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House of Representatives

The House met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CUELLAR).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
July 13, 2010.

I hereby appoint the Honorable HENRY CUELLAR to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

Lord God without beginning or end, in the passing scene of life, help the Members of Congress to keep focused on the public trust they have been given.

May they make just and prudent decisions that will strengthen this Nation in its constitutional integrity and bring peace and prosperity in our day.

With Your blessing, may each moment of this session of Congress be dedicated to justice, and may our public service give You glory, both now and forever.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. FOXX led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, July 13, 2010.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
The Speaker, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on July 13, 2010 at 11:28 a.m.:

That the Senate passed S. 2872.

That the Senate agreed to without amendment H. Con. Res. 289.

Appointments:

National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

LORRAINE C. MILLER.

By Robert F. Reeves, Deputy Clerk.

TOWN HALL MEETINGS ACROSS SOUTH CAROLINA'S SECOND DISTRICT

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, over the last week, I have held six town hall meetings all across South Carolina's Second Congressional District focused on job creation and Washington's reckless spending habits. Residents in Aiken, Barnwell, Richland, Lexington, Orangeburg, Varnville, and Bluffton came out to express their concerns and hear the opinions of their neighbors.

Mr. Speaker, the message I bring back from South Carolina's Second District residents is simple: stop this out-of-control spending and pass job creation policies that incentivize small businesses to create jobs and families to invest.

People are concerned. They are concerned about their family's economic future. They are concerned about the enormous debt being imposed on our children and grandchildren.

I encourage residents who couldn't attend to take advantage of two new interactive forums designed to give Americans a voice in Congress to share policy solutions: AmericaSpeakingOut.com and YouCut.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September 11th in the global war on terrorism.

PRAISING BRIDGESTONE AIRCRAFT TIRE IN ROCKINGHAM COUNTY

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I had the honor to visit a North Carolina business success story last week. Bridgestone Aircraft Tire, located in Rockingham County, came to North Carolina in 2007 from Miami when their Miami manufacturing facility was taken in an eminent domain proceeding.

Bridgestone brought about 70 new jobs to the community as well as what they call its United Nations of employees. The Bridgestone employees hail from not just Rockingham but around the globe, including Colombia, Venezuela, Jamaica, Singapore, Japan, Haiti, and Honduras.

Printed on recycled paper.

Best of all, Bridgestone and its employees have been active participants in the community. Plant employees volunteer their time, recently helping to restore the local Mayo River Park to become the newest State park in North Carolina, as well as supporting local youth sports, United Way, Salvation Army, and a local charity for non-insured cancer patients.

Mr. Speaker, this facility and its dedicated, hardworking employees are truly a tremendous asset to North Carolina.

AMERICANS ARE ANGRY AT THE MEDIA

(Mr. SMITH of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, two-thirds of Americans say they are ''angry'' at the national media, according to a new Rasmussen public opinion poll. The poll suggests that Americans are angry because of the national media's clear liberal bias.

By a margin of more than 3–1, Americans say the average reporter is more liberal than they are, rather than more conservative. By almost the same margin, Americans think reporters are trying to help President Obama pass his agenda. Seven in 10 say most reporters try to help the candidate they want to win. And a majority think employees would hide information that might hurt a candidate they wanted to win.

Americans will continue to be angry until the national media report the facts and stop telling the American people what to think.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken after 6 p.m. today.

SUGAR LOAF FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT LAND EXCHANGE ACT

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3923) to provide for the exchange of certain land located in the Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forests in the State of Colorado, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3923

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Sugar Loaf Fire Protection District Land Exchange Act''.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) DISTRICT.—The term ''District'' means the Sugar Loaf Fire Protection District of Boulder, Colorado.

(2) FEDERAL LAND.—The term ''Federal land'' means—

(A) the parcel of approximately 1.52 acres of land in the National Forest that is generally depicted on the map numbered 1, entitled ''Sugarloaf Fire Protection District Proposed Land Exchange'', and dated November 12, 2009; and

(B) the parcel of approximately 3.56 acres of land in the National Forest that is generally depicted on the map numbered 2, entitled ''Sugarloaf Fire Protection District Proposed Land Exchange'', and dated November 12, 2009.

(3) NATIONAL FOREST.—The term ''National Forest'' means the Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forests located in the State of Colorado.

(4) NON-FEDERAL LAND.—The term ''non-Federal land'' means the parcel of approximately 5.17 acres of non-Federal land in unincorporated Boulder County, Colorado, that is generally depicted on the map numbered 3, entitled ''Sugarloaf Fire Protection District Proposed Land Exchange'', and dated November 12, 2009.

(5) SECRETARY.—The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of Agriculture.

SEC. 3. LAND EXCHANGE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the provisions of this Act, if the District offers to convey to the Secretary all right, title, and interest of the District in and to the non-Federal land, and the offer is acceptable to the Secretary—

(1) the Secretary shall accept the offer; and

(2) on receipt of acceptable title to the non-Federal land, the Secretary shall convey to the District all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the Federal land.

(b) APPLICABLE LAW.—Section 206 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1716) shall apply to the land exchange authorized under subsection (a), except that—

(1) the Secretary may accept a cash equalization payment in excess of 25 percent of the value of the Federal land; and

(2) as a condition of the land exchange under subsection (a), the District shall—

(A) pay each cost relating to any land surveys and appraisals of the Federal land and non-Federal land; and

(B) enter into an agreement with the Secretary that allocates any other administrative costs between the Secretary and the District.

(c) ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The land exchange under subsection (a) shall be subject to—

(1) valid existing rights; and

(2) any terms and conditions that the Secretary may require.

(d) TIME FOR COMPLETION OF LAND EXCHANGE.—It is the intent of Congress that the land exchange under subsection (a) shall be completed not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act.

(e) AUTHORITY OF SECRETARY TO CONDUCT SALE OF FEDERAL LAND.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In accordance with paragraph (2), if the land exchange under subsection (a) is not completed by the date that is 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary may offer to sell to the District the Federal land.

(2) VALUE OF FEDERAL LAND.—The Secretary may offer to sell to the District the Federal land for the fair market value of the Federal land.

(f) DISPOSITION OF PROCEEDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall deposit in the fund established under Public Law 90–171 (commonly known as the ''Sisk Act'') (16 U.S.C. 484a) any amount received by the Secretary as the result of—

(A) any cash equalization payment made under subsection (b); and

(B) any sale carried out under subsection (e).

(2) USE OF PROCEEDS.—Amounts deposited under paragraph (1) shall be available to the Secretary, without further appropriation and until expended, for the acquisition of land or interests in land in the National Forest.

(g) MANAGEMENT AND STATUS OF ACQUIRED LAND.—The non-Federal land acquired by the Secretary under this section shall be—

(1) added to, and administered as part of, the National Forest; and

(2) managed by the Secretary in accordance with—

(A) the Act of March 1, 1911 (commonly known as the ''Weeks Law'') (16 U.S.C. 480 et seq.); and

(B) any laws (including regulations) applicable to the National Forest.

(h) REVOCATION OF ORDERS; WITHDRAWAL.—

(1) REVOCATION OF ORDERS.—Any public order withdrawing the Federal land from entry, appropriation, or disposal under the public land laws is revoked to the extent necessary to permit the conveyance of the Federal land to the District.

(2) WITHDRAWAL.—On the date of enactment of this Act, if not already withdrawn or segregated from entry and appropriation under the public land laws (including the mining and mineral leasing laws) and the Geothermal Steam Act of 1970 (30 U.S.C. 1001 et seq.), the Federal land is withdrawn until the date of the conveyance of the Federal land to the District.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) and the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Guam.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Guam?

There was no objection.

Ms. BORDALLO. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3923 was introduced by our colleague from Colorado, Congressman JARED POLIS. Since 1967, the Forest Service has issued two special use permits to the Sugar Loaf Fire Protection District to own and operate two fire stations on National Forest System land.

The District would like to own the parcels of land on which the fire stations sit in order to build an area for firefighter training and bathroom facilities. Currently, the fire stations do not have running water because State and county regulations prohibit well and septic systems on public lands for private use.

The District would receive approximately 5 acres of Federal land on which the fire stations sit, and the Forest Service would receive land of equal value from the District. A specific inholding owned by the District has been identified for the exchange.

Mr. Speaker, we commend Congressman POLIS for his work on this bill, and we support passage of this measure.

I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1410

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, throughout the West there are communities struggling to provide basic services because of a limited tax base and a shortage of non-Federal lands to build infrastructure. The Sugar Loaf Fire District in Colorado has provided services to the surrounding National Forest area for years and is simply seeking a tiny parcel of land in order to make much-needed improvements in their facilities.

This commonsense land conveyance should have been handled administratively by the Forest Service. Something is not working right when cash-strapped fire districts who are providing incalculable benefits to Federal lands have to spend years and money they do not have to push for legislation for something that should be handled quickly and at the local level.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. POLIS).

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my bill, H.R. 3923, the Sugar Loaf Fire Protection District Land Exchange Act. This legislation is the result of a long-term effort by the Sugar Loaf Fire Protection District in Sugar Loaf, Colorado. This exchange will be of great benefit to those volunteer firefighters and the communities that they serve.

The Sugar Loaf Fire Protection District and the U.S. Forest Service have always worked closely with each other since the fire district's inception in 1967. The Sugar Loaf Fire Protection District volunteers are key first responders to both wild-land and residential fires as well as car accidents and health emergencies within the communities and the public lands that they serve.

In its fledgling start, the fire district's physical home was established in an existing building on U.S. Forest Service land through a special use permit. Three years later, a second building was constructed under another special use permit, both in important locations for accessibility to the few main roads in the mountainous areas. This bill today would exchange the small amount of Federal land on which these facilities exist with private land that has been purchased by the fire district for this transfer, land that is better suited for the scenic and recreational services of the local public lands.

While the U.S. Forest Service and these special use permits have been incredibly valuable during the over 40-year history of the fire district, it is now important that the fire district has the autonomy to better self-direct its future, invest, and ensure the modernization of its facilities.

Currently these buildings are without even the most basic amenities, like running water and restrooms, and their location on public land has precluded them from making modernizations. As the surrounding communities have grown considerably in the past few decades, these buildings have taken on added responsibility as community meeting centers, making it even more important that they be updated to accommodate this new rule, and this bill will allow for them to be updated and modernized.

I would like to thank Chairman RAHALL and Ranking Member HASTINGS, as well as Subcommittee Chairman GRIJALVA and the gentlewoman from Guam, for their hard work on this effort. It is an important measure for the local communities of my district, and I urge a ''yes'' vote on this measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentlewoman from Wyoming (Mrs. LUMMIS) will control the time.

There was no objection.

Mrs. LUMMIS. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I would like again to urge Members to support the bill.

I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3923, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

EXTENDING AUTHORIZATION FOR NATIONAL GREAT BLACKS IN WAX MUSEUM

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3967) to amend the National Great Black Americans Commemoration Act of 2004 to authorize appropriations through fiscal year 2015.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3967

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS THROUGH FISCAL YEAR 2015.

Section 3(c) of the National Great Black Americans Commemoration Act of 2004 is amended by striking ''2009'' and inserting ''2015''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) and the gentlewoman from Wyoming (Mrs. LUMMIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Guam.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Guam?

There was no objection.

Ms. BORDALLO. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3967, introduced in October of 2009 by our colleague Representative ELIJAH CUMMINGS, helps tell the story of the African American struggle for equality.

For the last quarter century, Doctors Joanne and Elmer Martin have worked tirelessly to create a safe, nurturing environment for Baltimore's youth. Through their work to build and fund the National Great Blacks in Wax Museum and the Justice Learning Center, they have created a unique opportunity to teach and connect with young people to tell the story of great African American leaders in the history of our United States of America.

H.R. 3967 amends the National Great Black Americans Commemoration Act of 2004 to extend authorization for Federal grant funding. Representative CUMMINGS is to be commended for his work on behalf of this outstanding education and outreach program.

Mr. Speaker, we support this legislation.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. LUMMIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3967 renews the authority to spend appropriations for the Great Blacks in Wax Museum in Baltimore, Maryland. A legislative hearing was held on this bill, but, unfortunately, the National Park Service did not provide us with any information about this program or the necessity to fund it. What we did learn is that this program will be funded and overseen through the Department of Justice, leaving us with even more questions, not the least of which is why this bill went through a public lands committee.

That being said, I am concerned that extending Federal spending at this time may not be appropriate until we can better understand how this program will be administered and what has been done in the last 6 years since it was originally authorized.

Finally, while I have no doubt that the Great Blacks in Wax Museum is a positive influence in the City of Baltimore, it is unclear why it is necessary to involve the Federal Government in the wax museum industry. This may be yet another highly illustrative example of why we are buried by overwhelming Federal debt.

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3967, which amends the National Great Black Americans Commemoration Act of 2004 to authorize appropriations through 2015. This important measure will extend a program that, for the last six

years, has helped educate the public about the contributions of major African American figures in American history.

I thank Chairmen RAHALL and CONYERS for their leadership in bringing this bill to the floor. I also thank the sponsor of this legislation, Congressman CUMMINGS, for recognizing the importance of continuing funding for this socially significant program that promotes cross-cultural awareness and appreciation.

Mr. Speaker, black Americans have served honorably in Congress, senior executive branch positions, the law, the judiciary, and many other fields. Black Americans have also had a massive and important impact on cultural life in the United States, from television and cinema to the performing and visual arts. Unfortunately, these contributions are not well known by many in the public and underrepresented in textbooks, history lessons, and, importantly, our nation's museums.

The National Great Black Americans Commemoration Act of 2004 authorized funds for the Great Blacks in Wax Museum, Inc., a museum based in Baltimore, Maryland that celebrates important black figures in American history through the medium of wax sculpture. With Congressional funding, the Great Blacks in Wax Museum has been able to further its mission of bringing recognition to black Americans who have had lasting impacts on our nation. The museum showcases black Americans such as Rosa Parks, Colin Powell, Frederick Douglas, Harriet Tubman, Jesse Owens, Ida B. Wells, and many others.

H.R. 3967 will allow this non-profit organization to continue educating the public about the importance of African Americans to the history of the United States and ensuring that American history does not favor one race or culture over another, but rather accurately reflects the intricate racial and cultural tapestry that defines American society. This mission is one that is, without question, worthy of our support.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 3967.

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3967, a bill to amend the National Great Black Americans Commemoration Act of 2004 to authorize appropriations through fiscal year 2015. The funds, approximately $5 million, would be used by the National Great Blacks in Wax Museum in order to build a Justice Learning Center. I would also like to commend my esteemed colleague, Representative ELIJAH CUMMINGS, for his dedication to the preservation of Black American history.

In 1983, Drs. Elmer and Joanne Martin opened the doors to the National Great Blacks in Wax Museum. It is the first wax museum of African-American history in the nation, and the first wax museum in Baltimore, Maryland. The facility was created to stimulate an interest in African-American history by revealing little-known and often neglected facts of history. The founders also sought to improve race relations by dispelling myths of racial inferiority and superiority, as well as use the figures of great leaders to inspire and uplift African Americans to reach their full potential.

In 2004, the National Great Black Americans Commemoration Act of 2004 was signed into law. The act directed the Attorney General to make grants available to the Great Blacks in Wax Museum, in part for building a Justice Learning Center, and also for carrying out programs relating to civil rights and juvenile justice. Though the legislation passed, no funds were distributed to the museum and the museum continues to operate on funding from private donors just as it has for the past 27 years. The Justice Learning Center will serve as another venue for the museum to educate and empower citizens with information relating to Black American history. H.R. 3967 gives this Congress an opportunity to support the museum in this project.

Mr. Speaker, fellow colleagues, it is imperative that we support this bill. Should we fail to pass this legislation and appropriate funds to the Great Blacks in Wax Museum, great Georgians like Andrew Bryan, founder of the first American black Baptist church, in Savannah, GA, and Julian Bond, a former civil rights leader, United States Congressman, and recent chairman of the NAACP, would go unnoticed and overlooked along with other African-American leaders. In addition to all of the war funding, foreign aid, and domestic agendas we support, I believe our goal should also be to preserve and maintain our rich history for our children and generations yet to come. I urge my colleagues to stand with me and support this legislation.

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3976, an act that seeks to amend the National Great Black Americans Commemoration Act of 2004 to authorize more appropriations through the fiscal year of 2015. I also want to thank my colleague, Representative ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS, for introducing this important legislation.

Today we acknowledge the success and importance of the Great Blacks in Wax Museum, Inc., and seek to provide it with appropriations. This bill will amend the National Great Black Americans Commemoration Act of 2004 to extend the authorization of appropriations for grants to the Great Blacks in Wax Museum, Inc., in Baltimore, Maryland, through 2015. This bill will also carry out programs related to civil rights and juvenile justice through the National Great Blacks in Wax Museum and Justice Learning Center.

The National Great Black Americans Commemoration Act of 2004 (Public Law 108–238, 118 Stat. 670–672) directs the Attorney General to make a grant to the Great Blacks in Wax Museum, Inc., in Baltimore, Maryland, to be used only for carrying out programs relating to civil rights and juvenile justice through the National Great Blacks in Wax Museum and Justice Learning Center. To receive a grant, the Great Blacks in Wax Museum, Inc., shall submit to the Attorney General a proposal for the use of the grant, which shall include detailed plans for such programs.

The founders of the museum outlined four specific areas that they meant for the museum to cover. First, according to a mission statement they wrote, the founders of the museum wanted the Great Blacks in Wax Museum to stimulate an interest in African-American history by revealing the little-known, often-neglected facts of history. Second, the museum was intended to use great leaders as role models to motivate youth to achieve. Third, the museum should improve race relations by dispelling myths of racial inferiority and superiority. Lastly, the museum supports and works in conjunction with other nonprofit, charitable organizations to seek to improve the social and economic status of African Americans.

The museum's goals are important to achieve in our society. It is important that we cherish and appreciate our history while looking to the future. In the process of this remembrance, we can work for a brighter future.

For the foregoing reasons, I stand with Representative ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS in support of this act.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mrs. LUMMIS. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I again urge Members to support this bill.

I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3967.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1420

COLONEL CHARLES YOUNG HOME STUDY ACT

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4514) to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study to determine the suitability and feasibility of designating the Colonel Charles Young Home in Xenia, Ohio as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4514

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Colonel Charles Young Home Study Act''.

SEC. 2. SPECIAL RESOURCE STUDY.

(a) STUDY.—The Secretary of the Interior (referred to in this Act as the ''Secretary''), in consultation with the Secretary of the Army, shall conduct a special resource study of the Colonel Charles Young Home, a National Historic Landmark in Xenia, Ohio (referred to in this Act as the ''Home'').

(b) CONTENTS.—In conducting the study under subsection (a), the Secretary shall—

(1) evaluate any architectural and archeological resources of the Home;

(2) determine the suitability and feasibility of designating the Home as a unit of the National Park System;

(3) consider other alternatives for preservation, protection, and interpretation of the Home by Federal, State, or local governmental entities or private and nonprofit organizations, including the use of shared management agreements with the Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park or specific units of that Park, such as the Paul Laurence Dunbar Home;

(4) consult with the Ohio Historical Society, Central State University, Wilberforce University, and other interested Federal, State, or local governmental entities, private and nonprofit organizations, or individuals; and

(5) identify cost estimates for any Federal acquisition, development, interpretation, operation, and maintenance associated with the alternatives considered under the study.

(c) APPLICABLE LAW.—The study required under subsection (a) shall be conducted in accordance with section 8 of Public Law 91–383 (16 U.S.C. 1a–5).

(d) REPORT.—Not later than 3 years after the date on which funds are first made available for the study under subsection (a), the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a report that contains—

(1) the results of the study under subsection (a); and

(2) any conclusions and recommendations of the Secretary.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) and the gentlewoman from Wyoming (Mrs. LUMMIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Guam.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Guam?

There was no objection.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4514, introduced by Congressman LACY CLAY of Missouri, directs the National Park Service to study the suitability and feasibility of designating the Colonel Charles Young Home in Xenia, Ohio, as a unit of the National Park System. Colonel Charles Young was a distinguished African American officer in the U.S. Army during the late 1800s and early 1900s and the first African American to hold the rank of colonel. Young is also credited with being the first African American national park superintendent, when, as commander of the 10th Calvary, he was sent to protect the newly established Sequoia National Park and General Grant National Park in California.

Through this study, the Park Service will thoroughly review the cultural and historical resources associated with the remarkable story of Colonel Young and determine how best to interpret his role in American history.

So, Mr. Speaker, I commend Congressman CLAY for his efforts to highlight the story of this great American, and I urge the House to support H.R. 4514.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. LUMMIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, this bill authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating the Colonel Charles Young Home in Xenia, Ohio, as a unit of the National Park Service. The bill also directs the Secretary to consider other initiatives for protection of the home and interpretation of the life and accomplishments of Colonel Young.

Colonel Young was the third African American to graduate from West Point and had a distinguished career in the U.S. Army from 1884 to 1922, including command of troops in the Spanish-American War. Colonel Young is also the first black to serve, in effect, as the superintendent of a national park, because he commanded the Army unit assigned to protect Sequoia National Park and General Grant National Park. Colonel Young served our country with great distinction, and I hope this study will help us find appropriate ways to honor his life.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I again urge Members to support the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4514, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

ROTA CULTURAL AND NATURAL RESOURCES STUDY ACT

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4686) to authorize the Secretary of Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating prehistoric, historic, and limestone forest sites on Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, as a unit of the National Park System, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4686

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; FINDINGS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the ''Rota Cultural and Natural Resources Study Act''.

(b) FINDINGS.—Congress finds as follows:

(1) The island of Rota was the only major island in the Mariana Islands to be spared the destruction and large scale land use changes brought about by World War II.

(2) The island of Rota has been described by professional archeologists as having the most numerous, most intact, and generally the most unique prehistoric sites of any of the islands of the Mariana Archipelago.

(3) The island of Rota contains remaining examples of what is known as the Latte Phase of the cultural tradition of the indigenous Chamorro people of the Mariana Islands. Latte stone houses are remnants of the ancient Chamorro culture.

(4) Four prehistoric sites are listed on the National Register of Historic Places: Monchon Archeological District (also known locally as Monchon Latte Stone Village), Taga Latte Stone Quarry, the Dugi Archeological Site that contains, latte stone structures, and the Chugai Pictograph Cave that contains examples of ancient Chamorro rock art. Alaguan Bay Ancient Village is another latte stone prehistoric site that is surrounded by tall-canopy limestone forest.

(5) In addition to prehistoric sites, the island of Rota boasts historic sites remaining from the Japanese period (1914–1945). Several of these sites are on the National Register of Historic Places: Nanyo Kohatsu Kabushiki Kaisha Sugar Mill, Japanese Coastal Defense Gun, and the Japanese Hospital.

(6) The island of Rota's natural resources are significant because of the extent and intact condition of its native limestone forest that provides habitat for several federally endangered listed species, the Mariana crow, and the Rota bridled white-eye birds, that are also native to the island of Rota. Three endangered plant species are also found on Rota and two are endemic to the island.

(7) Because of the significant cultural and natural resources listed above, on September 2005, the National Park Service, Pacific West Region, completed a preliminary resource assessment on the island of Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, which determined that the ''establishment of a unit of the national park system appear[ed] to be the best way to ensure the long term protection of Rota's most important cultural resources and its best examples of its native limestone forest.''.

SEC. 2. NPS STUDY OF SITES ON THE ISLAND OF ROTA, COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS.

(a) STUDY.—The Secretary of the Interior shall—

(1) carry out a study regarding the suitability and feasibility of designating prehistoric, historic, and limestone forest sites on the island of Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, as a unit of the National Park System; and

(2) consider management alternatives for the island of Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

(b) STUDY PROCESS AND COMPLETION.—Except as provided by subsection (c) of this section, section 8(c) of Public Law 91–383 (16 U.S.C. 1a–5(c)) shall apply to the conduct and completion of the study required by this section.

(c) SUBMISSION OF STUDY RESULTS.—Not later than 3 years after the date that funds are made available for this section, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a report describing the results of the study.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) and the gentlewoman from Wyoming (Mrs. LUMMIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Guam.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Guam?

There was no objection.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4686, introduced by Congressman SABLAN, directs the National Park Service to study the cultural and natural resources of the island of Rota in

the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The study will determine if those resources are suitable and feasible for addition to the National Park System.

Mr. Speaker, the NPS has already done a preliminary survey of the island and found some wonderful cultural resources and important natural features. The study authorized by H.R. 4686 will allow for a more complete examination of these resources and, just as importantly, provide for full public participation as the agency considers whether to recommend establishment of a park on Rota.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Congressman SABLAN for his diligence in pursuing this matter, and I urge the House to support H.R. 4686.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. LUMMIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, this bill authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating sites on Rota as a unit of the National Park System. With now almost 400 parks, our far-flung National Park System is already vast and, under this bill, will be extended further to include the island of Rota in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Rota's caves and prehistoric relics should be appropriately preserved and its limestone forests and sites commemorating the Japanese occupation properly managed. But it is a mistake to assume that designation as a national park is the only way or is always the best way to manage places that require special administration.

Although our good intentions adding to the park system are unlimited, our ability to pay for every conceivable new park is limited. And our ability to manage the upkeep of our existing parks is obviously in doubt. So I feel compelled to raise a note of caution about this and certain other bills that add to the already very long list of new park ideas awaiting evaluation by the National Park Service.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. AUSTRIA).

Mr. AUSTRIA. I thank the gentlewoman from Wyoming for yielding.

I rise in support of H.R. 4686, but also H.R. 4514, the Colonel Charles Young Home Study Act, the bill previously discussed.

Just to talk about the previous bill, if I may, the bill directs the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study of the Colonel Charles Young Home located in Xenia, Ohio, to determine if the home could be designated as a unit of the National Park Service. The Colonel Charles Young Home, built in 1859, is a national historic landmark and has been designated as the future site of the National Museum of African American Military History.

Colonel Charles Young was a distinguished officer and Buffalo soldier and the third African American to graduate from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. He served in the Army for 37 years, carrying out a variety of assignments throughout the U.S., Philippines, Haiti, Liberia, and Mexico. When forced into retirement—and this is very interesting—by the Army for medical reasons, Charles Young rode his horse 500 miles from his home in Wilberforce, Ohio, to Washington, DC, to prove he was fit for duty. And I can tell you I drove 8½ hours over the weekend—that same route. So that's a long way.

After petitioning the Secretary of War, Young was reinstated and promoted to full colonel, becoming the first African American to reach his rank by World War II. In addition to a distinguished military career, Colonel Young was also a professor of military science at Wilberforce University in Xenia, Ohio, and the first African American named as superintendent of a national park. Because of his immeasurable contributions Colonel Young has made to not only military history, but our American history, it's necessary we recognize his achievements by passing this legislation to determine if his home can be designated as a unit of the National Park Service.

I would like to thank Representative CLAY from Missouri for his help also on the bill. Again, I support both these bills. I thank the gentlewoman from Wyoming for yielding, and I strongly support, again, H.R. 4514.

□ 1430

Mrs. LUMMIS. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from the CNMI, Congressman SABLAN.

Mr. SABLAN. I would like to thank the distinguished Member from Guam, Chairwoman BORDALLO, for assisting us and managing the bill through today's session. I also want to thank Congressman RAÚL GRIJALVA, chairman on the Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands, and his staff for helping him bring this bill to the floor, and thank Natural Resources Chairman NICK RAHALL for moving this bill through the committee.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation means a lot to my constituents on Rota. I would like to add to the RECORD a letter of support for H.R. 4686 from the mayor of Rota, the Honorable Melchor A. Mendiola.

Mr. Speaker, it was residents of Rota who first asked me to explore the possibility of a national park on their island. H.R. 4686 does just that. It authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to determine whether the cultural, archaeological, historical, and natural resources of Rota are of national significance. If they are of national significance, the bill asks the Secretary to report to Congress on the feasibility and suitability of designating parts of Rota as a unit of our great national parks system.

At the hearing on this bill before Chairman GRIJALVA's subcommittee, Rota was represented by Teresita A. Santos, who is also Rota's representative in the Northern Mariana Islands House of Representatives. She described her island to the subcommittee. She spoke of the ancient Latte Stone Culture of the original Chamorro people at Mochan Village and Alaguan Bay Village and of the Taga quarry, where the ancients carved out the massive stones that held up their houses. She spoke of the Chugai Pictorial Cave where these same people left their drawings. She spoke of the remnant structures from the Japanese era of colonialism in the early 20th century, and she spoke of the unique limestone forests, home to rare and endangered bird and plant life which remain intact on parts of Rota; whereas, on other islands in the Northern Marianas, volcanic activity and the impact of modern-day humans have largely removed those forests.

Representative Santos also showed the subcommittee photographs of the places she was describing. The presentation was so powerful that one of the subcommittee members called Rota ''a jewel.'' I could not agree more. But this jewel needs protection.

As the Interior Department witness at the hearing noted, Rota is today at a crossroads. Development is bearing down. Just a few miles across the ocean, a massive buildup of U.S. military forces is about to commence on the island of Guam. That growth is bound to spill over to Rota as military families look for weekend getaways and the waters and beaches of Rota beckon.

The national park study offers the people of Rota an opportunity, I believe, to make some thoughtful decisions about what is truly important to preserve. The process of public input and discussion—that will be as much a part of the study as the cataloguing of natural and cultural resources—will help the people of Rota make these determinations. And if a park is recommended and one day designated by Congress, that clear definition of what most needs to be formally preserved will also allow development on the rest of Rota to proceed with more freedom.

It is the acknowledged goal of Rota to be a site for ecotourism, so no development there will be conducted in a way that would spoil the very character of the island that draws the ecotourist. In fact, the presence of a national park, which underscores the rarity and importance of the archaeological, historical, and natural resources I have described on Rota, would itself complement and enhance this goal of becoming an ecotourism destination.

It's a win-win. We can spur economic growth, create jobs, and increase protection of significant national treasures. But for any of this to occur requires, first, the study authorized by my bill. So let us take the first step today, and I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of H.R. 4686.

Northern Mariana Islands June 22, 2010.

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR,
MUNICIPALITY OF ROTA,

Hon. GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO SABLAN
U.S. House of Representatives, Washington DC

DEAR CONGRESSMAN SABLAN: Congratulations for getting the Rota National Park Study (H.R. 4686) approved by the U.S. House of Representatives Natural Resources Committee. It is an important step towards approval by the U.S. House of Representatives.

It is very important that a National Park in Rota be established as it would greatly enhance Rota's attraction as a tourist destination. It would also contribute significantly towards our overall economic development. As you pointed out, eco-tourism has been targeted as a most favorable type of tourism for Rota. A well planned and well structured national park would be the best avenue to develop Rota's eco-tourism potential. Please convey to the member of the U.S. Congress that the people of Rota support the establishment of a National Park in Rota.

On behalf of the people of Rota, I wish to thank you for your efforts and please do not hesitate to contact me should you need my assistance.

Sincerely,

MELCHOR A. MENDIOLA,
Mayor of Rota.

Ms. BORDALLO. I again urge the Members of Congress to support the bill.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4686, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The title was amended so as to read: ''A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating prehistoric, historic, and limestone forest sites on Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, as a unit of the National Park System.''.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SAN ANTONIO MISSIONS NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK LEASING AND BOUNDARY EXPANSION ACT OF 2010

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4438) to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to enter into an agreement to lease space from a nonprofit group or other government entity for a park headquarters at San Antonio Missions National Historical Park, to expand the boundary of the Park, to conduct a study of potential land acquisitions, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4438

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''San Antonio Missions National Historical Park Boundary Expansion Act of 2010''.

SEC. 2. PARK BOUNDARY STUDY.

Section 201 of Public Law 95–629 (16 U.S.C. 410ee) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (b), (c), (d), (e), and (f) as subsections (c), (e), (f), (g), and (h) respectively;

(2) by inserting after subsection (a) the following new subsection:

''(b)(1) The Secretary shall conduct a study of lands within Bexar and Wilson Counties, Texas, to identify lands that would be suitable for inclusion within the boundaries of the park. In conducting the study, the Secretary shall examine the natural, cultural, recreational, and scenic values and characteristics of lands within Bexar and Wilson Counties.

''(2) Not later than 3 years after the date funds are made available for the study under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a report on the findings, conclusions, and recommendations of the study.''; and

(3) by inserting after subsection (c) (as so redesignated) the following new subsection:

''(d) The Secretary may assign park employees to provide interpretive services, including visitor information and education, at facilities outside the boundary of the park.''.

SEC. 3. BOUNDARY EXPANSION.

Section 201(a) of Public Law 95–629 (16 U.S.C. 410ee(a)) is amended as follows:

(1) By striking ''In order'' and inserting the following: ''(1) In order''.

(2) By striking ''The park shall also'' and inserting the following:

''(2) The park shall also''.

(3) By striking ''After advising the'' and inserting the following:

''(4) After advising the''.

(4) By inserting after paragraph (2) (as so designated by paragraph (2) above) the following:

''(3) The boundary of the park is further modified to include approximately 151 acres, as depicted on the map titled 'San Antonio Missions National Historical Park Proposed Boundary Addition 2009', numbered 472/68,027, and dated November 2009. The map shall be on file and available for inspection in the appropriate offices of the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior. The Secretary of the Interior may not use condemnation authority to acquire any lands or interests in lands under this Act.''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) and the gentlewoman from Wyoming (Mrs. LUMMIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Guam.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Guam?

There was no objection.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4438 was introduced by Representative CIRO RODRIGUEZ from San Antonio, Texas. The bill would expand the boundaries of the San Antonio Missions National Historical Park and require a study of possible further additions.

San Antonio Missions National Historical Park was established in 1978 to preserve, restore, and interpret four Spanish missions along the San Antonio River. H.R. 4438 would expand the current boundaries of the park to include 151 acres of land that has already been found suitable for addition to the park. The bill also would direct the NPS to study other lands that might be suitable for inclusion in the park boundaries in Bexar and Wilson Counties.

The version before the House today does not include language that would have authorized the park to lease space outside the park for headquarters offices and an educational center. We have removed that provision to address PAYGO concerns.

Mr. Speaker, Representative RODRIGUEZ has been an excellent advocate for the many people in his district who hope to see this important and historic park grow and flourish. I commend his efforts, and I urge the House to support this excellent bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. LUMMIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

H.R. 4438 has both fiscal and policy problems. The stated purpose of this bill is to expand the park by an additional 151 acres. The reasons for the expansion are vague, but the CBO cost estimate is fairly precise, $4 million. Add to this another $350,000 that will be spent by the National Park Service to determine whether it wants even more property.

The current level of Federal spending is too high to rubber-stamp the flood of plans to expand our government's property holdings. Our parks are important assets, but I question the wisdom of going further into debt to continually expand Park Service holdings while our existing parks face a $9 billion backlog in maintenance and upkeep.

I am pleased that the Resources Committee did include one Republican amendment to prohibit takings by condemnation. However, under this bill, property owners who have not consented to being included within the expanded boundaries of this park may find themselves fending off the unwanted attention of Federal officials pursuing their land. This can be an overwhelming burden and not one with which we should yoke the American people.

I am also concerned that national parks are increasingly being used by litigation-prone environmental activists and by some in the National Park Service to control activities outside the congressionally determined boundaries of each park.

□ 1440

De facto buffer zones have been used to interfere with energy projects that are planned near and even far from national parks.

To restrain this particular abuse, Republicans offered amendments in the Resources Committee to prevent the park designation from being misused to prohibit construction and maintenance of power generating facilities, whether coal-fired, wind or solar. With some people opposed to almost any new power facility, and others opposed only to those near their backyards, this has been an escalating problem. The National Park Service has participated in killing or delaying affordable and renewable energy projects from coast to coast. Unfortunately, Committee Democrats rejected these commonsense amendments on nearly party-line votes, and those protections are not in this bill today.

Unfortunately, we are considering this bill under suspension of the rules and we are being denied the opportunity to offer amendments to salvage this flawed legislation. I urge my colleagues to exercise some fiscal restraint here today, support property rights, and oppose this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. RODRIGUEZ), the author of the bill.

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, and Madam Chairman, I stand here today in support of my legislation, H.R. 4438, a bill to authorize the expansion of the San Antonio Mission National Historic Park boundaries, and to authorize a boundary study that would identify possible lands for inclusion in the park within Bexar and Wilson Counties.

This bipartisan piece of legislation is cosponsored by all three of my colleagues from San Antonio, Congressman CHARLIE GONZALEZ, Congressman LAMAR SMITH, and Congressman HENRY CUELLAR. My colleague in the Senate, Senator KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON, has also introduced companion legislation.

The San Antonio Missions is the largest concentration of Catholic missions in North America and serve as some of the most well preserved representations of Spanish colonial history, influence and culture in the Southwest. It is on this foundation that the City of San Antonio was established, and today the Missions serve as an important reminder of the connections to the city's rich past.

Built along the San Antonio River in the early 1700s by Spanish missionaries, the Missions became important social and cultural centers of the time. Today, four missions still stand and continue to be active parishes.

Established as a national park in 1978, the National Park Service and the City of San Antonio and Bexar County have worked diligently to restore and preserve the Missions and the surrounding river area.

After years of channelization, the area along the river is at last being restored to its natural ecosystem. Preserving the natural habitat in an urban area is hugely important and has long been a priority of the San Antonio community. Now that this process is underway, expanding the Missions National Park to include this area is vital to creating a continuous and seamless park along the river.

This legislation will authorize the acquisition of previously identified lands currently owned, and I stress, currently owned, by the City of San Antonio and Bexar County that are suitable for inclusion in the park. These are willing sellers.

It will also authorize a boundary study for future areas. This bill will continue the deep tradition of preservation for the parks and river region, while also ensuring its future growth.

The need to prepare for this growth is clear. Just last year alone, in 2009, the park had a record-breaking year of visitations with over 1.7 million people visiting the park, a 35 percent increase over 2008 levels.

This legislation ensures that future generations will be able to walk along the river and see the city through the eyes of its past inhabitants as they look upon these historic structures and learn about the people that settled the region.

I urge my colleagues to join me in support of H.R. 4438.

Mrs. LUMMIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 1 minute.

Mr. Speaker, I would note that the gentlelady from Wyoming has expressed concerns over the pending measure and the one we considered prior to it, which was a National Park Study bill. The next bill we will consider is also a National Park Study bill, and I will be pleased to support it, noting that the gentlelady from Wyoming is that bill's sponsor.

Mr. Speaker, I again urge Members to support the bill.

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 4438, the "San Antonio Missions National Historical Park Leasing and Boundary Expansion Act of 2010," as introduced by my fellow member of the Texas delegation, the distinguished CIRO RODRIGUEZ. This bill will expand the boundaries of the San Antonio Missions National Historical Park, adding an additional 150 acres of land to the site that preserves important pieces of Texas history.

In the early 18th Century, the five missions in San Antonio were the largest concentration of Catholic missions in North America. Built primarily to expand Spanish New World influence northward from Mexico, the missions also served to introduce native inhabitants into Spanish society. All five thrived through the middle of the 18th Century, and then slowly declined towards the end of the 1700s, through disease, inadequate military support, and increased hostility from Comanches and Apaches.

The Alamo, the most famous of the missions, is well known to all, as a shrine of Texas history. The other four missions—San Jose, San Juan, Concepcion, and Espada—have been in active operation as houses of worship since the 1800s, and are still important to the history of Texas.

In 1978, the San Antonio Missions National Historical Park was authorized by the National Park Service. At that time, the San Antonio River, which runs through much of the Park's area, was somewhat polluted. It was always planned and expected that, as the river was cleaned up, the Park would expand to take advantage of the unpolluted riverside areas. Now, that time has come.

H.R. 4438 will direct the Secretary of the Interior to study lands within Bexar and Wilson Counties in Texas, to identify lands that would be suitable for inclusion. It will also authorize the leasing of office space for a headquarters and support building, and allow the construction of an education and research center. It is only fitting that, as Mission Concepcion has recently been restored, and Mission San Jose is about to be restored, that the Park they are a part of is expanded to what it was originally imagined to be. Therefore, I strongly support this legislation, and urge my colleagues to join me.

Ms. BORDALLO. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4438, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mrs. LUMMIS. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

HEART MOUNTAIN RELOCATION CENTER STUDY ACT OF 2009

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3989) to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study to determine the suitability and feasibility of adding the Heart Mountain Relocation Center, in the State of Wyoming, as a unit of the National Park System.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3989

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Heart Mountain Relocation Center Study Act of 2009''.

SEC. 2. SPECIAL RESOURCE STUDY.

(a) STUDY.—The Secretary of the Interior shall conduct a special resource study of the Heart Mountain Relocation Center, in Park County, Wyoming.

(b) CONTENTS.—In conducting the study under subsection (a), the Secretary shall—

(1) evaluate the national significance of the Heart Mountain Relocation Center and surrounding area;

(2) determine the suitability and feasibility of designating the Heart Mountain Relocation Center as a unit of the National Park System;

(3) consider other alternatives for preservation, protection, and interpretation of the site by Federal, State, or local governmental entities, or private and nonprofit organizations;

(4) identify cost estimates for any Federal acquisition, development, interpretation, operation, and maintenance associated with the alternatives;

(5) identify any potential impacts of designation of the site as a unit of the National Park System on private landowners; and

(6) consult with interested Federal, State, or local governmental entities, federally recognized Indian tribes, private and nonprofit organizations, owners of private property that may be affected by any such designation, or any other interested individuals.

(c) APPLICABLE LAW.—The study required under subsection (a) shall be conducted in accordance with section 8 of Public Law 91–383 (16 U.S.C. 1a–5).

(d) REPORT.—Not later than 3 years after the date on which funds are first made available for the study under subsection (a), the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a report containing the results of the study and any conclusions and recommendations of the Secretary.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) and the gentlewoman from Wyoming (Mrs. LUMMIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Guam.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Guam?

There was no objection.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3989 was introduced by Congresswoman CYNTHIA LUMMIS in November of 2009.

Heart Mountain Relocation Center was one of 10 Japanese internment camps set up during World War II when anti-Japanese sentiment was running rampant following the attack on Pearl Harbor. At its peak, nearly 11,000 Japanese Americans who were forced from their communities in California, Washington and Oregon, were detained in Heart Mountain's tar-paper barracks.

H.R. 3989 would direct the National Park Service to construct a special resource study to determine the national significance of Heart Mountain and the suitability and feasibility of designating it as a unit of the National Park System.

Mr. Speaker, we support the passage of H.R. 3989.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. LUMMIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, between 1942 and 1945, Heart Mountain was one of 10 confinement facilities for Japanese Americans run by Franklin Roosevelt's War Relocation authority. At its peak, the camp confined nearly 11,000 people, most of whom were United States citizens.

This bill would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a Special Resource Study to determine the suitability and feasibility of designating the Heart Mountain Relocation Center in the State of Wyoming as a unit of the National Park System.

The park, if created, would be on Bureau of Land Management land and on land owned by the Wyoming Heart Mountain Foundation.

Former United States Senator Alan Simpson and former Congressman and Secretary of Commerce and Transportation, Norman Mineta, met each other as boys when the future Secretary Mineta was interned at Heart Mountain and future Senator Simpson was growing up in Park County.

□ 1450

Both now serve on the board of the Wyoming Heart Mountain Foundation. Under their leadership, the foundation is currently building an interpretive center that is scheduled to open next year. If the park is created, the Wyoming Heart Mountain Foundation has indicated its willingness to donate its land to the Park Service. No additional acquisition of private land is contemplated. Creation of this park has strong local support in Park County, Wyoming. And as the author of the bill, I urge my colleagues to join me in voting for it.

Mr. Speaker, though the gentlelady from Guam raises an excellent point about the fact that I have questioned the propriety during these tough economic times of purchasing land in the previous bill, H.R. 4686, that is a proposal for the National Park Service to purchase land, and authorizing $4 million to do so, whereas the Heart Mountain proposal is to donate the land if the National Park Service chooses to accept it and recommend it as a unit of the National Park Service. That is the difference in the bills, Mr. Speaker.

I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I again urge Members to support the bill.

I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3989.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

FORT PULASKI NATIONAL MONUMENT LEASE AUTHORIZATION ACT

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4773) to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to lease certain lands within Fort Pulaski National Monument, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4773

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Fort Pulaski National Monument Lease Authorization Act''.

SEC. 2. LEASE AUTHORIZATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Interior (referred to in this section as the ''Secretary'') may lease to the Savannah Bar Pilots Association, or a successor organization, no more than 30,000 square feet of land and improvements within Fort Pulaski National Monument (referred to in this section as the ''Monument'') at the location on Cockspur Island that has been used continuously by the Savannah Bar Pilots Association since 1940.

(b) RENTAL FEE AND PROCEEDS.—

(1) RENTAL FEE.—For the lease authorized by this Act, the Secretary shall require a rental fee based on fair market value adjusted, as the Secretary deems appropriate, for amounts to be expended by the lessee for property preservation, maintenance, or repair and related expenses.

(2) PROCEEDS.—Disposition of the proceeds from the rental fee required pursuant to paragraph (1) shall be made in accordance with section 3(k)(5) of Public Law 91–383 (16 U.S.C. 1a–2(k)(5)).

(c) TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—A lease entered into under this section—

(1) shall be for a term of no more than 10 years and, at the Secretary's discretion, for successive terms of no more than 10 years at a time; and

(2) shall include any terms and conditions the Secretary determines to be necessary to protect the resources of the Monument and the public interest.

(d) EXEMPTION FROM APPLICABLE LAW.—Except as provided in section 2(b)(2) of this Act, the lease authorized by this Act shall not be subject to section 3(k) of Public Law 91–383 (16 U.S.C. 1a–2(k)) or section 321 of Act of June 30, 1932 (40 U.S.C. 1302).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) and the gentlewoman from Wyoming (Mrs. LUMMIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Guam.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Guam?

There was no objection.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4773, introduced by Representative JACK KINGSTON of Georgia, would allow the National Park Service to lease a small facility at Fort Pulaski National Monument to the Savannah Bar Pilots Association.

The pilots perform a vital public service, keeping the Savannah River and the harbor safe, and they have used this facility at Fort Pulaski for more

than 40 years under a special use permit. H.R. 4773 would regularize that arrangement under a lease.

Mr. Speaker, we urge support of H.R. 4773.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. LUMMIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4773 would allow the Savannah Bar Pilots Association to continue leasing a facility at Fort Pulaski National Monument, as they have done since the 1940s. The National Park Service supports this legislation, and we are pleased that this is one piece of legislation that will not place additional burdens on American taxpayers.

I urge my colleagues to support the legislation.

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, in the simplest terms, my bill allows the Secretary of the Interior to enter into a lease with the Savannah Bar Pilots Association for the Bar Pilots' continued use of the pilot base located on Cockspur Island at Fort Pulaski National Monument. They currently operate under a similar arrangement, and this bill simply aims to prolong the relationship between the Park Service and the Bar Pilots. Since 1940, the Pilots Association has continuously occupied a facility at Fort Pulaski which acts as a station for the pilots to move to and from the vessels that call on the Port of Savannah. The original special use permit allowing the pilots' station at Fort Pulaski was the result of a direct order from the Secretary of the Interior.

The Bar Pilots perform a vital role in the operation of the Port of Savannah. The pilots assist cargo ships navigating the Savannah River to reach the Georgia Port Authority's Garden City Terminal, which is about 20 miles from the mouth of the Savannah River. After an incoming ship contacts the pilots and a meeting is established, the pilots are ferried on one of several pilot boats, up to 12 miles, to the ''pilotage grounds'' outside the channel in the Atlantic Ocean, where vessels wait for the pilots. The Bar Pilots then climb aboard the ship and tell the ship's captain how to safely pass the dangerous sand bars in the Savannah River. Pilots must not only hold an unlimited Coast Guard license, but demonstrate an absolute knowledge of the river. The Cockspur Island location was chosen due to its location between the Garden City terminal and the pilotage grounds in the Atlantic Ocean.

The Savannah River Pilots contributions to Savannah can be traced back to 1760s. According to early records, William Lyford established a pilot house on Cockspur in 1768 to help ships from England carrying lumber, cattle, hogs, and poultry navigate the shallow and muddy waters of the Savannah River. By the early 1800s, trade between Savannah and England was thriving, and more able pilots were needed to help the influx of ships through the channel. In 1864, the Savannah Pilots Association was formally organized to emphasize the city's commitment to developing Savannah as a port city. Today, the Port of Savannah is the second largest container port on the East Coast, the fourth largest in the Nation, and the fastest growing container port in the United States. One out of every 14 jobs in Georgia can be directly or indirectly tied to the state's ports and over 1,700 new port-related jobs were announced in 2009. The success of the Port of Savannah can be tied to the expertise of the Bar Pilots who guide the container ships safely into the harbor. Every cargo ship above 200 gross tons—which is nearly every ship that calls on the Port of Savannah—must have bar pilot on board.

Since 1940, the Savannah Bar Pilots Association has been entering into special use permits with the U.S. Department of the Interior for the use of the station at Fort Pulaski. The terms of these permits have ranged in length from a one-year permit to a 20 year permit that existed from 1973 to 1993. The current special use permit between the Pilots Association and the Department of Interior was entered on December 8, 2008 and expires on December 8, 2010. Because of recent changes to the Department of the Interior's policies regarding special use permits at various national parks and national monuments, the National Park Service since 2007 has been discussing with the Pilots Association a long term arrangement to enable the Pilots Association to continue to use the facility at Fort Pulaski. H.R. 4773 is the result of research done by attorneys for the Department of the Interior and counsel for the Pilots Association. The legislation will enable the Pilots Association to enter into a renewable 10 year lease with the Department of Interior, the pricing for which will be based upon fair market value for the property. The authorization for a 10 year lease will enable Fort Pulaski National Monument and the Pilots Association to continue their relationship spanning more than 70 years on Cockspur Island that has been beneficial for both parties.

Other than the location at Fort Pulaski, there is no other available land near the Savannah River entrance from which the pilot boats can reach the pilotage grounds off the coast of Georgia. Any relocation of the pilot station would result in longer transit times for vessels, increased safety risks in foul weather, possible delays in ship movements, and greater fuel usage and operating costs for the pilots and ships requiring pilotage services. H.R. 4773 does not seek to give any special treatment to the Bar Pilots. They currently operate under a similar agreement, and this bill simply aims to prolong this relationship between the Park Service and the Bar Pilots that has allowed the Bar Pilots to effectively perform the valuable public service of facilitating international commerce and economic development. Employees of the Park Service initially approached the Bar Pilots to suggest legislative action, and the Park Service has been involved in this process every step of the way. This bill will not take land out of the Park Service's protection, nor will it pose any cost to the American taxpayers. In fact, the bill requires Bar Pilots will to help with park maintenance costs. We are not aware of any local opposition.

Mrs. LUMMIS. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I again urge all Members to support the bill.

I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4773.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

SHASTA-TRINITY NATIONAL FOREST ADMINISTRATIVE JURISDICTION TRANSFER ACT

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 689) to interchange the administrative jurisdiction of certain Federal lands between the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the Senate amendment is as follows:

Senate amendment:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Shasta-Trinity National Forest Administrative Jurisdiction Transfer Act''.

SEC. 2. TRANSFER OF ADMINISTRATIVE JURISDICTION TO THE BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Administrative jurisdiction over the Federal land described in subsection (b) is transferred from the Secretary of Agriculture to the Secretary of the Interior.

(b) DESCRIPTION OF LAND.—The Federal land referred to in subsection (a) is the land within the Shasta-Trinity National Forest in California, Mount Diablo Meridian, as generally depicted on the map entitled ''Shasta-Trinity Administrative Jurisdiction Transfer: Transfer from Forest Service to BLM, Map 1'' and dated November 23, 2009.

(c) MANAGEMENT AND STATUS OF TRANSFERRED LAND.—The Federal land described in subsection (b) shall be administered in accordance with—

(1) the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.); and

(2) any other applicable law (including regulations).

SEC. 3. TRANSFER OF ADMINISTRATIVE JURISDICTION TO THE FOREST SERVICE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Administrative jurisdiction over the Federal land described in subsection (b) is transferred from the Secretary of the Interior to the Secretary of Agriculture.

(b) DESCRIPTION OF LAND.—The Federal land referred to in subsection (a) is the land administered by the Director of the Bureau of Land Management in the Mount Diablo Meridian, California, as generally depicted on the map entitled ''Shasta-Trinity Administrative Jurisdiction Transfer: Transfer from BLM to Forest Service, Map 2'' and dated November 23, 2009.

(c) MANAGEMENT AND STATUS OF TRANSFERRED LAND.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Federal land described in subsection (b) shall be—

(A) withdrawn from the public domain;

(B) reserved for administration as part of the Shasta-Trinity National Forest; and

(C) managed in accordance with the laws (including the regulations) generally applicable to the National Forest System.

(2) WILDERNESS ADMINISTRATION.—The land transferred to the Secretary of Agriculture under subsection (a) that is within the Trinity Alps Wilderness shall—

(A) not affect the wilderness status of the transferred land; and

(B) be administered in accordance with—

(i) this section;

(ii) the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.); and

(iii) the California Wilderness Act of 1984 (16 U.S.C. 1132 note; Public Law 98–425).

SEC. 4. ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS.

(a) CORRECTIONS.—

(1) MINOR ADJUSTMENTS.—The Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior may, by mutual agreement, make minor corrections and adjustments to the transfers under this Act to facilitate land management, including corrections and adjustments to any applicable surveys.

(2) PUBLICATIONS.—Any corrections or adjustments made under subsection (a) shall be effective on the date of publication of a notice of the corrections or adjustments in the Federal Register.

(b) HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES.—

(1) NOTICE.—The Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior shall, with respect to the land described in sections 2(b) and 3(b), respectively—

(A) identify any known sites containing hazardous substances; and

(B) provide to the head of the Federal agency to which the land is being transferred notice of any sites identified under subparagraph (A).

(2) CLEANUP OBLIGATIONS.—To the same extent as on the day before the date of enactment of this Act, with respect to any Federal liability—

(A) the Secretary of Agriculture shall remain responsible for any cleanup of hazardous substances on the Federal land described in section 2(b); and

(B) the Secretary of the Interior shall remain responsible for any cleanup of hazardous substances on the Federal land described in section 3(b).

(c) EFFECT ON EXISTING RIGHTS AND AUTHORIZATIONS.—Nothing in this Act affects—

(1) any valid existing rights; or

(2) the validity or term and conditions of any existing withdrawal, right-of-way, easement, lease, license, or permit on the land to which administrative jurisdiction is transferred under this Act, except that beginning on the date of enactment of this Act, the head of the agency to which administrative jurisdiction over the land is transferred shall be responsible for administering the interests or authorizations (including reissuing the interests or authorizations in accordance with applicable law).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) and the gentlewoman from Wyoming (Mrs. LUMMIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Guam.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Guam?

There was no objection.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 689 was introduced by our colleague from California, Representative HERGER. The bill authorizes an interchange of land between the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management. The specific lands are located within the Shasta-Trinity National Forest and on adjacent public lands in northern California. The purpose of the interchange is to ease problems that off-highway vehicle users are having with permitting. The administration supports this legislation.

H.R. 689 originally passed the House by voice vote on June 2, 2009. The Senate has amended the House-passed version of the bill to clarify the hazardous substance cleanup responsibilities of each agency.

Mr. Speaker, we support passage of this measure with the Senate amendment.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. LUMMIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I want to commend Congressman HERGER for his excellent work on this legislation. Working closely with many constituents who enjoy outdoor recreation, Congressman HERGER developed this bill allowing Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management officials to better manage a complex mix of administrative jurisdictions in Shasta County. This legislation will not only help both agencies, but will also greatly benefit the many families who enjoy wholesome outdoor recreation in the area, especially the many off-highway vehicle users who have been using this area for generations. Not surprisingly, the bill has widespread support among the local OHV users.

It is a rare feat to have two separate Federal agencies and the public all agreeing that a particular piece of legislation is worthy of praise. Congressman HERGER should be congratulated for this win-win legislation.

Mr. HERGER. Mr. Speaker, I strongly support passage of H.R. 689. This legislation is the result of a collaborative and bipartisan effort to limit government bureaucracy and improve the management of federal lands in Northern California. For years, many of my constituents raised concerns over difficulties in dealing with two federal agencies in order to use the Chappie-Shasta Off-Highway Vehicle Area in Shasta County, California. Though the Bureau of Land Management has managed the majority of this area, Forest Service holdings within the area have led to such issues as duplicative permitting and even different opening dates for the same area. This situation has led to increasing frustration from thousands of users who come from across California and elsewhere to enjoy this OHV area.

This simple legislation provides a commonsense solution by allowing the BLM to consolidate the OHV area while the Forest Service will benefit by receiving jurisdiction over small tracts of BLM land that are already contiguous to the Shasta-Trinity National Forest.

This bill first passed the House by unanimous consent, and after a few technical changes, again received unanimous support from the Senate. Concurrence with the Senate's changes will finally allow for more efficient management of the Chappie-Shasta OHV Area and greater enjoyment of its users. This legislation represents a win-win for taxpayers and their enjoyment of our federal lands. I thank Senators FEINSTEIN and BOXER for their work in supporting this effort and I urge my colleagues to support it as well.

Mrs. LUMMIS. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I again urge Members to support the bill.

I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) that the House suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment to the bill, H.R. 689.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the Senate amendment was concurred in.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1500

NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE VOLUNTEER IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2010

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4973) to amend the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 to reauthorize volunteer programs and community partnerships for national wildlife refuges, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4973

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''National Wildlife Refuge Volunteer Improvement Act of 2010''.

SEC. 2. REAUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS TO IMPLEMENT VOLUNTEER, COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP AND EDUCATION PROGRAMS UNDER FISH AND WILDLIFE ACT OF 1956.

(a) REAUTHORIZATION.—Section 7(f) of the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 (16 U.S.C. 742f(f)) is amended to read as follows:

''(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of the Interior to carry out subsections (b), (c), (d), (e), and (f), $2,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2011 through 2014.''.

(b) TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS.—Section 7 of the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 (16 U.S.C. 742f) is amended in subsections (b)(2)(B)(ii) and (d)(2)(C)(i) by striking ''National Wildlife Refuge Administration Act of 1966'' each place it appears and inserting ''National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966''.

SEC. 3. AMENDMENTS TO NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE SYSTEM VOLUNTEER AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 1998.

Section 4(a) of the National Wildlife Refuge System Volunteer and Community Partnership Enhancement Act of 1998 (16 U.S.C. 742f–1) is amended—

(1) in the subsection heading by striking ''PROJECTS'' and inserting ''NATIONAL VOLUNTEER COORDINATION PROGRAM'';

(2) by amending paragraph (1) to read as follows:

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the availability of appropriations, and in conformance with the

strategy developed under paragraph (2) and consistent with the authorities regarding gifts, volunteer services, community partnerships, and refuge education enhancement under section 7 of the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 (16 U.S.C. 741f), the Secretary of the Interior, through the Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, shall carry out a National Volunteer Coordination Program within the National Wildlife Refuge System to—

''(A) augment and support the capabilities and efforts of Federal employees to implement resource management, conservation, and public education programs and activities across the National Wildlife Refuge System;

''(B) provide meaningful opportunities for volunteers to support the resource management, conservation, and public education programs and activities of national wildlife refuges or complexes of geographically related national wildlife refuges in each United States Fish and Wildlife Service region; and

''(C) fulfill the purpose and mission of the National Wildlife Refuge System under the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C. 668dd et seq.).'';

(3) by amending paragraph (2) to read as follows

''(2) VOLUNTEER COORDINATION STRATEGY.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—No later than one year after date of enactment of this paragraph, the Director shall publish in the Federal Register a national strategy for the coordination and utilization of volunteers within the National Wildlife Refuge System.

''(B) CONSULTATION REQUIRED.—The strategy shall be developed in consultation with State fish and wildlife agencies, Indian tribes, refuge friends groups or similar volunteer organizations, and other relevant stakeholders.

''(C) VOLUNTEER COORDINATORS.—The Director shall provide, subject to the availability of appropriations, no less than one regional volunteer coordinator for each United States Fish and Wildlife Service region to implement the strategy published under this paragraph. Such coordinators may be responsible for assisting partner organizations in developing and implementing volunteer projects and activities under cooperative agreements under section 7(d) of the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 (16 U.S.C. 742f(d)).''; and

(4) in paragraph (4), by striking ''for for each fiscal year through fiscal year 2009'' and inserting ''for each fiscal year through fiscal year 2014''.

SEC. 4. VOLUNTEER, COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS, AND EDUCATION PROGRAMS REPORT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 7 of the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 (16 U.S.C. 742f(e)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (f) (as amended by this Act) as subsection (g); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (e) the following new subsection:

''(f) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this subsection and every 5 years thereafter, the Secretary of the Interior shall submit a report to the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate—

''(1) evaluating the accomplishments of the volunteer program, the community partnerships program, and the refuge education programs authorized under this section, and of the National Volunteer Coordination Program and volunteer coordination strategy under section 4(a) of the National Wildlife Refuge System Volunteer and Community Partnership Enhancement Act of 1998 (16 U.S.C. 742f–1); and

''(2) making recommendations to improve the effectiveness of such programs, including regarding implementing subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C) of paragraph (1) of subsection (e).''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 4(a) of the National Wildlife Refuge System Volunteer and Community Partnership Enhancement Act of 1998 (16 U.S.C. 742f–1) is further amended by striking paragraph (3), and by redesignating paragraph (4) (as amended by this Act) as paragraph (3).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) and the gentlewoman from Wyoming (Mrs. LUMMIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Guam.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Guam?

There was no objection.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4973, the National Wildlife Refuge Volunteer Improvement Act, was introduced by our colleague from Maryland, Representative FRANK KRATOVIL.

The National Wildlife Refuge System encompasses a national network of public lands and waters set aside to conserve habitat and protect natural resources and, consequently, plays an integral role in our national network of Federal public lands.

During these difficult economic times, the government has looked for efficient and practical solutions to lower costs while maintaining critical refuge systems services. The National Wildlife Refuge Volunteer Program serves this purpose. Last year, volunteers contributed to more than 1.5 million hours of support, the equivalent of nearly 750 full-time employees. This is better than $7 returned on each dollar invested.

The pending measure would make the volunteer program permanent, establish a volunteer coordination strategy, and formalize a reporting schedule to ensure oversight and accountability.

I commend Mr. KRATOVIL for his important work on behalf of this initiative, and I ask Members on both sides to support passage of this bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. LUMMIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4973. While individuals have been volunteering their time and talents to the National Wildlife Refuge System for nearly 30 years, the value of their work has significantly increased from $1.1 million to $30.3 million. Volunteers now perform about 20 percent of the work done on refuges, and for each refuge employee, there are nine volunteers. Without these dedicated men and women, many visitor centers would be open less frequently, fewer recreational opportunities would be available, many hunting programs would not occur, and important fish and wildlife population surveys would not be completed.

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support H.R. 4973, the National Wildlife Refuge Volunteer Improvement Act of 2010. I would like to thank Congressman KRATOVIL for introducing this important bill and acknowledging the importance of the preservation of wildlife to our nation.

This bill would reauthorize volunteer programs and community partnerships for national wildlife refuges. Volunteers are essential to the operation of these refuges and the preservation of our environment. Wildlife Refuge volunteers assist with laboratory research, photographing natural resources, conducting population services, and leading tours for visitors. Volunteers help provide important services to the public at no cost to taxpayers. Their service improves the quality of the visitor experience at our National Wildlife Refuges. This bill would also require the Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to publish a national strategy for the use and coordination of volunteers.

The National Wildlife Refuge system is the premier system of public lands and waters set aside to conserve America's fish, wildlife and plants. The mission of the Refuge System is to manage a national network of lands and waters for the conservation, management, and where appropriate, restoration of fish, wildlife and plant resources and their habitat. It is the volunteers that help make this mission possible and this bill will make sure that these volunteers have the resources they need. I strongly support our National Wildlife Refuge system and am heartened that so many Americans choose to volunteer their time on National Wildlife Refuges.

I feel strongly about the importance of protecting our natural world. I encourage my colleagues to support this bill in efforts to preserve our environment, one small step at a time.

Mrs. LUMMIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I again urge Members to support the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4973, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

AUTHORIZING HYDROGRAPHIC SERVICES FOR LOSS OF ICE IN ARCTIC

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2864) to amend the Hydrographic Services Improvement Act of 1998 to authorize funds to acquire hydrographic data and provide hydrographic services specific to the Arctic for safe navigation, delineating the United States extended continental shelf, and the monitoring and description of coastal changes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2864

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

Section 306 of the Hydrographic Services Improvement Act of 1998 (33 U.S.C. 892d) is amended—

(1) by inserting before the text the following: ''(a) IN GENERAL.—''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(b) ARCTIC PROGRAMS.—Of the amount authorized for each of fiscal years 2011 and 2012—

''(1) $5,000,000 is authorized for use to acquire hydrographic data, provide hydrographic services, conduct coastal change analyses necessary to ensure safe navigation, and improve the management of coastal change in the Arctic; and

''(2) $2,000,000 is authorized for use to acquire hydrographic data and provide hydrographic services in the Arctic necessary to delineate the United States extended Continental Shelf.''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) and the gentlewoman from Wyoming (Mrs. LUMMIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Guam.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Guam?

There was no objection.

Ms. BORDALLO. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, recent scientific findings have shown that the Arctic sea ice is shrinking with significantly smaller amounts of summer sea ice cover. Consequently, more open water space in the Arctic Ocean will be available for ship travel, which will present a changed landscape for international marine commerce and national security interests and greater accessibility to natural resources. These activities are likely to create substantial new demands on the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to provide hydrographic data and hydrographic services in the near term.

I support this noncontroversial legislation to amend the Hydrographic Services Improvement Act to give NOAA specific authorization to conduct hydrographic surveys and to provide other hydrographic services in the Arctic, and I urge Members on both sides to do likewise.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. LUMMIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2864 would authorize hydrographic surveys in the Arctic region, an area which lacks up-to-date survey data. The last major survey in the Arctic occurred more than 60 years ago after World War II. Since the majority of U.S. foreign trade by weight moves by sea and the Arctic has the potential to become a viable shipping corridor, it is essential that we support these surveys to help create accurate nautical charts.

I compliment the author of this measure, Congressman DON YOUNG, for his leadership. This bill has been scored by the CBO as having no cost.

I urge support of the bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG).

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. I thank the good lady for yielding.

Just yesterday, the Alaska Dispatch chronicled the increased tourist and commercial vessel traffic in the Arctic and the challenges the Coast Guard is facing in ensuring safe navigation. For example, the Coast Guard recently announced that the Polar Sea icebreaker will be out of service until next year and the Polar Star icebreaker won't be fixed until 2013. As a result, there are no adequate icebreakers to patrol in the Arctic or come to the aid of anyone in need. Simply, safe navigation in the U.S. Arctic is in a precarious state.

My bill would amend the Hydrographic Services Improvement Act to authorize much-needed funds for hydrographic surveys and coastal mapping of the Arctic regions.

Sadly, we still have a long way to go before we finish the job on nautically charting critical navigation regions throughout this country. The Arctic region in particular has been ignored and lacks survey data. It is my understanding, as the good lady said, the last major hydro survey campaign in the Arctic was conducted following World War II, over 60 years ago.

Currently, base hydrographic data in the Arctic is woefully inadequate and not sufficient to support current, let alone future, marine activity. With the reduction of sea ice, there's increased vessel traffic and opportunities for more drilling, and up-to-date nautical charts or coastal maps are critical for these activities.

H.R. 2864 is an effort to move this process forward by directing NOAA to acquire additional hydrographic data and provide hydrographic services to the Arctic region.

Alaska is the only Arctic State in this Nation. It makes this bill both critically important for my State and our Nation, and I urge Members to support this legislation.

Mrs. LUMMIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, we should take this time to congratulate my colleague, Mr. YOUNG, for his work on this legislation. Also, I would like to thank the gentlelady from Wyoming. I've enjoyed managing the bills this afternoon with her.

Mr. Speaker, I urge Members to support the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2864, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 3 o'clock and 9 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until approximately 6 p.m.

□ 1800

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. HEINRICH) at 6 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

H.R. 4514, by the yeas and nays;

H.R. 4438, by the yeas and nays; and

H.R. 4773, by the yeas and nays.

Proceedings on H.R. 2864 will resume later in the week.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

COLONEL CHARLES YOUNG HOME STUDY ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4514) to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study to determine the suitability and feasibility of designating the Colonel Charles Young Home in Xenia, Ohio as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 350, nays 26, not voting 56, as follows:

[Roll No. 434]

YEAS—350

Ackerman	Arcuri	Baird
Aderholt	Austria	Baldwin
Adler (NJ)	Baca	Barrow
Altmire	Bachmann	Bartlett
Andrews	Bachus	Barton (TX)

Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blumenauer
Boccieri
Boehner
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boozman
Boren
Boswell
Boustany
Boyd
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Bright
Brown (SC)
Brown, Corrine
Brown-Waite, Ginny
Buchanan
Burton (IN)
Butterfield
Calvert
Cantor
Cao
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carson (IN)
Carter
Cassidy
Castle
Castor (FL)
Chaffetz
Chandler
Childers
Chu
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coffman (CO)
Cole
Conaway
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Courtney
Crenshaw
Critz
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Dahlkemper
Davis (CA)
Davis (KY)
Davis (TN)
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Dicks
Dingell
Djou
Doggett
Donnelly (IN)
Dreier
Driehaus
Edwards (MD)
Edwards (TX)
Ellison
Emerson
Engel
Eshoo
Etheridge
Farr
Fattah
Forbes
Foster
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Gallegly
Garamendi
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Gingrey (GA)
Gonzalez
Goodlatte
Gordon (TN)
Granger
Graves (MO)
Grayson
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Guthrie
Gutierrez
Hall (NY)
Hall (TX)
Halvorson
Harman
Harper
Hastings (WA)
Heinrich
Heller
Hensarling
Herseth Sandlin
Higgins
Hill
Himes
Hinchey
Hirono
Hodes
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Hunter
Inglis
Inslee
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee (TX)
Jenkins
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan (OH)
Kanjorski
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick (MI)
Kilroy
Kind
King (NY)
Kirk
Kirkpatrick (AZ)
Kissell
Klein (FL)
Kline (MN)
Kosmas
Kratovil
Kucinich
Lance
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Latta
Lee (NY)
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lucas
Luján
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel E.
Lynch
Maloney
Manzullo
Marchant
Markey (CO)
Markey (MA)
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul
McClintock
McCollum
McCotter
McDermott
McGovern
McHenry
McIntyre
McKeon
McMahon
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Mica
Michaud
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Minnick
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy (NY)
Murphy, Patrick
Murphy, Tim
Myrick
Nadler (NY)
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Nye
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Owens
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Paulsen
Payne
Perriello
Peters
Peterson
Petri
Pingree (ME)
Pitts
Platts
Polis (CO)
Pomeroy
Posey
Price (GA)
Price (NC)
Quigley
Radanovich
Rahall
Rangel
Reichert
Reyes
Richardson
Rodriguez
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothman (NJ)
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Ryan (OH)
Salazar
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schauer
Schiff
Schock
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sessions
Sestak
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shuster
Simpson
Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Space
Speier
Spratt
Stark
Stearns
Stupak
Sullivan
Sutton
Tanner
Teague
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Tiberi
Tierney
Titus
Tonko
Towns
Tsongas
Turner
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (OH)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Woolsey
Wu
Yarmuth
Young (AK)

NAYS—26

Brady (TX)
Broun (GA)
Burgess
Campbell
Coble
Culberson
Duncan
Flake
Foxx
Gohmert
Graves (GA)
Herger
Issa
King (IA)
Kingston
Lamborn
Mack
Neugebauer
Nunes
Paul
Poe (TX)
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Sensenbrenner
Shadegg
Thornberry

NOT VOTING—56

Akin
Alexander
Barrett (SC)
Bean
Berry
Blunt
Boucher
Buyer
Camp
Carnahan
Carney
Cohen
Costello
Davis (AL)
Davis (IL)
Deutch
Doyle
Ehlers
Ellsworth
Fallin
Filner
Fleming
Fortenberry
Frank (MA)
Giffords
Griffith
Hare
Hastings (FL)
Hinojosa
Hoekstra
Israel
Johnson, E. B.
Kagen
Kaptur
Lee (CA)
Linder
Luetkemeyer
Maffei
Miller (FL)
Moran (KS)
Olson
Pence
Perlmutter
Putnam
Rehberg
Rohrabacher
Rush
Sánchez, Linda T.
Schmidt
Shimkus
Shuler
Taylor
Tiahrt
Walden
Wamp
Young (FL)

□ 1830

Messrs. COBLE, KINGSTON, NEUGEBAUER, MACK, and KING of Iowa changed their vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall 434, I was away from the Capitol in my capacity as Chairman of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

SAN ANTONIO MISSIONS NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK LEASING AND BOUNDARY EXPANSION ACT OF 2010

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4438) to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to enter into an agreement to lease space from a nonprofit group or other government entity for a park headquarters at San Antonio Missions National Historical Park, to expand the boundary of the Park, to conduct a study of potential land acquisitions, and for other purposes, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 264, nays 114, not voting 54, as follows:

[Roll No. 435]

YEAS—264

Ackerman
Adler (NJ)
Altmire
Andrews
Arcuri
Austria
Baca
Bachus
Baird
Baldwin
Barrow
Barton (TX)
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Boccieri
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boren
Boswell
Boyd
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Bright
Brown, Corrine
Buchanan
Butterfield
Cao
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carson (IN)
Carter
Castor (FL)
Chandler
Childers
Chu
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cole
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Courtney
Crenshaw
Critz
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Dahlkemper
Davis (CA)
Davis (TN)
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Dicks
Dingell
Djou
Doggett
Donnelly (IN)
Driehaus
Edwards (MD)
Edwards (TX)
Ellison
Ellsworth
Engel
Eshoo
Etheridge
Farr
Fattah
Foster
Fudge
Garamendi
Gonzalez
Gordon (TN)
Granger
Grayson
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Hall (NY)
Hall (TX)
Halvorson
Harman
Heinrich
Herseth Sandlin
Higgins
Hill
Himes
Hinchey
Hirono
Hodes
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Inslee
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee (TX)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Jones
Kanjorski
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick (MI)
Kilroy
Kind
Kirk
Kirkpatrick (AZ)
Kissell
Klein (FL)
Kosmas
Kratovil
Kucinich
Lance
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lucas
Luján
Lynch
Maloney
Markey (CO)
Markey (MA)
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McIntyre
McMahon
McNerney
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Michaud
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Minnick
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy (NY)
Murphy, Patrick
Nadler (NY)
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Nye
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Owens
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Paulsen
Payne
Perriello
Peters
Peterson
Pingree (ME)
Poe (TX)
Polis (CO)
Pomeroy
Price (NC)
Quigley
Radanovich
Rahall
Rangel
Reichert
Reyes
Rodriguez
Rogers (AL)
Ros-Lehtinen
Ross
Rothman (NJ)
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Ryan (OH)
Salazar
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schauer
Schiff
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sessions
Sestak
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Simpson
Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Space
Speier
Spratt
Stark
Stupak
Sutton
Tanner
Teague
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Titus
Tonko
Towns
Tsongas
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch

Whitfield
Wilson (OH)
Wittman
Woolsey
Wu
Yarmuth

NAYS—114

Aderholt
Bachmann
Bartlett
Bean
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Boehner
Boozman
Boustany
Broun (GA)
Brown (SC)
Brown-Waite, Ginny
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Calvert
Campbell
Cantor
Cassidy
Castle
Chaffetz
Coble
Conaway
Culberson
Davis (KY)
Dreier
Duncan
Emerson
Flake
Forbes
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Guthrie
Harper
Hastings (WA)
Heller
Hensarling
Herger
Hunter
Inglis
Issa
Jenkins
Johnson, Sam
Jordan (OH)
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kline (MN)
Lamborn
Latta
Lee (NY)
Lewis (CA)
LoBiondo
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel E.
Mack
Manzullo
Marchant
McCarthy (CA)
McClintock
McCotter
McHenry
McKeon
McMorris Rodgers
Mica
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Murphy, Tim
Myrick
Neugebauer
Nunes
Paul
Pence
Petri
Pitts
Platts
Posey
Price (GA)
Roe (TN)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rooney
Roskam
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Scalise
Schock
Sensenbrenner
Shadegg
Shuster
Smith (NE)
Stearns
Sullivan
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Turner
Upton
Walden
Westmoreland
Wilson (SC)
Wolf
Young (AK)

NOT VOTING—54

Akin
Alexander
Barrett (SC)
Berry
Blunt
Boucher
Buyer
Camp
Carnahan
Carney
Coffman (CO)
Cohen
Costello
Davis (AL)
Davis (IL)
Deutch
Doyle
Ehlers
Fallin
Filner
Fleming
Fortenberry
Frank (MA)
Giffords
Griffith
Gutierrez
Hare
Hastings (FL)
Hinojosa
Hoekstra
Johnson, E. B.
Kagen
Kaptur
Lee (CA)
Linder
Luetkemeyer
Maffei
Miller (FL)
Moran (KS)
Olson
Perlmutter
Putnam
Rehberg
Richardson
Rohrabacher
Rush
Sánchez, Linda T.
Schmidt
Shimkus
Shuler
Taylor
Tiahrt
Wamp
Young (FL)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining in this vote.

□ 1838

Mr. HARPER changed his vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: ''A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to expand the boundary of the Park, to conduct a study of potential land acquisitions, and for other purposes.''.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall 435, I was away from the Capitol in my capacity as Chairman of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

Stated against:

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 435, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

FORT PULASKI NATIONAL MONUMENT LEASE AUTHORIZATION ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4773) to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to lease certain lands within Fort Pulaski National Monument, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 379, nays 0, not voting 53, as follows:

[Roll No. 436]

YEAS—379

Ackerman
Aderholt
Adler (NJ)
Altmire
Andrews
Arcuri
Austria
Baca
Bachmann
Bachus
Baird
Baldwin
Barrow
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Bean
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blumenauer
Boccieri
Boehner
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boozman
Boren
Boswell
Boustany
Boyd
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Bright
Broun (GA)
Brown (SC)
Brown, Corrine
Brown-Waite, Ginny
Buchanan
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Butterfield
Calvert
Campbell
Cantor
Cao
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carson (IN)
Cassidy
Castle
Castor (FL)
Chaffetz
Chandler
Childers
Chu
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coble
Coffman (CO)
Cole
Conaway
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Courtney
Crenshaw
Critz
Crowley
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Dahlkemper
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis (KY)
Davis (TN)
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Dicks
Dingell
Djou
Doggett
Donnelly (IN)
Dreier
Driehaus
Duncan
Edwards (MD)
Edwards (TX)
Ellison
Ellsworth
Emerson
Engel
Eshoo
Etheridge
Farr
Flake
Forbes
Foster
Foxx
Frank (MA)
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Gallegly
Garamendi
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Gonzalez
Goodlatte
Gordon (TN)
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Grayson
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Guthrie
Gutierrez
Hall (NY)
Hall (TX)
Halvorson
Harman
Harper
Hastings (WA)
Heinrich
Heller
Hensarling
Herger
Herseth Sandlin
Higgins
Hill
Himes
Hinchey
Hirono
Hodes
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Hunter
Inglis
Inslee
Israel
Issa
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee (TX)
Jenkins
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan (OH)
Kanjorski
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick (MI)
Kilroy
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kirk
Kirkpatrick (AZ)
Kissell
Klein (FL)
Kline (MN)
Kosmas
Kratovil
Kucinich
Lamborn
Lance
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Latta
Lee (NY)
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lucas
Luján
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel E.
Lynch
Mack
Maloney
Manzullo
Marchant
Markey (CO)
Markey (MA)
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul
McClintock
McCollum
McCotter
McDermott
McGovern
McHenry
McIntyre
McKeon
McMahon
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Mica
Michaud
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy (NY)
Murphy, Patrick
Murphy, Tim
Myrick
Nadler (NY)
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Neugebauer
Nunes
Nye
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Owens
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Paul
Paulsen
Payne
Pence
Perriello
Peters
Peterson
Petri
Pingree (ME)
Pitts
Platts
Poe (TX)
Polis (CO)
Pomeroy
Posey
Price (GA)
Price (NC)
Quigley
Radanovich
Rahall
Rangel
Reichert
Reyes
Richardson
Rodriguez
Roe (TN)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothman (NJ)
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Ruppersberger
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Salazar
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schauer
Schiff
Schock
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sestak
Shadegg
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shuster
Simpson
Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Space
Speier
Spratt
Stark
Stearns
Stupak
Sullivan
Sutton
Tanner
Teague
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tierney
Titus
Tonko
Towns
Tsongas
Turner
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walden
Walz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (OH)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Woolsey
Wu
Yarmuth
Young (AK)

NOT VOTING—53

Akin
Alexander
Barrett (SC)
Berry
Blunt
Boucher
Buyer
Camp
Carnahan
Carney
Carter
Cohen
Costello
Davis (AL)
Deutch
Doyle
Ehlers
Fallin
Fattah
Filner
Fleming
Fortenberry
Giffords
Griffith
Hare
Hastings (FL)
Hinojosa
Hoekstra
Johnson, E. B.
Kagen
Kaptur
Lee (CA)
Linder
Luetkemeyer
Maffei
Miller (FL)
Minnick
Moran (KS)
Olson
Perlmutter
Putnam
Rehberg
Rogers (AL)
Rohrabacher
Rush
Sánchez, Linda T.
Schmidt
Shimkus
Shuler
Taylor
Tiahrt
Wamp
Young (FL)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). Members have 2 minutes in which to record their vote.

□ 1846

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall 436, I was away from the Capitol in my capacity as Chairman of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1722, TELEWORK IMPROVEMENTS ACT OF 2010

Mr. CARDOZA, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 111–535) on the resolution (H. Res. 1509) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1722) to improve teleworking in executive agencies by developing a telework program that allows employees to telework at least 20 percent of the hours worked in every 2 administrative workweeks, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

□ 1850

GETTING OUT OF THE SLUMP

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, when will this House leadership take action to get us out of this perpetual economic slump and provide the economic growth that we need to create the jobs that American families need?

Unemployment nationally remains high at 9.5 percent for June, with the U.S. economy losing 125,000 jobs in that month alone. In my area of south Florida, our unemployment rate is steadily increasing to 12.3 percent.

It is time for the administration and the liberal House leadership to take a proven approach of providing tax relief for working families and small businesses while reducing the debt, which is delaying future economic growth.

Lowering the tax burden on small firms, simplifying the Tax Code, that will encourage job creation. I also support extending the $8,000 first time Homebuyer Tax Credit, which has done so much to help revive our slow housing industry in south Florida.

Let's act now. It is overdue.

