

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

A TRIBUTE TO JOSEPHINE AJAYI

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, March 21, 2010

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Josephine Ajayi for her significant contributions to the nursing profession and her community.

Josephine Monilola Ajayi is a black American of Nigerian origin, born in Oshogbo, capital of the Oshun state of Nigeria. She had her primary and secondary education in Nigeria. She was trained and registered as a Grade 1 Midwife, and worked in this capacity in Nigeria for four years. She was married to David Ajayi, and later migrated to the United States to join him in 1973.

Josephine attended the New York City Community College and graduated with an Associate's degree in Nursing and became a Registered Nurse. She went on to earn a Bachelors of Science in Nursing from the Long Island University Brooklyn Center, from where she later earned the MS degree in Community Health and Healthcare Administration.

Currently Josephine is the Regional Clinical Manager for Queens at the Visiting Nurses Service (VNS) of NY Long Term Home Health Care Program. She joined the organization in 1993 as an Admissions Coordinator, moved up to Patient Service Manager and then Compliance Manager. Before joining the VNS, she practiced her profession of nursing in several other institutions including St. John's Episcopal Hospital, Lutheran Medical Center, Metropolitan Jewish Geriatric Center and Kingsbrook Jewish Medical Center where she held the Assistant Head Nurse position in the Rehabilitation Unit.

She is an active and devoted member of the Calvary First Nigerian Seventh-day Adventist Church. She has been a Church Board member and has held many positions in the church, including, Deaconess, Secretary/Clerk, Women Ministry Leader, Education Director, Youth Teacher, etc. She is a woman who loves God and strongly believes in the power of prayer. She is a Prayer Warrior.

She is blessed with five children, Temitayo, Olumide, Abimbola, Olubusayo (daughter-in-law) Olaoluwa and Atilola, all of whom are grown and independent. Outside of Nursing, Josephine is quite active. She belongs to Ipoti Ekiti Unity Club (IEUC) of New York, a cultural organization whose main goal is the betterment of the community the members came from, and she was recently the president of the club for five years. She also is a member of Nigerian Adventists in North America (NANA), an organization devoted to the spiritual, mental, physical and cultural well-being of its youth and older members. She is a member of the Africa Advisory Board of the Atlantic Union of Seventh-Day Adventist Church. She is a recipient of the Exemplary Leadership Award from the IEUCNY and the Ipoti community. Her hobbies include sewing, photography, shopping and cooking.

She is a woman who believes that "what is worth doing at all is worth doing well." She fully commits herself to any efforts she decides to pursue, be it in her private or public life, with the goal of making a difference for the better in the job environment and in the lives of consumers of her services. She is a person who does not believe in mediocrity. She learns details of her job and endeavors to produce excellence. She is generous and supportive of others and endeavors to make a difference in other people's lives.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the achievements of Josephine Ajayi.

A TRIBUTE TO BARBARA BIGGS GLOVER

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, March 21, 2010

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Barbara Biggs Glover, a leader in local business and professional organizations and a great asset to the Brooklyn community.

Barbara Biggs Glover is the daughter of Raymond R. Biggs, Sr. and Ruby E. Biggs, both deceased. She is the oldest of her siblings, four sisters and two brothers. Barbara grew up in Brownsville's Van Dyke Houses. Barbara is a graduate from PS 150, George Gershwin J.H.S. 166 and Prospect Heights H.S. She attended Pace University and New York Technical College.

Barbara was employed by New York Telephone Company 1968. She was an active Union Shop Steward in 1972 (CWA 1109) and 1986 (CWA 1101) and Chief Steward in 1995 for Communications Workers of America Local 1101. Barbara served as Vice President of the National Black Communication Coalition, NY chapter, a member of the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists. CWA 1109 and CWA 1101 Equity Committee, CWA Local 1101 Women's Committee, CWA International Minority Caucus, Co-Editor for the CWA Local 1101 Newspaper "The Generator" in 1995, National Council of Negro Women, Brooklyn Women's Coalition, and the Association of BellTel Retirees, Inc. In 2001 she retired from Verizon after 33 years of service as a Facilities Specialist and Chief Steward.

