

RECOGNITION OF PASTOR
LEONARD P. BUELOW

HON. MARK GREEN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 7, 2005

Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize before this House Pastor Leonard P. Buelow in observance of his 50th year in active ministry. Pastor Buelow's service and commitment to his congregations over the last 50 years has been both admirable and inspirational. He continues to serve his parishioners with the same dedication and enthusiasm as he did when he was first ordained.

Pastor Buelow began his career in the Christian ministry by attending and graduating from Concordia Seminary in Springfield, IL, in 1954. He was ordained on September 11, 1955, and went on to serve the congregation of St. James Lutheran Church of Shawano, WI, until 1965. Then, from 1965 to 1992, Pastor Buelow led the congregation of the Redeemer Lutheran Church of Green Bay, WI. Following his service at Redeemer Lutheran, he went on to found Christ the King Evangelical Lutheran Church in Green Bay, WI, where he continues to serve as their full-time minister. During his tenure with these congregations, Pastor Buelow has earned the reputation of being a true leader of the church and a tireless servant of God.

Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize Pastor Leonard P. Buelow for his years of dedicated service to the church and his congregation. His guidance and compassion will continue to be cherished for many years to come.

EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL AP-
PROPRIATIONS ACT TO MEET IM-
MEDIATE NEEDS ARISING FROM
THE CONSEQUENCES OF HURRI-
CANE KATRINA, 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 2, 2005

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, my heart and my prayers go out to all those caught in the path of Hurricane Katrina and the conditions they are suffering in its wake. Katrina was a hurricane of biblical proportions that has left thousands of people without food, clean water, shelter and medicine, particularly those people stranded in New Orleans where conditions are absolutely unlivable and public safety is virtually nonexistent. They have waited for days hoping for at least some sort of information about when they might get to escape their ravaged city and where they will go next.

With the chaos and looting that has ensued in New Orleans, it is critical that our government get in there and provide the necessary relief—not tomorrow, not next week, but right now. People are dying on the streets; the President and the Federal Government cannot afford to waste another minute.

It is inexcusable that the President and his administration did not act more swiftly to provide the basic necessities of survival to the

victims, nor did they act swiftly to ensure the City's public safety. As the richest nation in the world and the world's only superpower, we ought to be ashamed. With so many troops abroad in Iraq attempting to secure a whole nation, it is inexcusable that we cannot secure one city on our own shores.

That is why I am pleased that Congress acted quickly today to pass legislation providing \$10.5 billion in emergency funds for the relief and recovery from Hurricane Katrina. The Supplemental Appropriations Act will deliver \$10 billion in emergency aid for FEMA and \$500 million for the Department of Defense.

However, this is only a down payment. FEMA is currently spending \$500 million a day and under this scenario, the \$10 billion for FEMA will provide only another 20 days as they continue to assess the needs of the devastated communities.

It could take months for families to find homes and establish some sort of normalcy in their day-to-day life, and I call on the President and the Federal Government to remain committed to helping people rebuild their lives.

Each of us has in some way been personally touched by this horrific tragedy. For my wife Dianne and I, it was waiting for our youngest son, Evan, to make his way to our house after escaping the disaster of New Orleans. We were further touched as we learned that a family member of a parishioner at the Church I pastor, St. James United Methodist, was given refuge by a kind elderly couple after being stranded in a home surrounded by water. Fortunately, the Coast Guard rescued them all on Sunday morning. All of us have a duty to reach out to those in greatest need.

Americans will stand strong together to help our brothers and sisters in their time of dire need, and the Kansas City area is no exception. Children's Mercy Hospital has already opened their doors to twenty-four sick children and their families flown in from New Orleans by the Missouri Air National Guard, and the Red Cross has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars from Kansas Citians. The outpouring of support from across the country has been phenomenal, and I am confident that our citizens will remain resolute until the job is done.

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SPEECH OF

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 2, 2005

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, last Monday, August 29th, Hurricane Katrina hit Louisiana and Mississippi as a Category 4 storm, with winds of over 140 miles per hour. We all know the aftermath of that terrible storm: thousands dead, more than a million refugees, billions of dollars in damage, and a major American city rendered uninhabitable. The greatest tragedy of all is that, for the most part, this could have been avoided.

The President told us that he didn't "think anyone anticipated the breach of the levees," a misinformed statement at best. New Orleans

is the only major American city below sea level, and the Federal Government was well aware of the flooding threat to the city in the event of a hurricane. Just last July, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) conducted a five-day hurricane exercise simulating the effects that a powerful storm would have on New Orleans. During the apocalyptic simulation, 120 mile per hour wind gusts and 20 inches of rain combined to top the levees, forcing the evacuation of more than one million residents.

Yet despite the lessons learned from that exercise the Bush administration stunningly neglected to heed the threat.

The President slashed funding for the Southeast Louisiana Urban Flood Control Project (SELA), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' project to control flooding in the New Orleans area, to \$10.4 million, one-sixth of what local officials had said they needed. Funding for Army Corps projects have been cut across the board for the last few years by this administration and this Congress, whose reckless tax-cutting, combined with funding cuts and National Guard deployments to Iraq, have sharply increased vulnerability to natural disaster in this country. It is worth noting that more than 7,000 soldiers from the Louisiana and Mississippi National Guard are stationed in Iraq, including more than 3,000 from the 256th Brigade Combat Team based in New Orleans.

Even as the hurricane was hitting land as a Category 4 storm, the administration failed to mobilize help. Dr. Max Mayfield, Director of the National Hurricane Center, said that both Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff and FEMA Director Mike Brown were made aware of the storm's potential in the days leading up to its landfall, yet it took until Friday, September 2nd, four days after the storm hit, for any meaningful National Guard presence to arrive to relieve the burden on local Guard units, bring about law and order, and ease suffering. The first 72 hours after a disaster are the most important in terms of saving lives, and this administration completely failed in that regard.

Sadly, the 200,000 or so people who did not evacuate the city in time were overwhelmingly those who were too poor, old, or sick to leave. It is they who have suffered the most from the gross Federal Government incompetence before, during, and after the storm.

HONORING WILLIAM THOMAS
"KETER" BETTS

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 7, 2005

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, Mr. CONYERS and I rise today to honor the extraordinary life and achievements of one of the great artistic voices of our time, William Thomas "Keter" Betts of Silver Spring, Maryland. A legend in the world of jazz for over 50 years, Keter was not only a bassist of incomparable talent, but an original artist, devoted teacher, and wonderful friend. He passed away in Maryland on August 6, 2005 at the age of 77.

Keter Betts was born in 1928 in Port Chester, New York. He discovered music as a child when one day, while running an errand for his