CONGRATULATING THE NAACP ON 101 YEARS OF SERVICE

(Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate the NAACP, which is holding their 101st convention, or celebrating 101 years, a century of service. I also want to affirm their First Amendment right to make statements on the policies of groups who advocate for causes that sometimes are colored in race.

The NAACP is a fighter for justice for all people, and I was glad to be there this weekend speaking about issues dealing with the environment, civil justice and the economy.

It is also important to note, Mr. Speaker, that corporations are now showing one of the best quarterly returns that they have ever had. Businesses create jobs, and we have created an economic opportunity for them to do so. But all of the economists are saying they are sitting on their money. They are hoarding their money.

It is time now for us to stand up as Americans and work together to create jobs, just as this government has stimulated the economy by providing stimulus dollars to create thousands and thousands of jobs. Work together, not divide. That is how we will move this economy forward.

Congratulations, NAACP.

POLITICS OF PANIC

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the administration continues its assaultive crusade against the workers in the domestic deepwater drilling industry.

Yesterday, it doubled down its relentless destruction of the gulf coast energy industry by issuing yet another ill-advised moratorium on deepwater drilling. Never mind that two courts have said the first moratorium on drilling was ''arbitrary, capricious and wrong.''

The Federal Government furnished no credible evidence or specifics that shutting down deepwater drilling was absolutely necessary. Never mind the facts, never mind that the second edict from the administration violates the spirit of the court rulings. Never mind that this job-killing ban is more about the politics of panic than about the safety of offshore drilling.

The administration is intentionally and knowingly destroying domestic energy and making us more dependent on foreign oil. The administration is permanently sinking the jobs of offshore workers, and the President's plan is succeeding. Jobs are being lost, rigs are leaving the gulf to friendlier waters. And why? Who knows.

The second disaster of the gulf is brought to you by this administration and our own Federal Government.

And that's just the way it is.

TRIBUTE TO JAMES ''BUDDY'' KEATON

(Mr. TOWNS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, my heart is heavy this evening because a very dear friend of mine passed away, Buddy Keaton.

Buddy Keaton has been a real fixture in the Brooklyn community for so many years. Many, many basketball players are in the NBA because of Buddy Keaton. Buddy Keaton was a person that spent a lot of time with young people, helping them to understand how important it is to go straight in life, and also how important it was to really work on your skills. But at the same time, he indicated that they needed to be involved in making certain that their academics were in order.

Buddy Keaton, as a result of his involvement, made it possible for many basketball officials to be able to officiate games. Some have gone on to the NBA and to other places as a result of Buddy Keaton and his involvement.

Buddy Keaton was truly a coalition builder. He was a person that just had a natural flair for saying the right thing at the right time. He knew how to do that.

So I say to the Brooklyn community and to the family of Buddy Keaton, and, of course, to my good friend Hank Carter and to all those who knew him in terms of his work and how hard he has worked on behalf of people, we say to his family, you have our deepest sympathy. If there is anything that we can do, please do not hesitate to reach out.

What a tremendous loss for the Brooklyn community.

THERAPEUTIC RECREATION WEEK

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to draw both awareness and support for Therapeutic Recreation Week, which runs from July 11 to July 17. The purpose of recreational therapy is to restore, remediate and rehabilitate, all of which help to improve and maintain the physical, cognitive, social, emotional and spiritual functioning of individuals facing life-changing disease and disability.

This week serves to raise awareness of therapeutic recreation programs, promote these opportunities for those in need, and recognize the dedicated services of certified therapeutic recreation specialists. These specialists are certified by the National Council for Therapeutic Recreation Certification and serve a vital role in helping individuals facing disease and disability and helps them to achieve and maintain independence. Their services are both cost-effective and heartfelt.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the caring therapeutic recreation professionals for their selfless efforts to improve the lives of others, and encourage the public to take advantage of the many programs, workshops, presentations, lectures and receptions hosted in recognition of Therapeutic Recreation Week.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF REVEREND KENNETH MARCUS

(Mr. GINGREY of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the service of a very influential spiritual leader within the Marietta community, Reverend Kenneth Marcus, the Senior Pastor of Turner Chapel A.M.E. Church.

Reverend Marcus came to America from the Island of Trinidad in 1975 to pursue a higher education. He received his undergraduate degree from Morris Brown College and master of business from Atlanta University. He first felt called to preach while in college, and then attended Emory, where he received a master of divinity in theology.

Reverend Marcus is very well respected at Turner Chapel, as he transformed a small church of just over 150 people to a large congregation consisting of over 6,000 members today. Most notably, the African Methodist Episcopal University in Monrovia, Liberia, conferred the doctor of divinity degree on Reverend Marcus in recognition of his impact on the city of Marietta.

Mr. Speaker, Reverend Marcus's wife is also his co-pastor, the Reverend Cassandra Marcus, and I send them both my best wishes.

□ 1900

HONORING THE CITY OF EDEN PRAIRIE: THE BEST PLACE TO LIVE IN AMERICA

(Mr. PAULSEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Eden Prairie, Minnesota—the best place to live in America. Yesterday, my hometown of Eden Prairie was named by Money Magazine as their 2010 Best Place to Live in America. Of course, the people of Eden Prairie have known this for some time. But being true Minnesotans, we're very modest about our achievements. In fact, you usually won't hear anyone from Eden Prairie brag about our nationally recognized companies that we're home to, our beautiful lakes and rivers, or the miles of hiking and biking trails that run through town. You also won't hear anyone from Eden Prairie that brags about our award-winning schools, the civic-mindedness of our business community, or the friendliness of our citizens. In Eden Prairie, our preference is to leave that type of grandstanding to others like Matt Lauer and ''The Today Show'' and nationally circulated magazines with millions of subscribers.

Eden Prairie has been my family's home for close to 20 years. It's the place that I represented in the Minnesota State legislature, and now in Congress—and I can't think of a more deserving honor than being named The Best Place to Live in America.

BEWARE OF SPECIAL SESSIONS

(Mr. BURTON of Indiana asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, if I were tonight addressing the people of this country, I would say: beware of special sessions. We're not going to accomplish much between now and when we get out of here for the election in November. And the reason we're not is because of my Democrat colleagues, many of whom realize that they're probably not going to be reelected.

And so the President and the majority in this body and the other body are going to wait until the election is over and they're going to call a special session. And when they call that special session, they're going to try to ram through things such as cap-and-trade, which is going to cost every family in this country about $4,000 more for utility bills. They're going to try to ram through a bunch of tax increases and a whole lot of other things that are bad for the United States of America and all the people in this country.

And so if I were talking to the America people tonight, I'd say: Call your Congressman, call your Senator, and call the President and say, We don't want anything being rammed through by people who are out of office between November and January of next year.

HONORING THE SACRIFICE OF PRIVATE FIRST CLASS CLAY McGARRAH

(Mr. BOOZMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of America's bravest, Private First Class Clay McGarrah, who sacrificed his life in Afghanistan on our Nation's birthday in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Private First Class McGarrah, also a specialist in the United States Army, was a lifelong resident of Arkansas' Third District, where he attended Harrison High School. His loved ones describe McGarrah as a hardworking hero before he ever made his free choice to join the United States Army.

In addition to being described as a joy who brought happiness to the loved ones around him, McGarrah was also extremely patriotic and sacrificed himself for his life's passion for the military and our great Nation. Specialist McGarrah was assigned to C Company, 2nd Battalion, 508th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division in Fort Bragg, North Carolina. He deployed to Afghanistan in June.

Private First Class Clay McGarrah made the ultimate sacrifice for his country at the young age of 20. He is a true America hero. I ask my colleagues to keep his family and friends in their thoughts and prayers during this very difficult time, and I humbly offer my appreciation and gratitude to this American hero for his selfless service to the security and well-being of our country.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. MORAN of Kansas addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

BANKROLLING THE ENEMY?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, a gentleman from my district, Will Bennett of Santa Rosa, recently wrote a letter to the editor of the Santa Rosa Press Democrat and made an excellent point. He noted that Afghan President Hamid Karzai had said of the Taliban, ''They are not the enemy. They are the sons of this land.'' As Mr. Bennett points out, then who is the enemy? ''Is this a pretend war,'' he asks.

How can we possibly win a war in which our chief ally doesn't share our vision of who is the enemy? But then you realize that maybe the U.S. approach to the Taliban is closer to Karzai's than we'd be comfortable admitting. Because in certain respects we're treating them more like a vendor than like an enemy. It turns out our own contracting practices in Afghanistan may actually be putting money in the hands of the very Taliban insurgents we're trying to drive from the country—the very people who are killing our troops, the very organization that provided safe haven for al Qaeda to plot 9/11.

My distinguished colleague from Massachusetts (Mr. TIERNEY) and his Government Oversight Subcommittee recently completed a shocking report based on a 6-month investigation, which provides the details. At a cost, Madam Speaker, of more than $2 billion, the Pentagon outsources the responsibility for shipping supplies to U.S. troops. And the contractor, unburdened by any meaningful government oversight, has been paying off a shadowy cabal of warlords, strongmen, and corrupt officials in order to guarantee security on Afghan roads.

The evidence is strong that the highway warlords are, in turn, paying protection money to the Taliban, who control many of the routes. Mr. TIERNEY

calls this, ''Warlord, Inc.: Extortion and Corruption Along the U.S. Supply Chain in Afghanistan.'' And perhaps most disturbing of all, Madam Speaker, is the Department of Defense apparently has long been aware of this and hasn't done a thing about it.

As Mr. TIERNEY points out, at a time when communities here at home are crying out for investment in schools, hospitals, and other infrastructure, it's galling to think that American taxpayer dollars are supporting the kind of thuggery in Afghanistan that is quite possibly endangering our troops. It's bad enough, Madam Speaker, that the American people are being asked to pay for our failed war. Now it appears that they're being asked to pay for the wrong side.

Madam Speaker, we simply cannot sustain a counterterrorism strategy that has us doing business, however indirectly, with the terrorists themselves. It's illogical and it's unconscionable. This is just one more piece of evidence that this war is failing the American people, undermining instead of advancing our national security objectives. It's time for a radical change in our policy. It's time to bring our troops home.

□ 1910

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. DAHLKEMPER). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BURTON of Indiana addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

STAFF SERGEANT EDWARDO LOREDO—AMERICAN SOLDIER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, it's my solemn honor tonight to pay tribute to an American hero and a son of Texas killed in Afghanistan in service to our country.

Staff Sergeant Edwardo Loredo died in Afghanistan supporting Operation Enduring Freedom. Edwardo was killed by injuries sustained when an IED was detonated near his dismounted patrol. Madam Speaker, IEDs are the way the cowards of the desert fight against our Americans. Sergeant Loredo was just 34 years of age, and it was just one day before his 35th birthday when he gave his life for our Nation.

This great American warrior was born and raised in Houston, Texas. He was an Army Airborne soldier. Edwardo served combat tours in both Iraq and Afghanistan and was with C Company, 2nd Battalion, 508th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne out of Fort Bragg.

Now the 82nd Airborne Division has had its share of famous soldiers, from Sergeant Alvin C. York to General James M. Gavin. But the real story of the 82nd Airborne Division is the selfless men like Edwardo Loredo—one of the thousands of paratroopers in jump boots, baggy pants, and maroon berets. They jump out of aircraft loaded with a ton of gear and stare danger right in the face. And if you are looking for peril, you will find our paratroopers there, jumping out of airplanes into the worst hellholes on the planet, finding the terrorists cowering in their caves, taking the fight to the enemy, and treading where the timid dare not go.

You see, Madam Speaker, our Airborne soldiers plant the American flag and say, The American soldier is here to defend freedom and liberty. They go to liberate, not to conquer. And you can point them to danger, and they'll jump right in. They're the Airborne soldiers of the 82nd. They're called the ''All Americans,'' signified by their famous ''AA'' patch on their shoulder. Their division was first formed by soldiers from all of the 48 States at the time.

Staff Sergeant Edwardo Loredo was one of such American troopers. He graduated from Sam Houston High School and joined the Army shortly after graduation. He met his wife, Jennifer, in the Army. First Sergeant Jennifer Loredo, Edwardo's wife, was deployed to northern Afghanistan when she got news that her husband had been killed in southern Afghanistan.

This fine young couple are examples of the absolute best America has. They sacrificed so much in service for the country that they love. Edwardo called his fellow soldiers his family as well, and he loved the Army life.

Edwardo is survived by his 2-year-old son, Eddie; his 7-year-old daughter, Laura; and his 13-year-old stepdaughter, Alexis.

His family says Edwardo was an adventurer. He adored his wife and father, and he loved to cook for his family. America is blessed to have such a rare breed of man who serves as protector to his family and to his Nation.

Madam Speaker, this is a photograph of Staff Sergeant Edwardo Loredo. General Douglas MacArthur talked about such men, and he summed up their service in three words when he said, ''Duty, honor, country.'' Those three hallowed words reverently dictate what these people will be, what they can be, and what they will always be. Staff Sergeant Edwardo Loredo lived those words. He honored his country and his family with his courage and his dedication, and he gave his life for the things he believed in.

It was once said that what we do for ourselves dies with us, but what we do for the others and the world remains and is immortal. Edwardo's sacrifice will not be forgotten by our Nation. Staff Sergeant Edwardo Loredo's name is now written on the sacred rolls of American patriots who paid in blood for this Nation's freedom and for the freedom of other nations.

Today I offer a grateful nation's thanks and prayers. We are grateful that a man like Edwardo Loredo lived and loved America. My heartfelt condolences to Edwardo's wife and children, his friends and family in Houston, and to the 82nd Airborne family. Today we honor this great American warrior's life and are humbled by his greatest of sacrifices. We are truly blessed to have called Staff Sergeant Edwardo Loredo an American.

And that's just the way it is.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. KAPTUR addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

MANY MORE 1099'S FOR SMALL BUSINESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. UPTON. Madam Speaker, it was a few months ago that Congress passed and the President signed this health care bill; 2,700 pages that I don't think a lot of people read. But if you did read it, you might have gotten to this one section, section 9006, and I will just read it very quickly.

''Expansion of Information Reporting Requirements. In General—Section 6041 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsections:

''(h) Application to Corporations.—Notwithstanding any regulation prescribed by the Secretary before the date of the enactment of this subsection, for purposes of this section the term 'person' includes any corporation that is not an organization exempt from tax under section 501(a).

''(i) Regulations.—The Secretary may prescribe such regulations and other guidance as may be appropriate or necessary to carry out the purpose of this section, including rules to prevent duplicative reporting of transactions.''.

(b) Payments for Property and Other Gross Proceeds.—Subsection (a) of section 6041 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended—

(1) by inserting ''amounts in consideration for property,'' after ''wages,'',

(2) by inserting ''gross proceeds'' after ''emoluments, or other'', and

(3) by inserting ''gross proceeds,'' after ''setting forth the amount of such''.

(c) Effective Date.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to payments made after December 31, 2011.''

A lot of gobbledygook, right? Anybody here know what that means? No, they don't. Let me tell you what it means. That section that I just read, even if you read it before we voted on

the House floor, is a requirement that every business in America, beginning January 1 of next year, 2011, will have to file a 1099–MISC for any transaction that exceeds $600 during the course of the year.

So what does that mean? You've got a business that goes to Staples. They're going to have to keep track of every transaction that they made. If you buy, as a business, $50 a month from Staples, you are going to have to file a 1099. If you've got a sales force, maybe they go out to a bunch of hotels or restaurants during the course of the year, you are going to have to find every one of those for all of your employees.

During this recent break that we were home, I met with one of my small business people in Michigan. Last year, they filed 10 1099s. They figure that next year—they have, I don't know, 30 people that work for them—they are going to have to file 350 1099s. Any business transaction that exceeds $600 over the course of the year, they are going to have to file a 1099.

And what does that have to do with health care? How does that help the employees that are working there? Maybe they will have to hire some more people to fill out the 1099s, and they are going to be covered. Well, that's just crazy. This is a new regulation that's going to be put on businesses. It's going to cost a lot more money. If anything, it's going to take away from folks that have health care in America.

Now, we have some good news. There is a bill. My colleague DAN LUNGREN from California introduced a bill, H.R. 5141, the Small Business Paperwork Mandate Elimination Act. Just on the title, you know what that means versus what I just read at the beginning of my remarks. It takes this away. What the heck are we going to be collecting that information for? Well, somewhere else—I don't know what page it's in here, but of course it calls for the hiring of 15,000 more IRS agents. Maybe that's why they have to hire them, so they can look at all these 1099s that every business is going to have to file.

Now remember, when you do a 1099, it's more than just the amount. You're going to have to go get the Employer Identification Number for every business that you made that purchase. So, as I talked to my Kalamazoo homebuilders the last couple of times over the last couple of weeks, if they just happen to take their pickup and fill up at that Marathon or Speedway station every other week and it's going to be more than $600 over the course of the year, they are going to have to get that Employer Identification Number and keep track of all those gas records. Think about the utilities, Consumers Energy, American Electric Power, I&M. All of the utility companies will have to do a separate 1099 for every business that they serve if they sell more than, in essence, $50 worth of electricity a month to them.

□ 1920

What a nightmare.

Now, some might suggest that this is the first step to a VAT tax. That's right. The IRS now is going to assemble all this information and maybe—and remember, it says it's effective in 2012, but that means you have to start filing beginning January 1, only 5 or 6 months from now. It's the first step. It's the wrong step. We need to repeal it.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. DEFAZIO addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. JONES addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

RELEASE OF POLITICAL PRISONERS IN CUBA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, today marks the anniversary of the horrific 13th of March tugboat massacre, in which 41 Cubans lost their lives at the hands of the Cuban regime's Coast Guard.

Risking their lives to escape from the brutal oppression of the Castro tyranny, the victims and the survivors of that attack 16 years ago symbolize the ongoing struggle of the Cuban people to be free.

This anniversary serves to remind the world that the same callous dictatorship that rammed the small tugboat and turned water cannons on innocent Cuban men, women and children so that they could fall and drown to death is the same dictatorship in power today.

This is a regime that trades political prisoners like baseball cards to manipulate public opinion and advance its brutal agenda. Do not be fooled. These are not releases. They are forced exile; means by which the tyrannical rulers in Havana seek to eliminate their opponents. And in forcibly removing them, the regime, yet again, is violating the fundamental rights of these prisoners of conscience.

Having spent years in Castro's dungeons for having the courage to stand up for the basic liberties of the Cuban people, now these brave individuals will be banished from their homeland, courtesy of the dictatorship and its accomplice, the Spanish government.

Faced with this prospect, nearly a dozen of the prisoners of conscience reported to have made the list have already expressed their refusal to leave the island upon release, including Dr. Oscar Elias Biscet, a 2007 recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Years ago Dr. Biscet wrote to his fellow comrades, his countrymen, of ''a movement of complacency,'' to use his words, a movement that, and I quote him, ''tries to make Cubans devoted to freedom believe that they should applaud and be content with receiving limited doses of freedom, a movement which suggests that we Cubans do not deserve total freedom, but only small tokens of it. This movement of low expectations speculates that other fragments of freedom and democracy will automatically follow it.''

While some will use this latest farce to reward the Cuban regime, those who truly support freedom and democracy will heed the wise words of Dr. Biscet.

It is no coincidence that this latest scheme promptly follows recent legislative efforts to provide an economic lifeline to the Cuban dictatorship. It is no coincidence that Fidel Castro chose this weekend to make his first public appearance in years, or to do a television interview on the Middle East to praise the enemies of freedom while attacking our democratic ally, Israel.

But this is not the first time that the regime has used political prisoners as pawns in its pursuit of infinite power. In 1978, the regime released 3,600 political prisoners in exchange for the Carter administration's easing of sanctions on the regime. Then 26 were released for Jesse Jackson in 1984, three for Bill Richardson in 1996, another one for former President Jimmy Carter in 2002, and 80 for Pope John Paul II in 1998.

No sooner were these political prisoners freed than the cells once again were then filled with those seeking freedom from Castro's tyranny.

With a recent visit from Syria's dictator and longlasting ties with fellow state sponsor of terrorism, Iran, the tyrants of those rogue states are likely sharing trade secrets on how to best manipulate foreign nations to serve their own nefarious purposes.

Syria, like Iran, is seeking nuclear capabilities, other nonconventional weapons, ballistic missiles, and it actively supports Islamic extremists.

Similarly, Cuba provides safe haven to known extremists from around the world and continues to publicly defend violent organizations such as the FARC in Colombia.

The anti-American, anti-democratic, anti-freedom agenda that these dictators have in common presents a threat to our U.S. national security interests.

Let us not be fooled, Madam Speaker.

For the sake of all those who have been victims of the Cuban tyranny—including Americans like Alan Gross and the members of Brothers to the Rescue murdered by Castro's thugs in February 1996—the United States must not, and cannot, fall for this latest façade by the Castro regime: Until all political prisoners are liberated; all political parties, labor

unions, independent media are allowed to operate freely; and, all Cuban people are able to fully exercise their universal rights, maximum pressure must be exerted on the Cuban tyranny.

UPHOLDING THE RULE OF LAW

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CARTER) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. CARTER. Madam Speaker, while these young folks are setting this up for me, I want to start off tonight by talking about what we've been talking about in this hour now for close to a year, and that is that the United States is a Nation of laws, not of men. It was designed by our Founding Fathers to be such. It is something we are proud to be a part of. It's something we are proud to step up to the plate and say we defend because we believe that the rule of law is more fair than having individuals set their own rules as kings and dictators do. And so, the rule of law is a sacred part of our institution.

We say that the people will elect representatives to represent them in this Congress and in State legislatures across the country and other legislative or quasi-legislative bodies to speak on their behalf, to vote on their behalf, and to set up laws and rules which establish what a civil society will be and what we will consider right and wrong in our world.

This is a simple concept, arguably, a biblical concept going back for centuries and centuries, in fact, thousands of years. There have been sets of rules in every society, every culture, and every religious background, sets of rules that are established that allows society to function.

The rule of law is important to America. In fact, it is the underpinning that allows me and other folks like me who are blessed to be able to serve in this Congress, allows us to do this job because we stand on that rock, that the law in this country is something that we enforce.

In fact, we take an oath to preserve and protect and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic. And we take that oath freely because we're saying, the basis of our legal structure, the ground rock of the rule of law, is the Constitution of the United States, which was adopted by this country and formed our Nation as we presently know it.

So we've been talking about that Members of Congress, administration people, and others need to be dealt with in the light of the rule of law, and when there are questions that should be raised, they should be raised publicly.

And so tonight, as I've done on many occasions in the past, I'm going to talk about some things that are concerning me, concerning others who care about the rule of law. I hope to be joined by some of my colleagues here tonight.

But to start off with, I'm really concerned about what's being reported by the Obama administration, with the political backing of the Democrats in this House.

□ 1930

We are arguably seeing one of the most lawless political crusades in American history. Blatantly, this administration has violated both the spirit and the letter of the law in advancing a theory of European-style socialism on State governments and on the unwilling people.

The administration's ignored two Federal court orders that have just come out, and have ignored both of them now, saying that the drilling ban in the Gulf of Mexico is arbitrary and capricious and wrong, and ordering the United States and the Secretary to withdraw and lift that drilling ban. And yet the minute these two courts, both a Federal district court and a United States court of appeals, the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals, told this administration, this President and this Secretary, that they were to lift the drilling ban and save the between 140,000 and 250,000 jobs that are connected with that industry along the entire stretch of the Gulf of Mexico, that it was arbitrary and capricious to ban all drilling and it should not be done, they immediately amend and reissue another drilling ban in the face of that court.

The administration blocks Louisiana's efforts to proceed to fight their own environmental fight by trying to throw up a little small rock barrier and a sand barrier to maybe keep the oil from getting into the marsh. It's bad enough when this oil stacks up on the beach because it makes tar balls, and it makes nastiness on that beach. It makes that beach very ugly. But you know what, it just gets on your feet and gets your feet dirty, and it just picks up.

But when it goes in the marsh, when this oil goes in the Louisiana marsh, it affects an entire ecosystem that has to do with our shrimping industry, our oyster industry, our fishing industry. It has to do with the ecosystem of the entire State and the Gulf of Mexico because there is a lot that flows in and out of that marsh that has to do with the ecosystem of the gulf. And when oil gets in amongst those grasses and amongst those habitats, it kills. On the beach it probably causes some terrible environmental impact, but nothing like going into those marshes.

So Governor Jindal says let's do something about it, and our administration blocks it. And international companies call out and say we have material to help clean up, and the administration refuses to allow them to come.

The administration refused to allow the United States Senate to conduct a single hearing over the appointment of Dr. Berwick to head Medicare at the same time that this Congress and the President plan cutting Medicare by $50 billion, and putting a man in charge of Medicare that there is a lot of questions that should have been asked by the Senate. But using a recess appointment, which is legal, it's legal, but in the face of what's facing Medicare and in the face of the conversation we just had earlier with Mr. UPTON about the massive burdens that are going to be created by this ObamaCare bill that has now been signed into law, and just the burdens on industry and business that are going to be put on there for really no good understandable reason, you've got to ask the question why you put a guy in there who says the things that Mr. Berwick has said and then don't allow the Senate to ask questions about that. I think that's something we ought to be concerned about.

We have a Supreme Court opinion, a recent Supreme Court opinion, that protected certain First Amendment rights of free speech, and this Congress and this administration immediately brought to this floor and shoved through on a partisan vote a bill called the DISCLOSE Act, which gives special free speech rights to some and bars other groups from having the same rights, which is in the face of a Supreme Court opinion that's taken place this summer. And so you have to say what is it about ''no'' that you don't understand? But you know, this is the way we are operating.

This administration has filed a lawsuit against the State of Arizona to try to block them from enforcing their laws and Federal laws with specific provisions against discrimination in any form or fashion, and profiling in any form or fashion, but to just try to save their State from the invasion that happens nightly and from the slaughter of American citizens that has happened over the last couple years, and the multiple slaughters across the border.

The administration's refused to defend the Republic against the most egregious violations of voting rights since the Civil Rights Act was passed. And we all saw them on television. It's kind of like we used to wonder how you were going to get the guy that shot Lee Harvey Oswald, ever get him a fair trial when the whole world saw the shooting on television. Well, the whole world saw these two guys, one with a club, standing out in front of a polling place, intimidating voters. And yet this administration says that they don't see any harm in that, and they are not going to enforce it.

So we are going to go through some of these things tonight and talk about them. And the first one I just brought up: the voting rights violations are ignored. Attorney General Eric Holder, who is right now very proud to be out suing the State of Arizona, dropped the case that, hey, I will ask you, if you can see this clearly, if you will look right there, you will see a club or a shillelagh or a baton, but it is, if you

go down to the gun store you can buy that weapon. So it's clearly a weapon.

Then if you would watch the film, you would hear the intimidating language that's going on there, and yet this is dropped. And it's a blatant voting rights violation. Refused to sentence the Black Panthers to default judgment. These guys were sued and didn't even show up. And it was a default judgment got against them, and then they dropped it. They didn't even have to work to get something against these guys. These guys lost. I mean, a fresh-out-of-law-school, brand-new lawyer can handle a default judgment and get recourse against these people. But the Justice Department chose, after these guys defaulted in the lawsuit, to drop the suit. I think this is a blatant disregard of something.

Civil rights is an issue that when we say the term ''civil rights'' of course we remember what developed in the sixties, of course we know where it came from. Of course we know it had to do with the treatment of African Americans in this country initially. But it was not written just for African Americans. It was written for Americans, every kind of American. And then an off-shoot of civil rights is the Voting Rights Act, which protects every American's right to freely vote.

Now, if two guys dressed in paramilitary uniforms, carrying clubs, are standing in front of a polling place and intimidating people and making them afraid to go up to that polling place, why in the world wouldn't it be the duty of our Attorney General, the man who is sworn to represent us in this type of law and to represent us being the American people and the Federal Government, why wouldn't they pursue this?

And that's why I say this is blatantly avoiding, ignoring, of not doing your job and doing your duty to this country to preserve the laws.

□ 1940

So if one man, Eric Holder, makes the determination—and maybe a couple other lawyers in the office, I don't know. There are a whole bunch of them over there. But if he made the decision not to enforce this law, is that a rule of law or is that a rule of men?

Now, you'll hear prosecutors say every prosecutor determines what's a good case. That's true. But they have a civil suit already that they already won, okay. I mean, they didn't have to do anything but take it to judgment, and they didn't do it—much less go prosecute the other violations under the Civil Rights Act.

So you have to ask yourself: Is this the rule of law or the rule of Eric Holder? And if it's the rule of Eric Holder, then it's not what this country is designed to be. It's not designed to be the rule of Eric Holder. It's not designed to be the rule of Barack Obama. It's not to designed to be the rule of George Bush or any other President or leader of this country. It's designed to be the rule of law. And this body has an awful lot to do with what is in that body of law that's called a rule of law.

And if we are going to arbitrarily and capriciously make changes or choose how we're going to enforce the law, I would argue that we're going down a slippery slope, and that slippery slope could lead to real disaster for this country, because if Eric Holder made this decision based on some personal decision that he has, what's to prevent the next Attorney General to have a different personal opinion and avoid some other law that's important to the rights of the American people? I don't know.

So it's the Office of Attorney General we need to be talking about. And what's their job? And I would argue their job is to enforce the law. And if there is any question as to whether or not this is intimidation—and I would almost guarantee you there is—that's for a jury or a judge to decide in a court of law; not for a group of lawyers sitting around a back room someplace deciding which group you want to protect. That's not the way it's supposed to work.

I would hope that the Attorney General will be taking another look at this. And if he thinks there is any way anybody could think this guy with a club is intimidating somebody under the Civil Rights Act, then let a trier of fact make that decision and do your job and present your case in court like a good lawyer should, and let's find out just what the courts that we trust with these decisions have to say about it. I'll accept that. I think that's right. That's the way it's supposed to operate.

So there's one blatant avoidance of the law.

Now, let me start off—because I like to be straight as I can be. To do a recess appointment—it's been done in the past. I can certainly tell you the last administration did it. Other administrations have done it. Using that method is not what I have a concern about because the President absolutely has the right to do it.

Now, he picked sort of a brief recess but, hey, that's okay. It's been done on brief recesses in the past. So that's all right. I'm not complaining about that.

But one of the things we've got to ask ourselves is, when the President of the United States told the American people what was in that 2,500-page bill that NANCY PELOSI said we were going to have to pass so we'll find out what's in it because she didn't know and neither did anybody else in this House, now we're getting to know what's in that bill.

But the promises that were made by the administration were a lie. And one of those promises was there are no death committees. There's nobody going to be deciding your life or death. Nothing in this bill is going to create or have someone in charge that's operating this bill that believes that rationing your health care and making decisions about whether or not you get treated—that's what we were promised. The President of the United States himself told us that on multiple occasions. And not only the President, but almost everybody that represented what was in this bill said, We're not in the business of rationing health care. This bill's not going to ration health care. That's what they said. That's what they all told us.

Now, who's this guy Donald Berwick who's now been put in charge of Medicare and Medicaid? He's a proponent of the British health care system and believes in rationing your health care and redistributing wealth. What he said, and if you watch—I know it's on FOX; I hope it's on all of the channels, his statement about how he viewed health care. He basically said health care, by its very nature, requires you to have some form of rationing and a redistribution of wealth from the more prosperous to the least prosperous. It's the very nature of the beast, he said. He told us rationing health care is inevitable.

Now, wait a minute. We were promised by the President of the United States that we were not talking about rationing health care. Why would the first guy put in charge of this be a guy who publicly endorses rationing health care?

You know, I was talking about rationing health care back home, and I was surprised to learn that people didn't get the whole concept. So let me give you an example, okay, and I've given this example before.

My wife was born and raised in the Netherlands, in Holland, where they have socialized medicine and have had socialized medicine since the Second World War. My mother-in-law, who lived a long time—into her nineties—she lived under a system of socialized medicine. And she was healthy enough and so desirous of seeing her grandchildren that, even when she was really struggling with a lot of health issues, she still flew to the United States to be with her grandchildren and to be with her daughters. She's got a daughter here and a daughter in Florida. My wife's one of her daughters.

My mother-in-law, back when she was in her mid to late eighties, was suffering from anal polyps—not a pleasant thing to talk about—and she was having a lot of bleeding issues, and she went to the health care people in the Netherlands. And when she came to the United States, she was still—she'd been treated with a drug that they gave her for almost a year, and it had not changed her situation at all. Very embarrassing for a very nice woman to have this situation.

So we took her to a Dutch doctor that we knew that worked in Austin, Texas, and spoke Dutch, and we had gotten to be friends with him. And he went in and talked to my mother-in-law about it, what it was, and when he came out he said, You know, he said, this is a shame. They're treating your

mother—he's talking to my wife—with sulfa drugs. Now, we haven't treated people with sulfa drugs since the Second World War because we have antibiotics. And sulfa drugs were our drugs of choice in pre-antibiotic days, but at a time when you're 88 years old and it costs the system a lot of money for antibiotics to fight this bug, just treat the old person with sulfa drugs because, quite frankly, she's not worth the investment. That's rationing.

So being in the United States of America, the doctor immediately prescribed two antibiotics. Two weeks later, my mother-in-law was cured after a year of suffering with this situation. That's rationing. That's a governmental agency making a decision what drug you get for your illness.

And we've got a guy that we just put in charge of the health care for our elderly and the health care for our poor, Medicaid. So our needy and our elderly are now under the charge of a man who says a health care system, by its very nature, has to have rationing in order to be fiscally able to function; in other words, in order to pay the bills. And we have been promised that this wouldn't happen.

So what rule am I saying this is a violation of? It's not a rule that—they followed the rules. But it's the spirit of the thing, that the Senate should have been able to at least ask a few questions about these statements which were promised weren't going to happen. And I think the American people deserve to have those questions answered, so that's something else.

We have had one of the worst, if not the worst, environmental disaster in the history of the United States on British Petroleum's poor management and poor operation of their offshore drilling resulting in an oil spill that is catastrophic.

□ 1950

We are in like the 95th day of that oil spill right now. We have a new procedure being worked on as we speak and we're hopeful it will help. But it doesn't matter. We have poured millions of barrels, not gallons but barrels of oil into the Gulf of Mexico; and the consequences, we are beyond thinking about.

But one of the problems is the action of the Obama administration because of this one leaking oil well. Now, it is kind of interesting that the United States has drilled, according to what they are reporting today, 42,000 plus oil wells in the Gulf of Mexico, and the United States, the United States drilling area, has had one drilling mishap, and that's the one we're dealing with today. One in 42,000 is what the record is, right now.

So the question is, what should we do about it? Well, I would argue, and this is not hard stuff, plug the well, which has got to be done a certain way and I think they're ultimately going to do it. I'm not pleased with their performance. And secondly, under the Oil Spill Act, the Federal Government took control of oil spills. We have a written law, the Oil Spill Act, and it puts one person in charge of making sure that all the resources of America, and anywhere else we can get, I would argue, are to be put in to clean up that mess. And under the Federal Oil Spill Act, the President of the United States is in charge of that. It's his jobs. BP's got to stop the oil drilling and they've got to pay damages, but the United States has got the duty under the Oil Spill Act to clean up the mess. And they have a way to try to collect on who will pay the damages. I'm not talking about a damage issue. I'm talking about who says to clean up boat number 5, go out there and clean. How about you number 10, go clean. Number 100, go clean. Number 1,000, go clean. Who says that? The Federal Government does that.

Okay. We are close to 100 days into this oil spill and the responsibility for the cleanup belongs to the Federal Government. Now what is the solution that our administration, the Obama administration, has come up with? We're going to put an oil drilling moratorium and shut down all oil drilling in the gulf. Later they tried to amend it to make it deep water only. But what happens when you do that, when you say the power of this government says stop drilling, what do the people who are in the gulf do? Stop drilling.

Now I can't tell you the number of drilling rigs we've got in the gulf, but it's a lot. Deep water, we have in the twenties or thirties or forties out there, in deep water. Those are the big expensive drilling rigs. But all of them cost a lot of money, even the shallow water rigs. We shut down drilling in the gulf, started making accommodations for the shallow water people, but interestingly enough, since that occurred, nobody, not one person, has been issued a permit to drill out there. So they may have told them they could drill but they haven't issued them a permit to let them drill, so, quite honestly, nobody's drilling.

Now what this means to the economy of the Gulf of Mexico, Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, possibly portions of Florida, is that a lot of people are going to lose their jobs. The public number that they're giving out is 140,000, but that I believe is the number that was determined in Louisiana alone. I asked the question of a person very knowledgeable at the Chamber of Commerce in Houston, Texas, what they thought this—what could ultimately end up as a permanent ban out there, or at least a long-term ban—will do to Houston, and they said 250,000 jobs.

Now is this what you do in a time of recession? At a time when unemployment is at record numbers? I don't think so. But they did. They issued a moratorium. And they were taken to court. And the Federal district court said, No, lift that moratorium, this is arbitrary and capricious, and it is the wrong thing to do. Lift it. Well, of course, not being willing to take no for an answer, they took it to the appellate court, Fifth Circuit, in New Orleans. Lo and behold, the Fifth Circuit said, No. The trial court is right. It's arbitrary and capricious. Lift that drilling ban. You're doing harm by having that drilling ban.

And Secretary Salazar steps up, makes a few adjustments to zero in on some deep water rigs, floating deep water rigs, and issues another moratorium. Now first, I think there are probably a bunch of judges both on the Fifth Circuit and in the district court that ought to be asking Mr. Salazar, ''Secretary Salazar, excuse me, sir, but what is it about no that you don't understand?'' I have asked that of lawyers who argued in my court from time to time, and I think that question ought to be asked: What is it about no that you don't understand? We've told you this is an arbitrary and capricious and way beyond the scope of what you should be doing here and you're doing it anyway. Why don't you understand the word ''no'' when people you are supposed to be answering to are telling you no? I think that's a question that's valid, and I think that's a question that we as people who defend the rule of law, we ought to be asking that question. I don't think we have an answer, but I do know what they did. They issued another moratorium.

Now those who would defend the moratorium would say, yeah, but they've lightened it each time. The issue is at some point in time until the playing field is cleared, the people who operate those rigs don't know if they're in trouble or not in trouble if they start to drill. They don't know. Because this keeps in the court system.

See, one of the real crimes that happens in this country and happens in every part of the country now, even including politics, is we use our courts as a weapon, sometimes when we really have no real position in law that would allow us to do so. We used to have a saying back where I come from that any idiot can file a lawsuit. All he's got to do is have the price of the filing fees and directions to the courthouse. That doesn't mean it's a good lawsuit, but defending that bad lawsuit can be so economically depressing to whoever's getting sued that ultimately that becomes a weapon, and even though they would have won if they had contested, the cost of contesting it becomes a weapon.

Well, now in this case, they've gone to court. They've been told by the court it's arbitrary and capricious. They've been told by the appellate court it's arbitrary and capricious. They've done it a third time. Now if you're a driller sitting on a drilling rig that costs somewhere between a half a million and a million dollars a day just sitting there and not operating, if you are that owner operator of that drilling rig, do you know if you can drill the day after the district court ruled? No.

Because you've got the appellate court. Do you know you can drill after the appellate court ruled? No, because they've issued another moratorium.

Now eventually that guy that's running that rig says, you know what, this is costing me somewhere around a million bucks every 2 days. I can pick this thing up and I can go over as I believe was announced by a group, Diamond or something like that, Diamond drilling rig, Diamond offshore drilling pulled their rig out today and moved it off the coast of Egypt.

Well, why wouldn't you? Is it good business to lose half a million dollars a day? Because people are clouding the waters so much or clouding the environment so much that you don't know whether if you start drilling, they're going to come drag you off and throw you in jail for violating a moratorium. I mean, that's why the drilling rigs aren't drilling. That's why they're pulling out and moving to other places. So at least Diamond is going off the shore of Egypt. Others will move off the shore of Australia. Others will move off the shore of Europe, into north Africa. Others will move off the shore of Libya; off the shore of Brazil.

□ 2000

Now, what is wrong with this picture? What is wrong with this picture? We all attach to the same oceans. The rest of the world is drilling. And we have had two courts of jurisdiction say, no, you can't have a moratorium. Why do we have a moratorium? Because I would argue that Secretary Salazar is ignoring the courts and ignoring the rule of law, and we ought to be concerned about that.

It has nothing to do with defending British Petroleum. They ought to get hammered every way they can get hammered, because they actually did some very bad business practices, it is going to prove out, I think. But we will have to see the proof. But still they have to pay for the damages they have done, which they have agreed to do, by the way.

Let's talk about another issue that in Texas at least is on our minds 24/7, and that is the issue of what is going on at our borders. President Barack Obama made a speech about 10 days ago that specifically raised this issue of immigration. He talked about we needed to do a comprehensive immigration plan and that we were defending our borders better than we have ever defended them, ever; that we have improved the situation greatly.

In the interest of fairness, I would argue that maybe he should have mentioned that the day before he made this announcement that there had never been a better defense of our borders, automatic weapon fire hit the city hall of El Paso, Texas, fired from across the border at city hall. I think at least in the order of fairness, we should have known that, well, except for maybe the fact that for the first time since 1919, the City of El Paso has been fired upon from across the border.

By the way, in 1919 when they did fire across the border, the American troops went across the border and cleaned out Juarez, in fact chased Pancho Villa, and they all came from right there at Fort Bliss, and we are sitting with 24,000 experienced combat soldiers at Fort Bliss right now. I am not saying he should have called them out. I am just saying let's paint the picture accurately.

Even if it is true that we have got more resources on the border than ever, and I think there is something to that, we have also had a massive escalation of what is going on across the border from our southern border States.

The cartels that promote and sell various sorts of drugs, and being an old judge I have tried more drug cases than 10 times the number of seats there are in this room, but I can tell you that when the cartels moved to the Mexican border, especially that strip of border between El Paso and Brownsville, we have got two, arguably three cartels fighting for who will control that area. Each of the two major cartels formed hit squads, separate organizations like Murder, Incorporated, when they used to talk about the Italian Mafia, and these groups became the murder squads, going out and killing not only other cartel members from the opposite cartel, but also killing Mexican police officers and Mexican army military people, Mexican civilians, kidnapping Americans, et cetera. Now those hit squads are thinking about becoming cartels themselves, so we have a real Wild West shootout going on across the border from where we live.

Now, I didn't mean that to be humorous. But the week before the firing on the El Paso city hall, 21 people were killed in one day in Juarez, Mexico, in gun battles. I am sorry, but if you will check Afghanistan and Iraq, the number of days that 21 people were killed, there were very few, in one day. So arguably we have got a situation in a city of almost 2 million people directly across the Rio Grande River from the State of Texas that is frightening. It is frightening.

Senator JOHN KYL says that President Obama told him, the problem is, if we secure the border, then you all won't have any reason to support comprehensive immigration reform. The White House denies that. Senator KYL sticks with his story. I don't know. But the issue that we really need to be talking about is defending our border, and I would say we are refusing to defend our border.

Arizona enacted a law to actually enforce the immigration laws the Federal Government has failed to enforce. Attorney General Eric Holder and the Obama administration have filed a lawsuit against Arizona saying it has no right to enforce that law. This is going to be a question that is going to be settled by the courts. How many times have I said on this floor I respect the decisions of the court? So we will certainly see how it comes out.

But why did the Arizona legislature and the Arizona Governor put this law forward? And why, by the way, did they take this law and track, according to multiple experts, word-for-word the enforcement provisions set out in the Federal law as far as the actions of Federal agents and what they can and cannot ask someone? Why does it track word-for-word the Federal law? Why did they pass this with specific provisions saying that we will not do any kind of profiling of any sort, racial or otherwise, and it can only be done as a result of a lawful stop on other matters, can you ask a question about the immigration status of the person you are talking to, or what country they come from.

So, you say, why did the legislature pass this? Why is the Governor stepping up and doing it? Because they have been begging in Arizona, please, come help us. You guys are not stopping this flow of people.

We had a rancher brutally murdered in his own living room for standing up to these drug lord caravans coming across the border bringing people and drugs into the United States. And the guy, all he did, he was out on his landing, he told these people, you are not supposed to be here. And they killed the guy.

In Texas, we have a river between us. They have a barbed wire fence between them and Mexico, and we have got a river between us.

I have friends, I talked to a good friend of mine, a former county commissioner in my home county, who told me that at his place at Carrizo Springs down close to the border, that he leaves food and water out for people because he doesn't want them tearing the place up. He leaves the place unlocked because there used to be mostly economic people looking for a job coming through there and all they wanted was something to eat and something to drink. But now these thugs are coming across the border stealing everything not nailed down and tearing the place to shreds, these lawless people that come across our border.

□ 2010

Now, maybe that's why the State of Arizona has said, You know what? You guys in the Federal Government are not doing your job. We're going to help. And I haven't heard anybody say that if they ask someone, Are you an American citizen, and they say, No, I'm from Guatemala, or whatever, and they say, Well, we're going to call the Border Patrol. At that point, that's where their participation stops, the way I understand it.

Whether the Border Patrol is going to do their job, well, that's going to be a whole different issue. But it's going to be decided by the courts. But I just think really and truly the real solution to the Arizona problem is for the Federal Government to enforce the laws that are on the books. The laws are on the books right now.

And I was thinking about this coming over here tonight. I will make a slight presumption, but it's not much of a presumption, that possession of cocaine in Arizona is against the law—especially large amounts. I would make the presumption that possession of marijuana in Arizona is against the law. I think there's a good presumption by an old judge from Texas that possession of heroin in that State of Arizona is against the law. I do think under those circumstances, if those are written into the code, which I presume they are, they are probably felony cases of a serious nature. I think that carrying automatic weapons, fully automatic weapons, is both against the Federal and the State law in Arizona. I'm pretty sure. I know they are in Texas.

Now, if people are coming across our border armed with AK–47 weapons, backpacks full of drugs, marching in caravans, in many cases dressed in uniforms—paramilitary uniforms—marching into the public lands of Arizona and I guess turning over to some motorized operation they want to that takes it and spreads that filth all over the country, the State of Arizona has the right to enforce, if nothing else, the drug laws of Arizona. And I would argue if they don't have the resources to stop this epidemic of violence and drugs and prostitution and smuggling of individuals from every part of the world into our country, if there's not enough law enforcement personnel to put on the ground to enforce those laws, which they have absolutely the right to enforce, they ought to be able to call out the Guard to do it, as long as they abide by the posse comitatus laws.

So this is just after you have caught the drug dealer with a pack full of heroin and an AK–47 on his shoulder. How bad is it to ask, Oh, by the way, are you an American citizen? I don't know. First off, you don't have to call the Border Patrol. Throw them in jail and prosecute them for violation of State law. So this thing is kind of out of whack a little bit, by my way of thinking. But the real shame to me is suing Arizona.

Finally, we spent almost a year and a half talking about, dealing with, and behind closed doors, writing of the majority party's bill for health care reform. And in that bill we basically mandate that the government will tell people what product they will buy and who they can buy it from. As a result, the individual mandate extends the commerce clause power beyond the economic activity to economic inactivity. That is unprecedented. In other words, what they're saying is, If you don't buy this product for your employees, you're going to be punished with a $2,000 fine. And the question becomes: Is this commerce as the commerce clause of the United States is written?

Basically, we have expanded the Federal Government probably farther under the commerce clause than any other single clause in the Constitution. And now, using the commerce clause as an argument, the argument in here is that you can make an employer buy a product sold by a company or your choice of companies, or if they don't buy it, they get fined. And the question is, Where does that stop? If that's the law, why can't we make everybody buy a Chevrolet? I don't know. Why can't we? If we can make them buy Blue Cross or some other company's policy or be fined $2,000, why can't we say everybody that buys a car in America next year has to buy a Chevrolet or a Buick or a Ford? Let's not get in trouble with the auto manufacturers. Or, I don't care what. You have to buy one or they pay a $2,000 fine. If they can do it on health care, they ought to be able to do it on automobiles, shouldn't they? Where does it stop? That's the kind of issue we've got to ask ourselves as we look at this.

Never before has the Congress used its commerce power to mandate that an individual person engage in an economic transaction with a private company. Regulating the auto industry or paying cash for clunkers is one thing; making everyone buy a Chevy is quite another. This is in The Washington Post.

But the real question we have to ask ourselves is: How are we marching over human rights in this country, individual rights—the real thing that sets us apart from the rest of the world? How are we stepping all over people as a government. And shouldn't we be concerned about stepping all over people? And I've lost count, but I know it's in the teens of people who have filed lawsuits against the Federal Government in at least two jurisdictions, and maybe three, saying this is unconstitutional; you can't do this.

Shouldn't we be thinking about all this? Shouldn't we wonder if the rule of law prevailed in other parts of that 2,500-page document we call the ObamaCare or health care bill? Because when we wrote that bill, we created some of those laws that are the rule of law. And the rule of law has to comply with and be supported by the United States Constitution, because that's the rock we build our laws upon.

So as we finish up talking today about the rule of law, I bring these issues up so that this House and others can ponder them and say, As we continue to march down a corridor which steps all over the rule of law, where does it stop? And where do we stand up and say, Wait a minute, that's not right. Wait a minute. When a court tells you something and orders you to do something and then you appeal it and the appeals court tells you the same thing, then what is it about ''no'' that you don't understand? When Governors are trying to save their environment, why are you getting in the middle of their business and not letting them build a berm. Why aren't you helping them?

We've got issues we've got to talk about as far as the overreaching of this Federal Government, and I think we will. I think we will be discussing them this fall in a pretty serious manner.

Madam Speaker, my time is almost done. I thank you for the time you've yielded me tonight.

I yield back the balance of my time.

□ 2020

THE COUNTRY'S ECONOMIC FUTURE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Speaker, it's a privilege to join my colleagues on the floor this evening to talk about the future of our economy and the new direction that we, the Democrats, are moving this country since taking over the Congress. We will plan to spend the next 45 minutes to an hour talking about where we've been and where we are at this point and the opportunities that we have to continue to go. My colleagues and I will talk about the progress that we've made and the efforts that we've employed to try to create jobs and turn the economy around.

We feel really excited about the accomplishments that we've made thus far. We have only to look back to the month before President Obama took office in January of 2009 to see at that point the economy having bled 700,000-plus jobs. Fast-forward to June, now July of 2010, and we are now adding, on average, between 125,000 and 200,000 jobs per month. And those are private sector jobs. We also have the addition of public-sector jobs through the census. But consistently month after month, particularly starting at the beginning of this year, the economy has consistently added private sector jobs, and that is incredibly important. We know that the way we're going to continue to turn our economy around, the key to our economic revival, is through job creation.

We can attribute much of the success and much of the turnaround that has occurred thus far to our passage of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act last February. We know that the $787 billion stimulus package that we passed injected badly needed resources into the economy. But, Madam Speaker, it also injected badly needed capital in the form of tax cuts for the middle class and for working families, and that's something that doesn't get talked about enough.

We do talk a whole lot about job creation, but one of the keys to job creation, we know, is stimulating the economy through tax cuts targeted towards the middle class, working families, and small businesses. We have really endeavored to make sure that

we've struck a careful balance and the right balance between stimulating the economy by injecting the badly needed resources and also generating the tax cuts that we know are the lifeblood of so many small businesses, for them to have the capital available to be able to make the investments that they need in the infrastructure of their businesses so that they can have the wherewithal to add new hires and create more jobs.

And that's something that, if you compare and contrast the priorities of the previous administration to the priorities of the Obama administration and our leadership under Speaker PELOSI and the Democratic leadership here in the House of Representatives, the priorities back in the Bush era were, again, a return to the trickle-down theory of economics; that if you focus tax cuts and if you focus all of your attention on the wealthiest Americans, on the largest corporations, then somehow that largess will flow downward through the economy and, you know, ''rising tides lift all boats.'' Except in this case, we know that that policy sunk the boats and, instead, we capsized a whole lot of small businesses in the water; and now we have been engaged in a really significant effort to try to right those ships and get the economy back on track. We're excited about the progress that we've made, but we also recognize that we have a long way to go.

There are a number of things that we are going to want to focus on tonight. Let's just look at the weekly economic update just in the last week and in the last month. If you look at employment, the private sector in the month of June created an additional 83,000 jobs, and the unemployment rate continues to fall. It fell to 9.5 percent. That's the sixth straight month of job growth in the private sector, and the fall in total unemployment reflected a decrease in our temporary census jobs. We added 9,000 manufacturing jobs in June, and that is the 11th month in a row that we have added manufacturing jobs.

So the progress that we're making is evident. We need to be able to continue that progress and not get too timid or gun-shy while we balance our priorities and make sure that we can focus on getting the jobs done.

The June jobs report was another reminder of just how far we've come since last year and how much work remains to be done to stop the free fall. The President and Congress took strong and immediate steps in the Recovery Act and put those people back to work after 22 straight months of job loss before President Obama took office. We now have seen our economy create private sector jobs for the last 6 months in a row, and we need to make sure that we can continue that recovery.

We're moving in the right direction. We know it's not fast enough, but that's why President Obama is fighting for additional steps to speed up the recovery and keep the economy growing. And he and we have made clear that creating jobs is our top priority.

Another priority, for example, in a State like mine, in my home State of Florida, particularly in south Florida, is making sure that we can get lending kick-started again and make sure that folks who are struggling to be able to make their mortgage payments and remain in their homes still have the ability to do that. We have been very focused, and the administration has been very focused on creating programs that will help keep people in their homes, that will give banks and banking institutions the opportunity to work with homeowners so that we don't see masses of individuals out on the street and continue the flood of housing that has become available on the market as a result. So we have a lot of things to think about.

I am joined tonight by several of my colleagues, the first of which is my colleague from Houston, Texas, who has been a long-time Member, focuses on the needs of her district like a laser beam, and has talked quite a bit about the need for job growth. She is struggling in her community, as a fellow Gulf Coast Stater, dealing with the aftermath of the BP oil spill, my good friend, Congresswoman SHEILA JACKSON LEE.

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. I am very glad to join multiple friends from a number of our great States in America. But more importantly, I am glad to be part of the team, working with the Congresswoman, our leadership, of course, and the President that focuses on creating jobs for Americans. That's an exciting message for all of us.

And I am very delighted to sort of dash the misstatements that have been going on about what we have accomplished here, and if I might just be redundant and cite the fact that the private sector has created 83,000 jobs in June.

But I would like to add something else, Congresswoman. I think you have seen this number as well, that this has been one of the best quarters for corporations in terms of profits. It is well known, and of course many of us encourage individuals to save money and to invest. But I think it's particularly important for the American public to know that our corporations have money. We've created the right economic atmosphere for them to grow, but they've decided to not create all of the jobs they could. And I would just like this evening to congratulate them for the profits that they've made, but I want them to be inspired to create jobs for the American people because the government has worked very hard to create a banking system for them to feel comfortable with as we pass the Wall Street reform so that they can create jobs, hire people.

There were 9,000 manufacturing jobs created in June, and I think that is extremely important, but 136,000 jobs since December. We have good news for the American public. We have heard you, and we believe in buying America and making it in America. Therefore, we're going to be looking, over the next couple of months, to craft an agenda where you will see jobs being created by the message of this Democratic leadership.

We can tell you that we mean business because we can show you the facts. For the 11th consecutive month, the manufacturing sector has expanded. They have heard our call. They have heard our creed.

The Purchasing Managers Index registered at 56.2 in June. Of the 18 industries surveyed, 13 reported growth.

Look at, if you will, the gigantic change that we have seen in the automobile manufacturing sector where our companies are coming back. Many people complain about the approach we utilize, but we can look at the bottom line. Ford never took the money. GM has paid the money back. But what we want them to do is to manufacture smartly, hire people and create jobs. We have created—this Democratic leadership, this President has created the atmosphere for these companies to grow, and we want them to grow more.

Let me just add these one or two points. Consumers who have been feeling the pinch—we know there's unemployment, and right now, today, we're fighting to extend unemployment for those hardworking Americans who have seen their jobs go but need to support their families.

□ 2030

And let me make it very clear. Unemployment insurance is not a handout. It is a gift coming back, or it is an acknowledgment of your hard work, and we want to keep you over a bridge. We want to give you a bridge until you get another job.

But disposable personal income grew by 0.5 percent in May. It grew by .6 percent in April, and it grew by .4 percent in May. So you can see that it's steadily going up. It's steadily going up, and this is making a difference.

As I cite these last points, Congresswoman, to emphasize how we, on this side of the aisle, the Democrats, have a positive attitude about knowing that America's going to make it as we make products and as manufacturing grows, I'm disappointed that some of my friends who are on the other side of the aisle are thinking differently.

One of the things that they don't like to say is that when President Obama first came into office he inherited an economy that was losing an average of 750,000 jobs in 1 month. Now, I'm not the kind of personality that wants to look back and blame the last administration. But we know for a fact that there were no jobs created in the last 8 years.

And so let me conclude on remarks that have been made by a good friend. The minority whip asked the question, stimulus dollars have not produced jobs. This is what the minority whip

said while hosting a job fair in Virginia. And I would only like to say that to help the American people, it would be grand for us to work and march in step, in a bipartisan step, and that is the only thing we're concerned about, no matter what region we come from, is creating jobs.

Many of you know that we are being hit in the Gulf in many different ways by the BP oil spill. My good friend is being hit for tourism. I just had one of her mayors before my committee, and they said they're not being listened to about tourism.

I'm being hit because of fishermen and shrimpers and oysters, but also I'm being hit by the hardworking people who work in the energy industry who are innocent who may be losing jobs who cannot work offshore.

But our good friend, Mr. CANTOR, rather than working together to produce jobs, has said this: He hasn't seen any evidence of jobs being created.

Well, according to the Council of Economic Advisers, the Recovery Act created or saved more than 48,000 jobs in Virginia in 2009. In May, the Congressional Budget Office reported that in the first quarter of 2010 the Recovery Act was responsible for an increase in the number of people employed by 1.2 million, and 2.8 million. This is stunning.

And the job fair that Mr. CANTOR had, and I congratulate him for having a job fair. I congratulate the companies for coming, and I'm very glad that the companies that were in the room had gotten $52 million in Recovery Act funds to create jobs.

Can you imagine?

This is not a partisan commitment to America. Wherever you are and you need a job, our stimulus dollars have been there.

And so I hope that we can end our criticism of the Recovery Act, because we know we can point out infrastructure projects and jobs created in all of our home districts, and we can point to the Democratic leadership where their message is jobs, jobs, jobs.

We have nothing to be ashamed of, but we must stay steady. We must stay consistent. We must make sure that the unemployment insurance goes out to our constituents. We're going to fight to the end to make sure that that goes where it needs to go, and that is to the people who need it.

And finally, I'm excited about the manufacturing spurt, surge that we're going to continue when we take the message of buy America and make it in America, we are creating jobs. And this Democratic leadership believes that America is standing tall, and we will be a country that recovers in a very, very special way.

And I'm delighted to be able to join with my friends who understand that there is an American economic recovery. We know it, we see it, and we're working on it.

I yield back.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Thank you so much. Thank you, Ms. JACKSON LEE. Thank you for joining us and for your leadership. You have really been a stalwart fighter for the middle class and working families that Democrats have always stood for and stood by, and it's just absolutely critical that you've come down here tonight to help us get that message out. So thank you so much.

And it's a really wonderful transition, the item that Ms. JACKSON LEE closed on, making sure that we can make things again. And focusing on manufacturing and the resurgence of manufacturing in this country is a perfect segue to the priorities and the message that I know my good friend from Michigan, whose district I was just in this morning and had the privilege of joining him in his district in Ann Arbor and had an opportunity to meet with his constituents who are very supportive of his efforts to create jobs here and to focus the needs on Michigan's economy right here in Washington. So my good friend, MARK SCHAUER from the great State of Michigan.

Mr. SCHAUER. Thank you, Congresswoman. I'm proud to be here tonight to talk about our recovery, our economic recovery, about jobs, about a manufacturing agenda, and a ''made it in America'' agenda.

The people that I represent in Michigan understand that we have a fundamental problem with our economic recovery, and that is unfair trade policies that have cost us in Michigan hundreds of thousands of jobs.

I've cosponsored a bill to repeal NAFTA. I know there are different views on that. My views are very clear, that we need to support trade policies that put American jobs and American workers first.

The people at home that I represent have heard me say it, and I'm proud to say it on the floor of the House of Representatives here today. The time is now to fight for American jobs. The time is now to fight for American jobs.

There's an issue that I'm working on that I think I've gotten some attention of certainly Democratic leadership that wants to fight for American jobs and manufacturing and American workers, and I think this is an issue where my friends on the other side of the aisle will embrace as well. I've already got one Republican cosponsor on H.R. 5312. And it's a very simple issue. It's about fairness. It's about fair trade rather than trade policies that, again, have cost us millions of jobs in this country.

What I learned as I've been fighting for fair trade and giving our businesses, small businesses and large, an opportunity to make things again in my State and in this country, is that we have been using our tax dollars to support and create jobs in China rather than jobs here in the United States of America. As I dug into this issue, quite innocently, I was looking through some census promotional materials, and I was shocked to find that some of those materials to promote something that I support 110 percent, the United States Census, each of our communities needs to get its fair share of dollars to support education and housing and public safety, and so forth, but some of these promotional materials, you guessed it, were made in China.

This is a key ring that—I carry this everywhere I go. And I show small businesses, tool and die shops, small manufacturers, they tell me that they could tool this little key chain, and it says, United States Census 2010. They could have the tooling done, they could have their manufacturing process ready in 1 week to make this little metal key chain.

Now, what you may not be able to see at home, you may not be able to read where it says United States Census. And again, I want to remind you that your tax dollars are paying for this. There's a little sticker, and you guessed it, it says ''made in China.''

Now, we can and we should make this with our tax dollars here. Now, China, when they joined the World Trade Organization in 2001, did not sign the government——

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Would the gentleman yield for a question on the key chain?

Mr. SCHAUER. I will yield.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Have you had an opportunity to talk with the Census Bureau about why it is that they are getting promotional material that they're using to get Americans to complete the census form from China?

Mr. SCHAUER. I have. Thank you for asking me that. I've heard a couple of interesting answers.

□ 2040

And I also have a hat. The people that I represent at home see me with this hat. It's white, a very poor quality hat that says ''United States Census 2010,'' you guessed it, made in China. And the United States Census says, well, if products are substantially altered, substantially altered—this sounds like bureaucratic speak—can qualify as made in America.

So I guess what they consider substantially altered is this little metal key chain that was made in China, apparently had the ''United States Census 2010'' printing done in the U.S., and that's substantially altered. The hat that I usually have with me—I don't have it tonight—same thing: the hat is made in China.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. If the gentleman would yield for another question. So essentially the screen printing that was done onto the item, they define that as substantially altering the actual piece.

Mr. SCHAUER. Correct.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. So it's exempted?

Mr. SCHAUER. It satisfies the Buy American provision. I actually met with Commerce Secretary Gary Locke

about this—and by the way, I have been appointed to the President's Export Council, and I plan to work on these American jobs issues—is if there are certain orders that have to be done quickly, that there is a loophole.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Okay, but can I ask you another question?

Mr. SCHAUER. Yes.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Because it's not like we don't know that we do the census every 10 years and that we are going to need promotional materials to promote the census.

Mr. SCHAUER. Exactly.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. So what would be the urgent nature or last-minute ordering that would be done for key chains or hats? We know in 2020 we are going to need that. We know in 2030 we are going to need that.

Mr. SCHAUER. Exactly right. Exactly right.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Stock up.

Mr. SCHAUER. The point is there is no good answer. And so we as Democrats have to look at—we have to scour the law, all of our laws, and look at Buy American provisions and make sure there are no loopholes like these that allow our tax dollars to create jobs in other countries. It's not just China. There are T-shirts, I think it was, made in Honduras and so forth.

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Would the gentleman yield just for a quick comment? That very product, T-shirts, hats, and there may be many others, just fits right in with small- and medium-sized businesses, the very businesses that make jobs. I would yield to the gentleman for a response on that. Isn't this the kind of products that fit right into that?

Mr. SCHAUER. I was in Reading, Michigan, at a small business appreciation dinner. And I took the hat, took the key chain, and I said, Can anyone here make these? Hands went up. I mean, we can make these things. We do. And, in fact, when I testified before the House Ways and Means Committee on this issue, Congressman SANDY LEVIN held a hearing on our trading relationship with China. And the other thing that the Census Bureau says is, well, we don't make these things here, or we don't put them out—you know, we can't find folks here in the United States that make these.

I took seven or eight hats from my office representing different groups in my district. One was from Grand Ledge High School, their baseball team cap. They were all made in America. And of course those items were of a much better quality than the hat that was made in China.

My ultimate point is that China has been playing us for fools. China has been playing us for fools. They are eating our lunch. We are letting them do it. And so it's time for us collectively as Democrats, and I hope our Republican colleagues join us in this fight, it's time to fight for our jobs. This is a simple matter of fairness.

I will sum up this issue that what my bill does, it's a straight issue of reciprocity, a true fair trade issue. And the way it works is that we will allow Chinese companies the same access to our government contracts as China's government is allowing our companies to have access to their government contracts. So if that number in China is zero, then you guessed it, no Chinese company will have access to our government contracts. If the number is a million, then there will be straight reciprocity. So it's time for us to decide which jobs we are going to use our tax dollars to support. And I think the answer for us as Democrats is those jobs are American jobs.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Absolutely. And thank you so much for your leadership on this, Congressman SCHAUER. Really, this is something that you have been spearheading for a long time. And it's finally cracking through. I know that it's a priority that we're going to be taking up in the very near future. And I have a hunch that legislation is going to definitely be sent over to the Senate. And they would be hard pressed not to take it up.

With that, I want to turn it over to the very eloquent and hardworking stalwart for creating jobs and helping us turn the economy around in his home State of New York, Mr. PAUL TONKO.

Mr. TONKO. Thank you, Representative WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, and thank you for bringing us together to discuss an important aspect of the work we do, creating jobs, providing the dignity of work for individuals and families across this great country. And it's great to join with you and Representative JACKSON LEE, Representative SCHAUER. I know we are going to be hearing from Representative MURPHY.

But to be with everyone here and put our thoughts into a context that allows people to understand where we are headed with this recovery program, I think this chart expresses it in a very straightforward, simplistic way, a simple straightforward decline for many months, where we lost $17.5 trillion of household income, where 8.2 million jobs were lost. We were headed for a deep, deep depression. And then this sharp straight line upward, which now expresses a recovery.

And I should point out that many of us believe, all of us here on this floor tonight believe, that we're not only recovering the economy, but we're restructuring the economy. That's an important aspect of the work we're doing. To create those jobs that will bring strength to the American worker, provide economic vitality for the American family. And so we see this clustering here of 6 months of recovery in the private sector area of job creation and job retention.

This is an important aspect to the investment that has been made, the policy reforms that have been initiated and responded to by this administration and the leadership of this House. But there is more to come. We're not satisfied with this.

But when we hear the critics from the other side of the aisle say where's that great number of jobs, where are those new jobs, well, we can point to these new jobs. They're there. They're a statistic. They're historic now. Where were you to decry the loss of those jobs? There was silence about the jobs being lost. There's huge contrast in their approach to the jobs. We heard nothing with job loss. Now we're hearing complaints, diminishing, of the efforts to create jobs, especially in the private sector, which is happening.

I think rather than dwell on statistics, and all of my colleagues have done this very well tonight about statistically showing that we're making progress and that we've turned the corner and that there's been a sharp U-turn in the response as a Nation for job creation, but I think we need to put it in the big-picture framework of trust, of competence.

This party, the Democrats, have come forward with a plan of action, one that has saved a lot of effort of further loss, economic consequences for American families. And we know who brought us that steep red line of decline: it was a party that continues to espouse privatization of Social Security, vouchering of Medicare, supporting tax breaks to ship jobs offshore, to call the response to Wall Street reform akin to attacking an ant with an atom bomb.

What a gross misrepresentation. What a gross unawareness of the issues that brought this country's economy to its knees. And so I bring forth that sort of contrast because I think it's what's governing the response today. The positives, the optimism that we share, the reforms we're promoting are swinging us upward. The contrast is that continued effort to further push hard on the middle class, to not allow for Medicare—a system that has worked well for our Nation's seniors—to raise the age limit, the threshold for Social Security. All of these efforts coming, all of this denouncement of Social Security, of Medicare, that has stabilized people in their retirement years, are what they advance and what they promote.

□ 2050

Are you going to trust that thinking, that party, to continually pull us into the red, or are you going to look at Democratic action where we've resisted this sort of behavior, where we are believing we can grow the economy, where we are embracing the theme that we are going to make it in America again? Let American workers know that we're standing for that turnaround.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Will the gentleman yield for a question?

Mr. TONKO. I most certainly will.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Thank you. Because I wanted to ask you, the

way you're characterizing our colleagues' view—and I want to bring our good friend, Mr. MURPHY, into this discussion because he and I, in the 2006 to 2008, in the 110th Congress, we spent quite a bit of time on the House floor talking about the Republicans' efforts to privatize Social Security. And I'm wondering if your characterization of their agenda is one that you—is this something that you think is—is it your opinion?

From what I understand, we have a number of different third party validators that can document that they have consistently supported privatization of Social Security and vouchering of the Medicare system as we know it.

Mr. TONKO. Oh, absolutely. As stated on the floor, we know what people want. We know where they want to take us. And I just think the contrast needs to be shared, because that same thinking is prevalent in terms of economic recovery, of economic development policies, of the sort of stopping of the bleeding that we promoted here in the House by inserting a new order of thinking.

You know, even with the energy crisis, with the devastation—Representative JACKSON LEE, you see it from where you sit, and Representative WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, you see it from the Florida perspective, Texas perspective—the gulf has been impacted. And for people from the cheap energy voice in this House, coming from the Energy and Commerce Committee, required an apology, demanded an apology from the President for coming down hard on BP. And all of the devastation to the economy, to the people, 11 lives lost, the ecosystem being devastated. That's another sign of difference where there isn't trust, in my opinion, or confidence.

So people, I think, are going to take a look at this and say, Let's continue this. The path out of the damaged zone may not be as quick as we would have liked, but it is happening. It is happening in a positive measurement and its growth in the private sector of job creation for 6 continuous months.

So I just think that contrast is important in the discussion that we have here tonight on the floor of the House.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Thank you, Mr. TONKO. Really, you have hammered home, you're here night after night, week after week, to make sure that we can talk to the American people, illuminate not just our efforts on turning the economy around and creating jobs but our successes.

And someone who has been really focused on creating jobs, making sure, as a member of the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, making sure that we do that through our innovation agenda, through our passage of the global warming and climate change legislation and also through health care reform, is the leader from the great State of Connecticut, Congressman CHRIS MURPHY.

Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut. Thank you very much, Representative WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Representative TONKO, Representative JACKSON LEE.

Listen, everybody should take a look at that chart that was next to Representative TONKO. It's not a coincidence that from month to month to month in the last year of the Bush administration we lost more and more and more jobs, and then immediately upon the new President, President Obama, taking office, we started to lose less and less and less jobs to the point now where we are adding jobs to the economy. It's because the stimulus has worked. It is because it is infusing new money into the economy. It is because tax rates are the lowest in this country since 1950. People have more money to spend than ever before. It's because we put money in the hands of teachers and firefighters and police officers and renewable energy companies and solar companies and advanced battery technology companies. The leading edge of our economy is creating jobs. It's because manufacturing is coming back.

To Mr. SCHAUER's point in June, 9,000 new manufacturing jobs in this economy. Since December, 136,000 new manufacturing jobs. The economy is heading in the right direction because we're putting new policies into place that are investing in small manufacturers, in small businesses, in Main Street.

And that's the dichotomy here. I mean, that's why I ran for Congress 4 years ago, because I watched Washington, I watched the Bush administration put all of its focus on the haves, on the big multinational companies, on the big oil companies, the big pharmaceutical companies, the big defense contractors, and very little emphasis on the small manufacturer with 10 employees around the corner from me; very little emphasis on the small mom-and-pop business that was struggling to get by paying for the energy costs and the health care costs that were padding the pockets of the big guys. That's the fundamental shift that's happened here, and you see it on issue after issue.

You see it in our approach to energy as, Mr. TONKO, you said we're investing in small renewable energy companies while the Republican leadership, on issues of energy, are asking for apologies to BP. You see it on health care reform, where we're putting power in the hands of consumers; whereas, the Republicans, when they tried their stab at health care reform with the Medicare Prescription Drug Act, put all the power in the hands of insurance companies and drug companies. And you see it with respect to manufacturing.

What we're talking about as Democrats is reinvigorating American manufacturing, to stop this defeatist notion that we can't make things here in America anymore. That's what sort of drove the House of Representatives when the Republicans were in charge was manufacturing is dead. They can't do it here any longer; we're just going to sign free trade agreements with any country that comes to us without any regard to fair trade, that we're going to allow jobs to flow out to China, to India, to Mexico.

Democrats and the Obama administration refuse to give in to that notion. And I think you are going to see, over the course of the next several weeks and several months on this House floor, Democrats in the House of Representatives standing up for American manufacturing and saying we can make it here in the United States.

Mr. SCHAUER's initiative is right on, right on. If we can start standing up to countries like China and say, Listen, if you're going to—if you want free trade with the United States, then you have to allow us to sell to you just like you sell to us. I think it starts with the way that we buy things for the American Government.

A number of us are working on legislation that we hope will come before the floor very shortly that will say simply this: When the American Government buys things, whether it be for the census or whether it be for the Defense Department, let's buy it here in the United States.

Sure, you might be able to find that part for the jet engine 10 percent cheaper in China, but that job being created in China rather than in a machine shop in New York or Connecticut is costing our government, is costing our economy way more than the 10 percent you saved in lost wages, in lost taxes, and in increased social safety net costs like unemployment compensation.

So I'm looking forward to this summer and this fall as we build on the work that we've done here, when Democrats do what we're good at doing, which is standing up for small guys, for little guys, for American manufacturing, and that we put an end to what has been a decade-long defeatist attitude in this country and in this government to just allow for manufacturing to go to the folks that can do it for the cheapest and who can do it with the lowest and the worst environmental and labor regulations around.

I think we're going to stand up for American manufacturing. I think we're going to continue this trend of growing manufacturing jobs. I think it's going to be part, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, of the story of the recovery and the resurgence of the American economy.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Thank you very much for helping us share that story with the American people and with our constituents, because it's absolutely critical, as we turn the corner and go through the summer, that we make sure that we talk about our efforts to continue to focus on job creation, and particularly on tax cuts for working families and the middle class because it's such a dramatic shift from where we were. And as we get closer and closer to the choice that Americans will be making in November, it's

going to be critical that people understand the choice that they're going to be making. They can backslide toward the Bush era, where the focus was exclusively on the wealthiest few in America, exclusively on the largest corporations and the trickle-down theory of economics that was disproven time and again, or we can continue to go in the direction, the new direction that we have been pursuing, which is focusing on job creation, focusing on making sure that the middle class can thrive.

And there is no one that knows that effort better than my good friend TOM PERRIELLO from the great State of Virginia.

Mr. PERRIELLO. Thank you so much for bringing this group together to talk about jobs.

As the gentleman from Connecticut mentioned, we can build things, make things, and grow things better than anyone else in the world if we give the American people a chance. For too many years, the other side has had a strategy of saying if we just nickel-and-dime the middle class enough, maybe we can win a race to the bottom with China. If we just cut into our environment enough, maybe we can win a race to the bottom with China. That's been the Republican strategy. We will not win a race to the bottom with China.

Our side wants to win a race to the top with China. We can outcompete China and India as well as Europe and Japan if we unleash the innovation, entrepreneurship of the American people that comes from our small businesses, if we understand that instead of bailing out the biggest companies for their failures we start to give just a little bit of support to our small business owners, our entrepreneurs, our scientists, our innovators.

□ 2100

We made a down payment last year on rebuilding America's competitive advantage. We made a down payment to unleash the research and development, the technology and the innovation in our small businesses. And we also understand that to win that race to the top against China, we have to have a 21st century workforce, so we have made college a little more affordable.

But it is not just kids headed to college. We also want to invest in those who want to learn a trade or career in technical training. That can be the difference between making minimum wage and 20 bucks an hour. Sometimes in this city or on Wall Street the difference between minimum wage and 20 bucks an hour doesn't seem like a whole lot, but to people back home it is the difference between being able to support your family or not, being able to pay those bills or not.

And we have tried to go after those who are nickle and diming the working class and the middle class in this country, the utilities, the credit card companies, the health insurance companies and others that have been bankrupting our small business owners and our working class and middle-class folks.

We can still build it here. We are already seeing this in the energy sector. As many of the people here tonight have talked about, our farmers can be on the front line of that struggle for America's energy independence. Our manufacturing in our district is actually exporting to Asia on high quality efficiency technologies.

But it is not going to happen by pulling in our shell. It is not going to happen by thinking small. It is not going to happen by doubting the resolve of the American spirit, the American individual, the American entrepreneur. It is going to be doing it by giving that support.

Right now we can be doing more to rebuild this Nation's infrastructure; the infrastructure of yesterday, our sewage, our water, our roads; and of tomorrow, our broadband technology, our electric grid technology, so that we have the most efficient system. That is how we outcompete the world. We can still do this better than anyone else. We must call all of us to that best self right now to outcompete, and we are not going to do it by taking our foot off the pedal right now.

We are in tough economic times. Our American families feel it. Just this last week I did a tour of over a dozen Main Streets in my district in central and southern Virginia, talking to small business owners who spent a lifetime building up their business, their clientele, their reputation, to one day sell that business in order to be able to retire securely.

Times are tough. That is not where we live right now in terms of Main Street. But we have to start putting Main Street ahead of Wall Street, and I mean the kind of values we have on Main Street, of basic decency and accountability. That is what we need in terms of real Wall Street reform. That is what we mean in terms of transparency, like the DISCLOSE Act.

Where I come from, if you want to say something, you stand by it. You put your name by it. That is the simple rule of the DISCLOSE Act. To Wall Street, we are just saying if you don't have the money, you shouldn't be able to lend out the money. I think we need to do more to put a hard cap on these leverage restrictions. And I mean Main Street jobs, and thinking we still need those jobs for people that they can support a family with.

The people here tonight are dedicated to that working and middle-class American who has been struggling in these tough economic times, to make it a little easier to get that business started, a little easier to get through the tough times, a little easier to get that child off to college or to trade school, and a little easier to make sure that you are going to have a secure retirement.

I look forward to this month, because we are in an urgent time. This is not a time for political games by either side. This is a time where we shouldn't leave until we have launched a manufacturing strategy and an agricultural strategy for the 21st century, where we have helped to put our construction crews back to work making this country more efficient.

We can do these things, I have no doubt that we can, and I believe that we will continue to fight the people here to make sure that that happens and that we will see that economic growth and recovery back on Main Street.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Thank you so much, Mr. PERRIELLO, and thank you for your leadership in your district and the optimism and hope that you fight for every single day.

You know, it really always boggles my mind how the Republicans wake up every morning, come to work and decide, I am going to be an obstructionist today. I think today I am going to figure out yet another way to say no. And rather than come to the table and work with us, because they need jobs in their districts too, instead, they vote no here, and then they do like the minority whip did just in the last week when he was home in his district. After voting no on the Recovery Act and being critical of the Recovery Act, he didn't have any problem showing up and taking credit for one of the projects funded by the Recovery Act in his district. I think Americans really see through that transparent attempt at hypocrisy.

We are a party of genuine articles. We are Members who work hard every day to make sure that we can get it done for the American people and get this economy turned around.

There is no one that works harder at that in rural America than my good friend LINCOLN DAVIS from the great State of Tennessee.

Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee. Debbie, it is certainly good to be here. And as I have listened to the debate, the discussions that we have had about creating jobs in America, I think personally to go back and check a little bit of history, I represent a unique congressional district, but so do 434 other Members of the U.S. House. The district I represent is the fourth most rural residential congressional district in this country. It has the third highest number of blue collar workers.

We are hurting in the Fourth Congressional District, as we are throughout America. And what we have been seeing in the last several years is an administration and those who truly do not understand, not only rural America, but those who live in urban and inner-city as well.

As an example, starting on January 1st, 2008, through October 31st, 2009, we lost eight million jobs in this country, eight million moms and dads, eight million working sons and daughters who lost their jobs starting in January. I am not talking about 2007, I am talking about just in that 22-month period alone, eight million jobs. During the

Bush administration, around one million jobs were created, new jobs in the time January 1st of 2001 through the time that George Bush left office on January 20th of 2009.

If you take that growth number during that period of 8 years and look how long it would take us to find the jobs to replace the eight million that were lost, it would take 64 years at the same growth rate during the Bush administration.

So for the folks on the other side of the aisle, start using math. When you use the math, be sure it adds up to what you are saying.

When we look at eight million jobs that we have lost starting in January, the last 13 months of the Bush administration, through October 31st of 2009, if we were to create 200,000 jobs a month—during the Clinton administration that is what happened, about 250,000 on the average jobs per month during the 8 years that Clinton was President. But if we take those numbers, it will take over 3 years to just replace the eight million jobs we lost as a result of the trade policies and the policies of the Bush administration.

So if we want to start analyzing and blaming folks, let's get the facts straight. Let's get the figures right. People in my district don't care who it is, whether it is Bush or whether it is the Obama administration, whether it is the Clinton administration. They want jobs.

How will we create those? Through the eighties, in the area I represent, the apparel industry and the textile industry was a great part of the low wages, quite frankly, and some of the low-skilled jobs that we had.

My brother worked at a garment factory that worked almost 1,500 people in 1983. As a result of the trade deals that we cut with the Caribbean steel initiative and the Andean region, as the result of the tax policy that we had, we reduced taxes on the richest people in America from 70 percent, as it was on January 1, 1981, to 28 percent was the max.

I am not complaining because we had a tax cut, but here is what I do disagree with. We also during that period of time told small business folks, I am sorry, the depreciation schedules you had, 10 to 15 years, are no longer in place. It is going to take you 30-plus years now. So in essence what we told small business folks, you no longer have the tax breaks that you had at one time. You no longer have the tax incentives to create jobs for folks who live in rural America and inner-city or urban areas, because what we are doing is giving the tax breaks to the wealthiest individual wage earners, not small business folks.

When the other side talks about helping small business engage, let's really get serious about a tax policy through depreciation schedules that will encourage small business folks, the creator of 70 percent of the jobs in our country, an opportunity to start revitalizing America again.

In 1970, one out of four people worked in manufacturing in this country. Today it is one in 10. Let me repeat that. One out of four people worked in manufacturing. One in 10 does today. Where are those jobs?

In 1998, we signed an agreement, this country did, and I have to blame the Clinton administration and perhaps Mr. Rubin, who was the Treasurer at that time, we signed trade deals called GATT, General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs, and we brought two large countries, India and China, which has a third of the world's population, into the WTO.

