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LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS SAFETY ACT IMPROVEMENTS ACT OF 2010

Mr. BOUCHER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 1132) to amend title 18, United States Code, to improve the provisions relating to the carrying of concealed weapons by law enforcement officers, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 1132

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 ''Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act Improvements Act of 2010''.

SEC. 2. AMENDMENTS TO LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER SAFETY PROVISIONS OF TITLE 18.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 926B of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (c)(3), by inserting ''which could result in suspension or loss of police powers'' after ''agency''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(f) For the purposes of this section, a law enforcement officer of the Amtrak Police Department, a law enforcement officer of the Federal Reserve, or a law enforcement or police officer of the executive branch of the Federal Government qualifies as an employee of a governmental agency who is authorized by law to engage in or supervise the prevention, detection, investigation, or prosecution of, or the incarceration of any person for, any violation of law, and has statutory powers of arrest.''.

(b) ACTIVE LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS.—Section 926B of title 18, United States Code is amended by striking subsection (e) and inserting the following:

''(e) As used in this section, the term 'firearm'—

''(1) except as provided in this subsection, has the same meaning as in section 921 of this title;

''(2) includes ammunition not expressly prohibited by Federal law or subject to the provisions of the National Firearms Act; and

''(3) does not include—

''(A) any machinegun (as defined in section 5845 of the National Firearms Act);

''(B) any firearm silencer (as defined in section 921 of this title); and

''(C) any destructive device (as defined in section 921 of this title).''.

(c) RETIRED LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS.—Section 926C of title 18, United States Code is amended—

(1) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by striking ''retired'' and inserting ''separated from service''; and

(ii) by striking '', other than for reasons of mental instability'';

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking ''retirement'' and inserting ''separation'';

(C) in paragraph (3)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''retirement, was regularly employed as a law enforcement officer for an aggregate of 15 years or more'' and inserting ''separation, served as a law enforcement officer for an aggregate of 10 years or more''; and

(ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking ''retired'' and inserting ''separated'';

(D) by striking paragraph (4) and inserting the following:

''(4) during the most recent 12-month period, has met, at the expense of the individual, the standards for qualification in firearms training for active law enforcement officers, as determined by the former agency of the individual, the State in which the individual resides or, if the State has not established such standards, either a law enforcement agency within the State in which the individual resides or the standards used by a certified firearms instructor that is qualified to conduct a firearms qualification test for active duty officers within that State;''; and

(E) by striking paragraph (5) and replacing it with the following:

''(5)(A) has not been officially found by a qualified medical professional employed by the agency to be unqualified for reasons relating to mental health and as a result of this finding will not be issued the photographic identification as described in subsection (d)(1); or

''(B) has not entered into an agreement with the agency from which the individual is separating from service in which that individual acknowledges he or she is not qualified under this section for reasons relating to mental health and for those reasons will not receive or accept the photographic identification as described in subsection (d)(1);'';

(2) in subsection (d)—

(A) paragraph (1)—

(i) by striking ''retired'' and inserting ''separated''; and

(ii) by striking ''to meet the standards'' and all that follows through ''concealed firearm'' and inserting ''to meet the active duty standards for qualification in firearms training as established by the agency to carry a firearm of the same type as the concealed firearm'';

(B) paragraph (2)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''retired'' and inserting ''separated''; and

(ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking ''that indicates'' and all that follows through the period and inserting ''or by a certified firearms instructor that is qualified to conduct a firearms qualification test for active duty officers within that State that indicates that the individual has, not less than 1 year before the date the individual is carrying the concealed firearm, been tested or otherwise found by the State or a certified firearms instructor that is qualified to conduct a firearms qualification test for active duty officers within that State to have met—

''(I) the active duty standards for qualification in firearms training, as established by the State, to carry a firearm of the same type as the concealed firearm; or

''(II) if the State has not established such standards, standards set by any law enforcement agency within that State to carry a firearm of the same type as the concealed firearm.''; and

(3) by striking subsection (e) and inserting the following:

''(e) As used in this section—

''(1) the term 'firearm'—

''(A) except as provided in this paragraph, has the same meaning as in section 921 of this title;

''(B) includes ammunition not expressly prohibited by Federal law or subject to the provisions of the National Firearms Act; and

''(C) does not include—

''(i) any machinegun (as defined in section 5845 of the National Firearms Act);

''(ii) any firearm silencer (as defined in section 921 of this title); and

''(iii) any destructive device (as defined in section 921 of this title); and

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''(2) the term 'service with a public agency as a law enforcement officer' includes service as a law enforcement officer of the Amtrak Police Department, service as a law enforcement officer of the Federal Reserve, or service as a law enforcement or police officer of the executive branch of the Federal Government.''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. BOUCHER) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BOUCHER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the legislation now under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Virginia?

There was no objection.

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

(Mr. BOUCHER asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BOUCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening in strong support of the Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act Improvements Act of 2010.

In 2004 the Congress approved the bipartisan Law Enforcement Officer Safety Act, which allows qualified retired and current law enforcement officers to carry a concealed firearm anywhere in the United States. The law requires that retired officers maintain appropriate firearms training and be current in that training.

Since enactment of the law, qualified retired officers have faced varying and inconsistent certification procedures from State to State, and that complicates their ability to carry a firearm and be properly certified to do so.

The bill that is before the House tonight was introduced in the other body by the Judiciary Committee chairman, Senator LEAHY, and it was introduced here in the House by my Virginia colleague (Mr. FORBES).

It modernizes the existing law in these very necessary respects. It will reduce from 15 to 10 the number of years a law enforcement officer must serve to be eligible to carry a firearm as a retiree with full privileges under the existing law. The 15-year requirement in current law inappropriately excludes many qualified retirees who go into law enforcement as a second career, often following their first career in the Armed Forces.

It will give retired officers more flexibility in obtaining certification to carry a firearm, while still maintaining rigorous standards for retirees who apply for this benefit. Our measure will clarify that a retiree can meet the qualifications requirement using either the standards of the agency at which the retiree formerly served, or those of the State in which the retiree currently resides.

It will also allow a certified firearms instructor qualified under State law to conduct the firearms qualification test for retired law enforcement officers.

It ensures that law enforcement officers of the Amtrak Police Department, the Federal Reserve, and the executive branch of the Federal Government are authorized to carry firearms under the law. And it also eliminates the requirement that retirees have nonforfeitable retirement benefits in order to qualify. That requirement unfairly excludes retirees from many of the smaller law enforcement agencies around the country which do not offer these retirement benefits.

Allowing the trained active and retired law enforcement officers to carry firearms on a nationwide basis enhances public safety by ensuring that officers have not only the means to defend themselves, but also the means to defend innocent victims from acts of violence. It also appropriately honors the men and women who so well protect our neighborhoods and protect our communities and our way of life.

The measure before us this evening was approved unanimously by the Senate in July. It is a commonsense, bipartisan measure that will ensure that retired law enforcement officers who have served honorably will be able to obtain the benefits conferred by the 2004 law. I urge approval of the measure.

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, today the House considers S. 1132, the Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act Improvements Act of 2010. This bill was introduced as the Senate companion to H.R. 3752, a bill of the same name introduced by Mr. FORBES of Virginia, a distinguished member of the Judiciary Committee.

S. 1132 makes improvements to the Federal law that authorizes law enforcement officers who are currently serving, who are retired, or who are separated in good standing to carry a concealed weapon anywhere in the country, notwithstanding State or local laws to the contrary.

This bill reduces the period an officer must serve before gaining eligibility to carry firearms as a retiree. Under current law, only officers with 15 years of service are ''qualified.''

This requirement prevents some officers who entered into law enforcement as a second career, for example, those that have served nobly in our military, from realizing the law's benefits. Today's legislation reduces the service requirement from 15 years to 10 years.

S. 1132 also clarifies firearms training requirements and makes them a lot more flexible. This bill enables a retiree to meet the mandatory firearms re-qualification standard, either through the agency he or she formerly served with, or through the State where he or she currently resides.

Most importantly, this legislation provides additional current and retired officers the means to defend themselves and their families from the hardened, often vengeful criminals they have previously arrested somewhere in this country.

The legislation is supported by law enforcement associations, including the Fraternal Order of Police and the National Rifle Association.

I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. FORBES), a member of the Judiciary Committee who has introduced a similar bill in the House.

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, like the other two Members, I rise in strong support of Senate bill 1132, the Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act Improvements Act of 2010. As has been mentioned, the Senate bill is a companion to legislation I sponsored in the House.

S. 1132 improves the current Federal law that authorizes active and retired police officers to carry firearms throughout the United States. The premise of that law was simple: allowing trained, active-duty, and retired law enforcement officers to carry firearms to enhance public safety.

Further, the law provides clear, uniform nationwide rules to replace the variety of local laws that create confusion and uncertainty as to whether an officer may carry a firearm when he or she is off duty.

The legislation that the House considers today expands the definition of qualified law enforcement officers to include current and retired officers of the Amtrak Police Department, the Federal Reserve System, and other agencies of the executive branch. S. 1132 further expands the categories of law enforcement officers authorized to possess a firearm in a school zone to include retired law enforcement officers.

Mr. Speaker, in a time when homeland security is paramount, this authority provides the country with additional trained and armed first responders at no additional cost to the taxpayers.

There is a long history of armed off-duty officers coming to the rescue in life threatening situations. This legislation expands the areas where these officers can be equipped for the emergencies they are trained to respond to.

In passing this legislation, Congress acknowledges the need for retired officers to have the opportunity to protect themselves and their families. The oath to serve and protect our communities is not nullified when officers retire.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

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

Mr. BOUCHER. Mr. Speaker, I urge approval of this measure, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by

the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. BOUCHER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 1132.

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.

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VETERANS' BENEFITS ACT OF 2010

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendments to the bill (H.R. 3219) to amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements in the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs relating to insurance and health care, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the Senate amendments is as follows:

Senate amendments:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the ''Veterans' Benefits Act of 2010''.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
Sec. 2. References to title 38, United States Code.

TITLE I—EMPLOYMENT, SMALL BUSINESS, AND EDUCATION MATTERS

Sec. 101. Extension and expansion of authority for certain qualifying work-study activities for purposes of the educational assistance programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs.
Sec. 102. Reauthorization of Veterans' Advisory Committee on Education.
Sec. 103. 18-month period for training of new disabled veterans' outreach program specialists and local veterans' employment representatives by National Veterans' Employment and Training Services Institute.
Sec. 104. Clarification of responsibility of Secretary of Veterans Affairs to verify small business ownership.
Sec. 105. Demonstration project for referral of USERRA claims against Federal agencies to the Office of Special Counsel.
Sec. 106. Veterans Energy-Related Employment Program.
Sec. 107. Pat Tillman Veterans' Scholarship Initiative.

TITLE II—HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS MATTERS

Sec. 201. Reauthorization of appropriations for Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program.
Sec. 202. Homeless women veterans and homeless veterans with children reintegration grant program.
Sec. 203. Specially Adapted Housing assistive technology grant program.
Sec. 204. Waiver of housing loan fee for certain veterans with service-connected disabilities called to active service.

TITLE III—SERVICEMEMBERS CIVIL RELIEF ACT MATTERS

Sec. 301. Residential and motor vehicle leases.
Sec. 302. Termination of telephone service contracts.
Sec. 303. Enforcement by the Attorney General and by private right of action.

TITLE IV—INSURANCE MATTERS

Sec. 401. Increase in amount of supplemental insurance for totally disabled veterans.
Sec. 402. Permanent extension of duration of Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance coverage for totally disabled veterans.
Sec. 403. Adjustment of coverage of dependents under Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance.
Sec. 404. Opportunity to increase amount of Veterans' Group Life Insurance.
Sec. 405. Elimination of reduction in amount of accelerated death benefit for terminally-ill persons insured under Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance and Veterans' Group Life Insurance.
Sec. 406. Consideration of loss of dominant hand in prescription of schedule of severity of traumatic injury under Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance.
Sec. 407. Enhancement of veterans' mortgage life insurance.
Sec. 408. Expansion of individuals qualifying for retroactive benefits from traumatic injury protection coverage under Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance.

TITLE V—BURIAL AND CEMETERY MATTERS

Sec. 501. Increase in certain burial and funeral benefits and plot allowances for veterans.
Sec. 502. Interment in national cemeteries of parents of certain deceased veterans.
Sec. 503. Reports on selection of new national cemeteries.

TITLE VI—COMPENSATION AND PENSION

Sec. 601. Enhancement of disability compensation for certain disabled veterans with difficulties using prostheses and disabled veterans in need of regular aid and attendance for residuals of traumatic brain injury.
Sec. 602. Cost-of-living increase for temporary dependency and indemnity compensation payable for surviving spouses with dependent children under the age of 18.
Sec. 603. Payment of dependency and indemnity compensation to survivors of former prisoners of war who died on or before September 30, 1999.
Sec. 604. Exclusion of certain amounts from consideration as income for purposes of veterans pension benefits.
Sec. 605. Commencement of period of payment of original awards of compensation for veterans retired or separated from the uniformed services for catastrophic disability.
Sec. 606. Applicability of limitation to pension payable to certain children of veterans of a period of war.
Sec. 607. Extension of reduced pension for certain veterans covered by Medicaid plans for services furnished by nursing facilities.
Sec. 608. Codification of 2009 cost-of-living adjustment in rates of pension for disabled veterans and surviving spouses and children.

TITLE VII—EMPLOYMENT AND REEMPLOYMENT RIGHTS OF MEMBERS OF THE UNIFORMED SERVICES

Sec. 701. Clarification that USERRA prohibits wage discrimination against members of the Armed Forces.
Sec. 702. Clarification of the definition of ''successor in interest''.
Sec. 703. Technical amendments.

TITLE VIII—BENEFITS MATTERS

Sec. 801. Increase in number of veterans for which programs of independent living services and assistance may be initiated.
Sec. 802. Payment of unpaid balances of Department of Veterans Affairs guaranteed loans.
Sec. 803. Eligibility of disabled veterans and members of the Armed Forces with severe burn injuries for automobiles and adaptive equipment.
Sec. 804. Enhancement of automobile assistance allowance for veterans.
Sec. 805. National Academies review of best treatments for chronic multisymptom illness in Persian Gulf War veterans.
Sec. 806. Extension and modification of National Academy of Sciences reviews and evaluations on illness and service in Persian Gulf War and Post-9/11 Global Operations Theaters.
Sec. 807. Extension of authority for regional office in Republic of the Philippines.
Sec. 808. Extension of an annual report on equitable relief.
Sec. 809. Authority for the performance of medical disability examinations by contract physicians.

TITLE IX—AUTHORIZATION OF MEDICAL FACILITY PROJECTS AND MAJOR MEDICAL FACILITY LEASES

Sec. 901. Authorization of fiscal year 2011 major medical facility leases.
Sec. 902. Modification of authorization amount for major medical facility construction project previously authorized for the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center, New Orleans, Louisiana.
Sec. 903. Modification of authorization amount for major medical facility construction project previously authorized for the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Long Beach, California.
Sec. 904. Authorization of appropriations.
Sec. 905. Requirement that bid savings on major medical facility projects of Department of Veterans Affairs be used for other major medical facility construction projects of the Department.

TITLE X—OTHER MATTERS

Sec. 1001. Technical corrections.
Sec. 1002. Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act compliance.

SEC. 2. REFERENCES TO TITLE 38, UNITED STATES CODE.

Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever in this Act an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms of an amendment to, or a repeal of, a section or other provision, the reference shall be considered to be made to a section or other provision of title 38, United States Code.

TITLE I—EMPLOYMENT, SMALL BUSINESS, AND EDUCATION MATTERS

SEC. 101. EXTENSION AND EXPANSION OF AUTHORITY FOR CERTAIN QUALIFYING WORK-STUDY ACTIVITIES FOR PURPOSES OF THE EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.

(a) EXTENSION.—Paragraph (4) of section 3485(a) is amended by striking ''June 30, 2010'' each place it appears and inserting ''June 30, 2013''.

(b) ACTIVITIES IN STATE VETERANS AGENCIES.—Such paragraph is further amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraphs:

''(G) Any activity of a State veterans agency related to providing assistance to veterans in obtaining any benefit under the laws administered by the Secretary or the laws of the State.

''(H) A position working in a Center of Excellence for Veteran Student Success, as established pursuant to part T of title VIII of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1161t et seq.).

''(I) A position working in a cooperative program carried out jointly by the Department and an institution of higher learning.

''(J) Any other veterans-related position in an institution of higher learning.''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (b) shall take effect on October 1, 2011.

SEC. 102. REAUTHORIZATION OF VETERANS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

Section 3692(c) is amended by striking ''December 31, 2009'' and inserting ''December 31, 2013''.

SEC. 103. 18-MONTH PERIOD FOR TRAINING OF NEW DISABLED VETERANS' OUTREACH PROGRAM SPECIALISTS AND LOCAL VETERANS' EMPLOYMENT REPRESENTATIVES BY NATIONAL VETERANS' EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING SERVICES INSTITUTE.

(a) 18-MONTH PERIOD.—Section 4102A(c)(8)(A) is amended by striking ''three-year period'' and inserting ''18-month period''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) APPLICABILITY TO NEW EMPLOYEES.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to a State employee assigned to perform the duties of a disabled veterans' outreach program specialist or a local veterans' employment representative under chapter 41 of title 38, United States Code, who is so assigned on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) APPLICABILITY TO PREVIOUSLY-HIRED EMPLOYEES.—In the case of such a State employee who is so assigned on or after January 1, 2006, and before the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Labor shall require the State to require, as a condition of a grant or contract under which funds are made available to the State in order to carry out section 4103A or 4104 of title 38, United States Code, each such employee to satisfactorily complete the training described in section 4102A(c)(8)(A) of such title by not later than the date that is 18 months after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 104. CLARIFICATION OF RESPONSIBILITY OF SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS TO VERIFY SMALL BUSINESS OWNERSHIP.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the ''Veterans Small Business Verification Act''.

(b) CLARIFICATION OF RESPONSIBILITY OF SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS TO VERIFY SMALL BUSINESS OWNERSHIP.—

(1) CLARIFICATION.—Section 8127(f) is amended—

(A) in paragraph (2)—

(i) by inserting ''(A)'' before ''To be eligible'';

(ii) by inserting after ''or the veteran.'' the following new sentence: ''Application for inclusion in the database shall constitute permission under section 552a of title 5 (commonly referred to as the Privacy Act) for the Secretary to access such personal information maintained by the Secretary as may be necessary to verify the information contained in the application.''; and

(iii) by inserting after the sentence added by clause (ii) the following new subparagraph:

''(B) If the Secretary receives an application for inclusion in the database from an individual whose status as a veteran cannot be verified because the Secretary does not maintain information with respect to the veteran status of the individual, the Secretary may not include the small business concern owned and controlled by the individual in the database maintained by the Secretary until the Secretary receives such information as may be necessary to verify that the individual is a veteran.''; and

(B) by striking paragraph (4) and inserting the following new paragraph (4):

''(4) No small business concern may be listed in the database until the Secretary has verified that—

''(A) the small business concern is owned and controlled by veterans; and

''(B) in the case of a small business concern for which the person who owns and controls the concern indicates that the person is a veteran with a service-connected disability, that the person is a veteran with a service-connected disability.''.

(2) APPLICABILITY.—In the case of a small business concern included in the database as of the date of the enactment of this Act for which, as of such date, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs has not verified the status of such concern in accordance with paragraph (4) of subsection (f) of section 8127 of title 38, United States Code, as amended by paragraph (1), not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall notify the person who owns and controls the concern that—

(A) the Secretary is required to verify the status of the concern in accordance with such paragraph, as so amended;

(B) verification of such status shall require that the person who owns and controls the concern apply for inclusion in the database in accordance with such subsection, as so amended;

(C) application for inclusion in the database shall constitute permission under section 552a of title 5, United States Code (commonly referred to as the Privacy Act), for the Secretary to access such personal information maintained by the Secretary as may be necessary to verify the information contained in the application; and

(D) the person who owns and controls the concern must submit to the Secretary all information required by the Secretary under this paragraph within 90 days of receiving the Secretary's notice of such requirement or the concern shall be removed from the database.

SEC. 105. DEMONSTRATION PROJECT FOR REFERRAL OF USERRA CLAIMS AGAINST FEDERAL AGENCIES TO THE OFFICE OF SPECIAL COUNSEL.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF PROJECT.—The Secretary of Labor and the Office of Special Counsel shall carry out a 36-month demonstration project under which certain claims against Federal executive agencies under chapter 43 of title 38, United States Code, are referred to, or otherwise received by, the Office of Special Counsel for assistance, including investigation and resolution of the claim as well as enforcement of rights with respect to the claim. The demonstration program shall begin not later than 60 days after the Comptroller General of the United States submits the report required under subsection (e)(3).

(b) REFERRAL OF ALL PROHIBITED PERSONNEL PRACTICE CLAIMS TO THE OFFICE OF SPECIAL COUNSEL.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Under the demonstration project, the Office of Special Counsel shall receive and investigate all claims under chapter 43 of title 38, United States Code, with respect to Federal executive agencies in cases where the Office of Special Counsel has jurisdiction over related claims pursuant to section 1212 of title 5, United States Code.

(2) RELATED CLAIMS.—For purposes of paragraph (1), a related claim is a claim involving the same Federal executive agency and the same or similar factual allegations or legal issues as those being pursued under a claim under chapter 43 of title 38, United States Code.

(c) REFERRAL OF OTHER CLAIMS AGAINST FEDERAL EXECUTIVE AGENCIES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Under the demonstration project, the Secretary—

(A) shall refer to the Office of Special Counsel all claims described in paragraph (2) made during the period of the demonstration project; and

(B) may refer any claim described in paragraph (2) filed before the demonstration project that is pending before the Secretary at the beginning of the demonstration project.

(2) CLAIMS DESCRIBED.—A claim described in this paragraph is a claim under chapter 43 of title 38, United States Code, against a Federal executive agency by a claimant with a social security account number with an odd number as its terminal digit or, in the case of a claim that does not contain a social security account number, a case number assigned to the claim with an odd number as its terminal digit.

(d) ADMINISTRATION OF DEMONSTRATION PROJECT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Office of Special Counsel shall administer the demonstration project. The Secretary shall cooperate with the Office of Special Counsel in carrying out the demonstration project.

(2) TREATMENT OF CERTAIN TERMS IN CHAPTER 43 OF TITLE 38, UNITED STATES CODE.—In the case of any claim referred to, or otherwise received by, the Office of Special Counsel under the demonstration project, any reference to the ''Secretary'' in sections 4321, 4322, and 4326 of title 38, United States Code, is deemed to be a reference to the ''Office of Special Counsel''.

(3) ADMINISTRATIVE JURISDICTION.—In the case of any claim referred to, or otherwise received by, the Office of Special Counsel under the demonstration project, the Office of Special Counsel shall retain administrative jurisdiction over the claim.

(e) DATA COMPARABILITY FOR REVIEWING AGENCY PERFORMANCE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—To facilitate the review of the relative performance of the Office of Special Counsel and the Department of Labor during the demonstration project, the Office of Special Counsel and the Department of Labor shall jointly establish methods and procedures to be used by both the Office and the Department during the demonstration project. Such methods and procedures shall include each of the following:

(A) Definitions of performance measures, including—

(i) customer satisfaction;

(ii) cost (such as, but not limited to, average cost per claim);

(iii) timeliness (such as, but not limited to, average processing time, case age);

(iv) capacity (such as, but not limited to, staffing levels, education, grade level, training received, caseload); and

(v) case outcomes.

(B) Definitions of case outcomes.

(C) Data collection methods and timing of collection.

(D) Data quality assurance processes.

(2) JOINT REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Special Counsel and the Secretary of Labor shall jointly submit to the Committees on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and House of Representatives and to the Comptroller General of the United States a report describing the methods and procedures established under paragraph (1).

(3) COMPTROLLER GENERAL REPORT.—Not later than 30 days after the date of the submittal of the report under paragraph (2), the Comptroller General shall submit to the Committees on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and House of Representatives a report on the report submitted under paragraph (2) and may provide recommendations for improving the methods and procedures described therein.

(f) AGENCY DATA TO GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE.—The Office of Special Counsel and the Secretary of Labor shall submit to the Comptroller General such information and data about the demonstration project as may be required by the Comptroller General, from time to time during the course of the demonstration project and at the conclusion, in order for the Comptroller General to assess the reliability of the demonstration data maintained by both the Office of Special Counsel and the Department of Labor and to review the relative performance of the Office and Department under the demonstration project.

(g) GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE REPORT.—The Comptroller General shall review

the relative performance of the Office of Special Counsel and the Department of Labor under the demonstration project and—

(1) not later than one year after the commencement of the demonstration project, and annually thereafter during the period when the demonstration project is conducted, submit to the Committees on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and House of Representatives an interim report on the demonstration project; and

(2) not later than 90 days after the conclusion of the demonstration project, submit to such committees a final report that includes the findings and conclusions of the Comptroller General regarding the relative performance of the Office and the Department under the demonstration project and such recommendations as the Comptroller General determines are appropriate.

