

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

FULL-YEAR CONTINUING  
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2011

SPEECH OF

**HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 16, 2011*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1) making appropriations for the Department of Defense and the other departments and agencies of the Government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2011, and for other purposes:

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Chair, I rise today in strong opposition to any cuts to the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program, or LIHEAP, in this misguided Republican CR.

Mr. Chair, cutting LIHEAP would literally leave thousands of families and seniors in the cold.

My constituents in the 3rd congressional district and people across the country, are experiencing one of the coldest winters on record.

The number of households served by LIHEAP has skyrocketed in recent years, jumping from 5.8 million in fiscal year 2008 to a projected 8.9 million in fiscal year 2011.

In just this year alone, Massachusetts expects to see a 21 percent increase in the number of eligible applications.

And, to make matters worse, the cost of home heating oil continues to go up this winter. Since November, the cost of heating oil has gone from \$3.11 to \$3.58 a gallon.

This means that the average family living in New England is now paying about \$30 more for home heating than they initially expected at the start of this winter.

It is unconscionable that we would even consider cutting heating assistance at a time like this.

My Republican colleagues seem to have no problem supporting tax breaks for millionaires and billionaires but, when it comes to families and seniors struggling to heat their homes, they have no problem saying "so be it."

I understand that we need to reduce our deficit and long-term debt but doing so by literally leaving thousands of Americans out in the cold is exactly the wrong approach.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to oppose cuts to LIHEAP and oppose this CR.

FULL-YEAR CONTINUING  
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2011

SPEECH OF

**HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 16, 2011*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1) making appropriations for the Department of Defense and

the other departments and agencies of the Government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2011, and for other purposes:

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to this amendment.

NEA funding is an investment in the arts, but it's also an investment in communities and jobs. The arts have an incredible ability to enrich our communities and strengthen our cultural diversity, while positively impacting local economies and spurring billions in economic activity.

A strong arts sector is an economic engine that stimulates businesses, generating \$166.2 billion annually in economic activity, supports 5.7 million full-time jobs, and returns \$12.6 billion in Federal income taxes.

The NEA provides grants to communities across the country, supporting our national progress and scholarship in the arts. For each Federal dollar spent on the arts, it creates 9 dollars in economic activity for local communities.

The arts creates jobs in every Congressional District across the country. In Representative GARRETT's district alone, there are 2,042 arts-related businesses that employ 8,473 people, according to Americans for the Arts. And yet, Representative GARRETT is proposing to completely eliminate funding for the NEA, which will threaten jobs and businesses in his district.

The arts also generates tourism revenue. Arts audiences spend more than \$100 billion annually boosting local economies. Every year, 78-percent of U.S. travelers take arts and heritage trips with their families, contributing more than \$192 billion annually to the U.S. economy.

In my district, the 28th District of New York, we have impressive institutions that attract tourists from far and wide, like the Shea's Performing Arts Center in Buffalo and the Memorial Art Gallery in Rochester.

Americans embrace the arts on a personal level. Both military and civilian populations have long relied on the arts for inspiration, to raise morale, to fight anxiety, and to express our democratic values.

This amendment represents the Republicans' commitment to killing jobs and stifling economic activity. It's flawed ideas like this one that have created zero jobs with a Republican Majority.

I strongly urge my colleagues to oppose this job killing, economy stifling amendment.

HONORING DR. USHA VARANASI  
ON THE OCCASION OF HER RE-  
TIREMENT**HON. JIM McDERMOTT**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 17, 2011*

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to offer special recognition to my constituent, Doctor Usha Varanasi, on the occasion of her

retirement as the Science and Research Director of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Northwest Fisheries Science Center, a position Dr. Varanasi has held since 1994, when she became the first woman to lead a National Marine Fisheries Service Science Center.

During Dr. Varanasi's 35 years of federal service as a research chemist and marine scientist, the Northwest Fisheries Science Center has made potent advances in the fields of ecotoxicology, molecular biology, genetics, and microbiology. Dr. Varanasi's multidisciplinary approach has produced innovative research and established the Center as a high-performing and internationally-renowned research institution. Throughout her remarkable career, Dr. Varanasi has furthered science and technology essential to wise fisheries management and marine resource preservation.

Dr. Varanasi began her career at NOAA pursuing breakthrough research on the effects of chemical contamination on marine organisms. Dr. Varanasi's research revolutionized the field. Her work led to the development of techniques to assess the impacts of oil-related pollution on fisheries resources. As a result, Dr. Varanasi and her team provided invaluable seafood safety evaluation during the Exxon Valdez oil spill, Hurricane Katrina, and the Deepwater Horizon oil spill.

Dr. Varanasi's research is recognized nationally and internationally. She has authored more than 150 peer-reviewed articles in journals including *Nature* and *Science*. She has edited two acclaimed books and her seafood safety editorial, *The Seafood "Dilemma"—A Way Forward*, has influenced policymakers broadly.

Dr. Varanasi's ongoing efforts have ensured that the Center's science is of the highest quality, providing the scientific underpinning for complex decisions that guide management of the Nation's marine resources. From careful monitoring of the West Coast ground fishery, to salmon recovery, to protection of the endangered Southern Resident Killer Whales, and, finally, to crucial regional ocean governance structures, Dr. Varanasi has led the way. Her foresight and dedication have made possible new collaborations and effective partnerships that changed the way we approach fisheries management and marine resources preservation.

A generous colleague and mentor, Dr. Varanasi has served for many years on the faculties of Seattle University and the University of Washington. She has been instrumental in helping countless students to understand that the wisest policies come from the best science.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Varanasi's remarkable career has advanced substantially our understanding of marine life and its vital connections to our own existence. Her legacy of leadership and breakthrough research will inspire students, scientists, researchers, and policymakers for decades. I extend to Dr. Varanasi my congratulations on her outstanding

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