□ 2110

In 1998, you could not find an American label in China. It's hard to find an American label in America today. They're all over there. And when you purchase an item today that has always had an American label on it, whether it's toys, whether it's clothing, or whatever it may be, that American label is still stamped on it to look where it's made. It was made here at one time in this country. So from my standpoint, we've got to revisit many things that have caused us to lose 8 million jobs in 22 months. And if we don't do something about it, we'll never be able to regain those. We'll continue to see our economy and America slide backward when it comes to industrial development and economic growth.

I propose—and I hope that we can possibly take a serious look at a bipartisan effort to revisit the trade deals—the free trade deals—and make them reciprocal trade deals. Reciprocity means each of us shares equally. Unfortunately, that has not been the case. From this standpoint, when we also gave fast track to the former President to actually make the deals and send them to Congress, where we can't change those deals, it hamstrung the advocates for America, the direct representatives for America. The U.S. House of Representatives was denied an opportunity to amend any trade agreement.

So as we engage in trade in the future—and my time is running short—we need to realize 8 million jobs, 200,000 jobs created a month more than what we had starting the first of the month. It will take us almost 3 years to recover the jobs we lost in the last budget year with the Bush administration. I don't really like to be partisan, but I hear so much rhetoric from the other side. No one is pointing out the facts. It's time for the facts, and it's time the American people start listening to the facts rather than listening to bumper sticker slogans.

It's America, folks. It's our country, folks. It's not about Democratic or Republic politics. It's not about ideologues. An ideologue looks for the future. It's reality today. And the future will be reality when it appears. The ideologues will never have it where they want it—on the left or the right. It's time we start worrying about America again and creating jobs for all of us in this Nation.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Thank you so much, Mr. DAVIS. Really, I think it's so incredible. We had nine Members join us tonight for this hour. And we had the full philosophical spectrum—from the most conservative member of our caucus to the moderates to progressive members of our caucus. And that shows not only the big tent that we are in the Democratic Caucus but that we really are a reflection of America and American values, whether it's making sure that we can create jobs in rural America or the most urban core. It's absolutely critical.

Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee. Would you yield?

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Yes.

Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee. I notice there's a chart up showing the huge deficits. When Barack Obama was elected President, the first 30 days of his term he had to renew a trillion dollars and pay the interest on it. If JOHN MCCAIN had been elected, he would have had to renew a trillion dollars that he didn't bring to the table. Whoever was elected President and sworn in on January 20 in 2009, the next 30 days we had $12 trillion in total national debt. You look at that on a monthly basis, that's a trillion a month we have to renew and pay the interest on it. It didn't matter who it was. So as we look at the national debt, please, America, yeah, we need to reduce the deficit. And we're working on that. We call that pay-as-you-go. We need performance-based programming in our budget.

And so I would just want to remind you: 8 million jobs lost, starting on January 1, 2008, America, and the current President, regardless of who it is—Barack Obama or if it had been JOHN MCCAIN—had $1 trillion every month since they'd been President to renew and pay the interest on.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. You're absolutely right. Thank you so much for your leadership and for joining us this evening.

To close us out in the hour, we have a duo from the great State of Pennsylvania. Both of them are freshmen. The gentlelady from Pennsylvania was particularly pleased, I know, when her colleague from Pennsylvania was elected recently in a special election because that made her not one of the most junior Members in the Chamber. Now he holds that title. But the gentlelady from Pennsylvania, Mrs. KATHY DAHLKEMPER.

Mrs. DAHLKEMPER. Thank you so much. I appreciate the gentlewoman from Florida's leadership here. I want to reiterate my good friend from Tennessee brought up some of the important numbers that need be brought up. I'm from western Pennsylvania, as is my fellow colleague who has now made me not the junior Member. We have a manufacturing-based economy. And the numbers that my friend from Tennessee talked about are the numbers

that I have seen not in the past 2 years but over the last 12 or 15 years in terms of good manufacturing jobs lost in our region.

And what I find most exciting about this recovery that we are in is that we are making things again. And it's already been talked about tonight. But we are making things in America again. For the 11th consecutive month, the manufacturing sector has expanded in this country. We have got to depend on making things for our economic growth, not on the paper industry of Wall Street. And we have seen the problems with that, starting in 2007 and beyond.

I want to bring up a few highlights from an article from the Erie Daily Times today, an article that talked about Erie County, where my home is from: manufacturing employment rose in May for the third month in a row. Viking Plastic in Erie County had increased employment from a low of 65 workers to nearly 100. GE Transportation, which reduced payroll by 1,500 workers in 2009, has called back 200 permanent and temporary workers.

Economic growth is being seen throughout my district in the manufacturing sector. I visited a small electronics manufacturer, AMS Electronics, in Butler, Pennsylvania. They're performing well, despite the downturn, having increased their client base with the help of their local manufacturing extension partnership, a program that we fund through an act called the America COMPETES Act, which has recently been passed through the House.

So there is good news coming out of western Pennsylvania. Just even yesterday, I was at Donjon Shipping, a new manufacturer. We're building currently a tug boat; working on a barge next. Making things, permanent products that are going to be helping to improve the wealth of our Nation and bring great jobs here.

So I want to just reiterate what so many of my colleagues have said tonight, that there is good news. America is recovering. Not as fast as those out there need us to. Obviously, too many people still unemployed. But when you've lost 8 million jobs, 8 million jobs. We're on track this year to create more jobs than were created under 8 years of the Bush administration. I think that's important to remember.

So we are moving forward. We are creating jobs in this country. I just wanted to tell a little bit about the good news from western Pennsylvania. I want to thank everyone for their help tonight here with bringing this message to the American people—the message that we are continuing to recover. This summer we're going to see what we call the ''summer of stimulus,'' where we're going to see, I think, great numbers with highway projects that will increase by more than 600 percent from July of 2009 to this July.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Will the gentlelady yield?

Mrs. DAHLKEMPER. Yes.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Given that you're from a State that is in the heart of the Manufacturing Belt, can you talk a little bit about what is going on in your district and the efforts that we're making here to create jobs and what kind of progress the recent surge in manufacturing has brought to communities in Pennsylvania?

Mrs. DAHLKEMPER. One of the great things about my part of Pennsylvania, and I really think Pennsylvania in general—I have to be a bit biased here—but we have a great ethic and we have people with great skills. We have been a manufacturing-based economy for a long time. So when businesses come there and they see the work ethic of the people, they want to stay, expand, and grow. And what we're doing is trying to provide that climate that will allow our businesses to grow and to provide those opportunities maybe for those new entrepreneurs that they have an opportunity to actually take that product that really could do great things in our country and do great things actually throughout the world. Because I see more and more of our businesses actually exporting also, and work that was going to Mexico and to China actually coming back, because we can make anything as well, if not better, than anybody else in the world. And we know that.

So we're working hard. As I mentioned, great numbers coming out of our district because there's new products, there's new clientele, there's expansion and creation going on throughout many different sectors of our manufacturing-based economy. And so whether we're talking about some of the tax credits and incentives we've been trying to do either through the recovery package or with other pieces of legislation, we are working hard to get back to that manufacturing base. At least from my part of the world, my part of the country, it's important. I know not so much in Florida, but in Pennsylvania it certainly is the backbone of our economy, along with agriculture.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mrs. DAHLKEMPER, it's okay. You're right. In Florida, we don't have a strong manufacturing base, but we want to make sure that folks in Pennsylvania are able to thrive economically so they can come down and vacation and they can afford to take a vacation and come down to south Florida and across my beautiful home State and spend their hard-earned dollars that they have been able to use and invest in their small business and come down and make sure that they can help our economy thrive.

Thank you, Madam Speaker. We yield back the balance of our time and thank the Speaker for the opportunity and look forward to hearing from our colleagues.

□ 2120

SOCIAL SECURITY AND THE ECONOMY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. KOSMAS). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) is recognized for 60 minutes.

Mr. GOHMERT. Madam Speaker, that's one of the great things about our system, we have a chance to speak from both sides. As I listened, I was surprised to hear I had taken so many positions that I had never taken. But let me just say that with regard to Republicans being for privatizing Social Security, that bill did not pass. It didn't even get around here to get passed because so many Republicans were not in favor of it. And, in fact, you can go back and find this Republican saying repeatedly then and still saying that what we should do is what was not done when Social Security came into existence, and that is take Social Security tax dollars and put them in a Social Security account.

Now, until I got here 5½ years ago, I was under the impression that it was some kind of modern creation that Social Security tax dollars were taken away, they never even get to the Social Security Trust Fund but went to general revenue with IOUs being placed in file cabinets for the Social Security Trust Fund. But lo and behold, come to find out, Social Security tax dollars have never, ever gone into the Social Security Trust Fund, not since its inception.

Now, in Texas, we have the Texas Employee Retirement System. Teachers have an employee retirement system. And those systems have done many times better than Social Security for one reason: They put dollars into the retirement fund so the fund was able to grow. And because it was able to grow, people can get several times more in the way of retirement payments from those retirement systems than you can from Social Security. In fact, when I first got here in 2005, I had my staff run a check to find out—and I gave them a hypothetical to submit to Social Security as well as to the Texas Employee Retirement System and another retirement system to find out what kind of monthly income you would receive under that hypothetical.

It turned out, the best Social Security could tell us was that under the hypothetical we gave them, that the monthly income from Social Security to a deserving senior would be somewhere between $600 and $900 a month. Well, if anybody is familiar with seniors and the costs that they end up being out of pocket, you will know that $600 to $900 does not go far enough, but that's what Social Security payments would be. And as I recall the hypothetical, it was $30,000 average for 30 years before retirement, and that was the best we could get, $600 to $900.

However, when that hypothetical was provided to the Texas Employee Retirement System, which puts real money into an account, it turns out the monthly payment was somewhere between $2,600 to $2,800 per month—the same hypothetical—and the difference was that real money went into the trust fund.

But President Franklin Roosevelt knew, apparently, when this began that there would not be real money going into the trust fund, and every President since then has known that. President Roosevelt, President Truman, President Eisenhower, President Kennedy, Presidents Johnson, Nixon, Ford, Carter, Reagan, Bush, Clinton, George W. Bush, and Obama, they've all known. No money that is pried out of the hands of those who earn it and those that pay those who earn it, none of that money goes into the Social Security Trust Fund, not a dime. Now, that's tragic.

I was pushing that back at the time in 2005. And true, there were Republicans who did not support that, and there were lots of Democrats who didn't because, as we've seen since my friends across the aisle have had such a huge majority in recent years, they've done nothing about Social Security tax money going into the Social Security Trust Fund. They control both Houses. They could have passed a bill requiring Social Security tax money to go into the trust fund in January of 2007. Madam Speaker, I can tell you, there would have been a lot of us Republicans voting for that had they decided to bring that to the floor. If it was brought to the floor this week, next week, I would vote for it. Social Security tax money must go into the Social Security Trust Fund.

But there has been a reason that they have not wanted that to go from the general revenue into the Social Security Trust Fund to shore up Social Security, and that's because there are so many other little pet projects and pet ideas that this money goes to fund. I heard my friends across the aisle talking repeatedly about how important infrastructure was. Isn't that ironic, because after President Obama was sworn in, became President, the Democratic Party had such big majorities—a majority here in the House and was veto-proof, or had a supermajority down in the Senate at the time—they didn't do anything about Social Security being shored up. They didn't do anything about infrastructure, not in the way that it was talked about.

We heard so many beautiful, eloquent speeches from friends across the aisle on how this spendulus stimulus bill was going to pay for all of this wonderful infrastructure. America was led to believe that the whole $787 billion was going to end up being for infrastructure and really be good for America. Well, there was a little bait-and-switch that went on, which is easy to do.

My colleague, for whom I have great respect, I heard saying that Republicans have ''hamstrung the deliberative process.'' So apparently, as best I can figure—I'm sure he's smarter than I am, but the deliberative process then, apparently, must mean that you rush in with a 2,000-page bill not once but repeatedly, say, There's no time for anybody to read this. Too many jobs are being lost every day. There's no time for this to go through committee. There's no time for amendments. There's no time for anything. People are losing their jobs as we speak. You've just got to vote for it now.

Now, see, to me, just from the very practical, pragmatic growing up that I had, a deliberative process would have meant that it had time to be viewed and get some sunshine into those 2,000 pages to figure out where all this pork was going, that that would have been part of the deliberative process.

□ 2130

But apparently, as Republicans, we hamstrung the process that they called deliberative, where you rush in with a 2,000-page bill repeatedly, say there's no time to read it, just pass it and then we'll find out what's in it. See, I wouldn't have thought that was deliberative. But apparently, since my colleague said Republicans hamstrung the deliberative process, that must be what he's talking about.

So they rush in with this $787 billion stimulus bill. You could have polled Americans after it passed and the majority would have said, you know, this is going to be great for building infrastructure. We need infrastructure. Little did they know that 6, less than 7 percent of the $787 billion was ever even thought to have anything to do with infrastructure. So that's why I say a bit of a bait and switch there.

America wasn't even sold on it, but the few that were thought that was going to be for infrastructure and that didn't happen. Just such a tiny, tiny bit of it.

We heard our friends during the last hour talk repeatedly about small business and how the stimulus was so good for small business. What they forgot to mention, they may not be aware, but of that $787 billion, less than 1 percent was for small business. How about that?

So it was all about small business and infrastructure, and yet less than 7 percent was for infrastructure and less than 1 percent geared, aimed at small business. Interesting.

So is it any wonder that, with people thinking that 6, 7 percent of $787 billion will build all the infrastructure we need and less than 1 percent will help small business more than anybody else, that it hasn't had the desired effect?

And I couldn't really see my colleague's chart well enough to see what the last month was where they were talking about all these private jobs being created.

But forget the charts. Let's look at real numbers. And the real numbers for the month of June came out, and I don't have a big pretty chart for it, but the fact is that in the month of June there was great news and then there was really bad news. The great news was that for the month of June, 431,000 jobs were created. That is great news. The really bad news is that 411,000 of those were temporary census workers. So much for all those private sector jobs we were hearing about.

I heard my colleagues talk about Republicans just want to nickel and dime the middle class. I've got an awful lot of Republican friends, and I don't remember any Republicans I know of wanting to nickel and dime the middle class. The ones I know of see people in the poorest sector of America, see people in the middle class of America and want them to do even better. But it won't happen when the government is taking over control of everything. You kill incentives.

And I've mentioned this before, but it is just such a clear lesson of what happens when the government gets involved and decides it's going to be the one that creates the jobs.

And it was 1973, as an exchange student for the summer to the Soviet Union, going out to a collective farm, 30 miles or so from Kiev in Ukraine, and farmers sitting in the shade when their fields looked terrible. This is in the middle of summertime. Well, anybody's worked on farms or ranches knows in the middle of the morning is when you want to be working hard because you want to try to get done before the sun gets to its hottest in the afternoon, and so you start when the sun does and you try to finish before it gets to its hottest. And here it was, the best time of the day to be working, and they were all sitting in the shade with no movement toward going to work.

And so I spoke a little Russian back then and asked, when do you work in the field? And they all laughed. And one of them said, I make the same number of rubles if I'm out there or if I'm here in the shade, so I'm here. That's what the government did. It kills incentives when it decides it's going to take over the job market.

And I loved hearing the discussion about big corporations, big pharmaceuticals, big oil. You know, we've heard this Wall Street, they're all the big buddies of the Republicans. And yet, if you go check, Wall Street has traditionally given 4–1 to Democrats over Republicans. That was true for Goldman Sachs. If you don't just look at the officers, but you look at their spouses and their children, then you find a 4–1 average giving to Democrats over Republicans.

And the big pharmaceutical companies that were mentioned, they let greed get the better side of them in coming out in support of the ObamaCare bill. And for the short term they'll make billions, maybe hundreds of billions more than they would have without the bill. But in the long term, they've written their own death warrant. The same with AMA, AHA. They

sold their souls. Short term, they'll come out good. In the long run their professions, as we know it, will be changed forever for the worst for American health care. And we're already seeing those things.

I get out in my district. I've been in other parts of the country. I'm hearing the people say, you know, we've decided not to hire because this crap-and-trade bill may get passed. We've already had this health care monstrosity wrapped around our necks. We're going to have to end up having to pay more than ever.

You know, the President went out there to have a big photo OP with Caterpillar, and then it turns out they were going to lose over a million, was it $100 million this year?

We know jobs are being lost all over the country because of that health care bill. There was no need to push good jobs out of this country. When I hear my friends say, I couldn't believe they said the Democrats want it manufactured here and Republicans don't. That's ridiculous.

I went with a bipartisan group to China 5 years ago, bipartisan because there were both Republicans and Democrats. And the ones I talked to on both sides of the aisle wanted to see jobs return to America, manufacturing jobs. And I thought that perhaps, as we talked to CEOs, the number one thing I would hear was they left the U.S. and went to China because labor was so much cheaper there. That was not the number one thing I heard.

The number one thing I heard was the corporate taxes in China, 17 percent, U.S. 35 percent, plus States pop them on top of that, and local governments do as well. And so not only that, but China would cut deals with them. No income tax for 5 years, then gradually increase up to 17 percent.

And one of the things I loved hearing was that the quality of the work by American workers was greatly exceeding that that could be done in China by the workers there. That was good to hear. Quality control in the U.S. was so much better.

But that huge 35 to 40 percent hit that they had to take before they competed in the global economy was just too much. It was putting them under. And they could go to China, and with the dramatic cut in corporate tax, they could build state-of-the-art facilities that allowed them to have workers who were not capable of as good a quality control here, and then their state-of-the-art facility would be paid for by the time, many times before the taxes really kicked in in earnest at less than half of what they were in the United States.

□ 2140

So if my friends across the aisle were really serious about bringing manufacturing jobs here, then the solution would be to eliminate the corporate tax. It's one of the most insidious governmental creations in this country. Insidious because everybody gets to talk about these mean, evil corporations and how we want to sock it to the corporations, when the insidious truth is no matter how much tax you lay onto the corporations, if they don't pass that onto the consumer, they don't stay in business. And that's why so many have left and gone to other countries, one of the biggest reasons why they've left and gone to other countries.

Now, we've heard some are not building here for refineries or energy businesses because of this looming threat of the crap-and-trade bill. Our President in 2008 had commented that he wasn't going to—basically, he said he wasn't going to put coal power plants out of business, but he would skyrocket the cost of energy. And that's where we're headed, and so that will drive businesses out of the U.S.

We've had the moratorium declared by the President that was then struck down as unconstitutional. But this administration did not want to let a little thing like the Constitution get in the way, so this week they've come back with another moratorium, basically throwing the Constitution, the judicial sector, throwing them away because just as they did with the auto task force, no confirmation from the Senate, just appointed people, and they took charge of the automobile business.

They came out with a declaration as to what dealerships would close, which ones would have their property taken without due process of law. They came out with a bankruptcy plan that did not go through the requirements of bankruptcy law. They found a judge—I don't know the judge, but bankruptcy judges have to be confirmed I believe it's every 10 years. It's not a lifetime appointment. Many of them would like to be district judges. So apparently it wasn't hard to find a judge who would sign off on an illegal, unconstitutional auto task force plan, and no accountability to anybody. And once the Congress let it go without stepping in and being the check and balance on illegality and unconstitutionality, then there was only one branch left to stop such unconstitutional, illegal activity, and that was the Supreme Court.

To her wonderful credit, Ruth Bader Ginsburg put a 24-hour hold on it. And apparently the administration improperly scared the Supreme Court into thinking that if they extended the hold any longer than 24 hours, all the automobile industry, all of those related to the auto industry would go under and it would all be on the Supreme Court's head. And supposedly, the Supreme Court would never let such a ridiculous thing, unconstitutional thing go through again, but they let it through then.

And so we know that this administration is capable of doing end runs on the Constitution. And it looks like that's what they're doing again on the moratorium. So with the moratorium being in place, as one person in Louisiana said, we stand a chance of losing more jobs from the moratorium than we do from the oil spill. And of course beat up on Big Oil. Yet as the Deepwater Horizon rig was exploding and sinking, there were still deals being cut with this administration and this majority's dear friend British Petroleum, because they were one of the few big energy firms that were supportive of the crap-and-trade bill. So they hated to see their good friend get in trouble.

They were hoping it would blow over, they would get control of this disastrous well in the gulf coast. But they didn't, and eventually the administration and majority had to throw them under the bus. Whereas, if they had been able to get control of the oil well, you would have seen a big photo op with the BP executives as they pushed through the crap-and-trade bill. So, hopefully it will not come back and get passed because it will mean so many jobs that will be lost in America.

And you know, I know they meant well, I know the intentions were good across the aisle when we debated that bill here in the House. And so many people came in here and said nobody is going to lose their job as a result of this bill. In fact, we're going to create jobs. It's going to be like Spain. We're going to create so many green jobs. Well, since then we found out Spain has actually lost two jobs for every one green job they have created, and now they are trying to abandon the very thing that this administration and this majority are trying to push us toward.

But it was so ironic that so many people I am sure unintentionally saying that no one would lose their job because I know it wasn't intentional because obviously they hadn't written the bill, they hadn't read the bill, they had their talking points. But if you read toward the back of the bill, I don't remember the page number, I had it here on the floor and was reading from it at the time, the bill itself created a fund to pay people who lost their job as a result of that crap-and-trade bill. Not only that, it created a fund that would help reimburse them travel expenses to help them move to where their jobs were going as a result of that bill.

So, whichever left wing organization wrote that bill, or whoever's staffer helped them write it, they knew people would lose their jobs right and left. That's why they were creating a fund in there. But my friends across the aisle had not read it. Apparently, the deliberative process from their standpoint was ram the stuff through, don't read it, don't get bothered with the actual provisions in the bill. Push it through, and we'll find out what's in it later. Apparently, that's deliberative. That's no bill to saddle America with. It means more lost jobs.

Now, we had another job fair last week in east Texas, this one in Nacogdoches. We had over 550 people attend, around four, five dozen employers that were there. Some people left

with jobs that didn't have them. Some people have hope for the future through the interview process.

And, normally, when you throw a party, you are really thrilled when people show up. But just as I saw in Marshall and Longview when we had a job fair there, and Lufkin, you look in the eyes of folks who have lost their jobs and you can't be pleased that the turnout is big because every one represents hurt, it represents lost finances, people struggling, many of them struggling for self-esteem because even though it wasn't their fault, so many get their strength and their pride from the job that they hold. And so it's very difficult to see so many people out of work.

But what I keep hearing also from businesses is the same thing, similar thing: they can't get credit, they can't get loans from their bank. Banks are telling them they're not going to extend their line of credit because they got regulators breathing down their throats. Because regulators, on instructions from this town are out there telling them, micromanaging, telling good community, solid community banks that were not the source of the problems—the source of the biggest problems were those on Wall Street that give four to one to Democrats. That was the big source, the investment banking firms, not the community banking firms. But the community banking firms, on instructions from those who were closest to the investment banking firms telling the regulators to go after them. And even hold them to having more in reserve than the law requires. Had that admission from regulators themselves.

And so people don't have capital because this obese monstrosity of a government that keeps growing can't control its appetite. And so it sucks up all the capital and throws it away on the government's pet projects.

□ 2150

It's no way to run a country. It's a way to lose a country.

Well, I didn't intend to spend that much time on the economy, but having heard so many comments from my friends across the aisle on what I believed and what I support, which were things that I simply do not, and have not supported, I had to address that.

But there are so many dangers in the world. One of them, of course, is this out-of-control spending. And one final thing on the economy, my friends across the aisle keep talking about how bad it's been since 2007, 2008, 2009. And the fact is they've been controlling everything but the White House since January of 2007. So when they took control and they let spending explode on their watch—they were right. They won the majority because Republicans did not control spending, and too many Republicans equated compassion with spending.

And so Democrats over and over, over and over came to the floor and said, you know, a hundred billion, $200 billion deficit in 1 year is outrageous. It shouldn't be allowed. We need to be in the majority so we'll control the spending. We'll cut the deficit. We'll get back on track. And so Republicans appropriately lost the majority because they had not controlled spending.

And what has happened since? Spending has gone through the roof. And under this administration, once the Democrats had the White House and both Houses with such huge majorities, spending became giddiness, and that hundred, $200 billion deficit in a year has bloomed now to a $1.5 trillion dollar deficit in a year. It's unbelievable.

And at the same time, it's been encouraging to see this administration in the past week show some friendliness toward our wonderful ally Israel, because all of the snubbing and pettiness by this administration in the way that it's treated Israel in conjunction with willing allies like The New York Times, like the 5,000-page editorial that was written about, there's just so much pettiness and snubbing of our friend Israel from this administration and its allies that they're hurting this Nation. Because when you hurt Israel, you hurt a true democracy in the middle of the Middle East, you hurt this country. You hurt any democracy when you hurt democracy that exists in the Middle East.

And I read this weekend an editorial written by Caroline Glick, and it's entitled, ''Fit for The New York Times.'' And Caroline Glick is so articulate. I wanted to read verbatim what she had to say about the article in The New York Times. So I will read from Caroline Glick. This was published July 9, 2010.

She says, ''Two important statements this week shed a light on the nature of the Palestinian conflict with Israel. Both were barely noted by the media.

''On Saturday the London-based Al-Hayat newspaper reported that Palestinian Authority Chairman Mahmoud Abbas gave U.S. mediator George Mitchell a letter detailing a number of concessions that he would make towards Israel in a final peace treaty. These included a willingness to accept permanent Israeli sovereignty over the Jewish Quarter in Jerusalem's Old City and over the Western Wall. The Al-Hayat report received enthusiastic and expansive coverage in the Israeli media and in media outlets throughout the world.

''What was barely noted was that just hours after the report hit the airwaves, Abbas's chief negotiator Saeb Erekat categorically denied the story. In an interview with Israel Radio, Saeb Erekat said the story was untrue.

''Abbas has been the recipient of adulatory press coverage in Israel over the past several days. Last week he thrilled the Hebrew-language media when he invited Israeli reporters to a sumptuous feast at his Ramallah headquarters. And then the Al-Hayat story came out. Lost in the excitement was Abbas's eulogy for arch terrorist Muhammad Daoud Oudeh who died over the weekend. Oudeh was the mastermind of the PLO's massacre of 11 Israeli athletes during the 1972 Munich Olympics. Abbas himself served the operation's paymaster.

''As Palestinian Media Watch reported, in a condolence telegram quoted in the Abbas-controlled Al-Hayat al Jadida newspaper, Abbas touted Oudeh as, 'a wonderful brother, companion, tough and stubborn, relentless fighter,' and described him as 'one of the prominent leaders of the Fatah movement.'

''So while the local and international media pounced on the Al-Hayat story as proof that the Palestinians are serious about peace, they failed to mention that their hope was based on a story that the Palestinians themselves deny. So too, in their rush to embrace Abbas, they failed to mention his glorification of an unrepentant mass murderer who commanded the terror squad that massacred Israel's Olympic athletes.

''These statements by Palestinian officials the media routinely characterize as moderates, demonstrates how deeply distorted and largely irrelevant the discourse on the Middle East has become. As the 'moderate' Palestinians insist they are uninterested in peaceful coexistence and territorial compromise with Israel, news coverage in Israel and throughout the Western world is dominated by other issues. Specifically, discussion of prospects for peace between Israel and the Palestinians is dominated by an endless discussion of Israel's Jewish communities in Judea and Samaria and Jewish neighborhoods in eastern, southern and northern Jerusalem.

''The most egregious recent example of this distortion was a 5,000 word article in Tuesday's New York Times regarding US charitable contributions to these Jewish communities. Titled, 'Tax Exempt Funds Aid Settlements in the West Bank,' the report was co-authored by five Times reporters. It was the product of weeks of research. And notably, the New York Times chose to publish it on its front page above the fold on the very day that Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu visited the White House.

''The Times article is a textbook case of the media's ideologically motivated aggression against Middle East reality. Any way you look at it, it is a premeditated affront to the very notion that the role of a newspaper is to report facts rather manufacture news aimed at shaping perceptions and skewing debate.

''The article goes to great lengths to discredit the American citizens who make charitable, tax deductible donations to organizations that provide lawful support to Jewish communities in Judea and Samaria and Jewish neighborhoods in southern, northern and eastern Jerusalem. It paints a sinister picture of such contributions and

contributors and accuses them of actively undermining U.S. foreign policy.

''The contributors, we are told in the opening lines of the report are the Left's bogeyman—Evangelical Christians and religious Jews. They are unacceptable actors in the Middle East because they both believe that Jewish control of Judea and Samaria is a precursor to the coming of the messiah.

''Reacting to the Times' report, on Wednesday Honest Reporting noted that the article appears to be the product of active collusion between the Times and the radical, anti-Zionist, tax-exempt Gush Shalom organization. As Honest Reporting relays, in July of 2009, Gush Shalom sent out a communique to its supporters calling for the initiation of a campaign that, 'includes a combination of legal action and public advocacy aimed at denying Federal tax exempt (501c3) status to U.S. charities supporting settlement activity.'

''The Times' article bears all the markings of a political campaign. First, despite the valiant efforts of five Times reporters, the article exposes no illegal activity. At best, its investigation of more than forty organizations that contribute funds to the hated Jewish communities in Jerusalem, Judea and Samaria indicated that less than a handful of them are guilty of poor accounting practices.''

□ 2200

Assuming that Honest Reporting's emminently reasonable conclusion that the Times report is the product of collaboration between the newspaper and radical anti-Zionist groups is accurate, the report is shockingly hypocritical. By publishing it, the New York Times is engaging in the precise behavior it argues the organizations it investigated should be punished for purportedly engaging in.

To wit, in the service of radical tax deductible organizations, the Times seeks to undermine U.S. foreign policy. For the past four decades, it has been the foreign policy of the United States to maintain a strategic alliance with Israel. The goal of Times-aligned groups like Gush Shalom is to undermine that alliance by discrediting and criminalizing those who wish to strengthen and maintain it.

The Times article uses dark language and innuendo to create the impression that there is something treacherous and evil about contributions to Jewish communities in neighborhoods in Judea, Samaria and Jerusalem.

For instance, the article argues, ''The donations to the settler movement stand out from other charitable, and this is in brackets, from other charitable contributions that promote U.S. foreign policy goals, close brackets, because of the centrality of the settlement issue in the current talks and the fact that Washington has consistently refused to allow Israel to spend American government aid in the settlements. Tax breaks for the donations remain largely unchallenged and unexamined by the American government.''

What the Times fails to acknowledge is that the reason these donations are ''largely unchallenged and unexamined'' is because it is the constitutional right of American citizens to contribute to charities that promote policy goals, even when those goals, like those of Gush Shalom, are antithetical to U.S. policy as determined by the U.S. Government.

The New York Times alleges that these communities are illegal. Its authority for this allegation is none other than the Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat. Erekat opined to the paper, ''Settlements violate international law.''

The truth is that Israeli communities beyond the 1949 armistice lines are legal. But even if one were to accept the argument that they are unlawful, one would be accepting an argument based on the language of the Fourth Geneva Convention from 1949 which prevents occupying powers from transferring their population to the areas under occupation.

There is no possible reading of the convention that would prohibit the voluntary movement of Israelis to Judea, Samaria and post-1967 neighborhoods in Jerusalem. Likewise, there is no possible reading of the convention that would prohibit the provision of financial support to Israelis who voluntarily move to the areas in question. Yet it is precisely this indisputably lawful, voluntary movement of Jews to these areas which the Times acknowledges is often done against the wishes of Israel's government that the Times article attacks.

In short, the Times' contention that there is something legally problematic about these donations is preposterous, both as it relates to U.S. law and as it relates to international law.

From a journalistic perspective, worse than the Times' decision to engage in precisely the behavior it seeks to criminalize when carried out by its political nemesis on the Christian and Jewish right and worse even than the article's false characterization of law is the article's clear attempt to obfuscate the main problem with land issues in Judea and Samaria. This it does in the interests of manufacturing a false but ideologically sympathetic picture of the situation on the ground.

The Times only gets around to alluding to and obfuscating the real problem with the land issues in the 58th paragraph of the article. The Times reports ''Islamic judicial panels have threatened death to Palestinians who sell property in the occupied territories to Jews.''

Actually, while this may be true, it is not the problem. The problem is that the second law promulgated by the Palestinian Authority just weeks after it was established in 1994 criminalized all Arab land sales to Jews as a capital crime.

Since 1994, scores of Arabs have been killed in both judicial and extrajudicial executions for selling land to Jews. This open move to hide the fact that since 1994 the PA has dispatched death squads to murder both Palestinians and Israeli Arabs suspected of selling land to Jews is a shocking miscarriage of journalistic standards.

Whereas the New York Times required five reporters to work for weeks to come up with exactly nothing illegal in the operations of U.S. charitable groups that support Jewish communities the Times wishes to destroy, the Times would have needed to invest no resources whatsoever to discover that the PA kills any Arab who sells land to Jews. The PA has made no effort to hide this policy. It is in the public sphere for anyone willing to look at reality.

That is, of course, the real issue here. The entire New York Times investigation, so-called, of American charitable groups that support Jewish communities in neighborhoods in Judea, Samaria and Jerusalem is a blatant attempt by major newspaper to hide the real issues prolonging the Palestinian conflict with Israel. Those issues exposed by Abbas's praise for a terrorist mass murderer, Erekat's denial that Abbas has any interest in compromising with Israel, as well as by the PA's policy of killing all Arabs who sell lands to Jews, do not serve the Times' purpose of blaming the absence of peace on Israel generally and on the Israeli right and its supporters in the U.S. in particular.

And so it is that 17 years after the start of the so-called peace process between Israel and the PLO, and 10 years after the PLO destroyed that process by launching a terror war against Israel, and 4½ years after the Palestinians elected Hamas to lead them, we are still stuck in a distorted, irrelevant discourse about the Middle East.

We are stuck in a rut because politically and ideologically motivated media organs operate hand-in-glove with radical groups seeking to undermine Israel's national sovereignty and end its alliance with the U.S. Together, they manufacture news that bears no relation with reality or the true challenges facing those who seek peace in the Middle East. But obviously for the New York Times, that is what makes it fit to print.

That was posted July 9, 2010, 7:27 a.m. by my friend Caroline Glick.

□ 2210

The article speaks for itself. It is a sad day when the New York Times has become such a political hack of a newspaper that in the summer of 1973, when I was in the Soviet Union, it was exciting. Actually, got a chance of going over there through Europe, coming out through Europe, to see a New York Times, especially in English. Exciting. And it was trusted to be the international resource. So it is a bit heartbreaking that as its sales circulation continues to plummet, it continues to lose money, that it continues to proceed with the very things that have

brought down its reputation and hurt it as such an objective resource. Doing reports growing up as a kid, you knew you could count on anything that you found in the New York Times and cite it as a valuable and accurate resource. Not so anymore. Not so anymore.

Israel is a friend, and I'm grateful that democracy has worked to the extent that this administration got concerned about its plummeting numbers enough that it realized maybe this time it should treat the Prime Minister of Israel with some respect, just as it is and just as it has heads of states of countries that despise us and have said they would be glad to see us fall as a Nation. It's nice if they could treat Prime Minister Netanyahu with the same respect that it treats some of our sworn enemies.

Very interesting. There's just so much to cover, so little time. But I did want to address that issue and the fact that Iran is continuing to have its centrifuges spin. It has been reported by this administration, by the IAEA, that Iran has apparently at least enough uranium material, at least, to manufacture two nuclear weapons. So the rhetorical question to be asked, How many nuclear bombs does it take to become an existential threat to Israel or to this Nation? I would submit a nuke in New York Harbor, coming up the Potomac, the Houston and New Orleans shipping channel taking out the majority of our energy resources, Los Angeles, the lake right up next to Chicago, the effect could be existential to the U.S.

This isn't a game. You can't keep walking around blaming the prior administration. Yes, I was upset with the Bush administration with the TARP. Yes, this administration went right out and hired the same people that helped push that thing through. And they're still pushing it. Still like it. Should have never been passed. That was a huge mistake by the Bush administration, and we should not continue to confound it.

Well, just as we've seen the New York Times can twist and distort, we've seen throughout America people distorting our heritage. And so in an effort to correct yet another distortion, I want to finish with this. This is from a book written by Peter Lillback, ''Wall of Misconception.'' A small book, lots of resources. Dr. Lillback says: ''Everyone agrees that George Washington was critical for the formation of America's values. Washington was conscious that his every act created a precedent for good or ill for all that would follow him. As our first President, everything he did established precedents for how our country was to work.

''So there is no accident that so many have sought to portray Washington as a man without faith. For if he exercised faith in the public square, this in turn argues that the Judeo-Christian system still has relevance and vitality in the public square today. Did Washington's legacy include strong precedents of advocating the Judeo-Christian values in the public square? Recent authors have declared an emphatic no.

''Randall writes, 'Washington was not a deeply religious man.' Douglas Southall Freeman says, 'He had believed that a God directed his path, but he had not been particularly ardent in his faith.' James Thomas Flexner states that 'Washington . . . avoided, as was his deist custom, the word ''God.''' Judging from these writers, Washington could hardly be called a 'godly leader.' But are these claims correct?''

I could go on, as I have, taking people on tours through this building for about 2 or 3 hours with what Washington wrote and said and did. But continuing Dr. Lillback's book: ''The very men who gave us the First Amendment did not intend to impose a radical separation of church and State that is advocated by so many today. In fact, the day after Congress adopted the words of the First Amendment, they sent a message to President Washington asking him to declare a day of thanksgiving to show America's appreciation to God for the opportunity to create America's new national government in peace and tranquility.

''So on October 3, 1789, President Washington made a Proclamation of a National Day of Thanksgiving. He declared: Whereas it is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the Providence of Almighty God''—I guess he did use the word God—''to obey His will, to be grateful for his benefits, and humbly to implore His protection and favor. And, whereas both Houses of Congress have by their joint Committee requested me 'to recommend to the people of the United States a day of public thanksgiving and prayer to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many signal favors of Almighty God' ''—oops, he used it again—''especially by affording them an opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for their safety and happiness, now, therefore, I do recommend and assign Thursday the 26th day of November next to be devoted by the people of the United States to the service of that great and glorious Being, who is the beneficent author of all the good that was, that is, or that will be; that we may then all unite in rendering unto Him our sincere and humble thanks, for His kind care and protection of the people of this country previous to their becoming a Nation; for the signal and manifold mercies, and the favorable interpositions of His providence, which we experienced in the course and conclusion of the late war; for the great degree of tranquility, union, and plenty, which we have since enjoyed, for the peaceable and rational manner in which we have been enabled to establish constitutions of government for our safety and happiness, and particularly the national one now lately instituted, for the civil and religious liberty with which we are blessed, and the means we have of acquiring and diffusing useful knowledge; and in general for the great and various favors which He hath been pleased to confer upon us.

''And also that we may then unite in most humbly offering our prayers and supplications to the great Lord and Ruler of Nations, and beseech Him to pardon our national and other transgressions to enable us all—and deists doesn't ask God to enable us to do anything—whether in public or private stations to perform our several relative duties properly and punctually.''

I see my time is running out so I will go straight to the bottom of George Washington's words: ''to promote the knowledge and practice of true religion and virtue, and the increase of science among them and us; and generally to grant unto all mankind such a degree of temporal prosperity as He alone knows to be best.

''Given under my hand, at the City of New York, the 3rd of October, in the year of our Lord, 1789.'' Again, George Washington's words.

Therefore, Madam Speaker, I yield back.

□ 2220

EXTENDING AMERICA'S UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. CRITZ) is recognized for 60 minutes.

Mr. CRITZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to address the egregious actions taken by both the House and Senate against unemployed Americans. Members of this body have continued to vote against extending benefits to millions of Americans who need it the most right now. While these citizens are facing the worst job market that this Nation has seen in generations, these Members have turned their backs on them. They claim that the Restoration of Emergency Unemployment Compensation Act is budget-busting legislation. Madam Speaker, any bill whose intention is to assist 14.7 million jobless Americans while adding a needed infusion of cash into our still fragile economy is not budget-busting legislation. It is the right legislation.

Senate Minority Leader MITCH MCCONNELL has claimed that the Republicans continue to block the extension of unemployment benefits because they are not ''willing to use worthwhile programs as an excuse'' to create ''even bigger national debt than we've already got.'' Where were these same Republicans when we began our descent into fiscal disarray? Where were the Republicans when our national debt doubled when they had control of the White House and Congress? Where were the Republicans in stopping this atrocity from taking place?

And with that, I would like to put a chart up that some of my former colleagues used to show where we were

and where we came from. In western Pennsylvania, where I'm from, many times I've been taught over the years that you have to look back to see where you were to know where you're going. And I think this chart shows pretty dramatically where we were just a decade ago and where the last administration brought us.

Republicans have made a political calculation and decided to present this as a debate about our national debt. If we look back at history, we can see this new mantra of fiscal responsibility heralded by the Republican Party of today was not what they lived by a few years ago. Our national debt grew to enormous numbers because of actions Republicans have taken in the past decade. Let us not forget, when President Bush came into office in 2001, he inherited a $236 billion budget surplus, 2.4 percent of our total GDP. This was the first surplus of this magnitude in the history of our country. These surpluses were projected to continue for at least the next 10 years.

According to a Congressional Budget Office report on the Economic Outlook for the Next Decade published in January of 2000, if the policies in place under President Clinton were maintained, total surpluses would have accumulated to between $3.2 and $4.2 trillion over the next 10 years. With these surpluses, it was projected that the Treasury would have sufficient cash on hand sometime between 2007 and 2009 to retire all debt held by the public. Now, let me read that to you again. With these surpluses, it was projected that the Treasury would have sufficient cash on hand sometime between 2007 and 2009 to retire all debt held by the public.

Madam Speaker, we've come a long way from the days of President Clinton, and it's been under the Republican leadership that this descent has taken place. As a country, we were on a path towards true fiscal responsibility and recovery. Rather than demand that we use these funds to eradicate our national debt then, Republicans dwindled our surplus on unpaid programs that greatly benefited the wealthiest citizens in our Nation. The Economic Growth—and I love the titles—the Economic Growth and Tax Reconciliation Act of 2001 passed the Republican Congress and was signed by President Bush, and it was an unpaid tax cut for the rich.

The CBO revised its economic outlook at the beginning of 2002 to reflect the changes in spending policy that have taken place during President Bush's first year. Although they still projected surpluses, the total amount had dropped by $4 trillion under the prior year's estimate; $2.4 trillion, or 60 percent, of that decline was attributed to laws enacted in 2001, including the Bush tax cuts. When the tax policy was studied for its long-term impact on our national budget, it was determined that the plan would cost us $1.35 trillion over 10 years. At the end of fiscal year 2002, we reported our first budget deficit since 1997 in the amount of $157.8 billion. Even then, there were no trumpets sounded by the Republicans to reverse our spending habits to pay down the national debt. In fact, they continued to embrace policies that would lead us deeper and deeper into the financial black hole we see ourselves in today.

In 2003, there was a second round of major tax cuts enacted. The law accelerated previous provisions from the 2001 cuts while enacting new terms. Here we go with these great titles. The Jobs and Growth Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2003 was projected to increase Federal budget deficits by $349.7 billion in the next 10 years. From 2001 to 2008, the Republicans added $4.9 trillion to our national debt, bringing it to a total of $10.6 trillion by the time President Obama took office. The Republican leadership was able to turn a projected $4 trillion surplus into a nearly $5 trillion budget deficit in a matter of 8 years.

Madam Speaker, 2008 was a trying year for all Americans. We witnessed a dramatic dip in housing prices, a skyrocketing number of foreclosed homes, the failing of financial institutions, what appeared to be a full collapse of our banking system, and the loss of 3.1 million American jobs by the end of the year. It was a catastrophe on a magnitude this Nation had not seen in decades. The economic meltdown prompted President Bush's Treasury Secretary Paulson and Federal Reserve Chairman Bernanke to visit the Speaker's Office on Thursday, September 18 of that year to deliver information to congressional leaders on our country's dire economic situation.

The Treasury Secretary and Chairman of the Fed described how, under the Bush administration, our economy had reached the equivalent of driving a tanker off of Allegheny Mountain. They believed that a serious government intervention was needed in order to rescue the system. On Saturday, September 20, a mere 2 days after this briefing, the Treasury Department delivered a three-page proposal to Congress asking for $700 billion and giving the Secretary authority to purchase mortgage-related assets from any financial institution.

In a hearing held by the House Financial Services Committee on the financial crisis, Secretary Paulson stated this major outlay of government money was needed to restore confidence in our financial markets and financial institutions so that they can perform their mission of supporting future prosperity and growth. The CBO estimated that the bill, signed by President Bush on October 4, 2008, in its entirety, including several tax provisions added on to it, would increase the national debt by $814 billion.

In the 8 years that President Bush and his administration led this country, they doubled our national debt. Not once did Republicans stand up to say the Bush administration and the Republican-controlled Congress were responsible for this. But now when Americans are in need of help, the Republicans refuse to offer it.

The financial crisis left a lasting effect on our country. Not only were Wall Street and our Nation's financial institutions left in disarray, but millions of Americans were left without jobs. Our unemployment rate jumped to 7.4 percent at the end of December 2008 and now stands over 9 percent. Americans are suffering because of this crisis and are in dire need of assistance, yet Republicans believe that it is politically astute to deny millions of American families the aid they need to put food on their tables while searching for a job during this difficult time.

When the House took up the Restoration of Emergency Unemployment Compensation Act on July 1, it passed by a 270–153 vote. It is wonderful that 270 Members of this body see the needs of the people and are appropriately providing for them, yet 80 percent of the Republicans in the House opted to continue being the party of ''no.''

□ 2230

Nearly all Republicans in the Senate decided to do the same. They continue to turn their backs on American families in need.

Republicans believe that this is all in the name of fiscal responsibility. How is denying Americans needed funding to support their families fiscally irresponsible?

Not only do these funds help American families, they help the American economy. One reason there is not enough jobs right now is weak consumer demand. CBO has found that extending unemployment benefits to be one of the most cost-effective and fast-acting ways to stimulate the economy.

Every dollar in unemployment benefits creates at least $1.64 in economic activity, as opposed to the 29 cents the Bush tax cuts would generate if extended, according to chief economist Mark Zandi of moodys.com. Virtually every dollar from unemployment benefits would be quickly spent on living expenses with the purchase of goods and services.

The CBO projected that the Restoration of Emergency Unemployment Compensation Act of 2010 would cost $33 billion, which works out to be about $2,200 per unemployed person of those 14.7 million people. This is roughly seven-thousandths of 1 percent of the debt amassed by the Republicans under the Bush administration. Yet the Republicans now want to claim fiscal responsibility. Providing these benefits is fiscally responsible and, more than that, it's a moral responsibility.

In the month of May, the State of Pennsylvania had a 9.1 percent unemployment rate. And in my area in southwest Pennsylvania we see many counties that are still hovering around the 10 percent market. While I was in the district over this past week I heard

many stories about families and how they're hurting while I was around visiting them.

At a senior center I talked to a young woman whose husband used to work in one of the factories in Johnstown. He worked there for 30 years. They paid their taxes. They did everything that they were supposed to do. Now his unemployment benefits are running out, but the Republican Members in this body and in the Senate feel it's not important enough to pass the emergency unemployment benefits.

One unemployed constituent lost her car because she's unable to make her payments once she stopped receiving the benefits in June. She's now left to find a jobs with no means of transportation, but that's not important enough for the folks in this body.

I received this letter last week from one of my constituents who desperately needs Congress to pass the unemployment extension. Her letter reads, ''I am writing this message to tell you about the harm that failure to extend unemployment is causing for my family. Both my husband and I lost jobs through no fault of our own, like millions of other Americans. We have worked hard and paid taxes for a combined total of 71 years; two of these include my husband's 2 years in the military service.

''We have tried to get work since being laid off over a year and a half ago. My husband has worked for the Census.'' Remember, those are some of those jobs that have been noted that they're not real jobs. ''My husband has worked for the Census a few weeks each of these past 2 years, but that will end soon. I have tried to get work during the past 2 years, but so far have not found anything. I have read that for every job that opens in Pennsylvania, there are five workers that would need it.

''We feel that we have been let down. Our country has bailed out companies and banks, and has saved high-paying jobs and bonuses, but feels it is too expensive to continue to help the unemployed. Some say that there are jobs out there that people aren't taking. I would like to know what they are and especially whether they are jobs that my husband and I could do.''

Now, this is western Pennsylvania. The people in my district want to work. Sometimes there isn't work though, and they need the help that these unemployment benefits offer. And it really, it hurts my feelings and it angers me that this body can turn that kind of help down.

''Most of our 71 years of work have been in public libraries, which are hurting more than any other service from huge cuts by the State and local governments.

''I don't know how Congressmen and Senators can take a break when millions of Americans' lives are on hold. We can't make the rent or mortgage, pay for prescription drugs, feed and clothe our children, put gas into our cars so that we can continue to look for jobs and many other necessities.''

And just as a side note, before I continue the speech that my staff and I put together, in western Pennsylvania we've seen the loss of jobs over many years. It used to be the hub of the steel industry of this country. Well, steel left in the late seventies and early eighties, and we've been fighting to create jobs in western Pennsylvania for a long time. We're a very hard working people. We do the best job that we can.

And why I'm so angered by the rhetoric that's been thrown around about this unemployment extension of unemployment benefits is these are hard working people, and if the jobs were there they'd be working. They're not looking for any kind of handout. But sometimes you need help, and that's all they're asking for.

She goes on to say, ''I would like for you to share this letter with other Congressmen and Senators. I hope that you will all realize that we did not ask for this situation and would be glad to return to work if only we could.

''The unemployed need help and we need it fast. Please work as hard as you can to get our benefits back.''

Madam Speaker, these families, like millions of other American families, need our help. I urge my colleagues in the Senate to pass the Restoration of Emergency Unemployment Compensation Act and provide our citizens the help they require in this time of crisis.

And again, let me reference where we were and then where we went.

This is not budget busting. This is helping men and women who are in need.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today on account of personal business.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today on account of business in the district.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Ms. WOOLSEY) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Ms. WOOLSEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. KAPTUR, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. POE of Texas) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. MORAN of Kansas, for 5 minutes, today, July 14, 15, 16, 19, and 20.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana, for 5 minutes, today, July 14, 15, and 16.

Mr. POE of Texas, for 5 minutes, today, July 14, 15, 16, 19, and 20.

Mr. UPTON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. JONES, for 5 minutes, today, July 14, 15, 16, 19, and 20.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, for 5 minutes, today and July 14.

BILLS PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Lorraine C. Miller, Clerk of the House reports that on July 1, 2010 she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bills.

H.R. 5611. To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the funding and expenditure authority of the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, to amend title 49, United States Code, to extend authorizations for the airport improvement program, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5623. To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the homebuyer tax credit for the purchase of a principal residence before October 1, 2010, in the case of a written binding contract entered into with respect to such principal residence before May 1, 2010, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5569. To extend the National Flood Insurance Program until September 30, 2010.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. CRITZ. Madam Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 34 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, July 14, 2010, at 10 a.m.

EXPENDITURE REPORTS CONCERNING OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL

Reports concerning the foreign currencies and U.S. dollars utilized for Speaker-Authorized Official Travel during the fourth quarter of 2009 and the second quarter of 2010 pursuant to Public Law 95–384 are as follows:

(AMENDED) REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DELEGATION TO DENMARK, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN DEC. 7 AND DEC. 22, 2009

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Cary Lane	12/17/09	12/19/09	Denmark		4,010.00		(3)				4,010.00
This is an amendment to report of 1/19/10											
Committee total					4,010.00						4,010.00

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.
[3] Military air transportation.

NANCY PELOSI, Speaker of the House, June 18, 2010.

(AMENDED) REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DELEGATION TO QATAR, AFGHANISTAN, GERMANY, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES EXPENDED BETWEEN MAY 6 AND MAY 10, 2010

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Hon. Nancy Pelosi	5/7	5/8	Qatar		227.00		(3)				227.00
Hon. Susan Davis	5/7	5/8	Qatar		341.00		(3)				341.00
Hon. Donna Edwards	5/7	5/8	Qatar		341.00		(3)				341.00
Hon. Niki Tsongas	5/7	5/8	Qatar		341.00		(3)				341.00
Hon. Madeleine Bordallo	5/7	5/8	Qatar		341.00		(3)				341.00
Hon. Wilson Livingood	5/7	5/8	Qatar		280.00		(3)				280.00
Wyndee Parker	5/7	5/8	Qatar		291.00		(3)				291.00
Bridget Fallon	5/7	5/9	Qatar		682.00		(3)				682.00
Kate Knudson	5/7	5/9	Qatar		682.00		(3)				682.00
Brendan Daly	5/7	5/8	Qatar		277.31		(3)				277.31
Debra Wada	5/7	5/8	Qatar		341.00		(3)				341.00
Hon. Nancy Pelosi	5/8	5/9	Afghanistan				(3)				
Hon. Susan Davis	5/8	5/9	Afghanistan		28.00		(3)				28.00
Hon. Donna Edwards	5/8	5/9	Afghanistan		28.00		(3)				28.00
Hon. Niki Tsongas	5/8	5/9	Afghanistan				(3)				
Hon. Madeleine Bordallo	5/8	5/9	Afghanistan		28.00		(3)				28.00
Hon. Wilson Livingood	5/8	5/9	Afghanistan				(3)				
Wyndee Parker	5/8	5/9	Afghanistan		10.00		(3)				10.00
Brendan Daly	5/8	5/9	Afghanistan				(3)				
Debra Wada	5/8	5/9	Afghanistan				(3)				
Hon. Nancy Pelosi	5/9	5/10	Germany		87.00		(3)				87.00
Hon. Susan Davis	5/9	5/10	Germany		177.25		(3)				177.25
Hon. Donna Edwards	5/9	5/10	Germany		177.25		(3)				177.25
Hon. Niki Tsongas	5/9	5/10	Germany		107.25		(3)				107.25
Hon. Madeleine Bordallo	5/9	5/10	Germany		177.25		(3)				177.25
Wilson Livingood	5/9	5/10	Germany		116.25		(3)				116.25
Wyndee Parker	5/9	5/10	Germany		96.87		(3)				96.87
Bridget Fallon	5/9	5/10	Germany		230.50		[3] 908.00				1,138.50
Kate Knudson	5/9	5/10	Germany		230.50		[3] 908.00				1,138.50
Brendan Daly	5/9	5/10	Germany		53.25		(3)				53.25
Debra Wada	5/9	5/10	Germany		85.25		(3)				85.25
Committee total											7,592.93

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.
[3] Military air transportation.

NANCY PELOSI, Speaker of the House, June 18, 2010.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

8258. A letter from the Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Tart Cherries Grown in the States of Michigan, New York, Pennsylvania, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wisconsin; Order Amending Marketing Order No. 930 [Doc. No.: AO-370-A8; AMS-FV-06-0213; FV07-930-2] received June 22, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

8259. A letter from the Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Marketing Order Regulating the Handling of Spearmint Oil Produced in the Far West; Salable Quantities and Allotment Percentages for the 2010-2011 Marketing Year [Doc. No.: AMS-FV-09-0082; FV10-985-1 FR] received June 22, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

8260. A letter from the Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Tart Cherries Grown in the States of Michigan, Et al.; Final Free and Restricted Percentages for the 2009-2010 Crop Year [Doc. No.: AMS-FV-09-0069; FV09-930-2 FR] received June 22, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

8261. A letter from the Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Sweet Cherries Grown in Designated Counties in Washington; Change in the Handling Regulation [Doc. No.: AMS-FV-09-0033; FV09-923-1 FR] received June 22, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

8262. A letter from the Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Blueberry Promotion, Research, and Information Order; Increase Membership [Document Number: AMS-FV-09-0022; FV-09-705] received June 22, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

8263. A letter from the Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Nectarines and Peaches Grown in California; Increased Assessment Rates [Doc. No.: AMS-FV-09-0091; FV10-916/917-2 FR] received June 22, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

8264. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Citrus Greening and Asian Citrus Psyllid; Quarantine and Interstate Movement Regulations [Docket No.: APHIS-2008-0015] (RIN: 0579-AC85) received June 22, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

8265. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting A Request For Budget Amendments For Fiscal Year 2010 proposals in the Fiscal Year 2011 Budget for the Department of Homeland Security and Justice; (H. Doc. No. 111—130); to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

8266. A letter from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Para-Aramid Fibers and Yarns Manufactured in Qualifying Country (DFARS Case 2008-D024) (RIN: 0750-AG13) received June 22, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services.

8267. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the 45th report required by the FY 2000 Emergency Supplemental Act, pursuant to Public Law 106-246, section 3204(f); to the Committee on Armed Services.

8268. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting the annual certification of the nuclear weapons stockpile by the Secretaries of Defense and Energy and accompanying report; to the Committee on Armed Services.

8269. A letter from the Chief Counsel, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Suspension of Community Eligibility [Docket ID: FEMA-2010-000; Internal Agency Docket No. FEMA-8123] received June 17, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

8270. A letter from the Assistant to the Board, Federal Reserve System, transmitting the System's ''Major'' final rule — Electronic Fund Transfers [Regulation E; Docket No.: R-1343] received July 1, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

8271. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Employee Benefits Security Administration, Department of Labor, transmitting the Department's ''Major'' final rule — Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act: Preexisting Condition Exclusions, Lifetime and Annual Limits, Rescissions, and Patient Protections (RIN: 1210-AB43) received June 29, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and Labor.

8272. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, transmitting Transmittal No. 10-05, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

8273. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, transmitting Transmittal No. 10-11, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

8274. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, transmitting Transmittal No. 10-06, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

8275. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, transmitting Transmittal No. 10-18, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

8276. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, transmitting Transmittal No. 10-21, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

8277. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Political-Military Affairs, Department of State, transmitting an addendum to a certification, transmittal number: DDTC 10-008, pursuant to Public Law 110-429, section 201; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

8278. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Political-Military Affairs, Department of State, transmitting an addendum to a certification, transmittal number: DDTC 10-056, pursuant to Public Law 110-429, section 201; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

8279. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Department's letter in accordance with Section 3 of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

8280. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Memorandum of Justification and report; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

8281. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affiars, Department of State, transmitting the Report on Adherence to and Compliance with Arms Control, Nonproliferation and Disarmament Agreements and Committments for July 2010; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

8282. A letter from the Auditor, Office of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of the report entitled, ''Auditor's Certification of the District Department of Transportation's FY 2008 Performance Accountability Report'', pursuant to D.C. Code section 47-117(d); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

8283. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's strategic Plan for FY 2010 — 2015; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

8284. A letter from the Executive Analyst, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

8285. A letter from the Executive Analyst, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

8286. A letter from the Deputy Associate General Counsel for General Law, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

8287. A letter from the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's semiannual report from the Office of the Inspector General during the 6-month period ending March 31, 2010; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

8288. A letter from the Chair, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, transmitting Semiannual Management Report from the office of the Inspector General for the period ending March 31, 2010; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

8289. A letter from the Inspector General, General Services Administration, transmitting the Semiannual Report of the Inspector General and the Semiannual Report on Final Action Resulting from Audit Reports for the 6-month period ending March 31, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act), section 5(b); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

8290. A letter from the General Counsel, National Labor Relations Board, transmitting the Board's semiannual report from the office of the Inspector General for the period October 1, 2009 through March 31, 2010; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

8291. A letter from the Administrator, Small Business Administration, transmitting the Administration's semiannual report from the office of the Inspector General for the period October 1, 2009 through March 31, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) section 5(b); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

8292. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Amendment to Emergency Fisheries Closure in the Gulf of Mexico Due to the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill [Docket No.: 100503210-0215-01] (RIN: 0648-AY87) received June 17, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

8293. A letter from the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Wildfife and Plants: Final Rulemaking To Establish Take Prohibitions for the Threatened Southern Distinct Population Segment of North American Green Sturgeon [Docket No.: 070910507-0037-02] (RIN: 0648-AV94) received June 17, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

8294. A letter from the Administrator, FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting notification that funding under Title V, subsection 503(b)(3) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, as amended, has exceeded $5 million for the cost of response and recovery efforts for FEMA-3309-EM in the State of Nouth Dakota, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 5193(b)(1); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8295. A letter from the Senior Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's ''Major'' final rule — Automatic Dependent Surveillance — Broadcast (ADS-B) Out Performance Requirements To Support Air Traffic Control (ATC) Service; Correction [Docket No.: FAA-2007-29305; Amdt. No. 91-314-A] (RIN: 2120-AI92) received June 31, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8296. A letter from the Senior Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's ''Major'' final rule — Automatic Dependent Surveillance — Broadcast (ADS-B) Out Performance Requirements To Support Air Traffic Control (ATC) Service; Techinical Amendment [Docket No.: FAA-2007-29305; Amdt. No. 91-316] (RIN: 2120-AI92) received June 31, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8297. A letter from the Senior Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No: 30728; Amdt. No. 3377] received June 21, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8298. A letter from the Senior Regulations Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Transportation for Individuals with Disabilities: Passenger Vessels [Docket: OST-2007-26829] (RIN: 2105-AB87) received June 21, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8299. A letter from the Adjutant General, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S., transmitting proceedings of the 110th National Convention of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, held in Phoenix, Arizona, August 15-20, 2009, pursuant to 36 U.S.C. 118 and 44 U.S.C. 1332; (H. Doc. No. 111—131); to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs and ordered to be printed.

8300. A letter from the Adjutant General, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S., transmitting proceedings of the 109th National Convention of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, held in Orlando, Florida, August 16-21, 2008, pursuant to 36 U.S.C. 118 and 44 U.S.C. 1332; (H. Doc. No. 111—132); to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs and ordered to be printed.

8301. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulations, Social Security Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Extension of Expiration Dates for Several Body System Listings [Docket No.: SSA-2010-0021] (RIN: 0960-AH20) received June 17, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

8302. A letter from the Deputy Associate Commissioner of Office of Regulations, Social Security Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Revised Medical Criteria for Evaluating Hearing Loss

[Docket No.: SSA-2008-0016] (RIN: 0960-AG20) received June 17, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. RAHALL: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 3923. A bill to provide for the exchange of certain land located in the Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forests in the state of Colorado, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 111–525). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. RAHALL: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 3967. A bill to amend the National Great Black Americans Commemoration Act of 2004 to authorize appropriations through fiscal year 2015 (Rept. 111–526 Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. RAHALL: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 4514. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study to determine the suitability and feasibility of designating the Colonel Charles Young Home in Xenia, Ohio as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 111–527). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. RAHALL: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 4686. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating prehistoric, historic, and limestone forest sites on Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, as a unit of the National Park System; with amendments (Rept. 111–528). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. RAHALL: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 3989. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study to determine the suitability and feasibility of adding the Heart Mountain Relocation Center, in the State of Wyoming, as a unit of the National Park System (Rept. 111–529). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. RAHALL: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 4773. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to lease certain lands within Fort Pulaski National Monument, and for other purposes (Rept. 111–530). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. RAHALL: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 4973. A bill to amend the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 to reauthorize volunteer programs and community partnerships for national wildlife refuges, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 111–531). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. RAHALL: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 2864. A bill to amend the Hydrographic Services Improvement Act of 1998 to authorize funds to acquire hydrographic data and provide hydrographic services specific to the Arctic for safe navigation, delineating the United States extended continental shelf, and the monitoring and description of coastal changes; with an amendment (Rept. 111–532). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. RAHALL: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 2476. A bill to amend the National Forest Ski Area Permit Act of 1986 to clarify the authority of the Secretary of Agriculture regarding additional recreational uses of National Forest System land that are subject to ski area permits, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 111–533 Pt. 1). Ordered to be printed.

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts: Committee on Financial Services. H.R. 2555. A bill to ensure the availability and affordability of homeowners' insurance coverage for catastrophic events; with an amendment (Rept. 111–534). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. McGOVERN: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 1509. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1722) to improve teleworking in executive agencies by developing a telework program that allows employees to telework at least 20 percent of the hours worked in every 2 administrative workweeks, and for other purposes (Rept. 111–535). Referred to the House Calendar.

DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII the Committee on the Judiciary discharged from further consideration. H.R. 3967 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA:

H.R. 5711. A bill to provide for the furnishing of statues by the territories of the United States for display in Statuary Hall in the United States Capitol; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. LEVIN (for himself, Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. DINGELL, Mr. STARK, and Mr. PALLONE):

H.R. 5712. A bill to provide for certain clarifications and extensions under Medicare, Medicaid, and the Children's Health Insurance Program; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on the Budget, and Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. WITTMAN:

H.R. 5713. A bill to direct the Administrator of General Services to extend to private property owners and managers in the City of Fredericksburg and the counties of Caroline, King George, Spotsylvania, and Stafford in Virginia the same preferences in negotiating for the leasing of space for the use of the Federal government that are given to private property owners and managers in jurisdictions in the National Capital region; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. DOGGETT (for himself, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. WILSON of Ohio, Ms. KILROY, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. HILL, Mrs. KIRKPATRICK of Arizona, Mr. STARK, Mr. GONZALEZ, Mr. GORDON of Tennessee, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. CAMP, Mr. HERGER, Mr. BRADY of Texas, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. LINDER, Mr. MCDERMOTT, and Mr. FARR):

H.R. 5714. A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to prohibit the inclusion of Social Security account numbers on Medicare cards; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. LARSON of Connecticut (for himself, Mr. ROSKAM, Mr. POLIS, and Mr. PAULSEN):

H.R. 5715. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to establish lifelong learning accounts to provide an incentive for employees to save for career-related skills development and to promote a competitive workforce through lifelong learning; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Education and Labor, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GORDON of Tennessee:

H.R. 5716. A bill to provide for enhancement of existing efforts in support of research, development, demonstration, and commercial application activities to advance technologies for the safe and environmentally responsible exploration, development, and production of oil and natural gas resources; to the Committee on Science and Technology, and in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BECERRA (for himself, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. MATSUI, and Mr. WOLF):

H.R. 5717. A bill to authorize the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution to plan, design, and construct a facility and to enter into agreements relating to education programs at the National Zoological Park facility in Front Royal, Virginia, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. ACKERMAN:

H.R. 5718. A bill to amend chapter 44 of title 18, United States Code, to restrict the ability of a person whose Federal license to import, manufacture, or deal in firearms has been revoked, whose application to renew such a license has been denied, or who has received a license revocation or renewal denial notice, to transfer business inventory firearms, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CARDOZA (for himself and Mr. PUTNAM):

H.R. 5719. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to develop, and the Secretary of Defense to distribute to members of the Armed Forces upon their discharge or release from active duty, information in a compact disk read-only memory format or other appropriate digital format that lists and explains the health, education, and other benefits for which veterans are eligible under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. DJOU:

H.R. 5720. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1227 Lunalilo Street, Honolulu, Hawaii, as the ''Cecil L. Heftel Post Office Building''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. DJOU:

H.R. 5721. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 335 Merchant Street, Honolulu, Hawaii, as the ''Frank F. Fasi Post Office Building''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. DRIEHAUS:

H.R. 5722. A bill to direct the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to provide reimbursement for certain services relating to an approved letter of map amendment, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York:

H.R. 5723. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 100 Broadway in Lynbrook, New York, as the ''Navy Corpsman Jeffrey L. Wiener Post Office Building''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Ms. NORTON (for herself, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, and Ms. GIFFORDS):

H.R. 5724. A bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to clarify Federal responsibility for stormwater pollution; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. POSEY (for himself and Mrs. BLACKBURN):

H.R. 5725. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal taxes on the income of senior citizens and to improve income security of senior citizens; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. QUIGLEY (for himself, Mr. HINCHEY, Ms. NORTON, Mr. POLIS, and Mr. WELCH):

H.R. 5726. A bill to improve the management and oversight of Federal contracts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. SHUSTER:

H.R. 5727. A bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to provide for the establishment of a process for quickly and effectively soliciting, assessing, and deploying offshore oil and hazardous substance cleanup technologies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi:

H.R. 5728. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 95 Dogwood Street in Cary, Mississippi, as the ''Spencer Byrd Powers, Jr. Post Office''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. THORNBERRY (for himself, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. LANGEVIN, Ms. GIFFORDS, Mr. REHBERG, Mr. POE of Texas, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. TANNER, Mr. BOREN, and Mr. ROHRABACHER):

H.R. 5729. A bill to modernize authorities to fight and win the war of ideas against violent extremist ideologies over the internet and other mediums of information, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. GOHMERT:

H. Res. 1510. A resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4636) to prohibit United States assistance to foreign countries that oppose the position of the United States in the United Nations; to the Committee on Rules.

By Mr. GRIJALVA (for himself, Mr. ORTIZ, Mr. FILNER, Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. RODRIGUEZ, and Mr. REYES):

H. Res. 1511. A resolution honoring the United States-Mexico Border Health Commission on the 10th anniversary of the full commission establishment and for a decade of significant contributions; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York (for herself, Mr. INGLIS, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas, Mr. WELCH, Ms. KILROY, Mr. BOUCHER, Mr. FOSTER, and Mr. WU):

H. Res. 1512. A resolution commending Google Inc. and other companies for advocating for an uncensored Internet, adhering to free speech principles, and keeping the Internet open for users worldwide; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. MURPHY of New York:

H. Res. 1513. A resolution congratulating the Saratoga Race Course as it celebrates its 142nd season; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Ms. NORTON:

H. Res. 1514. A resolution expressing support for the designation of July 31, 2010, as National Dance Day; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 147: Ms. CHU.
H.R. 211: Mr. SPRATT and Mr. REICHERT.
H.R. 275: Mr. MCCOTTER.
H.R. 303: Mrs. DAHLKEMPER.
H.R. 305: Mr. KILDEE, Mr. WU, and Ms. MATSUI.
H.R. 391: Mr. GRAVES of Georgia.
H.R. 413: Mr. LEE of New York.
H.R. 745: Ms. MATSUI and Mr. MEEK of Florida.
H.R. 764: Mr. MCKEON.
H.R. 832: Ms. MCCOLLUM and Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey.
H.R. 855: Mrs. BLACKBURN.
H.R. 1067: Mr. KISSELL.
H.R. 1205: Mrs. EMERSON, Ms. TITUS, Mr. ARCURI, Ms. SPEIER, and Mr. MCDERMOTT.
H.R. 1230: Mr. CHANDLER, Mr. TOWNS, Ms. NORTON, Mr. HALL of Texas, Mr. NEAL, and Mr. HILL.
H.R. 1305: Mr. COURTNEY.
H.R. 1322: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.
H.R. 1403: Mr. PETRI.
H.R. 1443: Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts.
H.R. 1547: Mr. BILBRAY and Mr. GRIFFITH.
H.R. 1597: Mr. TIAHRT.
H.R. 1625: Ms. PINGREE of Maine and Mr. YOUNG of Florida.
H.R. 1806: Mr. CHANDLER.
H.R. 1835: Mr. CRITZ.
H.R. 1924: Mr. SCHAUER.
H.R. 2000: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. WAXMAN, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. FATTAH, Mr. BERMAN, and Ms. DELAURO.
H.R. 2067: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, and Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia.
H.R. 2103: Mr. DAVIS of Illinois and Mr. ACKERMAN.
H.R. 2135: Mr. POLIS.
H.R. 2149: Mr. LATHAM.
H.R. 2159: Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 2349: Mr. PRICE of North Carolina.
H.R. 2378: Mr. STUPAK.
H.R. 2408: Ms. DELAURO.
H.R. 2455: Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. MARKEY of Massachusetts, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. LIPINSKI, and Mr. HALL of New York.
H.R. 2624: Mr. MICHAUD.
H.R. 2693: Mr. SESTAK.
H.R. 2766: Ms. LEE of California, Mr. LANGEVIN, and Ms. SHEA-PORTER.
H.R. 2866: Mr. PASCRELL.
H.R. 2882: Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. HARE, and Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin.
H.R. 2979: Ms. SUTTON.
H.R. 2982: Mr. HEINRICH.
H.R. 3039: Mr. DJOU.
H.R. 3077: Mr. DOYLE, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, and Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 3163: Mr. TIAHRT.
H.R. 3249: Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.
H.R. 3251: Mr. BOEHNER.
H.R. 3264: Mr. PRICE of North Carolina.
H.R. 3367: Mr. WU and Mr. HALL of New York.
H.R. 3408: Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Ms. KILPATRICK of Michigan, Mr. HODES, Mr. BRALEY of Iowa, Mr. WELCH, Mr. HINCHEY, and Mr. KUCINICH.
H.R. 3488: Ms. DELAURO.
H.R. 3554: Mr. CRITZ.
H.R. 3564: Mr. WEINER and Mr. AL GREEN of Texas.
H.R. 3567: Ms. SLAUGHTER.
H.R. 3577: Mr. PETRI and Mr. CRITZ.
H.R. 3595: Ms. FALLIN and Mr. LAMBORN.
H.R. 3668: Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. SNYDER, and Mr. STEARNS.
H.R. 3693: Mr. BILBRAY.
H.R. 3716: Mr. BARROW, Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut, Mr. DOYLE, Mr. INSLEE, Ms. SUTTON, Mr. RUSH, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. MELANCON, Mr. ROSS, and Mr. HINCHEY.
H.R. 3724: Mr. MCCOTTER.
H.R. 3729: Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. KAGEN, Mr. ISRAEL, and Mr. MICHAUD.
H.R. 3742: Mr. MORAN of Virginia and Mr. KUCINICH.
H.R. 3781: Mr. GERLACH and Mr. BOREN.
H.R. 4116: Mr. DELAHUNT and Mr. PRICE of North Carolina.
H.R. 4148: Ms. HIRONO.
H.R. 4190: Mr. PRICE of North Carolina.
H.R. 4197: Ms. BORDALLO.
H.R. 4278: Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California and Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey.
H.R. 4296: Mr. ACKERMAN.
H.R. 4298: Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 4306: Mr. TIAHRT.
H.R. 4324: Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia.
H.R. 4359: Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 4399: Mr. MCDERMOTT.
H.R. 4420: Mr. DAVIS of Illinois.
H.R. 4544: Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN, Mr. HONDA, and Mr. MICHAUD.
H.R. 4553: Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 4557: Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts and Mr. GUTIERREZ.
H.R. 4558: Mr. KILDEE.
H.R. 4599: Ms. HIRONO.
H.R. 4611: Mr. GRAVES of Missouri.
H.R. 4629: Mr. WU.
H.R. 4653: Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 4662: Mr. SNYDER, Mr. MEEK of Florida, and Mr. KILDEE.
H.R. 4677: Mr. HOLT.
H.R. 4692: Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Ms. DELAURO, and Mr. LARSON of Connecticut.
H.R. 4693: Mr. SCOTT of Virginia and Ms. DEGETTE.
H.R. 4710: Mr. HINCHEY.
H.R. 4734: Mr. WU.
H.R. 4759: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
H.R. 4787: Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania and Ms. DEGETTE.
H.R. 4796: Mr. PAUL, Ms. TITUS, and Ms. DEGETTE.
H.R. 4800: Mr. CAPUANO.
H.R. 4806: Mr. MORAN of Virginia.
H.R. 4820: Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 4830: Ms. DEGETTE.
H.R. 4864: Mr. HARE, Ms. HIRONO, and Mr. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 4870: Mr. PALLONE, Mr. MCGOVERN, and Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin.
H.R. 4886: Mr. HOLT.
H.R. 4914: Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. HIGGINS.
H.R. 4925: Mr. CHILDERS.
H.R. 4926: Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas and Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey.

H.R. 4947: Mr. McCOTTER and Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey.
H.R. 4999: Mr. FRANKS of Arizona.
H.R. 5012: Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey and Mr. GUTIERREZ.
H.R. 5032: Mr. HASTINGS of Florida.
H.R. 5040: Mr. CLAY, Mr. PLATTS, Mr. ANDREWS, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. SESTAK, and Mr. SCOTT of Georgia.
H.R. 5041: Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 5081: Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Ms. KAPTUR, and Mr. OWENS.
H.R. 5090: Mr. PASTOR of Arizona, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, and Mr. DOYLE.
H.R. 5092: Mr. McCOTTER.
H.R. 5107: Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. SESTAK, and Ms. McCOLLUM.
H.R. 5115: Mr. ROGERS of Michigan.
H.R. 5121: Mr. GUTIERREZ and Mr. LEWIS of Georgia.
H.R. 5141: Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania, Mr. HOEKSTRA, and Mr. SMITH of Texas.
H.R. 5211: Mr. SCOTT of Virginia.
H.R. 5218: Mrs. DAVIS of California.
H.R. 5244: Mrs. EMERSON and Mr. CHANDLER.
H.R. 5248: Mr. CLAY.
H.R. 5268: Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. HINCHEY, and Mr. DOYLE.
H.R. 5283: Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California and Mr. CONYERS.
H.R. 5289: Mr. SESTAK.
H.R. 5295: Ms. GIFFORDS.
H.R. 5319: Mr. OLSON.
H.R. 5322: Mr. BOUCHER.
H.R. 5323: Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. MANZULLO, Mr. FORBES, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mr. GALLEGLY, Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California, Mr. McKEON, Mr. POE of Texas, Mr. BARTON of Texas, Mr. UPTON, Mr. PETRI, Mr. BARTLETT, and Ms. JENKINS.
H.R. 5418: Mr. FILNER.
H.R. 5424: Mr. PLATTS and Mr. BUCHANAN.
H.R. 5425: Mr. AUSTRIA.
H.R. 5429: Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD and Mrs. NAPOLITANO.
H.R. 5434: Mr. TIERNEY, Mr. CLEAVER, Ms. SPEIER, Ms. RICHARDSON, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. PETRI, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. BISHOP of New York, Mr. WAXMAN, Mrs. MALONEY, Mr. RAHALL, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. DOYLE, Mrs. McCARTHY of New York, Mr. SESTAK, and Mr. JONES.
H.R. 5458: Mr. SESTAK, Mr. FOSTER, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, and Ms. BERKLEY.
H.R. 5467: Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 5504: Mrs. DAHLKEMPER, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. MEEK of Florida, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. CONYERS, and Mr. RAHALL.
H.R. 5506: Mr. PRICE of North Carolina.
H.R. 5509: Mr. FORBES and Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 5510: Mr. CONYERS, Mr. MILLER of North Carolina, and Mr. WATT.
H.R. 5518: Mr. PASTOR of Arizona.
H.R. 5523: Mr. GERLACH.
H.R. 5527: Mr. McGOVERN, Ms. SCHWARTZ, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, and Mr. TIBERI.
H.R. 5563: Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi.
H.R. 5564: Mr. McHENRY and Mr. MELANCON.
H.R. 5565: Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. HINOJOSA, and Mr. PAUL.
H.R. 5566: Mr. TONKO and Mr. McCOTTER.
H.R. 5577: Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California.
H.R. 5578: Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California.
H.R. 5580: Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado.
H.R. 5588: Mr. BOUCHER, Mr. BLUMENAUER, and Mr. COURTNEY.
H.R. 5597: Mr. KILDEE, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Ms. SCHWARTZ, and Mr. MARSHALL.
H.R. 5605: Ms. SCHWARTZ, Mr. SESTAK, and Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 5606: Ms. SCHWARTZ, Mr. SESTAK, and Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 5614: Mr. McCAUL, Mr. MATHESON, and Mr. KRATOVIL.
H.R. 5620: Mr. BURTON of Indiana.
H.R. 5631: Ms. HIRONO and Mr. AL GREEN of Texas.
H.R. 5634: Mr. HINCHEY and Mr. QUIGLEY.
H.R. 5636: Mr. McGOVERN and Mr. ELLISON.
H.R. 5643: Mr. SESTAK.
H.R. 5644: Mr. STARK, Ms. HIRONO, and Mrs. CAPPS.
H.R. 5648: Mr. WALZ, Mr. MILLER of Florida, and Mr. BUCHANAN.
H.R. 5679: Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, and Mr. LATTA.
H.R. 5687: Mr. ORTIZ.
H.R. 5694: Mr. HONDA.
H.J. Res. 42: Mr. DJOU.
H. Con. Res. 110: Mr. SESSIONS.
H. Con. Res. 232: Mr. BACHUS and Mr. OLVER.
H. Con. Res. 266: Mr. CUMMINGS, Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California, Mr. ROYCE, Ms. BALDWIN, and Mr. BOREN.
H. Con. Res. 274: Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. ROSS, Mr. LEE of New York, Mr. BONNER, Mr. RAHALL, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. STEARNS, Mr. TERRY, Mrs. BIGGERT, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. BARTLETT, Mr. BRIGHT, and Mr. SMITH of Nebraska.
H. Con. Res. 287: Mr. AUSTRIA, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. YOUNG of Florida, Mr. PRICE of Georgia, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. CRENSHAW, Ms. JENKINS, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado, Mrs. BACHMANN, Mr. PAUL, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. BACHUS, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky, Mr. HENSARLING, Mr. JORDAN of Ohio, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. DJOU, Mr. LATTA, Mr. MACK, and Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky.
H. Con. Res. 291: Mr. PAYNE and Mr. INSLEE.
H. Con. Res. 292: Mr. POSEY, Ms. RICHARDSON, Ms. GIFFORDS, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, and Mr. OLSON.
H. Con. Res. 295: Mr. GALLEGLY, Mrs. BACHMANN, Mr. TIAHRT, Mr. ISSA, and Mr. WEINER.
H. Con. Res. 296: Mrs. MYRICK, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. KIRK, Mr. KLINE of Minnesota, Mr. BOREN, Mr. OWENS, and Mr. WALZ.
H. Res. 20: Mr. WILSON of South Carolina.
H. Res. 22: Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.
H. Res. 111: Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. OWENS, and Mr. CARSON of Indiana.
H. Res. 173: Ms. GIFFORDS, Mr. FATTAH, Mr. OBERSTAR, Mr. KIND, and Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.
H. Res. 249: Mr. DJOU.
H. Res. 709: Mr. HONDA.
H. Res. 771: Mr. SIRES and Mr. HUNTER.
H. Res. 869: Mr. TIAHRT.
H. Res. 874: Mr. TIAHRT.
H. Res. 1052: Mr. HUNTER, Mr. BRIGHT, Mr. THORNBERRY, and Mr. KRATOVIL.
H. Res. 1217: Mr. COHEN, Mr. ISSA, Mr. POE of Texas, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mrs. DAHLKEMPER, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, and Mr. MOORE of Kansas.
H. Res. 1241: Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California, Mr. SCHOCK, Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado, Mr. YOUNG of Florida, and Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina.
H. Res. 1326: Mr. DELAHUNT, Mr. HOLT, and Mr. RUSH.
H. Res. 1342: Mr. SCHRADER.
H. Res. 1355: Mr. KUCINICH.
H. Res. 1370: Mr. DOYLE.
H. Res. 1401: Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, and Mr. SESTAK.
H. Res. 1402: Mr. PAULSEN, Ms. WATSON, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. McDERMOTT, and Mr. WALZ.
H. Res. 1411: Mr. ADLER of New Jersey, Ms. BEAN, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. CAPUANO, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia, Mr. HIGGINS, Mr. HIMES, Mr. KIND, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. McGOVERN, Mr. TANNER, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. TONKO, Mr. WALZ, Ms. TITUS, Mr. SMITH of Texas, and Mr. BERMAN.
H. Res. 1420: Mr. RUSH and Mrs. CAPPS.
H. Res. 1423: Mr. McGOVERN, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. McCOLLUM, and Mr. BRALEY of Iowa.
H. Res. 1443: Mr. HONDA, Ms. BORDALLO, and Mr. POLIS.
H. Res. 1445: Mr. GINGREY of Georgia, Mr. POSEY, and Mr. KLEIN of Florida.
H. Res. 1472: Mr. SABLAN, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. SESTAK, Ms. NORTON, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. SNYDER, and Mr. MAFFEI.
H. Res. 1473: Mr. BRIGHT.
H. Res. 1483: Mrs. MYRICK, Mr. McGOVERN, Mr. McCOTTER, and Mr. HILL.
H. Res. 1485: Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey, Ms. NORTON, Mr. RAHALL, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, and Mr. CHAFFETZ.
H. Res. 1488: Mr. PAUL, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. LoBIONDO, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. HOLT, Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. MOORE of Kansas, Mr. MEEKS of New York, Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California, Mr. GERLACH, Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. LANCE, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, and Mr. WU.
H. Res. 1494: Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. TURNER, and Mr. INSLEE.
H. Res. 1497: Mr. KIRK.
H. Res. 1503: Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.

