often claim to be opposed to government spending they describe as “wasteful.” But this bill is the epitome of wasteful spending. By permanently repealing the estate tax, without any additional revenue whatsoever to cover the losses, it increases our nation’s deficit by almost \$270 billion.

Make no mistake—tax breaks are spending. Moreover, this bill spends money on those who need it least. According to the Joint Committee on Taxation, only the wealthiest 0.2 percent of estates will benefit at all, and almost three quarters of the benefits will go to estates worth more than \$20 million.

For every rich estate that reaps the benefits of this bill, there are ten thousand of our fellow citizens living in poverty. Yet the same House Majority that now supports this bill also passed a budget last month that would cut \$125 billion from food stamps and kick up to 20 million Americans off Medicaid—all at a time when working families are struggling to make ends meet. Talk about misplaced priorities.

Madam Speaker, instead of spending hundreds of billions on a tax break for a wealthy elite, we should be directing more assistance to those who are in genuine need. That is why I urge my colleagues to vote against this bill.

ALL LIVES MATTER

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 20, 2015

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, April 4, 1968 in an unforgettable day because on that day the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., a man of peace who devoted his life to non-violence, was struck down by an assassin’s bullet in Memphis, Tennessee.

Sadly, April 4, 2015, will also take its place as a day of infamy because on that day in North Charleston, South Carolina, a man less celebrated but no less innocent, Walter Scott, was slain in an act of lethal violence that shocks the conscience.

I rise today to extend my deepest sympathies to the family and loved ones of Walter Scott, who was laid to rest this past Saturday, and call upon this Congress to enact legislation that will provide the resources and guidance needed for law enforcement personnel to maintain the trust and confidence and support of the communities they serve and the safeguards needed to protect our people from becoming victims of excessive or lethal force.

Mr. Speaker, the problems revealed by several of the more notorious incidents involving the use of lethal force against unarmed citizens that have captured the attention of the nation over the past several months require a national response because the problems identified are not isolated or limited to one region of the country.

For example, the death of 43 year-old Eric Garner resulting from the application of a NYPD police chokehold occurred in the Northeast and the death of 18-year-old Michael Brown and the resulting events in Ferguson occurred in the border state of Missouri.

The killing of 12 year-old Tamir Rice by a Cleveland police officer occurred in the Midwest and death of unarmed 26 year-old Jordan Baker by an off-duty Houston police officer occurred in Texas.

In Phoenix, Arizona, Romain Brisbon, an unarmed black father of four, was shot to death when a police officer allegedly mistook his bottle of pills for a gun.

In Pasadena, California, 19-year-old Kendrec McDade was chased and shot seven times by two police officers after a 911 caller falsely reported he had been robbed at gunpoint by two black men, neither of whom in fact was armed.

And, of course, on April 4, the conscience of the nation was shocked by the horrifying killing of 50-year-old Walter Scott by a North Charleston police officer in the southern state of South Carolina.

Mr. Speaker, while the problem is national in scope, it appears to affect disproportionately and adversely a particular demographic group: African American males.

Because all lives matter in our great nation, it is imperative that we in Congress act swiftly and decisively to focus much needed attention and resources on legislative proposals intended to address the problem of misuse of lethal force by law enforcement and to rebuild the public trust and confidence needed to ensure that law enforcement receive and maintain the support of the communities they serve and protect.

As Ranking Member of the Judiciary Committee’s Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations, I note that are several promising legislative criminal justice reform initiatives that have been introduced and are worthy of consideration.

Among them are H.R. 59, the “Build TRUST in Municipal Law Enforcement Act of 2015” (Rep. JACKSON LEE); H.R. 1459, the Democracy Restoration Act of 2015 (Rep. CONYERS); H.R. 1810, the “Collection and Analysis of Data to Educate and Train Law Enforcement Officers” (“CADET Act”); H.R. 920, the “Smarter Sentencing Act of 2015” (Rep. LABRADOR); and S. 675, the “Record Expungement Designed to Enhance Employment Act of 2015” (REDEEM Act) (Sens. PAUL and BOOKER).

Mr. Speaker, earlier this year FBI Director James Comey delivered a remarkable speech at Georgetown University in which he laid out several hard truths about the administration of

the criminal justice system and state of community policing in our country.

One of the hardest truths discussed by Director Comey is the fact we have limited information and inadequate data regarding the scope and extent of the problems endemic in the criminal justice system.

This lack of information hampers the ability of policymakers and administrators at the federal, state, and local level to identify and implement laws, policies, and practices to remedy identified problems.

The Judiciary Committee should immediately conduct hearings to educate the Congress and the public on the nature and extent of deficiencies in the nation’s criminal justice systems and the efficacy of proposed solutions.

Specifically, hearings should be held to investigate practices and policies governing:

1. the use of lethal force by state and local police departments;
2. educational requirements, mental health and psychological evaluations, and training in non-violent conflict resolution received by veteran law enforcement officers and new recruits; and
3. the feasibility and efficacy of making greater use of technological devices such as body cameras.

A fourth area to be explored is the state of the social science research in the academic study of criminal justice reform because there is much the Committee can learn by engaging leading experts in the field regarding the state of knowledge in their respective disciplines.