SEC. 106. VETERANS ENERGY-RELATED EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF PILOT PROGRAM.—To encourage the employment of eligible veterans in the energy industry, the Secretary of Labor, as part of the Veterans Workforce Investment Program, shall carry out a pilot program to be known as the ''Veterans Energy-Related Employment Program''. Under the pilot program, the Secretary shall award competitive grants to not more than three States for the establishment and administration of a State program to make grants to energy employers that provide covered training, on-job training, apprenticeships, and certification classes to eligible veterans. Such a program shall be known as a ''State Energy-Related Employment Program''.

(b) ELIGIBILITY FOR GRANTS.—To be eligible to receive a grant under the pilot program, a State shall submit to the Secretary an application that includes each of the following:

(1) A proposal for the expenditure of grant funds to establish and administer a public-private partnership program designed to provide covered training, on-job training, apprenticeships, and certification classes to a significant number of eligible veterans and ensure lasting and sustainable employment in well-paying jobs in the energy industry.

(2) Evidence that the State has—

(A) a population of eligible veterans of an appropriate size to carry out the State program;

(B) a robust and diverse energy industry; and

(C) the ability to carry out the State program described in the proposal under paragraph (1).

(3) Such other information and assurances as the Secretary may require.

(c) USE OF FUNDS.—A State that is the recipient of a grant under this section shall use the grant for the following purposes:

(1) Making grants to energy employers to reimburse such employers for the cost of providing covered training, on-job training, apprenticeships, and certification classes to eligible veterans who are first hired by the employer on or after November 1, 2010.

(2) Conducting outreach to inform energy employers and veterans, including veterans in rural areas, of their eligibility or potential eligibility for participation in the State program.

(d) CONDITIONS.—Under the pilot program, each grant to a State shall be subject to the following conditions:

(1) The State shall repay to the Secretary, on such date as shall be determined by the Secretary, any amount received under the pilot program that is not used for the purposes described in subsection (c).

(2) The State shall submit to the Secretary, at such times and containing such information as the Secretary shall require, reports on the use of grant funds.

(e) EMPLOYER REQUIREMENTS.—In order to receive a grant made by a State under the pilot program, an energy employer shall—

(1) submit to the administrator of the State Energy-Related Employment Program an application that includes—

(A) the rate of pay, during and after training, for each eligible veteran proposed to be trained using grant funds;

(B) the average rate of pay for an individual employed by the energy employer in a similar position who is not an eligible veteran; and

(C) such other information and assurances as the administrator may require; and

(2) agree to submit to the administrator, for each quarter, a report containing such information as the Secretary may specify.

(f) LIMITATION.—None of the funds made available to an energy employer through a grant under the pilot program may be used to provide training of any kind to—

(1) a person who is not an eligible veteran; or

(2) an eligible veteran for whom the employer has received a grant, credit, or subsidy under any other provision of law.

(g) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Together with the report required to be submitted annually under section 4107(c) of title 38, United States Code, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report on the pilot program for the year covered by such report. The report on the pilot program shall include a detailed description of activities carried out under this section and an evaluation of the program.

(h) ADMINISTRATIVE AND REPORTING COSTS.—Of the amounts appropriated pursuant to the authorization of appropriations under subsection (j), two percent shall be made available to the Secretary for administrative costs associated with implementing and evaluating the pilot program under this section and for preparing and submitting the report required under subsection (f). The Secretary shall determine the appropriate maximum amount of each grant awarded under this section that may be used by the recipient for administrative and reporting costs.

(i) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section:

(1) The term ''covered training, on-job training, apprenticeships, and certification classes'' means training, on-job training, apprenticeships, and certification classes that are—

(A) designed to provide the veteran with skills that are particular to an energy industry and not directly transferable to employment in another industry; and

(B) approved as provided in paragraph (1) or (2), as appropriate, of subsection (a) of section 3687 of title 38, United States Code.

(2) The term ''eligible veteran'' means a veteran, as that term is defined in section 101(2) of title 38, United States Code, who is employed by an energy employer and enrolled or participating in a covered training, on-job training, apprenticeship, or certification class.

(3) The term ''energy employer'' means an entity that employs individuals in a trade or business in an energy industry.

(4) The term ''energy industry'' means any of the following industries:

(A) The energy-efficient building, construction, or retrofits industry.

(B) The renewable electric power industry, including the wind and solar energy industries.

(C) The biofuels industry.

(D) The energy efficiency assessment industry that serves the residential, commercial, or industrial sectors.

(E) The oil and natural gas industry.

(F) The nuclear industry.

(j) APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary $1,500,000 for each of fiscal years 2012 through 2014, for the purpose of carrying out the pilot program under this section.

SEC. 107. PAT TILLMAN VETERANS' SCHOLARSHIP INITIATIVE.

(a) AVAILABILITY OF SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION.—By not later than June 1, 2011, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall include on the Internet website of the Department of Veterans Affairs a list of organizations that provide scholarships to veterans and their survivors and, for each such organization, a link to the Internet website of the organization.

(b) MAINTENANCE OF SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall make reasonable efforts to notify schools and other appropriate entities of the opportunity to be included on the Internet website of the Department of Veterans Affairs pursuant to subsection (a).

TITLE II—HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS MATTERS

SEC. 201. REAUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR HOMELESS VETERANS REINTEGRATION PROGRAM.

Section 2021(e)(1)(F) is amended by striking ''2009'' and inserting ''2011''.

SEC. 202. HOMELESS WOMEN VETERANS AND HOMELESS VETERANS WITH CHILDREN REINTEGRATION GRANT PROGRAM.

(a) GRANT PROGRAM.—Chapter 20 is amended by inserting after section 2021 the following new section:

''§ 2021A. Homeless women veterans and homeless veterans with children reintegration grant program

''(a) GRANTS.—Subject to the availability of appropriations provided for such purpose, the Secretary of Labor shall make grants to programs and facilities that the Secretary determines provide dedicated services for homeless women veterans and homeless veterans with children.

''(b) USE OF FUNDS.—Grants under this section shall be used to provide job training, counseling, placement services (including job readiness and literacy and skills training) and child care services to expedite the reintegration of homeless women veterans and homeless veterans with children into the labor force.

''(c) REQUIREMENT TO MONITOR EXPENDITURES OF FUNDS.—(1) The Secretary of Labor shall collect such information as that Secretary considers appropriate to monitor and evaluate the distribution and expenditure of funds appropriated to carry out this section. The information shall include data with respect to the results or outcomes of the services provided to each homeless veteran under this section.

''(2) Information under paragraph (1) shall be furnished in such form and manner as the Secretary of Labor may specify.

''(d) ADMINISTRATION THROUGH THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF LABOR FOR VETERANS' EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING.—The Secretary of Labor shall carry out this section through the Assistant Secretary of Labor for Veterans' Employment and Training.

''(e) BIENNIAL REPORT TO CONGRESS.—The Secretary of Labor shall include as part of the report required under section 2021(d) of this title an evaluation of the grant program under this section, which shall include an evaluation of services furnished to veterans under this section and an analysis of the information collected under subsection (c).

''(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—(1) In addition to any amount authorized to be appropriated to carry out section 2021 of this title, there is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $1,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2011 through 2015.

''(2) Funds appropriated to carry out this section shall remain available until expended. Funds obligated in any fiscal year to carry out this section may be expended in that fiscal year and the succeeding fiscal year.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 2021 the following new item:

''2021A. Homeless women veterans and homeless veterans with children reintegration grant program.''.

SEC. 203. SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY GRANT PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 21 is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

"§ 2108. Specially adapted housing assistive technology grant program

''(a) AUTHORITY TO MAKE GRANTS.—The Secretary shall make grants to encourage the development of new assistive technologies for specially adapted housing.

''(b) APPLICATION.—A person or entity seeking a grant under this section shall submit to the Secretary an application for the grant in such form and manner as the Secretary shall specify.

''(c) GRANT FUNDS.—(1) Each grant awarded under this section shall be in an amount of not more than $200,000 per fiscal year.

''(2) For each fiscal year in which the Secretary makes a grant under this section, the Secretary shall make the grant by not later than April 1 of that year.

''(d) USE OF FUNDS.—The recipient of a grant under this section shall use the grant to develop assistive technologies for use in specially adapted housing.

''(e) REPORT.—Not later than March 1 of each fiscal year following a fiscal year in which the Secretary makes a grant, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report containing information related to each grant awarded under this section during the preceding fiscal year, including—

''(1) the name of the grant recipient;

''(2) the amount of the grant; and

''(3) the goal of the grant.

''(f) FUNDING.—From amounts appropriated to the Department for readjustment benefits for each fiscal year for which the Secretary is authorized to make a grant under this section, $1,000,000 shall be available for that fiscal year for the purposes of the program under this section.

''(g) DURATION.—The authority to make a grant under this section shall begin on October 1, 2011, and shall terminate on September 30, 2016.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of such chapter is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

''2108. Specially adapted housing assistive technology grant program.''.

SEC. 204. WAIVER OF HOUSING LOAN FEE FOR CERTAIN VETERANS WITH SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABILITIES CALLED TO ACTIVE SERVICE.

Section 3729(c)(1) is amended by inserting after ''retirement pay'' the following: ''or active service pay''.

TITLE III—SERVICEMEMBERS CIVIL RELIEF ACT MATTERS

SEC. 301. RESIDENTIAL AND MOTOR VEHICLE LEASES.

Subsection (e) of section 305 of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (50 U.S.C. App. 535) is amended to read as follows:

''(e) ARREARAGES AND OTHER OBLIGATIONS AND LIABILITIES.—

''(1) LEASES OF PREMISES.—Rent amounts for a lease described in subsection (b)(1) that are unpaid for the period preceding the effective date of the lease termination shall be paid on a prorated basis. The lessor may not impose an early termination charge, but any taxes, summonses, or other obligations and liabilities of the lessee in accordance with the terms of the lease, including reasonable charges to the lessee for excess wear, that are due and unpaid at the time of termination of the lease shall be paid by the lessee.

''(2) LEASES OF MOTOR VEHICLES.—Lease amounts for a lease described in subsection (b)(2) that are unpaid for the period preceding the effective date of the lease termination shall be paid on a prorated basis. The lessor may not impose an early termination charge, but any taxes, summonses, title and registration fees, or other obligations and liabilities of the lessee in accordance with the terms of the lease, including reasonable charges to the lessee for excess wear or use and mileage, that are due and unpaid at the time of termination of the lease shall be paid by the lessee.''.

SEC. 302. TERMINATION OF TELEPHONE SERVICE CONTRACTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 305A of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (50 U.S.C. App. 535a) is amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 305A. TERMINATION OF TELEPHONE SERVICE CONTRACTS.

''(a) TERMINATION BY SERVICEMEMBER.—

''(1) TERMINATION.—A servicemember may terminate a contract described in subsection (b) at any time after the date the servicemember receives military orders to relocate for a period of not less than 90 days to a location that does not support the contract.

''(2) NOTICE.—In the case that a servicemember terminates a contract as described in paragraph (1), the service provider under the contract shall provide such servicemember with written or electronic notice of the servicemember's rights under such paragraph.

''(3) MANNER OF TERMINATION.—Termination of a contract under paragraph (1) shall be made by delivery of a written or electronic notice of such termination and a copy of the servicemember's military orders to the service provider, delivered in accordance with industry standards for notification of terminations, together with the date on which the service is to be terminated.

''(b) COVERED CONTRACTS.—A contract described in this subsection is a contract for cellular telephone service or telephone exchange service entered into by the servicemember before receiving the military orders referred to in subsection (a)(1).

''(c) RETENTION OF TELEPHONE NUMBER.—In the case of a contract terminated under subsection (a) by a servicemember whose period of relocation is for a period of three years or less, the service provider under the contract shall, notwithstanding any other provision of law, allow the servicemember to keep the telephone number the servicemember has under the contract if the servicemember re-subscribes to the service during the 90-day period beginning on the last day of such period of relocation.

''(d) FAMILY PLANS.—In the case of a contract for cellular telephone service entered into by any individual in which a servicemember is a designated beneficiary of the contract, the individual who entered into the contract may terminate the contract—

''(1) with respect to the servicemember if the servicemember is eligible to terminate contracts pursuant to subsection (a); and

''(2) with respect to all of the designated beneficiaries of such contract if all such beneficiaries accompany the servicemember during the servicemember's period of relocation.

''(e) OTHER OBLIGATIONS AND LIABILITIES.—For any contract terminated under this section, the service provider under the contract may not impose an early termination charge, but any tax or any other obligation or liability of the servicemember that, in accordance with the terms of the contract, is due and unpaid or unperformed at the time of termination of the contract shall be paid or performed by the servicemember. If the servicemember re-subscribes to the service provided under a covered contract during the 90-day period beginning on the last day of the servicemember's period of relocation, the service provider may not impose a charge for reinstating service, other than the usual and customary charges for the installation or acquisition of customer equipment imposed on any other subscriber.

''(f) RETURN OF ADVANCE PAYMENTS.—Not later than 60 days after the effective date of the termination of a contract under this section, the service provider under the contract shall refund to the servicemember any fee or other amount to the extent paid for a period extending until after such date, except for the remainder of the monthly or similar billing period in which the termination occurs.

''(g) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section:

''(1) The term 'cellular telephone service' means commercial mobile service, as that term is defined in section 332(d) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 332(d)).

''(2) The term 'telephone exchange service' has the meaning given that term under section 3 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 153).''.

(b) TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.—The heading for title III of such Act is amended by inserting ''**, TELEPHONE SERVICE CONTRACTS**'' after ''**LEASES**''.

(c) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of such Act is amended—

(1) by striking the item relating to title III and inserting the following new item:

''TITLE III—RENT, INSTALLMENT CONTRACTS, MORTGAGES, LIENS, ASSIGNMENT, LEASES, TELEPHONE SERVICE CONTRACTS''; AND

(2) by striking the item relating to section 305A and inserting the following new item:

''Sec. 305A. Termination of telephone service contracts.''.

SEC. 303. ENFORCEMENT BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL AND BY PRIVATE RIGHT OF ACTION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (50 U.S.C. App. 501 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following new title:

"TITLE VIII—CIVIL LIABILITY

"SEC. 801. ENFORCEMENT BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL.

''(a) CIVIL ACTION.—The Attorney General may commence a civil action in any appropriate district court of the United States against any person who—

''(1) engages in a pattern or practice of violating this Act; or

''(2) engages in a violation of this Act that raises an issue of significant public importance.

''(b) RELIEF.—In a civil action commenced under subsection (a), the court may—

''(1) grant any appropriate equitable or declaratory relief with respect to the violation of this Act;

''(2) award all other appropriate relief, including monetary damages, to any person aggrieved by the violation; and

''(3) may, to vindicate the public interest, assess a civil penalty—

''(A) in an amount not exceeding $55,000 for a first violation; and

''(B) in an amount not exceeding $110,000 for any subsequent violation.

''(c) INTERVENTION.—Upon timely application, a person aggrieved by a violation of this Act with respect to which the civil action is commenced may intervene in such action, and may obtain such appropriate relief as the person could obtain in a civil action under section 802 with respect to that violation, along with costs and a reasonable attorney fee.

"SEC. 802. PRIVATE RIGHT OF ACTION.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—Any person aggrieved by a violation of this Act may in a civil action—

''(1) obtain any appropriate equitable or declaratory relief with respect to the violation; and

''(2) recover all other appropriate relief, including monetary damages.

''(b) COSTS AND ATTORNEY FEES.—The court may award to a person aggrieved by a violation of this Act who prevails in an action brought under subsection (a) the costs of the action, including a reasonable attorney fee.

"SEC. 803. PRESERVATION OF REMEDIES.

''Nothing in section 801 or 802 shall be construed to preclude or limit any remedy otherwise available under other law, including consequential and punitive damages.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Such Act is further amended as follows:

(1) Section 207 (50 U.S.C. App. 527) is amended by striking subsection (f).

(2) Section 301(c) (50 U.S.C. App. 531(c)) is amended to read as follows:

''(c) MISDEMEANOR.—Except as provided in subsection (a), a person who knowingly takes part in an eviction or distress described in subsection (a), or who knowingly attempts to do so, shall be fined as provided in title 18, United States Code, or imprisoned for not more than one year, or both.''.

(3) Section 302(b) (50 U.S.C. App. 532(b)) is amended to read as follows:

''(b) MISDEMEANOR.—A person who knowingly resumes possession of property in violation of subsection (a), or in violation of section 107 of this Act, or who knowingly attempts to do so, shall be fined as provided in title 18, United States Code, or imprisoned for not more than one year, or both.''.

(4) Section 303(d) (50 U.S.C. App. 533(d)) is amended to read as follows:

''(d) MISDEMEANOR.—A person who knowingly makes or causes to be made a sale, foreclosure, or seizure of property that is prohibited by subsection (c), or who knowingly attempts to do so, shall be fined as provided in title 18, United States Code, or imprisoned for not more than one year, or both.''.

(5) Section 305(h) (50 U.S.C. App. 535(h)) is amended to read as follows:

''(h) MISDEMEANOR.—Any person who knowingly seizes, holds, or detains the personal effects, security deposit, or other property of a servicemember or a servicemember's dependent who lawfully terminates a lease covered by this section, or who knowingly interferes with the removal of such property from premises covered by such lease, for the purpose of subjecting or attempting to subject any of such property to a claim for rent accruing subsequent to the date of termination of such lease, or attempts to do so, shall be fined as provided in title 18, United States Code, or imprisoned for not more than one year, or both.''.

(6) Section 306(e) (50 U.S.C. App. 536(e)) is amended to read as follows:

''(e) MISDEMEANOR.—A person who knowingly takes an action contrary to this section, or attempts to do so, shall be fined as provided in title 18, United States Code, or imprisoned for not more than one year, or both.''.

(7) Section 307(c) (50 U.S.C. App. 537(c)) is amended to read as follows:

''(c) MISDEMEANOR.—A person who knowingly takes an action contrary to this section, or attempts to do so, shall be fined as provided in title 18, United States Code, or imprisoned for not more than one year, or both.''.

(c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of such Act is amended by adding at the end the following new items:

''TITLE VIII—CIVIL LIABILITY

''Sec. 801. Enforcement by the Attorney General.

''Sec. 802. Private right of action.

''Sec. 803. Preservation of remedies.''.

TITLE IV—INSURANCE MATTERS

SEC. 401. INCREASE IN AMOUNT OF SUPPLEMENTAL INSURANCE FOR TOTALLY DISABLED VETERANS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1922A(a) is amended by striking ''$20,000'' and inserting ''$30,000''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect on October 1, 2011.

SEC. 402. PERMANENT EXTENSION OF DURATION OF SERVICEMEMBERS' GROUP LIFE INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR TOTALLY DISABLED VETERANS.

(a) EXTENSION.—Section 1968(a) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)(A), by striking clause (ii) and inserting the following new clause (ii):

''(ii) The date that is two years after the date of separation or release from such active duty or active duty for training.''; and

(2) in paragraph (4), by striking subparagraph (B) and inserting the following new subparagraph (B):

''(B) The date that is two years after the date of separation or release from such assignment.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to a person who is separated or released on or after June 15, 2005.

SEC. 403. ADJUSTMENT OF COVERAGE OF DEPENDENTS UNDER SERVICEMEMBERS' GROUP LIFE INSURANCE.

Clause (ii) of section 1968(a)(5)(B) is amended to read as follows:

''(ii)(I) in the case of a member of the Ready Reserve of a uniformed service who meets the qualifications set forth in subparagraph (B) or (C) of section 1965(5) of this title, 120 days after separation or release from such assignment; or

''(II) in the case of any other member of the uniformed services, 120 days after the date of the member's separation or release from the uniformed services; or''.

SEC. 404. OPPORTUNITY TO INCREASE AMOUNT OF VETERANS' GROUP LIFE INSURANCE.

(a) OPPORTUNITY TO INCREASE AMOUNT.—Section 1977(a) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by inserting ''Except as provided in paragraph (3),'' before ''Veterans' Group Life Insurance shall be''; and

(2) by adding after paragraph (2) the following new paragraph:

''(3) Not more than once in each five-year period beginning on the one-year anniversary of the date a person becomes insured under Veterans' Group Life Insurance, such person may elect in writing to increase by $25,000 the amount for which the person is insured if—

''(A) the person is under the age of 60; and

''(B) the total amount for which the person is insured does not exceed the amount provided for under section 1967(a)(3)(A)(i) of this title.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Paragraph (3) of section 1977(a) of title 38, United States Code, as added by subsection (a), shall take effect on the date that is 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 405. ELIMINATION OF REDUCTION IN AMOUNT OF ACCELERATED DEATH BENEFIT FOR TERMINALLY-ILL PERSONS INSURED UNDER SERVICEMEMBERS' GROUP LIFE INSURANCE AND VETERANS' GROUP LIFE INSURANCE.

(a) ELIMINATION OF REDUCTION.—Section 1980(b)(1) is amended by striking ''reduced by'' and all that follows through ''the Secretary''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to a payment of an accelerated death benefit under section 1980 of title 38, United States Code, made on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 406. CONSIDERATION OF LOSS OF DOMINANT HAND IN PRESCRIPTION OF SCHEDULE OF SEVERITY OF TRAUMATIC INJURY UNDER SERVICEMEMBERS' GROUP LIFE INSURANCE.

(a) SCHEDULE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 1980A(d) is amended—

(A) by striking ''Payments under'' and inserting ''(1) Payments under''; and

(B) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(2) As the Secretary considers appropriate, the schedule required by paragraph (1) may distinguish in specifying payments for qualifying losses between the severity of a qualifying loss of a dominant hand and of a qualifying loss of a nondominant hand.''.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by paragraph (1) shall take effect on October 1, 2011.

(b) PAYMENTS FOR QUALIFYING LOSSES INCURRED BEFORE DATE OF ENACTMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—To the extent necessary, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall prescribe in regulations mechanisms for payments under section 1980A of title 38, United States Code, for qualifying losses incurred before the date of the enactment of this Act, by reason of paragraph (2) of subsection (d) of such section (as added by subsection (a)(1) of this section).

(2) QUALIFYING LOSS DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term ''qualifying loss'' means—

(A) a loss specified in the second sentence of subsection (b)(1) of section 1980A of title 38, United States Code; and

(B) any other loss specified by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs pursuant to the first sentence of that subsection.

SEC. 407. ENHANCEMENT OF VETERANS' MORTGAGE LIFE INSURANCE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 2106(b) is amended by striking ''$90,000'' and inserting ''$150,000, or after January 1, 2012, $200,000,''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect on October 1, 2011.

SEC. 408. EXPANSION OF INDIVIDUALS QUALIFYING FOR RETROACTIVE BENEFITS FROM TRAUMATIC INJURY PROTECTION COVERAGE UNDER SERVICEMEMBERS' GROUP LIFE INSURANCE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (1) of section 501(b) of the Veterans' Housing Opportunity and Benefits Improvement Act of 2006 (Public Law 109–233; 120 Stat. 414; 38 U.S.C. 1980A note) is amended by striking '', if, as determined by the Secretary concerned, that loss was a direct result of a traumatic injury incurred in the theater of operations for Operation Enduring Freedom or Operation Iraqi Freedom''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The heading of such section is amended by striking ''IN OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM AND OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on October 1, 2011.

TITLE V—BURIAL AND CEMETERY MATTERS

SEC. 501. INCREASE IN CERTAIN BURIAL AND FUNERAL BENEFITS AND PLOT ALLOWANCES FOR VETERANS.

(a) INCREASE IN BURIAL AND FUNERAL EXPENSES FOR DEATHS IN DEPARTMENT FACILITIES.—Paragraph (1)(A) of subsection (a) of section 2303 is amended by striking ''$300'' and inserting ''$700 (as increased from time to time under subsection (c))''.

(b) INCREASE IN AMOUNT OF PLOT ALLOWANCES.—Subsection (b) of such section is amended by striking ''$300'' both places it appears and inserting ''$700 (as increased from time to time under subsection (c))''.

(c) ANNUAL ADJUSTMENT.—Such section is further amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(c) With respect to any fiscal year, the Secretary shall provide a percentage increase (rounded to the nearest dollar) in the maximum amount of burial and funeral expenses payable under subsection (a) and in the maximum amount of the plot or internment allowance payable under subsection (b), equal to the percentage by which—

''(1) the Consumer Price Index (all items, United States city average) for the 12-month period ending on the June 30 preceding the beginning of the fiscal year for which the increase is made, exceeds

''(2) the Consumer Price Index for the 12-month period preceding the 12-month period described in paragraph (1).''.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to deaths occurring on or after October 1, 2011.

(2) PROHIBITION ON COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2012.—No adjustments shall be made under section 2303(c) of title 38, United States Code, as added by subsection (c), for fiscal year 2012.