CONGRESSIONAL EARMARKS, LIMITED TAX BENEFITS, OR LIMITED TARIFF BENEFITS

Under clause 9 of rule XXI, lists or statements on congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits were submitted as follows:

The amendment to be offered by Representative Waters, or a designee, to H.R. 5114, the Flood Insurance Reform Priorities Act of 2010, does not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

United States of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 111th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 156 WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, JULY 13, 2010 No. 103

Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable JEANNE SHAHEEN, a Senator from the State of New Hampshire.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Merciful God, sustainer of our lives, provide for all the needs of our lawmakers. Give them strength for struggles and successes, for shadows and sunshine, for valleys and mountain summits. Awaken in all of us a fresh appreciation for this great land, inspiring us to keep alive a real sense of freedom.

Lord, thank You for our Nation's Founders, for their ideals and principles. We are grateful also for the long line of patriots who have kept freedom's flame burning brightly. As American citizens, give us a love for righteousness so that, receiving Your grace, we may bless the world for the praise of Your glory.

We pray in Your sacred Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable JEANNE SHAHEEN led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. INOUYE).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, July 13, 2010.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable JEANNE SHAHEEN, a Senator from the State of New Hampshire, to perform the duties of the Chair.

DANIEL K. INOUYE,
President pro tempore.

Mrs. SHAHEEN thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Madam President, following leader remarks, the Senate will proceed to a period of morning business. Senators will be allowed to speak for up to 10 minutes each. That will be until 12:30 today.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

I ask unanimous consent that the Republicans control the first 30 minutes and the majority control the next 30 minutes.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. Madam President, today I hope we can return to the small business jobs bill. I am confident amendments should already have been exchanged. We are in a difficult situation. It is a tax bill. We can go back and look through many Congresses in the past. Whenever we get close to an election, there is a tax bill on the floor, so we have to be very careful how the amendment process works. I hope we can move forward in good faith, have amendments offered by each side. I have had calls from two Republican Senators wanting to move forward on this bill. I hope we can do that. The fact that the so-called tree is filled should not bar any constructive consideration of this legislation. There is no effort being made to stop amendments, other than amendments that will get us into areas we need not get into. This is a bill to promote jobs through small business, where most jobs are created. I hope we can do that. I also expect to consider the Wall Street reform conference report sometime later in the day.

ORDER FOR PRINTING OF SENATE PRAYER

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the prayer delivered by our Senate Chaplain on Thursday, July 1, when the Senate gathered to remember Senator Robert C. Byrd, be printed in the RECORD and as a part of the memorial book of Senate tributes.

There being no objection, the prayer was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

PRAYER FOR SENATOR ROBERT C. BYRD

(By Dr. Barry C. Black, Thursday, July 1, 2010)

Let us pray.

God our refuge and strength, close at hand in distress and giver of all comforts, we thank You for giving us the gift of Senator Robert Carlyle Byrd. Lord, we appreciate his wit and wisdom, his stories and music, as well as his indefatigable commitment to the principles of freedom that make America great. Thank You for blessing us with his passion for history and his willingness to challenge conventional wisdom in his quest to keep our Nation strong. Deal graciously with all who mourn, that, casting every care on You, we may know the consolation of Your love.

Lord, comfort Mona and Marjorie and all of Senator Byrd's loved ones, dispelling their fears with Your love, easing their loneliness with Your presence, and renewing their hopes with Your promises.

In Your mercy turn the darkness of death into the dawn of new life, and the sorrow of parting into the joy of heaven.

We pray in Your Holy Name. Amen.

Mr. REID. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

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

Printed on recycled paper.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, there will now be a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

Mr. BARRASSO. I ask unanimous consent to speak for up to 30 minutes in a colloquy with a number of colleagues.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

APPOINTMENT OF DR. DONALD BERWICK

Mr. BARRASSO. Madam President, I rise to discuss a recess appointment made last week when many of us were traveling to visit with constituents to talk about the issues of the day.

During that time, I was in Wyoming, and one of the main issues brought up at senior centers was the appointment by the President of Dr. Donald Berwick to be the head of Medicare and Medicaid. I heard the concerns of these folks because of statements Dr. Berwick had made about the British health care system and his love of the National Health Service in England. They are concerned as to how this gentleman, who has taken positions and made a number of statements, would run Medicare and Medicaid. Specifically, they had concerns because they had heard his statement:

> The decision is not whether or not we will ration. The decision is whether we will ration with our eyes open.

Seniors around the State were concerned about what this means. Then to hear that the President made a decision to do a recess appointment of this very individual, without hearings in the Congress, without an opportunity for the American people to hear specifically his response to questions we might have—is this what the American people want? Absolutely not. We have a President who campaigned on a pledge of accountability and transparency. To me, this makes a mockery of that pledge because this nominee will not have to answer questions about statements he has made.

I see my colleague from Arizona, a State where people on Medicare are concerned, where we have many seniors, a State with a Medicaid population that will be impacted. Yet we now have a director of Medicaid and Medicare, finally named by the President after a full year of debate on a health care law that cut $500 billion from seniors on Medicare and crammed 16 million more Americans onto Medicaid, a program that is currently very broken. I say to my colleague from Arizona, my goodness, the impact on the folks in Arizona is astonishing.

There was an article today in one of the papers that talks about a Medicaid stalemate. They talk about his home State of Arizona. They say Arizona has had to cut about a dozen benefits from its Medicaid Program, including hearing aids, podiatrist services, capped physical therapy visits. Yet there was nobody in charge of Medicaid when the President and the Democrats in this body said: Hey, don't worry. We are going the cram another 16 million more Americans onto Medicaid—a system we know is broken.

So I turn to my colleague from Arizona and ask him his thoughts on this recess appointment at a time when seniors and folks around the country are concerned about the debt, the deficit, the economy, and now we are seeing the President making a mockery of his previous comments about accountability and transparency.

Mr. MCCAIN. Could I say to my friend, I think this issue is an alarming and disturbing one—perhaps one of the most disturbing, for two reasons: One is that this nomination had not even gone through the earliest stages of scrutiny by the relevant committee, not to mention the entire Senate; and the other, of course, is the individual himself who was being nominated, who could only be viewed as extreme, especially concerning many of his comments. One of his greatest rhetorical hits is: ''any health-care funding plan that is just, equitable, civilized and humane must—must—redistribute wealth from the richer among us to the poorer and less fortunate.'' That in itself is a remarkable statement.

But I wish to, for a second, with my friend, Dr. BARRASSO, go back to this process. The fact is, our colleagues on the other side of the aisle blocked for over 2 years the nomination for this position by President Bush, and this nomination was barely 3 months old. He had not even filled out the questionnaire, much less attend a hearing. So the rationale used by the administration was: Well, the Republicans are going to block it. Well, we may have. And given the comments and record of Sir Donald—he is a knight, I understand, knighted by Queen Elizabeth—well, the comments by Sir Donald certainly do give one extreme pause. But shouldn't we at least go through the process of the hearing?

I have been around here a long time, and I have not paid attention to every nominee and the process they have been through, but I cannot remember a time where blocking the nomination took place—or announcement of preventing the nomination from moving forward was done before a hearing took place, or even the questionnaire.

In fact, I was very interested to see the comment of the chairman of the Finance Committee, under whose supervision in his committee this nomination would go through. I quote Senator BAUCUS:

> I'm troubled that, rather than going through the standard nomination process, Dr. Berwick was recess appointed. Senate confirmation of presidential appointees is an essential process prescribed by the Constitution that serves as a check on executive power and protects Montanans and all Americans by ensuring that crucial questions are asked of the nominee—and answered.

So not a single question was asked of the nominee, much less answered. And, of course, I understand. Having been a committee chairman myself, I will take great umbrage of my party, the President, or the other party that the process was completely bypassed. Because the Senate has the responsibility of advice and consent. And over time, I must admit that both Republican and Democrat administrations have abused the recess appointment process. Yes, they have abused it. But I must say, this takes it to a new high or low depending on which way you view it.

We have now seen in this administration the appointment of various ''czars,'' people given responsibilities over vast areas of government as ''czars.'' They have got more czars than the Romanoffs. So this is another step, in my view, of incursion and encroachment by the executive branch on the legislative branch, a coequal branch of government. So that in itself is extremely disturbing.

Are we going to have nominations made—an announcement of those nominations, and then automatically are we going to have ''recess'' appointments made? What was the hurry? There is going to be another recess in August. There is going to be another recess in October, unless we go out for elections. But yet in their zeal and haste, they had to do it over the Fourth of July recess.

I tell you, my friends, this is more than just one individual. This is a gradual and steady erosion of the responsibilities of the Senate of the United States called advice and consent, which can set dangerous precedence for the future. I say to this administration, and my friends on the other side of the aisle—and I appreciate the comments of the chairman of the Finance Committee—if we allow this to go on, it will hurt the Senate as an institution, not just Republicans, not just Democrats, but it will hurt this institution, if we allow, unresponded to, a situation where a nominee—his name comes over, and not even a hearing, not even a question is asked—and immediately that nominee is recess appointed, which means they are in a position of enormous power and authority for a long period of time. And this appointment—this appointment—has enormous consequences in light of the passage of the most sweeping overhaul of

the health care system in America, having just taken place over our obviously strenuous objections.

But it happened. Now the individual in charge, the individual who will bear great responsibilities, has not answered a single question posed by Members of this body on either side.

I say to my colleagues, this is a dangerous precedent and one that should not go unresponded to by either Democrat or Republican because of our responsibilities as a coequal branch of government. I see my colleague, the Republican leader.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I say to my colleague from Arizona, I just came on to the floor and am not quite certain what happened earlier in this colloquy, but there is no doubt about it that they did not want Dr. Berwick's name to surface during the health care debate. They did not want any questions asked of him in public. We have had recess appointments, of course, by Presidents of both parties. Typically, they have gone through a hearing, a committee vote, and end up out here on the calendar so that at least there was some exposure to the nominee's views.

What we do know about this nominee is what he has said in the past about the British health care system. It is stunning that anybody in this country could look at the national health service in England and decide they were in love with it. So I would say to my friend from Arizona, and my friends from Wyoming and South Dakota, there is no question what they were up to here. They wanted to sneak this guy through with a minimum amount of exposure.

Mr. MCCAIN. Could I mention to my friend that even one of our not so strong allies from the Washington Post, Ruth Marcus, wrote a column saying:

> There are legitimate explanations for Berwick's more incendiary comments on health care. It's too bad he didn't get to offer them. A cynic—who, me?—might think that the administration simply preferred not to suffer the political downside of a public airing.
>
> A cynic might wonder, with Arkansas Democrat Blanche Lincoln facing a tough reelection fight, whether Berwick could even get through committee on a party-line vote. A cynic might think that the last thing Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid wanted before the election was a floor fight about rationing health care.
>
> A cynic might look at the White House explanation—that it was urgent for CMS, without a confirmed administrator since 2006, to have a leader—and ask: Then why did you dither for 15 months before nominating someone?
>
> In announcing the appointment, the president complained that ''many in Congress have decided to delay critical nominations for political purposes.'' True, but where's the evidence of delay in Berwick's case? You can't fairly accuse the other side of political gamesmanship when you short-circuit the process and storm off the court before the first set.
>
> ''To some degree, he's damaged goods,'' then-Sen. Barack Obama said in 2005 about John Bolton's recess appointment as United Nations ambassador.

Would the president say the same about Berwick?

An excellent column.

Mr. MCCONNELL And that was Ruth Marcus.

Mr. MCCAIN. I think it puts it pretty well. But none of us, of course, being cynics, would accept such an explanation by a columnist from the Washington Post.

I see my colleague from South Dakota.

Mr. THUNE. I would say to my friend from Arizona and to the leader that a cynic might also raise the issue of why it took the President 454 days to nominate Donald Berwick and then have a lot of his surrogates go on in front of the media and say: We had to do this because we needed to get this position filled. Madam President, 454 days—if this position was so critical and so important to this country, you would think they would have moved in a more expeditious fashion to get a nominee out there. They did not even have a hearing in front of the committee.

They could have had a hearing. They could have had a vote at the committee level. They could have brought him to the floor. They did not do any of those things that would be called for in the regular order because, as I think the Senator from Kentucky has pointed out, they did not want to take a tough political vote.

When you look at this man's record and the things he has said about the British health care system and some of the other comments he has made—I want to point out something here too which I thought was sort of interesting because he is going to be called upon to implement a 2,700-page bill, which, when the regulations are written, is going to be thousands and thousands of pages, not to mention the fact that as we debated this on the floor of the Senate, it ended up being about $1 trillion, and when fully implemented $2.5 trillion. So he has trillions of dollars under his jurisdiction. He has a 2,700-page bill that he is going to implement. And he came out and said:

> I don't feel like a leader, so it's very hard for me to project myself into that situation. But inattention to detail is my biggest defect. I'm always leaning forward into something new. I can create a mess. Luckily, I have people who are willing to create the detail around the idea or, if they're really smart, know which ideas to ignore.

He is basically saying he is not a detail guy, and yet this massive new health care program, which is literally going to be thousands of pages, including regulations—and 2,700 pages, as I mentioned, in terms of the legislation itself—he will be called upon to implement it. And he has a vision clearly that the model he supports is the British health care system, the national health care system, which, as we all know, countries in Europe are moving away from. Why we would be moving in that direction, and why they would appoint somebody like this to this important position defies explanation.

But, more importantly, I think, as well, is they could have done this in the regular way. He could have come before the Senate and answered questions as any other nominee would. He should have had a hearing where he was able to respond to some of these statements he has made in the past. Yet they chose to do it in this way, with a recess appointment, notwithstanding the fact that it was 454 days before they put his name forward for nomination, and since that time 79 days, and they are blaming the Congress, and they are blaming the Republicans specifically for not moving this nomination, when, in fact, it was the President and his administration who waited that long to put somebody in this position.

Mr. MCCAIN. Could I ask the Republican leader a question. He has been around here a fair amount of time, as I have. I ask the Republican leader, has he ever heard of or recalled of a nominee who was recess appointed without even the questionnaire from the relevant committee of oversight being responded to or a hearing before that committee? For the life of me, I cannot recall that.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I say to my friend from Arizona, I do not know the answer to that. But we do know it was a curious, maybe not totally unprecedented but certainly unusual situation where a nominee is subjected to so little scrutiny and oversight—no questions, no opportunity to testify. This is a truly unusual situation. I think we know the answer as to why. This guy is in favor of rationing health care—openly, unabashedly, an advocate of rationing health care. I do not think they wanted to have him have to answer the questions. He may not have been very good at details, I say to my friend from South Dakota, but he got the big picture. And the big picture in his mind is:

> The decision is not whether or not we will ration care—the decision is whether we will ration with our eyes [wide] open.

That is what he intends to do.

Mr. MCCAIN. So a nominee whose clear philosophy of record indicates redistribution of wealth, as he describes it, and a use of health care in a way that includes greater and greater ''leveling of the small distribution of income in America''—does that give us some indication of the real intentions of the administration when they proposed health care reform in this package, despite the statements made by the President that if you like the health insurance policy you have, you can keep it; there will be no tax increases for people below $250,000, et cetera? Does this appointment of an individual with a clear-cut philosophy that this is a way to redistribute wealth in America indicate that maybe the real—again, not being a cynic, but would give us some idea of a real intent of this ''health care reform'' we resisted so strenuously for more than a year?

Mr. MCCONNELL. I think my friend from Arizona has it exactly right. Every single Member of the Democratic Party in the Senate voted for a bill that is going to impose $500 billion of Medicare cuts over the next 10 years.

We have a physician, fortunately, in the Senate: Dr. BARRASSO. He intends to reach that target, does he not, I would inquire of my friend from Wyoming, by rationing health care?

Mr. BARRASSO. Madam President, I believe the President of the United States, I say to my colleague and friend, now has what he wants: his health care rationing czar—not someone approved by the Senate but someone he has appointed and put into place without an open hearing.

It is so interesting, as my colleagues from Arizona and South Dakota talk about, that the failings of the British health care system—a system that Dr. Berwick says, ''I am romantic about; I love it; it is a national treasure, a global treasure,'' but then the headline today is: ''U.K. Will Revamp Its Health Service.'' It says: Health care experts called the plan one of the biggest shakeups in the national health service's 62-year history. Its new coalition government in Britain, grappling with weak public finances and rising health care costs, announced an overhaul of the state-funded health system that it said would put more power in the hands of the doctors and involves cutting huge swaths of bureaucracy.

This is at a time when we have just in this country passed not what we voted for but what the Democrats and the President voted for: a bill that increases the bureaucracy, including $10 billion for Internal Revenue Service agents and higher and higher numbers of government workers and bureaucrats taking power away from the doctors, away from the patients. Now it is government-centered health care at a time when Britain is moving away from it, and the person the President of the United States has put in as his health care rationing czar is someone who calls that approach a national treasure; cutting $500 billion from our seniors depending on that for Medicare, not to save Medicare but to start a whole new government program.

Britain is trying to revamp because they know that someone with cancer in the United States has a much better chance of survival than somebody in Britain. It is not because our doctors are better in the United States—and I have practiced medicine in Wyoming for 25 years—it is because people get care in the United States that is delayed and therefore denied in Britain. But Dr. Berwick is romantic. He has fallen in love with that national health service, a service that is not good for patients, and it is not good for providers.

I see my friend from South Dakota, another rural community and State. I am sure he is seeing and hearing the same things from his seniors there, their concerns about what is going to happen to the cost of their care, the quality of their care, and the availability of the care, especially with Dr. Berwick now in charge.

Mr. THUNE. The Senator from Wyoming knows full well how difficult it is to deliver health care in rural areas. Being a physician himself, he knows the challenges we face.

It seems to me that notwithstanding the comments to the contrary, we have to look at what people do. In this case, what the administration has done is appointed somebody to run this massive new health care program who clearly is on the record by his previous statements in favor of redistribution of wealth, in favor of rationing of health care, in favor of government-run health care. He is romantic about the British national health system, which, as the Senator from Wyoming mentioned, is having all kinds of complications and problems, including runaway costs, and now they are trying to figure out how to move away from it. The problem they have is that 1.6 million people are employed by the British national health system, a huge employer in their country, so the economic impact, the political impact of making changes in that system is very difficult. That being said, it doesn't seem as though they have any choice because they are facing such difficult fiscal circumstances in their country and they are seeing these runaway health care costs contributing in a very significant way to that.

So it seems to me, at least, that what we have done here with this massive health care bill passing in the U.S. Congress—$2.5 trillion when it is fully implemented over a 10-year period—what we are already seeing now is the Actuary at CMS coming out and saying it is going to bend the cost curve up and it is going to cost considerably more above and beyond the normal year-over-year inflationary increases in health care Americans have already been seeing. Then we also have the CBO now coming out and saying it is not going to achieve the deficit savings that were advertised here on the floor when we had the debate. There is all this information coming out which validates the argument we were making at the time, and that is that we don't want to move toward the government-run health care system that rations care. Then they put somebody in charge who believes in redistribution of wealth, rationing of health care, government-run health care—all things we argue this would lead us toward. Clearly, the administration really shows their hand when they appoint someone such as this to run this important, comprehensive, wide-reaching, and expensive bureaucratic program that very much will resemble, in terms of the model, what they are doing in Britain, which Britain is moving away from.

Mr. MCCAIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the Wall Street Journal editorial of July 12, 2010, entitled ''Who Pays for ObamaCare? What Donald Berwick and Joe the Plumber both understand.''

I have some relationship to Joe the Plumber, not to Donald Berwick.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Wall Street Journal, Editorial July 12, 2010]

WHO PAYS FOR OBAMACARE?

WHAT DONALD BERWICK AND JOE THE PLUMBER BOTH UNDERSTAND

Among Donald Berwick's greatest rhetorical hits is this one: ''any health-care funding plan that is just, equitable, civilized and humane must—must—redistribute wealth from the richer among us to the poorer and less fortunate.'' Count that as one more reason that President Obama made Dr. Berwick a recess appointee to run Medicare and Medicaid rather than have this philosophy debated in the Senate.

We are also learning that ''spreading the wealth,'' as Mr. Obama famously told Joe the Plumber in 2008, is the silent intellectual and political foundation of ObamaCare. We say silent because Democrats never admitted this while the bill was moving through Congress.

But only days after the bill passed, Senate Finance Chairman Max Baucus exulted that it would result in ''a leveling'' of the ''maldistribution of income in America,'' adding that ''The wealthy are getting way, way too wealthy, and the middle-income class is left behind.'' David Leonhardt of the New York Times, who channels White House budget director Peter Orszag, also cheered after the bill passed that ObamaCare is ''the federal government's biggest attack on economic inequality'' in generations.

An April analysis by Patrick Fleenor and Gerald Prante of the Tax Foundation reveals how right they are. ObamaCare's new ''health-care funding plan'' will shift some $104 billion in 2016 to Americans in the bottom half of the income distribution from those in the top half. The wealth transfer will be even larger in future years. While every income group sees a direct or indirect tax increase, everyone below the 50th income percentile comes out a net beneficiary.

At least at the start, Americans in the 50th through 80th income percentiles—or those earning between $99,000 to $158,000—are nearly beneficiaries too, if not for the taxes on insurers, drug makers and other businesses that will be passed on to everyone as higher health costs. This group will eventually get soaked even more—probably through a value-added tax—once ObamaCare's costs explode. But at the beginning the biggest losers are the upper middle class, especially the top 10% of income earners, mainly because a 3.8% Medicare ''payroll'' tax surcharge will now apply to investment income. ObamaCare, in short, is almost certainly the largest wealth transfer in American history.

Distributional analyses like the Tax Foundation's are usually staples in any Beltway policy debate, especially when Republicans want to cut taxes. Yet aside from this or that provision, none of the outfits that usually report for this duty—the Tax Policy Center of the Brookings Institution and Urban Institute, the Center for Budget and Policy Priorities—have attempted to estimate the full incidence of ObamaCare's taxes and subsidies.

In part this may be because ObamaCare is such a complex rewrite of health, tax, welfare and labor laws. But it's also embarrassing to liberals that much of ObamaCare's redistribution will merely move income to

the lower middle class from the upper middle class, and the President habitually promises that people earning under $200,000 will be exempt from his tax increases. We now know they won't be.

With his vast new powers over what government spends, Dr. Berwick will be well situated to equalize outcomes even more, and he certainly seems inclined to do so. The most charitable reading of his redistribution remarks, delivered in a 2008 London speech, is that any health insurance system will involve some degree of redistribution to the ''less fortunate,'' that is, to the sick from the healthy.

Yet Dr. Berwick made those comments in the context of a larger, and bitter, indictment of the U.S. health system, even though the huge public programs he will run already account for about half of all national health spending. From his point of view this isn't enough. And his main stance was that individual clinical choices must be subordinated to government central planning to serve his view of social justice and health care guaranteed by the state.

The great irony is that this sort of enforced egalitarianism imposes higher taxes and other policies that reduce the total stock of wealth and leave less for Dr. Berwick to redistribute. Economic growth has been by far the most important factor in improving health and longevity, especially for those whom Dr. Berwick calls ''the poorer and less fortunate.''

Americans have learned the hard way over the past two years that this Administration believes in wealth redistribution first, economic growth second. Or as Dr. Berwick also put it in his wealth-redistribution speech, it is crucial not to have to rely on ''the darkness of private enterprise.''

Mr. McCAIN. Madam President, I will quote the important part of the Wall Street Journal editorial, speaking of Dr. Berwick, Sir Donald:

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Americans have learned the hard way over the past two years that this administration believes in wealth redistribution first, economic growth second. Or as Dr. Berwick also put it in his wealth-redistribution speech, it is crucial not to have to rely on ''the darkness of private enterprise.''

That is an individual who is now going to oversee over half the health care provided in America who believes that ''the darkness of private enterprise'' should not be relied on.

So I wish to say to my friends again, there are two issues here of great concern: the individual himself, his record, and what he clearly intends for the finest health care system in America—not on restraining costs but obviously a redistribution of wealth; second, this entire process of an individual not even filling out a questionnaire—a nominee—or any semblance of a hearing before the relevant committee before a ''recess'' appointment is made. This is an erosion of the constitutional responsibilities of advice and consent of the Senate.

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, if the Senator from Arizona will yield, just to put a final point on that, again, 454 days before the administration put forward this nominee, there have been 79 days since, and they are blaming Republicans for holding up this nominee—again, notwithstanding the fact that it was 454 days before they ever put it forward. If we don't have a hearing and he doesn't have to come in and answer questions about these at least what I would characterize as outlandish statements, again, it is an abrogation of the responsibility the administration has of working with the Senate, the Senate's power of advise and consent, to at least have a hearing, to at least have a vote, to at least have some public discussion about this gentleman's qualifications and his attributes with regard to this important position to which they are going to appoint him.

I wish to point out as well that there is one other example of this. The TSA Administrator, which is another very important job, by the time they actually got somebody submitted who could be acted upon here in the Senate, 482 days had lapsed. It was 521 days when the new TSA Administrator was finally approved, but we went 240 days when the post was vacant, from the time the post was vacated in January of 2009 until they appointed their first nominee, who then had to withdraw because of problems. Then they appointed somebody else who withdrew because of problems. They finally submitted somebody who was actually approved, but it took 521 days. That is not us. That is not the Republicans in the Senate holding things up, nor is it the case with Berwick's nomination where 454 days lapsed before the administration put his name forward. Then they just quickly, without giving us an opportunity—the Senate an opportunity—to do our job recess-appointed him to a position where he is going to be responsible for thousands of employees, obviously billions and trillions of dollars when it comes to the health care delivery in this country, and that is very unfortunate.

So, as the Senator from Arizona has pointed out, it is partly about this gentleman and what he stands for and what he intends to do with this position, but it is also the process by which he was actually put into this position and how it completely short-circuited and bypassed what is regular order and what should be under our Constitution the responsibility of the Senate to provide advice and consent.

Mr. BARRASSO. Madam President, if I could just ask my colleague, talking about the Constitution and how we as Americans see ourselves, Senator McCAIN just quoted a comment made by Dr. Berwick about the darkness of private enterprise. Dr. Berwick coauthored a book called ''New Rules.'' In it, he argues that one of the primary functions of health regulation is to constrain decentralized, individual decisionmaking—constrain individual decisionmaking—and to weigh public welfare against the choices of private consumers. I mean, could anything fly further in the face of what Americans believe? The decisions, the choices of private consumers—that is how we make decisions in America. That is what I recommend for patients: Make your individual choice. What is best for you? How to help keep down the cost of your care; prevention, coordinating care; working and making smart choices for you as an individual. Who knows better? Who knows better how to spend your money? You do. Who knows better how to make choices for your life? You do.

That is not what Dr. Berwick is saying in this book, ''New Rules.'' It is to weigh public welfare against the choices of private consumers.

So I inquire of my colleague from South Dakota, what would people from South Dakota think about that? This is somebody who is saying: Government knows better than you do. People of Wyoming have never felt that way, and I would imagine the people from South Dakota have never felt that way either.

Mr. THUNE. I say to my neighbor from Wyoming, he understands his constituents very well, and we share a border, but we also share a lot of other things, including a common set of values and a sense of individual responsibility and belief in freedom.

I think what this gentleman represents in terms of his view is completely contradictory to what the majority of my constituents and I am sure the majority of the constituents of the Senator from Wyoming would say with regard to how you ought to approach issues. The American individual, the American consumer is in a much better position to make decisions about their own health care than some government bureaucracy here in Washington, DC.

Essentially what Mr. Berwick has concluded over time—and he has had a long career analyzing and studying many of these issues—is that a government-run system where some government bureaucrat is in a position of making these decisions that are important to an individual—in this case, his health care or her health care—that is clearly a model he endorses and supports.

It is very contradictory, I would say, to what I think is the view of a majority of Americans. Frankly, one of the reasons I think many of us opposed the health care bill when it was under consideration in the Senate—and the Senator from Wyoming made some excellent comments during the course of that debate about his experience with health care as a practicing physician—is that clearly the American model is one that is very different from the European model.

What we have with Mr. Berwick is somebody who wants to remake the American health care system in the image of the model that we see in places such as Europe. His example of the British health care system, about which he is romantic, is a good example of how he intends to implement the health care bill passed in the Senate.

We have argued all along that the intention of those behind it is to move us in the direction of a more single-payer, European-type system as opposed to what we have experienced in this country and have enjoyed for such a long time, and that is one that has its basis at least in the market where we have individuals who are in charge of making many of the decisions, as opposed to some government bureaucrat.

This is very unfortunate in terms of the fact that this was an appointment that was made in the recess without the normal process being adhered to, with this gentleman coming in front of the Senate to answer questions and actually having a vote in the Senate.

For our colleagues on the other side to argue that the reason they had to do this was because Republicans were slowing or somehow delaying this process is completely inconsistent with any of the facts. As I said before, 454 days before the President put his nomination forward. Certainly, it is not the Republicans' fault they did not have a nominee up here. Then the fact that they did not have a hearing and there has not been a vote in the committee and now not a vote on the floor of the Senate is unfortunate, given the consequences and the impact the person who occupies this position is going to have with regard to delivery of this new health care reform legislation.

Mr. BARRASSO. It was interesting, on this floor someone on the other side of the aisle stood and said: If you are against Dr. Berwick, then whose side are you on? As I see my colleague from South Dakota, I can answer that question, and he can answer that question. If you are against Dr. Berwick, then whose side are you on? I am on the side of the American people—the American people who are concerned about $500 billion in cuts to their Medicare, not to help Medicare, not to strengthen Medicare, but to start a whole new government program.

I am on the side of the people who believe we should not redistribute wealth in this country. I am on the side of my patients and friends in Wyoming who do not want the rationing of care. I am on the side of my friends and patients in Wyoming who do not want government-run health care. But that is what we have now.

We have a President-appointed czar, essentially—a czar—to ration health care. That is not what the American people want. It may be what the Democrats in Congress want. It may be what the President of the United States wants. I view this as an arrogant use of Presidential power at a time when I think the American people were intentionally misled all during the fall because the President refused to appoint somebody, would not name anybody to be in charge of Medicare and Medicaid when the whole debate was going on. Only after the bill was signed into law—only then—would he announce to the country his choice was somebody way outside the mainstream of how we in America deliver health care, want our health care, how we care as patients, how we care as physicians—way out of that mainstream, someone whose approach is a very different one, who loves a system where we know people with diseases are denied care, where care is delayed, and where today the whole country is saying: I think we got it wrong. We need to relook at this. They see what is happening, and I think the American people will know what will happen to us as a nation if we go down the path of a nationalized health system where we redistribute wealth, ration care, and government runs the health care system of our Nation.

It is the wrong decision by the President. It is the wrong direction to go. The American people know it, and they do not like it.

Once again, the American people are not going to have their voices heard because the American people are going to be denied an opportunity to voice their opposition to this nominee to their elected representatives because the President decided he knew better than this Congress and made a decision to appoint someone at a time when the American people wanted their voices heard.

Madam President, I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. KAUFMAN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO DR. EDDIE BERNARD

Mr. KAUFMAN. Madam President, I rise once again to recognize one of our Nation's great Federal employees. Here are all the employees we have recognized to date.

Madam President, we in Washington are in the midst of a summer heat wave. I know it is the same for millions of Americans across the country. This comes on the heels of a harsh winter where the Capital City endured heavy snowfall that shut down businesses and even certain government offices. The powerful forces of nature continue to challenge us.

Many Americans only notice weather in its extremes. The hard-working men and women of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, or NOAA, spend their careers making it easier for us to address nature's challenges. This year is NOAA's 40th anniversary. It was created in 1970 from three former agencies, and since that time NOAA employees have been at the forefront of weather prediction, oceanography, and fishery management.

Whenever anyone turns on the television and sees an alert from the National Weather Service, that is NOAA at work. If you go to the Pacific coast and enjoy the beaches, you can feel safe knowing that NOAA's tsunami warning system stands at the ready. NOAA personnel are also leading the way to ensure the long-term sustainability of our coastal fisheries so those who make their living from the sea can continue to do so for generations to come.

The great Federal employee I am recognizing today won the 2008 Service to America Medal for Homeland Security for his work at NOAA helping to detect and warn against destructive tsunamis. Dr. Eddie Bernard has served as Director of NOAA's Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory in Seattle, WA, since 1982. One of the leading experts on tsunamis, he has published over 80 scientific articles and edited books on the phenomenon.

For 3 years Eddie directed the National Tsunami Warning Center in Hawaii, and he was the founding chairman of the National Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Steering Committee, a joint Federal-State effort.

In addition to his work on tsunamis, as Director of the Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory Eddie oversees a number of important oceanographic research programs such as El Nino forecasts and studies of underwater volcanoes.

Eddie received his bachelor's degree in physics from Lamar University, and he holds master's and doctoral degrees in physical oceanography from Texas A&M.

In order to protect our coastlines against damage from Pacific tsunamis such as the one that devastated the coasts of South Asia in 2004, Eddie led the development of the innovative DART system. As a tsunami wave moves under the ocean, DART—which stands for deep ocean assessment of tsunamis—uses buoys to report data back to the Tsunami Warning Centers.

It took years to perfect, and Eddie and his team had hoped to get close to a 60-percent accuracy rate in predicting the scope and intensity of incoming tsunamis. As it turns out, they

were able to achieve over 90 percent accuracy with DART. Their system became the basis for the Tsunami Warning and Education Act, which passed the Congress in 2006. Eddie was instrumental in helping to draft that legislation which strengthened tsunami detection, warning, and mitigation programs to ensure that we are prepared for even the worst-case scenarios.

The work of NOAA employees is often not glamorous, but it saves lives, protects property, and helps to prepare our coastal communities to meet the challenges of nature. My home State of Delaware is filled with coastal communities, and the work NOAA performs in a range of areas to help coastal States such as Delaware in so many ways.

I hope my colleagues will join me in thanking Dr. Eddie Bernard and all those at NOAA who continue to monitor the seas and skies on our behalf. They are all truly great Federal employees.

I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. UDALL of New Mexico). The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. JOHANNS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

INCREASED PAPERWORK BURDEN

Mr. JOHANNS. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about something I think is enormously important in terms of our businesses and job creation. There are many unintended consequences contained in the health care bill that was recently passed, but I think one of the most egregious is the effect on small businesses that are, by all agreement, the engine of our economic growth. In fact, various analyses have been done, and they conclude that 65 percent of the new jobs created come from the small business engine in our Nation.

Section 9006 of the new health care law will have a profound impact on small businesses in Nebraska—but not just Nebraska, across this great Nation. Beginning in 2012, if a business purchases more than $600 of goods from another business, it will be required to provide the business and the Internal Revenue Service a 1099 tax form. Previously, such disclosures were only required for the purchase of services. Now routine business expenses will be subject to an increased paperwork burden at tax time.

Let me give some examples of the impact that is going to have. Think about the phone costs for that small business, Internet, simple office products, even the cost of shipping goods from point A to point B now are going to generate this requirement of a 1099 tax form.

Back in my State what that means is, if a rancher buys $100 worth of feed every month, then that rancher is going to have to submit a 1099 to the feed store and then file it with the IRS. If the restaurant owner up the street buys $600 worth of napkins or ketchup or menus or garbage bags over the course of a year, guess what. They start building that stack of 1099s.

Think about how that paperwork is going to burden that small business. This includes transactions with corporate as well as noncorporate entities. It also applies to government entities at the local, State, and Federal levels.

Businesses in my State, but I am confident across the country, are absolutely up in arms about this provision, and they should be. Last week, the National Taxpayer Advocate, an Internal Revenue Service ombudsman, issued a report with some very startling admissions. This provision, they say, will affect 40 million businesses, including about 26 million sole proprietorships not counting farms. That is 10 times the number of job creators than the administration asserts will benefit from the small business tax credits.

We need to look for ways to help small businesses, not hammer them. A Nebraska small business owner wrote to me recently. This business owner pointed out that he owns three small town lumber yards and wanted to weigh in on this provision. I am quoting from that letter:

> As you know, it is difficult to survive as a small business in rural communities. . . . Putting on additional burdens involving time, paperwork and money does not help.

That small business owner went on to say this:

> The building supply industry is struggling to survive the housing and economic crisis and employers like myself would be severely impacted by the additional costs and paperwork burdens of the 1099 proposal.

I could not agree with this businessman more. This new provision is a one-two punch for our small businesses. It will require them to spend more money and time on paperwork and reporting. It does nothing to create jobs other than maybe at the Internal Revenue Service. This increases the overhead costs of staying in business. It will require them to spend more time and more money on paperwork and, no doubt about it, it is going to be tough for them to comply with the standards set so low at $600.

Expenses to comply with Federal tax compliance regulations are already astounding. According to the Small Business Administration, small businesses that employ fewer than 20 people spend on average $1,304 per year per employee. In contrast large companies spend on average $780 average per year per employee. So we can see the IRS tax compliance regulations already disproportionately disadvantage small businesses compared to large companies. Why are we adding insult to injury with this new requirement? We should be doing all we can to reduce overhead costs, help them to be more competitive not increasing their burdens. Why on Earth are we slapping Americans with more mandates that are counterproductive? Congress should be reducing businesses' overhead, helping them stay competitive.

Section 9006 creates a perverse incentive for companies to consolidate suppliers. Think about that. Guess who loses in those circumstances. Our small businesses, the same small businesses that we are counting on to create the new jobs and lift us out of this recession. Larger, more diversified suppliers will be more attractive as a way for the purchaser to reduce the paperwork. The fewer different transactions that total $600 or more, the less paperwork. So the little guy loses.

The National Taxpayer Advocate said recently they are ''concerned that the new reporting burden, particularly as it falls on small businesses, may turn out to be disproportionate as compared with any resulting improvement in tax compliance.''

The Advocate report lays out several reasons this new provision of the law is causing so much concern. The report questions whether the new data will lead to better tax compliance. ''The IRS will face challenges making productive use of this new volume of information reports.''

For example, the new 1099's will not match tax returns due to returned goods or other technical reasons. The report predicts the IRS will improperly assess penalties for not filing forms. Again, I am quoting:

> It must abate later, after great expenditure of taxpayer and IRS time and effort.

Finally, a chilling prediction in the report says:

> Small businesses that lack the capacity to track customer purchases . . . may lose customers, leaving the economy with more large national vendors and less local competition.

It is clear that section 9006 attacks small businesses across this country. That is why I am introducing legislation to eliminate this barrier. My effort, which I call the Small Business Paperwork Mandate Elimination Act, would fully repeal section 9006 of the health care law and eliminate this ridiculous paperwork burden. I urge my colleagues to support me in this effort. Overburdening our job creators is not good policy, especially in this time in our economic recovery.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, may I speak for up to 15 minutes as in morning business?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

BERWICK NOMINATION

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I heard that some of my colleagues on the other side were here earlier engaged in a colloquy of condemnation of the appointment of Dr. Berwick to run CMS. I wanted to come back and respond because I think this body is making a mistake and is taking a very wrong path by attacking and criticizing this particular nominee.

To provide just a moment of context to his appointment, when I was here yesterday I had a graph that showed that in 1955, the year that I was born, we spent about $12 billion on health care as a nation. Last year we spent $2.5 trillion, 200 times as much. The graph showed not only the steep curve that took us from $12 billion to $2.5 trillion a year, but also the fact that curve was accelerating. It was getting steeper. In the last year the year-to-year increase was $134 billion in health care expenditures.

That is the biggest year-to-year increase in the history of the Republic. If we kept at it, by 2016 a family of four in Rhode Island would be paying $26,000 in premiums for a basic health care policy. Medicare Advantage plans jumped 14 percent last year nationally, on average. We are in both an unsustainable and an accelerating health care cost increase environment. Something absolutely has to be done about it. I suspect almost everybody in this Chamber would agree with that.

That is the backdrop—unsustainable, accelerating health care costs that now gobble up more than 17 percent of our gross domestic product. There is a huge discrepancy between us and every other nation in terms of the amount of our economy that we burn on health care. I believe the closest to us is now at 12 percent of GDP, and we are at 17 percent, and it climbs every year along with that accelerated, unsustainable rate of health care cost increase.

The question is, What are we going to do about it? This is a terrific burden on our economy. It is uncompetitive against other nations, it hugely depresses our manufacturing sector, and it clobbers families who have to pay for health care that is so expensive. It simply has to be addressed.

There are two ways we can do it. We could preserve the status quo and simply cut benefits that people receive. We could make Social Security health care benefits knocked down. We could make Medicare benefits knocked down—disability health care benefits for Social Security. We could make Medicaid benefits knocked down. We could spend less, I suppose, on TRICARE in the Veterans' Administration and provide fewer services, pay for less, or require more copays. That is one way to go about doing it, but it is not a very smart way and it is not a very humane way.

A lot of the costs in our health care system is waste; it is waste and inefficiency. If we look at the report of the President's Council of Economic Advisers, they come at it in two ways, and both ways come to the same number, about $700 billion a year—a year—in waste and excess costs.

The New England Healthcare Institute did a study—$850 billion a year in waste and excess cost.

The Lewin Group and former Bush Treasury Secretary O'Neill have both arrived at a different number, but they agree the number is $1 trillion a year in waste and excess cost.

So if we have a huge cost problem, and if we have waste and excess costs as high as $1 trillion a year—to give us an idea of the scale, remember it was about $2.5 trillion last year. It is supposed to be $2.7 trillion this year. If the Lewin Group and Secretary O'Neill's number is right, that means one-third of the cost, more than one-third of the cost is waste in excess care, unnecessary cost. So going after that waste and excess cost should be a priority to deal with the cost burden that our health care system puts on the country.

How would we go about doing that? Well, we are actually fortunate in one respect. In all of the mess of our health care system we are fortunate in one respect; that is, there is a proven correlation in many areas between improving the quality of care and lowering the cost of care.

Probably the most famous example is dealing with hospital-acquired infections. A hospital-acquired infection costs maybe $60,000 on average to treat, and it is avoidable. It is completely preventable. So if we crack down on hospital-acquired infections, if we fix the process failures that permit hospital-acquired infections to occur, we improve the quality of care, we save people's lives, we get them out of the hospital sooner and healthier, and we save money, all together. But because of the bizarre economics of our health care system, it is not in anybody's financial interest to do that who is also in a position to do that. So over and over, we have these failures where we could have huge win-win situations in which we improve the quality of care for the American people while reducing the cost of the health care system.

It happens with hospital-acquired infections. It happens with administrative overhead. Medicare runs about 3 to 5 percent of overhead. The private insurance market runs at about 20 to 27 percent overhead. It has more than doubled in the last 6 years, from 2000 to 2006. In 6 years it has more than doubled, just the administrative overhead, not health care itself, the administrative overhead of the private insurance industry. That is part of the waste and excess costs.

We can tackle those things. We can drive them down. We can improve, for instance, maternal mortality rates in this country. Believe it or not, America is 39th in maternal mortality. Maternal mortality is a cold, statistical way of describing a mother dying in childbirth, giving birth to her baby, and we are 39th in the world; 38 countries do better at protecting moms while they are giving birth to their children than we do.

If we can improve that rate, we can save money because the same process failures that lead to those deaths lead to expensive complications, additional days in the hospital, sometimes lead to lifelong injuries to the baby as it is being delivered, which create huge cost. So, again, it is a win-win when we improve the quality of care to lower the cost of medicine.

Now, why do I say all of that? Why do I talk about the importance—first of all, the urgency of the cost problem and the importance of pursuing this win-win strategy to reduce the cost of care by improving the quality of care for Americans? I mention that because Don Berwick is probably the leading pioneer in this area.

The bible of the quality of improvement movement was a book called ''To Err is Human,'' written, I believe, by the National Institutes of Health. Dr. Berwick was one of the lead authors of that report. It was followed by another report called ''Crossing the Quality Chasm.'' Those two reports have been the foundation for the quality reform movement.

I am very familiar with the quality reform movement because I founded something in Rhode Island called the Rhode Island Quality Institute which has led in this area. The legislation we passed, the health care legislation, contains an immense number of reforms of the delivery system that are designed to capture this win-win, that are designed to improve the quality of care in ways that lower the cost of care.

One economist has called it the most significant action on medical spending ever proposed in the United States. A Noble Prize-winning economist has noted that official estimates don't give the plan much credit for the cost-saving efforts in the proposed reform, but realistically the reform is likely to do much better at controlling costs than any of the official projections suggest.

An MIT professor, who is a leading health economist, said: I cannot think of a thing to try that they did not try. They make the best effort anyone has ever made. Everything is in here. You could not have done better than they are doing.

So the bill created an array, a portfolio of tools for beginning to change our broken, dysfunctional health care delivery system and move it more in the direction of better patient care that costs less money.

The lead practitioner of that, the lead advocate of that, the person who has thought about this the most and done the most work on it is Dr. Don Berwick. So it makes perfect sense he would be the person brought over by President Obama to lead CMS and to apply these principles of improving the quality of care, to reduce the cost for America. He is an expert at it. I think

we wrote good legislation on the delivery system reform. I think it was actually very good legislation. But it does not matter how good the legislation is that we write if the executive branch does not get out there and implement it in a dynamic, thoughtful, iterative way. We learn something, we move on.

We have to be creative and continue the pressure on this. We have to take what we learn in different projects and bring them together and try something now and constantly be in a process of innovation and improvement in order to be effective. Nobody will do that better than Professor Berwick. That is why both President Bush, H.W. Bush, and President Bush, W. Bush, their CMS directors have applauded this nomination.

Gail Wilensky, the Administrator of CMS under President George H.W. Bush, said: Berwick has longstanding recognition for expertise and for not being a partisan individual.

George W. Bush's CMS director, Tom Scully, said: You are not going to do any better than Don Berwick.

So from the other side of the aisle, from the partisan side of executive management of this, the previous CMS directors know how qualified this man is. I know my Republican colleagues want to talk about rationing. They would love to paint rationing and socialized medicine and death panels all over the health care bill. Obviously they cannot resist the opportunity to do that using Dr. Berwick.

But, frankly, it is not fair, and I think it puts them on the wrong side of history. It puts them on the wrong side of reform. It raises the question, Whose side are they on? When we have somewhere between $700 billion and $1 trillion of waste every year and the person who George Bush's CMS director says we are not going to find any better to come in and fix that program than the nominee, and they are against the solution to that, whose side are they on?

Well, it is pretty clear they are on the side of the $700 billion to $1 trillion a year in waste. That is a choice they can make. But I do not think it is a wise choice. When we are dealing with doing things such as eliminating hospital-acquired infections in order to save money, and they are against the person who is the leading proponent of this and who is going to lead us in that direction, who are they for? Are they for the families who lose a loved one to a hospital-acquired infection? It does not seem that way. It seems like a vote in favor of the status quo. It seems like a vote in favor of the status quo and the continuing unbelievable number of deaths and casualties from hospital-acquired infections.

One of the findings of the ''To Err is Human'' report is that 100,000 Americans die every year, 100,000 Americans die every year because of avoidable medical errors. When we clean up the medical errors, when we clean up the process failures that lead to those medical errors, we save money. That is Don Berwick's expertise. When they oppose him, whose side are they on? Are they on the side of 100,000 Americans who lose their lives every year because of avoidable medical errors? I do not think so. It sounds as if they are on the side of the 100,000 medical errors.

Let this guy have a chance. He has bipartisan support. He is an expert in this area. The area he is expert in is the best path to lead us to cost savings in health care because it is a win-win path. We do not have to take something away from somebody to create the savings; we can earn the savings by reforming the delivery system so it provides better health care.

He has founded the Institute for Healthcare Improvement. He has worked as a board member on the American Hospital Association on Quality Initiatives. He chaired the Advisory Council for the Agency for Health Research and Quality. He goes back to the Clinton era, where he was on President Clinton's Advisory Commission on Consumer Protection and Quality. He is the real deal.

So I urge my colleagues, as I did yesterday, to step back from the partisanship, to step back from the posturing. We have heard enough about rationing. There is not rationing in this; this is quality reform. We have heard enough about death panels and socialized medicine and all of that nonsense.

We have a serious problem in our health care system. We need to address it seriously. There is a path to address it that is a win-win for our country, for our people, for our society that reduces costs and provides Americans better care. To me, it is embarrassing that we should be 39th in maternal mortality. There are 38 countries that keep mothers alive through childbirth better than we do. That is the kind of thing we should be fixing. That is the kind of quality reform we need. That is the kind of quality reform Don Berwick gets behind.

This should be an area where we can all get behind this. Some of the work he has done has been in Republican States, in States with Republican Senators. I just know, off the top of my head, that Utah is a leading State in the quality reform area. The North Carolina Medicaid effort on Medical Home is one of the leading early studies on this issue. These people have Republican Senators who can report on how successful those have been. Yet they have made the choice not to look at Berwick for the person he is, for the expert he is, for the purpose he brings to this job, but just as an excuse to try to go back to the slogans and try to sloganeer their way through what is a real and significant problem for our country.

So unless you want to wish failure on America in this task, unless you want to wish failure on America in reducing the 100,000 deaths every year from avoidable medical errors, unless you want to wish failure on America in improving our status so we are the best in the world on maternal mortality rather than 39th, unless you want to wish failure on America in the only win-win path to reducing the terrible burden of health care costs, the accelerating burden, unsustainable burden of health care costs on our country, unless you want to wish America failure in that, you ought to support Don Berwick because he knows how to follow this path, this win-win path, toward health care savings that come from improving quality. That is a path we should be on.

There is no one better suited to lead CMS down that path than Dr. Berwick. So I hope we can find a way in this body to be better than that. I think Dr. Berwick gives us the occasion to be better than that. At long last, I hope that soon we become better than that.

I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SANDERS. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

INHERITANCE TAX

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, let me begin by making a few points about which there is not a whole lot of disagreement.

First, the United States today is in the midst of the worst economic downturn since the 1930s. Over 16 percent of working age Americans are unemployed or underemployed, working 20 hours a week when they want to be working 40 hours. Long-term unemployment is the highest on record. In other words, when people are losing their jobs now, it is not a question of weeks to gain a new job but, in some cases, 6 or 8 months or perhaps not at all. In the midst of this economic crisis, millions of Americans have lost their homes, savings, and pensions.

Second point: The United States today has a $13 trillion national debt and a record-breaking $1.6 trillion deficit. Last year alone, the Federal Government spent over $186 billion paying interest on that debt. We are leaving our children and grandchildren a huge financial obligation which not only will impact them personally but will affect the well-being of the entire country in the midst of a strong and competitive global economy.

Third point: The United States today has the most unequal distribution of wealth and income of any major country. Today, as this chart indicates, the top 1 percent earns more income than the bottom 50 percent. Let me repeat that. The top 1 percent earns more income than the bottom 50 percent. And the top 1 percent owns more wealth than the bottom 90 percent. The top, 1 percent; bottom, 90 percent. What we have is a nation in which in many ways we are moving toward an oligarchic

form of society, with a small number of people on the top seeing a huge increase in their wealth and income while the middle class lapses and poverty increases.

During the Bush years, when the middle class saw a $2,200 decline in median family income, the 400 wealthiest families saw their income more than double. Meanwhile, while the very rich became much richer, their effective income tax rates were slashed almost in half over the past 15 years. The rich get richer. Their effective income tax rate goes down. The wealthiest 400 Americans have now accumulated $1.27 trillion in wealth, while the highest paid 400 Americans had an average income of $345 million in 2007 alone. As a result of Bush's tax policy, these very high-income people pay an effective tax rate of 16.6 percent, the lowest on record. The rich get richer. Their effective tax rates go down—lowest on record.

Warren Buffett, one of the wealthiest people on the planet, has often made the point that he, a multibillionaire, pays a lower effective tax rate than his secretary.

Last point I wish to make: Last month a gentleman named Dan Duncan, who happened to be the wealthiest person in Houston, TX, passed away. He left his family some $9 billion. For the first time since 1916, almost 100 years, somebody in the top echelon bracket like a Mr. Duncan will have a situation where his heirs will pay zero inheritance tax, not a nickel. That is the first time that a multimillionaire or billionaire has died in 100 years and their family has not paid one penny in inheritance taxes. This occurred as a result of President Bush's $1.35 trillion tax break enacted into law in 2001. In other words, at a time when this country has a devastatingly high rate of unemployment, at a time when the Senate refused to extend unemployment benefits to desperate people who, through no fault of their own, have lost their jobs and have no income, at a time when we have a huge national debt, at a time when we have massive unmet needs, including a crumbling infrastructure and the need to transform our energy system, at a time when we have a growing gap between the very rich and everyone else, we have a situation now where the very wealthiest people are seeing, when one in their family dies, their estate tax is zero.

A century ago, President Teddy Roosevelt, a good Republican, called for a graduated inheritance tax on wealthy estates. In 1916, Congress passed that law. Interestingly enough, here is what Republican Teddy Roosevelt said in 1910:

> The absence of effective state, and, especially, national, restraint upon unfair money-getting has tended to create a small class of enormously wealthy and economically powerful men, whose chief object is to hold and increase their power. The prime need is to change the conditions which enable these men to accumulate power which is not for the general welfare that they should hold or exercise . . . No man should receive a dollar unless that dollar has been fairly earned.

Let me repeat: No man should receive a dollar unless that dollar has been fairly earned.

> Every dollar received should represent a dollar's worth of service rendered, not gambling in stocks but service rendered. The really big fortune, the swollen fortune, by the mere fact of its size, acquires qualities which differentiate it in kind as well as in degree from what is passed by men of relatively small means. Therefore, I believe in a graduated income tax on big fortunes and in another tax which is far more easily collected and far more effective—a graduated inheritance tax on big fortunes, properly safeguarded against evasion and increasing rapidly in amount with the size of the estate.

Teddy Roosevelt, 1910.

There are not many Republicans I agree with today, but I do agree with what Teddy Roosevelt said 100 years ago. That is exactly what the responsible estate tax act I have introduced, along with Senators HARKIN, WHITEHOUSE, FRANKEN, and SHERROD BROWN, will do. Specifically, this legislation exempts the first $3.5 million of an inheritance from paying any Federal estate tax whatsoever. Doing this means that 99.7 percent of Americans who receive an inheritance will not pay one penny in Federal estate taxes. This legislation would impact only the very wealthy, the top three-tenths of 1 percent.

Under my legislation, the value of estates above $3.5 million and below $10 million would be taxed at 45 percent; the value of estates above $10 million and below $50 million would be taxed at 50 percent; and the value of estates above $50 million would be taxed at 55 percent, the same as the 2001 level before the Bush tax cuts. Further, this legislation includes a 10-percent surtax on the value of estates above $500 million or $1 billion for couples.

According to the Joint Committee on Taxation, this legislation, over a 10-year period, would bring in $315 billion—a significant step forward in addressing our national debt. But this legislation would do something even more important. In the midst of these enormously difficult times, this legislation makes clear we are one country and all Americans must accept shared responsibility. In my view, it is immoral, it is unfair that while the middle class struggles to survive, millionaires and billionaires get tax breaks.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I rise today to talk about our military construction program and some concerns I have about an apparent shift in strategy, what this means for our American soldiers and their families and for the growing debt and deficits we are seeing on the taxpayers of this country.

Without question, our military construction program should be fiscally responsible and driven by the future security posture of the U.S. forces. Dating back to the end of the Cold War, the U.S. military determined that our Armed Forces would be best trained and equipped for service when stationed at installations on U.S. soil.

Our military adopted a force projection strategy that allows our U.S.-stationed service men and women to deploy from home rather than being based primarily overseas.

This Congress has been very supportive of the Army's transformation to a more modular and expeditionary force structure, allowing more troops to be stationed in the United States.

In 2005, the Overseas Basing Commission reaffirmed the force projection strategy. It applauded the vision behind the Pentagon's efforts to transform the military and restation tens of thousands of military personnel back on U.S. soil.

So the Pentagon's strategy, endorsed by the Overseas Basing Commission, has guided the way Congress directs resources and funding for military construction facilities. We have invested more than $14 billion to build housing, stationing, training, and deployment capabilities at major military installations in the United States. We have proven we can best train and deploy from the United States and do it more cost-effectively.

Despite these taxpayer-backed investments, the Pentagon's current MILCON program is shifting military construction projects, military forces, and taxpayer dollars overseas. Strategically, this would set in motion a worldwide transformation of U.S. basing that would actually expand our overseas presence, and this at a time when the aid given to American efforts in the war on terror is, with a few exceptions, not impressive.

Fiscally, the Department of Defense is pursuing expensive and, in some cases, duplicative military construction projects in Europe, Korea, and Guam without demonstrating adequate cost efficiencies or projected future costs. This shift in global posture fundamentally disconnects with stateside basing capabilities and reverses the Overseas Basing Commission's recommendations.

Europe: In Germany massive plans are underway to move U.S. Army headquarters from Heidelberg to Wiesbaden. I question this move because European and African Commands already have substantial infrastructure in Stuttgart where efficiencies would be available. The Government Accountability Office does not believe the Army will achieve any cost savings. Not only would these

huge and costly projects create thousands of foreign jobs, but they would require continuous taxpayer funding to maintain facilities and training capabilities. The United States has averaged spending $278 million per year in Germany in the last 5 years, but the Department of Defense now plans to raise that spending to $750 million per year. It costs nearly 15 percent less to build in the United States than to build in Germany, and while American taxpayers have invested $1.4 billion in German infrastructure from 2006 to 2010, Germany's contribution has averaged $20 million per year, or less than 10 percent.

This is a poor taxpayer investment considering the serious limitations to U.S. military training and deployment capabilities overseas. It would also create duplicative headquarters at several locations in Germany. Our troops must have access to training areas where they can maneuver freely, conduct live-fire exercises, and work with night vision devices. Many overseas locations prohibit such intensive training. Others allow only certain aspects of the training to be done under closely monitored circumstances. These limitations hinder the readiness of our troops while taxing our citizens more.

Deployment impediments also exist in Europe. During times of peace and war, our troops face restrictions traveling through many countries. In 2003, deploying American forces from Germany into Iraq was complicated when several European countries denied U.S. troops access to air and ground routes. Merely having our troops forward-deployed is no guarantee they will be available when and where we need them.

Korea: The Department of Defense is also planning to spend millions to build deployment facilities in Korea. The Pentagon is proposing to shift 1-year deployments for troops alone to 3-year tours that include their families. This change would expand U.S. presence in Korea from 30,000 service personnel to approximately 84,000, counting dependents. Substantial taxpayer funding would be required to build adequate housing, schools, hospitals, fitness centers, childcare facilities, commissaries, and more. We have asked for the numbers that would be projected for this. The Department has not given us any numbers nor any projections on the costs of adding 50,000 more people into Korea than we now have. Investing these resources into Korea makes no sense when we are already building up infrastructure and deployment capabilities at U.S. bases where amenities support military families and are well established.

Guam: Plans to shift Marines currently stationed in Japan to the tiny island of Guam are also problematic. There are significant environmental concerns with trying to accommodate such a large number of military personnel in such a small space, and the island lacks sufficient existing infrastructure. In addition to that, the timeline for transitioning marines stationed in Japan is implausible and the costs are staggering. They are now estimated at $16 billion. With these considerable barriers, better basing alternatives should be explored. Again, we have asked the Department to look into this, to give alternatives. We have suggested alternatives, but we have received no feedback from the Department.

The Department of Defense has indicated this new military construction program is intended to build partnership capacity. Some argue that U.S. presence overseas provides assurance to our allies and deterrence to our adversaries. History has shown this is not always the case. Basing American military personnel at key locations in Europe did not deter the Russians from conducting military operations against Georgia in 2008. Even with our 30,000 troops in Korea, North Korea did not hesitate to attack a South Korean naval vessel in May of this year.

Let's look at what the partnership agreements we are seeking have given us so far. We are in a war on terror in which the United States now has more than 78,000 troops. Germany has 4,350. The United Kingdom has double what Germany has. So the United Kingdom, which has a smaller population, has more troops by double than Germany. Yet we are looking at all of this buildup in Germany for building partnership capacity. Germany contributes 4 percent of NATO troops to Afghanistan, but they have strict rules of engagement that include not going on offense and restrictions on night operations. So if we are going to do so much ourselves, does it make sense for the American taxpayer to be building what would be about a billion and a half more in Germany, in facilities that we already have in the United States? Or if there needs to be more Army building in Germany, at least do it in Stuttgart where the Army already has a headquarters, instead of a whole new operation in Wiesbaden.

If the United States wants to make sure our assure our allies and deter our enemies, we should do it with strong military capabilities and sound policy, not by keeping troops stationed overseas, siphoning funds from equipment and arms, and putting it into duplicative military construction.

Instead of breaking ground on military projects abroad and advancing the Department's new goal of building partnership capacity, we should be building American infrastructure. We are carrying the heaviest load by far in the war on terror, and we are carrying it for freedom-loving people throughout the world. We need to build up bases in our country which we have already done to accommodate the strategy since the Cold War. Yet now we appear to be reversing that strategy, and I am asking why. I have asked the Department of Defense. I have asked the Secretary of Defense for answers and have not yet been able to receive anything that would show why we would make such a huge investment in these foreign bases, with training constraints and deployment constraints, when we could do the same thing at home and deploy our troops at will.

Following World War II, the United States constructed bases in Europe to establish a strong presence as nations rebuilt. We stayed in Europe and placed bases in Korea to protect the interests of America and its allies during the Cold War. The world has changed, and with it our Nation's military priorities must also change. Our military construction investment should reflect our strategic principles. It should meet the needs of military families. It should maximize the force flexibility of our modern military, and it should demonstrate the fiscal discipline that taxpayers rightly expect.

Secretary Gates has made fiscal discipline a priority at the Department of Defense. He has said we are going to cut defense spending. So this military construction plan is puzzling. I am not sure the military and the Department heads are on the same wavelength because we are looking at $1 billion of foreign construction we do not need with capacity we have already built in America.

So I am asking the Department of Defense to look at this and to make sure we are in every way having respect for the taxpayers and making sure our military and our families have the security and support they need, and I believe that can be done with bases at home.

I will offer amendments to reduce the level of spending in overseas construction and possibly in administrative costs at the Department of Veterans Affairs that do not affect veterans health care or benefits. There is more at stake for our future, for our economy, and for the American taxpayer.

Out-of-control spending is putting the short- and long-term fiscal health of the United States at risk. The national public debt hit an historic $13 trillion in May. This year, the Federal Government is borrowing 40 cents out of every dollar it spends, and it is spending 67 percent more than it brings in. In pursuit of its costly and damaging big government agenda, the Obama administration has increased the total public debt by $2 trillion in less than 2 years, an increase of 23 percent in 16 months. If the spending continues at this rate, at the end of President Obama's first term he will have added an additional $6 trillion to the public debt. If we go along with the requests of the White House, $6 trillion more will be added to our debt in this term. This is irresponsible and unsustainable.

As the appropriations process moves forward, I will offer amendments to bring military construction back down to levels that are consistent with the Secretary of Defense's own stated objective, which is to cut military spending. I am going to offer amendments I

believe will be responsible, will protect our forces, and will be better for our military families, and it will achieve the spending cuts the Secretary has said he believes are necessary.

We need to make the tough decisions. I am offering a way forward. I am offering commonsense cuts that will assure we will be able to meet the needs of our military, the security of our military, the security of the American people, and a respect for this enormous deficit. We can cut back on this deficit with responsible spending.

I have outlined some of these concerns in today's Politico magazine, and I ask unanimous consent that my op-ed be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From Politico, July 13, 2010]

(By Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison)

MILITARY'S FOUNDATION MUST BE MADE IN U.S.A.

For the future security posture of U.S. military forces and for the fiscal health of our nation, our military construction agenda should be guided by these words: build in America.

At the end of the Cold War, the U.S. military determined that our armed forces would be best trained and equipped for service when stationed on U.S. soil. Thus, our military adopted a ''force projection'' strategy that allows service members to deploy from home, rather than being based primarily overseas.

The Overseas Basing Commission reaffirmed the force projection strategy in 2005. It lauded the insights and vision behind Defense Department initiatives to transform the military and re-station tens of thousands of military personnel back on U.S. soil. Congress has legislated and appropriated accordingly.

We've now invested more than $14 billion to build housing, stationing, training and deployment capacities at major military installations. Deployment of U.S. forces from Germany to Iraq, for example, was complicated by denials of air and ground routes through several European countries. We have proved we can best deploy from the United States—and we can do it more cost effectively.

However, the DoD's current military construction proposal would set in motion a worldwide transformation of U.S. basing that would expand our overseas presence. DoD is pursuing expensive, and in some cases duplicative, military construction projects in Europe, South Korea and Guam, without demonstrating adequate cost efficiencies, projected costs or a broader basing strategy.

This shift in global posture fundamentally disconnects with stateside basing capabilities and reverses the Overseas Basing Commission's recommendations.

In Germany, massive plans are under way to move U.S. Army headquarters from Heidelberg to Wiesbaden—though European and African commands already have substantial infrastructure in Stuttgart, where more efficiencies would be available.

Not only would the projects create thousands of foreign jobs; they would also require continuous taxpayer funding to maintain facilities and training capabilities. This is a poor investment given the serious limitations to U.S. military training and deployment capabilities overseas. And it would create duplicate headquarters at several locations.

It costs nearly 15 percent less to build in the United States than in Germany. In addition, the U.S. military has invested $1.4 billion in German infrastructure from 2006 to 2010, while Germany's contribution has averaged $20 million per year—or less than 10 percent.

Our troops must have access to training areas where they can maneuver freely, conduct live-fire exercises and work with night-vision devices. Many overseas locations prohibit such intensive training. Others allow only certain aspects of the training to be done under closely circumscribed conditions.

These limitations hinder the readiness of our troops, while taxing our citizens.

Deployment impediments also exist in Europe. During times of peace and war, our troops face restrictions traveling through many countries.

In 2003, for example, our NATO ally Turkey refused to let U.S. troops travel through its territory, even in its airspace, in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Merely having troops forward-deployed is no guarantee that they will be available when and where we need them.

DoD is also planning to spend millions to build deployment facilities in South Korea. The Pentagon proposes shifting deployments from one year to three years, including troops' families. This expands the U.S. presence from 30,000 service personnel to approximately 84,000, counting dependents. It will require substantial taxpayer funding to build adequate, housing, schools, hospitals, fitness centers, child care facilities and commissaries.

Investing these resources in South Korea makes no sense when we are already building up infrastructure and deployment capabilities at U.S. bases, where amenities for military families are well-established.

Similarly, plans to shift Marines now stationed in Japan to the tiny island of Guam are problematic. This proposal is fraught with significant environmental concerns, insufficient infrastructure, an implausible timeline—and staggering costs, now estimated at $16 billion. With these considerable barriers, better basing alternatives should be explored.

Some argue that the U.S. overseas presence provides assurance to our allies and deterrence to our adversaries. History has shown otherwise.

Having U.S. troops in Europe did not deter the Russians from-conducting military operations against Georgia in 2008. More recently, the U.S. military in South Korea did not deter North Korean aggression against a South Korean naval vessel.

We should assure our allies and deter our enemies with strong military capabilities and sound policy, not merely by keeping our troops stationed overseas.

Instead of breaking ground on military projects abroad—and advancing DoD's new goal of building ''partnership capacity''—we should be building American infrastructure.

After World War II, the U.S. constructed bases in Europe to establish a strong presence as nations rebuilt. We stayed in Europe and placed bases in South Korea to protect the interests of America and its allies during the Cold War.

The world has changed—and with it, our nation's military priorities. Our military construction investment should reflect our strategic principles, meet the needs of military families, maximize the force flexibility of our modern military and demonstrate the fiscal discipline that taxpayers rightly expect.

I hope the Defense Department will continue to build the foundation of our military right here on American soil.

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I very much appreciate the opportunity to lay out the strategy I am offering to the administration. I hope we can come back to the strategy adopted by Congress over the last 10 years that would have American troops in America, would create American jobs in military construction, will save taxpayer dollars, and will assure that when our troops go into harm's way, they will not be blocked by European countries that do not allow us to use airspace or train troops on the ground. We cannot afford that kind of luxury in this kind of environment.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New York is recognized.

REMEMBERING GEORGE STEINBRENNER

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, today America heard the sad news that George Steinbrenner, one of Major League Baseball's most influential team owners, died at the age of 80. I rise today to express my condolences to George's family and share my intention of offering a resolution today, along with Senators GILLIBRAND, BILL NELSON, and LEMIEUX to honor his memory.

He is survived by his beloved wife Joan, his sisters Susan and Judy, his children Hank, Jennifer, Jessica, and Hal, and his 13 grandchildren.

Like New York and like the Yankees, George Steinbrenner was a champion. He was someone about whom you can truly say there will never be another one like him.

Before we even get into baseball, George Steinbrenner was a very accomplished man. He served his country for 2 years in the Air Force. He was the owner of the American Ship Building Company, the dominant shipbuilding company in the Great Lakes region during its existence. He donated his time and money to countless charitable causes and was a driving force in the U.S. Olympic Committee, where he made sure America's athletes could reach their full potential, bringing home gold medals and making sports fans around this great country proud of our athletes.

Many of us know George as being a giant in Major League Baseball. There is no denying he changed the face of baseball forever.

Before George Steinbrenner, the New York Yankees were in shambles. The once great franchise had become moribund.

I have always been a Yankees fan, even though I am from Brooklyn. By the time I was old enough to appreciate baseball, the Dodgers had just left for Los Angeles, and it would be several years before the Mets were created. So the Yankees were the only team in town, and like most of my friends on the streets of Sheepshead Bay, Brooklyn, I became a rabid Yankee fan.

Those were the glory years of Mantle, Maris, Ford, Howard, and Berra. But by the midsixties, my heroes began

to retire, and the once great Yankees began to slide.

Those were not easy years to root for the Yankees. People forget. Throughout the late sixties and early seventies, the Yankees were consistently one of the worst performing teams in Major League Baseball.

But all that changed when George Steinbrenner bought the team in 1973. He brought to the Yankees a new hope that turned around this period of decline. By 1976, the Yankees were back in the World Series, and in 1977 and 1978, we brought the championship back home to New York.

Since then, the Yankees have once again become a household name in New York and around the country. They have won 11 American League pennants and 7 World Championships. The Yankees went, the day George Steinbrenner took them over, from being a mediocre team to the preeminent sports franchise in the world.

George Steinbrenner did that. He turned a scrappy group of baseball players into a team New Yorkers are proud to support.

The Yankees of his day are reminiscent of the Yankees of the twenties, thirties, forties, fifties, and the early sixties. All New Yorkers and baseball fans owe George Steinbrenner a huge thank you for changing the face of American baseball.

He was even beloved in Florida. Legends Field, the Yankees' spring training facility in Tampa, was renamed Steinbrenner Field in March 2008 in his honor by the Hillsborough County Commission and the Tampa City Council.

He was a giant in baseball innovation, making baseball a truly global game.

I, along with millions of Yankee fans—many not even in the State of New York—are thankful for the countless hours of joy we have experienced watching his team at the stadium or following them on television or radio. George Steinbrenner was truly a New York icon.

My thoughts and my condolences go out to his loved ones, to the whole Yankee family, and to the millions of New York baseball fans. We have lost our giant.

RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess until 2:15 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 12:35 p.m., recessed until 2:15 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. BEGICH).

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

FREEZING APPROPRIATIONS

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, I have a statement that I would like to make, first on a letter and announcement that all the Republican members of the Senate Appropriations Committee have sent to the chairman of the committee today.

Because Federal spending and debt are at crisis levels, Republican Senators on the Senate Appropriations Committee are asking our Democratic colleagues to join us in supporting the Sessions-McCaskill freeze on discretionary Federal spending. Every Republican—every one of us—and 17 Democratic Senators already have voted for the Sessions-McCaskill amendment this session several times.

The amendment would basically freeze Federal discretionary appropriations—both military and nonmilitary—which constitute about 38 percent of the Federal budget. This action by the Senate members of the Appropriations Committee is especially important this year because the Democratic Congress has refused to produce a budget.

Here we are, at a time when almost every American is deeply worried about the level of Federal debt and the level of Federal spending, and the first thing we would expect the Congress to do before it plans for next year is to produce a budget that would be able to restrain this spending—both the discretionary part of it, the kind we appropriate year after year—and begin to deal with the entitlements—the mandatory spending that is on automatic pilot. The Democratic Congress has not produced that budget for next year, and it indicates it will not. So it, therefore, is the first job of the members of the Appropriations Committee to decide how much we can spend.

Year in and year out we decide where and how we spend the money. That is the constitutional responsibility of Congress under article I, and that is the job we do. Perhaps we haven't paid as much attention to the first responsibility as we should. Perhaps we have relied too much on the Budget Committee. Well, not this year. What we are saying is, if we are going to be members of the Senate Appropriations Committee, and if our responsibility is to deal with Federal spending, then the first question we should decide is how much Federal spending.

At a time when Federal spending and debt is at crisis levels, when the President's 10-year budget, up through the year 2018, would double the debt and triple the debt, it is our responsibility to get this under control.

So our recommendation—and it is a serious recommendation, and one we hope and believe our colleagues who are Democrats on the Appropriations Committee will be able to accept because it is a bipartisan proposal that has already, as I mentioned, received between 16 and 18 Democratic votes on the floor of the Senate, and every single one of the 41 Republican Senators—is that we essentially freeze spending in the discretionary accounts, both military and nonmilitary, between this year and next year.

The Federal debt is a crisis that is imposing a burden on our children and our grandchildren that they will not be able to pay. It is our responsibility to deal with it and to begin to deal with it now. A Sessions-McCaskill freeze on Federal discretionary spending for next year is an important first step. The next step would then be getting entitlement spending under control, which we should move on as rapidly as possible.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD a copy of the letter from Republican members of the Senate Appropriations Committee which I referred to earlier in my remarks.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

U.S. SENATE,
COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS,
Washington, DC, July 13, 2010.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: As Republican members of the Appropriations Committee, we are writing to express our views regarding the Fiscal Year 2011 appropriations process.

The Committee is operating in a particularly difficult environment during this Congress. The enormity of the Federal debt poses a direct threat to our national security and demands restraint of Federal spending. Developing a consensus approach to funding the operations of the Federal government in such an environment is a significant challenge.

Despite the clear need for a long term plan that would bring our nation's debt under control, it is apparent that Congress will be denied the opportunity to debate a Federal budget this year. Our Committee will instead be compelled to choose a discretionary top-line number outside the context of a comprehensive budget resolution.

Over the last two years discretionary spending has increased by 17%, not including stimulus spending. With stimulus spending included the increase soars to 84%. We note that a bipartisan majority of the Senate has voted several times in recent months on the Sessions-McCaskill proposal to impose a discretionary top-line for Fiscal Year 2011 that essentially freezes non-defense spending, and which would result in significant reductions in spending from the President's budget proposal. This is a clear indication of the broad concern that exists about levels of Federal spending.

We are confident that, working together, our Committee can produce bills that responsibly address fundamental government needs in a fiscally responsible manner. We will not, however, be able to support appropriations bills that do not conform to this top-line number.

Sincerely,

Mitch McConnell, Thad Cochran, Judd Gregg, Lamar Alexander, Susan Collins, Bob Bennett, Kit Bond, Richard Shelby, Kay Bailey Hutchison, Sam Brownback, George V. Voinovich, Lisa Murkowski.

NUCLEAR POWER

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, 40 years ago, at the time of the first

Earth Day, Americans became deeply worried about air and water pollution and a population explosion that threatened to overrun the planet's resources.

Nuclear power was seen as a savior to these environmental dilemmas. It could produce large amounts of low-cost, reliable clean energy. Unlike oil, nuclear power did not need to be hauled in leaking tankers from countries that did not like us. Unlike coal, it did not spew tons of pollution out of smokestacks.

Then Three Mile Island and Chernobyl happened. The world pulled back, fearful of nuclear technology—even though no one was hurt at Three Mile Island. In fact, no one has ever died as a result of a nuclear accident at an American commercial nuclear reactor or on a U.S. navy ship powered by reactors. Chernobyl was the tragic result of a flawed technology never used in the United States. Still, the United States has not licensed a new reactor since 1978.

Now the rest of the world is returning to nuclear energy. France is 80 percent nuclear and has among the lowest per capita carbon emissions and cheapest electricity costs in Western Europe. Italy, Britain, Finland and Eastern Europe all are exploring new reactors. Russia, India, China and Japan are moving ahead. South Korea is selling reactors to the United Arab Emirates.

These countries realize that exploding populations demand large amounts of cheap, reliable electricity to help create jobs and lift people out of poverty. And nuclear power provides just that. The National Academy of Sciences in a 2009 report said that the cost of nuclear power is equal to or lower than natural gas, wind, solar, or coal with carbon capture. Reactors can operate for 80 years while wind and solar last about 25 years. And nuclear reactors operate 90 percent of the time while wind and solar are only available about a third of the time. Remember: wind and solar power can't be stored today in significant amounts. Most people do not want their lights and computers working only when the wind blows.

Nuclear plants occupy a fraction of the land required for wind or solar. For example, 20 percent of U.S. electricity comes from 104 nuclear reactors on about 100 square miles. Producing the same amount of power from wind would require covering an area the size of West Virginia with 183,000 50-story turbines as well as building 19,000 miles of new transmission lines through scenic areas and suburban backyards.

Nuclear fuel is available in the U.S. and is virtually unlimited. We do not have to drill for it. We do not have to mine it nearly as much as we do for coal. And thanks to technology, we can safely recycle ''nuclear waste'' and turn most of it into more fuel. After recycling, the French are able to store all of their final waste from producing 80 percent of their electricity for 30 years in one room in La Hague.

A more recently realized benefit of nuclear power is its ability to combat climate change. Nuclear power emits zero greenhouse gases. Today it produces 20 percent of our Nation's electricity but 70 percent of our carbon-free electricity. Wind and solar provide less than 2 percent of our electricity and 6 percent of our carbon-free electricity today.

The United States uses 25 percent of all the energy in the world. At a time when we need to produce large amounts of clean power at home at a cost that will not chase jobs overseas looking for cheap energy, Americans can't afford to ignore nuclear power.

I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

THE BUDGET

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I rise to continue the discussion which was raised by the Senator from Tennessee relative to the letter which has been signed by all the Republican members of the Appropriations Committee. This is a unique event, in my experience. I have had the great honor and privilege of serving on this committee now for 14 years, and I have never participated in this type of an undertaking, which is basically the Appropriations Committee Republicans, at least, stepping up and doing the responsible thing in the area of trying to control the fiscal policy of this country when the Budget Committee has left the field.

The Budget Committee didn't leave the field arbitrarily; it is just that the other side of the aisle decided they did not want to do a budget for some reason. Actually, I know the reason. The reason we are not doing a budget of the country as we are supposed to do is that the budget shows we are in dire straits. We are going to have a $1.4 to $1.6 trillion deficit this year. It looks as if next year we are going to have a deficit in the range of $1.4 trillion. And for the next 10 years, every year under the Obama budget and under the spending plans of the Democratic leadership of this Congress, we are talking an average of $1 trillion a year of deficits. That adds up to a doubling of the debt in 5 years and a tripling of the debt in 10 years. The American people understand that we cannot do this, we cannot continue that type of profligate spending, that type of out-of-control spending.

But, unfortunately, the other party, which now controls with significant majorities both the House and the Senate, is unwilling to step up and produce a budget which brings those numbers down, which makes us more responsible in the area of spending and reduces the debt burden on our children. So the Republican members of the Appropriations Committee have said: Enough. We want to stop this out-of-control spending. We want to have a spending proposal in place that makes sense. And we picked a number that is very reasonable. It is essentially a freeze at last year's levels. It is a number which has been supported, interestingly enough, on this floor when it was offered as the Senator SESSIONS-Senator MCCASKILL amendment on four different occasions, by a majority of the Senate, with all of the Republican Members of the Senate voting for this type of essential freeze and with a number—I think between 16 and 18—of Democratic Senators voting for this. That is because there is a full understanding, at least on our side of the aisle and by some Members on the other side of the aisle who did vote for this, that we have to do something about controlling spending around here.

This letter essentially says that before we start marking up any bills in the Appropriations Committee, we have to have an understanding as to how much we are going to spend. Is that an unusual idea? Is it a terribly radical idea, that we should reach a number, an overall agreement on an overall number as to what we are going to spend around here before we start producing spending bills? No, it is not. It is exactly what the budget is supposed to do. But we do not have a budget for the reason I mentioned earlier—people do not want to talk about how big the deficit is around here because they are afraid the American people have already figured this out and will just get more outraged about it.

What we are doing and what we are suggesting in this letter and what we are saying in this letter is that we as Republican members of the Appropriations Committee expect there to be a budget for the Appropriations Committee even though there was not one passed here, with the top-line number being essentially the number in the Sessions-McCaskill, what amounts to a freeze proposal—freezing at 2010 levels, essentially—and that we will test every committee appropriations bill that comes forward on the basis of that number, and we hope our colleagues on the other side of the aisle, those on the Appropriations Committee and those who are not on the Appropriations Committee, will join us in this effort because it is a sincere effort and a reasonable effort since it was already voted on here with all of our side voting for it and a majority of the Senate voting for it. It is a reasonable number to set forward as the goal.

Yes, it does mean a significant reduction. We have to be forthright about this, and this is what we need to do, quite honestly. It does mean a significant reduction from what the President requested. It means a significant reduction from what the Senate Budget

Committee passed in committee, which budget was never brought to the floor of the Senate because they did not want to shine lights even on that budget. There is no question it is a reduction and a fairly significant reduction from those numbers. But it is a reasonable number and it is an important number because it says we are willing to be disciplined about our spending around here and that is what we are going to have to do. We are going to have to make these types of tough choices. This is an effort by the Republican members of the Appropriations Committee to make clear that we are willing to make those types of difficult choices.