In 1982, Barbara joined the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc. (NANBPWC) as a member of the former East New York Club (ENYC), Barbara was elected President and became a Life Member in 1993. In 1995, Barbara became a member of the Brooklyn Club, NANBPWC, Inc. Barbara was appointed and serves as the Brooklyn Club's Liaison to Acorn Community High School. She is currently the President of the Brooklyn Club, NANBPWC, Inc.

Barbara is a Charter member of The Brooklyn Restoration Lions Club International, Dis-

trict 20-K1. She has served as Co-Chair of membership and currently serves as Chair of Membership and 20-K1 Brooklyn Chair of Lions Guest. She is the Vice President of the 300 Quincy Street Association and serves on the 79th Precinct Community Council, Inc., as an Outreach Coordinator and has received an Appreciation Award for Service in July 2008 and a member of the Community Board #3 Block and Civic Committee. The East New York United Concerned Citizens, Inc. presented Barbara with a Woman of Distinction Award on Saturday, October 27, 2009.

Barbara Biggs Glover is a member of Mt. Sinai Baptist Church. Faith and Family is the essence of a person. She is blessed to be happily married to James L. Glover; they have two beautiful daughters Jerrita Elydia Teel, Anissa Nicole Glover, son James Malik Glover and two handsome grandsons William Ameer Toland IV and Samuel Alexander Bivens III.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Barbara Biggs Glover.

A TRIBUTE TO ADUKE AREMU

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, March 21, 2010

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Aduke Aremu, an educator and writer whose work has helped children in Brooklyn and throughout the world.

Aduke Aremu was born in Brooklyn, New York where she graduated with honors from George W. Wingate High School. She received scholarships and awards to attend Hunter College where she graduated from with a Bachelor's Degree and Masters Degree in Education and Theatre. She received her degree in Education Administration and Supervision from the College of New Rochelle and a Ph.D. from New York University.

Her success as an educator and writer took her to Africa many times and eventually she received the loving name Aduke Aremu which she uses as an international writer along with her birth name Gwendolyn given to her by her parents.

Aduke Aremu worked for the Department of Education of New York City, the Department of Education of Connecticut and the Department of Education of Westchester County. During this 27 year period, she opened two innovative schools: The Star Academy was created and opened by Aduke in the South Bronx for Bi-Lingual Students and the International Arts Business School at Wingate High School. The International Arts Business School was the brain-child of Aduke Aremu and funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation in collaboration with the United Federation of Teachers and the New York City Board of Education. Aduke organized a committee of business people, political leaders, artists and community leaders to galvanize interest in this project which found a home as a small school

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

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

at Wingate High School. Ms. Aremu partnered with Ana Goldson-Walker who introduced the business community and bi-lingual educators and artists.

During the 27 year period as an educator and administrator she created and organized numerous children projects, productions and workshops to include innovative practices in education and progressive arts and reading programs.

For 20 years she created and administered the world renowned Harlem Children's Theatre, a not-for-profit education and arts organization that performed in Nigeria, Jamaica, Barbados, France, Spain, England, Bermuda and Germany.

This Education Theatre company was also a special guest of the Nigerian Government at Festac (an International Festival of the Arts) and the Jamaican and Barbados Consul General. In Jamaica and Barbados she organized education missions. In 1985 she formed two additional new education nonprofits for the children of Brooklyn: New Dove and the New York Youth Consortium, Inc.

Aduke Aremu is also a published writer whose children books were published by Gumbs and Thomas of New York, a book of poetry published in Germany and in Atlanta, Georgia and ten plays that have been produced at The Kennedy Center in Washington, DC, the Public Theatre by the late Joseph Papp, the Negro Ensemble Company by renowned Director Douglas Turner Ward, The Billie Holiday Theatre, Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, Carnegie Hall, The Brooklyn Academy of Music, Town Hall, and 42nd Street Theatre Row.