SEC. 502. INTERMENT IN NATIONAL CEMETERIES OF PARENTS OF CERTAIN DECEASED VETERANS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the ''Corey Shea Act''.

(b) INTERMENT OF PARENTS OF CERTAIN DECEASED VETERANS.—Section 2402 is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking ''Under such regulations'' and inserting ''(a) Under such regulations'';

(2) by moving the margins of paragraphs (1) through (8) two ems to the right;

(3) by inserting after paragraph (8) the following new paragraph:

''(9)(A) The parent of a person described in subparagraph (B), if the Secretary determines that there is available space at the gravesite where the person described in subparagraph (B) is interred.

''(B) A person described in this subparagraph is a person described in paragraph (1) who—

''(i) is a hostile casualty or died from a training-related injury;

''(ii) is interred in a national cemetery; and

''(iii) at the time of the person's parent's death, did not have a spouse, surviving spouse, or child who is buried or who, upon death, may be eligible for burial in a national cemetery pursuant to paragraph (5).''; and

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

''(b) For purposes of subsection (a)(9) of this section:

''(1) The term 'parent' means a biological father or a biological mother or, in the case of adoption, a father through adoption or a mother through adoption.

''(2) The term 'hostile casualty' means a person who, as a member of the Armed Forces, dies as the direct result of hostile action with the enemy, while in combat, while going to or returning from a combat mission if the cause of death was directly related to hostile action, or while hospitalized or undergoing treatment at the expense of the United States for injury incurred during combat, and includes a person killed mistakenly or accidentally by friendly fire directed at a hostile force or what is thought to be a hostile force, but does not include a person who dies due to the elements, a self-inflicted wound, combat fatigue, or a friendly force while the person was in an absent-without-leave, deserter, or dropped-from-rolls status or was voluntarily absent from a place of duty.

''(3) The term 'training-related injury' means an injury incurred by a member of the Armed Forces while performing authorized training activities in preparation for a combat mission.''.

(c) GUIDANCE REQUIRED.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense, shall develop guidance under which the parent of a person described in paragraph (9)(B) of subsection (a) of section 2402 of title 38, United States Code, as added by subsection (b), may be designated for interment in a national cemetery under that section.

(d) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) CROSS-REFERENCE CORRECTION.—Section 107 is amended by striking ''section 2402(8)'' both places it appears and inserting ''section 2402(a)(8)''.

(2) CROSS-REFERENCE CORRECTION.—Section 2301(e) is amended by striking ''section 2402(6)'' and inserting ''section 2402(a)(6)''.

(3) CROSS-REFERENCE CORRECTION.—Section 2306(a) is amended—

(A) in paragraph (2), by striking ''section 2402(4)'' and inserting ''section 2402(a)(4)''; and

(B) in paragraph (4), by striking ''section 2402(5)'' and inserting ''section 2402(a)(5)''.

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to the death, on or after the date of the enactment of this Act, of the parent of a person described in paragraph (9)(B) of subsection (a) of section 2402 of title 38, United States Code, as added by subsection (b), who dies on or after October 7, 2001.

SEC. 503. REPORTS ON SELECTION OF NEW NATIONAL CEMETERIES.

(a) INITIAL REPORT.—

(1) REPORT REQUIRED.—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 selection of the sites described in paragraph (2) for the purpose of establishing new national cemeteries.

(2) SITES.—The sites described in this paragraph are the following:

(A) An area in southern Colorado.

(B) An area near Melbourne, Florida, and Daytona, Florida.

(C) An area near Omaha, Nebraska.

(D) An area near Buffalo, New York, and Rochester, New York.

(E) An area near Tallahassee, Florida.

(3) SITE SELECTION.—In carrying out this section, the Secretary shall solicit advice and views of representatives of State and local veterans organizations and other individuals as the Secretary considers appropriate.

(4) MATTERS INCLUDED.—The report under paragraph (1) shall include the following:

(A) A schedule for the establishment of each cemetery at each site described in paragraph (2) and an estimate of the costs associated with the establishment of each such cemetery.

(B) As of the date of the submittal of the report, the amount of funds that are available to establish each cemetery at each site described in paragraph (2) from amounts appropriated to the Department of Veterans Affairs for Advance Planning.

(b) ANNUAL REPORTS.—Not later than two years after the date of the enactment of this Act, and each year thereafter until the date on which each cemetery at each site described in subsection (a)(2) is established, the Secretary shall submit to Congress an annual report that includes updates to the information provided in the report under subsection (a).

TITLE VI—COMPENSATION AND PENSION

SEC. 601. ENHANCEMENT OF DISABILITY COMPENSATION FOR CERTAIN DISABLED VETERANS WITH DIFFICULTIES USING PROSTHESES AND DISABLED VETERANS IN NEED OF REGULAR AID AND ATTENDANCE FOR RESIDUALS OF TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY.

(a) VETERANS SUFFERING ANATOMICAL LOSS OF HANDS, ARMS, OR LEGS.—Section 1114 is amended—

(1) in subsection (m)—

(A) by striking ''at a level, or with complications,'' and inserting ''with factors''; and

(B) by striking ''at levels, or with complications,'' and inserting ''with factors'';

(2) in subsection (n)—

(A) by striking ''at levels, or with complications,'' and inserting ''with factors'';

(B) by striking ''so near the hip as to'' and inserting ''with factors that''; and

(C) by striking ''so near the shoulder and hip as to'' and inserting ''with factors that''; and

(3) in subsection (o), by striking ''so near the shoulder as to'' and inserting ''with factors that''.

(b) VETERANS WITH SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABILITIES IN NEED OF REGULAR AID AND ATTENDANCE FOR RESIDUALS OF TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Such section is further amended—

(A) in subsection (p), by striking the semicolon at the end and inserting a period; and

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

''(t) Subject to section 5503(c) of this title, if any veteran, as the result of service-connected disability, is in need of regular aid and attendance for the residuals of traumatic brain injury, is not eligible for compensation under subsection (r)(2), and in the absence of such regular aid and attendance would require hospitalization, nursing home care, or other residential institutional care, the veteran shall be paid, in addition to any other compensation under this section, a monthly aid and attendance allowance equal to the rate described in subsection (r)(2), which for purposes of section 1134 of this title shall be considered as additional compensation payable for disability. An allowance authorized under this subsection shall be paid in lieu of any allowance authorized by subsection (r)(1).''.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 5503(c) is amended by striking ''in section 1114(r)'' and inserting ''in subsection (r) or (t) of section 1114''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on October 1, 2011.

SEC. 602. COST-OF-LIVING INCREASE FOR TEMPORARY DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION PAYABLE FOR SURVIVING SPOUSES WITH DEPENDENT CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF 18.

Section 1311(f) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by inserting ''(as increased from time to time under paragraph (4))'' after ''$250'';

(2) by redesignating paragraph (4) as paragraph (5); and

(3) by inserting after paragraph (3) the following new paragraph (4):

''(4) Whenever there is an increase in benefit amounts payable under title II of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 401 et seq.) as a result of a determination made under section 215(i) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 415(i)), the Secretary shall, effective on the date of such increase in benefit amounts, increase the amount payable under paragraph (1), as such amount was in effect immediately prior to the date of such increase in benefit amounts, by the same percentage as the percentage by which such benefit amounts are increased. Any increase in a dollar amount under this paragraph shall be rounded down to the next lower whole dollar amount.''.

SEC. 603. PAYMENT OF DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION TO SURVIVORS OF FORMER PRISONERS OF WAR WHO DIED ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 30, 1999.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1318(b)(3) is amended by striking ''who died after September 30, 1999,''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect on October 1, 2011.

SEC. 604. EXCLUSION OF CERTAIN AMOUNTS FROM CONSIDERATION AS INCOME FOR PURPOSES OF VETERANS PENSION BENEFITS.

(a) EXCLUSION.—Section 1503(a) is amended—

(1) by striking ''and'' at the end of paragraph (10);

(2) by redesignating paragraph (11) as paragraph (12); and

(3) by inserting after paragraph (10) the following new paragraph (11):

''(11) payment of a monetary amount of up to $5,000 to a veteran from a State or municipality that is paid as a veterans' benefit due to injury or disease; and''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to determinations of income for calendar years beginning after October 1, 2011.

SEC. 605. COMMENCEMENT OF PERIOD OF PAYMENT OF ORIGINAL AWARDS OF COMPENSATION FOR VETERANS RETIRED OR SEPARATED FROM THE UNIFORMED SERVICES FOR CATASTROPHIC DISABILITY.

(a) COMMENCEMENT OF PERIOD OF PAYMENT.—Subsection (a) of section 5111 is amended—

(1) by inserting ''(1)'' after ''(a)'';

(2) in paragraph (1), as so designated by paragraph (1) of this subsection, by striking ''in subsection (c) of this section'' and inserting ''in paragraph (2) and subsection (c)''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(2)(A) In the case of a veteran who is retired or separated from the active military, naval, or air service for a catastrophic disability or disabilities, payment of monetary benefits based on an award of compensation based on an original

claim shall be made as of the date on which such award becomes effective as provided under section 5110 of this title or another applicable provision of law.

''(B) For the purposes of this paragraph, the term 'catastrophic disability', with respect to a veteran, means a permanent, severely disabling injury, disorder, or disease that compromises the ability of the veteran to carry out the activities of daily living to such a degree that the veteran requires personal or mechanical assistance to leave home or bed, or requires constant supervision to avoid physical harm to self or others.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall take effect on October 1, 2011, and shall apply with respect to awards of compensation based on original claims that become effective on or after that date.

SEC. 606. APPLICABILITY OF LIMITATION TO PENSION PAYABLE TO CERTAIN CHILDREN OF VETERANS OF A PERIOD OF WAR.

Section 5503(d)(5) is amended—

(1) by inserting ''(A)'' after ''(5)''; and

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

''(B) The provisions of this subsection shall apply with respect to a child entitled to pension under section 1542 of this title in the same manner as they apply to a veteran having neither spouse nor child.''.

SEC. 607. EXTENSION OF REDUCED PENSION FOR CERTAIN VETERANS COVERED BY MEDICAID PLANS FOR SERVICES FURNISHED BY NURSING FACILITIES.

Section 5503(d)(7) is amended by striking ''September 30, 2011'' and inserting ''May 31, 2015''.

SEC. 608. CODIFICATION OF 2009 COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENT IN RATES OF PENSION FOR DISABLED VETERANS AND SURVIVING SPOUSES AND CHILDREN.

(a) DISABLED VETERANS.—Section 1521 of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (b), by striking ''$3,550'' and inserting ''$11,830'';

(2) in subsection (c)—

(A) by striking ''$4,651'' and inserting ''$15,493''; and

(B) by striking ''$600'' and inserting ''$2,020'';

(3) in subsection (d)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking ''$5,680'' and inserting ''$19,736''; and

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) by striking ''$6,781'' and inserting ''$23,396''; and

(ii) by striking ''$600'' and inserting ''$2,020'';

(4) in subsection (e)—

(A) by striking ''$4,340'' and inserting ''$14,457'';

(B) by striking ''$5,441'' and inserting ''$18,120''; and

(C) by striking ''$600'' and inserting ''$2,020'';

(5) in subsection (f)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking ''$4,651'' and inserting ''$15,493'';

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) by striking ''$6,781'' and inserting ''$23,396''; and

(ii) by striking ''$8,911'' and inserting ''$30,480'';

(C) in paragraph (3)—

(i) by striking ''$5,441'' and inserting ''$18,120''; and

(ii) by striking ''$6,231'' and inserting ''$20,747'';

(D) in paragraph (4), by striking ''$7,571'' and inserting ''$26,018''; and

(E) in paragraph (5), by striking ''$600'' and inserting ''$2,020''; and

(6) in subsection (g), by striking ''$800'' and inserting ''$2,686''.

(b) SURVIVING SPOUSES.—Section 1541 of such title is amended—

(1) in subsection (b), by striking ''$2,379'' and inserting ''$7,933'';

(2) in subsection (c)—

(A) by striking ''$3,116'' and inserting ''$10,385''; and

(B) by striking ''$600'' and inserting ''$2,020'';

(3) in subsection (d)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking ''$3,806'' and inserting ''$12,681''; and

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) by striking ''$4,543'' and inserting ''$15,128''; and

(ii) by striking ''$600'' and inserting ''$2,020''; and

(4) in subsection (e)(1)—

(A) by striking ''$2,908'' and inserting ''$9,696'';

(B) by striking ''$3,645'' and inserting ''$12,144''; and

(C) by striking ''$600'' and inserting ''$2,020''.

(c) SURVIVING CHILDREN.—Section 1542 of such title is amended by striking ''$600'' and inserting ''$2,020'' both places it appears.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsections (a), (b), and (c) shall apply with respect to pensions paid on or after December 1, 2009.

TITLE VII—EMPLOYMENT AND REEMPLOYMENT RIGHTS OF MEMBERS OF THE UNIFORMED SERVICES

SEC. 701. CLARIFICATION THAT USERRA PROHIBITS WAGE DISCRIMINATION AGAINST MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 4303(2) is amended by striking ''other than'' and inserting ''including''.

(b) APPLICATION.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply to—

(1) any failure to comply with a provision of or any violation of chapter 43 of title 38, United States Code, that occurs before, on, or after the date of the enactment of this Act; and

(2) all actions or complaints filed under such chapter 43 that are pending on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 702. CLARIFICATION OF THE DEFINITION OF ''SUCCESSOR IN INTEREST''.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 4303(4) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(D)(i) Whether the term 'successor in interest' applies with respect to an entity described in subparagraph (A) for purposes of clause (iv) of such subparagraph shall be determined on a case-by-case basis using a multi-factor test that considers the following factors:

''(I) Substantial continuity of business operations.

''(II) Use of the same or similar facilities.

''(III) Continuity of work force.

''(IV) Similarity of jobs and working conditions.

''(V) Similarity of supervisory personnel.

''(VI) Similarity of machinery, equipment, and production methods.

''(VII) Similarity of products or services.

''(ii) The entity's lack of notice or awareness of a potential or pending claim under this chapter at the time of a merger, acquisition, or other form of succession shall not be considered when applying the multi-factor test under clause (i).''.

(b) APPLICATION.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply to—

(1) any failure to comply with a provision of or any violation of chapter 43 of title 38, United States Code, that occurs before, on, or after the date of the enactment of this Act; and

(2) all actions or complaints filed under such chapter 43 that are pending on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 703. TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.

(a) AMENDMENT TO SECTION 4324 OF TITLE 38, UNITED STATES CODE.—Section 4324(b)(4) is amended by inserting before the period the following: ''declining to initiate an action and represent the person before the Merit Systems Protection Board''.

(b) AMENDMENT TO CONGRESSIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 1995.—Section 206(b) of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1316(b)) is amended by striking ''under paragraphs (1), (2)(A), and (3) of section 4323(c) of title 38, United States Code'' and inserting ''under section 4323(d) of title 38, United States Code''.

(c) AMENDMENT TO SECTION 416 OF TITLE 3, UNITED STATES CODE.—Section 416(b) of title 3, United States Code, is amended by striking ''under paragraphs (1) and (2)(A) of section 4323(c) of title 38'' and inserting ''under section 4323(d) of title 38''.

TITLE VIII—BENEFITS MATTERS

SEC. 801. INCREASE IN NUMBER OF VETERANS FOR WHICH PROGRAMS OF INDEPENDENT LIVING SERVICES AND ASSISTANCE MAY BE INITIATED.

(a) INCREASE.—Section 3120(e) is amended by striking ''2600'' and inserting ''2,700''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to fiscal years beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 802. PAYMENT OF UNPAID BALANCES OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS GUARANTEED LOANS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3732(a)(2) is amended—

(1) by striking ''Before suit'' and inserting ''(A) Before suit''; and

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

''(B) In the event that a housing loan guaranteed under this chapter is modified under the authority provided under section 1322(b) of title 11, the Secretary may pay the holder of the obligation the unpaid principal balance of the obligation due, plus accrued interest, as of the date of the filing of the petition under title 11, but only upon the assignment, transfer, and delivery to the Secretary (in a form and manner satisfactory to the Secretary) of all rights, interest, claims, evidence, and records with respect to the housing loan.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to a housing loan guaranteed after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 803. ELIGIBILITY OF DISABLED VETERANS AND MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES WITH SEVERE BURN INJURIES FOR AUTOMOBILES AND ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT.

(a) ELIGIBILITY.—Paragraph (1) of section 3901 is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A)—

(A) in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking ''the disabilities described in subclause (i), (ii), or (iii) below'' and inserting ''the following disabilities''; and

(B) by adding at the end the following new clause:

''(iv) A severe burn injury (as determined pursuant to regulations prescribed by the Secretary).''; and

(2) in subparagraph (B), by striking ''subclause (i), (ii), or (iii) of clause (A) of this paragraph'' and inserting ''clause (i), (ii), (iii), or (iv) of subparagraph (A)''.

(b) STYLISTIC AMENDMENTS.—Such section is further amended—

(1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking ''chapter—'' and inserting ''chapter:'';

(2) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking ''means—'' and inserting ''means the following:'';

(B) in subparagraph (A)—

(i) in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking ''any veteran'' and inserting ''Any veteran'';

(ii) in each of clauses (i) and (ii), by striking the semicolon at the end and inserting a period; and

(iii) in clause (iii), by striking ''; or'' and inserting a period; and

(C) in subparagraph (B), by striking ''any member'' and inserting ''Any member''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on October 1, 2011.

SEC. 804. ENHANCEMENT OF AUTOMOBILE ASSISTANCE ALLOWANCE FOR VETERANS.

(a) INCREASE IN AMOUNT OF ALLOWANCE.—Subsection (a) of section 3902 is amended by striking ''$11,000'' and inserting ''$18,900 (as adjusted from time to time under subsection (e))''.

(b) ANNUAL ADJUSTMENT.—Such section is further amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(e) Effective on October 1 of each year (beginning in 2011), the Secretary shall increase the dollar amount in effect under subsection (a) by a percentage equal to the percentage by which the Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers (U.S. city average) increased during the 12-month period ending with the last month for which Consumer Price Index data is available. In the event that such Consumer Price Index does not increase during such period, the Secretary shall maintain the dollar amount in effect under subsection (a) during the previous fiscal year.''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on October 1, 2011.

SEC. 805. NATIONAL ACADEMIES REVIEW OF BEST TREATMENTS FOR CHRONIC MULTISYMPTOM ILLNESS IN PERSIAN GULF WAR VETERANS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall seek to enter into an agreement with the Institute of Medicine of the National Academies to carry out a comprehensive review of the best treatments for chronic multisymptom illness in Persian Gulf War veterans and an evaluation of how such treatment approaches could best be disseminated throughout the Department of Veterans Affairs to improve the care and benefits provided to veterans.

(b) GROUP OF MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS.—Under any agreement entered into under subsection (a), the Institute of Medicine shall convene a group of medical professionals who are experienced in treating individuals who served as members of the Armed Forces in the Southwest Asia Theater of Operations of the Persian Gulf War during 1990 or 1991 and who have been diagnosed with chronic multisymptom illness or another health condition related to chemical and environmental exposure that may have occurred during such service.

(c) REPORT.—Any agreement entered into under subsection (a) shall require the Institute of Medicine to submit to the Secretary and to the Committees on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and House of Representatives a report on the review and evaluation described in subsection (a) by not later than December 31, 2012. The report shall include such recommendations for legislative or administrative action as the Institute considers appropriate in light of the results of the review.

(d) FUNDING.—Pursuant to any agreement entered into under subsection (a), the Secretary shall provide the Institute of Medicine with such funds as are necessary to ensure the timely completion of the review described that subsection.

(e) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section:

(1) The term ''chronic multisymptom illness in Persian Gulf War veterans'' means a chronic multisymptom illness defined by a cluster of signs or symptoms relating to service in the Persian Gulf War, typically including widespread pain, persistent memory and concentration problems, chronic headaches, gastrointestinal problems, and other abnormalities not explained by well-established diagnoses.

(2) The term ''Persian Gulf War'' has the meaning given that term in section 101(33) of title 38, United States Code.

SEC. 806. EXTENSION AND MODIFICATION OF NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES REVIEWS AND EVALUATIONS ON ILLNESS AND SERVICE IN PERSIAN GULF WAR AND POST-9/11 GLOBAL OPERATIONS THEATERS.

(a) REVIEW AND EVALUATION OF AGENTS AND ILLNESSES ASSOCIATED WITH PERSIAN GULF WAR SERVICE.—

(1) EXTENSION OF REVIEW AND EVALUATION.—Subsection (j) of section 1603 of the Persian Gulf War Veterans Act of 1998 (Public Law 105–277; 38 U.S.C. 1117 note), as amended by section 202(d)(2) of the Veterans Education and Benefits Expansion Act of 2001 (Public Law 107–173; 115 Stat. 989), is amended by striking ''October 1, 2010'' and inserting ''October 1, 2015''.

(2) DISAGGREGATION OF RESULTS BY THEATERS OF OPERATIONS BEFORE AND AFTER SEPTEMBER 11, 2001.—Such section is further amended—

(A) in subsection (c)(1)(A), by striking ''who served in the Southwest Asia theater of operations'' and all that follows and inserting ''who may have been exposed by reason of service in the Southwest Asia theater of operations during the Persian Gulf War or, after September 11, 2001, in another Post-9/11 Global Theater of Operations; and'';

(B) in subsection (g)(1), by striking ''Gulf War service'' and inserting ''service described in subsection (c)(1)(A)'';

(C) in subsection (i)—

(i) in paragraph (1), by striking ''paragraph (5)'' and inserting ''paragraph (6)'';

(ii) by redesignating paragraph (5) as paragraph (6); and

(iii) by inserting after paragraph (4) the following new paragraph (5):

''(5) In each report under this subsection submitted after the date of the enactment of this paragraph, any determinations, results, and recommendations as described in paragraph (2) shall be submitted separately as follows:

''(A) For the Southwest Asia theater of operations for the period of the Persian Gulf War ending on September 11, 2001.

''(B) For the Post-9/11 Global Theaters of Operations for the period of the Persian Gulf War beginning on September 11, 2001.''; and

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

''(l) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) The term 'Persian Gulf War' has the meaning given that term in section 101(33) of title 38, United States Code.

''(2) The term 'Post-9/11 Global Theater of Operations' means Afghanistan, Iraq, and any other theater of operations for which the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal is awarded for service.''.

(b) REVIEW AND EVALUATION OF AVAILABLE EVIDENCE REGARDING ILLNESS AND SERVICE IN PERSIAN GULF WAR.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (j) of section 101 of the Veterans Programs Enhancement Act of 1998 (Public Law 105–368; 112 Stat. 3321) is amended by striking ''11 years after'' and all that follows through ''under subsection (b)'' and inserting ''on October 1, 2018''.

(2) DISAGGREGATION OF RESULTS BY THEATERS OF OPERATIONS BEFORE AND AFTER SEPTEMBER 11, 2001.—Such section is further amended—

(A) in subsection (c)(1)—

(i) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking ''Gulf war veterans'' and all that follows through ''Persian Gulf War'' and inserting ''veterans who served in the Armed Forces in the Southwest Asia theater of operations during the Persian Gulf War or, after September 11, 2001, in another Post-9/11 Global Theater of Operations and the health consequences of exposures to risk factors during such service''; and

(ii) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''who served'' and all that follows through ''such service'' and inserting ''who may have been exposed by reason of service in the Southwest Asia theater of operations during the Persian Gulf War or, after September 11, 2001, in another Post-9/11 Global Theater of Operations'';

(B) in subsection (e)(1)—

(i) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking ''Gulf War service or exposure during Gulf War service'' and inserting ''service in the Armed Forces in the Southwest Asia theater of operations during the Persian Gulf War or, after September 11, 2001, in another Post-9/11 Global Theater of Operations or exposure during such service''; and

(ii) in subparagraphs (E) and (F), by striking ''Gulf War veterans'' each place it appears and inserting ''veterans described in subsection (c)(1)'';

(C) in subsection (f)(1)—

(i) by striking ''service in the Persian Gulf War'' and inserting ''service described in subsection (c)(1)(A)''; and

(ii) by striking ''Gulf War service'' and inserting ''such service'';

(D) in subsection (h), by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(5) In each report under this subsection submitted after the date of the enactment of this paragraph, any determinations, discussions, and recommendations as described in paragraph (2) shall be submitted separately as follows:

''(A) For the Southwest Asia theater of operations for the period of the Persian Gulf War ending on September 11, 2001.

''(B) For the Post-9/11 Global Theaters of Operations for the period of the Persian Gulf War beginning on September 11, 2001.'';

(E) in subsection (i)—

(i) in paragraph (2)—

(I) by striking ''Persian Gulf War service'' and inserting ''service described in subsection (c)(1)(A)'';

(II) by striking ''service in the Persian Gulf War'' and inserting ''such service''; and

(III) by striking ''Gulf War veterans'' and inserting ''veterans described in subsection (c)(1)(A)''; and

(ii) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(4) In each report under this subsection submitted after the date of the enactment of this paragraph, any recommendations as described in paragraph (2) shall be submitted separately as follows:

''(A) For the Southwest Asia theater of operations for the period of the Persian Gulf War ending on September 11, 2001.

