

deemed her as a perfect fit as the center's supervisor. On July 1, 1982, Ms. Chamblee transitioned into the center supervisor role, and on October 17, 1982, the center opened under her care and guidance.

Virginia Chamblee established programs that have become senior center traditions. In the first week of the center's opening, the Monday Night Dance was established where it has continued to this day. Likewise, the Christmas Luncheon began in 1982 and has developed into one of the largest North Texas senior community pot luck lunches. Another notable tradition from the opening year was the weekly jam sessions, which began as music lessons but developed into a community orchestra of nearly 20 members.

Virginia Chamblee has spent the majority her life serving her community. Throughout her distinguished career, she has been a dedicated and conscientious employee who has always championed seniors. She is known for her kindness, gentle spirit, and willingness to listen to any problem and extend a helping hand.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 24th Congressional District of Texas, I ask all my distinguished colleagues to join me in honoring Virginia Chamblee for her 40 years of public service with the City of Bedford.

RECOGNITION OF EMPLOYEES OF THE OFFICERS AND THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES WITH 25 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE HOUSE AND RECIPIENTS OF THE HOUSE EMPLOYEE EXCELLENCE AWARD

HON. DANIEL E. LUNGEN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize outstanding employees of the Officers (Clerk of the House, Sergeant at Arms, and Chief Administrative Officer) and the Inspector General of the U.S. House of Representatives who have reached the milestone of 25 years of service to the U.S. House of Representatives, as well as the recipients of the House Employee Excellence Award.

The House's most important asset is its dedicated and exceptional employees, whose work, often behind the scenes, is vital in keeping the operations and services of the House running smoothly and efficiently. The employees we recognize today are acknowledged and commended for their hard work, dedication, professionalism, support of House Members, their staffs and constituents, and for their contributions day-in and day-out to the overall operations of the House. These employees have a wide range of responsibilities that support the legislative process, ensure the security of the institution, maintain our technology and service infrastructure, and contribute to a more effective and efficiently operating House support structure. They have accomplished many great things in a wide range of activities, and the House of Representatives and its Members, staff, and the general public, are better served because of them.

We honor the individuals named below for 25 years of dedicated service to the House.

Collectively, this group has provided four hundred and twenty-five (425) years of service to the U.S. House of Representatives:

Kevin M. Allison, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer

Harold Blakney, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer

Thomas H. Blatnik, Office of the Sergeant at Arms

Clarence G. Butler, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer

David Carreiro, Office of the Clerk

Darren Dahlstrom, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer

Scott Derrick, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer

Kelda Y. Dunklin, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer

Wesley D. Jones, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer

Kent Kahler, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer

Kevin S. Kelley, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer

Ronald M. Mullvain, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer

Sandra Q. Pilkerton, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer

Deborah M. Robertson, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer

Joe T. Taylor, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer

Kimberly von Harders, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer

Richard E. Wright, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer

We also recognize and congratulate four House employees for receiving the Employee Excellence Award. This is a merit-based award, given to one employee from each House Officer organization, and the Office of Inspector General. Selected employees exhibited outstanding overall job performance and displayed a willingness to go above and beyond the call of duty throughout the last year. We honor the individuals named below for receiving this prestigious award.

Monica Barnabae, Paige Beatty, and The HRCCC Staff, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer

Stefan J. Bieret, Office of the Sergeant at Arms

Charles M. McGee, Office of the Clerk

Joseph C. Picolla, Office of Inspector General

On behalf of the entire House community, I extend congratulations and once again recognize and thank these employees for their professionalism and commitment to the U.S. House of Representatives as a whole, and in particular to their respective House Officers and the Inspector General. Their long hours and hard work are invaluable, and their years of unwavering service, dedication, and commitment to the House set an example for their colleagues and other employees who will follow in their footsteps. I celebrate our honorees, and I am proud to stand before you and the nation on their behalf to recognize the importance of their public service.

NATIONAL SECURITY AND JOB PROTECTION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2012

Ms. McCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, I rise in opposition to the so-called National Security and Jobs Protection Act. This legislation is another attempt by House Republicans to force severe spending cuts that would harm middle class families, while protecting tax breaks for millionaires.

This bill is an election year talking point, not a genuine solution to preventing massive across-the-board budget cuts looming in January 2013. The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office determined this legislation would do nothing to prevent budget sequestration. H.R. 6365 cannot take effect unless a separate bill implementing the policies of the House Republican Budget becomes law. The House Republican Budget turns Medicare into a voucher program, runs deficits for 29 years, provides trillions of dollars in additional tax cuts to millionaires and billionaires, and forces layoffs for thousands of police officers, firefighters, and teachers. President Obama and the Democratic Senate would never impose such a radical and destructive plan on America's families and communities.

The American people should be thankful H.R. 6365 will never become law, since it embodies the same flawed policies as the House Republican Fiscal Year 2013 Budget Resolution. It seeks to replace the budget sequester House Republicans originally supported with cuts to America's women, children, seniors, and middle class families. H.R. 6365 insulates the Defense Department from spending reductions even though the Pentagon's budget doubled over the past decade and the war in Iraq is over. H.R. 6365 refuses to ask millionaires and billionaires to share the sacrifices it demands of middle class families.

The budget sequester must be prevented from taking effect. House Democrats are ready to compromise and vote to replace the sequester with a balanced deficit reduction plan that includes a combination of spending reductions and revenue increases. Every mainstream economist agrees this is the only approach that will reduce long-term deficits and avoid plunging the economy back into recession. Regrettably, the bill on the floor today chooses ideology over compromise and prolongs the wait for the solutions our economy needs to grow and create jobs.

I urge my colleagues to oppose H.R. 6365.

HONORING CARLA LAEMMLE ON HER 103RD BIRTHDAY

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to rise in recognition of Carla Laemmle on the occasion of her 103rd birthday.

Carla is the niece of Carl Laemmle, who founded Universal Studios. She grew up on the Universal Studios lot in the early days of