Aduke also received an Award from the Nigerian Government for her writings.

Aduke has studied education abroad and worked with educators, artists and writers in Ghana, Germany, Nigeria, Benin, Tanzania Kenya, Jamaica and Barbados.

Aduke Aremu has serviced as a consultant for NEA in Washington, DC, the New York State Council for the Arts, the Governor's Office of New York and the United Nations with the late Mrs. Andrew Young. Presently Aduke is the CEO of the International Public Relations and Fund Raising Company—Dove LLC of Atlanta, Georgia and New York City.

Aduke Aremu is married to Calvin Anderson of New Rochelle, New York and has an extended family of four young adults (Hakim, CJ, Mimi and Tricia).

Aduke Aremu owes her success to Jehovah-God and great mentors, family and friends especially Vivian Y. Bright, Ana Goldson-Walker of Brooklyn, New York and Dawn Alli of New Jersey. These ladies have served as mentors and positive role models for Aduke's life goals and accomplishments.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the achievements and contributions of Aduke Aremu.

A TRIBUTE TO ELLEN CARLISLE-SMITH

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, March 21, 2010

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Ellen Carlisle-Smith, a leader in education in New York City.

Since the beginning, it has been instilled in Ellen Carlisle-Smith, that the correct way to live your life is to do what is right. What was right for Ellen Carlisle-Smith was to achieve a valuable education; She attended public schools in Queens, New York. After high school graduation, Ellen registered for classes at the City College of New York for her Bachelor's in Elementary Education. Setting a new standard for educated women during this era, Ms. Carlisle-Smith received a Master's Degree in reading from Columbia University, followed by a Master's in early childhood education from City College of N.Y. Ellen was selected to participate in a special program in NY for aspiring supervisors. She accomplished her certification in administration and completed this advanced degree in Supervision and Administration from City College of N.Y.

Ellen values the teaching and learning process, and believes that education gives all a solid foundation that will promote high standards, knowledge and leadership for a better life. Growing up with the encouragement from her educated mother, Ellen remembers vividly how her mother instilled within her the everlasting value of a good education.

In Harlem in 1978, she began teaching third grade, then grades kindergarten, second and fourth for the next nine years. Her principal recognized her effectiveness as a classroom teacher and assigned her to a reading specialist to remediate struggling students in reading and writing. Ellen taught a total of sixteen years in her first Harlem school. In 1994, she was promoted to a Reading Coordinator's position in Brooklyn, NY.

Ellen briefly relocated to Texas in 1996 for six years where she had a valuable learning experience as a principal intern/assistant principal. She returned to NY in 2002 and was offered the Assistant Principal's position at P.S. 399 in Brooklyn, NY. This journey taken by Ellen Carlisle-Smith brings her to where she is today as Principal of Public School 6, Brooklyn, NY.

Ms. Carlisle-Smith's philosophy of education begins and ends with the belief that educators must value all children. From that, she feels responsible to ensure that students will be provided with a quality education that will develop their academic, social, and creative abilities. As Principal of P.S. 6, Ms. Carlisle-Smith is most proud of all students and staff. She greatly values how everyone works together and protects each other, all in the sake of unity and strength.

Throughout her career, Ellen has been recognized by her colleagues for her hard work and many achievements. In June of 1998 she was awarded a "Certificate of Achievement" from Plano, TX. When Ms. Carlisle was an Assistant Principal at P.S. 399, she was presented the "Performing Arts Award," in June 2004, April 2005 and April 2007. The NYS Education Department awarded her the Rapidly Improving Gap Closing Schools Award. Ellen was presented the City Council Citation Award in March 2009 for outstanding citizen for both community and the great City of New York.