''(B) For the Post-9/11 Global Theaters of Operations for the period of the Persian Gulf War beginning on September 11, 2001.''; and

(F) in subsection (k)—

(i) by striking ''In this section, the term'' and inserting the following: ''In this section:

''(1) The term 'Persian Gulf War' has the meaning given that term in section 101(33) of title 38, United States Code.

''(2) The term 'Post-9/11 Global Theater of Operations' means Afghanistan, Iraq, and any other theater of operations for which the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal is awarded for service.

''(3) The term''; and

(ii) in paragraph (3), as designated by clause (i)—

(I) by striking ''vaccine associated with Gulf War service' means'' and inserting ''vaccine', with respect to service described in subsection (c)(1)(A), means''; and

(II) by striking ''service in the Armed Forces in the Southwest Asia theater of operations during the Persian Gulf War'' and inserting ''service described in such subsection (c)(1)(A)''.

(3) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 1604 of the Persian Gulf War Veterans Act of 1998 (Public Law 105–277; 38 U.S.C. 1117 note) is repealed.

SEC. 807. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY FOR REGIONAL OFFICE IN REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES.

(a) EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY.—Section 315(b) is amended by striking ''December 31, 2010'' and inserting ''December 31, 2011''.

(b) REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit

to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on Veterans' Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives a report on the regional office of the Department of Veterans Affairs in the Republic of the Philippines.

(2) ELEMENTS.—The report required by paragraph (1) shall include the following:

(A) A description of the activities of the office described in such paragraph, including activities relating to the administration of benefits provided under laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and benefits provided under the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 301 et seq.).

(B) An assessment of the costs and benefits of maintaining such office in the Republic of the Philippines in comparison with the costs and benefits of moving the activities of such office to the United States.

SEC. 808. EXTENSION OF AN ANNUAL REPORT ON EQUITABLE RELIEF.

Section 503(c) is amended by striking ''December 31, 2009'' and inserting ''December 31, 2014''.

SEC. 809. AUTHORITY FOR THE PERFORMANCE OF MEDICAL DISABILITY EXAMINATIONS BY CONTRACT PHYSICIANS.

Section 704(c) of the Veterans Benefits Act of 2003 (Public Law 108–183; 38 U.S.C. 5101 note), as amended by section 105 of the Veterans' Benefits Improvement Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–389; 122 Stat. 4149) is amended by striking ''December 31, 2010'' and inserting ''December 31, 2012''.

TITLE IX—AUTHORIZATION OF MEDICAL FACILITY PROJECTS AND MAJOR MEDICAL FACILITY LEASES

SEC. 901. AUTHORIZATION OF FISCAL YEAR 2011 MAJOR MEDICAL FACILITY LEASES.

The Secretary of Veterans Affairs may carry out the following fiscal year 2011 major medical facility leases at the locations specified, in an amount not to exceed the amount shown for each such location:

(1) Billings, Montana, Community Based Outpatient Clinic, in an amount not to exceed $7,149,000.

(2) Boston, Massachusetts, Outpatient Clinic, in an amount not to exceed $3,316,000.

(3) San Diego, California, Community Based Outpatient Clinic, in an amount not to exceed $21,495,000.

(4) San Francisco, California, Research Lab, in an amount not to exceed $10,055,000.

(5) San Juan, Puerto Rico, Mental Health Facility, in an amount not to exceed $5,323,000.

SEC. 902. MODIFICATION OF AUTHORIZATION AMOUNT FOR MAJOR MEDICAL FACILITY CONSTRUCTION PROJECT PREVIOUSLY AUTHORIZED FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS MEDICAL CENTER, NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA.

Section 801(a)(1) of the Veterans Benefits, Health Care, and Information Technology Act of 2006 (Public Law 109–461; 120 Stat. 3442), as amended by section 702(a)(1) of the Veterans' Mental Health and Other Care Improvements Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–387; 122 Stat. 4137), is amended by striking ''$625,000,000'' and inserting ''$995,000,000''.

SEC. 903. MODIFICATION OF AUTHORIZATION AMOUNT FOR MAJOR MEDICAL FACILITY CONSTRUCTION PROJECT PREVIOUSLY AUTHORIZED FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS MEDICAL CENTER, LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA.

Section 802(9) of the Veterans Benefits, Health Care, and Information Technology Act of 2006 (Public Law 109–461; 120 Stat. 3443) is amended by striking ''$107,845,000'' and inserting ''$117,845,000''.

SEC. 904. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR CONSTRUCTION.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs for fiscal year 2011 for the Construction, Major Projects account $1,112,845,000, of which—

(1) $995,000,000 is for the increased amounts authorized for the project whose authorization is modified by section 902; and

(2) $117,845,000 is for the increased amounts authorized for the project whose authorization is modified by section 903.

(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR MEDICAL FACILITY LEASES.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs for fiscal year 2011 for the Medical Facilities account $47,338,000 for the leases authorized in section 901.

(c) LIMITATIONS.—The projects whose authorizations are modified under sections 902 and 903 may only be carried out using—

(1) funds appropriated for fiscal year 2011 pursuant to the authorization of appropriations in subsection (a) of this section;

(2) funds available for Construction, Major Projects, for a fiscal year before fiscal year 2011 that remain available for obligation;

(3) funds available for Construction, Major Projects, for a fiscal year after fiscal year 2011 that remain available for obligation;

(4) funds appropriated for Construction, Major Projects, for fiscal year 2011 for a category of activity not specific to a project;

(5) funds appropriated for Construction, Major Projects, for a fiscal year before 2011 for a category of activity not specific to a project; and

(6) funds appropriated for Construction, Major Projects, for a fiscal year after 2011 for a category of activity not specific to a project.

SEC. 905. REQUIREMENT THAT BID SAVINGS ON MAJOR MEDICAL FACILITY PROJECTS OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS BE USED FOR OTHER MAJOR MEDICAL FACILITY CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS OF THE DEPARTMENT.

Section 8104(d) is amended—

(1) by striking ''In any case'' and inserting ''(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), in any case''; and

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

''(2)(A) In any fiscal year, unobligated amounts in the Construction, Major Projects account that are a direct result of bid savings from a major medical facility project may only be obligated for major medical facility projects authorized for that fiscal year or a previous fiscal year.

''(B) Whenever the Secretary obligates amounts for a major medical facility under subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on Veterans' Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives notice of the following:

''(i) The major medical facility project that is the source of the bid savings.

''(ii) The other major medical facility project for which the amounts are being obligated.

''(iii) The amounts being obligated for such other major medical facility project.''.

TITLE X—OTHER MATTERS

SEC. 1001. TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS.

(a) CHAPTER 1.—The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 1 is amended by striking the item relating to section 118 and inserting the following new item:

''118. Submission of reports to Congress in electronic form.''.

(b) CHAPTER 11.—Section 1114(r)(2) is amended by striking ''$$2,983'' and inserting ''$2,983''.

(c) CHAPTER 17.—Chapter 17 is amended as follows:

(1) In each of subparagraphs (A) and (B) of section 1717(a)(2), by striking ''the date of the Caregivers and Veterans Omnibus Health Services Act of 2010'' each place it appears and inserting ''May 5, 2010''.

(2) In section 1785—

(A) by striking ''section 2811(b) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300hh–11(b))'' and inserting ''section 2812 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300hh)''; and

(B) by striking ''paragraph (3)(A) of''.

(d) CHAPTER 19.—Chapter 19 is amended as follows:

(1) In the third sentence of section 1967(a)(3)(B), by striking ''spouse,,'' and inserting ''spouse,''.

(2) In the second sentence of section 1980A(h), by inserting ''section'' before ''1968(a)''.

(e) CHAPTER 20.—Section 2044(e)(3) is amended by striking ''fiscal year'' and inserting ''fiscal years''.

(f) CHAPTER 30.—The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 30 is amended by striking the item relating to section 3020 and inserting the following new item:

''3020. Authority to transfer unused education benefits to family members for career service members.''.

(g) CHAPTER 33.—Chapter 33 is amended as follows:

(1) In section 3313(c)(1), by striking ''higher education'' each place it appears and inserting ''higher learning''

(2) In section 3313(d)(3), by striking ''assistance this chapter'' and inserting ''assistance under this chapter''.

(3) In section 3313(e)(2)(B), by inserting a period at the end.

(4) In section 3316(b)(2), by striking ''supplement'' and inserting ''supplemental''.

(5) In section 3316(b)(3), by striking ''educational payable'' and inserting ''educational assistance payable''.

(6) In section 3318(b)(2)(B), by striking ''higher education'' and inserting ''higher learning''.

(7) In section 3319(b)(2), by striking ''section (k)'' and inserting ''subsection (j)''.

(8) In section 3321(b)(2), by striking ''3312'' and inserting ''section 3312 of this title''.

(h) CHAPTER 35.—Section 3512(a)(6) is amended by striking ''this clause'' and inserting ''this paragraph''.

(i) CHAPTER 36.—Section 3684(a)(1) is amended by striking '',,'' and inserting a comma.

(j) CHAPTER 37.—Section 3733(a)(7) is amended by inserting a comma after ''2003''.

(k) CHAPTER 41.—Section 4102A(b)(8) is amended by striking ''Employment and Training'' and inserting ''Employment, Training''.

(l) CHAPTER 55.—Chapter 55 is amended as follows:

(1) In section 5510, in the second sentence of the matter preceding paragraph (1) by striking ''following: —'' and inserting ''following:''.

(2) In section 5510(9), by striking ''government'' and inserting ''Government''.

(m) CHAPTER 57.—Chapter 57 is amended as follows:

(1) In section 5723(g)(2), by inserting ''the'' before ''Department''.

(2) In section 5727(20), by striking ''subordinate plan defines'' and inserting ''plan that defines''.

(n) CHAPTER 73.—Chapter 73 is amended as follows:

(1) The table of sections at the beginning of such chapter is amended by striking the item relating to section 7333 and inserting the following new item:

''7333. Nondiscrimination against alcohol and drug abusers and persons infected with the human immunodeficiency virus.''.

(2) In section 7325(b)(2), by striking ''section 2811(b) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300hh–11(b))'' and inserting ''section 2812 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300hh–11)''.

(o) CHAPTER 79.—Section 7903(a) is amended by striking ''paragraph (2)'' and inserting ''paragraph (3)''.

(p) CHAPTER 81.—Chapter 81 is amended as follows:

(1) In section 8111A(a)(2)(B)(ii)—

(A) by striking ''section 2811(b) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300hh–11(b))'' and inserting ''section 2812 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300hh)''; and

(B) by striking ''paragraph (3)(A) of''.

(2) In section 8117(e)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking ''(42 U.S.C. 300hh–11(b))'' and inserting ''(42 U.S.C. 300hh–11)''; and

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking ''(42 U.S.C. 247d–6(a))'' and inserting ''(42 U.S.C. 247d–6)''.

SEC. 1002. STATUTORY PAY-AS-YOU-GO ACT COMPLIANCE.

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.

Amend the title so as to read: ''An Act to amend title 38, United States Code, and the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to make certain improvements in the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. FILNER) and the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BUYER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. FILNER. 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 H.R. 3219.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. FILNER. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, as chairman of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, I rise in strong support of what is now entitled the Veterans' Benefits Act of 2010, H.R. 3219, the title being amended in the Senate.

This is an omnibus benefits bill jointly assembled by both the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs and the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs. It is comprehensive. It is bipartisan. It is bicameral. In fact, and we can rarely say this, Mr. Speaker, it has already been approved by the Senate by unanimous consent.

The critical bill would greatly enhance, expand, and modernize many of the benefits afforded to our veterans, particularly disabled veterans, their families, and survivors.

The provisions in this bill are the culminating result of numerous productive hearings and markups, meaningful oversight and bipartisan compromise, all to ensure that those who are willing to lay down their lives for our country and their families and survivors receive meaningful, world-class, 21st century benefits from their Nation.

I want to thank the chairman of the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs, JOHN HALL of New York; Representative STEPHANIE HERSETH SANDLIN, the chairwoman of the Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity; and their respective ranking members, Mr. LAMBORN and Mr. BOOZMAN, for shepherding many of these provisions through their committees. It will do a great deal of good for our veterans, their families, and survivors.

For example, section 101 includes language originally sponsored by Congresswoman HERSETH SANDLIN of South Dakota that would reauthorize the recently expired VA work-study program and expand the type of work available for veterans participating in the program. In the last fiscal year of 2009, a little over 17,000 veterans participated in this important program.

Section 102 incorporates legislation championed by Mrs. KIRKPATRICK of Arizona, which would reauthorize the VA Veterans' Advisory Committee on Education. The committee would provide the VA Secretary with a knowledgeable group of experts to give feedback on existing education benefits and information on ways to improve current programs.

Section 106 includes language championed by a new but very active member of our committee, Congressman HARRY TEAGUE of New Mexico. Congressman TEAGUE's bipartisan work in advancing this pilot program, which seeks to employ our Nation's veterans while addressing the growing need for an energy-related workforce, is to be strongly commended.

Mr. TEAGUE also championed section 204, which would provide injured servicemembers returning to active duty a waiver for the VA's home loan funding fees, keeping it in line with the intent of the waiver, which is to assist our injured servicemembers and veterans. I applaud Congressman TEAGUE for his leadership.

Sections 201 and 202 include provisions championed by Congressman BOOZMAN, which seek to reauthorize the Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program and create a similar program to focus on homeless women veterans and homeless veterans with children.

Sections 301 through 303 incorporate provisions that I and Congressman CONNOLLY of Virginia have worked on during this Congress. These sections seek to strengthen the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act by permitting the cancellation of motor vehicle leases, prohibiting early termination penalties, and allowing servicemembers the option to cancel certain phone and service contracts.

Sections 401, 402, 404, 405, and 407 represent the great work of Mr. DONNELLY of Indiana; Mrs. HALVORSON of Illinois; Mr. BUYER, who is retiring; Mrs. KIRKPATRICK of Arizona; and Mr. PERRIELLO. These provisions increase many of the outdated insurance policy amounts and terms for our veterans, many of whom are severely disabled or who have suffered traumatic injury.

Sections 501, 502, and 503 represent burial and cemetery matters put forth by Ms. BERKLEY of Nevada, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, and Mr. SALAZAR of Colorado.

Ms. BERKLEY and Mr. SALAZAR are both former members of our Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Ms. BERKLEY has been a longtime champion of increasing funeral benefits and plot allowances to reflect modern costs. Mr. SALAZAR has worked tirelessly to ensure that the veterans in the southern Colorado region would be served by a national cemetery. Now, both of these goals are set for enactment.

Mr. FRANK's provision is known as the Corey Shea Act and would allow parents of our fallen servicemembers to be laid to rest with their son or daughter if there are no other eligible survivors.

The bill contains a host of upgraded benefits, including:

Section 604, championed by Mr. HIGGINS of New York, which would allow our low-income pensioners to receive payments of up to $5,000 from States or municipalities without offset;

Section 803 would provide greater automobile and adaptive equipment to veterans with severe burn injuries;

Section 804 would increase the automobile allowance for disabled veterans from $11,000 to almost $19,000; and

Sections 805 and 806 would allow the Institute of Medicine to take a closer look at those veterans who suffer from illnesses associated with service in the Persian Gulf wars.

This bill enjoys resounding support from the veterans service organizations, including Gold Star Wives, Disabled American Veterans, Paralyzed Veterans of America, Veterans of Foreign Wars, AMVETS, Blinded Veterans Association, the American Legion, and the Military Order of the Purple Heart.

I thank all the Members of the House who have contributed to and worked on this comprehensive bill. On behalf of our 24 million veterans and their families and survivors and as chairman of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, I thank all of you for your input.

Of course, none of this would have come to fruition without the hard work of our committee staff. I thank those on both sides of the aisle and their counterparts in the Senate. I want to especially thank the staff from the House Legislative Counsel and the Congressional Budget Office.

Finally, I want to thank our staff director, Malcom Shorter; our staff director for disability, Kimberly Ross; and her colleague, Juan Lara, for their tireless work to see this great effort through to finality.

AMVETS,
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS,
Lanham, MD, September 24, 2010.

Hon. BOB FILNER,
Chairman, House Committee on Veterans Affairs, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN FILNER: On behalf of AMVETS (American Veterans) I would like to provide our organizational support for the Veterans' Benefits Act of 2010. There are

countless provisions that will improve employment and education opportunities, increase insurance benefits, enhance compensation and pension, and the list goes on.

Many of the sections of this bill are issue AMVETS has been advocating for years, and AMVETS is pleased to see this bill is compliant with PAYGO rules.

AMVETS looks forward to the introduction and timely passage of this comprehensive piece of legislation. We look forward to our continued work together to advance veterans issues

Respectfully,

RAYMOND C. KELLEY,
National Legislative Director, AMVETS.

PVA,
PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA,
Washington, DC, September 27, 2010.

Hon. BOB FILNER,
Chairman, House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN FILNER: On behalf of Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA), I offer our support for the ''Veterans Benefits Act of 2010.'' This critically important legislation addresses a wide range of needed improvements in benefits available to veterans and their families.

This legislation contains a number of provisions that are particularly important to PVA and its members. Specifically, we appreciate the significant increase in the adaptive automobile grant from $11,000 to $18,500 and the annual index that will now apply to this benefit to ensure that its purchasing power is not eroded over time. Likewise, we recognize the importance of expanding access to adaptive automobile assistance to disabled veterans who have incurred severe burns.

We are also pleased to see that the Committee has provided additional protections to veterans and their families by increasing the Veterans' Mortgage Life Insurance benefit from $90,000 to $150,000 and eventually to $200,000. Moreover, the increase in the cap for Independent Living services administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Vocational Rehabilitation program will prove beneficial to the most severely disabled veterans who simply want to become productive members of society.

Once again, we thank the Committee for its continued emphasis on improving benefits for severely disabled veterans and their families.

Sincerely,

CARL BLAKE,
National Legislative Director, Paralyzed Veterans of America.

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES,
Washington, DC, September 27, 2010.

Hon. BOB FILNER,
Chairman, House Veterans' Affairs Committee, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN FILNER, On behalf of the 2.1 million members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and our Auxiliaries, I would like to offer our strong support for The Veterans' Benefit Act of 2010. We believe this important benefits bill would make a big difference in the lives of many veterans.

The legislation, which includes many issues that have broad support in the House and Senate should be moved forward favorably so veterans can benefit from the good policies contained in the bill. Some of the provisions included in the bill would improve life insurance benefits for those suffering from TBI, increase burial benefits, provide a cost-of-living increase for survivors with children under the age of 18, and make changes to USERRA as well as updating readjustment benefits for many disabled veterans.

We believe the provisions contained in the bill are far too important to be delayed until next year.

We look forward to the passage of this most critical legislation as it will truly make a significant impact in the lives of veterans. We appreciate your commitment to America's veterans and look forward to working with you and your staff

Sincerely,

GERALD T. MANAR,
Deputy Director.

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS,
Washington, DC, September 28, 2010.

Hon. BOB FILNER,
Chairman, House Veterans' Affairs Committee, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN FILNER: On behalf of the 1.2 million members of the Disabled American Veterans (DAV), I am writing to support compromise legislation entitled the ''Veterans Benefits Act of 2010,'' which is expected to be considered in the House this week. This omnibus bill contains a number of provisions that are of great importance to America's veterans, including several that are priorities for DAV and the disabled veterans we represent.

Approval of this legislation would increase the automobile assistance allowance from $11,000 to $18,900, index it to the Consumer Price Index, and expand eligibility for the benefit to veterans and service members with severe burn injuries. The bill would increase disability compensation provided to severely disabled veterans who have difficulty using prostheses as well as provide aid and attendance benefits to veterans suffering from traumatic brain injury. Enactment of the legislation would increase the amount of supplemental insurance for totally disabled veterans from $20,000 to $30,000 and immediately increase the limit of Veterans Mortgage Life Insurance (VMLI) for disabled veterans from $90,000 to $150,000, and then to $200,000 beginning in 2012. The bill would also increase the number of veterans who could participate in VA's independent living services and assistance program from 2,600 to 2,700.

Overall, the ''Veterans Benefits Act of 2010'' makes important improvements to an array of federal benefits that help to compensate and support veterans transitioning back into civilian life, especially those who return with disabilities from their service. DAV supports approval of this legislation and thanks you for your support of disabled veterans.

Sincerely,

JOSEPH A. VIOLANTE,
National Legislative Director.

BLINDED VETERANS ASSOCIATION,
Washington, DC, September 27, 2010.

Hon. BOB FILNER,
Chairman, House Veterans' Affairs Committee, U.S. Congress, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN FILNER, The Blinded Veterans Association (BVA), is the only congressionally chartered veterans service organization exclusively dedicated to serving the needs of our nation's blinded veterans and their families for 65 years, and fully supports passage of HR 3219 Veterans Benefits Act of 2010 to help veterans with a wide variety of benefits and education issues. The positive changes in this legislation will assist veterans in many employment and education initiatives and expansion of other necessary changes to improve the lives of veterans and their families.

This legislation would improve the older blinded veterans' lives that receive small state annuities but loose them when they are offset currently from their VA pensions. We appreciate the effort that Congressman Hall and you both have made in including a fix to this long standing problem in section 604 for these disabled veterans.

Chairman Filner, BVA thanks you for your strong leadership on working to get passage of HR 3219 Veterans Benefits Act of 2010. Your dedication and solid commitment to America's current and future veterans, is very appreciated by the Blinded Veterans Association.

Sincerely,

THOMAS ZAMPIERI PH.D.,
Director, Government Relations.

GOLD STAR WIVES OF AMERICA, INC.,
Arlington, VA, September 27, 2010.

CHAIRMAN BOB FILNER,
House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Washington, DC.

Gold Star Wives of America, Inc. is happy to support the Veterans' Benefits Act of 2010, H.R. 3219. All the provisions of this bill are beneficial, but we especially like the provisions listed below.

Section 107 requires the Department of Veterans Affairs to create a webpage to list the organizations that provide scholarship to veterans. This is much needed information and should be readily available. We hope that this webpage will include scholarships that are available to surviving families and families of disabled veterans eligible for Chapter 35 education benefits.

Section 401 increases the amount of supplemental life insurance available to totally disabled veterans to $30,000. This is a much needed increase in this insurance benefit. We hope that some arrangement can be made so that those eligible for this insurance can be made aware that it is available.

Section 404 allows veterans to increase their Veterans Group Life Insurance to ensure the welfare of their surviving families.

Section 501 increases burial and funeral benefits and plot allowances for veterans. These benefits are greatly needed by veterans' families, and we are happy to see these increases.

Other provisions of the bill will benefit our servicemembers and veterans as well as their families, and we also fully support these provisions.

KATHRYN A. WITT,
Co-Chair, Government Relations Committee, Gold Star Wives of America, Inc.

THE AMERICAN LEGION,
OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL COMMANDER,
Washington, DC, September 28, 2010.

Hon. BOB FILNER,
Chairman, House Veterans' Affairs Committee, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN FILNER: On behalf of the 2.5 million members of The American Legion, I offer our support for H.R. 3219, the ''Veterans Benefits Act of 2010.'' This wide-ranging omnibus bill contains a number of laudable provisions that would bring improvements in employment, compensation and pension, insurance and burial benefits available to veterans and their families.

Some of the noteworthy provisions included in this bill would improve employment opportunities for veterans pursuing an education; expedite the training of new disabled veterans' outreach program specialists (DVOPS) and local veterans' employment representatives (LVERS), thereby improving employment services offered to veterans seeking work. In addition, it would clarify and strengthen reemployment rights of veterans and members of reserve components. This legislation would increase disability

compensation provided to severely disabled veterans who have difficulty using prostheses. Additionally, an increase would be realized regarding adaptive automobile grants, and expanding access to adaptive automobile assistance to disabled veterans who have incurred severe burns. It would also provide aid and attendance benefits to veterans suffering from traumatic brain injury.

We are especially pleased to see that this legislation would provide additional protections to veterans and their families by increasing the amount of supplemental insurance for totally disabled veterans and raising the limit of Veterans' Mortgage Life Insurance for disabled veterans. In addition, the bill includes language to increase the number of veterans who would be allowed to participate in VA's independent living services and assistance program.

The American Legion fully supports H.R. 3219 and we urge strong bipartisan support and expeditious passage of this measure. The American Legion thanks you, Mr. Chairman, and offers our sincere appreciation for your continued leadership in addressing the issues that are important to veterans, members of the Armed Forces, and their families.

Sincerely,

JIMMIE L. FOSTER,
National Commander.

MILITARY ORDER
OF THE PURPLE HEART,
Springfield, VA, September 29, 2010.