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, I wonder if the Senator from New Hampshire would accept a question?

Mr. GREGG. Yes, I would accept a question from the Senator from Tennessee.

Mr. ALEXANDER. I ask the Senator from New Hampshire, who served as chairman of the Budget Committee of the Senate and is now its ranking member—and there is no one in the Senate more familiar with the numbers in the Senate budget—is it not true that this request by Republican members of the Senate Appropriations Committee, since it comes at a time when many Americans and most Senators believe the level of the Federal debt is at crisis levels and threatens the security of our country and since it comes at a time when the Congress has not produced a budget and it comes at a time when there have been substantial increases over the last year and a half in the 38 percent of the budget that is discretionary spending, would the Senator from New Hampshire, who has long served on the Budget and Appropriations Committees, not agree that the first job of Senate appropriators is not to decide where to spend the money but to decide how much money there is to spend, especially this year when there is no budget?

Mr. GREGG. I think the Senator from Tennessee is absolutely right. How can we run a country and a government of a country if we are not willing to decide on how much we are going to spend and then stick to it? The reason we are so out of control around here in spending is because every week for the last 8 to 10 weeks we have seen a new bill brought to the floor of the Senate which has added to the debt and the deficit of this country.

Interestingly enough, 8 weeks ago we passed a bill on this floor, with great fanfare from the other side of the aisle, called pay-go.

That bill said all the bills that came to the floor of the Senate were going to be subject to a test, which essentially said that before you spent any money, you paid for what you are spending.

Since we passed that bill, over $200 billion—billion—has been proposed or passed by the Senate which violated the very rule we allegedly passed to try to discipline the Senate. So it is very clear that unless you set out some hard parameters, unless you set out some very specific spending limits—and that is what the letter from the Appropriations Republicans does—you are not going to get any discipline around here. We will just bring bill after bill out of committee and we will spend money we do not have.

Where does it all go? Well, it all goes to our children as debt, and we have to borrow it from the Chinese or we have to borrow it from somebody else. Then we have to pay the interest on that. That interest does not do us any good as a nation.

In fact, under the President's own projections, his own budget, the interest on the Federal debt will exceed any other item of spending in the Federal budget on the discretionary side within 7 years. We will spend more on interest, because we are adding all of this deficit and debt, than we spend on national defense. What a waste of money that is. So unless we get some discipline around here on the spending side, this deficit is going to grow, the debt is going to grow.

I saw a most interesting figure. I think the Senator from Tennessee has seen it too. Since President Obama has been President, for every second since he has become President, $56,000 has been added to the debt of the United States—$56,000. That is the mean income of Americans today. So every second he has been in office he has wiped out the income of some American who is working, because that income is all going to have to be spent to pay off that debt.

Granted, not all that debt was his fault. But interestingly enough, as we go further into his administration, a large amount of it is his decisions and the decisions of this Congress, such as the $200 billion in debt that we have been adding or about to add that violates pay-go.

This week we are going to take up another supplemental bill. Does the Senator know how much deficit and debt that bill will add if it is passed in the form the administration and the Democratic leadership have asked, just this week? I think it is somewhere in the vicinity of $20 billion to $30 billion of new deficit and debt.

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, I wonder if I could ask the Senator another question. The Senator was talking about the increasing debt. Am I correct that it took the first 43 Presidents of the United States and the Congresses they served with about 230 years to run up $5.8 trillion in debt, but President Obama's 10-year proposal, through 2018, would add another $11.8 trillion?

In other words, am I right that the first 43 Presidents piled up $5.8 trillion in debt, and this President's 10-year budget, through 2018, would double that?

Mr. GREGG. Triple it. The Senator was off by 100 percent but close. In the next 5 years, the President will double the national debt under the deficits which he is projecting under his budget. And in the next 10 years he will triple the national debt. As you say, if you take all of the Presidents from George Washington through George W. Bush, put all of the debt they have added on the books of the United States through all of those administrations, cumulatively, add every one together, President Obama will have added more debt than all of the prior Presidents added, the first 43 Presidents of this country, in the first 4½ years of his administration.

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, I have one other question, if I may, for the Senator from New Hampshire. I know we sometimes hear the American people say, or commentators say: Well, why don't those Senators work across party lines and get a result?

My question to the Senator from New Hampshire, who has years of experience on Appropriations and Budget, is, in the present circumstances where we have a debt crisis, and where we have no budget, no budget for next year, and we will not have, would he not agree that at the beginning of the process, taking a number that has been voted on by a majority of the Senate and has widespread bipartisan support, is a constructive bipartisan approach that ought to be able to gain the respect of Democratic appropriators and Democratic Senators, and that we could work together this year to essentially freeze discretionary spending as a first step toward reining in Federal spending?

In other words, sometimes we see amendments around here that are called message amendments, each side trying to score a point. Is this not a proposal that deserves respect as a serious attempt to restrain the debt and that should earn bipartisan support?

Mr. GREGG. I thank the Senator from Tennessee for his point. That is absolutely valid. This is a bipartisan proposal for all intents and purposes. It has been voted on. I think it got 57 votes once. I think that was the most it got; maybe it got 58. There are only 41 Republicans, so clearly it had a large number of Democratic votes from the other side of the aisle, because the number is reasonable.

''Freeze'' is a reasonable number on the nondefense discretionary side, at a time when we are running deficits that are over $1.4 trillion. You have got to start somewhere. You know, all great journeys begin with a step. So this is the place we should start, right here, by freezing nondefense discretionary spending. We, as Republican appropriators, have said we are willing to do it. I certainly think the Senator from Tennessee is absolutely right; this is an attempt to reach across the aisle and bring in a bipartisan coalition to accomplish this, using a number which has already received significant bipartisan support.

Mr. ALEXANDER. I thank the Senator.

Mr. GREGG. I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. KAUFMAN. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

KAGAN NOMINATION

Mr. KAUFMAN. Mr. President, I rise in support of the nomination of Solicitor General Elena Kagan to be an Associate Justice on the U.S. Supreme Court.

Last month, the Judiciary Committee held 4 days of hearings on General Kagan's nomination, including 2 very full days of testimony from the nominee herself.

I came away from the hearings deeply impressed with General Kagan's intellect, thoughtfulness, demeanor, and integrity. These characteristics, already plainly evident in her lifetime of accomplishment, were on full display during her testimony.

Last year, when Justice Souter announced his retirement, and again when Justice Stevens announced his retirement this April, I suggested that the Court would benefit from a broader range of experience among its members.

My concern was not just the relative lack of women or racial or ethnic minorities on our Federal courts, though that deficit remains glaring.

I was noting the fact that the current Justices all share very similar professional backgrounds. Every one of them served as a Federal circuit court judge before being appointed to the Supreme Court.

Not one of them has ever run for political office, like Sandra Day O'Connor or Earl Warren or Hugo Black.

I am heartened by what this nominee would bring to the Court based on her experience working in and with all three branches of government, the skills she developed running a complex institution like Harvard Law School, and yes, the prospect of her being the fourth woman to serve on our Nation's highest court.

Some pundits, and some Senators, have suggested her lack of judicial experience is somehow a liability. I could not disagree more.

While prior judicial experience can be valuable, the Court should have a broader range of perspectives than can be gleaned from the appellate bench.

In the history of the U.S. Supreme Court, more than one-third of the Justices have had no prior judicial experience before being nominated. And a nominee's lack of judicial experience has certainly been no barrier to success.

When Woodrow Wilson nominated Louis Brandeis in 1916, many objected on the ground that he had never served on the bench.

Over his 23-year career, however, Justice Brandeis proved to be one of the Court's greatest members. His opinions exemplify judicial restraint and his approach still resonates in our judicial thinking more than 70 years after his retirement.

Felix Frankfurter, William Douglas, Robert Jackson, Byron White, Lewis Powell, Harlan Fiske Stone, Earl Warren and William Rehnquist all became Justices without having previously been judges. They certainly all had distinguished careers on the Supreme Court.

As Justice Frankfurter wrote about judicial experience in 1957:

> One is entitled to say without qualification that the correlation between prior judicial experience and fitness for the functions of the Supreme Court is zero.

We have all now had the opportunity to review General Kagan's extensive record as a lawyer, a policy adviser, and administrator, and to listen to her thoughtful and candid answers to a wide range of probing questions.

Throughout her career, she has consistently demonstrated the all-too-rare combination of a first-rate intellect and an intensely pragmatic approach to identifying and solving problems.

Last summer, during then-Judge Sotomayor's confirmation hearing, and again during General Kagan's hearing, I focused on the current Court's handling of business cases.

I am convinced, by education, experience, and inclination, that the integrity of our capital markets, along with our democratic traditions, is what makes America great.

Today, however, while we have a real need for significant financial regulatory reform, we also face a Supreme Court too prone to disregard congressional policy choices.

My concern is that a Court resistant to Federal Government involvement in and regulation of markets could undermine those efforts. I am not suggesting that we face a return to ''a New-Deal-era Court—a Court determined to strike down regulatory reform as beyond the authority of Congress.

But a Court predisposed against government regulation might chip away at the edges of reform, materially reducing its effectiveness.

That is why my questioning of Solicitor General Kagan focused on business cases and on her philosophy concerning deference to congressional judgment.

During the hearing, she emphasized the importance of ''judicial deference to the legislative process.'' She also acknowledged Congress's ''broad authority'' under the commerce clause to regulate the financial markets.

Finally, she stated emphatically her views on results-oriented judging. I really liked what she said on this point, so I'm going to quote it in full:

> I think results-oriented judging is pretty much the worst kind of judging there is. I mean the worst thing that you can say about a judge is that he or she is results-oriented. It suggests that a judge is kind of picking sides irrespective of what the law requires, and that's the absolute antithesis of what a judge should be doing, that the judge should be trying to figure out as best she can what the law does require, and not going in and saying, ''You know, I don't really care about the law, you know, this side should win.'' So to be a results-oriented judge is the worst kind of judge you can be.

Based on General Kagan's ability to communicate her thoughts and ideas during the committee hearings last month, I am confident that other Justices and, by extension, the entire Court, will benefit by the addition of her voice to their deliberations.

One of the aspirations of the American judicial system is that it render justice equally to ordinary citizens and to the most powerful.

We need Justices on the Supreme Court who not only understand that aspiration but also are committed to making it a reality. I believe Elena Kagan, through her truly impressive record of accomplishment, and through the entire confirmation process, has demonstrated that commitment.

In short, this nominee has all the qualities necessary to serve well all Americans, and the rule of law, on our Nation's highest court.

I urge my colleagues to confirm her without delay.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

APPOINTMENT OF DONALD BERWICK

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I came to the Senate floor earlier today to speak about the nomination of Don Berwick to run the CMS and talked a little bit this morning about the area in which he specializes, which is how to lower the cost of the American health care system by improving the quality of care; that it is a win-win and to call it rationing is incredibly misleading and raises a legitimate question about whose side somebody is on who wants to attack this kind of reform of the health care system.

I went back to my office and found an article in the Washington Post today, which is entitled ''Hospital infection deaths caused by ignorance and neglect, survey finds.'' So if I could just read a few pieces from it, then I will ask unanimous consent to have this article printed in the RECORD.

> An estimated 80,000 patients per year develop catheter-related bloodstream infections, or CRBSIs. . . . About 30,000 patients die as a result, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, accounting for nearly a third of annual deaths from hospital-acquired infections in the United States.

So 80,000 people get hospital-acquired infections in their blood from the catheters that go into them when they are

in a hospital. Of those 80,000, 30,000 die, and that is about one-third of the annual deaths from all hospital-acquired infections, which means about 90,000 Americans die every year from hospital-acquired infections.

This article goes on to say those deaths are preventable. We have known this for a long time. This article is confirming something that has been studied for a long time.

. . . evidence suggests hospital workers could all but eliminate [catheter-related bloodstream infections] by following a five-step checklist that is stunningly basic: (1) Wash hands with soap; (2) clean patient's skin with an effective antiseptic; (3) put sterile drapes over the entire patient; (4) wear a sterile mask, hat, gown and gloves; (5) put a sterile dressing over the catheter site.

A lot of this came out of original work that was done in Michigan, the so-called Keystone Project. We have taken that in Rhode Island and adapted it to try to reduce these hospital-acquired intensive care unit infections. But this is preventable. The point is, when we prevent it, we save money because those 80,000 patients per year developing catheter-related bloodstream infections—as to the last information I saw, I believe it costs about $60,000 to treat hospital-acquired infections. So I cannot do the math in my head, but multiply $60,000 times 80,000 patients per year getting these catheter-related bloodstream infections and we get into very big money very quickly.

Don Berwick is the leader of the health care reform effort that tries to take exactly that kind of problem and solve it so this process, this stunningly basic process that can prevent these infections, actually gets implemented over and over and over, every time, so we can eliminate these infections. When we eliminate them, we eliminate the cost of treating it; we eliminate the excess days that had to be spent in the hospital while the patient was treated for the infection; and, of course, most importantly, we eliminate 30,000 people dying from a hospital-acquired, catheter-related bloodstream infection every year.

What is not to like about that? That is the theory of health care reform that Don Berwick is the lead proponent of. So I came back to the floor because this story is so clearly on point as to exactly the kind of reform he has been a proponent of—from his years on the Clinton Consumer Quality and Protection Commission—I do not have its exact name right now, but it was a Clinton-era quality reform initiative—from his leadership writing ''To Err Is Human,'' the initial report that kicked off the health care quality reform movement, and the follow-on report, ''Crossing the Quality Chasm.''

This is what this guy specializes in and this ability to go into the American health care system and find these ways where, by improving the quality of care, we lower the cost. Again, whatever 80,000 patients is times—I may have the number wrong, but my recollection is about $60,000 per infection—we get into pretty big money in a pretty big hurry. It is preventible, and it is that kind of savings that is going to help turn the corner for American health care.

So I ask unanimous consent that this Washington Post article entitled ''Hospital infection deaths caused by ignorance and neglect, survey finds'' by N.C. Aizenman, dated Tuesday, July 13, 2010, be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Washington Post, July 13, 2010]

HOSPITAL INFECTION DEATHS CAUSED BY IGNORANCE AND NEGLECT, SURVEY FINDS

(By N.C. Aizenman)

Deadly yet easily preventable bloodstream infections continue to plague American hospitals because facility administrators fail to commit resources and attention to the problem, according to a survey of medical professionals released Monday.

An estimated 80,000 patients per year develop catheter-related bloodstream infections, or CRBSIs—which can occur when tubes that are inserted into a vein to monitor blood flow or deliver medication and nutrients are improperly prepared or left in longer than necessary. About 30,000 patients die as a result, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, accounting for nearly a third of annual deaths from hospital-acquired infections in the United States.

Yet evidence suggests hospital workers could all but eliminate CRBSIs by following a five-step checklist that is stunningly basic: (1) Wash hands with soap; (2) clean patient's skin with an effective antiseptic; (3) put sterile drapes over the entire patient; (4) wear a sterile mask, hat, gown and gloves; (5) put a sterile dressing over the catheter site.

The approach also calls for clinicians to continually reconsider whether the benefits of keeping the catheter in for another day outweigh the risks and to use electronic monitoring systems that allow them to spot infections quickly and assemble a rapid response team to treat them.

A federally funded program implementing these measures in intensive-care units in Michigan hospitals reduced the incidence of CRBSIs by two-thirds, saving more than 1,500 lives and $200 million in the first 18 months. Similar initiatives across the country helped bring the overall national rate of these and related bloodstream infections down by 18 percent in the first six months of 2010, according to the CDC.

''Our research shows that the cost of implementing [such programs] is about $3,000 per infection, while an infection costs between $30,000 to $36,000,'' said Peter Pronovost, a professor at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine who led the program. ''That means an average hospital saves $1 million.''

So why aren't hospitals leaping to adopt these best practices?

The survey released Monday, which was conducted by the Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology and funded by Bard Access Systems, a maker of catheters, pointed to ignorance and neglect at the top.

More than half of the 2,075 respondents, most of whom were infection control nurses employed by hospitals, reported that they use a cumbersome paper-based system for tracking patients' conditions that makes it harder to spot infections in real time. Seven in 10 said they are not given enough time to train other hospital workers on proper procedures. Nearly a third said enforcing best practice guidelines was their greatest challenge, and one in five said administrators were not willing to spend the necessary money to prevent CRBSIs.

Pronovost said part of the problem was that many hospital chief executives aren't even aware of their institution's bloodstream infection rates, let alone how easily they could bring them down.

When hospital leaders decide to create a culture in which preventing infections is a priority, he added, nurses feel empowered to remind physicians to follow the checklist when inserting catheters, physicians are provided antiseptic soaps as part of their catheter kits and infection control personnel have the best tools to monitor patients.

''If anyone in that chain of accountability doesn't work, you won't get your [infection] rates down,'' he said. ''But it's the hospital's senior leadership that is ultimately responsible.''

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant editor of the Daily Digest proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I just want to take a moment to ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD, at the conclusion of my remarks, an editorial dated today from the Arizona Republic. That is my hometown newspaper in Phoenix, AZ.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

(See exhibit 1.)

Mr. KYL. The editorial is entitled ''End run denies public a debate on health care.'' The point of the editorial is that while we had a very long debate over the so-called health care legislation—I think the name of the act was the Patient Protection and Affordable Health Care Act—we never had the kind of debate that would have edified the American public on the general question of a government-run health care system versus one that was more amenable to the doctor-patient relationship and the privacy that Republicans were suggesting was a better way to go.

What the editorial says is that the President's recess appointment of Dr. Berwick obviated the kind of debate that could have occurred had he gone through the regular nomination process and had a hearing at which his views could be elicited, and we could have then debated whether he, with his views, was the right person to head the CMS, which is the entity that will be running the program.

The editorial concludes with these comments, after noting that even Democratic leaders in the Senate were perplexed by the recess appointment, noting Senate Finance Committee chairman, MAX BAUCUS, saying he was ''troubled'' by the move. The editorial concludes:

Considering how dubious the public remains about Obamacare, there is every reason to believe the Republicans really did want an exchange with the candid, erudite Berwick. The recess appointment strongly suggests the White House simply did not want to have another fight over the contentious health care issue.

Political parties can be devious. History is littered with appointments delayed to death out of little more than spite.

This wasn't one of those appointments. Dr. Berwick will head a federal agency that spends $800 billion a year. The public deserves to know what he thinks.

The point is, we would have had an opportunity to know what Dr. Berwick thinks and for the American people to express themselves on that issue through their representatives in the Senate had we gone through the regular nomination process. But because the President decided to short-circuit that while we were off and back home on our July 4th recess, and made the recess appointment, we will never have that opportunity. As the editorial notes, that is lamentable. It denies the public an opportunity they would have had to understand better what his point of view was and perhaps to have a debate about the general underlying nature of the health care bill that was passed.

EXHIBIT 1

[From the Arizona Republic, July 13, 2010]

END RUN DENIES PUBLIC A DEBATE ON HEALTH CARE

Crazy as it sounds, we did not have a real ''debate'' over health care lo those many months prior to the passage of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act in March.

Basically, the warring factions had an 18-month fight over interpretations.

President Barack Obama and Democrats interpreted the new law as one that would, affirmatively, lower costs, preserve existing options, extend coverage near-universally and improve care overall.

On defense against the interpretations of mostly Republican critics, they argued the plan did not constitute socialized medicine, was not a Washington power grab, would not explode costs, would not create ''death panels,'' would not reduce insurance options, would not foist new burdens on the states, and wouldn't increase federal deficit spending.

It was a debate over the meaning of a constantly evolving bill, not one of competing philosophies.

But a debate over the efficacy of a centralized, govemment-led health-care system vs. a decentralized, mostly private system? Rarely was the epic struggle ever that straightforward.

Senate hearings on the appointment of Obama's nominee to head the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Dr. Donald Berwick, would have been a great opportunity to hear those debates, at long last.

Unfortunately, that isn't going to happen. The president short-circuited those hearings by using his power to make appointments during congressional recesses. According to a White House spokesman, the president anticipated Republican obstructionism, and so performed the end run. That explanation is debatable. There was no discernable ''impasse'' on the Berwick appointment.

Republicans claim they greatly anticipated the Berwick hearings, given the Harvard-educated pediatrician's candid commentary over the years about his enthusiasm for a single-payer health-care system similar to that of Great Britain. Likewise, Democratic leaders in the Senate also were perplexed at the recess appointment. Senate Finance Committee Chairman Max Baucus of Montana said he was ''troubled'' by the move.

Considering how dubious the public remains about Obamacare, there is every reason to believe the Republicans really did want an exchange with the candid, erudite Berwick. The recess appointment strongly suggests the White House simply did not want to have another fight over the contentious health-care issue.

Political parties can be devious. History is littered with appointments delayed to death out of little more than spite.

This wasn't one of those appointments. Dr. Berwick will head a federal agency that spends $800 billion a year. The public deserves to know what he thinks.

Mr. KYL. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. GILLIBRAND). The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant editor of the Daily Digest proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. HAGAN). Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to speak for up to 10 minutes as in morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Madam President, it is, I believe, day 42 since 41 Members of the Senate have blocked us through filibuster, through obstructionism, through threat of tying up the Senate and shutting it down basically so that we have not been able to extend unemployment benefits to workers in Charlotte, in Ashville, NC, and Columbus and Cleveland, OH. It is unconscionable. It is unfair to those workers who have worked for 20 years and lost their jobs through no doing of their own. It is bad economics.

Presidential candidate MCCAIN's economic adviser, Mark Zandi, during the Presidential campaign said every dollar of unemployment benefits generates $1.60 in economic growth. He examined various kinds of expenditures—everything from tax cuts to a whole bunch of other government programs—and what would stimulate the economy best, from road construction to small business tax breaks, all the kinds of things that we could do for job growth.

He said—this is Republican JOHN MCCAIN who voted against unemployment extension—his economic adviser in the Presidential race said the best stimulus for the economy is unemployment benefits because every dollar that goes into the pocket of an unemployed worker in Lima, Gallipolis, Steubenville, or Miamisburg, OH, generates $1.60 in economic activity. That means they spend that dollar quickly because they need that money to pay their rent, to pay for utilities, to buy groceries, to go to the drugstore—to do all the things that are necessities of life that are obviously so important.

As the Akron Beacon Journal analyzed, Summit County emergency cash assistance cases rose 27 percent from May 2009 to May 2010. Food stamp cases climbed 22 percent over the same period.

It is an economic equation, to be sure, that extending unemployment benefits is the best thing for our economy. It is also a human equation, for all the problems people face in our country of not being able to simply provide for their families.

We can talk about the statistics; 90,000 Ohioans have seen their unemployment benefits expire. Forty-one Members of this body—40 of them Republicans—have said no to extending these benefits. We know these numbers. We see them all the time. We are blinded sometimes by all the statistics.

I would like to, as I do many days, put a human face on this issue and share what people in my State write to me telling me what these unemployment benefits mean to them.

Lisa from Cuyahoga County, the Cleveland area:

> Please do not strand us here on the sea of uncertainty and washed up on the shore of ruin. That statement may be dramatic, but that is how it feels out here.
>
> In my case, if I was guaranteed a 40 hour a week job working at a fast food restaurant, I would take it in a heartbeat.
>
> I am currently taking care of my elderly mother college age daughter on $213 a week after taxes. Do you know how far that goes? I have to pay rent, electric bills, and put food on the table. I am a single mother. How am I supposed to live?
>
> I sit in a bedroom away from my mother and daughter and cry because I feel I have failed by family and we are headed for ruin. We already lost the family home due to unscrupulous lenders. Now I am one rent check away from being homeless.
>
> Please, I am begging you to be my voice and the voice of the unemployed in Washington.

Again, these are people who want to work. Some of my colleagues, some of the 41 who vote no consistently—we have tried week after week to bring this legislation to a vote—seem to think unemployment is welfare. It is not welfare. Many of the letters I get are from people who worked in the same job 20 and 30 years and lost that job and are trying to find work, as they are required to under the law. If you draw unemployment benefits, you are required to continue to look for work. You send out resumes, make visits to the plant, the office, or restaurant to try to get a job.

Every one of these workers paid in. This is not welfare; this is insurance. Every one of these workers paid into the unemployment insurance fund, and now when they are unemployed, they are deserving of collecting on their insurance, if you will.

Rebecca from Lorain County—that is the county in which I live in west Cleveland—works for Catholic Charities helping the unemployed:

My job is trying to find resources for the people in need. Every day I am deluged with requests for rental and mortgage assistance by many who have exhausted their unemployment benefits and have not been able to find other employment.

One gentleman in particular is an unemployed steelworker of over 25 years who is raising a 2-year-old son by himself. His home is about to be foreclosed on and his employment benefits have run out. What else can he do? What can I do to assist him?

I look across the aisle when we are all in this Chamber and I think: 41 people voted against the extension of unemployment benefits. I think all of us are a bit too isolated in this job. We are paid well. We get a lot of attention. We all have good staffs, fairly large staffs of 40, 50, 60 people both in Washington and our States, in Columbus, Cleveland, Cincinnati, and Lorain. I don't know that we talk with enough people who have been in a situation that she writes about the steelworker—25 years and raising a 2-year-old son by himself.

Lisa from Cuyahoga County is taking care of her elderly mother and college-age daughter and already lost her home. I know empathy is in short supply in this world and particularly in the Senate. I wish each of us would read these letters and sit down and talk with somebody such as Lisa who first lost her job. Then she lost her health care. Then she has to explain to her daughter: Honey, we are not going to be able to stay in this house much longer because we cannot afford the rent—or got foreclosed.

Mom, where are we going to live?

I don't know yet.

Am I going to be able to go to the same grade school I go to now?

I don't know yet, honey, if that is going to happen.

How are we going to move? How are we going to move our stuff?

I don't know. We have to figure that out.

These are questions people such as us do not have to answer very often, are not faced with. If my 41 colleagues would sit down and listen to people who deal with these problems, who experience these problems, it might be a different situation.

The last letter I will read is from Marjorie from Summit County. That is in the Akron area:

I have been unemployed since January. My husband lost his job shortly before that. We are both college graduates. My husband has a master's degree.

Since we are both 61 years of age, employers are not hiring us because we are not the right fit for the position because we are either overqualified and/or too old.

Our house is on the market because we are reaching a point where we will be unable to make mortgage payments.

We have always done the right thing raising our children and being responsible citizens. But now we can't even keep a roof over our heads.

Something is not right when people make generalizations—as they are doing now—about people like us who want to work, who want to take care of themselves, and who are tired of being shunned because we are ''one of those people.''

We do not like the deficit growth, but we paid our taxes, and we did not create this recession.

Please share our story with those who are in a position to, at least, help us with something.

I don't know Marjorie, but I received this letter from her. I know from every indication that she and her husband have worked their whole lives. They are highly educated. Both have college degrees. One has a master's degree. They are not people who are unmotivated. They have lived in this house a long time. They do not want to sell their house, but they do not have much choice.

Why can't 60 of us, with these sometimes dysfunctional Senate rules, with just one person from the other side of the aisle, one Republican, join in voting, or a couple of them come over here and vote for this extension so we can get the 60 votes we need? They are only going to get $300 a week in unemployment benefits. Most of these people have paid into these funds for 10, 20, 30 years, never collecting anything. But they are only going to get $300 a week.

They are not going to be rich. It is not so much money that they will think: I don't want to bother going to work. I don't want to keep looking for a job. They have to keep looking for a job.

It is the right thing to do morally. It is the right thing to do because of the values we hold dear in this country. It is the right thing to do for economic reasons. As Senator MCCAIN's chief economic adviser in his Presidential race said: Nothing stimulates the economy more than putting this money into the community in Ravenna or Mansfield or Warren or Findlay and getting this generation of economic activity which will help to create more jobs and help to get us out of this recession.

I implore again my colleagues to support the extension of unemployment benefits.

Madam President, I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant editor of the Daily Digest proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BURRIS. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. BURRIS. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to speak as in morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. BURRIS. Madam President, we are on the small business bill; is that correct?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate is still conducting morning business.

NEED FOR BOLD ACTION

Mr. BURRIS. Thank you, Madam President.

For the past 2 years, this country has been held in the grip of an unprecedented economic crisis. The housing market collapsed, the bottom dropped out of Wall Street, and for the first time in generations many Americans felt their hard-earned economic security begin to slip away.

Here in Washington, Members of the House and Senate were faced with a harsh reality: For decades, regulators and policymakers alike had fallen short of their responsibilities. A divisive political process drove them to duck the tough issues and kick the can down the road time and time again.

This failure of regulation and the absence of political will allowed Wall Street fat cats to let their greed get the better of them. They gambled with our economic future. They designed complicated financial products and placed high-stake bets against them. In short, they built a house of cards, and when it finally came crashing down, the American economy lay in ruins.

There can be no quick fixes after a disaster of this magnitude. But under President Obama's leadership, our elected leaders finally took the bull by the horns and did what was necessary to stop the bleeding and set our country back on the road to recovery. I was proud to join many of my colleagues in supporting the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act—a landmark stimulus bill that helped reverse the rising tide of economic misfortune. Thanks to this legislation, we have made some significant progress, though we still have a very long way to go. But this is an election year, and that means partisan bickering is in the air and it is on the rise. So I believe my colleagues and I have a decision to make: We can focus on winning the next news cycle—pitting Republicans against Democrats, and falling into the same tired political battles that usually consume election years in Washington—or we can reach for something better. We can tune out the partisan fights, reject the failed policies that got us into this mess, and prove to the American people that we have the will to make tough decisions.

Our recovery is far from complete. I believe if we fail to continue the bold policies that pulled us back from the brink of disaster, if we shrink away from difficult decisions that will move this recovery forward, then we place our economy at grave risk of slipping back into a recession. This is a time for bold action, not pointless ideological battles. This is a time to move forward, not backward.

I call upon my colleagues to seize this opportunity. Let us keep America on the road to recovery, and restore the hard-earned security of ordinary folks who have suffered because of bad decisions on Wall Street. It won't be easy, but it is our responsibility, and it is the right thing to do.

We should start by increasing our support for small businesses, especially those disadvantaged and minority-owned businesses. These companies foster progress and innovation. They have the power to create jobs and direct investment to local communities, where it can have the greatest impact. Small businesses form the backbone of our economy, but in many ways they have suffered the most as a result of this economic crisis.

That is why I have filed an amendment that will improve and expand the Small Business Administration's 8(a) Program. This measure would increase the continued eligibility amount from the current $750,000 net worth to $2.5 million so more small businesses could benefit from this assistance.

It is no secret that minority-owned businesses, particularly those in poor or urban areas, have been hit hardest by the current economic downturn. That is why these are the areas we should target for our strongest support. By expanding the existing 8(a) program, we can increase its economic impact without having to reinvent the wheel. We can rely on a proven initiative to inject new life into disadvantaged areas.

I ask my colleagues to support my amendment when it comes up for a vote, as well as the underlying Small Business Lending Act as a whole, which we will be debating shortly on the floor. I ask them to reject the tired politics that got us into this mess and embrace the spirit of bipartisanship that can lead us out.

On behalf of small and minority-owned businesses, I call upon this body to take action in that regard. Our economic future may be uncertain, but with my proposal, the Small Business Lending Act, we have the rare opportunity to influence that future. So let's pass these measures to guarantee some degree of relief for the people who continue to suffer the most. Let's renew our investment in America's small businesses and rely on them to drive our economic recovery. Let's do it now. We need no more rhetoric, no more politics. Let's move forward and help small businesses in general, minority- and women-owned businesses in particular.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BURRIS). Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. President, we are working here on the floor of the Senate to encourage a strong economic recovery, but it still remains clear that too many Americans are unable to find work. We know small businesses are the real job engines in our economy, so I am particularly pleased that the Senate is right now debating a small business lending bill.

I rise today because I would like to further improve the bill through an amendment that would take a simple step to safely increase lending to small businesses. We do that mainly by getting government out of the way so that credit unions can increase their small business loan portfolios.

Today, in every single State of the United States, there are credit unions that have cash on their balance sheets, and they are ready to respond with loans for more money. There are many worthy small businesses in communities across our country, in Colorado and Illinois, that need the loans, but Federal law currently prohibits Federal credit unions from fully helping our entrepreneurs. Especially in this economy, we need to change that. We know small business expansion is what is going to pull us out of this recession.

Small businesses have always been the job engine of our economy. In the last 15 years, small businesses have generated nearly two-thirds of all new jobs created in our country, and they currently employ more than half of all Americans.

I traveled across Colorado this year and last year, as you have in your State, Mr. President. I constantly visited with scores of small business owners, and they continually ask me: Where is the lending? I thought the banks were supposed to start lending again.

I heard this. I think every Senator in the Chamber has heard this. But despite remaining profitable, small businesses have been unable to secure the loans they need to make investments in inventory, expand, and ultimately hire new workers. That is why I am introducing this amendment to allow credit unions to ramp up their small business lending without costing taxpayers a single dime.

Back in December of last year, I was joined by Senators SNOWE, SCHUMER, LIEBERMAN, BOXER, COLLINS, BENNET of Colorado, our Majority Leader REID of Nevada, SPECTER, BILL NELSON, SANDERS, and GILLIBRAND in introducing the Small Business Lending Enhancement Act.

The bill would have increased lending for small business by lifting the arbitrary cap on credit union small business loans. Why is that a problem and why is that a cause of concern? Right now credit unions are required to limit small business lending to 12.25 percent of their total assets. But many credit unions have run up against that cap and the only thing keeping them from jump-starting their local economies is an outmoded law I acknowledged.

After introducing our bill last year, we heard from scores of banks that were concerned about the safety and soundness of allowing credit unions to increase their small business loan portfolios. I realize that dealing with banking credit unions can be like injecting yourself between the Hatfields and the McCoys, but I feel so strongly about helping small businesses and unlocking the credit markets that I am willing to take some lumps in the process.

I have gone back to the banks, listened to their concerns, and we went to the drawing board. I spoke to the Senate Banking Committee, Treasury Department, and even the credit unions' own regulator, the National Credit Union Administration, to see if there was something we could all agree on.

That work has paid off, which is why I am proud to introduce a new compromise that will safely and soundly increase small business lending by credit unions without costing Americans a dime. Best of all, this legislation could lead to large-scale job creation in my home State of Colorado and all around our great country.

If the Members would indulge me, I wish to explain what is in the compromise. In response to questions about the safety and soundness of allowing credit unions to expand their small business lending all at once, our new proposal institutes strict eligibility criteria. Under this amendment, the credit union must first be well capitalized. Second, they must have offered small business loans for at least the last 5 years; third, proof they have sound underwriting and strong historical management practices; and, fourth, it must show they have been running up against their previous loan cap. Credit unions that meet all of those strict criteria then go to the NCUA, their regulator, and apply to increase their small business lending. Then when they are approved, that cap would increase slowly from the current 12.25 percent to a maximum of 27.5 percent, and even that transition would be overseen by regulators to ensure it is done in a measured and prudent fashion.

Nobody can argue that this is irresponsible. I would challenge anybody to tell me this is not a sound and surefire way to grow our economy by increasing credit unions' capacity to lend to small businesses. The Credit Union National Association estimates that these sensible reforms would increase small business lending by over $10 billion a year, including—and let me talk about Colorado—an increase of $200 million in my home State of Colorado.

This new access to credit is also predicted conservatively to produce more than 100,000 new jobs nationwide. I think everybody would agree this is the sort of pro-business, pro-jobs policy we need.

The small business community, led by the National Small Business Association, the National Association of Realtors, and even chambers of commerce such as those in Texas have even gotten behind our effort and are now asking the Congress to pass this important provision.

We all know what shape our economy is in today. Small businesses continue to struggle to access credit, as large

banks have significantly cut back on Main Street lending.

Mr. President, you been here the last 18 months and you have noted, I know, that the 22 banks that received the most funding through the Troubled Assets Relief Program, TARP, actually have cut their collective small business loan balance, and then America's community banks which, by and large, did not receive any Federal bailout funds, are still struggling to fill that Main Street credit vacuum that was created by these large financial institutions.

We need to do better. Small businesses are counting on us all across our country. I mentioned earlier we have all met business owners. One Coloradan I was particularly compelled by is Stacy Hamon. Stacy is a small business owner in Thornton, CO, who started her own business, the 1st Street Salon. Initially she went to a bank only to be turned away because credit was in short supply, not because of any problem with her credit history. So Stacy turned to make her dream come true to her local credit union, and that credit union granted her a loan through a second mortgage on her home. Since that time her salon has become even more successful. I visited her business. I was impressed. She hired more workers. She created real American jobs. Her story is a shining example of the economic expansion that awaits us if we will increase the amount of lending that credit unions can undertake.

Another Coloradan, because this is about real people who are eager to build their business, is Lisa Herman. She e-mailed me a story about a loan she secured from a credit union to expand her business, called Happy Cakes Bakeshop. It is in the Highland Square area of Denver. She has been in business since 2007. Despite a tough economy, her revenue has been up by about 25 percent since the summer of 2008. She has booked over 20 weddings a month, and her retail operation has expanded to the point that she needed to build and move into a new shop.

Her traditional bank lender could not expand her credit, but her local credit union could. She went on and expanded her business. This meant more jobs and more business for her community. That is the American way, is it not?

As I begin to close, some would have you believe that this is about banks or credit unions. I mentioned the Hatfields and the McCoys earlier. But it is about small business; not about the banks, not about the credit unions, it is about small business.

In this kind of a climate, we cannot turn away entrepreneurs such as Stacy and Lisa. I doubt there is a single Member of this Senate who wants to look a small business owner in the eye who could not get a loan because of an arbitrary government cap on small business lending. We all have an enormous responsibility to do all we can to unlock credit markets for small businesses in Colorado and across our country.

This amendment is an important part of that effort. I look forward to working with all 98 of my colleagues to move this amendment, to add it to this important small business lending package and allow our Nation's small businesses to again set our country on a path toward job growth and future prosperity.

I yield the floor and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Ms. STABENOW. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

UNEMPLOYMENT

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I come to the floor, as I have on a number of occasions, to urge colleagues to extend unemployment benefits for now well over 1 million people who have lost their benefits because of the stalling, the filibustering, unfortunately, by colleagues on the other side of the aisle.

I am very appreciative of the fact that we have two Republican colleagues joining with us to stop a filibuster, but as the Presiding Officer knows, that is not enough. We need one more Member to come forward to join us, not to get a majority to pass unemployment benefits—we have a majority—but we do not have a supermajority. That has now been required on every single issue that has come before the Senate in order to try to get things done for the American people.

When I was home last week—of course I jump on a plane every Friday and come back on Monday; I view this as a long distance commute to work—I heard over and over concerns from families who have been employed all their life, had good middle-class lifestyles, have had the ability to take care of their families, have had not only the ability to have a home but maybe a cottage or a mobile home to be able to enjoy beautiful northern Michigan and the Great Lakes in the summertime, and folks who have felt confident they could send their kids to college, who literally had the rug pulled out from under them through no fault of their own.

We can go through all that brought us to this point: a decade of policies under the previous administration that created huge deficits, policies that did not work, making sure that those doing very well in this country received tax cuts, but middle-class families were left out there on their own; not enforcing trade laws so that more and more of our jobs were being shipped overseas.

That needs to change. And, in fact, it is changing. Despite what this President inherited, what we inherited 18 months ago when President Obama came into office, 750,000 jobs a month being lost, we have begun to turn that around. We are now gaining jobs every month rather than losing jobs. But we know there is so much more to do.

While we are doing that, while we are focused on creating jobs, partnering with small businesses and manufacturers to create jobs, we have millions of people, over 15 million people, who have been caught in this economic tsunami, through no fault of their own. They are simply asking that something called unemployment insurance—and, by the way, it is insurance. You pay into it when you are working, you receive assistance when you are not, But they are asking that we do what every other Congress has done, Democratic President, Republican President. Anytime we have seen unemployment numbers such as we are seeing today, the Congress of the United States has understood and stepped up to extend unemployment benefits—except now. In the midst of every other initiative being stalled, the folks on the other side of the aisle who have been dubbed the party of no have, in fact, been saying no to everything, including no to families who are in situations now where it is literally about whether they will have a home, whether they can pay their bills and put food on the table, whether they can go to school—as we have all said, we will go back to school and get retraining. People are doing that.

But they are taking that small amount, that $250 or $300 a week, that is the difference between their being able to stay in school with a roof over their head or having to drop out and not be able to start a new career.

I wish to share a few letters of thousands of letters I have received. I am sure the Presiding Officer receives them as well. But they represent people who are asking us to stop the politics for 5 minutes and understand what is happening to people in this country, and step up and do the right thing.

Kim from Bellmont, MI, wrote me:

> Thank you for trying your best to extend unemployment benefits. My husband worked 24 years in a factory and then he was laid off. I have a hair salon I run from my home. We were a happy middle-class family. But now life has been turned upside down, to put it mildly. I now work three jobs. Two are very low paying. I never see my kids or my husband. So darn tired. But I knew with the help of unemployment and my husband applying for a job, and his going to back to school, we could sustain ourselves until something came along.
>
> Only 6 months have gone by. Now along with his job loss, we will lose our home, which means my business also. I do know you have tried. Please keep trying.

I will. But what needs to happen is, we need to find at least one more Member who will join with us to get beyond this roadblock of a filibuster so that Kim doesn't have to lose her home. She can keep her business she runs out of her home, her hair salon, and keep things going while her husband goes back to school so he can get another job.

Judith from Taylor wrote me:

We did not do anything to have this horrible circumstance come our way. Both my husband and I appreciate the work you are doing but please don't give up on us. This week we received notice that our mortgage bank has started foreclosure proceedings on our home. The frustrating thing about this is, we have been trying to sell our house since February of 2009. We have had buyers who were interested [but the] bank stopped proceedings saying they wanted more money out of us. We have been waiting since April for the bank's decision on the present purchase agreement. And the only thing we have gotten from this bank is a letter of foreclosure proceedings this week. Not like we didn't have enough to contend with, our youngest son left from Ft. Campbell, KY to the war in Afghanistan on June 9th. This is a very scary and emotional time for our family. We are definitely on overload but we are just one family of millions who are experiencing how life has changed in this world. We have strong faith in the Lord and a strong belief that life will get better. I love this country but grow weary as to the direction the country is heading. Politics should not play games with the American people's lives.

That is what is happening right now. I should mention that one of the leaders in the Republican caucus has indicated that when it comes to extending tax cuts for the wealthiest Americans, we should not worry about the debt. We should not worry about paying for those. But when it comes to helping people who are out of work, then the rules ought to be different. When it comes to helping people out of work, then we should change the rules that have been in place calling it emergency spending and require something different. If 15 million people out of work isn't an emergency, I don't know.

Dawn from Hudsonville writes:

I listen daily to the radio and I have heard the lack of progress regarding unemployment. I am blessed to have a loving and generous family so my son and I won't be homeless but there will be significant upheaval. My son will graduate from high school next year (if I'm not forced to move) . . . I have done everything I can think of to continue living here; cut expenses to the bone, free lunches for my son, visits to the food pantry—so many things I never thought I would have to do. I realize the scarcity of jobs, my age (51) is a definite factor, but I honestly never imagined the depth of this recession.

Melvin from Auburn Hills:

I urge you to please encourage your peers to reconsider their vote. Personally, I am 41 years old, had a job since I was 16, and have never collected unemployment until 2009. During the past 16 months, I returned to school and I am about to take another course. I have taken any opportunity possible to work which has included three jobs that were low paying, part time, or short term, and I don't know what I will do if these extensions stop. I have already moved to Michigan to live with family because I couldn't afford rent in Illinois anymore. However, I will be forced to live under an overpass if I can't even contribute to household expenses during this difficult time in my life. It saddens me that a hardworking person like myself is lumped into a category of ''losers and mooches'' by the attitude of some elected officials, when my lifetime of hard work without ever receiving any unemployment (or any other government assistance) should clearly identify me as a victim of what is the worst economic time in my entire adult life. I want to work and return to a job, and that is why I am doing additional schooling to make myself stand out to potential employers. In the meantime, please help folks like me sustain our modest existence. Please encourage another vote in the Senate to extend unemployment insurance benefits.

I thank Melvin for working hard and for hanging in there. That is what we do in Michigan, we work hard. If we are knocked down, we get back up, and we go back to work. The people whose letters I have shared this evening are people who are working one or two or three part-time jobs trying to hold it together. But mom and dad may have both lost their jobs. They are trying to hold it together for their families. As Melvin said:

I don't like being lumped into a category of ''losers and mooches'' by the attitude of some elected officials.

People in Michigan are not losers. They are not mooches. They are people who have been caught in the middle of an economic tsunami. They didn't cause it. They weren't the ones who were reckless on Wall Street who caused us to lose jobs and lose credit availability and home mortgages and pensions and 401(k)s. They were not the ones who made the decisions that got us to this point. It is critically important they not continue to pay the price.

I see our distinguished leader on the Senate floor. I thank him for his passion and commitment for people who have lost their jobs and his commitment as soon as possible to bring this up for a vote one more time. But it is very sad that we have had to get to this point where over 1 million people have already been hurt losing their unemployment benefits and others are just holding their breath about what is going to happen. We are committed to continuing to do everything we can until we can get this done—extending unemployment benefits and remaining laser focused on jobs for the American people. We will continue to do that.

But it would be very nice if somehow one more person from the other side of the aisle would step up tonight or tomorrow and we could end what has been a nightmare for millions of Americans wondering what is going to happen to themselves and their families.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that morning business be closed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

WALL STREET REFORM AND CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT—CONFERENCE REPORT

Mr. REID. I now move to proceed to consideration of the conference report to accompany H.R. 4173.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The report will be stated.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 4173) to provide for financial regulatory reform, to protect consumers and investors, to enhance Federal understanding of insurance issues, to regulate the over-the-counter derivatives markets, and for other purposes, having met, after full and free conference, have agreed that the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate to the text of the bill and agree to the same with an amendment, and the Senate agree to the same, that the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate to the title and agree to the same, signed by a majority of the conferees on the part of both Houses.

(The conference report is printed in the House proceedings of the RECORD of June 29, 2010, book II.)

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. I have a cloture motion at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the clerk will report the motion to invoke cloture.

The assistant bill clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the conference report to accompany H.R. 4173, the Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act.

Harry Reid, Christopher J. Dodd, Charles E. Schumer, Sheldon Whitehouse, Amy Klobuchar, Thomas R. Carper, Benjamin L. Cardin, Jeff Merkley, Kay R. Hagan, John F. Kerry, Tom Harkin, Jack Reed, Frank R. Lautenberg, Mark Begich, Barbara Boxer, Mark R. Warner, Joseph I. Lieberman.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum be waived.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Connecticut is recognized.

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, very briefly, because the hour is late and we will have a longer time to engage in a debate about the conference report, I wish to begin this evening, as I will try to repeat during the next 2 days, with my deep appreciation to the majority leader, HARRY REID. While there were a lot of people involved in this process over the last several years who have brought us to this moment for us to consider this very important landmark piece of legislation regarding reform of our financial services, none of this ever happens unless you have a leader who makes it possible to happen.

While that is a simple enough sentence to say, there is so much that

goes into that sentence—the organization, bringing people together, seeing to it that the time is available, making sure the procedures that we will work under allow us to have a full-throated debate, as we were able to on this bill.

This bill went through almost a month of consideration on the Senate floor. We considered almost 60 different amendments offered by both parties, many of which were adopted to change the bill, added value to it. It then proceeded to a conference with the other body in which we spent another 2 weeks, well into the all-night session until June 25 in which another 60 or 70 amendments were considered, and then came back to this Chamber where we are now in the position of adopting the conference report. None of that happens without having leadership in a body that makes it possible for those events to unfold.

While there will be a lot of talk over the coming days about how this happened and what is in the bill, it is important that as we begin the conversation over the next several days, before we vote whether to accept this conference report, that I begin by expressing my gratitude to the majority leader and his staff and others who made it possible for us to arrive at this historic moment as to whether we will change the status quo and set up a regulatory structure that makes it possible for us to address future economic crises, as certain as they will occur, with the ability to deal with them early on, to avoid them becoming larger problems as this one did because we failed to have the regulatory process in place, we failed to have the kind of oversight, we failed to have the kind of protections for consumers that this bill drafts and provides for.

I thank the majority leader for his leadership. While he was not directly involved day to day, there wasn't a single occasion when I could not pick up that phone or walk into his office, cite a problem I had on how to get from point A to point B in which he didn't stop everything he was doing to make sure we could work our way through those difficulties. A lot goes on unseen on how we operate in this Chamber. But, again, when this bill is adopted, as I hope it will be, there are many people who deserve gratitude and expressions of thanks. We ought to begin by thanking the majority leader for making it possible. To him and to his staff and others, I say thank you. I look forward over the next 2 days to the debate.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I hope the distinguished Senator from Connecticut and I have an opportunity, which we will, to sit down and talk about what we have been through the last 2 years. We had a difficult situation with the banks, financial institutions going bankrupt, going to close, and we worked our way through that. We had credit card legislation that was so very difficult. We had the housing legislation that was so extremely difficult. And, of course, we have had this.

This piece of legislation is really a masterpiece. To think that we have been able to get as for as we have—for example, in today's newspaper, it did not go unnoticed by me that Secretary Paulson said some extremely nice things about this piece of legislation. He did not have to do that. He did it because he thought it was the right thing to do. Here is a man who came to Washington inexperienced in government in any way and was given this plate of a really bad situation that developed. So we have the present Secretary of Treasury and the past Secretary of Treasury saying this is an extremely fine piece of legislation, which it is.

I have been around not as long as my friend from Connecticut in the Congress of the United States, but I have been around a long time and this really, I repeat, is a masterpiece. I think it is appropriate to acknowledge the work he has done in this legislation. He was saying nice things about me—I appreciate that—but that is really not very meaningful for someone who was watching him work his way through this legislation.

The vote is not complete yet, and we hope it will all turn out well. But there are a number of people who have been very courageous in allowing us to move forward. We will talk more about them later. They are three or four in number and we will talk about them later. But my friend and I have developed a forever friendship based on the crisis we have gone through together, and I so admire him. There will be another time for talking about his more complete service, but I can say this without any hesitation or reservation, I will so miss this man who has done such a remarkably good job for the State of Connecticut and our country in his long service. He has been an exemplary Senator to me, and I am so fortunate I have gotten to know him as well as I have.

SMALL BUSINESS LENDING FUND ACT

Mr. President, we have been on the small business jobs bill trying to work our way through, and there are a lot of issues we could work our way through, but my friends on the other side of the aisle made a decision today—maybe not tomorrow but today—to not let us move forward. I had a conversation with the Republican leader an hour or so ago and he said he wants to do some legislating on the bill tomorrow. I hope that, in fact, is the case because we are ready to do that.

This small business jobs bill is extremely important. It is a bipartisan bill and I hope we can get it completed. Having said that, I sadly report there will be no votes tonight.

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

REGULATORY CAPTURE

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, the majority leader indicated today that he would be preparing legislation on energy to deal with a number of different issues, among them the response we should make to the terrible spill, geyser of oil gushing into the Gulf of Mexico and all the damage that has ensued in the gulf States as a result.

I come to the floor this evening to say a few words about a problem I believe we need to address in the context of this catastrophe. That problem is the problem of regulatory capture of the captive regulator. Although it comes up in the context of the failure of the Minerals Management Service to do its job to see that the private sector deepwater drilling in the gulf was done properly, it is a problem that is not limited just to the geyser of oil gushing into the Gulf of Mexico and the failure of MMS to have taken adequate steps to prevent it. It occurs in other areas as well.

One that leaps to mind is the Securities and Exchange Commission, the so-called securities watchdog which was sound asleep at the switch as the economy careened towards the huge financial meltdown with repercussions we are still seeing today.

The Senator from Michigan, Ms. STABENOW, was just talking about the catastrophes in her State and the pain that the lack of unemployment insurance is creating. That goes back to the original Wall Street meltdown, and that launched a tsunami of misery across the country that we are still dealing with today.

So if you take a look at those two catastrophes—the giant financial meltdown catastrophe, the consequences of which we are still living, that families in Rhode Island, families in Illinois, families in Michigan are still dealing with; and the disaster in the gulf that has created a catastrophe throughout Louisiana, Alabama, Florida—they have a common theme. The common theme is this issue of regulatory capture.

My hometown paper editorialized pretty trenchantly about the gulf problem. They said:

> The Deepwater Horizon accident has made it painfully clear that, in its current form, MMS is a pathetic public guardian. Neither it nor BP was prepared for a disaster of this magnitude, and MMS' cozy relationship with industry is a big reason why.

The issue of regulatory capture has been written about for a long time. In 1913, Woodrow Wilson wrote:

> If the government is to tell big business men how to run their business, then don't you see that big business men have to get closer to the government even than they are now? Don't you see that they must capture the government, in order not to be restrained too much by it?

'' . . . they must capture the government, in order not to be restrained too much by it.''

The first dean of the Woodrow Wilson School, Marver Bernstein, wrote, 55 years ago, that regulators tend over time to ''become more concerned with the general health of the industry'' and that they try ''to prevent changes which will adversely affect'' the industry. He said, it ''is a problem of ethics and morality as well as administrative method.'' He called it ''a blow to democratic government and responsible political institutions.'' And ultimately he said it leads to what he called ''surrender.'' He said, ''The commission finally becomes a captive of the regulated groups.''

Even recently, the Wall Street Journal editorial page contained an article by a senior fellow at the Cato Institute, saying:

By all accounts, MMS operated as a rubber stamp for BP. It is a striking example of regulatory capture: Agencies tasked with protecting the public interest come to identify with the regulated industry and protect its interests against that of the public. The result: Government fails to protect the public.

So from Woodrow Wilson, in 1913, through Marver Bernstein, 55 years ago, to the Wall Street Journal editorial page just this month, the identification of the problem at MMS with the doctrine of regulatory capture I think is clear.

So the question is, What are we going to do about that? It has been a recurring problem, and the difficulty is that for the regulatory agency, they are constantly engaged with the regulated industry. The industry is there all the time. The industry is pushing on them all the time. The industry is on the other side of the revolving door of jobs, often. The industry has lawyers and lobbyists working the agency. The industry threatens lawsuits if it gets regulations it does not like, and is accommodating and friendly when it gets regulations it does like. In some cases, such as MMS, the relationship gets completely toxic and you get social events with industry representatives, including illegal drug use and sex. You get staff failing to collect millions of dollars in royalties owed to the American people. You get senior executives steering contracts to an outside company created by those executives. You get district managers telling investigators: Hey, obviously we are all oil industry. You get employees accepting gifts from the companies regulated by MMS, trips to the Peach Bowl on a private airplane, skeet shooting contests, hunting and fishing trips, golf tournaments.

You get an MMS inspector inspecting the oil drilling platforms of a company that he has a job application in with. While they are considering whether to hire him, he is inspecting their oil drilling rigs. I guess it comes as no surprise that in those oil rig inspections he found no violations. But that is an environment in which the regulatory agency has yielded to this long recognized problem of regulatory capture. So I think it is time we did something about it.

It is a doctrine that has been known for many years, and clearly both at the Securities and Exchange Commission and at MMS it has been realized, and it has been realized in ways that are extraordinarily painful and damaging for America. It has been realized in ways that are truly catastrophic—in one case, for our economy, in another case, for the environment of the gulf area.

What I have proposed is that we authorize the Attorney General of the United States, at the direction of the President or upon the invitation of a Cabinet official who senses a concern about that agency, to make a determination whether that agency is still truly independent of the industry it is supposed to regulate. If the President or the Cabinet official deemed that component no longer credibly independent of the corporation or the industry it is supposed to regulate, then the Attorney General is allowed to step in and clean up.

It is as simple as that. They would be charged to hire and fire and take personnel actions; to ensure the integrity of the personnel within the component; to establish interim regulations and procedures; to ensure the integrity of a process in the component of government. They would be charged to audit the permits and the contracts and ensure that the component of government has signed off on them legitimately, and if it appears that the permits or contracts have been affected by improper corporate influence, to recall them and renegotiate them so that they are done fairly and squarely and not a friendly negotiation in which both sides of the negotiation are, in effect, working for the industry and no one is representing the public interest. They would be charged to establish an integrity plan for that component and then to clear out once his or her job is done.

We have known about regulatory capture now for a century. We have seen it in action throughout that period. We have had two of the most catastrophic examples of regulatory capture happen just now on our watch, and in all this time we have never really come up with a mechanism for addressing it, because the pressure on these regulatory agencies is systemic, because it is constant and persistent, because it is done quietly. The industry doesn't come in and say: We are taking over. News flash to the world: This isn't going to be an independent agency any longer.

No. Quietly, as quietly as they can, they slip their tentacles deeper and deeper and deeper into the agency until they quietly control it—surreptitiously, stealthily, but they own it—and the interest that agency wants to serve is now the corporate interest and not the public interest.

So if we are going to face up to a problem that is that persistent, that constant, which has been recognized for a century and has recently yielded the two biggest disasters, economic and environmental, this country has recently seen, we have to create a persistent counterpressure. I think the threat of the Attorney General of the United States, our top law enforcement officer, coming in and cleaning house is that kind of persistent counterpressure we need.

So I urge my colleagues, as we discuss the different provisions we are going to bring to bear that are going to be our lessons learned from the gulf catastrophe, that we not overlook what is probably the biggest lesson of all: the lesson we have known for a long time about the problem of regulatory capture and the incidence of regulatory capture in these particular cases bearing such painful, damaging fruit, such bitter harvest for the American people.

I will continue to push. If colleagues have ideas they think would improve it, I would be delighted to discuss those ideas. I think we will have failed in our duty to the public if we do not take away from the financial disaster caused by the deliberately blind eye of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the catastrophe caused by the complete co-opt of MMS—if we don't take away from those the lesson that this can't be tolerated anymore.

Regulatory capture is no longer a theory; it has been proven to be a disastrous practice in at least those two agencies, and we don't know how many more agencies are in a similar position. The disaster may not yet have happened, but they may be just as captive. When you think of the billions and billions of dollars of taxpayer value in Federal land, in timber leases, in mining leases within the continental United States, in contrast with giant corporations; when you think of that huge pile of public wealth from which the giant corporations feed, it is hard to imagine they are not working just as hard to co-opt the regulators who protect that wealth as they work to successfully co-opt the regulators who are supposed to be watching the Wall Street financiers and who are supposed to be watching big oil as it drilled in the gulf.

So let's not overlook this lesson. I am willing to consider a lot of ideas that will help get us there. I put this out because it is the best one I have come up with yet, and I look forward to working with folks. It is too important that we don't go away from this having failed in our duty to protect the American public from the next disaster.

I thank the Presiding Officer.

I yield the floor, and I note the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO MARCA BRISTO

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor my dear friend Marca Bristo and recognize her work as a disability rights activist and the community-based disability agency, Access Living, that she founded 30 years ago in my home State of Illinois.

Access Living opened its doors in 1980 to ensure that people with disabilities had equal rights.

Three decades ago, people with disabilities faced a world of dependency. Even though Congress had enacted important legislation such as the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 to prevent discrimination and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 1975 to expand learning opportunities for those with disabilities, people with disabilities still lacked equal rights. Social prejudice fueled discrimination against people with disabilities in housing, employment and basic public accommodations. The concepts of independent living, wheelchair accessible public transportation and quality jobs were not yet part of everyday life.

Access Living was founded to insist on independent living options and higher quality of life for people with disabilities. The agency is governed and staffed by people with disabilities and operates under a fundamental belief that people with disabilities must become a political force if they are to effect social change. Marca Bristo, Access Living's president and CEO, knows that pride and commitment to social change is the most effective way to ensure that civil rights are enforced.

This passion stems from a personal experience. A diving accident at the Pratt Boulevard Beach pier left Marca partially paralyzed in 1977. Through this tragedy, she re-imagined her capabilities to work and thrive from a wheelchair. However, the adjustment was not always easy, because cultural and even physical barriers stood in her way.

Early in Marca's disability, the city of Chicago lacked curb cuts on public streets, which made it hard for her to travel up and down city blocks in her wheelchair. This restriction prevented Marca from accomplishing basic errands such as a trip to the grocery store or a pick-up from the dry cleaners and from using public transportation to commute to work.

Marca and Access Living's vision of equality led to architectural and attitudinal changes in the city of Chicago and throughout the country. Years of litigation led the Chicago Transit Authority to add wheelchair lifts to their mainline buses. The city has also incorporated scrolling marquees, audible street announcements and thousands of curb cuts to make transportation feasible for people with disabilities.

Beyond these physical changes, Marca has also worked tirelessly to break down cultural barriers and integrate people with disabilities into community life. Access Living's work fosters dignity, pride, and self-esteem in people with disabilities. With that in place, they can choose individualized, satisfying lives.

It turns out, I am not the only person who has been impressed by Marca's leadership and vision for change. She was appointed by President Clinton to chair the Nation Council on Disability. She was here, fully engaged in the fight, when Congress wrote the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. She has also served as president of the National Council on Independent Living and is currently president of the U.S. International Council on Disabilities—USICD.

But the ADA means only as much as its implementation. We have work to do eliminating discrimination in employment, public services and public accommodations in the United States. As the ADA turns 20 in this month, we recognize the law's and Access Living's work to increase the visibility of people with disabilities in our country.

We as a Nation should also look to be global leaders in this arena. Through her work with USICD, I am confident that Marca will continue to focus the energy, expertise and resources of the U.S. Government and disability community to improve the lives of people with disabilities worldwide.

Fair and equal treatment is a cornerstone of our society and political system. Access Living and Marca Bristo's dedication to ending discrimination against people with disabilities have improved the lives of families in Chicago and nationwide.

TRIBUTE TO KENTUCKY HONOR FLIGHT MEMBERS

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, today I rise to recognize 35 Kentucky veterans who recently came to Washington, DC to visit the memorial they helped to inspire. A few weeks ago, this group of distinguished men and women were able to visit our Nation's Capital, some for the first time, because of the Honor Flight Program.

The Bluegrass Honor Flight chapter has brought over 600 veterans from Kentucky to Washington, DC, providing these brave patriots the opportunity to see firsthand the memorial built in their honor. The program provides transportation, lodging and food for these veterans, who otherwise may not have been able to visit the Capital or the monuments they inspired.

These brave individuals answered the call to duty by stepping up when their Nation needed them most. The sacrifices they made were extraordinary. With unyielding commitment to our great Nation, these men and women bravely served and defended the freedom and rights that we cherish. The courage shown by America's veterans will be long appreciated and never forgotten. And after their years of service, I am proud to be able to honor them today.

I would ask that my colleagues join me in honoring these Kentucky veterans:

Dewey Abrams, Charles Adams, Geneva Andress, Algernon Rowland, Jim Booher, Ralph Brewer, George Capito, Paul Chandler, Donald Cooper, Roland Davis, Miram Dewart, Cecil Dunn, Charles Wilson, Harris Gibboney, George Hauck, Joe Hutchins, Gerald Kincaid, Robert Koegel, Anne Laing, John Fultz, William Malcolm, Edward Martin, Cecil McGee, Frank Milburn, Howell Moore, Kenneth Oster, Obie Owens, Reverend Thomas Pittman, John Krabbenhoft, Dewitt Rowland, Elmer Susemichel, Donald Thom, Roger Tyler, William Warde and Richard Zapp.

RECOGNIZING THE URSULINE SISTERS OF LOUISVILLE

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise today to bring to my colleagues' attention the work of the Ursuline Sisters of Louisville, which will soon receive a special recognition from the Commonwealth of Kentucky for their decades of service.

The Ursuline Sisters began their ministry in Kentucky in 1858 when three Sisters from Germany, led by Mother Salesia Reitmeier, answered a call to teach at St. Martin School in Louisville. Within 2 weeks of their arrival, the Sisters were teaching 50 students and had plans to construct a convent and boarding school on the corner of Chestnut and Shelby streets in Louisville, KY. The building was completed in 1859 and became the home of the Ursuline Academy. The new boarding school for girls offered classes from elementary through high school.

Soon the Ursuline Sisters were asked to operate and staff other schools. They established Sacred Heart Academy in 1877. Within 100 years of their establishment in Kentucky, the Ursuline Sisters had staffed or were staffing 23 parochial schools in the Louisville area, as well as schools in other States. They owned and operated Ursuline College, Ursuline Academy, Sacred Heart Academy, Sacred Heart Model School and the Ursuline Speech Clinic. The original Motherhouse and Convent for the Ursuline Sisters is located near the original school in downtown Louisville that was established by those three German immigrants 152 years ago and is listed in the National Park Service's National Register of Historic Places.

These Sisters serve as educators, spiritual ministers, health care professionals, and administrators. They operate programs for the poor and disenfranchised and continue to search for ways to assist others to grow personally and spiritually.

On July 25, 2010, the Ursuline Sisters' history of ministry and service will be recognized by the Commonwealth of Kentucky with the placement of a historical marker outside that original location on Chestnut Street. This marker will note the founding and mission of the Ursuline Sisters and inform people of the contributions these Sisters have made to the community.

While the true record of their good deeds will continue to be chronicled in a place not of this Earth, it is entirely appropriate for the Commonwealth to take note of the good work the Ursuline Sisters have done for my hometown. And I hope my colleagues will join me in congratulating the Ursuline Sisters for all their hard work of ministering to mind, body and spirit.

REMEMBERING SENATOR ROBERT C. BYRD

Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, I join with my colleagues today to express my profound and heartfelt sadness on the passing of Senator Robert C. Byrd, as the U.S. Senate, the people of West Virginia, and our entire Nation mourn the loss of a giant of public service—a distinguished, iconic legislator whose life and legacy will forever be synonymous with the greatest deliberative body the world has ever known.

Senator Byrd's counsel, wisdom, and knowledge of the Senate was unmatched and awe-inspiring. As the longest-serving Member of Congress and a former majority and minority leader of the Senate, Senator Byrd was time and again the conscience and champion of Congress and a vigorous and stalwart sentinel of the first branch of our government. Protector, steward, advocate, and guardian these descriptions only begin to convey Senator Byrd's lifelong commitment to the Senate in which he served for a record 51 years and an unprecedented nine terms.

No one fought more to ensure the preservation of the U.S. Senate and its constitutional prerogatives than Senator Byrd. No one was more masterful in comprehending and harnessing the powers of parliamentary procedure in the upper Chamber. No one was fiercer in battling against any encroachments that would dilute or diminish the role of Congress as a coequal branch of government. And no one possessed greater command of Senate history and used it to better effect than Senator Byrd, who himself authored a four-volume history of the Senate.

The same zeal with which Senator Byrd demonstrated his allegiance to the legislative branch was every bit as evident in his unshakable dedication to the U.S. Constitution itself—a pocket-sized copy of which he carried at all times. In fact, like many of my colleagues, I will never forget as a member of the ''Gang of 14,'' which was forged at a time when the very institution of the Senate was caught in the crosshairs of a struggle over judicial nominations, how each of us received a copy of the Constitution from Senator Byrd. With one symbolic gesture as only he could, Senator Byrd spoke volumes about the historic imperative that was ours to seize if we were to jettison the partisanship that threatened our Chamber.

Senator Byrd's reverence for history stemmed of course from the premium he placed on education, and as much as anyone who ever occupied a seat in the Senate, Senator Byrd exemplified the American story of the self-made individual. During his remarkable trajectory from humble beginnings in the southern coalfields of West Virginia, Senator Byrd was an ardent believer in learning not only as the great equalizer in American life, but as a catalyst for personal and professional success. A self-educated man, Senator Byrd's knowledge of Shakespeare, the Holy Bible, and the pillars of thought from Ancient Greece and Rome formed the basis of an eloquence and service that will reverberate not only in the hallowed Halls of Congress, but also throughout his beloved home State—which he served so passionately—for generations to come.

Indeed, his roots in West Virginia were ever-present and the indispensable lifeblood that spurred him to political and legislative heights that were the capstone of his landmark tenure in public service. Indisputably, he never forgot where he came from, and in fact, always remembered he stood on the shoulders of every West Virginian who sent him back to the U.S. Senate term after term. And as much as Senator Byrd revered Congress, the Constitution, and his fellow West Virginians, nowhere was his devotion greater than with his beloved Erma, his wife of nearly 69 years, and they now are finally together in their eternal resting place.

As a Senator from Maine, it is only fitting that I pay tribute to Senator Byrd by citing the opening lines by the immortal American poet and Son of Maine, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, that I so often heard him quote from memory on the Senate floor . . . ''Thou, too, sail on, O Ship of State!/Sail on, O Union, strong and great!/Humanity with all its fears, /With all the hopes of future years . . .'' Our Ship of State sails better for Senator Byrd's having lived, served, and led. But today, our Ship of State sails at a slower pace as we pause to pay our respects and mourn the loss of a man whose like we will never see again. The Senate will not be the same without the Senator from West Virginia, Robert C. Byrd.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to my friend and dear colleague, Senator Robert C. Byrd, who left us on Monday, June 28, 2010 at the age of 92. Senator Byrd was the longest serving member of the Senate. It is noteworthy that he was sworn in as a U.S. Senator on January 3, 1959, the same day Alaska was admitted as the 49th State.

How does one do justice to a life as full, as human, as authentic, as uniquely American as that of Senator Byrd's in just a few minutes? Born in poverty, a self-described foster son of an impoverished coal miner, a product of a two-room schoolhouse, he went on to walk with kings, to meet with prime ministers, and to debate with Presidents. Only in America could one come so far from so little. His is a textbook case of American exceptionalism.

Robert C. Byrd was a man of principle who was unwavering in his priorities. The Lord came first, his family second, and then the business of West Virginia and Nation. Senator Byrd was remarkable in that he could juggle all of these obligations with apparent ease.

He was a man who carried the Constitution in his breast pocket, closest to his heart. A fierce protector of the prerogatives of the Senate, he frequently recalled that the Congress is mentioned in the Constitution before the Executive. He once remarked, ''I am not the President's man. I am a Senate man.''

So many of our colleagues take delight in this quote from The Almanac of American Politics and it bears repeating. The Almanac described Senator Byrd as the one among us who ''may come closest to the kind of senator the Founding Fathers had in mind than any other.''

On the occasion of his 90th birthday, Senator Ted Stevens referred to Senator Byrd as a ''symbol of the Senate,'' adding that, ''No man has taught the Senate more than Robert C. Byrd.''

Senator Byrd made it his personal responsibility to educate new Senators in the history and traditions of the Senate and to mentor us along. He made a real difference in my orientation to the Senate. His statesmanship was an inspiration to me. It was an inspiration to all of us.

As contentious as our debates may seem, as partisan as we often seem to the American public, the Senate prefers to regard itself as a family. Yes, a family that fights, but a family nonetheless.

Senator Stevens once observed, ''As part of the Senate family, Senator Byrd is not only a gentleman, he has been a person who has reached out to us in personal times as well.''

I came to know that well after I injured my leg in a skiing accident last year. For a period of time I had to navigate the Senate floor in a wheelchair. The Senate floor is not exactly wheelchair friendly, but Senator Byrd had adapted to the challenge. One day, as we were going to the floor to vote, our wheelchairs met and we reached

out to hold hands as we wheeled our chairs to the well of the Senate.

Like Ted, I loved Robert C. Byrd. Yet I regret that I never had the opportunity to enjoy the close friendship that my colleague Ted Stevens did.

Yes, they had their spats, but Senator Stevens and Senator Byrd regarded each other as family. Senator Stevens' daughter Lily referred to Senator Byrd as an uncle. Senator Byrd published in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD excerpts from Lily's senior thesis from Stanford, ''The Message of the Dome: The United States Capitol in the Popular Media.''

Senator Stevens began working with Senator Byrd in 1968. In 1972, they joined each other on the Senate Appropriations Committee. Both served as President pro tempore of the Senate, a position reserved for the most senior Member of the Senate in the majority party. Yet as Senator Byrd liked to note, Ted was a relative youngster.

Working together on a bipartisan basis, Ted Stevens helped Robert Byrd lift West Virginia out of poverty. And Senator Byrd demonstrated great empathy for Senator Stevens' crusade to end the third-world conditions that plague Alaska's Native people in the more than more than 230 traditional villages of rural Alaska. Like the West Virginia of Robert Byrd's childhood, rural Alaska lacked the sorts of infrastructure that the rest of America takes for granted—lack of road infrastructure, a lack of basic sanitation facilities, unreliable electricity, and unemployment.

This may explain why Senator Byrd was greatly sympathetic to Senator Stevens' crusade to bring indoor plumbing to rural Alaska, to eliminate the honeybucket. Alaska's Denali Commission was modeled closely after the Appalachian Regional Commission, which Senator Byrd championed for decades.

Ted Stevens and Robert Byrd worked together to make things better for the people of rural Alaska. Our Native people deeply appreciate the Alaska legacy of Robert C. Byrd.

On the occasion of Senator Stevens' farewell from the Senate in 2008, a tearful Robert C. Byrd came to the Senate floor and said this ''Politics is a rough business, with lots of highs and lots of lows. After a long time in politics, I come to understand that the point of it all is helping people. Thank God we will be judged in the next world by the good we do in this world.''

On Monday, our dear friend, Senator Byrd, joined his beloved wife Erma in Heaven, where he will be judged by all of the good he has done for his Lord, his family, the people of West Virginia, and the Nation. I will miss him greatly.

On behalf of Alaska's people, I extend my condolences to Senator Byrd's daughters Mona and Marjorie, his five grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren, to the people of West Virginia, and to all who knew and loved this great American.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, another 8 months have passed, and more American troops have lost their lives overseas in Iraq and Afghanistan. I wish to honor their service and sacrifice by including their names in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

Since I last included the names of our fallen troops on November 2, 2009, the Pentagon has announced the deaths of 313 troops in Iraq and in Operation Enduring Freedom, which includes Afghanistan. They will not be forgotten, and today I submit their names into the RECORD:

SSG Jesse W. Ainsworth, of Dayton, TX; SGT Donald R. Edgerton, of Murphy, NC; SPC Joseph W. Dimock II, of Wildwood, IL; SPC Robert W. Crow, of Kansas City, MO; PFC Anthony W. Simmons, of Tallahassee, FL; PFC Michael S. Pridham, of Louisville, KY; SPC Roger Lee, of Monterey, CA; SSG Marc A. Arizmendez, of Anaheim, CA; SPC Jerod H. Osborne, of Royse City, TX; SPC Keenan A. Cooper, of Wahpeton, ND; PFC Jacob A. Dennis, of Powder Springs, GA; SGT Andrew J. Creighton, of Laurel, DE; SSG Christopher F. Cabacoy, of Virginia Beach, VA; PFC Edwin C. Wood, of Omaha, NE; SGT Jordan E. Tuttle, of West Monroe, LA; PFC David Jefferson, of Philadelphia, PA; SPC Clayton D. McGarrah, of Harrison, AR; SPC Louis R. Fastuca, of West Chester, PA; Capt. David A. Wisniewski, of Moville, IA; PFC Ryan J. Grady, of Bristow, OK.

SGT Johnny W. Lumpkin, of Columbus, GA; SPC Morganne M. McBeth, of Fredricksburg, VA; SFC Kristopher D. Chapleau, of LaGrange, KY; Cpl Larry D. Harris Jr., of Thornton, CO; SPC Matthew R. Hennigan, of Las Vegas, NV; SSG Brandon M. Silk, of Orono, ME; SGT David W. Thomas, of St. Petersburg, FL; SSG Eric B. Shaw, of Exeter, ME; SGT David A. Holmes, of Tennille, GA; PFC Bryant J. Haynes, of Epps, LA; SGT John M. Rogers, of Scottsdale, AZ; PFC Robert K. L. Repkie, of Knoxville, TN; LCpl William T. Richards, of Trenton, GA; PFC Russell E. Madden, of Dayton, KY; Cpl Daane A. Deboer, of Ludington, MI; SPC Jared C. Plunk, of Stillwater, OK; SPC Blair D. Thompson, of Rome, NY; Sgt Joseph D. Caskey, of Pittsburgh, PA; SSG Edwardo Loredo, of Houston, TX; 1SG Robert N. Barton, of Roxie, MS.

SPC Russell E. Madden, of Dayton, KY; PFC Anthony T. Justesen, of Wilsonville, OR; Cpl Joshua R. Dumaw, of Spokane Valley, WA; Cpl Kevin A. Cueto, of San Jose, CA; Cpl Claudio Patino IV, of Yorba Linda, CA; SGT Andrew R. Looney, of Owasso, OK; PFC David T. Miller, of Wilton, NY; 1SG Eddie Turner, of Fort Belvoir, VA; SPC Jacob P. Dohrenwend, of Milford, OH; LCpl Timothy G. Serwinowski, of North Tonawanda, NY; SPC Scott A. Andrews, of Fall River, MA; SSG James P. Hunter, of South Amherst, OH; PFC Benjamin J. Park, of Fairfax Station, VA; SPC Nathan W. Cox, of Fremont, CA; PFC Gunnar R. Hotchkin, of Naperville, IL; SPC Joseph D. Johnson, of Flint, MI; CPT Michael P. Cassidy, of Simpsonville, SC; SN William Ortega, of Miami, FL; SPC Benjamin D. Osborn, of Queensbury, NY; LCpl Michael C. Bailey, of Park Hills, MO.

Cpl Jeffrey R. Standfest, of St. Clair, MI; SPC Blaine E. Redding, of Plattsmouth, NE; SPC Charles S. Jirtle, of Lawton, OK; SPC Matthew R. Catlett, of Houston, TX; SGT Joshua A. Lukeala, of Yigo, GU; SPC Christopher W. Opat, of Spencer, IA; SPC Brian M. Anderson, of Harrisonburg, VA; SGT Mario Rodriguez, of Smithville, TX; SPC Christian M. Adams, of Sierra Vista, AZ; CPL William C. Yauch, of Batesville, AR; SGT Israel P. Obryan, of Newbern, TN; SSG Bryan A. Hoover, of West Elizabeth, PA; SFC Robert J. Fike, of Conneautville, PA; LCpl Gavin R. Brummund, of Arnold, CA; LCpl Michael G. Plank, of Cameron Mills, NY; SrA Benjamin D. White, of Erwin, TN; SSgt David C. Smith, of Eight Mile, AL; 1st Lt. Joel C. Gentz, of Grass Lake, MI; SSgt Michael P. Flores, of San Antonio, TX; SGT Erick J. Klusacek, of Calcium, NY.

Sgt Zachary J. Walters, of Palm Coast, FL; Sgt Derek L. Shanfield, of Hastings, PA; SGT Steve M. Theobald, of Goose Creek, SC; SPC Brendan P. Neenan, of Enterprise, AL; Sgt John K. Rankel, of Speedway, IN; 2LT Michael E. McGahan, of Orlando, FL; Cpl Donald M. Marler, of St. Louis, MO; LCpl Derek Hernandez, of Edinburg, TX; Sgt Brandon C. Bury, of Kingwood, TX; 1LT Joseph J. Theinert, of Sag Harbor, NY; PVT Francisco J. Guardado-Ramirez, of Sunland Park, NM; SPC Jonathan K. Peney, of Marietta, GA; PFC Alvaro R. Regalado Sessarego, of Virginia Beach, VA; PFC Jake W. Suter, of Los Angeles, CA; LCpl Anthony A. Dilisio, of Macomb, MI; Cpl Jacob C. Leicht, of College Station, TX; SGT Edwin Rivera, of Waterford, CT; MAJ Ronald W. Culver Jr., of Shreveport, LA; PFC Christopher R. Barton, of Concord, NC; SSG Amilcar H. Gonzalez, of Miami, FL.

SPC Stanley J. Sokolowski III, of Ocean, NJ; PFC Jason D. Fingar, of Columbia, MO; LCpl Philip P. Clark, of Gainesville, FL; PFC Billy G. Anderson, of Alexandria, TN; SSG Shane S. Barnard, of Desmet, SD; LCpl Patrick Xavier Jr., of Pembroke Pines, FL; SPC Joshua A. Tomlinson, of Dubberly, LA; SSgt Richard J. Tieman, of Waynesboro, PA; LTC Thomas P. Belkofer, of Perrysburg, OH; LTC Paul R. Bartz, of Waterloo, WI; COL John M. McHugh, of West Caldwell, NJ; SSgt Adam L. Perkins, of Antelope, CA; Cpl Nicholas D. Paradarodriguez, of Stafford, VA; PO3 Zarian Wood, of Houston, TX; SGT Denis D. Kisseloff, of Saint Charles, MO; Sgt Joshua D. Desforges, of Ludlow, MA; Sgt Donald J. Lamar II, of Fredericksburg, VA; Sgt Kenneth B. May, Jr., of Kilgore, TX; Cpl Jeffrey W. Johnson, of Tomball, TX; SPC Jeremy L. Brown, of McMinnville, TN.

Cpl Kurt S. Shea, of Frederick, MD; CPT Kyle A. Comfort, of Jacksonville, AL; LCpl Christopher Rangel, of San Antonio, TX; LCpl Joshua M. Davis, of Perry, IA; SSG Esau S.A. Gonzales, of White Deer, TX; LCpl Richard R. Penny, of Fayetteville, AK; SPC Wade A. Slack, of Waterville, ME; SPC Eric M. Finniginam, of Colonia, FM; 1st Lt. Brandon A. Barrett, of Marion, IN; MSG Mark W. Coleman, of Centerville, WA; SGT Ralph Mena, of Hutchinson, KS; A1C Austin H. Gates Benson, of Hellertown, PA; SGT Anthony O. Magee, of Hattiesburg, MS; 1LT Salvatore S. Corma, of Wenonah, NJ; SGT Nathan P. Kennedy, of Claysville, PA; SGT Keith A. Coe, of Auburndale, FL; SGT Grant A. Wichmann, of Golden, CO; LCpl Thomas E. Rivers, Jr., of Birmingham, AL; SGT Jason A. Santora, of Farmingville, NY; SGT Ronald A. Kubik, of Brielle, NJ.

SSG Christopher D. Worrell, of Virginia Beach, VA; CSM John K. Laborde, of Waterloo, IA; SGT Robert J. Barrett, of Fall River, MA; PFC Charlie C. Antonio, of Kahului, HI; SSG James R. Patton, of Fort Benning, GA; SGT Michael K. Ingram, Jr., of Monroe, MI; SGT Randolph A. Sigley, of Richmond, KY; PFC Jonathon D. Hall, of Chattanooga, TN; CPL Michael D. Jankiewicz, of Ramsey, NJ; SPC Joseph T. Caron, of Tacoma, WA; SGT Sean M. Durkin, of Aurora, CO; SGT Roberto E. Diaz Borio, of San Juan, PR; PFC William A. Blount, of Petal, MS; 1LT Robert W. Collins, of Tyrone, GA; SMSgt James B. Lackey, of Green Clove Springs, FL; Maj. Randell

D. Voas, of Lakeville, MN; SGT Kurt E. Kruize, of Hancock, MN; LCpl Curtis M. Swenson, of Rochester, MN; SSG Scott W. Brunkhorst, of Fayetteville, NC; Sgt Frank J. World, of Buffalo, NY.