Ellen's hobbies are reading, knitting, baking and gardening. She loves spending time with her two adult children, Tracey and Craig. Ellen has an identical twin sister, Emily. She is also a member of the Presbyterian Church of Saint Albans, Queens, N.Y.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the contributions of Ellen Carlisle-Smith.

A TRIBUTE TO MARIE LILY CERAT

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, March 21, 2010

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Marie Lily Cerat, for her service to the Brooklyn community, commitment to education and promotion of Haitian language and culture.

Marie Lily Cerat came to the United States in 1981, and made Brooklyn, New York her adopted home away from her native Haiti. She has been an educator with the New York Public education system for over eighteen years. At present, she works as a Resource Specialist with the Haitian Bilingual/ESL Technical Assistance Center (HABETAC) at Brooklyn College where she is responsible for planning and conducting professional development sessions for teachers working with Haitian English language learners in the public schools and Haitian parents. She is co-founder and Advisory Board member of Haitian Women for Haitian Refugees (HWHR), a thriving and respected community-based organization in Brooklyn. The organization was created by Ms. Cerat and Ninaj Raoul, in 1992, after the two returned from working with the U.S. Department of Justice as a Haitian Creole language specialist in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. They assisted in translation and other human services with the Haitians housed on the U.S. base after the 1991 coup d'état against President Jean-Bertrand Aristide in Haiti. At its beginning, HWHR provided English as a Second Language (ESL) and adult Literacy programs, but its services have since extended to advocating on behalf of Haitian refugees and immigrants, defending worker exploitation, and lobbying against anti-immigrant policy.

Cerat has huge interest in literature, writing and the arts, and is a doctoral student in the French Doctoral program at the CUNY Graduate Center where she will pursue a specialization in francophone literature and international human rights. She holds a master's degree in English/Creative Writing from the City College of New York and a bachelor's degree from the College for Human Services. The respect and promotion of Haitian language and culture, human and girls/women rights are among some of the issues she is most passionate about.

In 1997, she published a West African folktale, *Do Tóti*, *The Turtle's Back*, in Haitian Creole for children. She has written a commentary for National Public Radio, which was aired in 2001 as part of the Racism Conference in South Africa. Over the years, she has contributed writing to a publication on Haiti by the Network of Educators on the Americas (NECA), two biographical essays on Vodou are part of the 1998/2005 Ten Speed Press book, *Vodou: Visions and Voices* by the photographer Phyllis Galembo. She is a regular contributor to *Haiti Liberté*, a weekly Haitian newspaper in New York. Most recently, one of her short stories was selected to appear in an upcoming (2010) anthology by the Haitian-American writer/editor Edwidge

Danticat. Marie Lily Cerat is currently at work on a novel, *In the Light of Shooting Stars*.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Marie Lily Cerat.

A TRIBUTE TO BEVERLY COLLIER

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, March 21, 2010

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Beverly Collier, for her commitment to human services and her many contributions to her community.

Beverly Collier is the Director of the "My Turn Program" at Kingsborough Community College, in Brooklyn, NY. She is a native New Yorker and was raised in Queens, NY. She attended Baruch College, CUNY where she received a Masters in Business Administration and Management. Ms. Collier has a graduate certificate in Aging from Brookdale Center for Healthy Aging & Longevity of Hunter College (formerly Brookdale Center on Aging).

As the Director of the My Turn Program, Ms. Collier oversees the registration and advisement of the program's students, all of whom are over 60 years of age. The program allows senior citizens to take courses on a matriculating or non-matriculating basis, and currently has over 500 students enrolled in day and evening classes.

The majority of Ms. Collier's professional experience has been in human services, specifically providing services to elders and their families. Prior to joining Kingsborough Community College, she worked for Services for the Underserved as the Senior Vice President for Home Care Services for 23 years and played a critical role in the expansion of the Home Care division. In this position, Ms. Collier managed two home care agencies and a home modifications program for disabled individuals.