CHAIRMAN BOB FILNER,
House Veterans Affairs Committee,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN FILNER: On behalf of the Military Order of the Purple Heart (MOPH), I am writing to inform you that MOPH is in total support of legislation, H.R. 3219, that you have introduced. The ''Veterans' Benefits Act of 2010'' has many far reaching benefits for our membership which is comprised of combat wounded veterans as well as for all of America's veterans.

We commend you for your leadership on this worthwhile legislative effort.

Respectfully,

CLAYTON JONES,
National Commander.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT FOR H.R. 3219, AS AMENDED

H.R. 3219, as amended, the Veterans' Benefits Act of 2010, reflects a Compromise Agreement reached by the House and Senate Committees on Veterans' Affairs (the Committees) on the following bills reported during the 111th Congress: H.R. 174; H.R. 466, as amended; H.R. 1037, as amended; H.R. 1088; H.R. 1089, as amended; H.R. 1168, as amended; H.R. 1170, as amended; H.R. 1171, as amended; H.R. 1172, as amended; H.R. 2180; H.R. 3219, as amended; H.R. 3949, as amended; H.R. 4592, as amended (House Bills); and S. 728, as amended; S. 1237, as reported; and S. 3609 (Senate Bills).

H.R. 174 passed the House on November 2, 2009; H.R. 466, as amended, passed the House on June 8, 2009; H.R. 1037, as amended, passed the House on July 14, 2009; H.R. 1088 passed the House on May 19, 2009; H.R. 1089, as amended, passed the House on May 19, 2009; H.R. 1168, as amended, passed the House on November 2, 2009; H.R. 1170, as amended, passed the House on May 19, 2009; H.R. 1171, as amended, passed the House on March 30, 2009; H.R. 1172, as amended, passed the House on June 23, 2009; H.R. 3219, as amended, passed the House on July 27, 2009; H.R. 3949, as amended, passed the House on November 3, 2009. H.R. 4592 passed the House on March 23, 2010. H.R. 1037, as amended, passed the Senate on October 7, 2009.

The Committees have prepared the following explanation of H.R. 3219, as amended, to reflect a Compromise Agreement between the Committees. Differences between the provisions contained in the Compromise Agreement and the related provisions of the House Bills and the Senate Bills are noted in this document, except for clerical corrections, conforming changes made necessary by the Compromise Agreement, and minor drafting, technical, and clarifying changes.

TITLE I—EMPLOYMENT, SMALL BUSINESS, AND EDUCATION MATTERS

EXTENSION AND EXPANSION OF AUTHORITY FOR CERTAIN QUALIFYING WORK-STUDY ACTIVITIES FOR PURPOSES OF THE EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Current Law

Section 3485 of title 38, United States Code (U.S.C.), permits certain students enrolled in a program of education to participate in work-study programs. Approved work-study activities are generally activities relating to processing documents or providing services at Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) facilities. However, until June 30, 2010, approved activities also included outreach services provided by State approving agencies, care to veterans in State homes, and activities related to the administration of national or State veterans' cemeteries.

Senate Bill

The Senate Bills contain no comparable provision.

House Bill

H.R. 1037, as amended, would require VA to conduct a five-year pilot program to expand work-study opportunities by adding to the list of approved activities positions in academic departments (including positions as tutors or research, teaching, and lab assistants) and in student services (including positions in career centers and financial aid, campus orientation, cashiers, admissions, records, and registration offices).

Compromise Agreement

Section 101 of the Compromise Agreement would extend the authority from June 30, 2010, to June 30, 2013, during which qualifying work-study activities may include assisting with outreach services to servicemembers and veterans furnished by employees of State approving agencies, provision of care to veterans in State homes, and activities related to administration of a national cemetery or State veterans' cemetery. In addition, effective October 1, 2011, it would add to the list of qualifying work-study activities the following:

Activities of State veterans agencies helping veterans obtain any benefit under laws administered by VA or States;

Positions at Centers of Excellence for Veteran Student Success;

Positions working in programs run jointly by VA and an institution of higher learning; and

Any other veterans-related position in an institution of higher learning.

REAUTHORIZATION OF VETERANS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Current Law

Section 3692 of title 38 provides for the formation of a Veterans' Advisory Committee on Education. The authority for this Committee expired on December 31, 2009.

Senate Bill

The Senate Bills contain no comparable provision.

House Bill

Section 102 of H.R. 3949, as amended, would reauthorize the Advisory Committee until December 31, 2015.

Compromise Agreement

Section 102 of the Compromise Agreement would extend the Veterans' Advisory Committee on Education until December 31, 2013.

18-MONTH PERIOD FOR TRAINING OF NEW DISABLED VETERANS' OUTREACH PROGRAM SPECIALISTS AND LOCAL VETERANS' EMPLOYMENT REPRESENTATIVES BY NATIONAL VETERANS' EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING SERVICES INSTITUTE

Current Law

Section 4102A(c)(8) of title 38, U.S.C., requires that, as a condition of receiving grants under the Disabled Veterans' Outreach Program (DVOP) and the Local Veterans' Employment Representatives (LVER) program authorities, States are generally required to have each DVOP and LVER complete a program of training through the National Veterans' Employment and Training Services Institute within three years of beginning employment.

Senate Bill

The Senate Bills contain no comparable provision.

House Bill

H.R. 1088 would require that DVOPs and LVERs assigned to perform those duties on or after the date of enactment complete training within one year of being so assigned and that DVOPs and LVERs hired on or after January 1, 2006, also complete training within one year of the date of enactment.

Compromise Agreement

Section 103 of the Compromise Agreement would require that DVOPs and LVERs hired on or after the date of enactment complete training within 18 months of employment and that any previously-hired DVOPs and LVERs who were hired on or after January 1, 2006, also complete training within 18 months of the date of enactment.

CLARIFICATION OF RESPONSIBILITY OF SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS TO VERIFY SMALL BUSINESS OWNERSHIP

Current Law

Public Law 109–461 (120 Stat. 3403), the Veterans Benefits, Health Care, and Information Technology Act of 2006, requires VA to maintain the VetBiz Vendor Information Page (VIP) database containing Veteran Owned Small Businesses (VOSB) and Service-Disabled Veteran Owned Small Businesses (SDVOSB). This law also requires VA to verify that registered firms meet the eligibility requirements to be classified as VOSBs or SDVOSBs to be included in the database.

Senate Bill

The Senate Bills contain no comparable provision.

House Bill

Section 101 of H.R. 3949, as amended, would require VA to verify small business concerns prior to being listed in the VIP database.

Compromise Agreement

Section 104 of the Compromise Agreement follows the House Bill.

DEMONSTRATION PROJECT FOR REFERRAL OF USERRA CLAIMS AGAINST FEDERAL AGENCIES TO THE OFFICE OF SPECIAL COUNSEL

Current Law

Under chapter 43 of title 38, U.S.C., the Department of Labor has responsibility for receiving, investigating, and attempting to resolve all claims filed under the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA).

Senate Bill

The Senate Bills contain no comparable provision.

House Bill

H.R. 1089, as amended, would provide the U.S. Office of Special Counsel with initial jurisdiction to investigate and prosecute all

USERRA complaints involving Federal executive agencies and provide authority for individuals to file complaints with the U.S. Office of Special Counsel. It would clarify that the U.S. Office of Special Counsel has the same authority as the U.S. Department of Labor to conduct investigations and issue subpoenas when investigating USERRA complaints.

Compromise Agreement

Section 105 of the Compromise Agreement would require the Secretary of Labor and the Office of Special Counsel to carry out a 36–month demonstration project to start no later than 60 days after the Comptroller General submits a report assessing the proposed methods and procedures for the demonstration project; under the demonstration project, certain USERRA claims against Federal executive agencies would be received by or referred to the Office of Special Counsel. It would also allow the Office of Special Counsel to receive and investigate certain claims under USERRA and related prohibited personnel practice claims. Finally, the Compromise Agreement would establish general guidelines for administration of the demonstration project; would require the Department of Labor and the Office of Special Counsel to jointly establish methods and procedures to be used during the demonstration project and submit to Congress a report describing those methods and procedures; would require the Comptroller General to submit to Congress a report assessing those methods and procedures; and would require the Comptroller General to submit to Congress reports on the demonstration project.

VETERANS ENERGY-RELATED EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

Current Law

Current law contains no relevant provision.

Senate Bill

The Senate Bills contain no comparable provision.

House Bill

H.R. 4592, as amended, would create a Veterans Energy-Related Employment Program pilot program, which would award competitive grants to three States for the establishment of a program that would reimburse energy employers for the cost of providing on-the-job training for veterans in the energy sector. The reimbursements would go to employers or labor-management organizations. Each participating State would be required to provide evidence that it can produce such training to serve a population of eligible veterans, has a diverse energy industry, and the ability to carry out such a program, as well as certify that participating veterans would be hired at a wage rate consistent with the standard industry average for jobs that are technically involved and have a skill-set that is not transferable to other non-energy industries. It would authorize appropriations of $10 million a year for five years, beginning in 2011 through 2015.

Compromise Agreement

Section 106 of the Compromise Agreement would establish a pilot competitive grant program (Veterans Energy-Related Employment Program) as part of the Veterans Workforce Investment Program for up to three States to provide grants to energy employers that train veterans in skills particular to the energy industry. States would need to repay funds not used for the purposes outlined for this pilot program and submit reports on the use of the grant funds to the Secretary of Labor. This section would outline requirements employers must meet to receive funds from a State and would prohibit the use of funds for non-eligible veterans or eligible veterans whose employment is funded through any other governmental program. A report to Congress would be required to be submitted by the Secretary. The administrative costs of the Secretary would be limited to 2 percent of the appropriations for this program and the Secretary of Labor would be permitted to determine the maximum amounts of each grant that may be used for administration and reporting costs. Section 106 of the Compromise Agreement would authorize $1.5 million for the grant program for each of fiscal years 2012 through 2014.

PAT TILLMAN VETERANS' SCHOLARSHIP INITIATIVE

Current Law

There is no relevant provision in current law.

Senate Bill

The Senate Bills contain no comparable provision.

House Bill

H.R. 1172, as amended, would require VA to provide and maintain on its website by June 1, 2010, information regarding scholarships that are available to veterans and family members of deceased veterans. Information to be provided on the website would include a list of organizations offering scholarships and a link to their websites. VA would also be required to notify schools and other organizations of the opportunity to be listed on the website.

Compromise Agreement

Section 107 of the Compromise Agreement follows the House Bill but requires the VA, by June 1, 2011, to make available on its website a list of organizations that provide scholarships to veterans and their survivors. VA would be required to make reasonable efforts to notify schools and other organizations of the opportunity to be listed on the website.

TITLE II—HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS MATTERS

REAUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR HOMELESS VETERANS REINTEGRATION PROGRAM

Current Law

The Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program (HVRP) was initially enacted in 1987 as part of Public Law 100–77, the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act, to expand services beyond food and shelter to homeless veterans. Public Law 107–95, the Homeless Veterans Comprehensive Assistance Act of 2001, directed the Secretary of Labor to provide homeless veterans with job training, counseling, and placement services as part of a holistic approach to reintegrating homeless veterans back into society. The authorization of appropriations to carry out this program expired at the end of fiscal year 2009.

Senate Bill

The Senate Bills contain no comparable provision.

House Bill

Section 2 of H.R. 1171, as amended, would reauthorize, through fiscal year 2014, the Department of Labor's HVRP.

Compromise Agreement

Section 201 of the Compromise Agreement follows the House Bill, except that it would reauthorize the HVRP through fiscal year 2011.

HOMELESS WOMEN VETERANS AND HOMELESS VETERANS WITH CHILDREN REINTEGRATION GRANT PROGRAM

Current Law

Currently, under section 2021 of title 38, U.S.C., the Secretary of Labor is required to conduct, directly or through grant or contract, the HVRP. Through HVRP, the Secretary selects programs that are appropriate to provide job training, counseling, and placement services (including job readiness, literacy and skills training) to expedite the reintegration of homeless veterans into the labor force. HVRP is administered through the Assistant Secretary of Labor for Veterans' Employment and Training (VETS).

Senate Bill

Section 102 of S. 1237, as reported, would amend Subchapter III of chapter 20 of title 38, U.S.C., by adding a new section 2021A, entitled ''Grant program for reintegration of homeless women veterans and homeless veterans with children.'' This grant program would differ from the current HVRP grants in that it would be strictly a grant program and would focus specifically on providing services that will assist in the reintegration into the labor force of homeless women veterans and homeless veterans with children. Like the current HVRP grants, services under this new grant program would include job training, counseling, and job placement services, including job readiness, literacy, and skills training. Importantly, it would also include child care services to serve more effectively the target population.

House Bill

Section 3 of H.R. 1171, as amended, would amend title 38, U.S.C., adding a new section 2021A, entitled ''Homeless women veterans and homeless veterans with children reintegration grant program.'' That bill would direct the Secretary of Labor to carry out a grant program to provide reintegration services through programs and facilities that emphasize services for homeless women veterans and homeless veterans with children.

Compromise Agreement

Section 202 of the Compromise Agreement generally follows the House Bill. However, the authorization of appropriations to carry out this program is $1 million for fiscal years 2011 to 2015.

SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY GRANT PROGRAM

Current Law

There is no current provision in title 38, U.S.C., authorizing grants to develop assistive technology for specially adapted housing. The Specially Adapted Housing (SAH) program was established in 1948 by Public Law 80–702, an act to authorize assistance to certain veterans in acquiring specially adapted housing which they require by reason of their service-connected disabilities. The SAH program provides grants to certain qualifying service-connected disabled veterans to assist them in acquiring suitable housing.

Senate Bill

The Senate Bills contain no comparable provisions.

House Bill

H.R. 1170, as amended, would authorize a five-year pilot program to promote research and development of adaptive technologies that would be applicable to the SAH program. It would also provide that VA retain a 30 percent interest in any patent approved as a result of funding through this grant program. The bill would further require that VA retain any investment returns from these patents to assist in funding grants, during the duration of this program. It would authorize $2 million per year for purposes of this grant program; those amounts would be derived from amounts appropriated for VA Medical Services.

Compromise Agreement

Section 203 of the Compromise Agreement generally follows the House Bill. However,

under the Compromise Agreement, the Secretary would not retain any patent rights to the technology developed by any grant recipient, the funding amount would be reduced from $2 million to $1 million per fiscal year to carry out this program, and the funding would now come from amounts appropriated to VA for readjustment benefits, not Medical Services. The effective date of the five-year pilot program would be October 1, 2011.

WAIVER OF HOUSING LOAN FEE FOR CERTAIN VETERANS WITH SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABILITIES CALLED TO ACTIVE SERVICE

Current Law

Current law, section 3729(c)(1) of title 38, U.S.C., states that a loan fee, normally collected from each person obtaining a housing loan guaranteed, insured or made under chapter 37, will be waived for a veteran who is receiving compensation, or who, but for the receipt of retirement pay, would be entitled to receive compensation.

Senate Bill

The Senate Bills contain no comparable provision.

House Bill

H.R. 2180 would waive housing loan fees for certain veterans with service-connected disabilities called back to active service.

Compromise Agreement

Section 204 of the Compromise Agreement follows the House Bill.

TITLE III—SERVICEMEMBERS CIVIL RELIEF ACT MATTERS

RESIDENTIAL AND MOTOR VEHICLE LEASES

Current Law

Section 305 of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (SCRA) permits the cancellation of motor vehicle leases and prohibits early termination penalties. It also permits cancellation of residential leases, but it does not provide protection from early termination fees.

Senate Bill

The Senate Bills contain no comparable provision.

House Bill

Section 202 of H.R. 3949 would amend subsection (e) of section 305 of SCRA to revise provisions concerning arrearages and other obligations to prohibit a lessor from charging an early termination charge with respect to a residential, professional, business, or agricultural rental lease entered into by a person who subsequently enters military service, or for a servicemember who has received orders for permanent change of station or for deployment in support of a military operation. It would provide that unpaid lease charges shall be paid by the lessee.

Compromise Agreement

Section 301 of the Compromise Agreement follows the House bill.

TERMINATION OF TELEPHONE SERVICE CONTRACTS

Current Law

Section 305A of SCRA permits certain servicemembers the option to request a termination or suspension of their cellular phone contracts if they are deployed outside of the continental United States for a period of not less than 90 days or have a permanent change of duty station within the United States.

Senate Bill

The Senate Bills contain no comparable provision.

House Bill

Section 201 of H.R. 3949 would amend section 305A of the SCRA to allow a servicemember to terminate certain service contracts if the servicemember has received military orders to deploy for a period of not less than 90 days or for a change of duty station to a location that does not support such service. Furthermore, if the terminated contract was for cellular or telephone exchange services, it would allow a servicemember to keep the phone number to the extent practicable and in accordance with applicable law. Covered contracts would include cellular telephone service (including family plans with the servicemember), telephone exchange service, multi-channel video programming service and internet service, as well as home water, electricity, home heating oil and natural gas services. Servicemembers would be required to deliver a written notice of termination of the service contract and the military orders to the service provider by hand delivery, private carrier, fax, or U.S. Postal Service with return receipt requested and sufficient postage. A service provider would be prohibited from imposing an early termination charge, but could collect appropriate tax, obligation or liability under the contract.

Compromise Agreement

Section 302 of the Compromise Agreement would allow a servicemember to terminate a contract for cellular telephone or telephone exchange service at any time after receiving notice of military orders to relocate for a period of 90 days or more to a location that does not support the contract. It would further require the telephone number of an individual who terminated a contract to be kept available for a period of not to exceed three years if the servicemember resubscribes to the service within 90 days of the last day of relocation. Finally, section 302 of the Compromise Agreement would permit certain family plan contracts for cellular telephone service entered into by a family member of a servicemember to be terminated.

ENFORCEMENT BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL AND BY PRIVATE RIGHT OF ACTION

Current Law

Current law contains no relevant provision.

Senate Bill

The Senate Bills contain no comparable provision.

House Bill

Section 203 of H.R. 3949 would amend the SCRA to add a new title, Title VIII—Civil Liability, which would authorize the U.S. Attorney General to bring a civil action in U.S. district court to enforce provisions of the SCRA. It would also authorize the court to grant appropriate relief to include monetary damages. The court would be authorized in certain circumstances to impose a civil penalty that, for the first violation, will not exceed $55,000 and, for any subsequent violation, will not exceed $110,000. It would provide intervenor rights to aggrieved persons for a civil action that has already been started. In addition, it would clarify that a person has a private right of action to file a civil action for violations under the SCRA and that the court may award costs and attorney fees to a servicemember who prevails. Finally, it would provide that the rights granted under sections 801 or 802 will not limit or exclude any other rights that may also be available under Federal or state law.

Compromise Agreement

Section 303 of the Compromise Agreement generally follows the House bill with some technical changes.

TITLE IV—INSURANCE MATTERS

INCREASE IN AMOUNT OF SUPPLEMENTAL INSURANCE FOR TOTALLY DISABLED VETERANS

Current Law

Section 1922A of title allows eligible totally disabled veterans to receive a maximum of $20,000 in Service-Disabled Veterans' Insurance (S-DVI) supplemental life insurance coverage.

Senate Bill

Section 101 of H.R. 1037, as amended, would amend section 1922A(a) of title 38, U.S.C., to increase the amount of life insurance available to totally disabled veterans by allowing them to purchase an additional $10,000 in supplemental insurance coverage. This would raise the maximum amount of S-DVI supplemental coverage to $30,000.

House Bill

The House Bills contain no comparable provision.

Compromise Agreement

Section 401 of the Compromise Agreement follows the Senate Bill, except that the provision would take effect on October 1, 2011.

PERMANENT EXTENSION OF DURATION OF SERVICEMEMBERS' GROUP LIFE INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR TOTALLY DISABLED VETERANS

Current Law

VA offers a variety of life insurance options for servicemembers, veterans, and their families. Among these is the Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance (SGLI) program, which offers low-cost group life insurance for servicemembers on active duty, Ready Reservists, members of the National Guard, members of the Commissioned Corps of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the Public Health Service, cadets and midshipmen of the four service academies, and members of the Reserve Officer Training Corps. SGLI coverage is available in $50,000 increments up to the maximum of $400,000.

Public Law 93–289, the Veterans' Insurance Act of 1974, established a new program of post-separation insurance known as Veterans' Group Life Insurance (VGLI). VGLI provides for the post-service conversion of SGLI to a renewable term policy of insurance. Persons eligible for full-time coverage include former servicemembers who were insured full-time under SGLI and who were released from active duty or the Reserves, Ready Reservists who have part-time SGLI coverage and who incur certain disabilities during periods of active or inactive duty training, and members of the Individual Ready Reserve and Inactive National Guard. VGLI coverage is issued in multiples of $10,000 up to a maximum of $400,000.

Under current law, VGLI applications for coverage must occur within one year and 120 days from discharge. However, servicemembers who are totally disabled at the time of discharge may have a longer period within which to convert their SGLI coverage to VGLI. Public Law 109–233, the Veterans' Housing Opportunity and. Benefits Improvement Act of 2006, authorized VA to extend from one to two years, after separation from active duty service, the period within which totally disabled members may receive premium free SGLI coverage and convert their coverage to a policy under the VGLI program after separation from active duty service. However, Public Law 109–233 mandated that on or after October 1, 2011, this two-year time period would be shortened to 18 months.

Senate Bill

Section 101 of S. 3765 would amend section 1968(a) of title 38, U.S.C., to eliminate the expiration date for a potential two-year extension of SGLI coverage available to

servicemembers who are totally disabled when they separate from service.

House Bill

Section 101 of H.R. 3219, as amended, would amend section 1968(a) of title 38, U.S.C., to eliminate the expiration date for a potential two-year extension of SGLI coverage available to servicemembers who are totally disabled when they separate from service.

Compromise Agreement

Section 402 of the Compromise Agreement follows the language in both bills.

ADJUSTMENT OF COVERAGE OF DEPENDENTS UNDER SERVICEMEMBERS' GROUP LIFE INSURANCE

Current Law

Under current law, insurable dependents of servicemembers on active duty, or Ready Reservists who are totally disabled on the date of separation or release from service or assignment, are authorized to continue receiving insurance coverage long after the servicemembers' separation or release from service. Servicemembers on active duty are potentially eligible for continued coverage for up to 2 years after the date of separation or release from service; Ready Reservists are potentially eligible for an additional 1 year of coverage after separation or release from an assignment. Thereafter, the insurable dependents of covered servicemembers on active duty are also potentially eligible for continued coverage for up to 2 years after the date of separation or release from service or, in the case of an insurable dependent of a Ready Reservists, up to 1 year after the date of separation or release from an assignment.

Senate Bill

Section 102 of H.R. 1037, as amended, would amend section 1968(a)(5)(B)(ii) of title 38, U.S.C., so that no insurable dependent, not even those of servicemembers who remain covered for up to 1 or 2 years after service or assignment, could remain coveted under SGLI for more than 120 days after the servicemembers' separation or release from service or assignment.

House Bill

The House Bills contain no comparable provision.

Compromise Agreement

Section 403 of the Compromise Agreement follows the Senate Bill.

OPPORTUNITY TO INCREASE AMOUNT OF VETERANS' GROUP LIFE INSURANCE

Current Law

Section 1977(a)(1) of title 38, U.S.C., limits the amount of VGLI coverage a veteran may carry to the amount of SGLI coverage that continued in force after that veteran was separated from service.

Senate Bill

Section 102 of S. 3765 would amend section 1977(a) of title; 38, U.S.C., to allow VGLI participants who are under the age of 60 and insured for less than the current maximum authorized for SGLI the opportunity to obtain, without a health care examination, an additional $25,000 in coverage once every 5 years at the time of renewal.

House Bill

Section 102 of H.R. 3219, as amended, would amend section 1977(a) of title 38, U.S.C., to allow VGLI participants who are under the age of 60 and insured for less than the current maximum authorized for SGLI the opportunity to obtain, without a health care examination, an additional $25,000 in coverage once every 5 years at the time of renewal.

Compromise Agreement

Section 404 of the Compromise Agreement follows the language in both bills.

ELIMINATION OF REDUCTION IN AMOUNT OF ACCELERATED DEATH BENEFIT FOR TERMINALLY-ILL PERSONS INSURED UNDER SERVICEMEMBERS' GROUP LIFE INSURANCE AND VETERANS' GROUP LIFE INSURANCE

Current Law

The current SGLI/VGLI Accelerated Benefits Option (ABO) requires VA to discount or reduce the payout available under both the SGLI and VGLI programs for terminally-ill servicemembers and veterans who exercise the option to use up to half of their policy. Currently, VA discounts this payment by an amount commensurate to the interest rate earned by the program on its investment in effect at the time that a servicemember or veteran applies for the benefits, thereby often significantly reducing the amount of the ABO payment.

Senate Bill

The Senate Bills contain no comparable provision.

House Bill

Section 103 of H.R. 3219, as amended, would amend section 1980(b)(1) of title 38, U.S.C., by eliminating the requirement that the lump sum accelerated payment be ''reduced by an amount necessary to assure that there is no increase in the actuarial value of the benefit paid, as determined by the Secretary.''