LCpl Tyler O. Griffin, of Voluntown, CT; LT Miroslav Zilberman, of Columbus, OH; PFC Raymond N. Pacleb, of Honolulu, HI; SPC James L. Miller, of Yakima, WA; LCpl Randy M. Heck, of Steubenville, OH; LCpl Jacob A. Ross, of Gillette, WY; LCpl Rick J. Centanni, of Yorba Linda, CA; SgtMaj Robert J. Cottle, of Whittier, CA; SFC Carlos M. Santos-Silva, of Clarksville, TN; LCpl Justin J. Wilson, of Palm City, FL; SPC Robert M. Rieckhoff, of Kenosha, WI; CPO Adam Brown, of Hot Springs, AR; SGT Joel D. Clarkson, of Fairbanks, AK; GySgt Robert L. Gilbert II, of Richfield, OH; SSG Richard J. Jordan, of Tyler, TX; SPC Steven J. Bishop, of Christiansburg, VA; SFC Glen J. Whetten, of Mesa, AZ; PFC Erin L. McLyman, of Federal Way, WA; Cpl Jonathan D. Porto, of Largo, FL; LCpl Garrett W. Gamble, of Sugarland, TX.

PFC Jason M. Kropat, of White Lake, NY; SGT Jonathan J. Richardson, of Bald Knob, AR; PVT Nicholas S. Cook, of Hungry Horse, MT; SPC Lakeshia M. Bailey, of Columbus, GA; SGT Aaron M. Arthur, of Lake City, SC; SPC Alan N. Dikcis, of Niagara Falls, NY; SGT Anthony A. Paci, of Rockville, MD; LCpl Nigel K. Olsen, of Orem, UT; SGT Vincent L.C. Owens, of Fort Smith, AR; LCpl Carlos A. Aragon, of Orem, UT; SPC Ian T.D. Gelig, of Stevenson Ranch, CA; SPC Matthew D. Huston, of Athens, GA; SPC Josiah D. Crumpler, of Hillsborough, NC; SSG William S. Ricketts, of Corinth, MS; SGT William C. Spencer, of Tacoma, WA; CPL Daniel T. O'Leary, of Youngsville, NC; SGT Marcos Gorra, of North Bergen, NJ; CW2 Billie J. Grinder, of Gallatin, TN; CPT Marcus R. Alford, of Knoxville, TN; PFC JR Salvacion, of Ewa Beach, HI.

LCpl Eric L. Ward, of Redmond, WA; LCpl Matthias N. Hanson, of Buffalo, KY; SSG Michael David P. Cardenaz, of Corona, CA; SSgt Christopher W. Eckard, of Hickory, NC; LCpl Adam D. Peak, of Florence, KY; Cpl Gregory S. Stultz, of Brazil, IN; LCpl Joshua H. Birchfield, of Westville, IN; Sgt Jeremy R. McQueary, of Columbus, IN; LCpl Kielin T. Dunn, of Chesapeake, VA; LCpl Larry M. Johnson, of Scranton, PA; PFC Kyle J. Coutu, of Providence, RI; PFC Charles A. Williams, of Fair Oaks, CA; PFC Eric D. Currier, of Londonderry, NH; LCpl Alejandro J. Yazzie, of Rock Point, AZ; SPC Bobby J. Pagan, of Austin, TX; SGT Jeremiah T. Wittman, of Darby, MT; SSG John A. Reiners, of Lakeland, FL; PO1 Sean L. Caughman, of Fort Worth, TX; LCpl Noah M. Pier, of Charlotte, NC; PFC Jason H. Estopinal, of Dallas, GA.

Cpl Jacob H. Turbett, of Canton, MI; PFC Adriana Alvarez, of San Benito, TX; SGT Adam J. Ray, of Louisville, KY; SGT Dillon B. Foxx, of Traverse City, MI; SSG Mark A. Stets, of El Cajon, CA; SFC Matthew S. Sluss-Tiller, of Callettsburg, KY; SFC David J. Hartman, of Okinawa, Japan; PFC Zachary G. Lovejoy, of Albuquerque, NM; CPT Daniel Whitten, of Grimes, IA; SSG Rusty H. Christian, of Greenville, TN; LCpl Michael L. Freeman Jr., of Fayetteville, PA; SPC Marc P. Decoteau, of Waterville Valley, NH; CPT David J. Thompson, of Hooker, OK; Sgt David J. Smith, of Frederick, MD; PFC Scott G. Barnett, of Concord, CA; SGT Carlos E. Gill, of Fayetteville, NC; LCpl Zachary D. Smith, of Hornell, NY; LCpl Timothy J. Poole, of Bowling Green, KY; Sgt Daniel M. Angus, of Thonotosassa, FL; LCpl Jeremy M. Kane, of Towson, MD.

PO2 Xin Qi, of Cordova, TN; PFC Gifford E. Hurt, of Yonkers, NY; SSG Thaddeus S. Montgomery II, of West Yellowstone, MT; CPT Paul Pena, of San Marcos, TX; SFC Michael P. Shannon, of Canadensis, PA; TSgt Adam K. Ginett, of Knightdale, NC; SPC Robert Donevski, of Sun City, AZ; SSG Anton R. Phillips, of Inglewood, CA; PFC Geoffrey A. Whitsitt, of Taylors, SC; SSG Daniel D. Merriweather, of Collierville, TN; SGT Lucas T. Beachnaw, of Lowell, MI; Sgt Christopher R. Hrbek, of Westwood, NJ; SPC Kyle J. Wright, of Romeoville, IL; Cpl Nicholas K. Uzenski, of Tomball, TX; Cpl Jamie R. Lowe, of Johnsonville, IL; SSgt Matthew N. Ingham, of Altoona, PA; PFC Michael R. Jarrett, of North Platte, NE; LCpl Jacob A. Meinert, of Fort Atkinson, WI; LCpl Mark D. Juarez, of San Antonio, TX; SFC Jason O. B. Hickman, of Kingsport, TN.

SPC David A. Croft Jr., of Plant City, FL; PFC John P. Dion, of Shattuck, OK; SPC Brian R. Bowman, of Crawfordsville, IN; SGT Joshua A. Lengstorf, of Yoncalla, OR; SrA Bradley R. Smith, of Troy, IL; SPC Brushaun X. Anderson, of Columbus, GA; SSG Ronald J. Spino, of Waterbury, CT; SPC Jason M. Johnston, of Albion, NY; SSG David H. Gutierrez, of San Francisco, CA; LCpl Omar G. Roebuck, of Moreno Valley, CA; SGT Albert D. Ware, of Chicago, IL; PFC Serge Kropov, of Hawley, PA; TSgt Anthony C. Campbell Jr., of Florence, KY; PVT Jhanner A. Tello, of Los Angeles, CA; PFC Jaiciae L. Pauley, of Austell, GA; Sgt Ralph Anthony Webb Freitas, of Detroit, MI; SSG Dennis J. Hansen, of Panama City, FL; Cpl Xhacob Latorre, of Waterbury, CT; SGT Elijah J. Rao, of Lake Oswego, OR; SGT Kenneth R. Nichols Jr., of Chrisman, IL.

LCpl Jonathan A. Taylor, of Jacksonville, FL; PFC Derrick D. Gwaltney, of Cape Coral, FL; SGT Brandon T. Islip, of Richmond, VA; PO3 David M. Mudge, of Sutherlin, OR; PFC Michael A. Rogers, of White Sulphur Springs, MT; SGT Jason A. McLeod, of Crystal Lake, IL; SSG Matthew A. Pucino, of Cockeysville, MD; PFC Marcus A. Tynes, of Moreno Valley, CA; SGT James M. Nolen, of Alvin, TX; SGT Briand T. Williams, of Sparks, GA; LCpl Nicholas J. Hand, of Kansas City, MO; SGT Daniel A. Frazier, of Saint Joseph, MI; SSG John J. Cleaver, of Marysville, WA; PO2 Brian M. Patton, of Freeport, IL; SPC Joseph M. Lewis, of Terrell, TX; SSG Ryan L. Zorn, of Upton, WY; SGT Benjamin W. Sherman, of Plymouth, MA; SPC Christopher J. Coffland, of Baltimore, MD; Cpl Shawn P. Hefner, of Hico, TX; SSgt Stephen L. Murphy, of Jaffery, NH.

LCpl Justin J. Swanson, of Anaheim, CA; CW2 Earl R. Scott III, of Jacksonville, FL; CW2 Mathew C. Heffelfinger of Kimberly, ID; Sgt Charles I. Cartwright, of Union Bridge, MD; SPC Gary L. Gooch Jr., of Ocala, FL; SPC Aaron S. Aamot, of Custer, WA; SPC Tony Carrasco Jr., of Berino, NM; SSG Amy C. Tirador, of Albany, NY; SPC Julian L. Berisford, of Benwood, WV; SPC David A. Croft Jr., of Plant City, FL; Sgt Cesar B. Ruiz, of San Antonio, TX; SPC Jonathon M. Sylvestre, of Colorado Springs, CO; SPC Christopher M. Cooper, of Oceanside, CA.

We cannot forget these men and women and their great sacrifice. These brave individuals left behind parents, spouses, children, siblings, and friends. We want them to know this country pledges to preserve the memory of our fallen soldiers who gave their lives for our country.

PRIVATE FIRST CLASS EDWIN C. WOOD

Mr. NELSON of Nebraska. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Private First Class Edwin C. Wood of Omaha, NE.

Private First Class Wood was an ''All-American kid,'' who dreamed of one day serving his country. That opportunity came in October 2009 when he enlisted in the U.S. Army and became a cavalry scout for the 1st Squadron, 71st Armor Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team of the 10th Mountain Division, based in Fort Drum, NY.

A graduate of Omaha North High School, Private First Class Wood, better known as Eddie or Freckles, spent his time growing up as a member of the Boy Scouts and Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps a military reenactor and a junior counselor at YMCA Camp Pokamoke in Crescent, IA. He was a role model to all who knew him.

Private First Class Wood had just gotten back to Afghanistan, after being home on leave in June, when the truck he was driving on July 5, 2010, was hit by an improvised explosive device. The explosion took this brave young man's life, along with that of another soldier, SSG Christopher F. Cabacoy.

Although he was only in the service for a short time, Private First Class Wood's awards and decorations include the Army Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, and Combat Action Badge.

PFC Edwin C. Wood served his country honorably and made the ultimate sacrifice for his fellow Americans. His courageous choice to protect his country and help the people of Afghanistan achieve peace and security represents all that we can be proud of in our armed forces. I know I join all Nebraskans in grieving the loss of Private Wood; he will be remembered for the selfless hero he was. Private First Class Wood's family and friends remain in our thoughts and prayers.

CORPORAL TODD NICELY

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I rise today to honor U.S. Marine Cpl Todd Nicely, of Arnold, MO—a true American hero.

Corporal Nicely is greatly admired by his fellow marines—and when you hear his story you will admire him too.

As a marine, Corporal Nicely brought the fight to the terrorists in Afghanistan, so our families in Missouri and across the Nation could live in peace and security.

But what makes Corporal Nicely an American hero is not only his leadership on the battlefield but also his leadership here at home.

On March 26, 2010, Corporal Nicely and his fellow marines were on a foot patrol in Helmand province—one of the most dangerous regions in Afghanistan—when he stepped on an improvised explosive device, triggering a devastating explosion. When Corporal Nicely woke up, he realized that all four of his limbs were lost in the blast.

Instead of defeat, however, Corporal Nicely faced his injuries with the same warrior spirit he showed on the battlefield. This brave marine has astounded many with his swift progress—evidence of his unwavering spirit and courage

among overwhelming odds. Corporal Nicely remains one of the few surviving quadruple amputees from the war in Iraq and Afghanistan.

At Bethesda Naval Hospital and Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Corporal Nicely has endured—and surpassed—these odds with the love and support of his lovely wife Crystal, who also served her country as a marine. His story, courage and unwavering service make me proud to be an American. Our prayers and thoughts are with Corporal Nicely and his family, and I ask unanimous consent that this poem—penned in honor of this great American, by Bert Caswell—be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

MORE, THAN A MAN

More. . . .
More, Than!
More, Than A Man!
As once Nicely, you so ran!
Like a deer . . .
As once you stood. . . .
So Strong and Proud, as you so would!
For all that was right, and good!
As to greatness, your fine heart so ran. . . .
As a United States Marine, as upon battlefields of honor seen . . .
Burning Bold, Burning Bright . . . as into that darkness, bringing your light!
As all of your Brother's hearts, you'd ignite! Oh how you so gleamed!
As there you so led, while gently holding your Brothers In Arms . . . as they died and bled!
Until that moment . . . when it all so changed . . .
As you awoke, as the tears running down your most heroic eyes so spoke!
So spoke, of all your loss and pain . . . and yet somehow inside of you, still hope remained!
Todd, Nicely done!
As you knew things would never be the same . . .
As when, all in that moment you'd became!
More, Than A Man!
As when you so chose to rise, and get up . . . and run once again!
But, now at greater speeds!
With but your fine heart and soul, you United States Marine . . . to lead!
While all along, held in our Lord's arms . . . as your new battle so convened!
For some, are placed on this earth!
To bless us all, all in their courage and fine worth!
Such Angels, by our Lord God . . . to show us all what so comes first!
To Teach Us! To Beseech Us!
To all our hearts and souls, To So Reach Us!
For there is no Missouri Compromise, in this Marine!
Uhraaah Jar Head because you've got mountains to climb . . . dreams to dream!
As now high above all of us, you are so seen!
As your gait has gotten stronger . . .
And you stride so much more faster, and so much longer . . .
As you've become stronger, in your faith that belongs here . . . as the days have gotten longer!
As you've become, More, Than A Man!
With but your divine acceptance and grace, as you have put such tears upon our face!
How can such strength be explained?
As it's clear, yea Marine . . . You Are More Than A Man!
Showing us all, that arms and legs we all need!
But, we can survive . . . but without a heart, we will so surely die!
And if I could, but have a Son . . . as bright as you, this one!
Then, what a gift to this our world . . . I would leave!
For in the night as you sleep, our Lord's tears from Heaven fall upon you to so keep!
To so keep you safe and strong, for your life is like a song!
To lift us all up where we belong!
I ask, could we but have such the strength like you, and your family for how you stand!
And one fine day, as when up in Heaven you all so meet . . . our Lord will repeat . . .
''Uhraaah Marine, you've been promoted to an Angel so very sweet . . . Nicely Done!''
For in Heaven you need not arms and legs, we need Marines like you . . . to evil to defeat!
Men like you, Who are More Than A Man!

SPECIALIST CLAYTON D. MCGARRAH

Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, today I honor SPC Clayton D. McGarrah, 20, of Harrison, who died July 4, 2010, in Arghandab, Afghanistan, in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. According to initial reports, Specialist McGarrah died of injuries sustained when an improvised explosive device detonated near his dismounted patrol, followed by small arms and rocket-propelled grenade fire.

As Arkansans and Americans gathered together to celebrate our freedom, SPC Clayton D. McGarrah made the ultimate sacrifice on behalf of our Nation. My heart goes out to his family for their loss. Along with all Arkansans, I am grateful for Specialist McGarrah's service and for the service and sacrifice of all of our military servicemembers and their families. I am committed to ensuring they have the full support they need and deserve. Our grateful Nation will not forget them when their military service is complete.

Specialist McGarrah was assigned to C Company, 2nd Battalion, 508th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, NC. His wife and parents reside in Harrison.

More than 11,000 Arkansans on Active Duty and more than 10,000 Arkansas Reservists have served in Iraq or Afghanistan since September 11, 2001. These men and women have shown tremendous courage and perseverance through the most difficult of times.As neighbors, as Arkansans, and as Americans, it is incumbent upon us to do everything we can to honor their service and to provide for them and their families, not only when they are in harm's way but also when they return home. It is the least we can do for those whom we owe so much.

VOTE EXPLANATION

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I regret that on July 12, 2010, I was unable to vote on the confirmation of Sharon Johnson Coleman, of Illinois, to be U.S. District Judge for the Northern District because my flight from Kansas City was delayed. I wish to address this vote, so that the people of the great State of Kansas, who elected me to serve them as U.S. Senator, may know my position. I would have voted in favor of this confirmation.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

ANNUAL VIBORG DANISH VIKING DAYS

• Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to the Viborg annual Danish Viking Days celebration.

The Viborg community showed its unity in 1999 when the Danish Days Committee began developing the Avenue of Flags. Over 100 flags are displayed on holidays to commemorate veterans and individuals from the area.

Named after Viborg, Denmark, this South Dakota town has maintained its ties to its Danish past. Following the notable feature of their Danish counterpart, the people of Viborg built Our Savior's Lutheran Church on the town's highest point in 1911. When a post office and store were first established in this area, it was known as Daneville. With the coming of the railroad, Viborg was constructed half a mile away, and Daneville slowly ceased. Regardless of the town name, the Danish traditions remained in the area.

Originally, Danish Days were celebrated to coincide with Denmark's Independence Day on June 5 but has now been moved to the third weekend in July. This year's events are July 16 to 18. It will include a presentation by Joy Ibsen on her new book of stories from Viborg, a parade, a golf tournament, an all-school reunion, and plenty of food. There will also be the 17th annual Leadership Luncheon, which starts the festival. The luncheon honors accomplishments in Viborg. Since 2003, this has included the Friends of Viborg Award. This year, the honor goes to the Viborg Public School's past and current teachers, administrators, employees, and board members to recognize their notable contributions to the community. I am proud to recognize the recipients and would like to join with the committee in sharing my appreciation for all these people have done.•

BIG STONE CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA

• Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to the 125th anniversary of Big Stone City. This picturesque town has made it 125 years, and I am proud to represent them.

Big Stone City is bordered by Big Stone Lake in South Dakota and the State of Minnesota. Originally the site of an Indian village called Inkpa, the first settlers arrived in 1871. In 1875, this new town, then called Inkpa City, was chosen for a post office. Another small town, Geneva, was also formed during that time, located to the northeast of Inkpa City. In 1885, the two

towns were consolidated and Big Stone City was incorporated.

Religion was an integral part of the founding of Big Stone City. The first sermon was preached in 1879, before the town had even been incorporated. The German Evangelical Church was built in 1880, with at least three additional churches following in the next 3 years. The first mass in the territory was celebrated in Big Stone City. The first school was opened in 1880, with a charge of $1 per student for each month. In 1900, the school was upgraded from a small prairie school to a much larger brick building. In 1913, plans were made to run the Milwaukee Railroad through Big Stone City. With industries of brick manufacturing, limestone, food canning, and a creamery, Big Stone City has a unique and varied past.

Residents of Big Stone City joined together July 9 to 11, 2010, to honor their historic milestone with a weekend full of festivities. The town celebrated with dances, a chili cookoff, an all-school reunion, a parade, and more. I am proud to recognize Big Stone City on this achievement, and I look forward to seeing what the future holds for this great South Dakota community.●

DUPREE, SOUTH DAKOTA

● Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to the 100th anniversary of the founding of Dupree, SD, one of many communities on the Cheyenne River Indian Reservation. This hearty town is the county seat of Ziebach County and has withstood recent tornadoes to come out stronger.

Named after a young Canadian fur trader named Fred Dupris, the spelling changed to conform to the people's preference. With two train stations, Dupree became a popular area to homestead. Dupree's vision statement nicely sums up the town. ''Dupree is the front door to the West. It has a rich heritage; is full of wide open spaces, and home for family and friends—the kind of place people want to hang their hat.'' Small towns like Dupree are the backbone of South Dakota, embodying the values our State hold dear.

Dupree will celebrate with a 3 day wagon and trail ride, a parade, a powwow, a demolition derby, and more. They are also selling tickets to a raffle for a Limited Edition Dupree Centennial Rifle. A rodeo will conclude the weekend celebration. I would like to recognize Dupree on this historic milestone, and I wish its citizens the best on their future.●

TRIBUTE TO JEFFREY HIRSCHBERG AND JOAQUIN BLAYA

● Mr. KAUFMAN. Mr. President, today, I wish to express my appreciation to two members of the Broadcasting Board of Governors, whose terms have come to an end. During their 8 years of exceptional service on the BBG, Jeff Hirschberg and Joaquin Blaya have contributed to ensuring the relevance and timeliness of international broadcasting. Both Jeff and Joaquin have served the nation's international broadcasting mission with great honor and commitment. Their unique contributions have resulted in a robust enhancement of U.S. international broadcasting in critical regions at crucial times.

Jeffrey Hirschberg, who served on the board since 2002, brought his deep experience in government and the private sector to bear during his tenure on the board. Previously, he served in the U.S. Attorney General's Office as special counsel and assistant U.S. attorney, and later, as an attorney in private practice. While on the BBG, he applied his vast knowledge and understanding of the Soviet Union and Russia he acquired during his tenure as Director of the U.S.-Russian Investment Fund, a member of the U.S.-Russia Center for Entrepreneurship, and Director of the U.S.-Russia Business Council, to greatly improve programming in Russia and former Soviet states.

Joaquin Blaya, who also joined the board in 2002, brought to the BBG his vast experience in broadcasting as former chairman of Radio Unica, as CEO of Telemundo, and as president of Univision. In fact, Joaquin founded Radio Unica and oversaw its operations as it became the first 24-hour Spanish language radio network, reaching approximately 80 percent of the Spanish-speaking population in the United States. His vision and conviction as a member of the BBG resulted in improved programming on Radio Marti, and a ground-breaking television programming in the Middle East via Al Hurrah, which is the most widely viewed channel in Iraq today.

As U.S. international broadcasting begins this new chapter in its history, I want to convey my utmost respect and appreciation to Jeff Hirschberg and Joaquin Blaya for their honorable service and vision as members of the BBG.●

CONGRATULATING EDWARD COLEMAN LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE GRADUATES

● Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, today I congratulate the staff, volunteers, and participants of the Striving Toward A New Direction Foundation, or STAND, as they celebrate the recent graduation of 34 members of their Leadership Institute. These graduates represent the best of Arkansas, and I am proud to see them achieve this great honor. They are the future of our State, and all Arkansans should be proud of their accomplishments.

Under the guidance of CEO Tracy Steele, STAND is a nonprofit organization that offers leadership training to promote economic opportunities, social progress, and community development in Arkansas. STAND offers formal leadership training in four cities across the state: Arkadelphia, El Dorado, Little Rock, and Pine Bluff. Named after program coordinator Edward Coleman, the Leadership Institute seeks to provide education and mentoring that will lead to community service and career placement and advancement opportunities.

Graduates leave this program with a stronger sense of self and community, learning constructive ways to make a difference for their fellow citizens. I have seen their efforts in our State, and I know that this program makes a difference in the lives of its participants and the entire Arkansas community.

I again congratulate STAND graduates, faculty, and staff for their work to prepare the future leaders of our State for the opportunities and challenges that await them. They are to be commended for their efforts.●

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF AEROJET'S REDMOND, WASHINGTON, EMPLOYEES

● Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, today I am joined with my colleague, Senator CANTWELL, to recognize the employees of Aerojet-General Corporation's Redmond, WA, research, development and production facility. Aerojet-Redmond has recently been selected by the United Space Alliance to receive the Space Flight Awareness Supplier Award for Aerojet's sustained superior performance as a key supplier on NASA's space shuttle program over the course of nearly 30 years. This most significant achievement will be commemorated with a presentation from United Space Alliance and celebration ceremony held at Aerojet's facility in Redmond, WA, on Thursday, July 8, 2010.

Aerojet is a world-recognized aerospace and defense leader principally serving the space and missile propulsion, defense and armaments markets. Aerojet Redmond propulsion has been on every NASA manned space flight mission and has enabled the United States to visit every planet in the solar system. The Space Flight Awareness Supplier Award is a very prestigious award bestowed upon United Space Alliance supplier companies—from among over 2,000 active suppliers located throughout the United States—that have performed extraordinary work that added to safety, mission success, schedule compliance, and enhanced flight capability. Aerojet's Redmond Operations will be only the 21st company to receive this highly selective award.

Aerojet-Redmond is the world leader in the in-space propulsion market and as such is the manufacturer of the 38 primary and 6 vernier reaction control thrusters used on every space shuttle mission. The shuttle's reaction control system is used to position the space shuttle during flight operations such as payload insertions and International Space Station docking.

On the occasion of this most significant milestone, Senator CANTWELL and

I are proud to join together and lend our voices to congratulate and honor the more than 425 Aerojet workers in Redmond, WA, on a job well-done. You have served our State and our Nation admirably for more than 40 years.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 4:15 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 5503. An act to revise laws regarding liability in certain civil actions arising from maritime incidents, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5609. An act to amend the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 to prohibit any person from performing lobbying activities on behalf of a client which is determined by the Secretary of State to be a State sponsor of terror.

H.R. 5618. An act to continue Federal unemployment programs.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 290. A concurrent resolution expressing support for designation of June 30 as ''National ESIGN Day''.

The message further announced that the House agrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 4899) making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes, with an amendment, and agrees to the amendment of the Senate to the title of the bill.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 5503. An act to revise laws regarding liability in certain civil actions arising from maritime incidents, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 5609. An act to amend the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 to prohibit any person from performing lobbying activities on behalf of a client which is determined by the Secretary of State to be a State sponsor of terrorism to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

The following concurrent resolution was read, and referred as indicated:

H. Con. Res. 290. Concurrent resolution expressing support for designation of June 30 as ''National ESIGN Day''; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

H.R. 5618. An act to continue Federal unemployment programs.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC–6540. A communication from the Deputy Director of Regulations and Policy Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Change of Contact Information; Technical Amendment'' (Docket No. FDA–2010–N–0010) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 12, 2010; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–6541. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting the report of (8) officers authorized to wear the insignia of the grade of brigadier general in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–6542. A communication from the Director of Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Notification Requirements for Awards of Single-Source Task or Delivery Orders'' (DFARS Case 2009–D036) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 9, 2010; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–6543. A communication from the Chief Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Changes in Flood Elevation Determinations'' ((44 CFR Part 65)(Docket No. FEMA–2010–0003)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 7, 2010; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–6544. A communication from the Chief Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Changes in Flood Elevation Determinations'' ((44 CFR Part 65)(Docket No. FEMA–2010–0003)(Internal Agency Docket No. FEMA–B–1129)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 7, 2010; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–6545. A communication from the Chief Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Changes in Flood Elevation Determinations'' ((44 CFR Part 65)(Docket No. FEMA–2010–0003)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 7, 2010; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–6546. A communication from the Chief Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Suspension of Community Eligibility'' ((44 CFR Part 64)(Docket No. FEMA–2010–0003)(Internal Agency Docket No. FEMA–8135)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 7, 2010; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–6547. A communication from the Chief Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Suspension of Community Eligibility'' ((44 CFR Part 64)(Docket No. FEMA–2010–0003)(Internal Agency Docket No. FEMA–8137)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 8, 2010; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–6548. A communication from the Assistant to the Board of Governors, Division of Consumer and Community Affairs, Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Truth in Lending'' ((Regulation Z)(12 CFR Part 226)(Docket No. R–1370)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 9, 2010; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–6549. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation and Energy Efficiency, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Energy Conservation Program for Consumer Products and Certain Commercial and Industrial Equipment: Final Determination Concerning the Potential for Energy Conservation Standards for High-Intensity Discharge (HID) Lamps'' (RIN1904–AA86) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 9, 2010; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC–6550. A communication from the Secretary of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the status of the Exxon and Stripper Well oil overcharge funds as of September 30, 2008; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC–6551. A joint communication from the Assistant Secretary (Water and Science) of the Department of the Interior, the Assistant Secretary (Civil Works) Department of the Army, and the Administrator of the Western Area Power Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a wind and hydropower feasibility study; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC–6552. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''List of Approved Spent Fuel Storage Casks: MAGNASTOR System, Revision 1'' (RIN3150–AI86) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 6, 2010; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–6553. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Quality Assurance Program Requirements for Research and Test Reactors'' (Regulatory Guide 2.5, Revision 1) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 6, 2010; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–6554. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Annual Medicaid Integrity Program Report for Fiscal Year 2009; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–6555. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Case—Zablocki Act, 1 U.S.C. 112b, as amended, the report of the texts and background statements of international agreements, other than treaties (List 2010–0093–2010–0097); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–6556. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Employee Benefits Security Administration, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Amendment to Prohibited Transaction Exemption (PTE) 84–14 for Plan Asset

Transactions Determined by Independent Qualified Professional Asset Managers'' (RIN1210–ZA07) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 8, 2010; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–6557. A communication from the Director, Office of Regulations, Social Security Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Setting the Time and Place for a Hearing Before an Administrative Law Judge'' (RIN0960–AG61) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 9, 2010; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–6558. A communication from the Acting Senior Procurement Executive, Office of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Federal Acquisition Regulation; Federal Acquisition Circular 2005–43; Introduction'' (FAC 2005–43) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 6, 2010; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–6559. A communication from the Acting Senior Procurement Executive, Office of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Federal Acquisition Regulation; FAR Case 2008–011, Government Property'' (RIN9000–AL41) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 6, 2010; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–6560. A communication from the Acting Senior Procurement Executive, Office of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Federal Acquisition Regulation; FAR Case 2008–035, Registry of Disaster Response Contractors'' (RIN9000–AL30) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 6, 2010; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–6561. A communication from the Acting Senior Procurement Executive, Office of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Federal Acquisition Regulation; FAR Case 2010–008, Recovery Act Subcontract Reporting Procedures'' (RIN9000–AL63) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 6, 2010; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–6562. A communication from the Acting Senior Procurement Executive, Office of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Federal Acquisition Regulation; FAR Case 2008–023, Clarification of Criteria for Sole Source Awards to Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business Concerns'' (RIN9000–AL29) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 6, 2010; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–6563. A communication from the Acting Senior Procurement Executive, Office of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Federal Acquisition Regulation; FAR Case 2009–040, Trade Agreements Thresholds'' (RIN9000–AL57) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 6, 2010; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–6564. A communication from the Acting Senior Procurement Executive, Office of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Federal Acquisition Regulation; FAR Circular 2005–43, Small Entity Compliance Guide'' (FAC 2005–43) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 6, 2010; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–6565. A communication from the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Semi-Annual Report of the Inspector General for the period from October 1, 2009 through March 31, 2010; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–6566. A communication from the Executive Director, Office of Compliance, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Office's Annual Report for fiscal year 2009; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–6567. A communication from the Regulatory and Policy Specialist, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Indian Self-Determination Act Contracts and Annual Funding Agreements—Appeal Procedures'' (RIN1076–AE86) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 9, 2010; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

EC–6568. A communication from the Director, Administrative Office of the United States Courts, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''Report of the Director of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts on Applications for Delayed-Notice Search Warrants and Extensions''; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC–6569. A communication from the Director, Regulation Policy and Management, Office of the General Counsel, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of a rule entitled ''Stressor Determination for Posttraumatic Stress Disorder'' (RIN2900–AN32), received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 9, 2010; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC–6570. A communication from the Chief of the Policy and Rules Division, Office of Engineering and Technology, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Amendment of Part 27 of the Commission's Rules to Govern the Operation of Wireless Communications Services in the 2.3 GHz Band; Establishment of Rules and Policies for the Digital Audio Radio Satellite Service in the 2310–2360 MHz Frequency Band'' ((WT Docket No. 07–293)(FCC 10–82)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 9, 2010; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–6571. A communication from the Senior Deputy Chief, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Reexamination of Roaming Obligations of Commercial Mobile Radio Service Providers and Other Providers of Mobile Data Services'' (FCC 10–59) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 9, 2010; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–6572. A communication from the Regulatory Ombudsman, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Cargo Insurance for Property Loss or Damage'' (RIN2126–AB21) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 12, 2010; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–6573. A communication from the Deputy Chief of the Broadband Division, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Amendment of Part 101 of the Commission's Rules to Accommodate 30 Megahertz Channels in the 6525–6875 MHz Band; Amendment of Part 101 of the Commission's Rules to Provide for Conditional Authorization on Additional Channels in the 21.8–22.0 GHz Band; Fixed Wireless Communications Coalition Request for Waiver'' ((WT Docket No. 09–114)(FCC 10–109)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 9, 2010; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–6574. A communication from the Senior Regulations Analyst, Office of the Secretary of Transportation, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a rule entitled ''Procedures for Transportation Workplace Drug and Alcohol Testing Programs'' (RIN2105–AB84) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 12, 2010; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–6575. A communication from the Deputy Chief Counsel, Research and Innovative Technology Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Submission of Aviation Data via the Internet'' (RIN2139–AA11) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 12, 2010; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–6576. A communication from the Deputy Chief, Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Structure and Practices of the Video Relay Service Program, Declaratory Ruling, Order and Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, CG Docket No. 10–51'' (FCC 10–88) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 8, 2010; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–6577. A communication from the Deputy Chief, Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Telecommunications Relay Services and Speech-to-Speech Services for Individuals with Hearing and Speech Disabilities, Order, CG Docket No. 03–123'' (FCC 10–115) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 8, 2010; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–6578. A communication from the Senior Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Revocation of Class D and E Airspace; Big Delta, AK'' ((RIN2120–AA66)(Docket No. FAA–2010–0083)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 12, 2010; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–6579. A communication from the Senior Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Automatic Dependent Surveillance—Broadcast (ADS–B) Equipage Mandate to Support Air Traffic Control Service; CORRECTION'' ((RIN2120–AI92)(Docket No. FAA–2007–29305)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 12, 2010; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–6580. A communication from the Senior Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation,

transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Automatic Dependent Surveillance—Broadcast (ADS–B) Equipage Mandate to Support Air Traffic Control Service; Technical Amendment'' ((RIN2120–AI92)(Docket No. FAA–2007–29305)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 12, 2010; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–6581. A communication from the Senior Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Amendment of Norton Sound Low and Control 12341, Offshore Airspace Areas; Alaska'' ((RIN2120–AA66)(Docket No. FAA–2010–0071)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 12, 2010; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–6582. A communication from the Trial Attorney, Federal Railroad Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''State Highway-Rail Grade Crossings Action Plans'' (RIN2130–AC20) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 12, 2010; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–6583. A communication from the Senior Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Standard Instrument Approach Procedures (96); Amdt. No. 3378'' (RIN2120–AA65) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 12, 2010; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–6584. A communication from the Senior Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Standard Instrument Approach Procedures (96); Amdt. No. 3379'' (RIN2120–AA65) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 12, 2010; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–6585. A communication from the Senior Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Cessna Aircraft Company Model 525A Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2010–0327)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 12, 2010; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–6586. A communication from the Senior Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Honeywell International Inc. Auxiliary Power Unit Models GTCP36–150(R) and GTCP36–150(RR)'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2009–0803)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 12, 2010; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–6587. A communication from the Senior Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Empresa Brasileira de Aeronautica S.A. (EMBRAER) Model EMB–135ER, –135KE, –135KL, and –135LR Airplanes; and EMBRAER Model EMB–145, –145ER, –145MR, –145LR, –145XR, –145MP, and –145EP Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2010–0170)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 12, 2010; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–6588. A communication from the Senior Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; CFM International, S.A. CFM56–5, –5B, and –7B Series Turbofan Engines'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2010–0026)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 12, 2010; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–6589. A communication from the Senior Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Ltd. Various Models MU–2B Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2009–1076)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 12, 2010; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–6590. A communication from the Senior Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Piper Aircraft, Inc. Models PA–32R–301T and PA–46–350P Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2010–0122)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 12, 2010; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–6591. A communication from the Senior Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier Inc. Model CL–600–2C10 (Regional Jet Series 700 and 701) Airplanes, Model CL–600–2D15 (Regional Jet Series 705) Airplanes, and Model CL–600–2D24 (Regional Jet Series 900) Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2009–0995)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 12, 2010; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–6592. A communication from the Senior Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; McDonnell Douglas Corporation Model DC–10–10, DC–10–10F, and MD–10–10F Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2010–0043)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 12, 2010; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–6593. A communication from the Senior Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc. Model DHC–8–400 Series Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2010–0273)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 12, 2010; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–6594. A communication from the Senior Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Fokker Services B.V. Model F.28 Mark 0070 and 0100 Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2010–0220)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 12, 2010; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–6595. A communication from the Senior Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc. Model CL–600–2B19 (Regional Jet Series 100 and 440) Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2009–1029)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 12, 2010; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–6596. A communication from the Senior Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Fokker Services B.V. Model F.27 Mark 500 and 600 Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2010–0551)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 12, 2010; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–6597. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod for American Fisheries Act Catcher Processors Using Trawl Gear in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area; C Season'' (RIN0648–XW75) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 7, 2010; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–6598. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Rock Sole, Flathead Sole, and ''Other Flatfish'' by Vessels Participating in the Amendment 80 Limited Access Fishery in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area'' (RIN0648–XW74) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 7, 2010; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–6599. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Fisheries; Temporary Rule; Inseason General Category Retention Limit Adjustment'' (RIN0648–XW54) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 7, 2010; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–6600. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, Office of General Counsel, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administrations, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Regulations to Amend the Civil Procedures'' (RIN0648–AY66) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 7, 2010; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–6601. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''United States Department of Transportation Report to Congress on Recommendations of the Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) Program Advisory Committee 2009''; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. LEAHY, from the Committee on the Judiciary, without amendment:

H.R. 1933. A bill to direct the Attorney General to make an annual grant to the A Child Is Missing Alert and Recovery Center to assist law enforcement agencies in the rapid recovery of missing children, and for other purposes.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. CANTWELL, and Mr. CRAPO):

S. 3570. A bill to improve hydropower, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI:

S. 3571. A bill to extend certain Federal benefits and income tax provisions to energy generated by hydropower resources; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. LINCOLN (for herself and Mr. PRYOR):

S. 3572. A bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the 225th anniversary of the establishment of the Nation's first law enforcement agency, the United States Marshals Service; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. INHOFE:

S. 3573. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to allow the storage and conveyance of nonproject water at the Norman project in Oklahoma, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. BROWN of Ohio (for himself and Mr. COBURN):

S. 3574. A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to prohibit the inclusion of Social Security account numbers on Medicare cards; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. DODD, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. VITTER, and Mr. ALEXANDER):

S. 3575. A bill to amend and reauthorize the controlled substance monitoring program under section 399O of the Public Health Service Act and to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to share information about the use of controlled substances by veterans with State prescription monitoring programs to prevent misuse and diversion of prescription medicines; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. JOHNSON):

S. 3576. A bill to promote the production and use of renewable energy , and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. BROWNBACK (for himself and Mr. LIEBERMAN):

S. Res. 579. A resolution honoring the life of Manute Bol and expressing the condolences of the Senate on his passing; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SCHUMER (for himself, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. NELSON of Florida, and Mr. LEMIEUX):

S. Res. 580. A resolution commemorating the life and work of George M . Steinbrenner of the State of New York; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 493

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 493, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the establishment of ABLE accounts for the care of family members with disabilities, and for other purposes.

S. 632

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. CORKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 632, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require that the payment of the manufacturers' excise tax on recreational equipment be paid quarterly.

S. 653

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the names of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) were added as cosponsors of S. 653, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the bicentennial of the writing of the Star—Spangled Banner, and for other purposes.

S. 781

At the request of Mr. ROBERTS, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 781, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for collegiate housing and infrastructure grants.

S. 1158

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1158, a bill to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to conduct activities to rapidly advance treatments for spinal muscular atrophy, neuromuscular disease, and other pediatric diseases, and for other purposes.

S. 1237

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) were added as cosponsors of S. 1237, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to expand the grant program for homeless veterans with special needs to include male homeless veterans with minor dependents and to establish a grant program for reintegration of homeless women veterans and homeless veterans with children, and for other purposes.

S. 1376

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1376, a bill to restore immunization and sibling age exemptions for children adopted by United States citizens under the Hague Convention on Intercountry Adoption to allow their admission to the United States.

S. 1567

At the request of Mr. BROWNBACK, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. UDALL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1567, a bill to provide for the issuance of a Multinational Species Conservation Funds Semipostal Stamp.

S. 2129

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2129, a bill to authorize the Administrator of General Services to convey a parcel of real property in the District of Columbia to provide for the establishment of a National Women's History Museum.

S. 3034

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the names of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. BROWN) and the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) were added as cosponsors of S. 3034, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to strike medals in commemoration of the 10th anniversary of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on the United States and the establishment of the National September 11 Memorial & Museum at the World Trade Center.

S. 3043

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3043, a bill to award planning grants and implementation grants to State educational agencies to enable the State educational agencies to complete comprehensive planning to carry out activities designed to integrate engineering education into K–12 instruction and curriculum and to provide evaluation grants to measure efficacy of K–12 engineering education.

S. 3184

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the names of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. FEINGOLD) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. BROWN) were added as cosponsors of S. 3184, a bill to provide United States assistance for the purpose of eradicating severe forms of trafficking in children in eligible countries through the implementation of Child Protection Compacts, and for other purposes.

S. 3190

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SPECTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3190, a bill to reaffirm that the Small Business Reauthorization Act of 1997 does not limit a contracting officer's discretion regarding whether to make a contract available for award pursuant to any of the restricted competition programs authorized by the Small Business Act.

S. 3199

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. BURRIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3199, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act regarding early detection, diagnosis, and treatment of hearing loss.

S. 3238

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3238, a bill to provide for

a medal of appropriate design to be awarded by the President to the next of kin or other representative of those individuals killed as a result of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, and to the memorials established at the 3 sites that were attacked on that day.

S. 3246

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3246, a bill to exclude from consideration as income under the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 amounts received by a family from the Department of Veterans Affairs for service-related disabilities of a member of the family.

S. 3339

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3339, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a reduced rate of excise tax on beer produced domestically by certain small producers.

S. 3425

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3425, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to require the provision of behavioral health services to members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces necessary to meet pre-deployment and post-deployment readiness and fitness standards, and for other purposes.

S. 3493

At the request of Mr. SPECTER, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3493, a bill to reauthorize and enhance Johanna's Law to increase public awareness and knowledge with respect to gynecologic cancers.

S. 3510

At the request of Mr. CONRAD, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3510, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the 15-year recovery period for qualified leasehold improvement property, qualified restaurant property, and qualified retail improvement property.

S. 3518

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. KAUFMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3518, a bill to amend title 28, United States Code, to prohibit recognition and enforcement of foreign defamation judgments in United States Courts where those judgments undermine the first amendment to the Constitution of the United States, and to provide a cause of action for declaratory judgment relief against a party who has brought a successful foreign defamation action whose judgment undermines the first amendment.

S. 3519

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 3519, a bill to stabilize the matching requirement for participants in the Hollings Manufacturing Partnership Program.

S. 3552

At the request of Mr. ENSIGN, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3552, a bill to require an Air Force study on the threats to, and sustainability of, the air test and training range infrastructure.

S.J. RES. 30

At the request of Mr. ISAKSON, the names of the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN), the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SHELBY) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. BROWN) were added as cosponsors of S.J. Res. 30, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the National Mediation Board relating to representation election procedures.

S. RES. 555

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 555, a resolution supporting the goals and ideals of National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month.

S. RES. 565

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 565, a resolution supporting and recognizing the achievements of the family planning services programs operating under title X of the Public Health Service Act.

S. RES. 573

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 573, a resolution urging the development of a comprehensive strategy to ensure stability in Somalia, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4410

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the names of the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE), the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 4410 intended to be proposed to H.R. 5297, an act to create the Small Business Lending Fund Program to direct the Secretary of the Treasury to make capital investments in eligible institutions in order to increase the availability of credit for small businesses, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax incentives for small business job creation, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4412

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4412 intended to be proposed to H.R. 5297, an act to create the Small Business Lending Fund Program to direct the Secretary of the Treasury to make capital investments in eligible institutions in order to increase the availability of credit for small businesses, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax incentives for small business job creation, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4413

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the names of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 4413 intended to be proposed to H.R. 5297, an act to create the Small Business Lending Fund Program to direct the Secretary of the Treasury to make capital investments in eligible institutions in order to increase the availability of credit for small businesses, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax incentives for small business job creation, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4439

At the request of Mr. SANDERS, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 4439 intended to be proposed to H.R. 5297, an act to create the Small Business Lending Fund Program to direct the Secretary of the Treasury to make capital investments in eligible institutions in order to increase the availability of credit for small businesses, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax incentives for small business job creation, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4443

At the request of Mr. UDALL of Colorado, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4443 intended to be proposed to H.R. 5297, an act to create the Small Business Lending Fund Program to direct the Secretary of the Treasury to make capital investments in eligible institutions in order to increase the availability of credit for small businesses, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax incentives for small business job creation, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. CANTWELL, and Mr. CRAPO):

S. 3570. A bill to improve hydropower, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce two pieces of legislation aimed at increasing the production of our hardest working renewable resource, one that often gets overlooked in the clean energy debate—hydropower. The first bill I would like to

introduce today is the Hydropower Improvement Act of 2010, co-sponsored by my colleagues Senators MURRAY, CANTWELL, and CRAPO, true hydropower advocates. The Hydropower Improvement Act of 2010 seeks to substantially increase the capacity and generation of our clean, renewable hydropower resources that will improve environmental quality and support hundreds of thousands of green energy jobs.

There is no question that hydropower is, and must continue to be, part of our energy solution. It is the largest source of renewable electricity in the United States. The 96,000 megawatts of hydroelectric capacity we now have today provide about 7 percent of the Nation's electricity needs. Hydroelectric generation is carbon-free baseload power that allows us to avoid 225 million metric tons of carbon emissions each year. Hydropower is clean efficient, and inexpensive. Yet, despite its tremendous benefits, I am constantly amazed at how some undervalue this important resource.

Perhaps it is because conventional wisdom dismisses our Nation's hydropower capacity as tapped out. That is simply not the case. If anything, hydropower is really an under-developed resource—something we certainly understand in my home state of Alaska where hydro already supplies 24 percent of the state's electricity needs and over 200 promising sites for further hydropower development have been identified. There is great potential for additional hydropower development in every State, not just Alaska.

According to the Obama administration, conventional hydropower facilities have the capacity to generate an additional 75,000 megawatts of power—a staggering amount of clean, inexpensive power. Now that doesn't seem possible until you realize that only 3 percent of the country's 80,000 existing dams are even electrified. Significant amounts of new capacity—anywhere between 20,000 and 60,000 megawatts—can be derived from simple efficiency improvements or capacity additions at existing facilities.

Additional hydropower can be captured in existing man-made conduits and hydroelectric pumped storage projects can help reliably integrate other renewable resources that are intermittent, such as wind, onto our grid.

The Hydropower Improvement Act of 2010 seeks to increase substantially our nation's hydropower capacity in an effort to expand renewable power generation and create much needed American jobs. The legislation establishes a competitive grants program to support further hydropower development and directs the Energy Department to produce and implement a plan for the research, development and demonstration of increased hydropower capacity. The bill provides the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission with additional authority to extend preliminary permit terms; to work with Federal resource agencies to streamline the review process for conduit hydropower projects; and to conduct a Notice of Inquiry into a possible two-year licensing process for certain minimal impact projects. The Act also calls for studies on pumped storage sites and the potential for nonfederal development at Bureau of Reclamation facilities, and authorizes training for hydroelectric power technology at community colleges.

It is my hope that as the Senate turns to energy legislation, we can finally recognize the important contribution the renewable resource of hydropower makes, and will continue to make, to our clean energy goals. This legislation is supported by the National Hydropower Association, the American Public Power Association, the Family Farm Alliance, the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the Edison Electric Institute, and the National Water Resources Association. I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting the Hydropower Improvement Act of 2010 to promote the further development of our most cost-effective, clean energy option while creating hundreds of thousands of new green jobs.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 3570

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the ''Hydropower Improvement Act of 2010''.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
Sec. 2. Findings.
Sec. 3. Definitions.
Sec. 4. Sense of Congress on the use of hydropower renewable resources.
Sec. 5. Grants for improvements for increased hydropower production.
Sec. 6. Plan for research, development, and demonstration to increase hydropower capacity.
Sec. 7. Notice of inquiry for minimal impact hydropower projects.
Sec. 8. FERC authority to extend preliminary permit terms.
Sec. 9. Streamlining review process for conduit hydropower projects.
Sec. 10. Non-Federal hydropower development at Bureau of Reclamation projects.
Sec. 11. Pumped storage study.
Sec. 12. National Renewable Energy Deployment Program.
Sec. 13. Hydroelectric power worker training.
Sec. 14. Report on memorandum of understanding on hydropower.
Sec. 15. Nonapplication to Federal Power Marketing Administrations.
Sec. 16. Budgetary effects.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds that—

(1) hydropower is the largest source of clean, renewable electricity in the United States;

(2) as of the date of enactment of this Act, hydropower resources, including pumped storage facilities, provide—

(A) 7 percent of the electricity generated in the United States, avoiding 225,000,000 metric tons of carbon emissions each year; and

(B) approximately 96,000 megawatts of electric capacity in the United States;

(3) only 3 percent of the 80,000 dams in the United States generate electricity so there is substantial potential for adding hydropower generation to nonpower dams;

(4) in every State, a tremendous untapped growth potential exists in hydropower resources, including—

(A) efficiency improvements and capacity additions;

(B) adding generation to nonpower dams;

(C) conduit hydropower;

(D) conventional hydropower;

(E) pumped storage facilities; and

(F) new marine and hydrokinetic resources; and

(5) improvements in increased hydropower production in the United States have the potential—

(A) to create hundreds of thousands of new green jobs during the next 15 years;

(B) to increase the clean energy generation of the United States; and

(C) to provide ancillary benefits that include grid reliability, energy storage, and integration services for variable renewable resources.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) CONDUIT.—The term ''conduit'' means any tunnel, canal, pipeline, aqueduct, flume, ditch, or similar manmade water conveyance that is operated for the distribution of water for agricultural, municipal, or industrial consumption and not primarily for the generation of electricity.

(2) SECRETARY.—The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of Energy.

SEC. 4. SENSE OF CONGRESS ON THE USE OF HYDROPOWER RENEWABLE RESOURCES.

It is the sense of Congress that the United States should increase substantially the capacity and generation of clean, renewable hydropower resources which will improve environmental quality in the United States and support hundreds of thousands of green energy jobs.

SEC. 5. GRANTS FOR IMPROVEMENTS FOR INCREASED HYDROPOWER PRODUCTION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—As soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall establish in the Department of Energy a program under which the Secretary shall make competitive grants to eligible entities that—

(1) make efficiency improvements or capacity additions at an existing hydroelectric power generating facility;

(2) add hydropower generation to a nonpower dam;

(3) develop pumped storage facilities;

(4) address aging infrastructure at existing hydroelectric power generating facilities; and

(5) develop hydroelectric generation within existing conduits.

(b) ADMINISTRATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish terms and conditions, including eligibility, for the receipt of grants under this section.

(2) INCLUSIONS.—In carrying out this section, the Secretary shall ensure that powerhouses and projects that require new dam infrastructure are included among the eligible entities that may receive grants under this section.

(c) COST SHARING.—The Secretary shall carry out the program under this section in compliance with sections 988 and 989 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16352, 16353).

(d) FUNDING.—From amounts made available under section 625(e) of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (42 U.S.C. 17204(e)), the Secretary may use to carry out this section $50,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2011 through 2015, of which not more than 20 percent of the amount made available for a fiscal year may be used to carry out an individual project.

SEC. 6. PLAN FOR RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, AND DEMONSTRATION TO INCREASE HYDROPOWER CAPACITY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 270 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall establish, and submit to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives, a plan—

(1) to facilitate through technology research, development, and demonstration the increased use of hydropower renewable resources in accordance with section 4; and

(2) to coordinate research and development on advanced hydropower technologies.

(b) ADMINISTRATION.—The Secretary shall—

(1) implement the plan established under this section as soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this Act; and

(2) review and update the plan on an annual basis.

(c) COST SHARING.—The Secretary shall carry out the program under this section in compliance with sections 988 and 989 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16352, 16353).

(d) COORDINATION.—The Secretary shall coordinate, to the maximum extent practicable, activities under this section with other programs of the Department of Energy and other Federal research programs.

(e) FUNDING.—From amounts made available under section 401(a) of the American Clean Energy Leadership Act of 2009, the Secretary may use to carry out this section $50,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2011 through 2015.

SEC. 7. NOTICE OF INQUIRY FOR MINIMAL IMPACT HYDROPOWER PROJECTS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) COMMISSION.—The term ''Commission'' means the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

(2) MINIMAL IMPACT HYDROPOWER PROJECT.—The term ''minimal impact hydropower project'' means—

(A) the addition of hydropower generation to an existing nonpower dam if the addition of the project will not cause any significant environmental impact; or

(B) closed-loop hydropower storage that does not require any change in an existing diversion or impoundment of a river, and otherwise will not cause any significant environmental impacts under applicable law.

(b) NOTICE OF INQUIRY.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this section, the Commission shall issue a notice of inquiry for the licensing of proposed minimal impact hydropower projects that take not more than 2 years from the beginning of the prefiling licensing process to the issuance of a license by the Commission.

(c) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the completion of the notice of inquiry under subsection (b), the Commission shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives a report that describes the results of the notice of inquiry.

SEC. 8. FERC AUTHORITY TO EXTEND PRELIMINARY PERMIT TERMS.

Section 5 of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 798) is amended—

(1) by designating the first, second, and third sentences as subsections (a), (c), and (d), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after subsection (a) (as so designated) the following:

''(b) EXTENSION.—The Commission may extend the term of a preliminary permit once for not more than 2 additional years if the Commission finds that the permittee has carried out activities under the permit in good faith and with reasonable diligence.''.

SEC. 9. STREAMLINING REVIEW PROCESS FOR CONDUIT HYDROPOWER PROJECTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 30 of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 823a) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking paragraphs (1) and (2) and inserting the following:

''(1) is located on non-Federal lands or Federal lands; and

''(2) uses for the generation only the hydroelectric potential of a conduit.''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(f) SAVINGS CLAUSE.—This section shall not apply to any reclamation projects under which hydroelectric power development has been reserved—

''(1) under Federal law or by regulation or order, exclusively for development under Federal reclamation law; or

''(2) for non-Federal development under reclamation law.

''(g) DEFINITION OF CONDUIT.—In this section, the term 'conduit' means any tunnel, canal, pipeline, aqueduct, flume, ditch, or similar manmade water conveyance that is operated for the distribution of water for agricultural, municipal, or industrial consumption and not primarily for the generation of electricity.''.

(b) MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON CONDUIT HYDROPOWER PROJECTS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission shall enter into a memorandum of understanding with relevant Federal agencies that have conditioning authority under section 30(c)(1) of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C.823a(c)(1))—

(1) to establish a coordinated and streamlined approach to any environmental impact statement or similar analysis required under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) relating to the consideration of conduit hydropower projects; and

(2) to develop and carry out an expedited approval process for conduit hydropower projects.

(c) PUBLIC WORKSHOPS AND PILOT PROJECTS ON CONDUIT HYDROPOWER PROJECTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—As soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commissioner of Reclamation and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission shall conduct 3 public workshops with relevant stakeholders, including water users and the environmental community, to identify ways in which the conduit approval process may be modified—

(A) to reduce barriers to conduit hydropower projects, including barriers created by project costs or the timeframe for approval and maintain adequate environmental, health, and safety protections; and

(B) to develop pilot projects in conjunction with voluntary participants to demonstrate flexible and innovative ways to reduce barriers to conduit hydropower while maintaining adequate environmental, health, and safety protections.

(2) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the completion of the workshops under paragraph (1), the Commissioner of Reclamation and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report that describes any recommendations for the conduit approval process developed in the workshops and pilot projects described in paragraph (1).

(3) FUNDING.—From amounts made available under section 9503(f) of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (42 U.S.C. 10363(f)), the Secretary may use to carry out pilot projects described in paragraph (1)(B) $5,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2011 through 2015, to remain available until expended.

SEC. 10. NON-FEDERAL HYDROPOWER DEVELOPMENT AT BUREAU OF RECLAMATION PROJECTS.

(a) STUDY OF NON-FEDERAL HYDROPOWER DEVELOPMENT AT BUREAU OF RECLAMATION PROJECTS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this section, the Commissioner of Reclamation (in consultation with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, preference power customers, water users, and other interested stakeholders) shall—

(1) conduct a study of barriers to non-Federal hydropower development at Bureau of Reclamation projects; and

(2) report to Congress the results of the study.

(b) MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this section, the Commissioner of Reclamation and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission shall develop and issue a revised interagency memorandum of understanding to improve the coordination and timeliness of the non-Federal development of hydropower resources at Bureau of Reclamation projects.

SEC. 11. PUMPED STORAGE STUDY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in coordination with the Director of the United States Geological Survey, shall conduct a study (including identification) of Federal land that is well-suited for pumped storage sites and is located near existing or potential sites of intermittent renewable resource development, such as wind farms.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives a report that describes the results of the study conducted under subsection (a), including any recommendations.

SEC. 12. NATIONAL RENEWABLE ENERGY DEPLOYMENT PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 803 of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (42 U.S.C. 17282) is amended by striking the section heading and inserting ''**NATIONAL RENEWABLE ENERGY DEPLOYMENT PROGRAM**''.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—Section 803(a) of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (42 U.S.C. 17282(a)) is amended—

(1) by striking paragraph (1);

(2) by redesignating paragraphs (2) through (4) as paragraphs (1) through (3), respectively; and

(3) in paragraph (3)(B)(iv) (as so redesignated), by striking ''Alaska small''.

(c) RENEWABLE ENERGY CONSTRUCTION GRANTS.—Section 803(b) of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (42 U.S.C. 17282(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by inserting ''establish a national renewable energy construction grants program under which the Secretary shall'' after ''shall''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(5) PRIORITY.—In making grants to eligible applicants to carry out renewable energy projects under this section, the Secretary shall give priority to applicants that—

''(A) have power costs that are 125 percent or more of average national retail costs; or

''(B) will use the grant to construct renewable electricity projects to replace fossil fuel projects.''.

SEC. 13. HYDROELECTRIC POWER WORKER TRAINING.

Section 439(b) of the American Clean Energy Leadership Act of 2009 is amended in the second sentence—

(1) in paragraph (6), by striking ''and'' after the semicolon at the end;

(2) in paragraph (7), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(8) hydroelectric power technology.''.

SEC. 14. REPORT ON MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON HYDROPOWER.

Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the President shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives a report on actions taken by the Department of Energy, the Department of the Interior, and the Corps of Engineers to carry out the memorandum of understanding on hydropower entered into on March 24, 2010, with particular emphasis on actions taken by the agencies to work together and investigate ways to efficiently and responsibly facilitate the Federal permitting process for Federal and non-Federal hydropower projects at Federal facilities, within existing authority.

SEC. 15. NONAPPLICATION TO FEDERAL POWER MARKETING ADMINISTRATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—This Act and the amendments made by this Act shall not—

(1) apply to a hydroelectric project that provides power marketed by a Federal Power Marketing Administration; or

(2) impact any additions, improvements, or replacements of hydroelectric generation at Federal projects carried out by a Federal Power Marketing Administration.

(b) MODIFICATIONS.—Nothing in this Act limits the authority under existing law of a Federal Power Marketing Administrator in the event that operations at Federal projects with hydropower facilities are modified.

SEC. 16. BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go-Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled ''Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation'' for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the Senate Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI:

S. 3571. A bill to extend certain Federal benefits and income tax provisions to energy generated by hydropower resources; to the Committee on Finance.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, today I introduce the Hydropower Renewable Energy Development Act of 2010. This is legislation to extend certain benefits and income tax provisions to energy generated by hydropower resources.

We have an incredible amount of hydropower potential in my home State of Alaska. To date, we have almost 50 hydropower projects—in a range of sizes from the 126-megawatt Bradley Lake project to the 7-kilowatt Walsh Creek project—that produce about 24 percent of the State's electricity needs. Alaska is proof that the hydropower resource is not tapped out—not even close. Currently, there are 32 additional hydropower projects, just in Southeast, that are either under construction or on the drawing boards. Statewide there are another 200 areas that have been identified as promising sites for lake taps, run of river, pumped storage and even new hydroelectric reservoirs. With the proper financing, we could keep a dozen hydro construction companies fully employed in the State for a decade or even longer. That is just in Alaska. There are tremendous opportunities in each and every State to further develop this clean energy alternative.

Hydropower, by definition, is a renewable resource. It produces no carbon emissions and through rainfall and melting snowpacks it is able to be replenished. Yet there are some who would deny this important classification to the hydropower resource. The Hydropower Renewable Energy Development Act of 2010 directs that the generation of hydroelectric power be treated as a ''renewable'' resource for purposes of any Federal program or standard. This reclassification of hydroelectric generation should help to incent the further production of this important and often undervalued resource.

Next, the bill provides parity treatment for hydropower resources in the Production Tax Credit, PTC. Currently, companies that generate wind, solar, geothermal, and ''closed-loop'' biomass systems are eligible for the PTC which provides a 2.1 cent per kilowatt-hour, kWh, benefit for the first 10 years of a renewable energy facility's operation. Other technologies, such as incremental hydropower, certain generation at non-power facilities, and wave and tidal receive a lesser value tax credit of 1.0 cent per kWh. The Hydropower Renewable Energy Development Act of 2010 eliminates the distinction between the two categories so that all qualified hydropower resources receive the full PTC credit. The bill further expands upon the types of hydropower resources that can qualify for the PTC, allowing new hydro generation, small hydropower under 50 megawatts, lake taps, and pumped storage to qualify as well.

The Hydropower Renewable Energy Development Act of 2010 also carries this expanded qualification of hydropower to the Clean Renewable Energy Bonds, CREBS, program. Because nonprofits like rural electric cooperatives and public power providers are not eligible for the PTC due to their tax-exempt status, CREBS was created to encourage these entities to undertake renewable energy development as well. This program has been wildly popular and has been oversubscribed since its inception. There are endless possibilities for increased hydropower production by electric cooperatives and public power providers and they should be given the proper financial incentive to do so.

I ask my colleagues to support this hydropower tax legislation. The further development of this untapped renewable resource will help us meet our clean energy goals through the generation of carbon-free, baseload power. At a time of record unemployment, the addition of hydropower capacity throughout the Nation will lead to hundreds of thousands of good paying, domestic jobs.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 3571

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Hydropower Renewable Energy Development Act of 2010''.

SEC. 2. HYDROELECTRIC ENERGY TREATED AS RENEWABLE ENERGY.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law or regulation, for purposes of any Federal program or standard, the term ''renewable energy'' shall include hydroelectric energy generated in the United States by a hydroelectric facility, including electric power produced by efficiency improvements and capacity additions, generation added to nonpower dams, conduits, pumped storage facilities, marine and hydrokinetic resources, and conventional hydropower.

SEC. 3. PRODUCTION TAX CREDIT FOR HYDROPOWER RESOURCES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (A) of section 45(c)(8) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended—

(1) by striking ''and'' at the end of clause (i),

(2) by striking the period at the end of clause (ii) and inserting '', and'', and

(3) by adding at the end the following new clause:

''(iii) in the case of any hydropower facility described in subparagraph (D), the hydropower production from the facility for the taxable year.''.

(b) PRODUCTION.—Paragraph (8) of section 45(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(D) OTHER HYDROPOWER PRODUCTION FACILITIES.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), a facility is described in this subparagraph if such facility—

''(i) is a hydroelectric dam or nonhydroelectric dam—

''(I) which is placed in service after the date of the enactment of the Hydropower Renewable Energy Development Act of 2010, and

''(II) which would be described in subparagraph (A)(i) or (C) but for the placed in service date,

''(ii) is a hydroelectric facility not described in clause (i) which has a nameplate capacity rating of less than 50 megawatts, or

''(iii) is not described in clause (i) or (ii) and generates energy through the use of a lake tap or pumped storage.''.

(c) QUALIFIED FACILITIES.—Paragraph (9) of section 45(d) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended to read as follows:

''(9) QUALIFIED HYDROPOWER FACILITY.—

''(A) INCREMENTAL HYDROPOWER PRODUCTION.—In the case of a facility described in subsection (c)(8), without regard to subparagraph (C) or (D) thereof, which produces incremental hydropower production, the term 'qualified facility' means such facility but only to the extent of such incremental hydropower production attributable to efficiency improvements or additions to capacity described in subsection (c)(8)(B) placed in service after August 8, 2005, and before January 1, 2014.

''(B) PRODUCTION FROM CERTAIN NONHYDROELECTRIC DAMS.—In the case of a facility described in subsection (c)(8)(C) which produces qualified hydropower production, the term 'qualified facility' means any such facility placed in service after August 8, 2005, and before January 1, 2014.

''(C) PRODUCTION FROM OTHER HYDROPOWER FACILITIES.—In the case of qualified hydropower production at a facility after the date of the enactment of the Hydropower Renewable Energy Development Act of 2010, the term 'qualified facility' includes any such facility which is described in subsection (c)(8)(D).

''(D) CREDIT PERIOD.—In the case of a qualified facility described in subparagraph (A), the 10-year period referred to in subsection (a) shall be treated as beginning on the date the efficiency improvements or additions to capacity are placed in service.''.

(d) INCREASE IN CREDIT RATE.—Subparagraph (A) of section 45(b)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking ''(9),''.

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to electricity produced after the date of the enactment of this Act.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. DODD, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. VITTER, and Mr. ALEXANDER):

S. 3575. A bill to amend and reauthorize the controlled substance monitoring program under section 3990 of the Public Health Service Act and to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to share information about the use of controlled substances by veterans with State prescription monitoring programs to prevent misuse and diversion of prescription medicines; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, the nonmedical use and abuse of prescription drugs is a serious and growing public health problem in this country. The 2008 National Survey on Drug Use and Health showed that more than 15 million Americans had used prescription psychotherapeutic drugs non-medically in the past year. That is more than 6 percent of the U.S. population. More than 20 percent of Americans had abused these drugs during their lifetime. The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Agency, SAMHSA, estimates that half a million residents in my home State of Illinois are using prescription drugs illegally and in ways that can lead to dependence and even death.

Since 1999, abuse, misuse, and overdose of prescription drugs has increased, and the health consequences are significant. Each year, more than 20,000 people in the United States die from drug overdose. Illinois hospitals report an increase in patients visiting Emergency Departments because of prescription drug misuse. From 2003 to 2007, Chicago area hospitals saw the number of visits for pain medication misuse more than double and visits for sedative misuse quadruple.

The trends among teens are especially worrisome. Prescription pain relievers are the second most common drugs used as gateway drugs among teens. Over the past decade, there has been a 300 percent increase in the number of teens seeking treatment for addiction to prescription painkillers.

To address this threat to public health, my colleague Senator SESSIONS and I worked together to enact Public Law 109–60, the National All Schedules Prescription Electronic Reporting Act of 2005, NASPER. This program provides grants through the Department of Health and Human Services to establish or improve State-based prescription drug monitoring programs, PDMPs. The first grants were awarded through NASPER beginning in fiscal year 09, and currently over 40 States are operating PDMPs or have enacted legislation to establish them.

While each State's program is unique, in general they require that pharmacies, physicians or both submit information to a central office within the State on prescriptions dispensed for certain controlled substances—narcotics, stimulants, sedatives, depressants, etc. By creating these systems, States can ensure that health care providers, law enforcement officials and other regulatory and licensing bodies have access to accurate, timely prescription history information as permitted by law.

The data in these systems can be used for many purposes: to assist in the early identification of patients at risk for addiction, prevent patients from doctor shopping, and help with investigations of drug diversion and errant prescribing or dispensing practices by pharmacists or medical providers.

In my home State of Illinois, the State PDMP is called Prescription Information Library, PIL. The State was awarded a NASPER grant in fiscal year 09, which allowed it to expand and improve its program. In the month of June 2010 alone, the PIL website was used by over 3,600 doctors, pharmacists and other registered users who made over 24,000 visits to the site. In addition, the number of law enforcement requests for information from PIL increased from 16 in 2007 to 321 in 2009. Use of the program continues to grow—in the first 6 months of 2010, law enforcement officials have already made 271 requests for information from the database. The growth of the Illinois program demonstrates that it is valuable tool for protecting public health and safety by identifying people at risk for prescription drug abuse and doctors who betray the high ethical standards of their profession by over or incorrectly prescribing prescription drugs.

Today, along with Senator SESSIONS and several other colleagues, I am introducing the National All Schedules Prescription Electronic Reposing Reauthorization Act of 2010. This bill reauthorizes and extends this vital program for 5 more years at $15 million for fiscal year 2011 and $10 million each year thereafter. It also makes small changes to improve and strengthen the program, including allowing grants to be made available to States to plan or maintain a PDMP in addition to establishing or improving a program; requiring States to help educate medical providers about the benefits of the systems and facilitate their use of them; requiring, States to report aggregate data to the Secretary to allow for evaluation of the success of the program; allowing participation by the territories; and permitting the Department of Veterans Affairs to share information about the use of controlled substance by veterans with State PDMPs.

Reauthorizing the NASPER program for another 5 years with these changes to improve its operation will assist States in combating abuse and misuse of prescription drugs. This commonsense legislation has bipartisan support, and I look forward to working with my colleagues to enact it into law.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 3575

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''National All Schedules Prescription Electronic Reporting Reauthorization Act of 2010''.

SEC. 2. AMENDMENT TO PURPOSE.

Paragraph (1) of section 2 of the National All Schedules Prescription Electronic Reporting Act of 2005 (Public Law 109–60) is amended to read as follows:

''(1) foster the establishment of State-administered controlled substance monitoring systems in order to ensure that—

''(A) health care providers have access to the accurate, timely prescription history information that they may use as a tool for the early identification of patients at risk for addiction in order to initiate appropriate medical interventions and avert the tragic personal, family, and community consequences of untreated addiction; and

''(B) appropriate law enforcement, regulatory, and State professional licensing authorities have access to prescription history information for the purposes of investigating drug diversion and prescribing and dispensing practices of errant prescribers or pharmacists; and''.

SEC. 3. AMENDMENTS TO CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE MONITORING PROGRAM.

Section 399O of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 280g–3) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(1)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''or'';

(B) in subparagraph (B), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; or''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(C) to maintain and operate an existing State controlled substance monitoring program.'';

(2) by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

''(b) MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary shall maintain and, as appropriate, supplement or revise (after publishing proposed additions and revisions in the Federal Register and receiving public comments thereon) minimum requirements for criteria to be used by States for purposes of clauses (ii), (v), (vi), and (vii) of subsection (c)(1)(A).'';

(3) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (1)(B)—

(i) in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking ''(a)(1)(B)'' and inserting ''(a)(1)(B) or (a)(1)(C)'';

(ii) in clause (i), by striking ''program to be improved'' and inserting ''program to be improved or maintained''; and

(iii) in clause (iv), by striking ''public health'' and inserting ''public health or public safety'';

(B) in paragraph (3)—

(i) by striking ''If a State that submits'' and inserting the following:

''(A) IN GENERAL.—If a State that submits'';

(ii) by inserting before the period at the end ''and include timelines for full implementation of such interoperability''; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

''(B) MONITORING OF EFFORTS.—The Secretary shall monitor State efforts to achieve interoperability, as described in subparagraph (A).'';

(C) in paragraph (5)—

(i) by striking ''implement or improve'' and inserting ''establish, improve, or maintain''; and

(ii) by adding at the end the following: ''The Secretary shall redistribute any funds that are so returned among the remaining grantees under this section in accordance with the formula described in subsection (a)(2)(B).'';

(4) in the matter preceding paragraph (1) in subsection (d), by striking ''In implementing or improving'' all that follows through ''with the following:'' and inserting ''In establishing, improving, or maintaining a controlled substance monitoring program under this section, a State shall comply, or with respect to a State that applies for a grant under subsection (a)(1)(B) or (C) submit to the Secretary for approval a statement of why such compliance is not feasible and a plan for bringing the State into compliance, with the following:'';

(5) in subsections (e), (f)(1), and (g), by striking ''implementing or improving'' each place it appears and inserting ''establishing, improving, or maintaining'';

(6) in subsection (f)—

(A) in paragraph (1)(B) by striking ''misuse of a schedule II, III, or IV substance'' and inserting ''misuse of a controlled substance included in schedule II, III, or IV of section 202(c) of the Controlled Substance Act''; and

(B) add at the end the following:

''(3) EVALUATION AND REPORTING.—Subject to subsection (g), a State receiving a grant under subsection (a) shall provide the Secretary with aggregate data and other information determined by the Secretary to be necessary to enable the Secretary—

''(A) to evaluate the success of the State's program in achieving its purposes; or

''(B) to prepare and submit the report to Congress required by subsection (k)(2).

''(4) RESEARCH BY OTHER ENTITIES.—A department, program, or administration receiving nonidentifiable information under paragraph (1)(D) may make such information available to other entities for research purposes.'';

(7) by redesignating subsections (h) through (n) as subsections (i) through (o), respectively;

(8) in subsections (c)(1)(A)(iv) and (d)(4), by striking ''subsection (h)'' each place it appears and inserting ''subsection (i)'';

(9) by inserting after subsection (g) the following:

''(h) EDUCATION AND ACCESS TO THE MONITORING SYSTEM.—A State receiving a grant under subsection (a) shall take steps to—

''(1) facilitate prescriber use of the State's controlled substance monitoring system; and

''(2) educate prescribers on the benefits of the system both to them and society.'';

(10) in subsection (m)(1), as redesignated, by striking ''establishment, implementation, or improvement'' and inserting ''establishment, improvement, or maintenance'';

(11) in subsection (n)(8), as redesignated, by striking ''and the District of Columbia'' and inserting '', the District of Columbia, and any commonwealth or territory of the United States''; and

(12) by amending subsection (o), as redesignated, to read as follows:

''(o) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATION.—To carry out this section, there are authorized to be appropriated $15,000,000 for fiscal year 2011 and $10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2012 through 2015.''.

SEC. 4. AMENDMENTS TO TITLE 38.

(a) EXCEPTION WITH RESPECT TO CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF CLAIMS.—Section 5701 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(l) Under regulations the Secretary shall prescribe, the Secretary may disclose information about a veteran or the dependant of a veteran to a State controlled substance monitoring program, including a program approved by the Secretary of Health and Human Services under section 399O of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 280g–3), to the extent necessary to prevent misuse and diversion of prescription medicines.''.

(b) EXCEPTION WITH RESPECT TO CONFIDENTIALITY OF CERTAIN MEDICAL RECORDS.—Section 7332(b)(2) of such title is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(G) To a State controlled substance monitoring program, including a program approved by the Secretary of Health and Human Services under section 399O of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 280g–3), to the extent necessary to prevent misuse and diversion of prescription medicines.''.

(c) REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall submit to Congress a report on the participation of the Department of Veterans Affairs in State controlled substance monitoring programs, including programs approved by the Secretary of Health and Human Services under section 399O of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 280g–3).

(2) ELEMENTS.—The report required by paragraph (1) shall include the following:

(A) A summary of the activities of the Department of Veterans Affairs relating to programs described in paragraph (1).

(B) A list of the programs described in paragraph (1) in which the Department is participating.

(C) A description of how the Secretary determines which programs described in paragraph (1) in which to participate.

(D) The status of the regulations, if any, prescribed by the Secretary under section 5701(l) of title 38, United States Code, as added by subsection (a) of this section.

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I rise today in support of reauthorization of the National All Schedules Prescription Electronic Drug Reporting Act, NASPER, program critical to combating the abuse of prescription drugs in our Nation. I am proud to once again join my colleagues Senators DICK DURBIN, JEFF SESSIONS, and SHERROD BROWN on this important legislation which would reauthorize the NASPER program.

In 2008, over 15 million Americans abused prescription drugs and nearly 2 million of those Americans were between the ages of 12 and 17. Further, the National Institute on Drug Abuse at the National Institutes of Health found that last year more than 1 in 10 high school seniors used a narcotic for nonmedical purposes. These statistics are simply unacceptable. We must do more to address the issue of prescription drug abuse in this country.

When used under the supervision of a medical professional prescription drugs can be life saving but when they are abused they can become life-threatening. NASPER will help prevent unnecessary deaths by allowing credentialed professionals access to key information regarding prescriptions for many controlled substances. This access will help prevent doctor shopping and will help health professionals to more closely monitor the prescriptions being issued to their patients.

NASPER is a valuable tool available to states to help detect and prevent abuse of prescription drugs. Reauthorization of this program will allow states to establish, maintain, and grow their own electronic prescription drug monitoring programs. Beyond this it will help states establish linkages to surrounding states so that information can be more easily shared, making doctor shopping across state lines more difficult.

I am proud of the work that is going on in my own state of Connecticut around this issue. Our Drug Control Division within the Department of Consumer Protection has worked tirelessly to build a successful prescription drug monitoring program. This program has helped to not only prevent abuse of prescription drugs but it has helped to detect and prevent abuse of critical programs such as Medicare and Medicaid. In one case, an investigation of a pharmacist fraudulently billing Medicaid and Medicare resulted in a settlement with the government for $340,000.

As you can see NASPER is an important tool we cannot afford to lose and I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important legislation.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 579—HONORING THE LIFE OF MANUTE BOL AND EXPRESSING THE CONDOLENCES OF THE SENATE ON HIS PASSING

Mr. BROWNBACK (for himself and Mr. LIEBERMAN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 579

Whereas Manute Bol was born the son of a Dinka tribal chief in Sudan, and was given the name ''Manute'', which means ''special blessing'';

Whereas Manute Bol traveled to the United States in 1983 and played college basketball at the University of Bridgeport during the 1984–1985 season;

Whereas Manute Bol began his National Basketball Assocation (NBA) career with the Washington Bullets in 1985, setting the rookie shot-blocking record;

Whereas Manute Bol played in the NBA for 10 years, setting numerous shot-blocking records;

Whereas, after beginning his career in the NBA, Manute Bol used his fame and fortune to raise funding and awareness for the people of Sudan;

Whereas Manute Bol was admitted to the United States as a religious refugee and lost over 250 members of his extended family to a civil war rife with religious tensions, but nevertheless spent his life working for reconciliation between Christians and Muslims in Sudan;

Whereas Manute Bol's last project to foster reconciliation was to build 41 schools for Christians and Muslims to learn and live together in the spirit of reconciliation;

Whereas Manute Bol constantly put himself in danger to bring peace and stability to Sudan, including by flying into war zones and visiting refugee camps that were targeted for aerial attack;

Whereas, on Manute Bol's last humanitarian visit to Sudan, the President of Southern Sudan, Salva Kiir, requested that Manute Bol extend his visit to make appearances at Sudan's national election and use his influence to counter corruption, which ultimately led to the deterioration of his health and his sudden death;

Whereas Manute Bol advocated for human rights in Sudan by appearing before Congress and lobbying Members of Congress, thus positively influencing United States foreign policy on Sudan;

Whereas, after Manute Bol retired, he resided in West Hartford, Connecticut and Olathe, Kansas;

Whereas Manute Bol died at the age of 47 on June 19, 2010; and

Whereas Manute Bol's perseverance in his advocacy for Sudan affected the lives of thousands, and possibly millions, of people in Sudan: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) expresses profound sorrow at the death of Manute Bol;

(2) conveys its condolences to the family, friends, and colleagues of Manute Bol;

(3) expresses gratitude to Manute Bol for his passion and determination in raising awareness of human rights abuses, and his dedication to bringing peace to Sudan; and

(4) encourages the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) and the National Basketball Association (NBA) to pursue exhibition games with a Sudanese basketball team to increase awareness of the political and humanitarian situation in Sudan, with proceeds from these games donated toward the construction of reconciliation schools in Sudan, as proposed by Manute Bol.

SENATE RESOLUTION 580—COMMEMORATING THE LIFE AND WORK OF GEORGE M. STEINBRENNER OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

Mr. SCHUMER (for himself, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. NELSON of Florida, and Mr. LEMIEUX) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 580

Whereas George M. Steinbrenner was born on July 4, 1930, in Rocky River, Ohio, and died on July 13, 2010, at the age of 80;

Whereas George M. Steinbrenner served the United States for 2 years in the United States Air Force;

Whereas George M. Steinbrenner owned the American Ship Building Company, the dominant shipbuilding company in the Great Lakes region during the existence of the company;

Whereas, since 1973, George M. Steinbrenner was the principal owner of the New York Yankees Major League Baseball franchise;

Whereas, under the wise and astute leadership of George M. Steinbrenner, the New York Yankees won 7 World Series Championships and 11 American League Championships;

Whereas the New York Yankees, under the leadership of George M. Steinbrenner, brought New Yorkers and New York Yankee fans across the United States countless hours of joy rooting for the consistently competitive teams that Mr. Steinbrenner helped assemble;

Whereas George M. Steinbrenner was the longest-tenured owner in Major League Baseball and became 1 of the most prominent personalities in Major League Baseball;

Whereas George M. Steinbrenner helped many civic causes, including the United States Olympic Committee;

Whereas George M. Steinbrenner was honored as both an ''Outstanding New Yorker'' and as the ''Citizen of the Year'' of Tampa, Florida;

Whereas, under the leadership of George M. Steinbrenner, the New York Yankees organization created a premier Spring Training facility, and developed some of the greatest talent in Major League Baseball, in Tampa, Florida;

Whereas ''Legends Field'', the Spring Training facility of the New York Yankees in Tampa, Florida, was renamed ''Steinbrenner Field'' in March 2008 in honor of Mr. Steinbrenner by the Hillsborough County Commission and the Tampa City Council; and

Whereas George M. Steinbrenner helped to grow the game of baseball into a global sport, with Major League Baseball games now played in Japan and Puerto Rico, and Major League Baseball players originating from over 20 countries: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commemorates the life and work of George M. Steinbrenner;

(2) conveys the condolences of the Senate to the family, friends, and colleagues of George M. Steinbrenner;

(3) recognizes the continuing contributions of George M. Steinbrenner to the State of New York, the State of Florida, and Major League Baseball; and

(4) expresses gratitude to George M. Steinbrenner for his significant contributions to the State of New York, the State of Florida, and the New York Yankees.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 4455. Mr. JOHANNS (for himself, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. ENSIGN, and Mr. THUNE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4402 proposed by Mr. REID (for Mr. BAUCUS (for himself, Ms. LANDRIEU, and Mr. REID)) to the bill H.R. 5297, to create the Small Business Lending Fund Program to direct the Secretary of the Treasury to make capital investments in eligible institutions in order to increase the availability of credit for small businesses, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax incentives for small business job creation, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4456. Mr. DEMINT (for himself and Mr. VITTER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 5297, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4457. Mr. FEINGOLD submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4402 proposed by Mr. REID (for Mr. BAUCUS (for himself, Ms. LANDRIEU, and Mr. REID)) to the bill H.R. 5297, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4458. Mr. ENSIGN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 5297, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4459. Mr. BENNET submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4402 proposed by Mr. REID (for Mr. BAUCUS (for himself, Ms. LANDRIEU, and Mr. REID)) to the bill H.R. 5297, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4460. Mr. BENNET submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4402 proposed by Mr. REID (for Mr. BAUCUS (for himself, Ms. LANDRIEU, and Mr. REID)) to the bill H.R. 5297, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4461. Mr. HATCH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4402 proposed by Mr. REID (for Mr. BAUCUS (for himself, Ms. LANDRIEU, and Mr. REID)) to the bill H.R. 5297, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4462. Mr. CARDIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4402 proposed by Mr. REID (for Mr. BAUCUS (for himself, Ms. LANDRIEU, and Mr. REID)) to the bill H.R. 5297, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4463. Mr. HARKIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4402 proposed by Mr. REID (for Mr. BAUCUS (for himself, Ms. LANDRIEU, and Mr. REID)) to the bill H.R. 5297, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4464. Mr. DEMINT (for himself and Mr. VITTER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 5297, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 4455. Mr. JOHANNS (for himself, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. ENSIGN, and Mr. THUNE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4402 proposed by Mr. REID (for Mr. BAUCUS (for himself, Ms. LANDRIEU, and Mr. REID)) to the bill H.R. 5297, to create the Small Business Lending Fund Program to direct the Secretary of the Treasury to make capital investments in eligible institutions in order to increase the availability of credit for small businesses, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax incentives for small business job creation, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle A of title II, add the following:

PART V—OTHER PROVISIONS

SEC. 2051. REPEAL OF EXPANSION OF INFORMATION REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.