In addition to her administrative positions, Ms. Collier is an adjunct instructor in the Human Services Department at New York College of Technology in Brooklyn, NY where she has taught courses in the management of human service organizations and gerontology. She is also a workshop facilitator and has conducted a series of trainings in effective communication and management skills for the Research Foundation of CUNY in New York City and upstate New York.

Recently, Ms. Collier has combined her professional background in elder care with her personal experience as a care giver for her late mother, Ethel Collier, by developing and presenting trainings to professional and family care givers. She is passionate about the opportunity to share her caregiver story through helping others care for their loved ones.

In 2009, Ms. Collier was elected Chair of the Board of Directors for Unique People Services a non-profit organization providing services to individuals and families affected by developmental disabilities, mental illness and AIDS. She has also volunteered with the Speakers Bureau of the Medicare Rights Center and the Home Care Council of NYC.

Ms. Collier loves to travel and has been fortunate to visit Ghana, Nigeria, Jamaica, Argentina, Guyana, England and more. Her travel has mostly been for pleasure. In 1996, how-

ever she traveled to Argentina to deliver a presentation on hiring and training home care workers to health care professionals who were working to expand a similar program in their country. The trip was organized by the CUNY Consortium for the Study of Disabilities.

Ms. Collier lives in St. Albans and is the mother of two adult children; her daughter, Maia Rosser, is a social worker, and her son, Akunna Rosser, is a guidance counselor.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Beverly Collier.

A TRIBUTE TO AYLAN DAWKINS

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, March 21, 2010

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Aylan Dawkins for her continued dedication to the service of others.

Mrs. Aylan Dawkins was born and raised in the beautiful island of Trinidad. After several visits to the United States, she decided to relocate to New York in 1987. She is married to Paul Dawkins, who is a corrections officer. They have three loving children; Aisha, Darwin, and Devon. Aylan is also a proud grandmother to one grandchild named Ethan.

Mrs. Dawkins joined Interfaith Medical Center in 1996 and worked in the Home Care Department for 1 year. She was then transferred to the Finance Department and eventually moved on to the Chief Financial Officer's Department. At present, she is the Executive Assistant to the Chief Financial Officer.

In her capacity as Executive Assistant, Aylan represents the Finance Department on a number of committees set up by the institution including the annual ball which raises money for the hospital and honors outstanding members of the community. She also organizes the summer golf outing which has given the hospital visibility in the health industry.

Aylan became a Certified Nursing Assistant in 1997. She devotes her weekends to service at the Isabella Geriatric Center where she extends her recognizable compassion, patience, and understanding to the elderly.

She excels in customer satisfaction, team effort, and providing professionalism and courteous service with a smile at all times.

She is extremely hardworking and dedicated at work and at home. Mrs. Dawkins is a devoted religious woman and the rock of her family. She organizes yearly family picnics, summer events, and also enjoys cooking all her favorite dishes for her friends and family. Aylan Dawkins is certainly a dynamic woman.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the achievements of Aylan Dawkins.

A TRIBUTE TO HONORABLE THERESA FREEMAN

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, March 21, 2010

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Honorable Theresa Freeman for her commitment and years of service to New York.

The Honorable Theresa Freeman, State Committee Woman and District Leader of the 70th Assembly District, was born in Augusta, Georgia and has been a community activist in New York for over 30 years. For over 20 years, Theresa has advocated for the community of Harlem. From her days as a writer for the *Amsterdam News* to her current elected office of State Committee Woman District Leader, Theresa has fought for important issues in the community of Harlem such as job development, affordable housing, drug treatment programs and ex-offenders.