Compromise Agreement

Section 405 of the Compromise Agreement follows the House Bill.

CONSIDERATION OF LOSS OF DOMINANT HAND IN PRESCRIPTION OF SCHEDULE OF SEVERITY OF TRAUMATIC INJURY UNDER SERVICEMEMBERS' GROUP LIFE INSURANCE

Current Law

Under current law, traumatic injury protection under Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance (TSGLI) provides for payment to servicemembers who suffer a qualifying loss as a result of a traumatic injury event. In the event of a qualifying loss, VA will pay between $25,000 and $100,000, depending on the severity of the qualifying loss. In prescribing payments, VA does not account for the effect, if any, that the loss of a dominant hand has on lengthening hospitalization or rehabilitation periods.

Senate Bill

Section 104 of H.R. 1037, as amended, would amend section 1980A(d) of title 38, U.S.C., to authorize VA to distinguish in specifying payments for qualifying losses of a dominant hand and a non-dominant hand.

House Bill

The House Bills contains no comparable provision.

Compromise Agreement

Section 406 of the Compromise Agreement follows the Senate Bill except that the provision would take effect on October 30, 2011.

ENHANCEMENT OF VETERANS' MORTGAGE LIFE INSURANCE

Current Law

Under current law, service-connected disabled veterans who have received specially adapted housing grants from VA may purchase up to $90,000 in Veterans' Mortgage Life Insurance (VMLI). In the event of the veteran's death, the veteran's family is protected because VA will pay the balance of the mortgage owed up to the maximum amount of insurance purchased.

Senate Bill

Section 105 of H.R. 1037, as amended, would amend section 2106(b) of title 38, U.S.C., to increase the maximum amount of insurance that may be purchased under the VMLI program from the current maximum of $90,000 to $150,000 effective on October 1, 2012. The maximum amount would then increase from $150,000 to $200,000 on January 1, 2012.

House Bill

The House Bills contain no comparable provision.

Compromise Agreement

Section 407 of the Compromise Agreement follows the Senate Bill, except that the provision would take effect on October 1, 2011.

EXPANSION OF INDIVIDUALS QUALIFYING FOR RETROACTIVE BENEFITS FROM TRAUMATIC INJURY PROTECTION COVERAGE UNDER SERVICEMEMBERS' GROUP LIFE INSURANCE

Current Law

Under current law, TSGLI provides coverage against qualifying losses incurred as a result of a traumatic injury. In the event of a loss, VA will pay between $25,000 and $100,000 depending on the severity of the qualifying loss. TSGLI went into effect on December 1, 2005. In order to provide assistance to those servicemembers suffering traumatic injuries on or before October 7, 2001, and November 30, 2005, retroactive TSGLI payments were authorized under section 1032(c) of Public Law 109–13, the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act for Defense, the Global War on Terror, and Tsunami Relief, 2005, to individuals whose qualifying losses were sustained as ''a direct result of injuries incurred in Operation Enduring Freedom or Operation Iraqi Freedom.'' Under section 501(b) of Public Law 109–233, the Veterans' Housing Opportunity Benefits Improvement Act of 2006, this definition was amended to allow retroactive payments to individuals whose qualifying losses were sustained as a ''direct result of a traumatic injury incurred in the theater of operations for Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom.'' Men and women who were traumatically injured on or between October 7, 2001, and November 30, 2005, but were not in the Operation Iraqi Freedom or Operation Enduring Freedom theaters of operation are not eligible for retroactive payments.

Senate Bill

Section 103 of H.R. 1037, as amended, would amend section 501(b) of Public Law 109–233 so as to remove the requirement that limits retroactive TSGLI payments to those who served in the Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) or Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) theaters of operation. Thus, this section of the Compromise Agreement would authorize retroactive TSGLI payments for qualifying traumatic injuries incurred on or after October 7, 2001, but before December 1, 2005, irrespective of where the injuries occurred.

House Bill

The House Bills contains no comparable provision.

Compromise Agreement

Section 408 of the Compromise Agreement follows the Senate Bill, except that the provision would take effect on October 1, 2011.

TITLE V—BURIAL AND CEMETERY MATTERS

INCREASE IN CERTAIN BURIAL AND FUNERAL BENEFITS AND PLOT ALLOWANCES FOR VETERANS

Current Law

Under current law, VA will pay up to $300 toward the funeral and burial costs of veterans who die while receiving care at certain VA facilities. In addition, VA will pay a $300 plot allowance when a veteran is buried in a cemetery not under U.S. government jurisdiction if: the veteran was discharged from active duty because of a disability incurred or aggravated in the line of duty; the veteran was receiving compensation or pension, or would have been if he/she was not receiving

military retired pay; or the veteran died in a VA facility. The plot allowance may be paid to the State for the cost of a plot or interment in a State-owned cemetery reserved solely for veteran burials if the veteran was buried without charge.

Senate Bill

Section 501 of H.R. 1037, as amended, would increase payments for funeral and burial expenses in the case of individuals who die in VA facilities and for plot allowances up to $745 and would increase this amount annually by a cost-of-living adjustment. These increases would be effective for deaths occurring on or after October 1, 2010, but no cost-of-living adjustment would be paid in fiscal year 2011.

House Bill

The House Bills contain no comparable provision.

Compromise Agreement

Section 501 of the Compromise Agreement would increase the amount paid for the burial and funeral of a veteran who dies in a VA facility or the plot allowance for a deceased veteran who is eligible for burial at a national cemetery from $300 to $700, effective October 1, 2011. It would further direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide an annual percentage increase in relation to the Consumer Price Index. Finally, the Compromise Agreement would provide that no cost-of-living increases are to be made to these benefits in fiscal year 2012.

INTERMENT IN NATIONAL CEMETERIES OF PARENTS OF CERTAIN DECEASED VETERANS

Current Law

Under section 2402(5) of title 38, U.S.C., certain spouses, surviving spouses, and minor children of servicemembers and veterans who are eligible for burial in national cemeteries are eligible to be interred in national cemeteries.

Senate Bill

The Senate Bills contain no comparable provision.

House Bill

Section 303 of H.R. 3949, the Corey Shea Act, would give VA the discretion to provide space-available burial to qualifying parents in the gravesite of their deceased son or daughter who, on or after October 7, 2001, died in combat or died of a combat-related training injury and who has no other eligible survivors as identified under section 2402(5) of title 38, U.S.C. The term parent would mean the biological mother or father or, in the case of adoption, the adoptive mother or father.

Compromise Agreement

Section 502 of the Compromise Agreement follows the House Bill.

REPORTS ON SELECTION OF NEW NATIONAL CEMETERIES

Current Law

Current law contains no relevant provision.

Senate Bill

The Senate Bills contain no comparable provision.

House Bill

H.R. 174 would direct VA to establish a national cemetery for veterans in the Southern Colorado area.

Compromise Agreement

Section 503 of the Compromise Agreement would require VA, not later than one year following the date of enactment, to report to Congress on the selection and construction of five new national cemeteries in areas in Southern Colorado; Melbourne and Daytona, Florida; Rochester and Buffalo, New York; Tallahassee, Florida; and Omaha, Nebraska. The Secretary would be required to solicit the advice and views of State and local veterans organizations. The report would be required to include a schedule for the establishment of and the funds available for each such cemetery. The Compromise Agreement would further require annual reports to be submitted to Congress until the completion of the cemeteries.

TITLE VI—COMPENSATION AND PENSION

ENHANCEMENT OF DISABILITY COMPENSATION FOR CERTAIN DISABLED VETERANS WITH DIFFICULTIES USING PROSTHESES AND DISABLED VETERANS IN NEED OF REGULAR AID AND ATTENDANCE FOR RESIDUALS OF TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY

Current Law

Currently, under subsections (a) through (j) of section 1114 of title 38, U.S.C., VA pays disability compensation to a veteran based on the rating assigned to the veteran's service-connected disabilities. Under subsections (m), (n), and (o) of section 1114, higher levels of monthly compensation are paid to veterans with severe disabilities if certain criteria are satisfied. The criteria for compensation under section 1114(m) include ''the anatomical loss . . . of both legs at a level, or with complications, preventing natural knee action with prostheses in place'' or ''the anatomical loss . . . of one arm and one leg at levels, or with complications, preventing natural elbow and knee action with prostheses in place.'' The criteria for compensation under section 1114(n) include ''the anatomical loss . . . of both arms at levels, or with complications, preventing natural elbow action with prostheses in place''; ''the anatomical loss of both legs so near the hip as to prevent the use of prosthetic appliances''; or ''the anatomical loss of one arm and one leg so near the shoulder and hip as to prevent the use of prosthetic appliances.'' The criteria for compensation under section 1114(o) include ''the anatomical loss of both arms so near the shoulder as to prevent the use of prosthetic appliances.''

Currently, the monthly compensation under subsections (a) through (j) of section 1114 ranges from $123 per month for a single veteran with no dependents rated 10 percent to $2,673 per month for the same single veteran rated 100 percent. Under section 1114(1) of title 38,U.S.C., VA provides a higher amount of compensation, currently $3,327 per month for a single veteran, if the veteran is ''in need of regular aid and attendance.'' A veteran who requires regular aid and attendance may be entitled to an additional $2,002 per month, under section 1114(r)(1) of title 38, U.S.C., if the veteran suffers from severe service-connected physical disabilities.Also, under section 1114(r)(2), a higher level of aid and attendance compensation, currently an additional $2,983 per month, is provided to certain veterans with severe service-connected disabilities who need ''a higher level of care'' in addition to regular aid and attendance. Under section 1114(r)(2), this higher level of compensation generally is provided only to a veteran who has suffered a severe anatomical loss, who needs ''health-care services provided on a daily basis in the veteran's home,'' and who would require institutionalization in the absence of that care.

Senate Bill

Section 205(a) of H.R. 1037, as amended, would amend subsections (m), (n), and (o) of section 1114 to remove the provisions conditioning higher monthly compensation on the site of, or complications from, an anatomical loss. Instead, if the other requirements are satisfied, it would allow the higher rates to be paid if any factors prevent natural elbow or knee action with prostheses in place or prevent the use of prosthetic appliances.

Section 205(b) of H.R. 1037, as amended, would add a new subsection (t) to section 1114, which would provide that, if a veteran is in need of regular aid and attendance due to the residuals of traumatic brain injury, is not eligible for compensation under section 1114(r)(2), and, in the absence of regular aid and attendance, would require institutional care, the veteran will be entitled to a monthly aid and attendance allowance equivalent to the allowance provided under section 1114(r)(2).

House Bill

The House Bills contain no comparable provision.

Compromise Agreement

Section 601 of the Compromise Agreement follows the Senate Bill.

COST-OF-LIVING INCREASE FOR TEMPORARY DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITYCOMPENSATION PAYABLE FOR SURVIVING SPOUSES WITH DEPENDENT CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF 18

Current Law

Under section 1310 of title 38, U.S.C., VA provides dependency and indemnity compensation (DIC) to a surviving spouse if a veteran's death resulted from: (1) a disease or injury incurred or aggravated in the line of duty while on active duty or active duty for training;(2) an injury incurred or aggravated in the line of duty while on inactive duty for training; or (3) a service-connected disability or a condition directly related to a service-connected disability.

Section 301 of Public Law 108–454, the Veterans Benefits Improvement Act of 2004, amended section 1311 of title 38, U.S.C., to authorize VA to pay a $250 per month temporary benefit to a surviving spouse with one or more children below the age of 18, during the 2 years following the date on which entitlement to DIC began. This provision was enacted in response to a May 2001 program evaluation report recommendation on the need for transitional DIC.

Senate Bill

Section 201 of H.R. 1037, as amended, would amend section 1311(f) of title 38, U.S.C., by authorizing a permanent, automatic, cost-of-living adjustment for this temporary DIC payment so that the value of the benefit does not erode over time.

This cost-of-living increase would occur whenever there is an increase in benefit amounts payable under title II of the Social Security Act, section 401 et seq., title 42, U.S.C.

House Bill

The House Bills contain no comparable provision.

Compromise Agreement

Section 602 of the Compromise Agreement follows the Senate bill.

PAYMENT OF DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION TO SURVIVORS OF FORMER PRISONERS OF WAR WHO DIED ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 30, 1999

Current Law

Under chapter 13 of title 38, U.S.C., DIC is paid to the surviving spouse or children of a veteran when the veteran's death is a result of a service-connected disability. In addition, VA provides DIC to the surviving spouses and children of veterans who have died after service from a non-service-connected disability if the veteran had been totally disabled due to a service-connected disability for a continuous period of 10 or more years immediately preceding death or for a continuous period of at least 5 years after the veteran's release from service.

Prior to Public Law 106–117, the Veterans Millennium Health Care and Benefits Act,

the survivors of former Prisoners of War (POWs) were eligible for DIC under the same rules as all other survivors. Section 501 of Public Law 106–117 extended eligibility for DIC to the survivors of former POWs who died after September 30, 1999, from non-service-connected causes if the former POWs were totally disabled due to a service-connected cause for a period of 1 or more years, rather than 10 or more years, immediately prior to death.

Senate Bill

Section 208 of H.R. 1037, as amended, would amend section 1318(b)(3) of title 38, U.S.C., to make all survivors of former POWs eligible for DIC if the veteran died from non-service-connected causes and was totally disabled due to a service-connected condition for a period of 1 or more years immediately prior to death, without regard to date of death.

House Bill

The House Bills contain no comparable provision.

Compromise Agreement

Section 603 of the Compromise Agreement follows the Senate bill.

EXCLUSION OF CERTAIN AMOUNTS FROM CONSIDERATION AS INCOME FOR PURPOSES OF VETERANS PENSION BENEFITS

Current Law

Under chapter 15 of title 38, U.S.C., VA is authorized to pay pension benefits to wartime veterans who have limited or no income, and who are ages 65 or older, or, if under 65, who are permanently and totally disabled.

When calculating annual income for purposes of these pension benefits, section 1503 of title 38, U.S.C., authorizes VA to include income received by the veteran and from most sources. However, certain sources of income, such as donations from public or private relief or welfare organizations, are not taken into account.

Senate Bill

The Senate Bills contain no comparable provision.

House Bill

The House Bills contain no comparable provision.

Compromise Agreement

Section 604 of the Compromise Agreement would exclude, for purposes of determining income for pension eligibility, up to $5,000, paid to a veteran from a State or municipality, if the benefit was paid due to the veteran's injury or disease.

COMMENCEMENT OF PERIOD OF PAYMENT OF ORIGINAL AWARDS OF COMPENSATION FOR VETERANS RETIRED OR SEPARATED FROM THE UNIFORMED SERVICES FOR CATASTROPHIC DISABILITY

Current Law

Under section 5110(b)(1) of title 38, U.S.C., if a veteran files a claim for VA disability compensation within 1 year after being discharged from military service, the effective date of an award of service connection will be the day after the date of discharge. However, under section 5111(a) of title 38, U.S.C., the effective date for payment of compensation based on that award will not be until the first day of the month following the month in which the service-connection award is effective.

Senate Bill

Section 206 of H.R. 1037, as amended, would amend section 5111 of title 38, U.S.C., to provide that, if a veteran is retired from the military for a catastrophic disability or disabilities, payment of disability compensation based on an original claim for benefits will be made as of the date on which the award of compensation becomes effective. ''Catastrophic disability'' would be defined as a permanent, severely disabling injury, disorder, or disease that compromises the ability of the veteran to carry out the activities of daily living to such a degree that the veteran requires personal or mechanical assistance to leave home or bed, or requires constant supervision to avoid physical harm to self or others.

House Bill

The House Bills contain no comparable provision.

Compromise Agreement

Section 605 of the Compromise Agreement follows the Senate Bill.

APPLICABILITY OF LIMITATION TO PENSION PAYABLE TO CERTAIN CHILDREN OF VETERANS OF A PERIOD OF WAR

Current Law

Under current law, a veteran with no dependents who is entitled to receive pension under section 1521 of title 38, U.S.C., cannot be paid more than $90 per month if the veteran is in a nursing facility where services are covered by a Medicaid plan. In instances where a veteran's surviving spouse is entitled to receive pension under section 1541 of title 38, U.S.C., the surviving spouse also cannot be paid more than $90 per month if the surviving spouse has no dependents and is in a nursing facility where services are covered by a Medicaid plan. The $90 pension benefit may not be counted in determining eligibility for Medicaid or the patient's share of cost.

Under section 101(4)(A) of title 38, U.S.C., a child is defined as a person who is unmarried and under the age of 18 years; before reaching the age of 18 years, became permanently incapable of self-support; or, after attaining the age of 18 years and until completion of education or training, but not after attaining the age of 23 years, is pursuing a course of instruction at an approved educational institution. Such a child is entitled to pension under section 1542 of title 38, U.S.C., if the income of the child is less than the statutory benefit amount payable to the child. If such a child is admitted to a nursing facility where services are covered by a Medicaid plan, the pension benefits for the child are not currently reduced to $90.

Senate Bill

Section 207 of H.R. 1037, as amended, would amend section 5503 of title 38, U.S.C., so that adult-disabled children of veterans who receive pension under section 1542 of title 38, U.S.C., and are covered by a Medicaid plan while residing in nursing homes, would have their pension benefits reduced in the same manner as veterans and surviving spouses.

House Bill

The House Bills contain no comparable provision.

Compromise Agreement

Section 606 of the Compromise Agreement follows the Senate bill.

EXTENSION OF REDUCED PENSION FOR CERTAIN VETERANS COVERED BY MEDICAID PLANS FOR SERVICES FURNISHED BY NURSING FACILITIES

Current Law

Public Law 101–508, the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990, reduced VA pension for certain veterans in receipt of Medicaid-covered nursing home care to no more than $90 per month, for any period after the month of admission to the nursing care facility. This authority expired on September 30, 1992, and was extended through 1997 in Public Law 102–568, the Veterans' Benefits Act of 1992; through 1998 in Public Law 103–66, the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993; through 2002 in Public Law 105–33, the Balanced Budget Act of 1997; through 2008 in Public Law 106–419, the Veterans' Benefits and Health Care Improvement Act of 2000; and through 2011 in Public Law 107–103, the Veterans' Education and Benefits Expansion Act of 2001.

Senate Bill

Section 204 of H.R. 1037, as amended, would amend section 5503(d)(7) of title 38, U.S.C., to extend, from September 30, 2011, to September 30, 2014, the authority for limitation of VA pension to $90 per month for certain beneficiaries receiving Medicaid-covered nursing home care.

House Bill

The House Bills contain no comparable provision.

Compromise Agreement

Section 607 of the Compromise Agreement follows the Senate bill, except that the limitation would be extended until May 31, 2015.

CODIFICATION OF 2009 COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENT IN RATES OF PENSION FOR DISABLED VETERANS AND SURVIVING SPOUSES AND CHILDREN

Current Law

Under current law, section 5312 of title 38, U.S.C., whenever there is an increase in benefits payable under title II of the Social Security Act, VA automatically increases pension benefits by the same percentage increase.

Senate Bill

The Senate Bills contain no comparable provision.

House Bill

The House Bills contain no comparable provision.

Compromise Agreement

Section 608 of the Compromise Agreement codifies current pension rates for disabled veterans and surviving spouses and children.

TITLE VII—EMPLOYMENT AND REEMPLOYMENT RIGHTS OF MEMBERS OF THE UNIFORMED SERVICES

CLARIFICATION THAT USERRA PROHIBITS WAGE DISCRIMINATION AGAINST MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES

Current Law

Under current law, section 4311(a) of title 38, U.S.C., employers may not deny any ''benefit of employment'' to employees or applicants on the basis of membership in the uniformed services, application for service, performance of service, or service obligation. However, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit held in 2002 that USERRA does not prohibit wage discrimination because ''wages or salary for work performed'' are specifically excluded from the law's definition of ''benefit of employment.'' *Gagnon* v. *Sprint Corp.*, 284 F.3d 839, 853 (8th Cir. 2002).

Senate Bill

Section 403 of H.R. 1037, as amended, would amend section 4303(2) of title 38, U.S.C., to make it clear that wage discrimination is not permitted under USERRA.

House Bill

The House Bills contain no comparable provision.

Compromise Agreement

Section 701 of the Compromise Agreement follows the Senate Bill.

CLARIFICATION OF THE DEFINITION OF ''SUCCESSOR IN INTEREST''

Current Law

Section 4303 of title 38, U.S.C., uses a broad definition of the term ''employer'' and includes in subsection (4)(A)(iv) a definition of a ''successor in interest.'' In regulations, the

Department of Labor has provided that an employer is a ''successor in interest'' where there is a substantial continuity in operations, facilities and workforce from the former employer. It further stipulates that the determination of whether an employer is a successor in interest must be made on a case-by-case basis using a multifactor test (20 CFR §1002.35). One Federal court, however, in a decision made prior to the promulgation of the regulation, held that an employer could not be a successor in interest unless there was a merger or transfer of assets from the first employer to the second. (See *Coffman* v. *Chugach Support Services Inc.*, 411 F.3d 1231 (11th Cir. 2005); but see *Murphree* v. *Communications Technologies, Inc.*, 460 F. Supp. 2d 702 (E.D. La 2006) applying 20 CFR §1002.35 and rejecting the *Coffman* merger or transfer of assets requirement.)

Senate Bill

Section 402 of H.R. 1037, as amended, would amend section 4303 of title 38, U.S.C., to clarify the definition of ''successor in interest'' by incorporating language that mirrors the regulatory definition adopted by the Department of Labor.

House Bill

The House Bills contain no comparable provision.

Compromise Agreement

Section 702 of the Compromise Agreement follows the Senate bill.

TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS

Senate Bill

Section 406 of H.R. 1037, as amended, would make three technical and conforming changes to various provisions of law in order to correct cross references to various USERRA provisions contained in chapter 43 of title 38, U.S.C., and clarify existing language in the USERRA.

House Bill

The House Bills contain no comparable provision.

Compromise Agreement

Section 703 of the Compromise Agreement follows the Senate Bill.

TITLE VIII—BENEFITS MATTERS

INCREASE IN NUMBER OF VETERANS FOR WHICH PROGRAMS OF INDEPENDENT LIVING SERVICES AND ASSISTANCE MAY BE INITIATED

Current Law

Section 3120(e) of title 38, U.S.C., authorizes VA to initiate a program of independent living services for no more than 2,600 service-connected disabled veterans in each fiscal year.

Senate Bill

Section 301 of H.R. 1037, as amended, would eliminate the annual cap on the number of service-connected disabled veterans who may enroll in a program of independent living.

House Bill

The House Bills contain no comparable provision.

Compromise Agreement

Section 801 of the Compromise Agreement would increase to 2,700 the number of veterans who may initiate a program of independent living services in any fiscal year.

PAYMENT OF UNPAID BALANCES OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS GUARANTEED LOANS

Current Law

Under current law, section 3732 of title 38, U.S.C., provides default procedures for VA home loans and illustrates the actions VA may take to preserve the loan before suit or foreclosure. However, it does not address what would occur in the event an individual files for bankruptcy and a loan is modified under the authority provided under section 1322(b) of title 11.

Senate Bill

Section 304 of H.R. 1037, as amended, would amend section 3732(a)(2) by adding a new subparagraph that would authorize additional default procedures for VA home loans in the event that a VA home loan is modified under the authority provided under section 1322(b) of title 11. This new authority would allow VA to pay the holder of the obligation the unpaid balance of the obligation, plus accrued interest, due as of the date of the filing of the petition under title 11, but only upon the assignment, transfer, and delivery to VA in a form and manner satisfactory to VA of all rights, interest, claims, evidence, and records with respect to the housing loan.

House Bill

The House bills contain no comparable provision.

Compromise Agreement

Section 802 of the Compromise Agreement follows the Senate Bill.

ELIGIBILITY OF DISABLED VETERANS AND MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES WITH SEVERE BURN INJURIES FOR AUTOMOBILES AND ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT

Current Law

Under current law, section 3901 of title 38, U.S.C., veterans and members of the Armed Forces are eligible for assistance with automobiles and adaptive equipment if they suffer from one of three qualifying service-connected disabilities: loss or permanent loss of use of one or both feet; loss or permanent loss of use of one or both hands; or a central visual acuity of 20/200 or less or a peripheral field of vision of 20 degrees or less.

Senate Bill

Section 302 of H.R. 1037, as amended, would amend section 3901 of title 38, U.S.C., so as to include individuals with a service-connected disability due to a severe burn injury, effective October 1, 2010. The scope and definition of what constitutes a disability due to a severe burn injury would be determined pursuant to regulations prescribed by VA.

House Bill

The House Bills contain no comparable provision.

Compromise Agreement

Section 803 of the Compromise Agreement follows the Senate Bill, except that provision would take effect on October 1, 2011.

ENHANCEMENT OF AUTOMOBILE ASSISTANCE ALLOWANCE FOR VETERANS

Current Law

Under current law, section 3902 of title 38, U.S.C., provides up to $11,000 to eligible veterans and servicemembers for the purchase of an automobile or other conveyance and adaptive equipment to safely operate either.