Mr. Speaker, reforming the criminal justice system so that it dispenses justice impartially and equally to all persons is one of the most important challenges facing this Congress.

And it is a goal that can be achieved if we work together in a spirit of goodwill and bipartisan cooperation.

There are few things we can do that will provide a greater service to our nation.

HONORING BRONXVILLE WOMEN’S CLUB 90TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 20, 2015

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, as Congressman for New York’s 16th District, I am always honored to have community groups working to better both their neighborhoods and the lives of those who live in them. For 90 years, the Bronxville Women’s Club (BWC) has done just that, serving the greater good in Bronxville and its surrounding area.

The BWC was founded in 1925, just as women’s clubs were popularized and forming all throughout Westchester County and the country. Born out of the suffrage movement, the club’s original mission has expanded over the years to include philanthropic work geared toward education and the arts, in addition to overall communal improvement. The organization’s stated mission of serving as a source

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and center for enrichment, and contributing to the community through philanthropic work and cultural projects, has made the BWC one of the preeminent community organizations in the entire county.

As the BWC celebrates its 90th Anniversary, it is also celebrating two incredible honorees; Lorraine Lange, recipient of the Woman of the Year Award, and Helen Marie Ringeisen, this year's Distinguished Cultural Leadership Award winner. Both of these women embody the spirit of the BWC, and are most deserving of this wonderful honor.

Although many of the post-suffrage movement women's clubs closed, the BWC has thrived, and is often referred to around Bronxville as "the best kept secret in town." Their success is a testament to their leadership, their members, and all of the incredible work they've done. I am proud to represent such a remarkable club and I wish them another 90 years of amazing success and achievement.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, April 21, 2015 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's record.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

APRIL 22

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Vanessa Lorraine Allen Sutherland, of Virginia, to be a Member and Chairperson of the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board.

SD-406

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine State Department reauthorization, focusing on ensuring effective United States diplomacy within a reasonable budget.

SD-419

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine securing the border, focusing on understanding threats and strategies for the northern border.

SD-342

10 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2016 for the Department of Transportation.

SD-138

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine how to better communicate weather to enhance commerce and safety.

SR-253

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine reauthorization of and potential reforms to the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

SD-366

10:30 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Department of Defense

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2016 for defense innovation and research.

SD-192

10:45 a.m.

Committee on Finance

Business meeting to consider S. 995, to establish congressional trade negotiating objectives and enhanced consultation requirements for trade negotiations, to provide for consideration of trade agreements, an original bill relating to extension of the trade adjustment assistance program, and amending the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend and modify the credit for health insurance costs of certain eligible individuals, an original bill to extend the African Growth and Opportunity Act, the Generalized System of Preferences, the preferential duty treatment program for Haiti, and an original bill to reauthorize trade facilitation and trade enforcement functions and activities.

SD-G50

2 p.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Department of Homeland Security

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2016 for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

SD-138

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Armed Services

Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support

To hold hearings to examine reform of the defense acquisition system in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2016 and the Future Years Defense Program.

SR-232A

Committee on Armed Services

Subcommittee on Strategic Forces

To hold hearings to examine Air Force and Navy nuclear programs and the implementation of nuclear enterprise review recommendations in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2016 and the Future Years Defense Program.

SR-222

Committee on Indian Affairs

To hold an oversight hearing on tribal transportation, focusing on pathways to safer roads in Indian country; to be immediately followed by a business meeting to consider S. 710, to reauthorize the Native American Housing As-

sistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996.

SD-628

3 p.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development

To hold hearings to examine the United States without nuclear power.

SD-192

APRIL 23

10 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2016 for the Department of Health and Human Services.

SD-124

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine surface transportation reauthorization, focusing on building on the successes of the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21) to deliver safe, efficient, and effective public transportation services and projects.

SD-538

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Subcommittee on Aviation Operations, Safety, and Security

To hold hearings to examine Federal Aviation Administration reauthorization, focusing on airport issues and infrastructure financing.

SR-253

Committee on Finance

Subcommittee on Health Care

To hold hearings to examine the impact of the medical device tax on jobs, innovation, and patients.

SD-215

Committee on Foreign Relations

Subcommittee on Africa and Global Health Policy

To hold hearings to examine the Africa Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA).

SD-419

Committee on the Judiciary

Business meeting to consider S. 993, to increase public safety by facilitating collaboration among the criminal justice, juvenile justice, veterans treatment services, mental health treatment, and substance abuse systems, and the nominations of Sally Quillian Yates, of Georgia, to be Deputy Attorney General, Department of Justice, Kara Farnandez Stoll, of Virginia, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Federal Circuit, and Roseann A. Ketchmark, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Missouri.

SD-226

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship

Business meeting to consider S. 552, to amend the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 to provide for increased limitations on leverage for multiple licenses under common control, S. 957, to increase access to capital for veteran entrepreneurs to help create jobs, S. 958, to amend the Small Business Act to provide for team and joint venture offers for certain contracts, S. 966, to extend the low-interest refinancing provisions under the Local Development Business Loan Program of the Small Business Administration, S. 967, to require the Small Business Administration to make information relating