Theresa Freeman also worked at Reality House Inc. for thirty years as a Legal Specialist. After moving from Harlem to Long Island City, Queens; she became the Community Liaison because of her political connections. Reality House, Inc. is a program that services our Veterans and Community with dependency issues. Ms. Freeman is the President of New York City Chapter of the National Action Network founded by Dr. Reverend Sharpton. She also is a member of the Women's Auxiliary and Scholarship Fund under the leadership of Mrs. Kathy Jordan Sharpton. Ms. Freeman is a member of the Association of Black Social Workers, Advisory Board of the New York Coalition of 100 Black Women, Vice-President of the Uptown Dance Academy, The Adam Clayton Powell Jr. Memorial Committee and the New York Lawyers Association and many other prominent organizations. Ms. Freeman has been selfless in giving to the community, and has received numerous awards for her humanitarian achievements. She has earned recognition for her community devotion including the Sojourner Truth, Ms. Black Moses Award from the Mother AME Zion Church, and the Dazivedo Watson Community Service Award from Assembly Keith I.T. Wright of the Fred Samuel Democratic Club.

Theresa is a member of the St. James AME Church. She is a Silver Lifetime member of the NAACP, the Fred Samuel, and 504 Disability Democratic Clubs. Theresa is an active member of the Martin Luther King Club, West Harlem Democratic Club, and The African American Day Parade Committee. She is a spokesperson for the Renal Support Network.

Her motto is "with patience and hard work you can achieve your goals."

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Honorable Theresa Freeman.

A TRIBUTE TO CARON MARIE MARTIN CLOVIE

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, March 21, 2010

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Caron Marie Martin Clovie for her commitment to serve communities in need in Brooklyn.

Caron Marie Martin Clovie is the President and Founder of Sister, Sister In-Law. Sister, Sister In-Law began as a group which provided affirmation and bonding and has grown to a women's group whose mission is to mentor and lead the young women in our communities toward a positive and productive future. The organization encourages women to love

themselves and to love one another. The motto is designed to uplift and empower each other, it teaches that "A Sister Can't Fly With Just One Wing."

Caron Marie Martin Clovie was born on March 10, 1955 to Jessie and Lillie Martin. Her community roots begin in East New York Brooklyn, working for the neighborhood youth corps and the anti-poverty programs of East New York. Caron's focus was ensuring the safety and well being of the adolescents in the community. With a strong focus on females, she worked for the anti-poverty programs of East New York until called to work for the Health & Hospital Cooperation (HHC).

Health care became Caron's passion. In 1975 she worked for the East New York NFCC, a pilot program for a new way to administer health care to underprivileged families. After working hard at this facility she became a clerical supervisor in less than a year. The need for quality health care began to increase fast. A new site was built on Pitkin and Pennsylvania Avenue. The small facility became the East New York D&TC. Caron's career ride continued with HHC where she was hired to work for another new program called The Metro Plus Health Plan. This program was designed to ensure quality health care for all who needed it. Caron enjoyed this, her career met her passion as her job was to make sure that affordable quality care was available to the residents of East New York. Caron became field manager and was assigned to the Brooklyn North, where her team was responsible for the enrollment of more than 300 families in their first quarter.

In addition to planning Sister, Sister In-Law's annual 'Girls Summit' this May, Caron is currently working at Odyssey House in their adolescent facility for girls only. She is married to Robert Clovie and has raised two sons: Aaron and Jameek.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the work of Caron Marie Martin Clovie.

WHEN WILL AMERICA RECOVER?

HON. PETER HOEKSTRA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, March 21, 2010

Mr. HOEKSTRA. Madam Speaker, I submit the following.

WHEN WILL AMERICA RECOVER?

(By Hon. Nick Smith, former U.S. Representative (MI-07))

I just returned from speaking at several British universities on American politics and the economy. England, like the United States, has high unemployment and huge government debt. Many I spoke to believed that the current global economic mess is all our fault. In a sense, they are right. As the world's leading economy, our economic health affects everyone, especially trading partners like England. We are its largest trading and investment partners at \$400 billion last year.