Section 9006 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, and the amendments made thereby, are hereby repealed; and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 shall be applied as if such section, and amendments, had never been enacted.

SA 4456. Mr. DEMINT (for himself and Mr. VITTER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 5297, to create the Small Business Lending Fund Program

to direct the Secretary of the Treasury to make capital investments in eligible institutions in order to increase the availability of credit for small businesses, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax incentives for small business job creation, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____. None of the funds made available in this Act to the Department of Justice may be used to participate in any lawsuit that seeks to invalidate those provisions of the Arizona Revised Statutes amended by Arizona Senate Bill 1070, 49th Leg., 2nd Reg. Sess., Ch. 113 (Az. 6 2010) (as amended by Arizona House Bill 2162, 49th 7 Leg., 2nd Reg. Sess., Ch. 211 (Az. 2010)).

SA 4457. Mr. FEINGOLD submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4402 proposed by Mr. REID (for Mr. BAUCUS (for himself, Ms. LANDRIEU, and Mr. REID)) to the bill H.R. 5297, to create the Small Business Lending Fund Program to direct the Secretary of the Treasury to make capital investments in eligible institutions in order to increase the availability of credit for small businesses, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax incentives for small business job creation, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 41, between lines 3 and 4, insert the following:

SEC. 1137. COORDINATION WITH DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

Section 7 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(o) COORDINATION WITH DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—In coordination with the Administrator of the Farm Service Agency, the Under Secretary for Rural Development, and the head of any other appropriate Federal agency, the Administrator shall conduct outreach and provide technical assistance to farmers and other rural businesses with regard to programs of the Administration for which the farmers and rural businesses may be eligible.

''(2) AGREEMENT.—The coordination under this subsection shall include evaluating whether the Administrator should enter an agreement under which—

''(A) offices of the Department of Agriculture may assist in completing and accept applications for programs of the Administration; or

''(B) employees of the Administration periodically have office hours at offices of the Department of Agriculture.''.

SA 4458. Mr. ENSIGN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 5297, to create the Small Business Lending Fund Program to direct the Secretary of the Treasury to make capital investments in eligible institutions in order to increase the availability of credit for small businesses, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax incentives for small business job creation, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

After section 2042, insert the following:

PART V—PROVIDING PERMANENT STATE AND LOCAL TAX DEDUCTIONS

SEC. 2051. STATE AND LOCAL TAX DEDUCTIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 164(b)(5) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking subparagraph (I).

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2009.

(c) OFFSET.—Notwithstanding section 5 of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Pub. Law 111-5), from the amounts appropriated or made available and remaining unobligated under such Act, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall transfer from time to time to the general fund of the Treasury an amount equal to the sum of the amount of any net reduction in revenues resulting from the application of subsection (a).

SA 4459. Mr. BENNET submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4402 proposed by Mr. REID (for Mr. BAUCUS (for himself, Ms. LANDRIEU, and Mr. REID)) to the bill H.R. 5297, to create the Small Business Lending Fund Program to direct the Secretary of the Treasury to make capital investments in eligible institutions in order to increase the availability of credit for small businesses, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax incentives for small business job creation, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 7, strike lines 15 through 18 and insert the following:

(4) in clause (iv)—

(A) by striking ''$4,000,000'' and inserting ''$5,500,000''; and

(B) by striking ''and'' at the end;

(5) in clause (v)—

(A) by striking ''$4,000,000'' and inserting ''$5,500,000''; and

(B) by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(6) by adding at the end the following:

''(vi) during the 2-year period beginning on the date of enactment of the Small Business Jobs Act of 2010, $10,000,000 for each project for a small business concern that constitutes a major source of employment, as determined by the Administrator.''.

SA 4460. Mr. BENNET submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4402 proposed by Mr. REID (for Mr. BAUCUS (for himself, Ms. LANDRIEU, and Mr. REID)) to the bill H.R. 5297, to create the Small Business Lending Fund Program to direct the Secretary of the Treasury to make capital investments in eligible institutions in order to increase the availability of credit for small businesses, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax incentives for small business job creation, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 113, between lines 17 and 18, insert the following:

SEC. 1348. SMALL BUSINESS CLEARINGHOUSE.

Section 7(a) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(a)) is amended by adding after paragraph (35), as added by section 1206 of this Act, the following:

''(36) SMALL BUSINESS CLEARINGHOUSE.—

''(A) SUBMISSION TO ADMINISTRATION.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall establish a process under which a lender participating in a program under this subsection that denies an application by small business concern for a loan guaranteed under this subsection may submit the application to the Administrator for the purpose of making the application available to other lenders under this paragraph.

''(ii) INFORMATION.—With the approval of the applicant, a lender shall include with an application submitted to the Administrator under clause (i) any information in the possession of the lender relating to the creditworthiness and repayment ability of the applicant.

''(iii) DETERMINATION.—The Administrator shall determine whether an application submitted under clause (i) meets the eligibility and credit standards that a lender would be required to apply to approve a loan under this subsection.

''(B) PARTICIPATION OF LENDERS.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall establish a process under which the Administrator makes available to lenders each loan application submitted and determined to meet basic eligibility and credit standards under subparagraph (A) for the purpose of the lenders originating, underwriting, closing, and servicing the loan for which the applicant applied.

''(ii) ELIGIBILITY.—A lender shall be eligible to receive a loan application described in clause (i) if the lender participates in the programs established under this subsection.

''(iii) LOCAL LENDERS.—The Administrator shall initially make available a loan application described in clause (i) to lenders participating in a program under this subsection with an office located within approximately 100 miles of the principal office of the loan applicant.

''(iv) PREFERRED OR CERTIFIED LENDERS.—If, as of 10 business days after the date the Administrator makes a loan application available under clause (iii), no lender described in clause (iii) has agreed to originate, underwrite, close, and service the loan, the Administrator shall make available the loan application to lenders participating in the Preferred Lenders Program under paragraph (2)(C)(ii) and lenders participating in the Certified Lenders Program under paragraph (19).

''(C) REFERRAL FEE.—A lender that agrees to originate, underwrite, close, and service a loan under subparagraph (B) shall pay a nominal referral fee, in an amount established by the Administrator, to the lender that submitted the application for the loan under subparagraph (A).''.

SA 4461. Mr. HATCH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4402 proposed by Mr. REID (for Mr. BAUCUS (for himself, Ms. LANDRIEU, and Mr. REID)) to the bill H.R. 5297, to create the Small Business Lending Fund Program to direct the Secretary of the Treasury to make capital investments in eligible institutions in order to increase the availability of credit for small businesses, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax incentives for small business job creation, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle A of title II, insert the following:

PART V—OTHER PROVISIONS

SEC. _____. RESEARCH CREDIT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (B) of section 41(h)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking ''December 31, 2009'' and inserting ''December 31, 2010''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Subparagraph (D) of section 45C(b)(1) of such Code is amended by striking ''December 31, 2009'' and inserting ''December 31, 2010''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to amounts paid or incurred after December 31, 2009.

SA 4462. Mr. CARDIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4402 proposed by Mr. REID (for Mr. BAUCUS (for himself, Ms. LANDRIEU, and Mr. REID)) to the bill H.R. 5297, to create the Small Business Lending Fund Program to direct the Secretary of the Treasury to make capital investments in eligible institutions in order to increase the availability of credit for small businesses, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax incentives for small business job creation, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 200, between lines 2 and 3, insert the following:

SEC. 3114. PILOT PROGRAM FOR DIRECT LOANS TO SMALL BUSINESS CONCERNS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

(1) the terms ''Administration'' and ''Administrator'' mean the Small Business Administration and the Administrator thereof, respectively;

(2) the term ''eligible small business concern'' means a small business concern with fewer than 25 employees;

(3) the term ''pilot program'' means the pilot program established under subsection (b)(1);

(4) the term ''region of the Administration'' means the geographic area served by a regional office of the Administration established under section 4(a) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 633(a)); and

(5) the term ''small business concern'' has the meaning given that term under section 3 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632).

(b) LOAN PROGRAM ESTABLISHED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator and the Secretary shall jointly establish a pilot program under which the Administrator and the Secretary, acting through the regional offices of the Administration, may make loans to eligible small business concerns.

(2) LOCATIONS FOR PILOT PROGRAM.—The Administrator and the Secretary—

(A) shall jointly select 6 States in which to make loans under the pilot program; and

(B) may not select more than 1 State in any region of the Administration under subparagraph (A).

(3) START OF PILOT PROGRAM.—The Administrator and the Secretary shall begin making loans under the pilot program not later than January 1, 2011.

(c) TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), a loan under the pilot program shall have the same terms and conditions as, and may be used for any purpose authorized for, a guaranteed by the Administrator under section 7(a) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(a)), as amended by this Act.

(2) MAXIMUM AMOUNT.—A loan under the pilot program may be in an amount not more than $1,000,000.

(d) FUNDING.—From the Fund, $500,000,000 shall be available to the Administrator and the Secretary, without further appropriation or fiscal year limitation, to carry out the pilot program.

(e) TERMINATION.—The Administrator and the Secretary may not make a loan under the pilot program after December 31, 2013.

SA 4463. Mr. HARKIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4402 proposed by Mr. REID (for Mr. BAUCUS (for himself, Ms. LANDRIEU, and Mr. REID)) to the bill H.R. 5297, to create the Small Business Lending Fund Program to direct the Secretary of the Treasury to make capital investments in eligible institutions in order to increase the availability of credit for small businesses, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax incentives for small business job creation, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle A of title II, insert the following:

PART V—OTHER PROVISIONS

SEC. _____. SPECIAL RULE FOR PRIVATE ACTIVITY BOND PRIVATE USE TESTS WITH RESPECT TO THE PURCHASE OF WATER OUTPUT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—A qualified water output agreement shall be disregarded in determining whether the private business tests under section 141(b) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 are met with respect to an issue of bonds.

(b) QUALIFIED WATER OUTPUT AGREEMENT.—For purposes of this section, the term ''qualified water output agreement'' means, with respect to any issue of bonds, any agreement with a qualified entity for the purchase of water from a facility which is financed by such issue if it is reasonably expected on the date of issuance that not less than 10 percent of the water will be sold by such qualified entity to individuals not involved in a trade or business or to political subdivisions or their utilities.

(c) QUALIFIED ENTITY.—For purposes of this section, the term ''qualified entity'' means any rural water association—

(1) no part of the net earning of which inures to the benefit of any private shareholder or individual, and

(2) which is described in section 501(c)(12) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and exempt from tax under section 501(a) of such Code.

SA 4464. Mr. DEMINT (for himself and Mr. VITTER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 5297, to create the Small Business Lending Fund Program to direct the Secretary of the Treasury to make capital investments in eligible institutions in order to increase the availability of credit for small businesses, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax incentives for small business job creation, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____. No funds made available in any provision of law may be used to participate in any lawsuit that seeks to invalidate those provisions of the Arizona Revised Statutes amended by Arizona Senate Bill 1070, 49th Leg., 2nd Reg. Sess., Ch. 113 (Az. 6 2010) (as amended by Arizona House Bill 2162, 49th 7 Leg., 2nd Reg. Sess., Ch. 211 (Az. 2010)).

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on July 13, 2010, at 2:30 p.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on July 13, 2010, at 10 a.m. in SH–216 of the Hart Senate Office Building, to conduct an executive business meeting.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on July 13, 2010, at 2:30 p.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON FEDERAL FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT, GOVERNMENT INFORMATION, FEDERAL SERVICES, AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs' Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management, Government Information, Federal Services, and International Security be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on July 13, 2010, at 2:30 p.m. to conduct a hearing entitled, ''The Cost Effectiveness of Procuring Weapon Systems in Excess of Requirements.''

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

TO AMEND THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE GIFT CARD PROVISIONS OF THE CREDIT CARD ACCOUNTABILITY RESPONSIBILITY AND DISCLOSURE ACT OF 2009

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Banking Committee be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 5502 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 5502) to amend the effective date of the gift card provisions of the Credit Card Accountability Responsibility and Disclosure Act of 2009.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate, and any statements related to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 5502) was ordered to be read a third time, was read the third time, and passed.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE AND WORK OF GEORGE M. STEINBRENNER

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 580, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 580) commemorating the life and work of George M. Steinbrenner of the State of New York.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and that any statements related to the resolution be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 580) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 580

Whereas George M. Steinbrenner was born on July 4, 1930, in Rocky River, Ohio, and died on July 13, 2010, at the age of 80;

Whereas George M. Steinbrenner served the United States for 2 years in the United States Air Force;

Whereas George M. Steinbrenner owned the American Ship Building Company, the dominant shipbuilding company in the Great Lakes region during the existence of the company;

Whereas, since 1973, George M. Steinbrenner was the principal owner of the New York Yankees Major League Baseball franchise;

Whereas, under the wise and astute leadership of George M. Steinbrenner, the New York Yankees won 7 World Series Championships and 11 American League Championships;

Whereas the New York Yankees, under the leadership of George M. Steinbrenner, brought New Yorkers and New York Yankee fans across the United States countless hours of joy rooting for the consistently competitive teams that Mr. Steinbrenner helped assemble;

Whereas George M. Steinbrenner was the longest-tenured owner in Major League Baseball and became 1 of the most prominent personalities in Major League Baseball;

Whereas George M. Steinbrenner helped many civic causes, including the United States Olympic Committee;

Whereas George M. Steinbrenner was honored as both an ''Outstanding New Yorker'' and as the ''Citizen of the Year'' of Tampa, Florida;

Whereas, under the leadership of George M. Steinbrenner, the New York Yankees organization created a premier Spring Training facility, and developed some of the greatest talent in Major League Baseball, in Tampa, Florida;

Whereas ''Legends Field'', the Spring Training facility of the New York Yankees in Tampa, Florida, was renamed ''Steinbrenner Field'' in March 2008 in honor of Mr. Steinbrenner by the Hillsborough County Commission and the Tampa City Council; and

Whereas George M. Steinbrenner helped to grow the game of baseball into a global sport, with Major League Baseball games now played in Japan and Puerto Rico, and Major League Baseball players originating from over 20 countries: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commemorates the life and work of George M. Steinbrenner;

(2) conveys the condolences of the Senate to the family, friends, and colleagues of George M. Steinbrenner;

(3) recognizes the continuing contributions of George M. Steinbrenner to the State of New York, the State of Florida, and Major League Baseball; and

(4) expresses gratitude to George M. Steinbrenner for his significant contributions to the State of New York, the State of Florida, and the New York Yankees.

MEASURE READ FIRST TIME—H.R. 5618

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I understand that H.R. 5618 has been received from the House and is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator is correct. The clerk will read the title of the bill for the first time.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 5618) to continue Federal unemployment programs.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask for its second reading and object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard. The bill will be read for the second time on the next legislative day.

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, JULY 14, 2010

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 o'clock a.m. on Wednesday, July 14; that following the prayer and the pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed to have expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; that following any leader remarks, the Senate proceed to a period of morning business until 12 noon, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each, with the time equally divided and controlled between the leaders or their designees, with the majority controlling the first 30 minutes and the Republicans controlling the next 30 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROGRAM

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I understand that we hope to reach an agreement on the initial amendments in order to the small business jobs bill, H.R. 5297, and that we will be able to resume its consideration tomorrow.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it adjourn under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 7:11 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, July 14, 2010, at 10 a.m.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE VNA

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, today I am extremely proud to rise to honor the Visiting Nursing Association (VNA) of Western New York and recognize their 125 years of exemplary health care delivery in our community.

The VNA was one of the very first visiting nurse charities here in the United States. Over the years it has grown to be one of the largest home health care agencies in the nation, providing a range of services for all ages.

In 1885 Elizabeth Coe Marshall, a Buffalo teacher, founded what became the VNA when she recognized the need and collected donations to support a traveling nurse to serve the ill and indigent. Today the VNA of WNY is 900 nurses strong and provides a broad array of services that range from counseling new nursing mothers to providing health care that allows seniors to remain in the comfort of their own home. This devoted group serves 6,500 patients each and every day and makes more than one-half million home visits each year.

Over the decades the VNA of WNY has continued to adapt to meet the latest needs and incorporate today's technology. This has included rising to the demand to deliver H1N1 vaccines and integrating telemedicine into home care delivery.

Madam Speaker, it is with most sincere gratitude that I pay tribute to the Visiting Nursing Association of Western New York for their leadership in health care and 125 years of service and dedication to this great community.

RECOGNIZING BARBARA WOODS FOR HER DISTINGUISHED CAREER WITH THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge Barbara Woods for her distinguished career with the Internal Revenue Service in Holtsville, New York, and to congratulate her on her retirement on Friday, July 2nd, 2010.

For the past ten years, Ms. Woods has served as a Case Advocate within the Taxpayer Advocate Service. In this capacity, she has devoted herself to helping citizens of Long Island navigate our nation's complex tax system. She has also shared her wealth of knowledge and experience with new Case Advocates undergoing training. Because of her, individuals on Long Island have been able to communicate successfully with the Internal Revenue Service, and will continue to do so well into the future.

I am proud to recognize Ms. Woods for her dedication and service.

COMMENDING TAIWAN

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise to commend the Republic of China, Taiwan, for assisting the oil spill relief efforts in the Gulf of Mexico.

In response to requests by the International Spill Control Organization and BP, the Environmental Protection Administration of the Republic of China, Taiwan, airlifted 600 feet of fire boom for use in the Gulf in order to contain surface oil and burn it offshore.

What is truly remarkable is the speed with which Taiwan has responded. When the request arrived in Taipei, Taiwanese officials and agencies worked expeditiously to process the request. Taiwan has joined seventeen other nations and various other international bodies in helping to mitigate the effects of the oil spill in the Gulf

Taiwan's efforts should be recognized and commended. Taiwan has been most generous in helping the United States in its hour of need. We also remember Taiwan's humanitarian assistance to Haiti after its January earthquake. The world certainly could use more caring nations like Taiwan.

MEDIA MOGUL ADMITS HE HELPED WRITE PRESIDENT'S SPEECH

HON. LAMAR SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Madam Speaker, Mort Zuckerman, the chairman and editor-in-chief of U.S. News & World Report and publisher of the New York Daily News, admitted on Fox News that he "voted for [President] Obama" and "helped write one of his speeches."

Perhaps the real surprise is not that a prominent member of the national media helped President Obama, but that he actually admitted to it on national television.

Mr. Zuckerman is not the only member of the media who has worked for President Obama. An astonishing 15 journalists have left a national media outlet to join either the Obama administration or a liberal group, according to a recent tally by the Media Research Center.

It's no wonder just 8 percent of Americans trust the media, according to a recent public opinion poll.

The national media should give Americans the facts, not cover for the Obama administration.

H.R. 2194, COMPREHENSIVE IRAN SANCTIONS, ACCOUNTABILITY, AND DIVESTMENT ACT

HON. TODD TIAHRT

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. TIAHRT. Madam Speaker, Iran continues down a dangerous path that must he confronted with resolve and action. Unfortunately, instead of supporting the national interests of the United States, the Obama administration has attempted to aid hostile regimes over allies, supported dictators over democracy, and been more interested in talking to our adversaries than supporting our longstanding friends in the Middle East. To redirect U.S. foreign policy in the region, I am pleased to be a co-sponsor of H.R. 2194, the Comprehensive Iran Sanctions, Accountability, and Divestment Act, which we are considering today.

The threat posed by Iran is clear. First, we know that Iran is developing nuclear weapons. In 2009, Dennis Blair, Director of National Intelligence testified before Congress that "Iran has the scientific, technical, and industrial capacity to eventually produce nuclear weapons." He went on to say that Iran could soon have enough highly enriched uranium for a nuclear weapon.

Second, we know that Iran has advanced short and medium-range missiles, and is rapidly developing capable longer-range missiles. Iran has already deployed the Shahab-3 missile, which has a range of over one-thousand miles. This missile can strike Israel and allies in Europe as well as American troops deployed in the Middle East, Asia and Europe. In February, Iran launched its first satellite into space. There are just relatively minor technological steps between a space launch and an inter-continental ballistic missile launch. In fact, a recent Air Force report said Iran's "ambitious ballistic missile and space launch development programs" could allow them to have an inter-continental ballistic missile capable of hitting the United States by 2015.

Third, we know Iran is the world's most active state sponsor of terrorism. According to our own State Department, "Iran's involvement in the planning and financial support of terrorist attacks throughout the Middle East, Europe, and Central Asia had a direct impact on international efforts to promote peace, threatened economic stability in the Gulf, and undermined the growth of democracy." Iran provides aid in the form of weapons, training, and funding to Hamas and other Palestinian terrorist groups, Lebanese Hezbollah, Iraq-based militants, and Taliban fighters in Afghanistan—and those are the ones we know about.

Finally, we know that Iranian leaders continue to call for the destruction of Israel. Israel is our most important ally in the Middle East. The United States has a strategic and moral responsibility to stand with them against all threats and aggression.

To counter this clear Iranian threat, I am pleased the House is today considering the conference report for H.R. 2194. This legislation will dramatically limit Iran's ability to import and produce refined petroleum products by requiring the president to impose sanctions on companies helping Iran in these areas. The bill also adds three new sanctions to limit Iranian access to the U.S. banking system and foreign exchanges, and toughens the sanctions regime by requiring the president to investigate any reports of certain sanctionable activity for which there is credible evidence and make a determination to Congress whether such activity has indeed occurred.

While the Obama administration has failed to alter Iranian action through appeasement, H.R. 2194 will take serious actions. Although a large oil producer, Iran is dependent on imported refined petroleum products. With these new sanctions in place, the Iranian economy will be dramatically hindered and hopefully Iran will be forced to change course especially in regards to nuclear weapons program.

While I join with my colleagues in strong support of this legislation, I am disappointed with two aspects of this conference report. First of all, the timing. This legislation was introduced 14 months ago and passed on the floor of the House six months ago. All of these delays were at the behest of the Obama administration due to their continued opposition to the bill. The administration finally allowed the legislation to move forward only after securing an important concession providing the President extensive waivers, which is my second concern.

Originally containing limited waiver authority, Democrats added much more extensive presidential waivers. This is a farce and undermines the legislation. The administration has shown time and time again its interest in appeasement and opposition to a strong sanctions regime. I fear this important legislation will just be waived like so many other sanction laws aimed at Iran.

While I support this conference report, I call on the administration to not utilize any waiver authority and allow every sanction in this bill to take effect. This legislation is the clear will of Congress and the American people, and should be carried out to its fullest extent by the administration.

Madam Speaker, H.R. 2194 is not perfect, but it is a good step forward in protecting U.S.-vital interests. Therefore, I encourage my colleagues to support final passage.

HONORING THE 175TH ANNIVERSARY OF HUNTSVILLE, TEXAS

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 175th anniversary of the City of Huntsville, Texas, and I extend my congratulations to its citizens on this memorable occasion.

Huntsville has a rich and memorable history that is as old as the state of Texas itself. This great city started out in 1835 as an Indian trading post established by Pleasant and Ephraim Gray who moved to the area from Huntsville, Alabama. Because their trading post was situated near the Trinity River, as trade along the river's banks grew, so did the number of settlers in Huntsville. New residents found the prairie lands in and around Huntsville to be fertile grounds for farming and ranching, and they found lush timber lands for harvesting.

The 1840s and 1850s were prosperous times for Huntsville, as settlers from eastern states continued to arrive and establish homesteads and businesses in the city. In 1845, the city was incorporated by the Congress of the Republic of Texas. In 1849, Austin College was founded in Huntsville. In 1850, the Huntsville Item newspaper was established and continues to be the second oldest continually published newspaper in the state of Texas.

Huntsville is known as the home of the great General Sam Houston, who served as President of the Republic of Texas, Governor of Texas, U.S. Representative, and U.S. Senator. It is also the home of Sam Houston State University, founded in 1879, and the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

Today, Huntsville enjoys a vibrant economy and still maintains the natural beauty that attracted many of its earliest settlers. Tourists come to Huntsville to visit the Huntsville State Park, the Sam Houston National Forest, the Sam Houston Memorial Museum and statue, HEARTS Veterans Museum, the Texas Prison Museum, and the nearby attractions of the Trinity River and Lake Livingston.

In keeping with the traditions of its founding, Huntsville remains a friendly city that welcomes new families and individuals to enjoy life in the Piney Woods region of Texas. It is a place that values hard work and entrepreneurship and a place where residents respect and honor the freedom provided by our Armed Forces. Its citizens are some of the most patriotic and philanthropic you will find anywhere.

Madam Speaker, it is a privilege to represent the citizens of the city of Huntsville, Texas, in the House of Representatives. In the words of John W. Thomason, Jr., one of Huntsville's most notable residents who wrote many years ago, Huntsville continues to remain a "place of prominence: notable for culture, for manners, and for morals." Please join me in congratulating the citizens of Huntsville on this momentous occasion.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND MILITARY SERVICE OF COLONEL WILLIAM B. IMANDT

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of Colonel William B. Imandt, who was laid to rest in Arlington National Cemetery on Friday, July 2nd, 2010.

Colonel Imandt was a veteran of World War II, and courageously endured time as a soldier Missing in Action and a Prisoner of War. For his service in defense of our nation, he was awarded both the Bronze Star and a Purple Heart. His legacy will live on through his family and his commitment will not be forgotten.

I am proud to recognize Colonel Imandt for his brave service and dedication to our nation and the cause of freedom.

SAVANNAH GARCIA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Savannah Garcia who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Savannah Garcia is an 8th grader at Drake Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Savannah Garcia is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Savannah Garcia for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character to all her future accomplishments.

HONORING RON GETTELFINGER

HON. JOHN A. BOCCIERI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. BOCCIERI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a man who served as a statesman for organized labor and the United Auto Workers, leading his brothers and sisters through some of the most difficult economic times facing our nation.

While a chassis line repairman, Ron Gettelfinger became a member of the UAW in 1964. Since then, elected by his peers each time, he became Director, then Vice President and finally President of the UAW.

Now, after serving two consecutive terms as President of the UAW, Ron Gettelfinger will retire from his tenure.

Mr. Gettelfinger believed in fighting "for something better" and he achieved this during his 8 year term as President of the UAW in a multitude of ways.

He championed the fight for fair trade agreements that contained strong labor protections and he stood up in support of clean energy issues.

He fought to keep manufacturing jobs here in the United States by supporting domestic investments in advanced technology vehicles.

And as a steadfast advocate for the American worker, he strongly supported accessible and affordable healthcare for everyone.

I thank Ron Gettelfinger for his service to our great country and the UAW as a voice for the ordinary, hard working American.

RECOGNIZING GROCERY STORE DONATIONS TO FOOD BANKS

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize grocery stores in the 10th District of

Virginia for their assistance in working with local food banks and food pantries.

I salute the excellent work of community grocery store managers, employees, and volunteers for their dedicated work with local area food banks and food pantries. These grocery stores are the backbone of the food donation network. Without their support, food banks and food pantries would not be able to serve the community.

This community partnership is vital to continuing to feed families throughout the 10th District of Virginia who are struggling to put food on the table. Grocery stores around the country can make a positive difference in their communities by donating unused food to their local food banks and food pantries. I also want to make it clear that food donations from grocery stores to food banks are protected from liability under the Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Act. I urge grocery stores nationwide to follow the example of these stores in northern Virginia by donating food that would otherwise go to waste.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF WILLIAM L. TAYLOR, LAWYER AND CHAMPION OF CIVIL RIGHTS AND EDUCATION

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Madam Speaker, our country lost a true education civil rights pioneer last week. William L. Taylor was a friend, an ally, a trusted advocate and true hero to our nation's children. His work helped all children succeed and profoundly impacted the way we educate children in this country. Both the Washington Post and the New York Times ran obituaries on his passing. I have submitted these for the RECORD as well as the eulogy by Ralph Neas given at his Memorial Services. Bill will be deeply missed. My thoughts and prayers are with the Taylor family during this difficult time.

[From the Washington Post, June 30, 2010]

WILLIAM L. TAYLOR, 78; WASHINGTON LAWYER, CHAMPION OF CIVIL RIGHTS

(By Emma Brown)

William L. Taylor, 78, a Washington lawyer and civil rights activist for more than half a century who fought discrimination on many fronts and was particularly dedicated to desegregating the nation's schools, died June 28 at Suburban Hospital in Bethesda of complications from a fall.

In a career spanning six decades, Mr. Taylor worked largely behind the scenes in courtrooms and on Capitol Hill, advising members of Congress, drafting legislation and taking advantage of changing attitudes about race and equality to strengthen the nation's civil rights laws and their enforcement.

One of his early mentors was Thurgood Marshall, who later became the first African American Supreme Court justice. Mr. Taylor went to work for Marshall at the NAACP Legal and Education Defense Fund in 1954, months after the Supreme Court's landmark Brown v. Board of Education decision outlawed public school segregation.

In 1958, Mr. Taylor helped write the NAACP's legal brief for the Supreme Court case that compelled schools in Little Rock—and required schools across the nation—to comply with Brown v. Board and integrate public schools.

During the 1960s, Mr. Taylor was the general counsel and staff director of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights. He played a key role in organizing on-the-ground hearings and investigations into discrimination against African Americans in the Deep South. The resulting recommendations by the commission became the foundation for the 1964 Civil Rights Act and the 1965 Voting Rights Act.

In the late 1960s, he left the government to become a government watchdog. He launched two organizations to monitor the government's efforts to enforce civil rights laws, the Center for National Policy Review at Catholic University, where he taught law, and later the Citizens' Commission on Civil Rights.

During the administrations of Ronald Reagan and George H.W. Bush, Mr. Taylor lobbied for and helped draft stronger laws to address discrimination in housing, employment and voting. He also was in the group that led the fight against Reagan's nomination of Robert Bork to the Supreme Court. They examined every article, every speech, every decision, every statement that Robert Bork ever made and put together the book on Bork—and that was literally and figuratively the foundation for Bork's rejection by the Senate, said Ralph Neas, the former executive director of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, who chaired the Block Bork coalition.

Mr. Taylor was perhaps best known for his efforts to force states and cities to make good on the promise of equal schools for all. Through the courts, he pressed for the desegregation of a number of urban school districts. In St. Louis, after a parent challenged the segregated school system, Mr. Taylor led negotiations in the 1980s that established the nation's largest voluntary metropolitan school desegregation plan.

In recent years, Mr. Taylor helped draft No Child Left Behind, the 2002 federal law intended to boost the quality of the nation's schools by measuring student progress on standardized tests, and he defended it against legal challenges. In his eyes, ensuring excellent schools for all students was a matter of civil rights. ''He was a huge champion for closing the achievement gap, for accountability—just a hawk, and I use that as a huge compliment because he was ever-vigilant about that cause,'' said Margaret Spellings, who was secretary of education under President George W. Bush.

William Lewis Taylor was born Oct. 4, 1931, in Brooklyn, N.Y., the son of Jewish emigrants from Lithuania. Growing up, Mr. Taylor was the target of anti-Semitic slurs. He graduated from high school in 1947, the same year that Jackie Robinson went to bat for the Brooklyn Dodgers, drawing countless racial insults as he broke the major league color barrier. ''The very first awareness I had about prejudice against blacks came from watching what Robinson went through,'' Mr. Taylor said in a 1999 interview.

In 1952, he graduated from Brooklyn College, where he met his future wife, Harriett Rosen. He graduated from Yale University's law school in 1954.

Mr. Taylor had served since 1982 as vice chair of the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights in Washington and taught education law at Georgetown University.

His wife of 43 years, who became a D.C. Superior Court judge, died in 1997.

Survivors include their three children, Lauren R. Taylor of Takoma Park, Debbie L. Taylor of San Francisco and David S. Van Taylor of Brooklyn; a brother, Burton Taylor of Rockville; and three grandchildren.

At Brooklyn College, Mr. Taylor was editor of the campus newspaper for two issues before it was shut down by the college's president, Harry Gideonse, who thought the paper was too sympathetic to Communist interests. When the New York Times printed a story about the closing, Mr. Taylor recalled in his 2004 memoir, ''The Passion of My Times,'' he was called into Gideonse's office. ''I hate to ruin anyone's career,'' he remembered the president saying, ''but in your case, I'm prepared to make an exception.''

Years later, Mr. Taylor obtained his FBI file, which showed that college officials had urged the federal government not to hire Mr. Taylor when he was being considered for the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights. They criticized him for his involvement with the student government, which one official said had ''espoused liberal causes such as the rights of the Negro in the South.''

In 2001, Brooklyn College gave Mr. Taylor an honorary degree, honoring his efforts to secure civil rights for all Americans. ''It was a character-building experience,'' Mr. Taylor said at the time. ''I learned that you could speak out for things you believed in and that nothing bad would happen to you. I have spent my life doing that.''

[From the Washington Post, July 2, 2010]

THE LOSS OF CIVIL RIGHTS ADVOCATE WILLIAM L. TAYLOR

Bill Taylor was not one of those bold-face Washington names—except to those in the civil rights movement. If you were in that movement, you probably knew William L. Taylor, who died Monday at the age of 78; and if you didn't know him, you certainly knew what he had accomplished.

For more than half a century, Mr. Taylor was at the center of every major civil rights battle. As a young lawyer at the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund, he wrote the Supreme Court brief in Cooper v. Aaron, the case in which the justices insisted that the Little Rock schools be desegregated notwithstanding massive local resistance. He worked not only to pass the landmark civil rights statutes of the 1960s—the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Voting Rights Act of 1965, the Fair Housing Act of 1968—but to ensure their extension and rewriting in the face of hostile Supreme Court decisions in the following decades. He focused particularly on school desegregation—most notably negotiating a voluntary desegregation plan for St. Louis schools—and ensuring educational opportunity for students in impoverished areas, a passion that led him to join forces with the Bush administration in writing the No Child Left Behind law. In his various roles, as general counsel and staff director of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, as executive director of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, as a law professor and private practitioner, Mr. Taylor was, in the words of the late Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, ''a long-distance runner on the road to justice.''

The Brooklyn-born son of Lithuanian immigrants, Mr. Taylor wrote in his memoir, ''The Passion of My Times,'' that he turned up for work at the Legal Defense and Education Fund fresh out of Yale Law School ''with virtually no interaction with African Americans. Jackie Robinson provided my only civil rights education.'' But his passion for civil rights, like his passions for baseball and jazz, never waned. His funeral Wednesday featured repeated references to Mr. Taylor's strong, sometimes prickly, personality. ''He was never afraid to share his side of the argument—whether or not you wanted to hear it,'' his 13-year-old granddaughter, Simone, wrote in a memoir read at the service. ''He knew when to take a stand, and he

knew when to hammer out a compromise with integrity,'' said Rabbi David Saperstein, a longtime colleague.

''The strange thing about working in civil rights is that you always feel that you are stuck in a period of great difficulty,'' Mr. Taylor said in a 1999 interview with the D.C. Bar magazine. ''There was tremendous resistance to the Brown decision, and then we went through all of the tumultuous violence of the 1960s. There were times when it felt very grave, ugly and hateful. But every few years you look up and realize that things have changed in fundamental ways.'' Mr. Taylor helped bring about that fundamental change.

[From the New York Times, June 29, 2010]

WILLIAM TAYLOR, VIGOROUS RIGHTS DEFENDER, DIES AT 78

(By Douglas Martin)

William L. Taylor, who as a lawyer, lobbyist and government official for more than a half century had significant roles in pressing important civil rights cases and in drafting and defending civil rights legislation—died Monday in Bethesda, Md. He was 78 and lived in Washington. His son, David Van Taylor, said the direct cause of death was fluid in his lungs, a complication of a head injury he suffered in a fall a month ago.

William Taylor began his long fight for racial justice as a young lawyer at the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund Inc. working with Thurgood Marshall, who would later become a Supreme Court justice. He helped fight some of the difficult civil rights battles that followed the Supreme Court order in 1954 that schools be desegregated. One assignment was writing much of the brief that persuaded the court to order the continued desegregation of schools in Little Rock, Ark., in an extraordinary summer session in 1958. The local school board had decided to suspend desegregation because of heated resistance the previous year.

Mr. Taylor went on to the United States Commission on Civil Rights as general counsel and staff director during the Kennedy and Johnson administrations. He directed research that contributed to the 1964 Civil Rights Act, the 1965 Voting Rights Act and the 1968 Fair Housing Act.

Later victories included negotiating a voluntary school desegregation plan in St. Louis in the 1980s as well as deals with other school systems. In a statement Tuesday, the N.A.A.C.P. called Mr. Taylor ''a staunch advocate for educational equity throughout his storied legal career.''

Starting in 1982, Mr. Taylor used his position as vice chairman of the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights to help renew and strengthen some of the major civil rights legislation of the 1960s.

He headed a team of lawyers assembled by the conference that evaluated civil rights enforcement in the first year of the Reagan administration. In a 75-page report, the lawyers found that the administration had ''repudiated'' constitutional interpretations by the Supreme Court that protected rights and that it had attacked lower courts for protecting minorities.

''For more than half a century, Bill Taylor's voice was synonymous with equality,'' Representative George Miller, the California Democrat who is chairman of the House Education and Labor Committee, said in a statement.

Mr. Taylor is also credited with helping to devise a strategy by liberals to defeat President Ronald Reagan's nomination of Robert Bork to the Supreme Court in 1987, partly by recruiting well-known law professors to criticize him. Mr. Taylor could sometimes be unpredictable, as when he openly supported President George W. Bush's No Child Left Behind law to overhaul education. Liberal critics called the measure punitive, poorly financed and too oriented toward standardized tests.

William Lewis Taylor was born on Oct. 4, 1931 to first-generation immigrants from Lithuania in the Crown Heights section of Brooklyn. In speeches over the years he said that as a Jewish teenager he had experienced anti-Semitism in a neighborhood that Jews shared mainly with Italians. ''I remember being pushed around as a kid and being called a 'Christ killer,' '' he once said. He became aware of prejudice against blacks, he said, when he saw whites harass Jackie Robinson when he broke baseball's color line in 1947.

Mr. Taylor attended Brooklyn College, where he was editor of the college newspaper. The college president suspended him for printing an article that the president had objected to; it said a professor had been denied tenure because of his political views. A decade later, when Mr. Taylor was applying for a job with the federal government, Brooklyn College officials urged the government not to hire him. According to his F.B.I. file, college officials said that as a student he had ''espoused liberal causes such as the rights of the Negro in the South,'' The New York Times reported in 2001.

That year, in a gesture of both contrition and pride, Brooklyn College awarded Mr. Taylor an honorary degree. Christoph M. Kimmich, the college president, called him ''a person who represents what this institution is about.''

Mr. Taylor graduated from Brooklyn College in 1952 and Yale Law School in 1954, wrote many articles and two books, and taught at the law schools of the Catholic University of America, Stanford and Georgetown.

His wife, the former Harriett Elaine Rosen, a trial judge in Washington for 17 years, died in 1997. In addition to his son, Mr. Taylor is survived by his daughters, Lauren and Deborah Taylor; his brother, Burton; and three grandchildren.

In the 1950s, Mr. Taylor was a popular contestant on the game show ''Tic-Tac-Dough,'' his son said. When producers offered him answers, which would have guaranteed his earnings, he refused. He later testified to a grand jury investigating quiz show fraud. The jury foreman, who had heard the testimony of other ''Tic-Tac-Dough'' contestants, informed Mr. Taylor that he had won more money than anyone else who had not taken answers. His son said that was a lasting source of pride.

REMARKS OF RALPH G. NEAS, PRESIDENT AND CEO, NATIONAL COALITION ON HEALTH CARE, MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR WILLIAM L. TAYLOR, TIFERETH SYNAGOGUE, JUNE 30, 2010

Good Morning.

Lauren, Debbie, David, Simone, Jesse, Nathaniel, Burt and Susan, other members of the family and friends, I am honored to be with you today.

Sometimes in your life, you get lucky. It certainly happened to me when I met my wife, Katy. It happened again when our daughter, Maria, entered our lives. And it most definitely happened one Spring day in 1974. My first boss, Senator Edward W. Brooke, was fighting those who were trying to undermine school desegregation.

The Leadership Conference on Civil Rights (LCCR) offered to help Senator Brooke. Into the office walked Arnie Aronson, Clarence Mitchell, Joe Rauh, and Bill Taylor. At age 26, I was in one room with this extraordinary group of individuals who would mentor me for the next four decades. I did not know it then, but I had just won the lottery. And, except for Katy, no one has been with me more over that span of time than Bill Taylor. Bill was one part mentor, one part side-kick. Whether it was civil rights advocacy, playing tennis, discussing baseball, listening to jazz, or going to the movies; we did it together.

By the time I met Bill, he was in his forties. In many ways, Bill, along with Mary Frances Berry and Raul Yzaguirre, served as bridges between the great generation of the Rauhs, Mitchells, Dorothy Heights, and Aronsons and that of my peers, who were just coming of age—Marcia Greenberger, Elaine Jones, David Saperstein, Antonia Hernandez, Judy Lichtman, Barbara Arnwire, Wade Henderson, Nan Aron, Karen Narasaki and so many others in this room.

By the time we met, Bill already had a distinguished professional career. Right out of Yale Law School, he joined the staff of Thurgood Marshall at the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund. His first major case was Cooper v. Aaron, the historic 1958 Little Rock school desegregation decision. Now, that's one hell of a way to begin a career!

For the next 50 years, Bill continued his abiding interest in equal educational opportunity, especially in important school desegregation cases across the country. Bill went on to become the head of the United States Commission on Civil Rights where he supervised important investigative and research work that helped lay the foundation for the enactment of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, the Voting Rights Act of 1965, and the 1968 Fair Housing Act.

While Bill and I teamed up many times in the 1970's, our real partnership began in April of 1981 when I became the Executive Director of LCCR. For the next 12 years, we were inseparable, constituting with the leaders I have mentioned previously, a core group of strategists, organizers, lawyers, and advocates that remained close and effective over the years.

But during the Reagan-Bush Administrations, Bill Taylor helped the Civil Rights Movement perform the impossible. In the face of huge resistance, LCCR directed two-dozen national campaigns that strengthened every major civil rights law, overturned more than a dozen adverse Supreme Court decisions, and defeated the Supreme Court nomination of Robert Bork. Laws enacted included the 1982 Voting Rights Act, the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1988, the Fair Housing Act Amendments of 1988, the Civil Rights Act of 1991 and the Americans with Disabilities Act. Bill's role in all of these hard fought victories was that of the indispensable senior advisor.

As essential as Bill was to my professional life, he was also a vital part of my personal life. Indeed, Bill Taylor, along with Mary Frances, actually lent me the money I needed to buy an engagement ring for Katy. He then joined Katy and me in Des Moines, Iowa, Thanksgiving 1988, to be a member of our wedding party. Again with Mary Frances, Bill became a Godparent to Maria in 1999.

And Bill's wonderful 43 year marriage to Judge Harriett Taylor had a profound impact on me. I have never observed a better, warmer, more trusting partnership than theirs.

In all of his endeavors, certain personal qualities about Bill always stood out. First, was Bill's brilliance. His mind was quick and facile, especially in moments when something had to be forged that could command a bi-partisan legislative consensus. Not surprisingly, Ted Kennedy, Hamilton Fish, and Don Edwards were his best friends in Congress. Next, was his exceptional sense of humor. Bill could really tell a story. His puns, his pointed sarcasm, and quick wit always were entertaining companions during a

meal or a drink after work. And many times that humor defused a tense situation.

To be honest, one has to mention Bill's stubbornness, sometimes accompanied by a strong temper. God, that man could be unyielding. Bill always had a flair for the dramatic. And Monday could not have been more a dramatic day. The retirement of Justice John Paul Stevens. The first day of Elena Kagen's Supreme Court nomination hearings. But perhaps the most fascinating serendipity was the passing of Senator Robert Byrd. Indeed, no one better personifies Bill's unquenchable optimism in the truthfulness of Martin Luther King's quote, ''That the arc of the moral universe is long but it bends toward justice. In his 20's, Senator Byrd was a member of the Ku Klux Klan. In his forties, he filibustered the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Then miraculously, perhaps due in some small measure to the Voting Rights Act of 1965, he evolved into a champion of civil rights. No better example could underscore the power and accuracy of Martin's observation.

Bill wrote a marvelous autobiography, The Passion of My Times: A Civil Rights Advocate's 50 Year Journey. As we know, the title came from an Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr. quote: . . . it is required of a man that he should share the passion and action of the time, at peril of being judged not to have lived. Bill Taylor, you lived that quote. And because you did, America made progress.

For everyone in this synagogue today and for countless others who may not even know his name, Bill was a special person who was always there. Bill Taylor was a mensch.

Bill, we were so fortunate to have you as a friend.

THE FY10 SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS BILL

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, this supplemental bill contains funding to support our troops in the field and resources to keep our teachers in the classroom. It also provides funding for other priorities, including strengthening our border security and relief to victims of the oil spill in the Gulf and the earthquake in Haiti.

I support President Obama's request to provide our troops with the equipment and support they need for their mission. We also owe it to our troops to have a realistic strategy that is worthy of their sacrifice.

The toughest decisions we face as a nation are questions of war and peace. Whenever we ask the men and women of our armed forces to put their lives at risk, the President and Members of Congress have a solemn obligation to consider all the facts and exercise their best judgment for the country.

More than eight years ago, our nation was the target of a terrorist attack launched by al Qaeda operating out of Afghanistan. The United Nations unanimously passed a resolution supporting the right of the United States to respond forcefully to that attack. Our NATO allies universally backed our actions, invoking the provisions of the NATO charter stating that an attack on one was an attack on all. Today, largely because the Bush administration diverted attention and resources away from this region to Iraq, Osama bin Laden and al Qaeda continue to regain strength and plot attacks against Americans from along the Afghanistan-Pakistan border. The Bush Administration also failed to persuade Pakistan to confront the Afghan Taliban insurgents operating inside Pakistan with the support of al Qaeda.

While there is no doubt that al Qaeda operates in parts of Yemen, Sudan, Somalia, and other areas, the Afghanistan-Pakistan border region remains the operational and ideological center for al Qaeda's global operations. The President is right to conclude that allowing al Qaeda to operate there unchecked poses a serious security risk to the U.S. and American citizens around the world.

President Obama has developed a carefully considered and comprehensive ''counterinsurgency'' strategy for Afghanistan and Pakistan that relies not only on the use of troops but also the use of civilian resources.

The strategy has four parts. First, American and NATO forces will accelerate the training and deployment of the Afghan national security forces, both army and police. This will allow U.S. forces to begin returning home starting in July of next year. Second, in the interim, U.S. and Afghan forces will reverse the Taliban's momentum by working to stabilize major population centers.

Third, the strategy engages Pakistan as a full partner in these efforts. As a result of better coordination between our two countries, for the first time since the beginning of the war, al Qaeda and the Taliban are being genuinely challenged by the Pakistan military.

Finally, the U.S. will work with its partners in Afghanistan and Pakistan to create a more effective civilian strategy—with the goal of establishing sustainable economic opportunities for Afghans and strengthening the country's national and local governance structures. As the 9–11 Commission determined, extremist groups exploit the poor socioeconomic conditions, such as high unemployment, in the border areas to gain adherents to their cause. With this in mind, I introduced the Afghanistan-Pakistan Security and Prosperity Enhancement Act, which will allow the President to designate Reconstruction Opportunity Zones (ROZs) in Afghanistan and parts of Pakistan and allow qualified businesses duty-free access to U.S. markets for designated products. This legislation, which has passed the House and is pending in the Senate, would help create meaningful job opportunities for young people who are currently vulnerable to the lure of extremism.

The President's strategy contains a timeline which initiates a responsible redeployment of American troops in July of next year. He has established this timeline to send a clear message to the Afghan government that they must take seriously their role in creating a stable Afghanistan and to communicate to the people of Afghanistan that the U.S. has no interest in an open-ended engagement in their country.

During floor consideration of the bill, I supported the McGovern/Obey Amendment which would codify the president's plan to initiate a responsible drawdown of U.S. forces beginning a year from now. The amendment requires that by April 4, 2011, the president submit to Congress a redeployment plan that is consistent with the policy he announced in December 2009.

While I supported the McGovern/Obey Amendment, I opposed amendments that would lead to the immediate cutoff of funds to support the president's strategy in Afghanistan and Pakistan. The immediate withdrawal of U.S. forces from Afghanistan would have two negative consequences. First, it would immediately strengthen the hand of the most extremist Taliban leaders (those most closely tied to al Qaeda), undercutting any leverage behind ongoing efforts to get some Taliban fighters to lay down their arms and undermining Afghan President Hamid Karzai's new initiative to reach a political accommodation with those members of the Taliban open to national reconciliation. If such a political solution is undermined and the old Taliban regime retakes control of Afghanistan, they will again turn that country into a safe haven for expanded al Qaeda operations. It would also lead to the return of an extreme Taliban regime that encourages horrendous acts like pouring gasoline into the eyes of girls who attempt to go to school.

Second, an immediate withdrawal of NATO forces would weaken Pakistan's resolve to confront the Pakistani Taliban, the Afghan Taliban, and al Qaeda. The most promising development over the last year has been the Government of Pakistan's willingness to fight the growing menace of the Pakistani Taliban. In addition, very recently, the Pakistani government has also shown a willingness to confront elements of the Afghan Taliban. The capture of Mullah Bandar, the operational chief of the Afghan Taliban, and two Afghan Taliban shadow governors, demonstrates this progress. The withdrawal of U.S. forces from Afghanistan would sabotage those nascent efforts. Why should the Pakistani forces confront the Afghan Taliban if the U.S. walks away now?

There are no guarantees of success in Afghanistan and Pakistan. But, we do know that failure to confront al Qaeda would leave Americans constantly exposed to another attack like that perpetrated on September 11, 2001.

In addition to funding for our troops, the bill also includes $10 billion to preserve teachers' jobs—a priority for many members of Congress as well as the Administration. While I share the Administration's concern about paying for this vital relief with unexpended ''Race to the Top'' funds, I am certain the Committee would have welcomed the Administration's input to identify other viable pay-fors.

To help families suffering as a result of the recession, the measure includes $4.95 billion for Pell grants and $50 million for emergency food assistance.

To strengthen homeland security, the bill includes $701 million for enforcement along our southern border, including $208 million for 1200 additional Border Patrol agents.

Finally, for those still suffering in the wake of the devastating earthquake in Haiti and the Deepwater Horizon disaster, the bill includes $2.9 billion and $162 million respectively.

Madam Speaker, I support adoption of the FY10 Supplemental Appropriations Bill.

SHAWN BRUCE

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Shawn Bruce

who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Shawn Bruce is a 12th grader at Arvada School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Shawn Bruce is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Shawn Bruce for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character to all his future accomplishments.

CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN'S SOLAR CAR TEAM FOR WINNING THE AMERICAN SOLAR CAR CHALLENGE

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the University of Michigan Solar Car Team on its recent victory in the American Solar Challenge.

Two years ago, I rose to laud the successful efforts of this group on its back-to-back wins in the North American Solar Challenge. Today, I rise again to congratulate the team on its third consecutive North American solar car victory, and the University's sixth in ten North American races.

This year's car, Infinium, is considered the University's fastest car yet. Tested at over 100 miles per hour, Infinium navigated the 1,100-mile course in 28 hours, 14 minutes, and 44 seconds, winning the race by over two hours. Adhering to posted speed limits, the car averaged 40 miles per hour and required only one brief stop to fix a minor mechanical difficulty.

The University of Michigan Solar Car Team is an entirely student-run organization whose purpose is to design, finance, build, and race a solar-powered vehicle in competitions around North America and the world. The team is dedicated to the development of its members as teammates, educators, and leaders, and to the education of its community on the potentials of alternative energy technology. Students who volunteer for the Solar Car Team are typically undergraduates who come from a wide range of academic disciplines, including majors within the College of Engineering, the Ross School of Business, and the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts. Each project operates on a two-year project cycle and sees as many as 200 volunteer students participating on the team.

The Solar Car Team serves as a shining example of teamwork, creativity, and dedication. In addition to college courses, these students spend countless hours developing technology, raising money, and building partnerships within the University and with outside organizations and businesses. Further, these students are making a major contribution to fuel efficiency and energy conservation. These efforts came together on Saturday, when the team crossed the finish line for its third consecutive title.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the University of Michigan Solar Car team, its faculty advisors, and its sponsors on its recent victory.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 4173, DODD-FRANK WALL STREET REFORM AND CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 30, 2010

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 4173, the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act. This landmark legislation is one of the most critical bills I will vote for in Congress. The bill will protect the American people so they are never again victimized by Wall Street's reckless behavior which brought our economy to its knees, wreaking havoc across the country with over 8 million jobs lost and a $17 trillion loss in net worth. It makes the most sweeping and comprehensive reforms to our financial system since the Great Depression.

The Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act:

Ends taxpayer-funded bailouts because of Wall Street's risky decisions and greed: The legislation clearly states that taxpayers will bear no cost for liquidating large, interconnected financial companies;

Protects families and small businesses from abusive lending practices: The legislation creates the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau that will ensure bank loans, mortgages, and credit card agreements are fair, affordable, understandable, and transparent;

Stops banks from becoming ''too big to fail'': The legislation creates the Financial Stability Oversight Council which is charged with identifying and responding to emerging risks throughout the financial system. The Council will make recommendations to the Federal Reserve for increasingly strict rules for capital, leverage, liquidity, risk management and other requirements as companies grow in size and complexity, with significant requirements on companies that pose risks to the financial system;

Eliminates grave threats to financial stability in the U.S.: The Financial Stability Oversight Council can also break up large, complex companies by requiring them to divest some of their holdings—but only as a last resort;

Requires hedge funds and private equity funds to register with the Securities and Exchange Commission, which will have more enforcement power and funding;

Eliminates excessively risky practices that led to the financial collapse: The bill enhances oversight and transparency for credit rating agencies;

Limits bank executive and CEO risky pay practices: The bill addresses egregious executive compensation that jeopardizes the safety and soundness of banks. It also allows a ''say on pay'' for shareholders, requiring independent directors on compensation committees;

Assists minority-owned and women-owned businesses: The bill establishes an Office of Minority and Women Inclusion at federal banking and securities regulatory agencies that will, among other things, address employment and contracting diversity matters. The office will coordinate technical assistance to and seek diversity in the workforce of the regulators;

Prevents predatory mortgage lending: The bill requires lenders to ensure a borrower's ability to repay, prohibits unfair lending practices, establishes penalties for irresponsible lending, expands consumer protections for high-cost mortgages, requires additional disclosures for consumers on mortgages, and provides housing counseling.

We are on the verge of making history today as we prepare to vote for the most sweeping financial reform legislation in decades. I'm very proud to strongly support this bill and urge every colleague to do so as well.

HONORING MR. AND MRS. JAMES LEE AND CAROLYN LOUISE ANDREWS

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. and Mrs. James and Carolyn Andrews on the occasion of their upcoming 50th wedding anniversary. The lives of these individuals have been uniquely American, and this Golden Anniversary of theirs is a special moment for not only them, but for their family and friends as well.

Carolyn and James were married on December 23, 1960 in Dallas, Texas. Together, they raised four children: Frederick Andrews of Mansfield, Texas; Eric Andrews of Waxahachie, Texas; Tonya Robertson of Allen, Texas and Yolanda Owens who resides in Danbury, Connecticut. Their family now extends to nine grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Andrews is a homemaker. Her loving husband worked at Texas Oklahoma Express for 20 years and then General Electric (GE) for the next 17½ years; where he later retired his professional career. The Andrews are active in the community and have been members of the Gospel Hour Chorus for over 45 years. The devoted couples' marriage has been based on a strong Biblical foundation, love, respect and friendship.

Currently, the Andrews reside in Cedar Hill, Texas and are faithful members of the Whispering Hills Church of Christ.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me on congratulating James and Carolyn Andrews upon the occasion of their 50th anniversary. For their commitment and generosity to family, friends, and each other, they are to be commended.

A TRIBUTE TO THE PASADENA HOST LIONS CLUB ON ITS 90TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Pasadena Host Lions Club as it celebrates 90 years of service.

Since its beginning on March 26, 1920, with 41 charter members, the Pasadena Host Lions Club has tirelessly served the Pasadena community as part of the Lions Clubs International, a globally recognized organization that boasts over 1.4 million volunteers and 45,000 clubs throughout the world. Former President Jimmy Carter is one of the most notable living Lions.

The Lions clubs, ''Knights of the Blind,'' as Helen Keller once called them, are well-known for their support of organizations that serve the sight impaired. Although the Pasadena Lions Club follows this tradition, such as its well-known support of a ''White Cane'' drive in the 1920s, the club is also active in other community activities. In the 1930s, the club, as a member of United Service Clubs, helped Pasadena enter its first float in the Pasadena Tournament of Roses Parade, and has been involved with this tradition ever since, eventually building the first annual Lions float in the 1990s. In 1933, amidst the chaos of the Long Beach earthquake, Pasadena Lions were among the first responders, providing financial relief and ambulance service to victims. The 1940s brought the pandemonium of World War II, a war in which many members served, and during which the club assisted in the war effort by selling tens of thousands of war bonds; additionally, during this time, the club donated an iron lung to Huntington Memorial Hospital. In the 1950s, the club bought land and a building to house the Braille Club of Pasadena; during the 1960s, the club purchased the land and established the Vista Nova Home of the Blind in Pasadena; and in the 1970s, the Pasadena Host Lions Club helped to found the Lions Eye Foundation of Southern California. Also in the 1970s, the club was recognized as the all-time fundraising Lions Club in its district.

Over the many decades, the Pasadena Host Lions Club has expanded its charitable efforts to support many organizations in the Pasadena area, including Longfellow Elementary School, Union Station Homeless Services, Rosemary Children's Services, Huntington Memorial Hospital, and Partners in Education, while continuing their support of the Pasadena Braille Club, Vista Nova Home of the Blind and the White Cane effort. In addition, the club developed youth Leo Clubs in elementary and high schools in Pasadena, installing youth with the spirit of volunteer leadership.

The Pasadena Host Lions Club has tirelessly served the Pasadena area over the last nine decades and the residents have benefitted greatly from their generosity. I ask all Members to join with me in commending the Pasadena Host Lions Club on their landmark 90th anniversary.

STEPHANIE JORDAN

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Stephanie Jordan who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award. Stephanie Jordan is a 12th grader at Wheat Ridge High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Stephanie Jordan is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Stephanie Jordan for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character to all her future accomplishments.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 4173, DODD-FRANK WALL STREET REFORM AND CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 30, 2010

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to highlight the critical role of venture capital in creating jobs and growing companies. Specifically, I would like to raise the issue of the Volcker Rule and the unintended effect it may have on this type of investment.

I strongly support and will vote for H.R. 4173, the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act and the inclusion of a strong and effective Volcker Rule.

The purpose of the Volcker Rule is to eliminate risk-taking activities by banks and their affiliates while at the same time preserving safe, sound investment activities that serve the public interest. We have specifically barred bank investment in hedge funds and private equity for that reason.

Venture capital funds do not pose the same risk to the health of the financial system. They promote the public interest by funding growing companies critical to spurring innovation, job creation, and economic competitiveness. The funds typically invest primarily or exclusively in private companies and are significantly smaller.

I expect the regulators to use the broad authority in the Volcker Rule wisely and clarify that funds that invest in technology startup companies, such as venture capital funds, are not captured under the Volcker Rule and fall outside the definition of ''private equity funds''.

This clarification will ensure the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act does not stop venture capital from providing a critical source of capital for startup technology companies.

HONORING THE ASSOCIATION OF INDIANS IN AMERICA

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Association of Indians in America, AIA, the oldest national association of Asian Indians. This grassroots nonprofit organization was founded on August 20, 1967 to provide Indian immigrants opportunities to get involved in their communities.

Representing the hopes of Indian immigrants, the AIA strives to involve its members through the public policy process, leadership roles, and community activities. The organization remains dedicated to bringing their members together through a combination of shared Indian and American heritage and civic responsibility.

The Illinois chapter of AIA is particularly active. The chapter sponsors several councils that encourage responsible citizenship and awareness of community needs in such fields as medicine, business, and public policy.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commending the Association of Indians in America for their extraordinary contributions throughout Illinois and the Nation.

IN HONOR OF JOYCE PALMER

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. PALLONE. Madame Speaker, I rise today to honor New Jersey Lions 16–B District Governor Joyce Palmer for an outstanding level of dedication to the betterment of her community. District Governor Palmer has been a member of the New Jersey Oceanport Lions Club for 14 years, in which six of those years she has served as Secretary and five years as President.

District Governor Palmer's generosity, time, spirit and commitment to serving others are evident in her work with the Oceanport Lions Club ''Project Michael.'' District Governor Palmer and her husband were approached by the parents of Michael, a five year old child in need of costly medication for his prosthetic eye. Ms. Palmer's compassion was exemplified as she quickly contacted the prescriber of Michael's medication in California and shared his compelling story. Sympathetic to Michael's case, the manufacturer mailed a year's supply worth of medication for free. Under the direction and leadership of District Governor Palmer, the Oceanport Lions Club organized a spaghetti dinner to raise funds to help offset Michael's medical expenses.

District Governor Palmer's dedication to Michael did not end there. Soon after, she became the co-chairperson for ''Project Michael,'' uniting five New Jersey Lions Clubs committed to raising more money to fund a new prosthetic eye for Michael as he grows up. District Governor Palmer considers becoming a Lion her greatest life achievement because her position enables her to help those in need.

Not only does District Governor Palmer serve her community as a Lion, she has held

multiple leadership positions on a district level as Cabinet Secretary, 16–B Public Relations Co-Chair, member of 16–B State Sight Committee, member of 16–B Katzenbach Committee, and member of Women's Development & Participation. She became a Certified Guiding Lion in 2008, participated in the reorganization of the Jackson Lions, and deservingly won Lion of the Year in 2001–2002. Furthermore, District Governor Palmer has represented the club at eight State Conventions, nine Charity Balls and was awarded later the Melvin Jones Fellow by the Oceanport Lions Club.

Madam Speaker, I would once more like to thank District Governor Joyce Palmer for her outstanding life achievements and dedication to her community. She has truly inspired so many people with her community leadership and commitment to providing vision for those who are unable to see.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF SENATE AMENDMENTS TO H.R. 4899, SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 1, 2010

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to state how I will vote on the war in Afghanistan and why.

Today Congress considers whether to continue funding operations in Afghanistan, and as we do, we must scrutinize the policy, the price being paid, and the outcomes for our national security. This is a deeply profound examination and its outcome will decide life or death for some of our troops.

It's hard to believe that the eighteen year olds who enlist today to fight and die in Afghanistan were in fourth grade when the World Trade Center and Pentagon were attacked in 2001. Now it is 2010. This conflict is now the longest war in our nation's history and it has been accompanied by tragic loss of American lives and those of innocent civilians.

The history of Afghanistan is instructive. It is called the graveyard of empires for a reason. No one since Ghengis Khan has been able to hold the country—not Alexander the Great, not the Persians, not the Ottomans, not the British, not the Russians. It's said that the definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results. We should learn from the examples of those who preceded us in Afghanistan.

President Obama told the troops that the mission must be definable and it must be winnable. I believe it is neither.

We are losing more and more precious lives—102 in June alone. And every month security has not improved after $300 billion in military spending and more than 1,000 American lives lost.

We have a corrupt partner with the Karzai regime and when the Afghan people see the U.S. supporting their government, they believe we have taken one side in their own civil war. No counter insurgency effort has succeeded when the partner is corrupt. If the Afghans don't want us there, and do not wish to protect their own towns and villages, no amount of armies and firepower can change this dynamic.

I applaud the work our troops have done in disrupting Al Qaeda, and the risks they have taken to prevent terrorist attacks here at home. According to the CIA Director, Al Qaeda is down to 50 to 100 operatives in Afghanistan. We have achieved our goals, and we should leave before our continued presence unites the other insurgent groups in the region against us.

I have tremendous respect for the men and women—civilian and military—who are risking their lives every day in Afghanistan. I have met them, and I am impressed by their selfless dedication to the mission and belief in the cause.

The President's strategy is not succeeding, and rather than ask Americans to put their lives on the line for another eighteen months for what has become an impossible task, I will vote for Congressman MCGOVERN's amendment to require a withdrawal plan by April 2011 and end this war.

TYLER SALEN

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Tyler Salen who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award. Tyler Salen is a 10th grader at Ralston Valley High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Tyler Salen is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Tyler Salen for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character to all his future accomplishments.

IN RECOGNITION OF MATRIARCH ELEANOR B. HOLMES 90TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION ''A WOMAN OF STRENGTH AND FAITH''

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, throughout our history, the vision and determination of women have strengthened and transformed America. Change can only come to our nation by those strong women whose contributions shape the history of our country. Women continue this legacy of leadership as professionals, public officials, leaders in their homes, as well as churches and other community organizations. They continuously provide guidance and care to their loved ones and strengthen America's families and communities.

We have a fine example of a strong woman, Matriarch Eleanor B. Holmes, who has been a dedicated servant of the Church of New Hope Ministries for over 40 years. Over those forty years, Eleanor has served in various roles such as: International Women's Council, 21 Years as the Local Missionary President, Usher Board member, Sunday School Teacher, Mother Board member, Missionary State Chaplin, and Chairperson of the South Carolina State Missionary Banner Committee.

Born June 28, 1920, in Mayesville, South Carolina to Rosa (Smith) Bowens and Hugh Bowens. Eleanor's ancestry traces back to her grandparents Reverend David E. Smith & Rosa Smith, both were born in 1860 into slavery. As a daughter of the South and descendant of Slavery, Eleanor Holmes was on the front line for civil rights and against Jim Crow. She fought for causes true to her faith and community by creating programs, like ''Feed A Child Program (Friendship Apartments, Sumter, SC),'' and establishing the New Hope Church Day Care Center.

As a child, Eleanor walked from Shaw Cross Road, Mayesville, South Carolina to Salterstown, South Carolina. Reminded by the many years of walking several miles a day to attend Elementary and High School, she launched community school bus service so children of Sumter would not have to endure what she had to endure as a child growing up in the South. In 1947, Eleanor married William N. Holmes, a World War II Veteran, and from that union came eight children, thirteen grandchildren, and 17 great grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, so often unrecognized and unrewarded, we have an outstanding individual, a real American hero, Eleanor Holmes, who has contributed greatly to the lifeblood of our nation and her beloved South Carolina. Please join me in recognizing Matriarch Eleanor B. Holmes on the occasion of her 90th Birthday, and her undaunted service to her community of Sumter, South Carolina.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, today our national debt is $13,194,523,014,378.23.

On January 6th, 2009, the start of the 111th Congress, the national debt was $10,638,425,746,293.80.

This means the national debt has increased by $2,556,097,268,084.43 so far this Congress.

This debt and its interest payments we are passing to our children and all future Americans.

HONORING VETERANS OF HELICOPTER ATTACK LIGHT SQUADRON THREE

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN BOOZMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 2010

Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam Speaker, I was proud to introduce House Resolution 1228, Honoring the Veterans of Helicopter Attack Light Squadron Three and Their Families, to recognize the veterans' sacrifices in service to America during the Vietnam War.

I would especially like to mention Frank Hiles who currently lives in Ozark, Arkansas who served with HAL–3. Originally from Cleveland, Ohio, Frank served in the United States Navy for 20 years as aircrewman on many different types of aircraft. After retiring he moved to Arkansas to start a business and raise his three children as a single parent. Frank continued his service to his country as an intern in the Fort Smith Congressional office last year as he worked toward his bachelor's degree.

I want to thank Frank and all of our veterans who served with the HAL–3 Seawolves.

Despite the controversy surrounding the Vietnam War, most of the officers and enlisted men who served in HAL–3 were volunteers. Most of the pilots were fresh out of flight training in Pensacola and most of the juniors enlisted were recent graduates of Navy boot camp and technical training schools. Their leaders were also new to combat, coming mostly from ship-based helicopter squadrons normally assigned to track submarines and haul supplies.

HAL–3 fought from 1967 to 1972. In that time, they earned the respect of Army and Navy units throughout the Mekong Delta for their courage under fire and their dedication to supporting their comrades on the ground and in small boats patrolling the canals and rivers. They supported Army troop insertions and extractions. Navy SEALS counted on their support in tight situations.

Wounded sailors and soldiers benefitted from battlefield medivacs. In short, the Seawolves mastered every form of combat helicopter operations.

Here are some statistics from the Resolution:

The nine detachments and home guard of HAL–3 flew 130,000 flight hours in 5 years, they performed 1530 medical evacuations, inflicted thousands of casualties on enemy forces, transported 37,000 passengers and hauled a million pounds of cargo.

In accomplishing those milestones with a fleet of cast-off gunships and a few slicks, the veterans of HAL–3 were awarded 156 Purple Hearts, 5 Navy Crosses, 31 Silver Stars, 219 Distinguished Flying Crosses, 101 Bronze Stars, 142 Vietnam Gallantry Crosses, 16,000 Air Medals, and numerous other awards including six Presidential Unit Citations, the highest recognition given to military units.

Like any combat operation, there was a cost. Forty-four Seawolves lost their lives and are among the 58,000 immortalized on the Vietnam Memorial. Today, the children and grandchildren of those brave souls can be justifiably proud of the heritage of courage and sacrifice of their fathers and grandfathers.

It has been my honor to bring this resolution honoring the HAL–3 Seawolves to the House and I strongly urge my colleagues to add their names to the roster of those recognizing these American sailors.

RECOGNIZING THE 2010 BEST OF BRADDOCK AWARDEES

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, it is my great honor to recognize the recipients of the 2010 Best of Braddock Awards. The awards are given annually to deserving individuals, organizations and companies in the Braddock Magisterial District of Fairfax County, Va., who have demonstrated an outstanding commitment to the community.

Residents of the 11th Congressional District enjoy an exceptional quality of life. Fairfax County schools are ranked as some of the best in the country, our communities are safe, and our employment rate is second highest in the nation. However, much of what defines a community cannot be found in statistics; it lies in the commitment and contributions of all who strive for the betterment of the community as a whole.

Recipients of the 2010 Best of Braddock Awards:

Citizen of the Year—Duane Murphy.

Club or Organization Making a Difference—Burke/West Springfield Senior Center Without Walls.

Most Can-Do Public Employees (Local)—Neighborhood College Team for the 2010 Sessions.

Most Can-Do Public Employees (Federal)—Mike McMahon, National Park Service.

Young Person of the Year—Kelsey Rose, West Springfield High School; Melissa Sbrocco, Robinson Secondary School.

Special Achievement Award—Tommy Salvi, Canterbury Woods Elementary School.

Outstanding Business Persons—Jules and Nicky Verster, previous owners Great Harvest Bread.

Neighborhood Enhancement or Beautification, Homeowner—Fernando Restropo, Wakefield Chapel Road.

Neighborhood Enhancement or Beautification, Civic Association—Mike Walsh, Woodwalk HOA Landscaping Committee Chair.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating these outstanding residents and companies and also in thanking them for their service to our community. Their efforts and leadership have been a great benefit to our community and truly merit our highest praise.

REMEMBERING JOSHUA FUESTON

HON. RICK LARSEN

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Madam Speaker, nearly one year ago Joshua Fueston, a 19-year-old Army soldier from Bellingham, Washington, committed suicide in Washington DC. Joshua was at Walter Reed Army Medical Center receiving treatment for physical wounds suffered in Iraq, but he was also suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).

In honor of his life and service, I request that the following poem, penned by Bert Caswell, be placed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

THE SCARS OF WAR

As when our fines sons and daughters go off to war. . . .
Much heartache, and such great burdens bore!
As some come home all encased in wood, all but for the greater good!
While, others come home without arms and legs. . . . as do they!
Ones without eyes, and faces . . . with burns upon their bodies as placed this . . .
Touching all hearts, in so many ways . . . as it's for them we now so pray . . .
But, some scars are not so easily seen . . .
But found deep down inside most heroic hearts, convened!
Are but found Those Scars of War, not so easily seen!
The kind that, in the middle of the dark night make them so awake . . .
All in cold sweats, as upon all of their fine souls such heartache is placed . . .
All in their most sleepless sleeps, now carried in their souls so very deep . . .
As each day these scenes from hell they pray not repeat, as its for them we weep!
For War is Hell, and Hell is War!
For their battles do not end, when they reach their home shores again!
As from the outside, they look so strong and secure . . .
While, deep down inside . . . in all of them, the battle builds all the more . . .
Destroying even the bravest, and the strongest of all hearts for sure!
As upon their fine hearts and souls, but lie these most dreadful scars of war!
As P.T.S.D., is but the silent killer . . . that we all should so look for!
Because, while some die on battlefields of honor bright . . .
And then others, come home all in anguish . . . to fight this fight!
And sadly, without help . . . many will but live their last and final nights!
As they must fight their own private wars, never ending both day and night . . .
As this darkness upon them so lies, as they so try and try!
With tears in eyes!
As another Hero died this day!
Take a look around you, I say . . .
A Hero stands beside you, with tears of heartache upon their souls which lay!
All in their quiet suffering, we must somehow so hear their pain!
For some things are not so clearly seen!
But, lie so deep down so inside this pain . . .
Remember, under the surface but lie all of their most dreadful dreams . . .
Such things that Heroes dare not repeat!
Now, carried all in their fine hearts, so very deep!
For ever vigilant, as we must keep!
For all of our Sons and Daughters, who deep down inside their fine hearts!
The Scars of War, they so keep!
P.T.S.D. a silent enemy . . .

SERVAAS STOKVIS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Servaas

Stokvis who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award. Servaas Stokvis is an 8th grader at Arvada Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Servaas Stokvis is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Servaas Stokvis for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character to all his future accomplishments.

HONORING THE LIFE OF U.S. ARMY PRIVATE FIRST CLASS MICHAEL S. PRIDHAM, JR.

HON. BARON P. HILL

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, on Tuesday, July 6, 2010, America tragically lost another of its brave heroes. Army Private First Class Michael ''Mikey'' Pridham, Jr. was killed in Qalat, Afghanistan, when his vehicle was struck by an improvised explosive device. He was 19 years old. A Louisville, KY, native, Mikey's father currently lives in New Albany, IN.

Mikey, who was known to have a great sense of humor and cared greatly for people, joined the Army as he saw the military as a better path to the one he was on prior to enlisting. According to his father, ''Mikey was more of a man at 19 years old because of the Army than most men I know.'' His mother said he was more mature after returning home from basic training and that he had an eye on building a life.

Days before deploying to Afghanistan, Pridham married his wife, Deidre, who is expecting the birth of their first child. At the time of his death, Pridham was just six weeks away from redeployment—he would have been back just in time for the birth of his baby girl. While in Afghanistan, Mikey and Deidre spoke on the phone twice a day, every day. He would tell his wife how excited he was to come home and be with her and their daughter. Justly, Deidre plans on telling their daughter that her father died a hero.

Pfc. Michael Pridham is a true hero. His sacrifice for our nation deserves our most heartfelt gratitude and reverence. Though I did not have the pleasure of knowing Pfc. Pridham, I will mourn his death. His friends and family are in my prayers.

CONGRATULATING SOUTH AFRICA ON FIRST TWO CONVICTIONS FOR HUMAN TRAFFICKING

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 30, 2010

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues Representative CHRIS SMITH and Representative KAY GRANGER in congratulating the government of South Africa for their efforts to combat human trafficking.

Let there be no mistake: human trafficking is modern-day slavery. Although slavery was abolished almost 150 years ago in the United States, millions of people worldwide are still deprived of their freedom. Victims of this growing epidemic are forced into a world of abuse and exploitation. I have worked with my colleagues in Congress for years to fight this horrific problem but our work is far from over.

Past experiences indicate that global sporting events such as the World Cup strongly affect the human trafficking industry. The influx of millions of tourists to South Africa for the World Cup increases the demand for prostitution and facilitates the entry of trafficking victims to the country. Women and girls are reportedly being trafficked to South Africa from all over the world in order to meet the demand for commercial sex. With so many people entering the country, it is important to raise awareness of the horrors of human trafficking and be able to identify victims from tourists. The government of South Africa not only needs to protect its vulnerable population but also those that have been trafficked from across the globe.

House Resolution 1412 is an important measure that not only commends the government of South Africa for their efforts to combat human trafficking but also urges them to act quickly to pass anti-trafficking legislation. Strong police enforcement and strict government laws are especially critical during the World Cup in order to protect potential victims and ensure victims are given proper attention. Although the government of South Africa has worked to tackle this issue and has successfully convicted two human trafficking cases more needs to be done to prosecute traffickers and buyers of the industry.

It is our duty to protect men, women, boys, and girls from this devastating scourge that is destroying people's lives.

CONDEMNING THE RISE OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN HAITI IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE EARTHQUAKE

HON. RUSS CARNAHAN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. CARNAHAN. Madam Speaker, in the aftermath of the catastrophic earthquake, and its aftershocks, that struck Haiti in January, 2010, there has been a horrifying rise of sexual violence against displaced women there. I rise in condemnation of this unconscionable crime and fundamental violation of human rights. And, I call upon my colleagues in Congress, the administration, the international community, and all Americans to speak out against this abuse and act swiftly to end it.

It is widely documented that sexual violence often increases in emergencies and post-crisis situations, due to mass displacements of people, lack of safe, secure shelter and other scarce resources, and the breakdown of rule of law. In Haiti, according to reports from the United Nations, Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, major media outlets and many others, violence against women in the aftermath of the earthquake has risen dramatically.

In particular, the displaced women in camps have been the main targets of sexual violence. These women have lost their homes, loved ones, contact with friends and family, and have nowhere else to go but to makeshift shelters often consisting of little more than a plastic tarp. These camps offer little privacy, order, or protection from any kind of danger.

The conditions in the camps are so deplorable that they actually increase the chances of women and girls experiencing sexual violence. For example, men and women share the same latrines, which remain unlit after dark, effectively turning a basic necessity into a predatory opportunity and increasing the chances that a woman using those facilities will be raped.

Access to food, clean water, health service and other critical necessities is also limited or nonexistent in these camps. This forces women to take on great personal risk and brave unsafe conditions simply to acquire essential requirements for survival, for themselves and their dependants.

The breakdown of law enforcement has only exacerbated this intensifying problem. There is insufficient policing in and around the most volatile areas. Women have no recourse to report violence, seek protection from abuse, and ensure their cases are brought to justice. Often they are too afraid to speak because their attackers live in the same camp and the women fear retribution. They have nowhere to seek refuge.

Furthermore, as many individuals are still unaccounted for, women and girls who are sexually assaulted are too often faceless, nameless victims. Any surviving family may not know their loved ones are out there, let alone in dire need of protection from rape.

We must make the safety and protection of women and girls in Haiti a top priority during the ongoing recovery efforts. It is critical that we in Congress, along with the UN, human rights groups and non-governmental organizations take a strong stand against this sexual violence and do all we can to protect women in Haiti during this difficult time of national crisis.

We must not allow sexual violence against women in Haiti to continue. Freedom from violence and intimidation is essential to empowering women and improving societies all over the world. It is a fundamental human right.

I strongly urge for a greater police presence as well as more peacekeeping forces on the ground to enhance and ensure security for vulnerable women and girls. Additionally, I strongly support efforts to help strengthen the capacity of local women's organizations. These local organizations help women acquire access to crucial medical and mental health services after an attack.

Strengthening medical and counseling services while building a stronger and more effective security force that patrols the camps are critical first steps to curb the rampant rise of sexual violence and address its devastating consequences for women already suffering from the trauma of the earthquakes that devastated their country just six months ago.

Madam Speaker, in the aftermath of the earthquake we saw a worldwide outpouring of support and goodwill that was truly inspirational and demonstrated the best of what is within all of us. We also heard a lot of talk about ensuring accountability, sustainability, and a commitment to revive Haiti at all levels,

above and beyond pre-earthquake conditions. Now we are seeing an ugly rise of violence against the most vulnerable.

We in Congress, along with our international partners, must stand up now to take bold action on ensuring that women and girls in Haiti are no longer targets of that violence. We need to make sure that women's rights in Haiti are protected in every capacity during and after reconstruction.

We have committed ourselves and our resources to helping to rebuild Haiti. We cannot deliver on that promise if women's security is at risk. Full participation and empowerment of women in rebuilding and development processes are key components for success in Haiti, and this depends on ensuring their safety now.

SKIP KHAMVONGSA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Skip Khmavongsa who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Skip Khmavongsa is a 7th grader at Mandalay Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Skip Khmavongsa is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Skip Khmavongsa for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character to all his future accomplishments.

TRIBUTE TO CARL STANLEY ''STAN'' BEGLEY

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the late Carl Stanley ''Stan'' Begley of Grays Creek, Kentucky, who was an inspiration to thousands of young aspiring athletes, a tenacious business operator and supporter of the coal industry and a savvy political advisor in southeastern Kentucky.

Even a devastating 6-year battle with cancer didn't stop Stan Begley from enjoying his lifelong passions during his illness. The greatest thrill of his life was helping others succeed. As an avid sports fan and former local high school basketball star in Buckhorn, Kentucky, Stan's drive to live carried on through his involvement in little league sports. He was more than a little league coach. Stan provided shoes if necessary, transportation and friendship to youngsters who needed a true role model.