Senate Bill

Section 303 of H.R. 1037, as amended, would amend section 3902 of title 38, U.S.C., to increase the maximum authorized automobile assistance allowance from $11,000 to $22,500, effective October 1, 2010. Section 303 would also direct VA to establish a method of determining the average retail cost of new automobiles for the preceding calendar year. The maximum allowance would increase, effective October 1 of each fiscal year, beginning in 2011, to an amount equal to 80 percent of what VA determined to be the average retail cost of new automobiles for the preceding calendar year.

House Bill

The House Bills contain no comparable provision.

Compromise Agreement

Section 804 of the Compromise Agreement would generally follow the Senate Bill. However, the amount of the allowance was increased to $18,900 instead of $22,500. This allowance would be adjusted October 1 of each year, beginning in 2011, by a percentage equal to the percentage by which the Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers (U.S. city average) increased during the 12-month period ending with the last month for which Consumer Price Index data is available. If the Consumer Price Index does not increase, the amount of the allowance will remain the same as the previous fiscal year.

NATIONAL ACADEMIES REVIEW OF BEST TREATMENTS FOR GULF WAR ILLNESS

Current Law

Current law contains no relevant provision.

Senate Bill

Section 601 of H.R. 1037, as amended, would require VA to contract with the Institute of Medicine to gather a group of medical professionals, who are experienced in treating individuals diagnosed with Gulf War Illness, in order to conduct a comprehensive review of the best treatments for this illness. The individuals these medical professionals must have experience treating must have served during the Persian Gulf War in the Southwest Asia theater of operations, or in Afghanistan, Iraq, or any other theater in which the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal is awarded for service.

The final report on the review required by this section must be submitted to VA and the House and Senate Committees on Veterans' Affairs by December 31, 2011, and include recommendations for legislative or administrative actions as the Institute of Medicine considers appropriate in light of the results of that review.

House Bill

The House Bills contain no comparable provision.

Compromise Agreement

Section 805 of the Compromise Agreement generally follows the Senate Bill except that the final report is due to the Committees by December 31, 2012, and the term ''chronic multisymptom illness'' replaces the term ''Gulf War Illness.''

EXTENSION AND MODIFICATION OF NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES REVIEWS AND EVALUATIONS ON ILLNESS AND SERVICE IN PERSIAN GULF WAR AND POST 9/11 GLOBAL OPERATIONS THEATERS

Current Law

Public Law 105–277, the Omnibus Consolidated and Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act, 1999, required VA to enter into an agreement with the National Academy of Sciences to review and evaluate the available scientific evidence regarding associations between illnesses and exposure to toxic agents, environmental or wartime hazards, or preventive medicines or vaccines associated with Persian Gulf War service. Congress extended these reviews and evaluations in Public Law 107–103, the Veterans Education and Benefits Expansion Act of 2001. This requirement will expire on October 1, 2010.

Public Law 105–368, the Veterans Programs Enhancement Act of 1998, required the National Academy of Sciences to examine the scientific and medical literature on the potential health effects of chemical and biological agents related to the 1991 Gulf War. The requirement for this examination ended in 2009.

Senate Bill

Section 602 of H.R. 1037, as amended, would extend until October 1, 2015, the mandate for

the National Academy of Sciences to review and evaluate scientific evidence regarding associations between illnesses and exposure. Section 602(b) would extend until October 1, 2018, the requirement for the National Academy of Sciences to report on the health effects of exposure.

House Bill

The House Bills contain no comparable provision.

Compromise Agreement

Section 806 of the Compromise Agreement generally follows the Senate Bill except that it requires the disaggregation of results by theaters of operations before and after September 11, 2001.

EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY FOR REGIONAL OFFICE IN REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

Current Law

Current law, section 315(b) of title 38, U.S.C., authorizes VA to maintain a regional office in the Republic of the Philippines until December 31, 2010. Congress has periodically extended this authority, most recently in Public Law 111–117, the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2010.

Senate Bill

Section 603 of H.R. 1037, as amended, would authorize VA to maintain a regional office in the Republic of the Philippines until December 31, 2011.

House Bill

The House Bills contain no comparable provision.

Compromise Agreement

Section 807 of the Compromise Agreement follows the Senate Bill, and adds that within one year, the Comptroller General would be required to provide a report to the House and Senate Committees on Veterans' Affairs and Appropriations on the activities of the Manila Regional Office. This report would also include an assessment of the costs and benefits of maintaining the office in the Philippines in comparison with moving the activities of the office to the United States.

EXTENSION OF AN ANNUAL REPORT ON EQUITABLE RELIEF

Current Law

Under current law, VA is authorized to provide monetary relief to persons whom the Secretary determines were deprived of VA benefits by reason of administrative error by a Federal Government employee. The Secretary may also provide relief which the Secretary determines is equitable to a VA beneficiary who has suffered a loss as a consequence of an erroneous decision made by a Federal Government employee. No later than April 1 of each year, the Secretary was required to submit to Congress a report containing a statement as to the disposition of each case recommended to the Secretary for equitable relief during the preceding calendar year; the requirement for this report was extended through December 31, 2009, by Public Law 109–233, the Veterans' Housing Opportunity and Benefits Improvement Act of 2006.

Senate Bill

The Senate Bills contain no comparable provision.

House Bill

The House Bills contain no comparable provision.

Compromise Agreement

The Compromise Agreement extends the requirement for the report on equitable relief through December 31, 2014.

AUTHORITY FOR THE PERFORMANCE OF MEDICAL DISABILITY EXAMINATIONS BY CONTRACT PHYSICIANS

Current Law

In 1996, in Public Law 104–275, the Veterans' Benefits Improvements Act of 1996, VA was authorized to carry out a pilot program of contract disability examinations through ten VA regional offices using amounts available for payment of compensation and pensions. During the initial pilot program, one contractor performed all contract examinations at the ten selected regional offices.

Subsequently, in 2003, in Public Law 108–183, the Veterans Benefits Act of 2003, VA was given additional, time-limited authority to contract for disability examinations using other appropriated funds. That initial authority was extended until December 31, 2010, by Public Law 110–389, the Veterans' Benefits Improvement Act of 2008. VA continues to report high demand for compensation and pension examinations and satisfaction with the contracted examinations.

Senate Bill

S. 3609 would extend VA's authority, through December 31, 2012, to use appropriated funds for the purpose of contracting with non-VA providers to conduct disability examinations. The examinations would be conducted pursuant to contracts entered into and administered by the Under Secretary for Benefits.

House Bill

The House Bills contain no comparable provision.

Compromise Agreement

Section 809 of the Compromise Agreement follows the Senate Bill.

TITLE IX—AUTHORIZATION OF MEDICAL FACILITY PROJECTS AND MAJOR MEDICAL FACILITY LEASES

AUTHORIZATION OF FISCAL YEAR 2011 MAJOR MEDICAL FACILITY LEASES

Current Law

Current law contains no relevant provision.

Senate Bill

Section 203 of S. 3325, as amended, would authorize fiscal year 2011 major medical facility leases as follows:

$7,149,000 for a Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC) in Billings, Montana.

$3,316,000 for an Outpatient Clinic in Boston, Massachusetts.

$21,495,000 for a CBOC in San Diego, California.

$10,055,000 for a Research Lab in San Francisco, California.

$5,323,000 for a Mental Health Facility in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

House Bill

The House Bills contain no comparable provision.

Compromise Agreement

Section 901 of the Compromise Agreement follows the Senate Bill.

MODIFICATION OF AUTHORIZATION AMOUNT FOR MAJOR MEDICAL FACILITY CONSTRUCTION PROJECT PREVIOUSLY AUTHORIZED FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS MEDICAL CENTER, NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

Current Law

Current law contains no relevant provision.

Senate Bill

Section 201 of S. 3325, as amended, authorizes up to $995,000,000 for restoration, new construction, or replacement of the medical care facility for the VA Medical Center (VAMC) at New Orleans, Louisiana.

House Bill

The House Bills contain no comparable provision.

Compromise Agreement

Section 902 of the Compromise Agreement modifies previous authorizations by providing $995,000,000 for restoration, new construction, or replacement of the medical care facility for the VAMC at New Orleans, Louisiana.

MODIFICATION OF AUTHORIZATION AMOUNT FOR MAJOR MEDICAL FACILITY CONSTRUCTION PROJECT PREVIOUSLY AUTHORIZED FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS MEDICAL CENTER, LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA

Current Law

Current law contains no relevant provision.

Senate Bill

Section 202 of S. 3325, as amended, authorizes up to $117,845,000 to conduct seismic corrections on Buildings 7 and 126 at the VAMC in Long Beach, California.

House Bill

The House Bills contain no comparable provision.

Compromise Agreement

Section 903 of the Compromise Agreement modifies previous authorizations by providing $117,845,000 to conduct seismic corrections on Buildings 7 and 126 at the VAMC in Long Beach, California.

AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

Current Law

Current law contains no relevant provision.

Senate Bill

Section 204 of S. 3325, as amended, authorizes $47,338,000 to be appropriated to the Medical Facilities account for the leases authorized in section 901 and $1,112,845,000 to be appropriated to the Construction, Major Projects account for the projects authorized in sections 902 and 903.

House Bill

The House Bills contain no applicable provision.

Compromise Agreement

Section 904 of the Compromise Agreement generally follows the Senate Bill.

REQUIREMENT THAT BID SAVINGS ON MAJOR MEDICAL FACILITY PROJECTS OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS BE USED FOR OTHER MAJOR MEDICAL FACILITY CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS OF THE DEPARTMENT

Current Law

Current law contains no relevant provision.

Senate Bill

Section 207 of S. 3325, as amended, contains a provision that requires that bid savings from major medical facility projects realized in any fiscal year must be used for major medical facility projects authorized for that fiscal year or a prior year. At the time of obligation, VA would be required to submit to the Committees on Veterans' Affairs and Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives notice of the source of the savings, the amount obligated, and the authorized project the savings are being obligated to.

House Bill

The House Bills contain no comparable provision.

Compromise Agreement

Section 905 of the Compromise Agreement follows the Senate Bill.

TITLE X—OTHER MATTERS

TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS

Current Law

Current law contains no relevant provision.

Senate Bill

The Senate Bills contain no comparable provision.

House Bill

The House Bills contain no comparable provision.

Compromise Agreement

Section 1001 of the Compromise Agreement contains technical corrections to title 38, U.S.C.

STATUTORY PAY-AS-YOU-GO ACT COMPLIANCE

Current Law

Public Law 111–139, the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act (PAYGO Act), requires that most new spending is offset by spending cuts or added revenue elsewhere.

Senate Bill

The Senate Bills contain no comparable provision.

House Bill

The House Bills contain no comparable provision.

Compromise Agreement

Section 1002 of the Compromise Agreement contains language required by the PAYGO Act in order for the estimate of budgetary effects from the Senate Budget Committee to be used by the Office of Management and Budget on PAYGO scorecards.

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

Mr. BUYER. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3219, as amended, the Veterans' Benefits Act of 2010.

This is an omnibus benefit and health bill that contains many provisions to help veterans and their families. I am glad that we were finally able to work this out with the Senate and, really, pass many of the provisions that the House had passed previously in the summer of 2009.

This bill contains many provisions authored also by my Republican colleagues, including:

The Pat Tillman Scholarship Initiative that would require the VA to publish a list of college scholarship opportunities for veterans on their Web site. This initiative grew from a meeting that my staff had with the family of the U.S. Army Ranger and former NFL star, Pat Tillman.

After Tillman's death in Afghanistan, his family and friends founded the Pat Tillman Foundation. Foundation staff informed my staff that they were having problems educating and reaching potential veterans for college scholarships they were awarding. This provision will assist groups like the Pat Tillman Foundation by informing veterans of scholarship opportunities for veterans by placing them on their Web site.

We also have the reauthorization of the Homeless Veteran Reintegration Program. This program is run by the Department of Labor's Veterans Employment and Training Service and provides grants to local homeless veteran providers for job-skill training and counseling. This program has been lauded as one of the most successful programs in the Federal Government in combating homelessness.

I am also pleased that we were able to include an expansion of this program to local homeless providers that offer job skill training for homeless women veterans and homeless veterans with children. This is an initiative that I have worked on, and I appreciate the cooperation of the majority to make this, in fact, a reality.

I took up a cause with regard to addressing this in the 1990s, when the Clinton administration went into a lot of the inner cities and wanted to help recruit women with children, as we were doing the welfare reform initiatives, and bring them into the military. So they joined the military and then they also brought their children. When they left the military, some actually returned to welfare and some became homeless. The fact that we have women with children in America who are homeless, I could not stand that thought.

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So I want to thank the majority for working with us in making these provisions a reality.

This expansion was originally drafted as H.R. 293 and was part of the Nobel Warrior Initiatives that I introduced in January of 2009. Unfortunately, this program is needed, as I said, because recent reports also by the VA indicate 9 percent of the homeless veteran population is women, many of whom have children. These individuals obviously require a safe and supportive environment in a private setting in which they can regain their footing and acquire skills which will lead them to meaningful employment. Once that occurs, they become self-enriched, and they also become better mentors to their children.

I hope that this expansion, more homeless veteran providers, will expand beyond their normal male-dominated services to assist women as well as homeless veterans with children.

Another one of my provisions in H.R. 3219, as amended, would allow veterans to purchase additional amounts of Veterans Group Life Insurance coverage. Currently the amount of VGLI coverage that a veteran can have cannot be changed. Because the level of coverage must be made within the first year of a servicemember's discharge, and because most of the separating servicemembers are young and single, many select levels that become insufficient as they age and have families. The provision would allow veterans to purchase up to $400,000 of VGLI coverage in $25,000 increments every 5 years until age 60. The cost of such increases would be offset by premiums, so there would be no direct cost to taxpayers.

This provision would also allow veterans to tailor their life insurance coverage to fit their current needs and provide greater security for their families, and I am glad it was included in the bill.

The final provision I would like to highlight was introduced by the ranking member of the Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, JOHN BOOZMAN. This provision would establish a program to make grants of up to $200,000 to encourage the development of new assistive technologies for specifically adaptive housing.

The goal of this provision is to encourage the development of technology to provide the maximum level of independence to severely disabled veterans in their daily living. This includes emerging technologies such as voice command operations, integrated computer-managed functions, and fall prevention devices, and I am pleased this measure will also authorize much of the needed funding for this goal.

I am also pleased this bill includes many other improvements for veterans and their families, such as creating a new veterans energy-related employment program; increasing training for veteran employment specialists; increasing protections for deployed servicemembers under the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act in regard to cell phone contracts; providing numerous VA life insurance program improvements; increasing the plot and burial allowance for deceased veterans; authorizing aid and attendance benefits for veterans with traumatic brain injury; increasing the number of veterans who can begin receiving independent living services; expanding eligibility for adaptive auto grants to disabled veterans and servicemembers with severe burn injuries; and requiring a National Academies study of best treatments for chronic multisymptom illness in Persian Gulf veterans.

It authorizes the funding for construction of medical facilities and/or community outpatient clinics in Long Beach, California; Billings, Montana; Boston, Massachusetts; San Francisco, California; and San Juan, Puerto Rico. We also have an increase in here with regard to the hospital in New Orleans.

Under section 902 of title IX under ''construction,'' the modification of authorization for the amount of medical facility construction projects previously authorized for the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center in New Orleans, Louisiana, increases from $625 million to $995 million.

The reason I stopped to highlight that is I am going to exercise some disappointment, because we were never able to achieve a joint facility and agreement to actually save money by having some jointness here between Tulane and LSU and another one of the hospitals. This is a lost opportunity. It is really unfortunate. So we are going to be building another one of these big state-of-the-art VA hospitals, and it costs now about $1 billion.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from Nevada (Ms. BERKLEY), who is a former member of our committee and whom we miss very, very, very much.

Ms. BERKLEY. I want to particularly thank Chairman FILNER for shepherding this very important piece of

legislation through the Congress. I know it wasn't easy, but it was a very important task, and he did it very well.

I rise today in support of the Senate amendments to H.R. 3219, the Veterans' Insurance and Health Care Improvements Act. It is this Nation's responsibility, indeed, it is our honor, to provide care to the brave men and women who have served this Nation so well and have sacrificed much on behalf of the rest of us. This legislation goes a long way to address many of the needs of our veterans.

About 13 years ago when I was first contemplating running for Congress, I met with a group of veterans, and then I met with another group, and I met with another group, all in the Las Vegas area. And I wasn't particularly surprised when they told me they didn't think they got the quality of care that was due them through the VA, and I wasn't surprised when they told me we didn't have a VA hospital in the southern Nevada area, or we had a large number of homeless veterans.

But what surprised me more than anything was family after family spoke of how difficult it was when the time came to bury their family member who was a veteran, that they had a difficult time finding the money so they could make a decent burial for this veteran.

I couldn't understand exactly why that was. I knew that we were providing veteran benefits in order to bury our veterans and to give them grave markers. Then I came to Congress and I started serving on the Veterans Affairs Committee, and I learned that the original bill that provided this funding was not indexed to inflation, and consequently the value continued to diminish with every passing year.

We have not changed the amount of money that we provide families for burying their veteran family members since the early 1970s. This bill finally, after introducing legislation year after year that I have been here in Congress, finally this piece of legislation provides the funding and moves us in the right direction so that families don't have a tremendous hardship when they bury their family members who were veterans and have fought for this Nation.

I could not be happier that we are doing this. It is an important piece of legislation. People don't realize it until you are in that position yourself. I am glad that the Veterans Committees in the House and the Senate have all recognized the importance of increasing these benefits. We have included these provisions today in the bill before us. Our veterans deserve to be laid to rest with the full recognition of their military service. This bill is a step in the right direction.

We always talk about supporting our veterans. You hear it here. Each one of us talks about supporting our veterans. This is a piece of legislation in which we can actually demonstrate our support of our veterans.

Mr. BUYER. I reserve my time.

Mr. FILNER. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I just wanted to thank the gentlelady, frankly, for not only her persistence in this particular benefit that is so important but, as I understand it, the Las Vegas veterans hospital is under construction.

You fought for that for more than a decade and it is finally going to be built. When does it open?

I yield to the gentlewoman.

Ms. BERKLEY. It is going to be completed at the end of 2011 and opened in 2012.

Mr. FILNER. We applaud again your persistence for that. We know the veterans in Las Vegas and surroundings are going to be well served.

Ms. BERKLEY. I hope you join us for the grand opening.

Mr. FILNER. I thank the gentlewoman.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I would like to take the opportunity to thank the highly capable staff of the House Veterans Affairs Committee, not only the full committee, but also the subcommittees. It seems that each session of Congress both bodies pass so many different individual pieces of legislation that we have picked up as a now regular course of doing business creating an omnibus bill.

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So we do a puts and takes, back and forth between the House and the Senate, and we actually then create a much larger bill that we then bring to the floor that can best serve the interests of America's veterans.

And that's in fact what we have here. This is really a very good bill. I couldn't begin to tell you, Mr. Speaker, how many hours have gone into the development of this bill. It is a bipartisan bill. I really appreciate the work of not only my colleagues in the Senate, but also their staff.

At this time I would specifically like to mention the leadership of Colonel Malcom Shorter. I would like to thank you for your leadership, sir, on the committee. I recognize it and it is appreciated. And to your counterpart, your pilot, an Air Force colonel himself, Kingston Smith, the Republican House staff director. The two staff directors I think worked very well together, both having worn the uniform. You don't get caught down in the fights between political parties. You think about serving the men and women in uniform. And for that I want to congratulate both of you for keeping everyone focused.

I also want to thank David Tucker. David is someone that I have known for a lot of years on the committee. I find him to be a man of distinct honor and integrity. You have always been a very straight shooter, David. Also, he is one whereby if in fact you raise an issue of law or I have raised an issue of law, we diligently dive into it and we get our interpretations and we also get Kingston Smith for his read. But I have had a distinct pleasure, David, of working with you over the years, and I want to recognize your valuable contribution not only in this bill, but what you have done over the years. I consider your talent valuable, but I consider your friendship even more.

To Juan Lara, the Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, the staff director, thank you very much for your work with Mike Brinck on the Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity. Not only do you two work together, but you also take the leads of STEPHANIE HERSETH SANDLIN and Dr. BOOZMAN. And, as I said many times, this subcommittee sets the pace not only for the House Veterans' Affairs Committee itself, but I think you set the pace for the entire Congress. This little subcommittee, how you work together interoperably, you can't even tell who is a Republican and who is a Democrat. For that, I congratulate you. I think America would rejoice and may even be surprised that somebody in this town thinks about being an American first. So I want to thank you for your leadership and being a pacesetter.

Kimberly Ross, the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs staff director, along with Brian Lawrence, the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance Republican Staff Director, both are also pacesetters and don't always get all the attention that they should. Brian, along with Mike Brinck, these are two individuals that are also incredibly talented. Mike, I really appreciate all the years that I have had the opportunity to work with you. And, Jon, I would say for you, you're an individual for whom much is expected. I truly believe that.

I guess I am at that point in my career, Mr. Speaker, that I am being a little nostalgic because I recognize individuals, that their diligence, hard work, it's invaluable to the committee; it's invaluable to Congress. There's a reason that we call them professional staff, because that's exactly what they are. They are very professional in their work. Both committees can actually go to a professional staffer and they're going to tell them exactly the read or give them the recommendation for the best interest in how to serve the Nation. And so these individuals whom I have read truly live up to the status of being a professional staffer here in Congress.

I also recognize that this is probably the last markup I will have with the House Veterans' Affairs Committee. I want to share this. It has truly been a distinct honor to serve the Nation's veterans, Mr. Speaker. I serve the men and women who wear the military uniform. I help take care of their families, the spouses, the children, the widows, the orphans, the consequences of war, the consequences of their service; and it has been a distinct honor to work with a lot of very talented people to do that.

I get upset at times in the committee, and I can have disagreements even with my friends in the veterans service organizations when individuals play their politics or they don't follow the rules or they don't follow the process. And we're meant to be a bipartisan committee. When that doesn't happen, I can get really upset pretty quick.

So I'll end with saying that, Mr. Speaker, it has been a distinct honor. I have also enjoyed serving with you, JESSE.

With that, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. FILNER. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I don't know that we'll be in session again before Veterans Day on November 11. This is a bill that will really raise the level of standards for all of our Nation's veterans; and we can look at it as, I think, a perfect gift that can be delivered on Veterans Day. So I ask my colleagues to unanimously support H.R. 3219.

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 gentleman from California (Mr. FILNER) that the House suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendments to the bill, H.R. 3219.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has agreed to a concurrent resolution of the House of the following title.

H. Con. Res. 321. Concurrent resolution providing for a conditional adjournment of the House of Representatives and a conditional recess or adjournment of the Senate.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed with amendments in which the concurrence of the House is requested, a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 3081. An act making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes.

M.R. ''BUCKY'' WALTERS POST OFFICE

Mr. DRIEHAUS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to withdraw my motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6014) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 212 Main Street in Hartman, Arkansas, as the ''M.R. 'Bucky' Walters Post Office''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the motion is withdrawn.

There was no objection.

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2010

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 3729) to authorize the programs of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration for fiscal years 2011 through 2013, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 3729

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

SEC. 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the ''National Aeronautics and Space Administration Authorization Act of 2010''.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
Sec. 2. Findings.
Sec. 3. Definitions.

TITLE I—AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

Sec. 101. Fiscal year 2011.
Sec. 102. Fiscal year 2012.
Sec. 103. Fiscal year 2013.

TITLE II—POLICY, GOALS, AND OBJECTIVES FOR HUMAN SPACE FLIGHT AND EXPLORATION

Sec. 201. United States human space flight policy.
Sec. 202. Goals and objectives.
Sec. 203. Assurance of core capabilities.
Sec. 204. Independent study on human exploration of space.

TITLE III—EXPANSION OF HUMAN SPACE FLIGHT BEYOND THE INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION AND LOW-EARTH ORBIT

Sec. 301. Human space flight beyond low-Earth orbit.
Sec. 302. Space Launch System as follow-on launch vehicle to the Space Shuttle.
Sec. 303. Multi-purpose crew vehicle.
Sec. 304. Utilization of existing workforce and assets in development of Space Launch System and multi-purpose crew vehicle.
Sec. 305. NASA launch support and infrastructure modernization program.
Sec. 306. Report on effects of transition to Space Launch System on the solid and liquid rocket motor industrial bases.
Sec. 307. Sense of Congress on other technology and robotic elements in human space flight and exploration.
Sec. 308. Development of technologies and in-space capabilities for beyond near-Earth space missions.
Sec. 309. Report requirement.

TITLE IV—DEVELOPMENT AND USE OF COMMERCIAL CREW AND CARGO TRANSPORTATION CAPABILITIES

Sec. 401. Commercial Cargo Development program.
Sec. 402. Commercial Crew Development program.
Sec. 403. Requirements applicable to development of commercial crew transportation capabilities and services.
Sec. 404. Report on International Space Station cargo return capability.