The students were most interested in my opinion on how long it would take before America recovers economically. Some White House economists are predicting that we can fully recover from this recession in a year or two. As I told the students, however, it will take ten years or more to rebuild our economy—and then only if we can control spend-

ing. It's not just "the government" or even "the Democrats." All of us, government and consumers alike, have been living on borrowed money. Our national savings rate three years ago was a negative number. One bit of recent good news is that consumers have increased their estimated average individual savings rate to over five percent, which means less consumer spending in the short run but a stronger overall economy in the long run. The Government needs to do likewise.

But Congress not only continues to borrow, it is borrowing more than ever with no sign of stopping. Deficit spending, expected to hit \$1.5 trillion, is one third of the President's proposed budget. His budget projects huge deficits every year for the foreseeable future. Our debt, which is the sum of all historical deficits, now adds up to \$12 trillion. Interest on that debt consumes almost ten percent of federal spending. Without dramatic change the future will be much worse. Interest rates will be doubling and the unfunded liabilities (what we've promised to pay out in the future) for entitlements such as Medicare, Social Security, Medicaid and veteran's benefits adds up to another \$60 trillion debt—in today's dollars.

Reckless spending has mostly been driven by Congressmen currying favor with voters who demand ever more money and services from "the government" to solve their problems. But the government gets its money from current taxpayers and lenders. Who will repay these lenders? Future taxpayers. Each baby born in this country is instantly saddled with \$40,000 of government debt, not including interest.

And that does not include future deficit spending or the \$60 trillion in unfunded liabilities. We have ended up with a tax, borrow, and spend government that will handicap future generations. Ten years ago, our federal spending was 18% of GDP, 4 years ago it was 20%, and today it's over 24%. The dollar increase will have gone from \$1.8 trillion in 2000 to \$3.8 trillion in the President's budget. That is over 200 percent of spending ten years ago.

Washington's over-spending not only mortgages our children's future, it crowds out business and industry borrowing today, for research, expansion and ultimately jobs.

As alarming as these numbers are, even more worrisome is that our political and economic system is nearing a tipping point that, if reached, will change this country forever. Today 50% of voters pay less than 2% of the total income tax. These voters want the government to solve more of their problems, and why not? It's in their best interest to elect politicians who will spend more because they don't have to pay for it, and it's in politicians' best interest to vote for that spending to get reelected. Meanwhile, countries like Communist China, which has lent the United States nearly a trillion dollars, gains more and more influence in foreign affairs, literally at our expense.

The point is that we're close to losing our status as a strong economic power. That affects us, our children, England, and the rest of the world who rely on us for our leadership and for much of their own economic well being. It is in all of our interest to be more self sufficient, ask less of Washington and bring down government spending.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, March 21, 2010

Mr. ELLISON. Madam Speaker, on March 19, 2010, I inadvertently failed to vote on roll-

call No. 140. Had I worked, I would have voted "aye."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, March 21, 2010

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I was absent from the House floor during rollcall votes 141, 144, 145, 146 and 147. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on each rollcall vote.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, March 21, 2010

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Madam Speaker, due to an immediate family health situation, I was absent from vote for the afternoon of March 18, and absent from votes for March 19 and 20, 2010. Had I been present I would have voted: rollcall Nos. 128—"yes"; 129—"yes"; 130—"yes"; 131—"present"; 132—"yes"; 133—"yes"; 134—"yes"; 135—"yes"; 136—"yes"; 137—"yes"; 138—"yes"; 139—"yes"; 140—"yes"; 141—"no"; 142—"yes"; 143—"yes"; 144—"yes"; 145—"yes"; 146—"yes"; 147—"yes"; 148—"no"; 149—"yes"; 150—"yes"; 151—"yes"; 152—"yes"; 153—"yes" and 154—"yes".

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, March 21, 2010

Mr. ELLISON. Madam Speaker, on March 20, 2010, I was absent but had I been present, I would have voted "no" on rollcall Nos. 148 and 150; and I would have voted "yes" on rollcall Nos. 149, 151, 152, 153, and 154.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, March 21, 2010

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably delayed for votes in the House Chamber today. I would like the RECORD to show that, had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes 155 through 159.