As a young man, Stan got involved in the operations of his stepfather's trucking business and would later become the operator of Virgil Raleigh Coal. Stan also became a local political advisor, realizing the positive impact he could influence on a larger scale through leadership. Only months before he passed, Stan braved 90-degree heat to attend two coal rallies in an effort to protect the industry he loved.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Stan Begley for dedicating a lifetime of service to the youth and families of eastern Kentucky.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF SISTER MARY CELINE GRAHAM: ''A WOMAN OF COMPASSION AND FAITH''

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today to memorialize a beloved member of our community, Sister Mary Celine Graham, whose mass will be celebrated tomorrow at Saint Aloysius Roman Catholic Church in her beloved Harlem. Her tragic and senseless death came as a result of a horrific accident and has left behind a deeply felt void within the Handmaids of Mary of the Most Pure Heart family and the greater Harlem community. The Handmaids of Mary have a special place in my heart going back to my youth, and the loss of Sister Mary Celine is especially profound.

Sister Mary Celine was born in Jacksonville, Florida and raised in Detroit. At the age of 22, she joined the Franciscan Handmaids of the Most Pure Heart of Mary in Harlem, which is one of only three historically black orders of Roman Catholic nuns in the United States. She continued to share her love and services with her community for the next 61 years.

Her death at the age of 83 leaves behind a great legacy of tireless service and devotion to those who needed her. Sister Mary Celine is remembered as a woman of true compassion who believed in education for the young. She dedicated her life to being a teacher, director, and surrogate grandmother to the children of St. Benedict's Day Nursery on 124th Street at Marcus Garvey Park.

As the New York Times reported last week, Sister Mary Celine left an indelible mark on the children she cared for and educated. She was a gently firm yet caring teacher who recognized the potential in each individual and worked to bring that potential to fruition. Sister Mary Celine was not only an educator but was also a loving mother figure to the children. These children not only learned the basics of reading and numbers but also learned what it was to love, and what it was to serve others.

The undivided attention and care she poured out to the children and the community will be forever etched in the hearts of all those that encountered her. She was a true kindred spirit that emanated a sense of peace and order.

Madam Speaker, although her life was taken from us too abruptly, rather than mourn this tragedy, I hope that my colleagues will join me in remembering and celebrating the tremendous and loving spirit of Sister Mary Celine Graham—one of God's special angels who served Harlem at the Franciscan Handmaids of the Most Pure Heart of Mary.

A BILL TO AMEND THE FEDERAL WATER POLLUTION CONTROL ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker. I rise today to introduce a bill to clarify that the federal government, like private citizens and corporations, must take responsibility for the pollution it produces. This bill will clarify that the federal government has a responsibility to pay fees assessed by local governments for managing polluted stormwater runoff from federal properties.

Recently, the Government Accountability Office issued letters to federal agencies in the District of Columbia that instructed them not to pay the District of Columbia's Water and Sewer Authority's, D.C. Water's, Impervious Area Charge. D.C. Water calculates the charges based on the amount of impervious land occupied by the landowner. Impervious surfaces, such as roofs, parking lots, sidewalks and other hardened surfaces are the major contributors to stormwater runoff entering the sewer system and local rivers, lakes and streams, which causes significant amounts of pollutants to enter these waters.

D.C. Water's Impervious Area Charge simply is to defray the cost of reducing water pollution caused by stormwater runoff. In fact, D.C. Water's fees are the result of a federal mandate to reduce sewer overflows from excess stormwater and to improve water quality in local waters, such as the Anacostia and Potomac Rivers and the Chesapeake Bay. It is, therefore, unfair, at best, for the federal government to turn around and refuse to pay these fees. Moreover, it is contrary to President Obama's commitment to preserve the Chesapeake Bay and the Anacostia River, as outlined in Executive Order 13508, which I have applauded many times.

When I looked into this issue further, I found that at least nine states faced the same issue of federal agencies refusing to pay the local fees associated with controlling the stormwater pollution originating from their properties. Surely, the federal government understands that these local governments still must cover the cost of managing the pollution from federal properties. So, in effect, what the federal government is doing is passing on that cost to already financially burdened citizens. In a city such as the District of Columbia, where nearly a quarter of the land is owned by the federal government and still more is leased by the federal government, the refusal by the federal government to pay these fees will impose substantial and burdensome costs on individual citizens.

It is important that we continue to work to improve the quality of our waters. Reducing pollution and improving water quality in the District has been a priority for me. My bill to secure funding for the Anacostia River cleanup plan became law in 2007 and the plan was released by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in April. Additionally, my bill to amend the National Children's Island Act of 1995 to make

Kingman and Heritage Islands a center for environmental education recreation and restoration of the Anacostia River ecosystem passed in the House last year and I am working hard to get it through the Senate this year. This bill simply requires the federal government to continue its recent commitment to protecting and cleaning our waters, as well as to be a good neighbor here in the District and throughout the country.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

HONORING DENNIS SHEPHERD—2010 SODEXO HERO OF EVERYDAY LIFE

HON. WALTER B. JONES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. JONES. Madam Speaker, in this world of such negativity, I think it is important to bring attention to the good things people do for others..

My constituent, Dennis Shepherd of Hubert, NC, has been declared a "2010 Hero of Everyday Life" by the Sodexo Foundation. The Sodexo Foundation is a committed force that contributes to ending hunger in America.

Every year since 2000, the Sodexo Foundation has recognized Sodexo employees who invest their time, talent, and service spirit in helping some of the 49 million people who are at risk of hunger in the United States. Nominated by a colleague, friend, or employer, selected Heroes are honored by the foundation and a donation is made to their local hunger-related charities of choice.

After serving 22 years in the United States Marine Corps, Dennis has been instrumental in the success of Sodexo Servathon at the USMC by organizing and delivering food donations to the Onslow Community Ministries Kitchen and Jacksonville Food Bank. Since 2004, Dennis has collected and delivered 18,000 pounds of food.

After Dennis finishes his regular work day, he volunteers at least 10 hours a week, doing charitable jobs including cutting grass and baking cakes to help gather food donations, supplies, and money for local charities. Dennis also engages in creative activities such as posting advertisements to help spread the word and encouraging others to help support people in need throughout the community.

Since 2004, Dennis has collected donations valued at $20,000 for children and families in need. The award from the Sodexo Foundation has continued to open doors to Dennis' work. So far in 2010, he has already raised $17,000—plus a $5,000 grant that he received as part of the Heroes of Everyday Life award.

Dennis has been married to his wife Naomi for 19 years. He met Naomi while stationed in Okinawa, Japan during the 16 years he spent there with the United States Marine Corps.

Dennis also finds time to be a devoted father to his three children, Jonathan, Christina and Vega.

People like Dennis Shepherd make our world a better place to live, and I am proud that Dennis and his family live in the 3rd district. We could all learn from Mr. Shepherd's example and do more for our communities.

May God continue to bless Dennis Shepherd and his family, may God bless our men and woman in uniform, and may God continue to bless America.

TATE LINDEMANN

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Tate Lindemann who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Tate Lindemann is a 7th grader at Oberon Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Tate Lindemann is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Tate Lindemann for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character to all his future accomplishments.

AAPI HOSTS SUCCESSFUL CONVENTION

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I rise to commend the American Association of Physicians of Indian Origin for their successful 28th annual convention. I was honored to join AAPI members from around the country at a reception on Capitol Hill, where nearly 500 physicians from 27 states had registered to make their voices heard in Congress.

As the past co-chair of the Congressional Caucus on India and Indian Americans, I have seen firsthand the professionalism, dedication, and success of Indian American doctors from rural and medically underserved areas to cities across South Carolina. I was recruited for the Caucus before I was elected by noted Lexington physician Dr. Kaushal Sinha and his wife Arunima, of Irmo, South Carolina.

I want to commend Dr. Vinod K. Shah of Maryland for his successful presidency and wish Dr. Ajeet R. Singhvi of California the very best as he leads AAPI forward.

This is an historic period for South Carolina where State Representative Nikki Haley of Lexington, a very successful legislator of Indian heritage has served as a Majority Whip and is now a nominee for Governor.

In conclusion, God bless our troops and we will never forget September 11th in the Global War on Terrorism.

THE REAL WORLD CONSEQUENCES AND UNCERTAINTIES OF HEALTH CARE REFORM

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I have come down to this Floor many times over the past year and a half to share with my colleagues my profound concerns over the direction the Majority was taking with regard to health care reform. Regrettably, the enactment into law of Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act—accomplished via an unprecedented and extraordinary misuse of budget reconciliation rules—did nothing to alleviate my concerns. In fact, now that health care reform is law and the American people can finally see, in the full light of day, the law that the Democrat Majority wrote and jammed down their throats, a strong preponderance of Americans want this turkey of a law repealed.

I am firmly convinced that the credibility gap between what the Majority claimed its health care reform bill would do, and what all of the experts say it will actually do now that it is law, is a large part of why, according to the latest Gallup opinion poll, only 20% of Americans, a mere 2 in 10, have a favorable opinion of this Congress.

This Majority and this Administration has shown more disregard for the opinions and desires of the American people then any Congress and any presidential Administration, certainly of the modern age, if not history. It is time we listen to the American people; listen to the ordinary moms and dads and the small business owners who must live with the consequences—intended and unintended—of the laws that we pass.

To that end, I would like to share with my colleagues a letter I received from Pharmakon Long Term Care Pharmacy, Inc. and Pharmakon Pharmaceuticals; two Indiana corporations that provide pharmacy services to Indiana nursing and institutional facilities. Founded in 2003, these two companies have grown to over one hundred and fifty, 150, full-time employees serving more than six thousand, 6,000, people throughout Indiana and part of Illinois. I ask unanimous consent to include a copy of the letter in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD after my statement.

I ask my colleagues to pay particular attention to the questions and concerns expressed in the letter about the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act but I think it is also important to understand their observations about problems with Medicare and insurance billing as well as their concerns about DEA rules when it comes to dispensing medications; because these are the kinds of real world problems in our health care system that we should have been working to resolve if only we had been listening.

LETTER TO CONGRESSMAN BURTON ON HEALTHCARE

MAY 27, 2010

Congressman DAN BURTON,
Rayburn House Office Building,
Washington, DC.

Pharmakon Long Term Care Pharmacy, Inc. and Pharmakon Pharmaceuticals (d/b/a Pharmakon Compounding, Inc.) Inc. are two Indiana Corporations founded by Paul J. Elmer R.Ph. Pharmakon Long Term Care

Pharmacy, Inc. was founded in 2003 with the purpose of providing pharmacy services to Indiana Nursing Facilities and Institutional Facilities. Since its founding Pharmakon has grown from 5 employees to a company with over 150 full time employees; serving more than 6,000 individuals throughout Indiana and part of Illinois. Carol and Paul Elmer, R.Ph. founded Pharmakon Pharmaceuticals, Inc. in 2006 with the purpose of providing medications to hospitals run by the Department of Defense, throughout the United States. Pharmakon Pharmaceuticals has a current staff of 25 employees with an expected growth of over 100 within the next two years. In the past 7 years, both Pharmakon LTC Pharmacy and Pharmakon Pharmaceuticals have been able to provide jobs in this rough economy and continue to grow and provide services to our most vulnerable population, the elderly.

Currently, the Pharmakon Long Term Care Pharmacy, Inc. experiences multiple barriers as a long-term care pharmacy. A long-term care pharmacy differs from your local retail pharmacy in that it is a highly specialized organization, with the primary purpose of providing pharmacy services (medications, medical supplies, consultant services, and the such) to the elderly and institutional residents in nursing facilities and various institutional facilities, such as mental hospitals. Because it is a highly specialized pharmacy, it faces multiple barriers daily, which make it extremely difficult at times to provide the required services to the most fragile population in the American Society. These barriers are not challenges but are rather outright problems that must be solved in order for these individuals to receive the service and care they deserve. The following are examples of some of our current barriers, none of which are addressed in the current Healthcare Reform.

First, most pharmacy bills come due the 15th of the month or the 30th of the month. The problem with this is that the pharmacy is not paid on insurance claims for usually 30 days; however, it is more common for the insurance company to take up to 60 or even 90 days to pay the pharmacy. In addition any claims submitted to Medicare Part B or D generally are not paid to the pharmacy for 30 to 90 days. So while the pharmacy must pay its bills when they come due, the insurance and government plans generally do not pay within a timely matter—this thus leaves the pharmacy with an ongoing debt.

Furthermore, another payment problem with Part D is whom does the pharmacy contact when there are problems with Part D? It would be beneficial for the pharmacy to know who holds the position of managing the administration of the government program. For example, when the pharmacy is not getting paid on claims by Part D Anthem who can they contact to get this resolved? The pharmacy, cannot continue to operate without getting paid; we set out to create jobs in the community while servicing some of the most vulnerable populations; however, when the pharmacy is not being paid, we cannot pay our bills or employees and thus those who need our services cannot receive the services and goods they require in some cases to continue living.

With that being said, another barrier the Pharmacy continues to run into is Prior Authorizations. We, as a pharmacy, have had to hire a nurse to work on prior authorizations due to the fact that the nursing staff at the facilities has no time to handle these and the doctors generally refuse to do them. We must contact the insurance company for prior approval for a medication. Generally, on a good day, it is a 30-minute phone conversation with the insurance company; however in some instances it may take up to 72 hours for the insurance company to reply and say yes. While we wait for the insurance company's reply, the individual is suffering in pain waiting for their medications. Because we must contact the insurance company for a prior authorization this slows our ability to get the medication to the individual, leaving them suffering in pain.

Additionally, many hours are spent handling, monitoring and appealing insurance audits; rather than providing pharmacy services. Insurance audits have become burdensome; we understand the need for them; however, insurance companies do not understand the Long Term Care Industry and the majority of the time as it relates to these audits is spent on educating the insurance company about this industry. Once educated we usually win the audit; however, the time it takes to reach this result, takes away from our primary purpose, which is providing pharmacy services. Additionally, the time frames set forth by the insurance company are not realistic; they are too short for a pharmacy to return with proper information and many times, we end up paying for something that was originally covered and properly processed to begin with.

Similarly, insurance formularies are not conductive to residents in a Long Term Care Facility; for example, many do not cover IV therapy, in which case we must get an override in order to provide the necessary medication to the individual and even with that we are audited for those claims. It appears from our point of view that the insurance companies do not grasp that these residents are cared for 24/7 by healthcare professionals of many different disciplines and when they are denied various medications due to the formularies, they lay in pain suffering until we can finally get the needed medications covered. These individuals pay for plans to cover their medications, in most cases these are expensive medications which the individual themselves more than likely could not pay for out of pocket. Additionally, we are not in the business of providing free, expensive medications; as much as we would like to, we cannot pay our employees while handing out free medications. Since we cannot just give the medications away, and since the patient cannot pay for it and nor will the insurance; we are left in a difficult position while the individual suffers.

Finally, one of our biggest barriers is the DEA not treating nurses in long-term care facilities as agents of the prescribing doctor when it comes to controlled substances. There are times when a resident needs an emergency dosage of a Controlled Substance, generally a Schedule II, and the nurse must call a doctor who is generally not near a fax machine. The nurse may not call in the prescription due to the fact that the nurse is not considered an agent of the doctor by the DEA and thus the pharmacy must attempt to reach the doctor via phone before sending out the medication; which can take hours; all the while the resident is agonizing in pain. If the nurse would be permitted to be an agent of the doctor this would reduce the time between when the order is called in and when it is delivered to the individual.

HOW WILL THE PATIENT PROTECTION AND AFFORDABLE CARE ACT EFFECT PHARMAKON LONG TERM CARE PHARMACY AND PHARMAKON PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.?

First, there are several sections that state the employer must provide affordable coverage, but who is determining what is affordable? In some instances, our hourly individuals may want to opt out and purchase from the exchange because to them they may find one a plan on the exchange more to their liking and more what they deem affordable opposed to the plan we offer. Why should we be punished for the decision that the individual makes. We, as a corporation, cannot force our employees to spend their hard earned wages toward something they may personally decide either (a) they have no interest in procuring from us (b) find that they just do not think they can afford it or (c) they have no interest in purchasing period from us or the exchange. The affordability is truly a personal decision and should be left to the individual to decide and the employer should not be punished for the individual's decision. Furthermore, there is also the issue that in some cases, our employees may choose just not to purchase insurance from us or from an exchange and again we cannot force them to buy it. We have many employees who just choose not to buy the insurance we currently offer. Additionally, the Bill states that the Employer is responsible to cover 60% of all health care; for our particular business this is a large sum that we just possibly could not do and continue to pay our employees at their current rates. If we are forced to cover 60%, there is a good chance that we would have to lay off many employees in order to be able to provide the required healthcare coverage.

Under this Bill, HSA cannot be used for over the counter drugs, this seems to be counterproductive. The purpose of an HSA is for the individual with a high premium to use those monies for office visits, medication, and the such. In some instances, why should an individual visit the doctor to receive a prescription for Claritin-D just so that they can use their HSA, now the individual will have to pay for the office visit, which in the scheme of things may be more costly than just buying the medication out of pocket. In all reality this is the individual's hard earned money, the government should not tell them how they may spend it; especially when it comes to accounts set up just for health care concerns. Yes, people may be irresponsible; but at some point, the government needs to just trust that its citizens will do the right thing and use their non-taxed dollars on their health care. We at Pharmakon have HSA accounts due to our high premiums; we believe that it should be the individual's decision as to how to spend their monies and if they choose to purchase Over the Counter medications, which they need then they should be permitted to use their HSA accounts.

The Class Act states that an employee can enroll and disenroll but how will this affect the employer? If an employee chooses not to enroll, will we the employer be penalized? Again, we cannot force our employees to do something they do not want; nor can we force them to spend their hard-earned money on something they have no desire to. Additionally what protections are there that we will not be forced to enroll all employees in this when it becomes apparent that it cannot support itself?

The Bill sets up Health Information Technology; however, it is vital to ensure that Long Term Care especially the Long Term Care Facilities and Pharmacies are brought to the table in this process. We must realize that in a few years, the baby-boomer generation will be the new class of residents in these Long Term Care Facilities and with this increase of resident population; we must look to the LTC community for suggestions as it relates to Health Information Technology. Many do not realize that while the pharmacies may be state of the art, many of the facilities are not equipped with some of the most basic technology; additionally most of the staff would be in complete shock if they were just slammed with this new technology; thus input from the LTC area is extremely vital. Furthermore, the way things are done in a doctor's office and hospital do

not always transfer as easily to LTC settings. HIT while vital and extremely beneficial will be useless in the LTC setting if LTC providers are not consulting in the development of it. In additional the Pharmacy cannot be left holding the price tag for updating LTC facilities when it comes to this technology; there must be a way in which we can encourage these facilities to update their own technology and not depend on the Pharmacy to do it for them. Some of these HIT grants should not only be given to LTC Pharmacies but also the Facilities we service.

With the new Bundling system, the unanswered question here is under the pilot program if one hospital receives a bid will they determine which nursing facilities the individual may use? One of the concerns with Bundling is what if the hospital chooses to use nursing facilities which they own or which are related in some manner to the hospital, will patients have a choice as to which facility they want? If not then the question becomes what will protect those facilities, which are currently in business? Those facilities which are related to the hospital may have the technology which non-related facilities lack and then the question becomes who is to provide the technology, across the board, most Long Term Care Facilities are accustom to Pharmacies providing all of their equipment needs, fax machines, med carts and so forth. If and when this new technology is implemented there will be a vast problem of who is to provide it and furthermore uniformity. Pharmacies cannot bear the burden of providing this to Facilities, and additionally neither should hospitals.

The establishment of CMI within CMS aims to move the fee payment from fee for service based reimbursement toward a salary-based payment; however, providers are not defined, so do Pharmacies fall into this? Additionally under CMS, there is the Medicare Shared Saving Program, which sets up Accountable Care Organizations—with the development of this new organization the question becomes will pharmacies be a group later determined by the Secretary to be part of this process? If so or if not the question then becomes how will these organizations effect our ability to procure business or which homes may be able to willingly choose us for their pharmacy services? All of these issues are left open and yet to be determined, these are rather important issues; and there are so many unanswered questions and with the possibility of this new fee payment reimbursement, which may affect LTC pharmacies.

Under the Medicare Shared Savings Program, subsection (b) Eligible Accountable Care Organization. The payment would be via shared saving; this section does not list pharmacies but allows the Secretary to determine groups of providers and supplies as appropriate. The big question is would this new program affect how we as a pharmacy obtain new business and in some cases keep current customers? Would this limit which nursing facilities, institutions and so forth can utilize our services?

Due to the fact that the bill does not address these above stated questions, we are left wondering how these new programs will affect the Long Term Care industry, specifically the Pharmacies. While there is some concern about how we will be paid, we are more concerned as to what will happen to us and how these programs affect us. There is a concern that because LTC pharmacies aren't mentioned by name, we may not necessarily fall into one of these programs, and under the guise of cost control our reimbursement fees may be cut; which in turn will create a larger problem for us as how to pay our employees and how to continue to provide the services that we are do and that the facilities are accustom to.

Our concern with Individuals at Home Demonstration Program, specifically the payment methods governed by (subsection (c)). The issue is the spending targets, which will be determined on a per capita basis, what does that mean for items covered under Part A and Part B and those cuts? While, we agree that there is wasteful spending and that budget controls are needed, we ask that those cuts to remedy the increase in cost do not affect the Pharmacy. As a pharmacy, there is only so much we can provide while not running at a loss and if the spending targets reduce payments to the pharmacy, there is a chance that the pharmacy will not be able to provide to those who are most vulnerable and need all the care we can give them.

While we at Pharmakon agree that Health Care needs to be reformed, we believe that this current Reform Bill will create more barriers in our ability to provide services to the most vulnerable in our society and in addition as a medium size business with mainly hourly employees, we feel that many of these changes will affect our ability to continue to employ many of our employees and will affect them in their personal choices.

Sincerely,

PHARMAKON LONG TERM CARE PHARMACY, INC.
PHARMAKON PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.

TERA PROPER

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Tera Proper who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Tera Proper is a 10th grader at Ralston Valley High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Tera Proper is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Tera Proper for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character to all her future accomplishments.

IN RECOGNITION OF JEFFREY AND SUZANNE CITRON

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jeffrey and Suzanne Citron for their immeasurable contributions to their communities, and the subsequent honor they have received from the American Cancer Society (ACS) in appreciation of their efforts. The Citrons are valuable members of my district and assets to their communities. I would like to congratulate them on being the honored individuals at ACS's Annual Golf Classic 2010.

Jeffrey and Suzanne Citron are married, have two children, Kyra and Noah, and are both extremely successful business leaders and philanthropists. Mr. Citron has always been a visionary entrepreneur, even right out of high school, beginning on Wall Street at the age of 17. He revolutionized financial services in the '90s when he founded the computerized trading system known as Island ECN, allowing traders to cut out the middleman in the stock market. He was the CEO for Datek Online Holdings until 1999, and then became the CEO and founder of the VoIP company, Vonage. Founded in Edison, New Jersey, and now located in Holmdel, Vonage is a publicly traded company on the NYSE as of 2007. Mr. Citron has now retired from Vonage and enjoys spending time with his family.

His wife, Suzanne, is also a vigorous philanthropist. Mrs. Citron herself has been a former member of the ACS' Peer Review Committee for Institutional Research Grants, and has also been on the society's Jersey Shore Region Board of Advisors. Together, the Citrons have founded the Charles Laffite Foundation in 1999, which is dedicated to education, medical research, children, and the arts. Their commitment to their communities and the betterment of it, as well as their entrepreneurial business intellect, is a credit to the state of New Jersey and the nation as a whole.

Madam Speaker, I would once more like to thank Jeffrey and Suzanne Citron for their immeasurable contributions to my district and their communities and to again congratulate them for the honors they have received from the American Cancer Society in this year's Annual Golf Classic.

HONORING DON SHERMAN HUBERT VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS POST 345

HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. McCOTTER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor and acknowledge the Don Sherman Hubert Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 345 in Redford Township, Michigan, as they celebrate 80 years of service to our veterans, our community and our country.

Named in recognition of Don Sherman Hubert, a 22-year-old private who served in Company A, 25th Infantry Regiment, 32nd Division, who was killed in action on August 29, 1918, during the assault in Juvigny, France, and became the first Redford Township serviceman killed during World War I. Post 345 has been a part of the Redford community since August 6, 1930. Originally located at Seven Mile Road and Dalby St., the post moved to the Metropolitan Club on Plymouth Rd from 1977–1982, before moving to its current location at Schoolcraft and Inkster Roads.

Upholding the commitment begun in 1899 when veterans of the Spanish-American War and the Philippine Insurrection founded local organizations to secure rights and benefits for returning soldiers, the VFW's national voice has been instrumental in establishing the Veteran's Administration, creating the GI Bill, and

the development of the national cemetery system. Citing the VFW mission "to honor the dead by helping the living" through veterans service, community service, national security and a strong national defense, the 289 members of Post 345, ranging in age from 21–94, participate in various volunteer projects with local hospitals and schools.

Madam Speaker, for 80 years the Don Sherman Hubert VFW Post 345 has maintained a prominent presence in the Metropolitan Detroit area as a leader in service to veterans and civilians alike. Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the storied soldiers of Post 345 and recognizing their years sacrifice and loyal service to our veterans, our community and our country.

RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF EDUCATION AS A KEY COMPONENT IN HAITI'S RECONSTRUCTION

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I stand before you today to acknowledge the role of education as an essential sector for effective and durable economic and social development, all of which should be fundamental in the rebuilding of a great nation, such as Haiti.

The Haitian government has reported that the January earthquake has caused the destruction of 95 percent of schools in the Port-au Prince area. It is my belief that an uneducated population has the potential to become a national security threat and considering this dramatic situation, we must confront the crisis head on. In our effort to assist Haiti in becoming self-sustainable, education is the first step.

Without the promotion and cultivation of human capital, there can be no substantial poverty reduction. We know that educational attainments improve the livelihoods of the poor and reduce the likelihood of becoming poor.

Since Haiti has one of the largest income gaps between the rich and the poor in the world, providing accessible education is instrumental to creating a strong middle class, as well as sustaining small business and stimulating entrepreneurship.

There needs to be a plan in place that utilizes the skills of highly educated staff and the input of leading experts in the field of education. This is needed to provide improvements to the Haitian educational system but also serve as a platform for innovation. High quality education and partnerships between Haitian and foreign educational institutions are attainable goals.

The Government of Haiti has indicated its intention to promote free quality education and it is imperative that the United States and other friends of Haiti mobilize their efforts to provide easy access to education for all Haitian children. Let this be our gift to the children of Haiti in return for their ancestors' sacrifice for democracy.

TRIBUTE TO PAUL E. HALL

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Paul E. Hall of Viper, Kentucky, whose tireless efforts and trusted partnerships have improved the basic infrastructure and quality of life for people living in the Kentucky River area of southeastern Kentucky.

In 1993, Paul Hall began working at the Kentucky River Area Development District, KRADD. His exemplary Leadership and visionary skills were highly noted amongst peers and 3 years later, he was appointed executive director. Since then, Paul has been a vital voice for the leaders of the same rural, impoverished cities and counties, as well as our beloved Appalachian region. Paul has served on the Kentucky Appalachian Commission, served as chairman of the Kentucky Association of District Directors and as the Kentucky representative on the Development District Association of Appalachia.

Before working with KRADD, Paul spent 24 years in the mining industry where his duties spanned every position ranging from equipment operator to vice president and general manager of Diamond Shamrock Coal Company, Falcon Coal Division. It was his experience in the coal industry that provided him the foresight and understanding to work on behalf of counties that depend on our rich natural resource.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Paul E. Hall for his dedication and service to the leaders and families of eastern Kentucky.

VALERIA SAPUNOVA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Valeria Sapunova who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Valeria Sapunova is a 12th grader at Arvada High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Valeria Sapunova is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Valeria Sapunova for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

COMMENDING THE PUBLICATION OF THE SAVILLE INQUIRY AND THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT'S ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE TRAGIC EVENTS OF "BLOODY SUNDAY"

HON. RUSS CARNAHAN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. CARNAHAN. Madam Speaker, on June 15, 2010, the British Government published the conclusions of Lord Saville's comprehensive report on the tragic events in Northern Ireland of January 30th, 1972, otherwise known as "Bloody Sunday."

After 38 years this full and sober account of the events of that day at last made unmistakably clear that 14 innocent civilians lost their lives in one of the worst episodes of a dark era in the history of Northern Ireland.

Nothing can erase the pain endured by the families and loved one of those who were killed in the unjustifiable Bloody Sunday shootings. However, the admissions of the Saville Inquiry have helped advance the healing process of those affected and the country as a whole.

It also serves as a reminder of how far the peace process in Northern Ireland has come; how many brave steps have been taken on both sides; and how firm the commitment to peace and reconciliation has proven itself for more than a decade now, since the 1998 signing of the historic Good Friday Agreements.

The Saville Inquiry was commissioned in 1998 and opened in 2000 in response to outcries from the families of the victims of Bloody Sunday. This Inquiry was specifically tasked to resolve unanswered accusations left after a previous inconclusive tribunal immediately following the shootings, as well as the establishment of a definitive account of events.

For ten years the Saville tribunal heard testimony from witnesses in order to fully ascertain the truth of what happened that terrible day in 1972. The findings of the Saville Inquiry state unambiguously that the conduct of British Army soldiers on January 30, 1972, was "both unjustified and unjustifiable."

It concludes that certain British soldiers "reacted by losing self-control . . . forgetting or ignoring their instructions and training." Without provocation, the soldiers fired the first shots at unarmed civilians.

Many of those civilians had been marching in protest to a policy of internment without trial introduced in response to rising sectarian and paramilitary violence particularly against British soldiers, during the height of the period known as "The Troubles."

It is clear that the recent history of Northern Ireland is a painful one with deep divisions and violent sectarian clashes in which thousands of people on all sides lost their lives, lost loved ones, and suffered terrible injustice as a result of the escalation of tensions and force. Over 3,500 people from every community lost their lives in the violence in Northern Ireland.

However, the history of Northern Ireland is also a shining example of the resilience and determination of the will to live in peace, and how people with the strength to cross the divide can indeed build a better future together. Northern Ireland can and should be very

proud of the remarkable peace and cross-community cooperation it has accomplished.

While there are many more unanswered questions lingering in Northern Ireland, and many unacknowledged tragedies across each community, no step to resolve these is trivial. The publication of the Saville Inquiry is an important component of the ongoing reconciliation process in Northern Ireland.

I commend Lord Saville and the members of his tribunal for their determination to bring the truth to light. I also commend former British Prime Minister Tony Blair for his leadership in helping to begin this critical process, and current Prime Minister David Cameron for taking up that torch in offering his heartfelt apology on behalf of the British Government for the events of Bloody Sunday. His Statement to the House of Commons on June 15, 2010, was deeply moving.

This Inquiry at last lays to rest one of the most tragic events in the history of Northern Ireland. And I hope it will help bring closure to the affected families and further the healing process in Northern Ireland. There is still more work to be done, and I stand ready, with my colleagues, to lend assistance to our friends in the British Government, and the people of Northern Ireland, to ensure that peace and reconciliation continue to progress in Northern Ireland.

IN RECOGNITION OF LAWRENCE S. SYKOFF

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lawrence Sykoff for his contribution and commitment to his community, and the subsequent honor he has received from the American Cancer Society (ACS) in appreciation of his efforts. Lawrence Sykoffis is a valuable member of my district. I would like to congratulate him on being the honored individual at ACS's Annual Golf Classic 2010.

Lawrence Sykoff has been the Headmaster of Ranney School since 1993, a private elementary school in Tinton Falls, NJ, committed to high quality education. Mr. Sykoff is a highly influential force in the field of education, having been a teacher and administrator for over 35 years, as well as an active member of the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS), the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education, and the New Jersey Association of Independent Schools (NJAIS). The publications he has written for NAIS and doctoral dissertation on child education marks Mr. Sykoff as an exceptionally dedicated intellectual leader in the field of education. Moreover, in addition to his successful professional career, Mr. Sykoff is an active member of his community. He is on the Board of Trustees of the Count Basie Theatre, the Board of the Riverview Medical Center Foundation, as well as on the Board of the American Cancer Society. I, myself, have honored Mr. Sykoff on two occasions with a Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition for his community service. He is unquestionably deserving of our praise and attention.

Madam Speaker, I would once more like to thank Lawrence Sykoff for his immeasurable contributions to my district and his community, and to again congratulate him for the honors he has received from the American Cancer Society in this year's Annual Golf Classic.

CONGRATULATING KAROLE WHITE FOR HER NOMINATION TO THE MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION OF BROADCASTERS HALL OF FAME

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to one of my district's outstanding citizens, Karole White. Karole was recently nominated to the Michigan Association of Broadcasters (MAB) Hall of Fame because of her service to my home state of Michigan.

Karole is best known for her selfless work on behalf of the MAB. For nearly 25 years, she has dedicated herself to the growth and improvement of that organization.

When Karole joined the MAB, the organization had minimal resources, and membership was at about half of what it could have been. She played a large role in growing the MAB into one of Michigan's most respected trade associations and among the nation's finest state broadcaster associations. Karole's strong leadership and innovation have helped the MAB integrate into all areas of the broadcasting industry. Currently, over 89 percent of individuals, companies, and organizations affiliated with broadcasting in Michigan have joined the MAB.

As you know, Karole is a highly respected member of the broadcasting industry, and her related expertise has allowed her to build a strong relationship with my staff and me. She often provides valuable input on telecommunications issues and is always eager to collaborate with others for the public good. Most importantly, however, her integrity and reliability make me consider her a close friend.

Karole continues to employ the MAB's resources to benefit Michigan's communities through the Michigan Association of Broadcasters Foundation. She is truly deserving of her nomination to the MAB Hall of Fame, and I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating her on this honor.

McLEAN CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the centennial of McLean, Virginia, and the celebration event held on June 26. I want to thank the McLean Community Center, honorary chair former Virginia Governor and Senator Charles Robb, master of ceremonies former Delegate Vince Callahan, and McLean & Great Falls Celebrate Virginia board of directors for making the centennial celebration possible.

McLean & Great Falls Celebrate Virginia was founded to perpetuate and promotion the preservation of local history. It grew out of the local organization founded in 2003 as part of the statewide celebration for the 400th anniversary of the settlement at Jamestown and has worked tirelessly to organize the 100th anniversary celebration for the McLean community.

The small village that grew to become McLean began when John R. McLean and Senator Stephen Elkins of West Virginia obtained a charter to operate a trolley line called the Great Falls & Old Dominion Railroad to promote the scenic beauty of the Great Falls of the Potomac. The 14-mile electrified railroad linked Washington, D.C., to the falls on the old Aqueduct Bridge. Over the last century many people have made McLean their home, seeking a refuge from the hectic lifestyle of the nation's capital. The beauty and mixture of farmland, forests, and the Great Falls of the Potomac make McLean a truly unique and special place.

While McLean has grown over the years it has managed to keep its community spirit and rural flavor. With first class schools both public and private, safe neighborhoods, and special sense of community, the ''village'' of McLean is indeed a welcoming place to live and raise a family.

Madam Speaker, it is my honor and privilege to represent the McLean community and to help commemorate the 100th anniversary of this special community.

VANESSA VASQUEZ

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Vanessa Vasquez who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Vanessa Vasquez is a 12th grader at Pamona High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Vanessa Vasquez is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Vanessa Vasquez for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character to all her future accomplishments.

IN HONOR OF PROFESSOR THOMAS J. REED

HON. JOE SESTAK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. SESTAK. Madam Speaker, on the occasion of his retirement from the School of Law at Widener University, it gives me great pleasure to acknowledge the achievements and contributions of the talented and altruistic public servant, author, professor, warrior, and history buff Professor Thomas J. Reed, J.D. A

2nd Lieutenant of the U.S. Marine Corps awarded the Air Medal for his efforts in the Dominican Republic in 1965, and loved father of Heather and wife of Emily, Tom certainly deserves our praise.

Throughout Professor Reed's career, he has shown the greatest respect for public service. He has served in our nation's military, worked as a Reporter to the Delaware Supreme Court for the Delaware Appellate Handbook and the Supreme Court for revisions to the Delaware Uniform Rules of Evidence, worked for and served as the President of the Civil War Round Table of Wilmington, Delaware, and was instrumental in the establishment of the Widener University Veterans Law Clinic, which specializes in representing those Veterans without the means to mount a challenge to unfair decisions rendered by the VA.

In addition to his noteworthy service to many venerable organizations of our nation, Professor Thomas Reed has spent 29 years of his life educating generations of prospective lawyers at the Widener University School of Law in effective and innovative ways. His play, entitled Delaware: A State Divided is an excellent learning device for school-age children, and he has recently filmed a short piece to introduce law students to the intricacies and challenges associated with trials.

Professor Reed has worked extensively with my office to defend the rights of our heroes who fight for our freedom day in and day out. His innovative ideas on merging Department of Defense and Veterans Administration records to permit the seamless flow of information between those two organizations could dramatically improve the delivery of cost-effective medical care to Veterans. Professor Reed also was recently recognized by the Taischoff Advocacy, Technology, and Public Service Institute as the first Taischoff Professor of Law upon the organization's creation in 2008.

As our nation struggles on so many fronts—suffering the most severe economic woes in decades and fighting multiple wars abroad—it is important to remember the successes achieved by our constituents in our communities every single day. I am truly honored to offer this recognition to Professor Thomas J. Reed, and I wish him well in his retirement.

HONORING THE LIFE OF H.D. ''DILL'' MULLIS

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of H.D. ''Dill'' Mullis, a truly great Alaskan and a good friend.

Dill Mullis was born on March 13, 1935 in Jacksonville, FL to H.D. and Sara A. Mullis. He graduated from Andrew Jackson High School and the University of Florida.

Following his undergraduate education, Dill courageously joined the armed forces. He was an Air Force pilot and Vietnam veteran. His military decorations include: The Distinguished Flying Cross, Bronze Star; Air Medals, Meritorious Service Medal, RVN Cross of Gallantry and RVN Air medals.

After his honorable and courageous service to his country, Dill joined the ITT Company in 1971, where he was assigned to Anchorage in the military contracts and commercial operations division. Subsequently, he was involved in the construction, operations, and maintenance in support of the exploratory drilling program in the National Petroleum Reserve Alaska, the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System and various projects throughout Alaska.

Dill was a quintessential Alaskan and he will be dearly missed. His courage, tenacity and independence helped to show everyone around him, and the rest of the Lower 48, what it really meant to be an Alaskan.

He is survived by his wife, Beverly; daughters, Patricia Hopkins of Anchorage and Kathleen Matson of Eugene, Oregon; daughter in law, Cindie Mullis of Anchorage; sons, Stephen Mullis of Portage, Wisconsin, and Mark Mullis of Hong Kong, China. He is also survived by 12 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

A TRIBUTE TO MARGUERITE STERLIN

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Marguerite Sterlin on the occasion of her 106th birthday.

Marguerite Sterlin was born on July 20, 1904 in Cap Haitian. She came to the United States in the early 1960s, and has been a resident of Brooklyn ever since.

For approximately 30 years, Ms. Sterlin worked as a babysitter and a seamstress. She is now retired.

Ms. Sterlin was never married, and did not have children of her own. She is the only survivor of her five siblings, but is visited by her nieces and nephews.

Ms. Sterlin is a member of St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church. Her hobbies include sewing, cooking, and dancing. She also enjoys Haitian music and ice cream, and she is known to many as ''JoJo,'' pronounced ''GoGo.''

She has been at River Manor Care Center in Brooklyn, New York, since 2003. She is a regular participant in daily recreational programs, and is very close to the Haitian staff of River Manor, and is considered their adopted grandmother.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the life of Marguerite Sterlin.

COMMEMORATING THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COLORED WOMEN'S CLUBS AND YOUTH AFFILIATES, INC.'S 114TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, today I would like to recognize the National Association of Colored Women's Clubs and Youth Affiliates, Inc.'s 114th Anniversary and 57th Biennial Convention. This convention, scheduled to take place between July 29th and August 2nd in Denver, Colorado will be a fantastic opportunity for such a distinguished club to showcase its achievements and renowned history.

The club's history dates back to 1895 when Josephine St. Pierre Ruffin issued a call for a national meeting of women of color to take place in Boston, Massachusetts. This marked the beginning of the National Association of Colored Women's Clubs. Founded by Ida B. Wells, Harriet Tubman, Frances E.W. Harper and Mary Church Terrell in 1896, the NACWC began the uphill battle for women and African Americans throughout the twentieth century. For the past one-hundred and fourteen years, the organization has fought barriers to economic and political advancement for women of color. Its creed encourages members to contribute heavily to community service within American society, particularly to causes related to the plight of the African American woman. It emphasizes the role of all women in improving society for the benefit of everyone. Through their educational workshops and seminars, their scholarship programs, and their youth programs, the NACWC has cultivated the talents of generations of successful women.

Historically, the group was the educational and support base for Black Colleges and Universities, which promoted literacy among African Americans throughout the 19th and 20th centuries. The work of the organization's founders and members has proven an inspiration for future African American women to lift up their communities as they climb their respective stairways to success. The National Association of Colored Women's Clubs has become the exemplar of what can be accomplished when women throughout the nation come together to promote interracial understanding, justice and peace among all people, raise the standard of the home, and advance the moral, economic, social and religious welfare of the family. The courage, persistence and unity of the women of the NACWC have served as inspiration and hope for the future of an America that will embrace the value of diversity for generations to come.

MARINE CORPS CORPORAL DAANE ADAM DEBOER

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is with great respect and deep sadness that I wish to commend United States Marine Corps Corporal Daane Adam DeBoer for his bravery and willingness to fight for his country. Corporal DeBoer was killed when hit by an improvised explosive device while on foot patrol in the Helmand province in Afghanistan. His sacrifice will forever be remembered by a community that has been struck by the devastating loss of one of their own.

Daane Adam DeBoer was born in Valparaiso, Indiana. He attended Immanuel Lutheran School through the sixth grade. Former teachers report that Daane was an energetic youth with a zest for life. From a young age, family members remember Daane as having a thirst for the extreme. He enjoyed extreme sports, whether he was skiing in Colorado or walking the 2,200 miles of the Appalachian Trail to help raise money for the

Susan G. Komen for the Cure fund. Although he was only a young man, he garnered the respect and admiration of others in the communities that he was a part of, as made evident by the numerous prayer circles initiated upon the news of his death.

Daane would later use his enthusiasm and spirit to protect his country in the United States Marine Corps. Corporal DeBoer joined the Marines in 2009 and was deployed for combat for the first time to Afghanistan in March of 2010. His service awards include the Purple Heart, the Combat Action Ribbon, the National Defense Service Medal, the Afghanistan Campaign Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, and the Sea Service Deployment Ribbon.

The youngest of a loving family, Daane is survived by his father and stepmother, David and Mary DeBoer of Valparaiso, his mother and stepfather, Charlene and Jim Zerrenner of Ludington, Michigan, and his three sisters: Aubrey, Ashley, and Lindsey.

Madam Speaker, at this time I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring a fallen hero, United States Marine Corps Corporal Daane DeBoer. Corporal DeBoer sacrificed his life in service to his country, and his passing comes as a great setback to our nation, shaken by the realities of war. Corporal DeBoer will forever remain a hero in the eyes of his family, his community, and his country. Thus, let us never forget the sacrifice he made to preserve the ideals of freedom and democracy.

TRIBUTE TO JENNIE MIRZA ESHOO

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Jennie Mirza Eshoo who will celebrate her 95th birthday on July 17, 2010.

Jennie Eshoo was born Jennie Katherine Mirza on July 17, 1915 in Chicago, Illinois to Agase B. Mirza and Martha Alaverdy Mirza. She is the eldest of seven siblings: Julia Alexander, Elsie Eshoo, the late Esther Aziz, Alice Maupin, Sam Mirza, and Bill Mirza. She graduated from Waller High School in Chicago in 1934 and on September 22nd of that year she married Paul Eshoo.

Jennie and Paul Eshoo moved from Chicago to Turlock, California where they raised four children on the family farm, growing grapes and walnuts and tending their laying hens: Peter, George, Agnes and Alice. They were active in the Assyrian-American community and Paul was a founder of the Turlock Assyrian American Civic Club. Jennie has been a charter member of the Turlock Assyrian American Civic Club since 1946.

Jennie is a devoted member of St. John's Presbyterian Church and its oldest member. She has been a Church Elder for 37 years and served as Clerk of the Session from 1973 to 1979 and from 1980 to 1986. She also served on Presbyterian Ethnic Concerns as a delegate and as their Treasurer from 1973 to 2006.

Jennie Mirza Eshoo is known throughout the community for her generosity and helpfulness to so many and volunteered at Emanuel Medical Center in Turlock for 32 years. From 1966 to 1971, she worked at California State University Stanislaus and was a kindergarten teacher's aide at Crowell Elementary School from 1974 to 1986. Jennie has an abiding love of democracy and served as a faithful election polling supervisor for Stanislaus County from 1987 to 2005.

Jennie is an avid reader whose taste ranges from National Geographic to the latest novels. She loves to travel and on her two trips to Israel in 1980 and 1984, relished visiting in person the sites she has "visited" in the Bible and other readings. Jennie still drives her own car which provides her convenient transportation for shopping as well as attending church services.

Jennie is the matriarch of a large and loving family. In addition to her four children, she has eight grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. Her grandchildren are Lisa Brown, Lori Hill, Cherie Thompson, Christine Benjamin Nedved, Michelle Benjamin Eldridge, Annelise Martella, Karen Eshoo and Paul Eshoo. Her great-grandchildren are Amanda and Emily Brown, Madison and Jacob Eldridge, Cory Hill, Katherine and Jacqueline Nedved, and Peter Thompson.

Madam Speaker, it is a privilege to honor Jennie Mirza Eshoo as she celebrates her 95th birthday. I ask the entire House of Representatives to join me, her family and her many friends in saluting her as she celebrates this extraordinary milestone and thank her for her decades of contributions to the Turlock community, her lifetime of love for her family, and her unswerving patriotism and love of our country.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, on July 1, 2010, I was unavoidably detained and was unable to record my vote for Rollcall No. 415–433. Had I been present I would have voted:

Rollcall No. 415: Yes—Honoring the veterans of Helicopter Attack Light Squadron Three and their families.

Rollcall No. 416: Yes—Salmon Lake Land Selection Resolution Act.

Rollcall No. 417: Yes—Recognizing the important role pollinators play in supporting the ecosystem and supporting the goals and ideals of National Pollinator Week.

Rollcall No. 418: Yes—Providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5618) to continue Federal unemployment programs, and waiving a requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII with respect to consideration of certain resolutions reported from the Committee on Rules.

Rollcall No. 419: Yes—Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the political situation in Thailand be solved peacefully and through democratic means.

Rollcall No. 420: Yes—Congratulating the people of the 17 African nations that in 2010 are marking the 50th year of their national independence.

Rollcall No. 421: Yes—Congratulating the Government of South Africa upon its first two successful convictions for human trafficking.

Rollcall No. 422: Yes—On Motion to Table the Appeal of the Ruling of the Chair.

Rollcall No. 423: Yes—Restoration of Emergency Unemployment Compensation Act.

Rollcall No. 424: Present—Quorum Call.

Rollcall No. 425: Yes—To amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to prohibit any registered lobbyist whose clients include foreign governments which are found to be sponsors of international terrorism or include other foreign nationals from making contributions and other campaign-related disbursements in elections for public office.

Rollcall No. 426: Yes—Expressing support for designation of June 30 as "National ESIGN Day".

Rollcall No. 427: Present—Quorum Call.

Rollcall No. 428: Yes—Providing for consideration of the Senate amendments to the bill (H.R. 4899) making emergency supplemental appropriations for disaster relief and summer jobs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010.

Rollcall No. 429: Yes—Expressing support for the people of Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador as they persevere through the aftermath of Tropical Storm Agatha which swept across Central America causing deadly floods and mudslides.

Rollcall No. 430: Yes—Second Portion of the Divided Question [Amendment 2]—Obey.

Rollcall No. 431: Yes—Third Portion of the Divided Question [Amendment 3]—Strike military funding.

Rollcall No. 432: Yes—Fourth Portion of the Divided Question [Amendment 4]—Lee.

Rollcall No. 433: Yes—Fifth Portion of the Divided Question [Amendment 5]—McGovern/Obey/Jones.

IN HONOR OF CAPTAIN JOSEPH SADIE

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Captain Joseph Sadie of the Cleveland Police Department. For 43 years, Captain Sadie rose through the ranks of the Cleveland Police Department, tirelessly protecting and defending our local communities.

In addition to his dedicated police service, Captain Sadie ran a local program called Cops & Kids. In the last 20 years, this program provided clothes, toys, food, appliances, and other necessities to 20,000 families in need.

Captain Sadie's passion for helping the community had him on call all year round; people close to him said his phone never stopped ringing. Despite the overwhelming need and number of requests, Captain Sadie always came through.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Captain Joseph Sadie of the Cleveland Police Department. Captain Sadie's leadership, kindness, compassion, and concern for others have made the local communities in and around Cleveland a better place. The impact of his dedication will carry on in the lives of all of those he helped.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CELESTINO GAMBINO

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise with sadness following the passing of Celestino Gambino, proprietor of La Parmigiana Restaurant in Southampton, NY and a beloved member of the community that I have the privilege of representing.

Celestino Gambino emigrated to the United States from Palermo Sicily, with little money and speaking no English, to make a better life for himself, his wife Josephine, and their seven children. He kept his family together, and with them and a lot of hard work, he built one of the most successful businesses on the East End of Long Island. He was devoted to his family, to his church and to his community, and he became a beloved figure in Southampton. On July 1 Mr. Gambino passed away at the age of 73.

Celestino Gambino opened La Parmigiana, or ''La Parm'' as it is affectionately known, in 1974 as a small pizza parlor, but over the years it became a Southampton mainstay. Located on Hampton Road in the heart of Southampton Village, La Parm is a family restaurant serving plates piled high with Italian food, such as their traditional Sicilian dishes, Penne alla Norcina and Margarita con Melenzane. A specialty shop in the restaurant sells Italian olive oil, La Parm's own sauce and salad dressing, pastries, pastas and other items.

As delicious as the food is, the true draw of the restaurant was the fact that patrons knew they would see Mr. Gambino, smoking his pipe and wearing his white apron, when they visited his restaurant, and if not him—then one of his family members. All of his children and several of his grandchildren work in La Parm, and all of them help give it the friendly, welcoming atmosphere it is known for—even when the pick-up counter is jammed with people waiting for their orders on a Friday night. People knew they could count on Mr. Gambino to give them good, quality service, whether they were ordering a slice or sitting down to a family meal.

It is a place of Old World charm, with good food for a good value. Mr. Gambino once said that the restaurant sold 20,000 pizza pies a year. But as busy as the restaurant kept him, Celestino Gambino always had time for people. He always took the time to listen and find a way to help, quietly and without fanfare. He was a gentleman, considerate and kind, and he was respected for that. In good times and in hard times, he kept his family together. On Mondays, the only day the restaurant was closed, the family would gather at his home far a family meal. He would always sit at the head of the table surrounded by his wife, their seven children and 19 grandchildren. On Sundays he made dinner for the priests at his church, Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary Roman Catholic Church.

The Gambino family is a shining example of the hard work, family love, and generosity of spirit that have made this country great. With the death of Celestino Gambino, we have lost a bit of Southampton, but we know that his family will carry on the traditions he established at the place he owned and operated for 36 years, and in them he will live on and we will be constantly reminded of the values for which he stood.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, on June 24, 2010, I was unavoidably detained and was unable to record my vote for Rollcall No. 394. Had I been present I would have voted:

Rollcall No. 394: Yes—Comprehensive Iran Sanctions, Accountability, and Divestment Act.

RECOGNIZING REAR ADMIRAL MICHAEL MILLER

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, let me recognize and congratulate an outstanding Naval Officer, RADM Michael Miller, upon the completion of more than two years of distinguished service as the United States Navy's Chief of Legislative Affairs. I am honored to commend Rear Admiral Miller's achievements on the Navy's behalf as well as his devotion to our nation.

Rear Admiral Miller graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1974 and earned his ''Wings of Gold'' two years later. He has served tours around the world flying the S–3 Viking, and he has served at sea as Executive Officer and later in command of the USS *John F. Kennedy* (CV–67), the USS *Coronado* (AGF–11), and Carrier Strike Group 7. Rear Admiral Miller also served as the first-ever active duty Director of the White House Military Office.

As Chief of Legislative Affairs, Rear Admiral Miller showed the integrity, skill, and professionalism for which we honor our brave men and women in uniform. His work helped ensure the United States Navy's readiness and superior capabilities.

Rear Admiral Miller was recently nominated and confirmed for appointment to the rank of Vice Admiral. In connection with this promotion, he will be assigned as Superintendant of the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland.

Madam Speaker, I wish Rear Admiral Miller continued success and fulfillment as he undertakes this new challenge. I trust my colleagues in the House will join me in saluting this fine Naval Officer.

CONGRATULATING ABDUL HAMKA AND DARIUS WILBERT FOR BECOMING NATIONAL SEMI-FINALISTS IN THE DASH+ NATIONAL STUDENT COMPETITION

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. CONYERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor two students from my district who have been named as semifinalists of the Progressive Insurance DASH+ National Student Competition.

Abdul Hamka and Darius Wilbert of The Henry Ford Academy in Dearborn Michigan designed an eco-friendly dashboard for the Dash Plus National Student Competition. Hamka and Wilbert designed a dashboard that is able to communicate to the driver how they are impacting fuel economy and the environment. Abdul and Darius's panel connects multiple information sources that increase driver awareness. The dashboard can also calculate routes that have fewer hills and traffic lights, helping the driver reduce unnecessary acceleration and braking and in turn reduce overall fuel emissions. The dashboard is constructed out of emerging industrial-grade bio-plastics that are derived from vegetable oil, corn, soy, and algae. This gives the panel a reduced weight which in turn means less fuel consumption and a smaller carbon footprint.

Projects like the DASH Tech competition provide students with a platform to be innovative and put to use skills they learn while studying STEM fields. Madam Speaker, one out of every ten people in Southeast Michigan is an engineer. Helping to promote the new green economy will help drive job creation and innovation in Michigan. My constituents and I are proud of what Abdul and Darius have accomplished and we know that they will be industry leaders one day.

THE FEDERAL LANDS COUNTERDRUG STRATEGY AND ENFORCEMENT ENHANCEMENT ACT (H.R. 5645)

HON. DEVIN NUNES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. NUNES. Madam Speaker, on Wednesday, June 30th, I introduced H.R. 5645, the Federal Lands Counterdrug Strategy and Enforcement Enhancement Act, legislation designed to combat drug trafficking on our nation's public lands.

Drug traffickers, primarily Mexican and Asian drug gangs involved with cannabis cultivation and marijuana distribution, are increasingly using our nation's public lands to operate large-scale operations. Eighty three percent of all plants eradicated from U.S. forests between 2004 and 2008 were removed from national forests in California. Sadly, Tulare County, California, recorded three consecutive seasons in which the number of marijuana plants seized exceeded $1 billion.

Traffickers find the remoteness of the public lands appealing as it reduces the risk of detection and asset forfeiture. By cultivating marijuana on our public lands, international drug trafficking organizations avoid the risk and expense of smuggling their product across the border. It also makes distribution less risky because it can be easily driven to major cities, where it is distributed to street dealers. Accordingly, cultivation of marijuana is expanding from the M7 states including California, Hawaii, Kentucky, Oregon, Tennessee, Washington, and West Virginia, into Utah, Idaho, Texas, Wisconsin, and Ohio. This illicit activity poses a significant threat to our nation and those Americans who choose to

camp, hike, hunt, ride, or otherwise use our nation's public lands.

Drug traffickers also are growing increasingly aggressive toward law enforcement officials and members of the public who enter the area in which drugs are being cultivated and produced. They are encircling their plots—some of which have as many as 75,000 plants—with crude explosives and patrolling them with firearms, including AK-47s. In one instance reported last year by The Washington Post, two Lassen County, California, law enforcement officers were wounded by a gunman guarding a grove on Bureau of Land Management property. In another incident, an eight-year-old boy and his father were shot after they accidentally stumbled onto a hidden marijuana grow in El Dorado County, California. One Placer County, California, law enforcement official reported that, ''In every garden, every single encounter, we find weapons.''

Moreover, drug traffickers are causing serious and extensive environmental damage to our public lands. Animal poisons are used as are chemical repellants, fertilizers, pesticides, and herbicides many of which are banned in the United States. Traffickers often pour fertilizer directly into streams and pools and run it through their homemade irrigation systems. The use and abandonment of these and other hazardous substances—such as gasoline—results in toxic levels of chemicals in the soil, groundwater, streams, and rivers. Eventually, these hazardous substances enter our residential and agricultural water supplies.

I find this situation utterly unacceptable. We cannot meaningfully address drug trafficking on public lands without a comprehensive strategy. Such a strategy has been authorized and developed for the southwestern border and I am firmly convinced that one should be done to better combat drug trafficking on public lands.

The Federal Lands Counterdrug Strategy and Enforcement Act would address this situation by requiring the Office of National Drug Control Policy to develop a strategy to combat drug trafficking on public lands. The bill would also increase the penalties available for cultivating or manufacturing drugs on public land as well as for using hazardous chemicals, diverting streams, removing vegetation without authorization, and using boobytraps or firearms to produce drugs on public lands. Accordingly, I ask my colleagues to join with me to enact this legislation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, on June 29, 2010, I was unavoidably detained and was unable to record my vote for rollcall No. 395–401. Had I been present I would have voted: rollcall No. 395, ''yes''—On Approving the Journal; rollcall No. 396, ''yes''—Congratulating the Chicago Blackhawks on winning the 2010 Stanley Cup Championship; rollcall No. 397, ''no''—On Motion to Adjourn; rollcall No. 398, ''yes''—Restoration of Emergency Unemployment Compensation Act; rollcall No. 399, ''yes''—Recognizing the National Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition for its now five-year effort to promote cyber security curriculum in institutions of higher learning; rollcall No. 400, ''yes''—Firearms Excise Tax Improvement Act; and rollcall No. 401, ''yes''—Homebuyer Assistance and Improvement Act.

RECOGNIZING COLONEL ROBERT GREENE OF CITRUS COUNTY, FLORIDA

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor COL Robert Cushing Greene, USA (Ret.) of Citrus County, Florida. On July 24th Colonel Greene will do something that all of us strive to do, but that very few of us will ever accomplish, celebrate his 100th birthday.

Bob was born July 24, 1910 in Keene, NH, he is the fifth of six children, born to his mother, Lillian Francis Greene and his father, Corydon Burton Greene, a furniture salesman. in April of 1931, while still attending the University of New Hampshire, he married his first wife and eventual mother to his three children, ''Betty''. That summer he was commissioned into the United States Army Reserve. One year later, he graduated college in the thick of the Great Depression. He took a job working for Betty's father's lumber company until 1939 when, he began working as a traveling cement salesman.

In April of 1941, war clouds were gathering and Bob was called up to active duty. He reported to Ft. Benning, GA to receive his infantry training. In August of 1943 he received his orders to head overseas to serve in the Northern Combat Area Command in China-Burma-India during World War II where he served as an intelligence officer. While in Burma, he was promoted from captain to major.

In 1945, at the wars end, many soldiers were trying to get out of the Army, but Major Greene and Betty decided that they liked the Army life and decided to stay in. From 1947 to 1949 Major Greene, Betty and their children lived in Panama, followed by Virginia where he transferred into the Quarter Master's Corps. He served in the Korean War, followed by two additional posts in Massachusetts and France. In 1961, after serving in two wars, crossing 69 countries and earning two Bronze Stars with oak leaf cluster, he retired from military service as a full colonel.

He served as a civil servant until 1975 when, he and Betty were once again bit by the travel bug. They embarked on what Betty called ''the world's longest bridge game''. For nearly three years they traveled the country in a motorcoach. In 1979, they finally parked in Inverness, FL to be close to many friends whom they had met along their journey together. Betty passed away five years later. Their children, Bob, Sherry and Michael say their parents were, ''the very best''.

In 1995, Colonel Greene married his current wife, Lori. His son, Bob, remarked that they credit Lori for their dad's enduring spirit. She encouraged him to become a mentor at the Inverness Primary School; He is also a former president of what is now the Citrus County MOAA Chapter. He enjoys spending time with his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, many of whom will join him on the 24th for his centenial celebration.

Madam Speaker, please join me in thanking Colonel Greene for his service and congratulating him on one hundred years of life.

INTRODUCTION OF VETERANS', SENIORS', AND CHILDREN'S HEALTH TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS ACT OF 2010

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. LEVIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Veterans', Seniors', and Children's Health Technical Corrections Act of 2010. This bill contains many time-sensitive provisions that affect our nation's veterans, seniors, and children and that have already been considered by the House as part of H.R. 4213, the American Jobs and Closing Tax Loopholes Act of 2010, which passed the House before the Memorial Day recess. I understand that the Senate is renewing their consideration of this jobs legislation. I encourage them to do so—and to do so quickly—as it contains critical provisions to create jobs, cut taxes, and support American workers. Should the Senate face delays in passing that larger legislation, this bill guarantees the consideration of necessary, time-sensitive, and noncontroversial health care provisions.

This legislation contains clarifications and extensions under Medicare, Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program. For veterans, this legislation clarifies a special enrollment period to ensure that they can properly enroll in Medicare Part B and retain their TRICARE eligibility.

For children, this legislation clarifies that eligible children's hospitals retain access to discounts for expensive orphan drugs. Children will also benefit from technical corrections in this bill that relate to Medicaid and CHIP.

For teaching hospitals that train our newest physicians, this legislation makes a technical correction to clarify that residency positions currently shared between teaching hospitals will not be redistributed. In 36 states, this will affect more than 300 hospitals with affiliation agreements in place that are currently using these residency slots.

For Medicare beneficiaries receiving care at a skilled nursing facility, this legislation guarantees that they will be covered under the most current refined payment system.

We pay for this bill largely with funds from the Medicare Improvement Fund. CBO estimates that this bill results in small savings to the federal government.

So colleagues, I ask you to join me in supporting this time-sensitive and noncontroversial legislation pertaining to veterans, Medicare providers including skilled nursing facilities, teaching hospitals, and children's hospitals.

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF BOB FRITZ

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Bob Fritz, as he celebrates his retirement after nearly 40 years of unwavering leadership, kindness and devotion as CEO of Avtron Manufacturing, Inc., of Independence, Ohio.

The son of Dwain and Carolyn Fritz, founders of Avtron Manufacturing Inc., Bob Fritz's parents instilled within him a strong work ethic and values. He graduated from Shaw High School and enrolled at Carnegie Melon University, where he graduated with honors and a degree in physics. He later earned an MBA from Harvard Business School, where he was awarded a National Honorary Fellowship.

Mr. Fritz's intellect is matched by his kindness, ability to relate to others, and build upon a new vision. Within a few years of becoming CEO, Avtron soared to new levels in the areas of sales, product development, and a renewed focus on the welfare of employees. In the past 36 years, Avtron increased its number of employees from 100 to 400, 95% of whom live in Cuyahoga County. During his tenure, Avtron was honored numerous times, including three North Coast 99 Awards for being one of the best places to work in Northeast Ohio. Mr. Fritz has also volunteered his time as both a member and a leader of several community organizations, including Vistage, an organization of CEOs that focus on guiding, mentoring and assisting struggling businesses.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of Bob Fritz on the occasion of his retirement as leader of Avtron Manufacturing, Inc. His devotion to his family, employees, and community serves to strengthen the foundation of greater Cleveland. I wish him, his wife Linnet, and their entire family an abundance of health and happiness as he journeys onward.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, on June 30, 2010, I was unavoidably detained and was unable to record my vote for rollcall Nos. 402–414. Had I been present I would have voted: rollcall No. 402, ''yes''—Recognizing the work and importance of special education teachers; rollcall No. 403, ''yes''—To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 151 North Maitland Avenue in Maitland, Florida, as the ''Paula Hawkins Post Office Building''; rollcall No. 404, ''yes''—Recognizing the residents of the City of Tracy, California, on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the city's incorporation, for their century of dedicated service to the United States; rollcall No. 405, ''yes''—To name the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Artesia, New Mexico, as the ''Alejandro Renteria Ruiz Department of Veterans Affairs Clinic''; rollcall No. 406, ''yes''—On Ordering the Previous Question; rollcall No. 407, ''yes''—Waiving a requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII with respect to consideration of certain resolutions reported from the Committee on Rules, and for other purposes; rollcall No. 408, ''yes''—To enable State homes to furnish nursing home care to parents any of whose children died while serving in the Armed Forces; rollcall No. 409, ''yes''—Providing for an adjournment or recess of the two Houses; rollcall No. 410, ''yes''—Rule providing for the consideration of the conference report to accompany H.R. 4173, the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act; rollcall No. 411, ''yes''—Fountainhead Property Land Transfer Act; rollcall No. 412, ''no''—On Motion to Recommit the Conference Report with Instructions; rollcall No. 413, ''yes''—Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2009; rollcall No. 414, ''yes''—Indian Pueblo Cultural Center Clarification Act.

INTRODUCTION OF THE SMITHSONIAN CONSERVATION BIOLOGY INSTITUTE ENHANCEMENT ACT

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Mr. BECERRA. Madam Speaker, I rise today with my fellow congressional Regents, Representatives SAM JOHNSON and DORIS MATSUI, and our colleague Representative FRANK WOLF, to introduce the Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute Enhancement Act, which authorizes funding for this institute's important work in conservation biology. Companion legislation has been introduced in the Senate by Senators PATRICK LEAHY, THAD COCHRAN and CHRIS DODD.

While some 30 million individuals annually visit and enjoy the Smithsonian's 19 museums and National Zoo, the Smithsonian's nine research centers carry out important work that advances the Institution's mission of expanding and diffusing knowledge. As one of these centers, the Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute, SCBI, is headquartered in Front Royal, Virginia, in Representative WOLF's district, at the facility previously known as the National Zoo's Conservation and Research Center. The SCBI launched in January of 2010 as an umbrella for six Smithsonian units working in a global effort to conserve species and train future generations of conservationists.

The Smithsonian Institution, SI, has a long history of creatively collaborating with strategic partners to advance the important goals of discovering and understanding biological diversity, advancing scientific solutions and conserving wildlife. Toward that end, the National Zoological Park, NZP, Comprehensive Facilities Master Plan completed in December 2008 includes plans to create a campus-like setting for the SCBI at the NZP facility in Front Royal, Virginia, NZP–FR, with space capable of hosting multiple partners who share common goals and are willing to work with SI scientists and staff to advance efforts in conservation biology.

To allow the Smithsonian to progress in its master plan, this bill authorizes the SI to invest $1 million for each of fiscal years 2010 and 2011 and $3 million in aggregate for all succeeding fiscal years in order to plan, design and construct an education facility at its Front Royal site. The bill also authorizes the Smithsonian Board of Regents to enter into agreements for the provision of housing and other services related to the facility's programs at no cost to the SI. Finally, it authorizes the SI to use its non-federal funds to plan, design and construct animal holding and related program facilities on the property. The goal is to open the facilities by the Fall of 2012 semester.

The SCBI scientists' domestic and international biodiversity accomplishments span many decades. For example:

Since 1972, SCBI scientists have studied the endangered golden lion tamarins and established one of the most successful reintroduction programs ever attempted. Thanks to their leadership, more than 1,500 animals survive in Brazil's Atlantic coastal rain forest.

Since 1978, SCBI scientists have conducted breeding and conservation research on captive and wild endangered clouded leopards. More than 70 clouded leopards have been born at the SI's Conservation and Research Center in Front Royal, Virginia in the past 30 years, including two born in 2009. Working with Thai counterparts, the SCBI team developed a captive breeding program that has produced 40 cubs. These collaborative international projects serve as a model for conserving treasured species.

Since 1985, SCBI scientists have led the way in developing breeding and management techniques resulting in the birth of nearly 600 endangered black-footed ferrets at SCBI facilities in Front Royal, Virginia. More than 200 SCBI-produced ferrets and their descendents have been released in seven states.

Madam Speaker, SCBI staff has conducted training courses for undergraduate, graduate and professional audiences in the United States and at more than 20 international locations—reaching more than 5,000 individuals from over 85 countries. Supporting the Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute's next phase of development will not only expand its notable record of providing educational classes, it will also help ensure that the next generation of conservation and scientific professionals has the necessary training to help sustain a biodiverse planet.

I urge my colleagues to join us in passing this bipartisan legislation so that our Smithsonian scientists can continue to be recognized as global leaders in the field of biodiversity and so that our nation can continue to do its part in leaving the planet in the best possible condition for our children.

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S5753–S5796

Measures Introduced: Seven bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 3570–3576, and S. Res. 579–580. **Page S5786**

Measures Reported:

H.R. 1933, to direct the Attorney General to make an annual grant to the A Child Is Missing Alert and Recovery Center to assist law enforcement agencies in the rapid recovery of missing children. **Page S5785**

Measures Passed:

Credit Card Accountability Responsibility and Disclosure Act: Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 5502, to amend the effective date of the gift card provisions of the Credit Card Accountability Responsibility and Disclosure Act of 2009, and the bill was then passed, clearing the measure for the President. **Page S5795**

Commemorating the life of George M. Steinbrenner: Senate agreed to S. Res. 580, commemorating the life and work of George M. Steinbrenner of the State of New York. **Page S5796**

Conference Reports:

Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act: Senate began consideration of the conference report to accompany H.R. 4173, to promote the financial stability of the United States by improving accountability and transparency in the financial system, to end ''too big to fail'', to protect the American taxpayer by ending bailouts, to protect consumers from abusive financial services practices. **Pages S5774–76**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the conference report to accompany the bill and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur on Thursday, July 15, 2010. **Page S5774**

Robert C. Byrd Tributes—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the prayer delivered by our Senate Chaplain on Thursday, July 1, 2010, when the Senate gathered to remember Senator Robert C. Byrd, be printed in the Record and as a part of the memorial book of Senate tributes. **Pages S5753–54**

Messages from the House: **Page S5783**

Measures Referred: **Page S5783**

Measures Read the First Time: **Pages S5783, S5796**

Executive Communications: **Pages S5783–85**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S5786–87**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S5787–93**

Additional Statements: **Pages S5781–83**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S5793–95**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S5795**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:11 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Wednesday, July 14, 2010. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S5796.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Christopher W. Murray, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Republic of the Congo, Mark Charles Storella, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Zambia, James Frederick Entwistle, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eric D. Benjaminson, of Oregon, to be Ambassador to the Gabonese Republic, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe, Phillip Carter III, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Cote d'Ivoire, J. Thomas Dougherty, of Wyoming, to be Ambassador to Burkina Faso, who was introduced by Senators Enzi and Barrasso, Michael S. Owen, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Sierra

Leone, and Laurence D. Wohlers, of Washington, to be Ambassador to the Central African Republic, all of the Department of State, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

WEAPON SYSTEMS PROCUREMENT

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management, Government Information, Federal Services, and International Security concluded a hearing to examine the cost effectiveness of procuring weapon systems in excess of requirements, focusing on being able to afford more C–17s, after receiving testimony from Mike McCord, Principal Deputy Under Secretary (Comptroller), Alan F. Estevez, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Logistics and Materiel Readiness, and Major General Susan Y. Desjardins, Director, Strategic Plans, Requirements and Programs, Air Mobility Command, Air Force, all of the Department of Defense; Jeremiah Gertler, Specialist in Military Aviation, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress; and William L. Greer, Institute for Defense Analyses, Hopkinsville, Kentucky.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee ordered favorably reported the following bills:

H.R. 1933, to direct the Attorney General to make an annual grant to the A Child Is Missing Alert and Recovery Center to assist law enforcement agencies in the rapid recovery of missing children; and,

H.R. 2765, to amend title 28, United States Code, to prohibit recognition and enforcement of foreign defamation judgments and certain foreign judgments against the providers of interactive computer services, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee held closed hearings on intelligence matters, receiving testimony from officials of the intelligence community.

Committee recessed subject to the call.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 19 public bills, H.R. 5711–5729; and 5 resolutions, H. Res. 1510–1514 were introduced. **Pages H5545–46**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H5546–47**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 3923, to provide for the exchange of certain land located in the Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forests in the State of Colorado, with an amendment (H. Rept. 111–525);

H.R. 3967, to amend the National Great Black Americans Commemoration Act of 2004 to authorize appropriations through fiscal year 2015 (H. Rept. 111–526, Pt. 1);

H.R. 4514, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study to determine the suitability and feasibility of designating the Colonel Charles Young Home in Xenia, Ohio as a unit of the National Park System, with an amendment (H. Rept. 111–527);

H.R. 4686, to authorize the Secretary of Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating prehistoric, historic, and limestone forest sites on Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, as a unit of the National Park System, with amendments (H. Rept. 111–528);

H.R. 3989, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study to determine the suitability and feasibility of adding the Heart Mountain Relocation Center, in the State of Wyoming, as a unit of the National Park System (H. Rept. 111–529);

H.R. 4773, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to lease certain lands within Fort Pulaski National Monument (H. Rept. 111–530);

H.R. 4973, to amend the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 to reauthorize volunteer programs and community partnerships for national wildlife refuges, with an amendment (H. Rept. 111–531);

H.R. 2864, to amend the Hydrographic Services Improvement Act of 1998 to authorize funds to acquire hydrographic data and provide hydrographic services specific to the Arctic for safe navigation, delineating the United States extended continental shelf, and the monitoring and description of coastal changes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 111–532);

H.R. 2476, to amend the National Forest Ski Area Permit Act of 1986 to clarify the authority of the Secretary of Agriculture regarding additional recreational uses of National Forest System land that

are subject to ski area permits, with an amendment (H. Rept. 111–533, Pt. 1);

H.R. 2555, to ensure the availability and affordability of homeowners' insurance coverage for catastrophic events, with an amendment (H. Rept. 111–534); and

H. Res. 1509, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1722) to improve teleworking in executive agencies by developing a telework program that allows employees to telework at least 20 percent of the hours worked in every 2 administrative workweeks (H. Rept. 111–535). **Page H5545**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Cuellar to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H5505**

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Sugar Loaf Fire Protection District Land Exchange Act: H.R. 3923, amended, to provide for the exchange of certain land located in the Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forests in the State of Colorado; **Pages H5506–07**

Amending the National Great Black Americans Commemoration Act of 2004: H.R. 3967, to amend the National Great Black Americans Commemoration Act of 2004 to authorize appropriations through fiscal year 2015; **Pages H5507–08**

Colonel Charles Young Home Study Act: H.R. 4514, amended, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study to determine the suitability and feasibility of designating the Colonel Charles Young Home in Xenia, Ohio as a unit of the National Park System, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 350 yeas to 26 nays, Roll No. 434; **Pages H5508–09, H5517–18**

Rota Cultural and Natural Resources Study Act: H.R. 4686, amended, to authorize the Secretary of Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating prehistoric, historic, and limestone forest sites on Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, as a unit of the National Park System; **Pages H5509–11**

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: "To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating prehistoric, historic, and limestone forest sites on Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, as a unit of the National Park System.". **Page H5511**

San Antonio Missions National Historical Park Boundary Expansion Act of 2010: H.R. 4438, amended, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to enter into an agreement to lease space from a nonprofit group or other government entity for a park headquarters at San Antonio Missions National Historical Park, to expand the boundary of the Park, and to conduct a study of potential land acquisitions, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 264 yeas to 114 nays, Roll No. 435; **Pages H5511–12, H5518–19**

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: "To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to expand the boundary of the Park, to conduct a study of potential land acquisitions, and for other purposes.". **Page H5519**

Heart Mountain Relocation Center Study Act: H.R. 3989, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study to determine the suitability and feasibility of adding the Heart Mountain Relocation Center, in the State of Wyoming, as a unit of the National Park System; **Pages H5512–13**

Fort Pulaski National Monument Lease Authorization Act: H.R. 4773, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to lease certain lands within Fort Pulaski National Monument, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 379 yeas with none voting "nay", Roll No. 436; **Pages H5513–14, H5519**

Shasta-Trinity National Forest Administrative Jurisdiction Transfer Act: Concurred in the Senate amendment to H.R. 689, to interchange the administrative jurisdiction of certain Federal lands between the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management; and **Pages H5514–15**

National Wildlife Refuge Volunteer Improvement Act of 2010: H.R. 4973, amended, to amend the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 to reauthorize volunteer programs and community partnerships for national wildlife refuges. **Pages H5515–16**

Recess: The House recessed at 3:09 p.m. and reconvened at 6 p.m. **Page H5517**

Suspension—Proceedings Postponed: The House debated the following measure under suspension of the rules. Further proceedings were postponed:

Amending the Hydrographic Services Improvement Act of 1998: H.R. 2864, amended, to amend the Hydrographic Services Improvement Act of 1998 to authorize funds to acquire hydrographic data and provide hydrographic services specific to the Arctic for safe navigation, delineating the United States extended continental shelf, and the monitoring and description of coastal changes. **Pages H5516–17**

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appears on page H5505.

Senate Referrals: S. 2872 was held at the desk. **Page H5505**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Three yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear

on pages H5517–18, H5518–19, H5519. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 2 p.m. and adjourned at 10:34 p.m.

Committee Meetings

MINER SAFETY AND HEALTH ACT

Committee on Education and Labor: Held a hearing on H.R. 5663, Miner Safety and Health Act of 2010. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Labor: Joe Main, Assistant Secretary, Mine Safety and Health; David Michaels, Assistant Secretary, Occupational Safety and Health; and Patricia Smith, Solicitor of Labor; and public witnesses.

CHINA'S ANTITRUST LAW/COMPETITION POLICIES

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Courts and Competition Policy held a hearing on the Impact of China's Antitrust Law and Other Competition Policies on U.S. Companies. Testimony was heard from Thomas O. Barnett, former Assistant Attorney General, Antitrust Division, Department of Justice; and public witnesses.

THE "TELEWORK IMPROVEMENTS ACT OF 2009"

Committee on Rules: Granted, by a record vote of 6–2, a closed rule providing for consideration of H.R. 1722, the "Telework Improvements Act of 2009." The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill except those arising under clause 9 or 10 of rule XXI. The rule provides that the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, now printed in the bill, modified by the amendment printed in the Rules Committee report shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provision in the bill, as amended. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. The rule tables House Resolution 1496. Testimony was heard from Chairman Towns.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, JULY 14, 2010

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies, business meeting to mark up proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2011 for Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies, 1:30 p.m., SD–124.

Committee on Armed Services: to receive a briefing on the National Intelligence Estimate on the verifiability of the New START, 2:30 p.m., SVC–217.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Water and Power, to hold an oversight hearing to examine the Federal response to the discovery of the aquatic invasive species Asian carp in Lake Calumet, Illinois, 3:30 p.m., SD–366.

Committee on Finance: to hold hearings to examine the future of individual tax rates, focusing on effects on economic growth and distribution, 10 a.m., SD–215.

Subcommittee on International Trade, Customs, and Global Competitiveness, to hold hearings to examine marine wealth, focusing on promoting conservation and advancing American exports, 3 p.m., SD–215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold closed hearings to examine Treaty between the United States of America and the Russian Federation on Measures for the Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms, signed in Prague on April 8, 2010, with Protocol (Treaty Doc.111–05), 9:30 a.m., SVC–217.

Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine Afghanistan, focusing on governance and civilian strategy, 2 p.m., SD–419.

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Crime and Drugs, to hold hearings to examine S. 2930, to deter terrorism, provide justice for victims, 10 a.m., SD–226.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: to hold hearings to examine veterans' claims processing, focusing on if current efforts are working, 9:30 a.m., SR–418.

House

Committee on Agriculture, to consider H.R. 4785, Rural Energy Savings Program Act, 2 p.m., 1300 Longworth.

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies, to mark up the FY 2011 Military Construction, VA Appropriations bill, 10 a.m., H–140 Capitol.

Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Seapower and Expeditionary Forces, oversight hearing on the activities of the Maritime Administration, 1:30 p.m., 2212 Rayburn.

Committee on the Budget, hearing on the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009: An Update, 1 p.m., 210 Cannon.

Committee on Education and Labor, to mark up H.R. 5504, Improving Nutrition for America's Children Act, 2 p.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade, and Consumer Protection, hearing on

H.R. 4692, National Manufacturing Strategy Act of 2010, 2 p.m., 2322 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled ''Antibiotic Resistance and the Use of Antibiotics in Animal Agriculture,'' 2 p.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on House Administration, to consider the following: H.R. 5493, To provide for the furnishing of statues by the District of Columbia for display in Statuary Hall in the United States Capitol; a measure concerning U.S. Territories in National Statuary Hall Collection; H.R. 5681, To improve certain administrative operations of the Library of Congress; H.R. 5682, To improve the operation of certain facilities and programs of the House of Representatives; a measure Relating to the Smithsonian National Zoological Park facility in Virginia; and the following Committee resolutions: to adopt voucher documentation standards; and pertaining to online advertising, 11 a.m., 1310 Longworth.

Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship, Refugees, Border Security, and International Law, hearing on the Ethical Imperative for Reform of our Immigration System, 9:30 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, to mark up H.R. 3534, Consolidated Land, Energy, and Aquatic Resources Act of 2009, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Rules, to consider H.R. 5114, Flood Insurance Reform Priorities Act of 2010, 3 p.m., H–313 Capitol.

Committee on Science and Technology, to mark up the following: H.R. 2693, Federal Oil Spill Research Program Act; and the Safer Oil and Natural Gas Drilling Technology Research and Development Act; 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, hearing entitled ''Bonus Depreciation: What It Means for Small Business,'' 1 p.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Aviation, hearing on Airline Fees, 2 p.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing on Examining the Progress of Suicide Prevention Outreach Efforts at the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, 10 a.m., 334 Cannon.

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee on Select Revenue Measures, hearing on the taxation of reinsurance between affiliated entities, 10 a.m., 2200 Longworth.

Joint Meetings

Joint Economic Committee: to hold hearings to examine the economic outlook, 2 p.m., SD–106.

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: to hold hearings to examine the future outlook for the annual Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Report prepared by the United States Department of State and help facilitate greater use of the report as a valuable tool of diplomacy, 10 a.m., SVC–203/202.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Wednesday, July 14

Senate Chamber

Program for Wednesday: After the transaction of any morning business (not to extend beyond 12 noon), Senate expects to resume consideration of H.R. 5297, Small Business Lending Fund Act.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Wednesday, July 14

House Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Consideration of the following suspensions: (1) S. 1508—Improper Payments Elimination and Recovery Act of 2010; (2) H.R. 5390—The ''David John Donafee Post Office Building'' Designation Act; (3) H.R. 4840—The ''Clarence D. Lumpkin Post Office'' Designation Act; (4) H.R. 5450—The ''Tom Bradley Post Office Building'' Designation Act; (5) H.R. ____—To provide for certain clarifications and extensions under Medicare, Medicaid, and the Children's Health Insurance Program; and (6) H.J. Res. 83—Approving the renewal of import restrictions contained in the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003. Consideration of H.R. 1722—Telework Improvements Act of 2010 (Subject to a Rule).

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