HONORING THE APPOINTMENT OF JUSTICE CHARLES T. CANADY AS CHIEF JUSTICE TO THE FLORIDA SUPREME COURT

HON. ADAM H. PUTNAM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, March 21, 2010

Mr. PUTNAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a former member of this body,

Representative Charles T. Canady on the occasion of his appointment as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of Florida, marking a distinguished career in judicial and public service.

Justice Canady's steadfast commitment toward upholding the laws and principles on which our nation was founded will serve the people of the State of Florida well through his appointment as Chief Justice to the Florida Supreme Court.

During his tenure in the U.S. House of Representatives, Justice Canady served this nation and the people of the 12th Congressional District, which I now represent, with honor and distinction. He began his public service career as a member of Florida House of Representatives from 1984 to 1990. In 1992, Justice Canady was elected to the 103rd Congress and served four terms in the United States House of Representatives from January 1993 to January 2001.

Throughout his tenure in Congress, Justice Canady was an active member of the House Judiciary Committee. For three terms from January 1995 to January 2001, former Rep. Canady was the Chairman of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on the Constitution. In this capacity, his efforts toward protecting and defending the laws of our nation made a lasting mark not only on this body, but on the American people for whom we are called to serve.

Justice Canady kept his term limits pledge, and did not seek reelection to a fifth term in 2000. After leaving Congress, Justice Canady returned to the practice of law, acting as Legal Counsel to Florida Governor Jeb Bush. In

2002, Governor Bush appointed him to Florida's Second District Court of Appeals. On August 27, 2008, Governor Charlie Crist nominated Justice Canady to the Florida Supreme Court. His nomination was confirmed and Justice Canady took his seat as the 82nd Associate Justice to the Florida Supreme Court on September 8, 2008, and was sworn in through a formal investiture on December 3, 2008.

He began his distinguished career in judicial and public service upon earning a bachelor's degree from Haverford College and a juris doctorate degree from Yale Law School. Former Congressman Charles T. Canady is a resident of Lakeland, Florida, and is married to wife Jennifer and has two daughters, Julia and Anna. Charles T. Canady is the son of Charles and Delores Canady.

On behalf of the 12th Congressional District, it is honor to pay tribute to Justice Canady, as a former member of this body and one who has served his State and nation with honor and distinction, upon this appointment as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of Florida.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF STAFF AND CBO

HON. PAUL RYAN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, March 21, 2010

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Madam Speaker, for over a year, the Congressional Budget Of-

fice (CBO) has been working on literally a non-stop basis on this legislation.

Their objective non-partisan analysis is critical to us as we develop legislation. I want to thank Director Elmendorf and all at CBO for their service to Congress in providing analysis and budget estimates on this legislation.

In addition, we held a markup last week on Monday that ran until nearly midnight. The House Budget Committee staff and staff in my personal office spent last weekend, all this past week, and this weekend working on this legislation. I want to thank them for their work on this legislation. A list of the staff appears below.

HOUSE BUDGET COMMITTEE REPUBLICAN STAFF

Tim Flynn (Chief Economist); Chauncey Goss (Deputy Staff Director); Matt Hoffman (Legislative Director, Office of Congressman RYAN); Charlotte Ivancic (Counsel and Budget Analyst); Patrick L. Knudsen (Policy Director); Angela Kuck (Communications Director); John Gray (Budget Analyst); Jim Herz (Budget Analyst and Budget Review); Courtney Reinhard (Counsel and Budget Analyst); Paul Restuccia (Chief Counsel and Budget Analyst); Jonathan Romito (Budget Analyst and Executive Assistant); Austin Smythe (Staff Director); Conor Sweeney (Deputy Communications Director); Dennis Teti (Senior Advisor); Dana Wade (Budget Analyst); and Ted McCann (Budget Analyst).