TITLE V—CONTINUATION, SUPPORT, AND EVOLUTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION

Sec. 501. Continuation of the International Space Station through 2020.
Sec. 502. Maximum utilization of the International Space Station.
Sec. 503. Maintenance of the United States segment and assurance of continued operations of the International Space Station.
Sec. 504. Management of the ISS national laboratory.

TITLE VI—SPACE SHUTTLE RETIREMENT AND TRANSITION

Sec. 601. Sense of Congress on the Space Shuttle program.
Sec. 602. Retirement of Space Shuttle orbiters and transition of Space Shuttle program.
Sec. 603. Disposition of orbiter vehicles.

TITLE VII—EARTH SCIENCE

Sec. 701. Sense of Congress.
Sec. 702. Interagency collaboration implementation approach.
Sec. 703. Transitioning experimental research to operations.
Sec. 704. Decadal survey missions implementation for Earth observation.
Sec. 705. Expansion of Earth science applications.
Sec. 706. Instrument test-beds and venture class missions.
Sec. 707. Sense of Congress on NPOESS follow-on program.

TITLE VIII—SPACE SCIENCE

Sec. 801. Technology development.
Sec. 802. Suborbital research activities.
Sec. 803. Overall science portfolio-sense of the Congress.
Sec. 804. In-space servicing.
Sec. 805. Decadal results.
Sec. 806. On-going restoration of radioisotope thermoelectric generator material production.
Sec. 807. Collaboration with ESMD and SOMD on robotic missions.
Sec. 808. Near-Earth object survey and policy with respect to threats posed.
Sec. 809. Space weather.

TITLE IX—AERONAUTICS AND SPACE TECHNOLOGY

Sec. 901. Sense of Congress.
Sec. 902. Aeronautics research goals.
Sec. 903. Research collaboration.
Sec. 904. Goal for agency space technology.
Sec. 905. Implementation plan for agency space technology.
Sec. 906. National space technology policy.
Sec. 907. Commercial reusable suborbital research program.

TITLE X—EDUCATION

Sec. 1001. Report on education implementation outcomes.
Sec. 1002. Sense of Congress on the Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research.
Sec. 1003. Science, technology, engineering, and mathematics commercial orbital platform program.

TITLE XI—RESCOPING AND REVITALIZING INSTITUTIONAL CAPABILITIES

Sec. 1101. Sense of Congress.
Sec. 1102. Institutional requirements study.
Sec. 1103. NASA capabilities study requirement.
Sec. 1104. Sense of Congress on community transition support.
Sec. 1105. Workforce stabilization and critical skills preservation.

TITLE XII—OTHER MATTERS

Sec. 1201. Report on space traffic management.
Sec. 1202. National and international orbital debris mitigation.
Sec. 1203. Reports on program and cost assessment and control assessment.

Sec. 1204. Eligibility for service of individual currently serving as Administrator of NASA.
Sec. 1205. Sense of Congress on independent verification and validation of NASA software.
Sec. 1206. Counterfeit parts.
Sec. 1207. Information security.
Sec. 1208. National Center for Human Performance.
Sec. 1209. Enhanced-use Leasing.
Sec. 1210. Sense of Congress concerning the Stennis Space Center.
TITLE XIII—COMPLIANCE WITH STATUTORY PAY-AS-YOU-GO ACT OF 2010
Sec. 1301. Compliance provision.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) The United States human space flight program has, since the first Mercury flight on May 5, 1961, been a source of pride and inspiration for the Nation.

(2) The establishment of and commitment to human exploration goals is essential for providing the necessary long term focus and programmatic consistency and robustness of the United States civilian space program.

(3) The National Aeronautics and Space Administration is and should remain a multi-mission agency with a balanced and robust set of core missions in science, aeronautics, and human space flight and exploration.

(4) In the 50 years since the establishment of NASA, the arena of space has evolved substantially. As the uses and users of space continue to expand, the issues and operations in the regions closest to Earth have become increasingly complex, with a growing number of overlaps between civil, commercial and national security activities. These developments present opportunities and challenges to the space activities of NASA and the United States.

(5) The extraordinary challenges of achieving access to space both motivated and accelerated the development of technologies and industrial capabilities that have had widespread applications which have contributed to the technological excellence of the United States. It is essential to tie space activity to human challenges ranging from enhancing the influence, relationships, security, economic development, and commerce of the United States to improving the overall human condition.

(6) It is essential to the economic well-being of the United States that the aerospace industrial capacity, highly skilled workforce, and embedded expertise remain engaged in demanding, challenging, and exciting efforts that ensure United States leadership in space exploration and related activities.

(7) Crewmembers provide the essential component to ensure the return on investment from and the growth and safe operation of the ISS. The Russian Soyuz vehicle has allowed continued human presence on the ISS for United States crewmembers with its ability to serve as both a routine and backup capability for crew delivery, rescue, and return. With the impending retirement of the Space Shuttle, the United States will find itself with no national crew delivery and return system. Without any other system, the United States and all the ISS partners will have no redundant system for human access to and from the ISS. It is therefore essential that a United States capability be developed as soon as possible.

(8) Existing and emerging United States commercial launch capabilities and emerging launch capabilities offer the potential for providing crew support assets. New capabilities for human crew access to the ISS should be developed in a manner that ensures ISS mission assurance and safety. Commercial services offer the potential to broaden the availability and access to space at lower costs.

(9) While commercial transportation systems have the promise to contribute valuable services, it is in the United States national interest to maintain a government operated space transportation system for crew and cargo delivery to space.

(10) Congress restates its commitment, expressed in the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Authorization Act of 2005 (Public Law 109–155) and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Authorization Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–422), to the development of commercially developed launch and delivery systems to the ISS for crew and cargo missions. Congress reaffirms that NASA shall make use of United States commercially provided ISS crew transfer and crew rescue services to the maximum extent practicable.

(11) It is critical to identify an appropriate combination of NASA and related United States Government programs, while providing a framework that allows partnering, leveraging and stimulation of the existing and emerging commercial and international efforts in both near Earth space and the regions beyond.

(12) The designation of the United States segment of the ISS as a National Laboratory, as provided by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Authorization Act of 2005 and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Authorization Act of 2008, provides an opportunity for multiple United States Government agencies, university-based researchers, research organizations, and others to utilize the unique environment of microgravity for fundamental scientific research and potential economic development.

(13) For some potential replacement elements necessary for ISS sustainability, the Space Shuttle may represent the only vehicle, existing or planned, capable of carrying those elements to the ISS in the near term. Additional or alternative transportation capabilities must be identified as contingency delivery options, and accompanied by an independent analysis of projected availability of such capabilities.

(14) The United States must develop, as rapidly as possible, replacement vehicles capable of providing both human and cargo launch capability to low-Earth orbit and to destinations beyond low-Earth orbit.

(15) There is a need for national space and export control policies that protect the national security of the United States while also enabling the United States and its aerospace industry to undertake cooperative programs in science and human space flight in an effective and efficient manner and to compete effectively in the global market place.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term ''Administrator'' means the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

(2) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—The term ''appropriate committees of Congress'' means—

(A) the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Science of the House of Representatives.

(3) CIS-LUNAR SPACE.—The term ''cis-lunar space'' means the region of space from the Earth out to and including the region around the surface of the Moon.

(4) DEEP SPACE.—The term ''deep space'' means the region of space beyond cis-lunar space.

(5) ISS.—The term ''ISS'' means the International Space Station.

(6) NASA.—The term ''NASA'' means the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

(7) NEAR-EARTH SPACE.—The term ''near-Earth space'' means the region of space that includes low-Earth orbit and extends out to and includes geo-synchronous orbit.

(8) NOAA.—The term ''NOAA'' means the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

(9) OSTP.—The term ''OSTP'' means the Office of Science and Technology Policy.

(10) SPACE LAUNCH SYSTEM.—The term ''Space Launch System'' means the follow-on government-owned civil launch system developed, managed, and operated by NASA to serve as a key component to expand human presence beyond low-Earth orbit.

TITLE I—AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

SEC. 101. FISCAL YEAR 2011.

There are authorized to be appropriated to NASA for fiscal year 2011, $19,000,000,000, as follows:

(1) For Exploration, $3,868,000,000, of which—

(A) $1,120,000,000 shall be for a multi-purpose crew vehicle, and associated program and other necessary support;

(B) $1,631,000,000 shall be for Space Launch System and associated program and other necessary support;

(C) $250,000,000 shall be for Exploration Technology Development;

(D) $155,000,000 shall be for Human Research;

(E) $300,000,000 shall be for Commercial Cargo;

(F) $312,000,000 shall be for Commercial Crew Development activities and studies related to commercial crew services; and

(G) $100,000,000 shall be for Robotic Precursor Studies and Instruments.

(2) For Space Operations, $5,508,500,000, of which—

(A) $2,779,800,000 shall be for the ISS program;

(B) $1,609,700,000 shall be for Space Shuttle, to support Space Shuttle flight operations and related activities; and

(C) $1,119,000,000 for Space and Flight Services, of which $428,600,000 shall be directed toward NASA launch support and infrastructure modernization program.

(3) For Science, $5,005,600,000, of which—

(A) $1,801,800,000 shall be for Earth Sciences;

(B) $1,485,700,000 shall be for Planetary Science;

(C) $1,076,300,000 shall be for Astrophysics; and

(D) $641,900,000 shall be for Heliophysics.

(4) For Aeronautics, $929,600,000, of which—

(A) $579,600,000 shall be for Aeronautics Research; and

(B) $350,000,000 shall be for Space Technology.

(5) For Education, $145,800,000, of which—

(A) $25,000,000 shall be for the Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research; and

(B) $45,600,000 shall be for the Space Grant program.

(6) For Cross-Agency Support Programs, $3,111,400,000.

(7) For Construction and Environmental Compliance and Restoration, $394,300,000.

(8) For Inspector General, $37,000,000.

SEC. 102. FISCAL YEAR 2012.

There are authorized to be appropriated to NASA for fiscal year 2012, $19,450,000,000, as follows:

(1) For Exploration, $5,252,300,000, of which—

(A) $1,400,000,000 shall be for a multi-purpose crew vehicle and associated program and other necessary support;

(B) $2,650,000,000 shall be for Space Launch System and associated program and other necessary support;

(C) $437,300,000 shall be for Exploration Technology Development;

(D) $165,000,000 shall be for Human Research;

(E) $500,000,000 shall be for commercial crew capabilities; and

(F) $100,000,000 shall be for Robotic Precursor Instruments and Low-Cost Missions.

(2) For Space Operations, $4,141,500,000, of which—

(A) $2,952,250,000 shall be for the ISS operations and crew/cargo support; and

(B) $1,189,250,000 shall be for Space and Flight Services, of which $500,000,000 shall be directed toward the NASA launch support and infrastructure modernization program.

(3) For Science, $5,248,600,000, of which—

(A) $1,944,500,000 shall be for Earth Sciences;

(B) $1,547,200,000 shall be for Planetary Science;

(C) $1,109,300,000 shall be for Astrophysics; and

(D) $647,600,000 shall be for Heliophysics.

(4) For Aeronautics, $1,070,600,000, of which—

(A) $584,700,000 shall be for Aeronautics Research; and

(B) $486,000,000 shall be for Space Technology.

(5) For Education, $145,800,000, of which—

(A) $25,000,000 shall be for the Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research; and

(B) $45,600,000 shall be for the Space Grant program.

(6) For Cross-Agency Support Programs, $3,189,600,000.

(7) For Construction and Environmental Compliance and Restoration, $363,800,000.

(8) For Inspector General, $37,800,000.

SEC. 103. FISCAL YEAR 2013.

There are authorized to be appropriated to NASA for fiscal year 2013, $19,960,000,000, as follows:

(1) For Exploration, $5,264,000,000, of which—

(A) $1,400,000,000 shall be for a multi-purpose crew vehicle and associated program and other necessary support;

(B) $2,640,000,000 shall be for Space Launch System and associated program and other necessary support;

(C) $449,000,000 shall be for Exploration Technology Development;

(D) $175,000,000 shall be for Human Research;

(E) $500,000,000 shall be for commercial crew capabilities; and

(F) $100,000,000 shall be for Robotic Precursor Instruments and Low-Cost Missions.

(2) For Space Operations, $4,253,300,000, of which—

(A) $3,129,400,000 shall be for the ISS operations and crew/cargo support; and

(B) $1,123,900,000 shall be for Space and Flight Services, of which $400,000,000 shall be directed toward the NASA launch support and infrastructure modernization program.

(3) For Science, $5,509,600,000, of which—

(A) $2,089,500,000 shall be for Earth Sciences;

(B) $1,591,200,000 shall be for Planetary Science;

(C) $1,149,100,000 shall be for Astrophysics; and

(D) $679,800,000 shall be for Heliophysics.

(4) For Aeronautics, $1,105,000,000, of which—

(A) $590,000,000 shall be for Aeronautics Research; and

(B) $515,000,000 shall be for Space Technology.

(5) For Education, $145,700,000, of which—

(A) $25,000,000 shall be for the Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research; and

(B) $45,600,000 shall be for the Space Grant program.

(6) For Cross-Agency Support Programs, $3,276,800,000.

(7) For Construction and Environmental Compliance and Restoration, $366,900,000.

(8) For Inspector General, $38,700,000.

TITLE II—POLICY, GOALS, AND OBJECTIVES FOR HUMAN SPACE FLIGHT AND EXPLORATION

SEC. 201. UNITED STATES HUMAN SPACE FLIGHT POLICY.

(a) USE OF NON-UNITED STATES HUMAN SPACE FLIGHT TRANSPORTATION CAPABILITIES.—It is the policy of the United States that reliance upon and use of non-United States human space flight capabilities shall be undertaken only as a contingency in circumstances where no United States-owned and operated human space flight capability is available, operational, and certified for flight by appropriate Federal agencies.

(b) UNITED STATES HUMAN SPACE FLIGHT CAPABILITIES.—Congress reaffirms the policy stated in section 501(a) of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Authorization Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16761(a)), that the United States shall maintain an uninterrupted capability for human space flight and operations in low-Earth orbit, and beyond, as an essential instrument of national security and of the capacity to ensure continued United States participation and leadership in the exploration and utilization of space.

SEC. 202. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES.

(a) LONG TERM GOAL.—The long term goal of the human space flight and exploration efforts of NASA shall be to expand permanent human presence beyond low-Earth orbit and to do so, where practical, in a manner involving international partners.

(b) KEY OBJECTIVES.—The key objectives of the United States for human expansion into space shall be—

(1) to sustain the capability for long-duration presence in low-Earth orbit, initially through continuation of the ISS and full utilization of the United States segment of the ISS as a National Laboratory, and through assisting and enabling an expanded commercial presence in, and access to, low-Earth orbit, as elements of a low-Earth orbit infrastructure;

(2) to determine if humans can live in an extended manner in space with decreasing reliance on Earth, starting with utilization of low-Earth orbit infrastructure, to identify potential roles that space resources such as energy and materials may play, to meet national and global needs and challenges, such as potential cataclysmic threats, and to explore the viability of and lay the foundation for sustainable economic activities in space;

(3) to maximize the role that human exploration of space can play in advancing overall knowledge of the universe, supporting United States national and economic security and the United States global competitive posture, and inspiring young people in their educational pursuits; and

(4) to build upon the cooperative and mutually beneficial framework established by the ISS partnership agreements and experience in developing and undertaking programs and meeting objectives designed to realize the goal of human space flight set forth in subsection (a).

SEC. 203. ASSURANCE OF CORE CAPABILITIES.

(a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the ISS, technology developments, the current Space Shuttle program, and follow-on transportation systems authorized by this Act form the foundation of initial capabilities for missions beyond low-Earth orbit to a variety of lunar and Lagrangian orbital locations; and

(2) these initial missions and related capabilities should be utilized to provide operational experience, technology development, and the placement and assured use of in-space infrastructure and in-space servicing of existing and future assets.

(b) SPACE SHUTTLE CAPABILITY ASSURANCE.—

(1) DEVELOPMENT OF FOLLOW-ON SPACE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS.—The Administrator shall proceed with the development of follow-on space transportation systems in a manner that ensures that the national capability to restart and fly Space Shuttle missions can be initiated if required by the Congress, in an Act enacted after the date of enactment of this Act, or by a Presidential determination transmitted to the Congress, before the last Space Shuttle mission authorized by this Act is completed.

(2) REQUIRED ACTIONS.—In carrying out the requirement in paragraph (1), the Administrator shall authorize refurbishment of the manufactured external tank of the Space Shuttle, designated as ET–94, and take all actions necessary to enable its readiness for use in the Space Launch System development as a critical skills and capability retention effort or for test purposes, while preserving the ability to use this tank if needed for an ISS contingency if deemed necessary under paragraph (1).

SEC. 204. INDEPENDENT STUDY ON HUMAN EXPLORATION OF SPACE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—In fiscal year 2012 the Administrator shall contract with the National Academies for a review of the goals, core capabilities, and direction of human space flight, using the goals set forth in the National Aeronautics and Space Act of 1958, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Authorization Act of 2005, and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Authorization Act of 2008, the goals set forth in this Act, and goals set forth in any existing statement of space policy issued by the President.

(b) ELEMENTS.—The review shall include—

(1) a broad spectrum of participation with representatives of a range of disciplines, backgrounds, and generations, including civil, commercial, international, scientific, and national security interests;

(2) input from NASA's international partner discussions and NASA's Human Exploration Framework Team;

(3) an examination of the relationship of national goals to foundational capabilities, robotic activities, technologies, and missions authorized by this Act;

(4) a review and prioritization of scientific, engineering, economic, and social science questions to be addressed by human space exploration to improve the overall human condition; and

(5) findings and recommendations for fiscal years 2014 through 2023.

TITLE III—EXPANSION OF HUMAN SPACE FLIGHT BEYOND THE INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION AND LOW-EARTH ORBIT

SEC. 301. HUMAN SPACE FLIGHT BEYOND LOW-EARTH ORBIT.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following findings:

(1) The extension of the human presence from low-Earth orbit to other regions of space beyond low-Earth orbit will enable missions to the surface of the Moon and missions to deep space destinations such as near-Earth asteroids and Mars.

(2) The regions of cis-lunar space are accessible to other national and commercial

launch capabilities, and such access raises a host of national security concerns and economic implications that international human space endeavors can help to address.

(3) The ability to support human missions in regions beyond low-Earth orbit and on the surface of the Moon can also drive developments in emerging areas of space infrastructure and technology.

(4) Developments in space infrastructure and technology can stimulate and enable increased space applications, such as in-space servicing, propellant resupply and transfer, and in situ resource utilization, and open opportunities for additional users of space, whether national, commercial, or international.

(5) A long term objective for human exploration of space should be the eventual international exploration of Mars.

(6) Future international missions beyond low-Earth orbit should be designed to incorporate capability development and availability, affordability, and international contributions.

(7) Human space flight and future exploration beyond low-Earth orbit should be based around a pay-as-you-go approach. Requirements in new launch and crew systems authorized in this Act should be scaled to the minimum necessary to meet the core national mission capability needed to conduct cis-lunar missions. These initial missions, along with the development of new technologies and in-space capabilities can form the foundation for missions to other destinations. These initial missions also should provide operational experience prior to the further human expansion into space.

(b) REPORT ON INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION.—

(1) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report on the following assets and capabilities:

(A) Any effort by NASA to expand and ensure effective international collaboration on the ISS.

(B) The efforts of NASA, including its approach and progress, in defining near-term, cis-lunar space human missions.

(2) NASA CONTRIBUTIONS.—In preparing the report required by paragraph (1), the Administrator shall assume that NASA will contribute to the efforts described in that paragraph the following:

(A) A Space Launch System.

(B) A multi-purpose crew vehicle.

(C) Such other technology elements the Administrator may consider appropriate, and which the Administrator shall specifically identify in the report.

SEC. 302. SPACE LAUNCH SYSTEM AS FOLLOW-ON LAUNCH VEHICLE TO THE SPACE SHUTTLE.

(a) UNITED STATES POLICY.—It is the policy of the United States that NASA develop a Space Launch System as a follow-on to the Space Shuttle that can access cis-lunar space and the regions of space beyond low-Earth orbit in order to enable the United States to participate in global efforts to access and develop this increasingly strategic region.

(b) INITIATION OF DEVELOPMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall, as soon as practicable after the date of the enactment of this Act, initiate development of a Space Launch System meeting the minimum capabilities requirements specified in subsection (c).

(2) MODIFICATION OF CURRENT CONTRACTS.—In order to limit NASA's termination liability costs and support critical capabilities, the Administrator shall, to the extent practicable, extend or modify existing vehicle development and associated contracts necessary to meet the requirements in paragraph (1), including contracts for ground testing of solid rocket motors, if necessary, to ensure their availability for development of the Space Launch System.

(c) MINIMUM CAPABILITY REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Space Launch System developed pursuant to subsection (b) shall be designed to have, at a minimum, the following:

(A) The initial capability of the core elements, without an upper stage, of lifting payloads weighing between 70 tons and 100 tons into low-Earth orbit in preparation for transit for missions beyond low-Earth orbit.

(B) The capability to carry an integrated upper Earth departure stage bringing the total lift capability of the Space Launch System to 130 tons or more.

(C) The capability to lift the multipurpose crew vehicle.

(D) The capability to serve as a backup system for supplying and supporting ISS cargo requirements or crew delivery requirements not otherwise met by available commercial or partner-supplied vehicles.

(2) FLEXIBILITY.—The Space Launch System shall be designed from inception as a fully-integrated vehicle capable of carrying a total payload of 130 tons or more into low-Earth orbit in preparation for transit for missions beyond low-Earth orbit. The Space Launch System shall, to the extent practicable, incorporate capabilities for evolutionary growth to carry heavier payloads. Developmental work and testing of the core elements and the upper stage should proceed in parallel subject to appropriations. Priority should be placed on the core elements with the goal for operational capability for the core elements not later than December 31, 2016.

(3) TRANSITION NEEDS.—The Administrator shall ensure critical skills and capabilities are retained, modified, and developed, as appropriate, in areas related to solid and liquid engines, large diameter fuel tanks, rocket propulsion, and other ground test capabilities for an effective transition to the follow-on Space Launch System.

(4) The capacity for efficient and timely evolution, including the incorporation of new technologies, competition of sub-elements, and commercial operations.

SEC. 303. MULTI-PURPOSE CREW VEHICLE.

(a) INITIATION OF DEVELOPMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall continue the development of a multi-purpose crew vehicle to be available as soon as practicable, and no later than for use with the Space Launch System. The vehicle shall continue to advance development of the human safety features, designs, and systems in the Orion project.

(2) GOAL FOR OPERATIONAL CAPABILITY.—It shall be the goal to achieve full operational capability for the transportation vehicle developed pursuant to this subsection by not later than December 31, 2016. For purposes of meeting such goal, the Administrator may undertake a test of the transportation vehicle at the ISS before that date.

(b) MINIMUM CAPABILITY REQUIREMENTS.—The multi-purpose crew vehicle developed pursuant to subsection (a) shall be designed to have, at a minimum, the following:

(1) The capability to serve as the primary crew vehicle for missions beyond low-Earth orbit.

(2) The capability to conduct regular in-space operations, such as rendezvous, docking, and extra-vehicular activities, in conjunction with payloads delivered by the Space Launch System developed pursuant to section 302, or other vehicles, in preparation for missions beyond low-Earth orbit or servicing of assets described in section 804, or other assets in cis-lunar space.

(3) The capability to provide an alternative means of delivery of crew and cargo to the ISS, in the event other vehicles, whether commercial vehicles or partner-supplied vehicles, are unable to perform that function.

(4) The capacity for efficient and timely evolution, including the incorporation of new technologies, competition of sub-elements, and commercial operations.

SEC. 304. UTILIZATION OF EXISTING WORKFORCE AND ASSETS IN DEVELOPMENT OF SPACE LAUNCH SYSTEM AND MULTI-PURPOSE CREW VEHICLE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—In developing the Space Launch System pursuant to section 302 and the multi-purpose crew vehicle pursuant to section 303, the Administrator shall, to the extent practicable utilize—

(1) existing contracts, investments, workforce, industrial base, and capabilities from the Space Shuttle and Orion and Ares 1 projects, including—

(A) space-suit development activities for application to, and coordinated development of, a multi-purpose crew vehicle suit and associated life-support requirements with potential development of standard NASA-certified suit and life support systems for use in alternative commercially-developed crew transportation systems; and

(B) Space Shuttle-derived components and Ares 1 components that use existing United States propulsion systems, including liquid fuel engines, external tank or tank-related capability, and solid rocket motor engines; and

(2) associated testing facilities, either in being or under construction as of the date of enactment of this Act.

(b) DISCHARGE OF REQUIREMENTS.—In meeting the requirements of subsection (a), the Administrator—

(1) shall, to the extent practicable, utilize ground-based manufacturing capability, ground testing activities, launch and operations infrastructure, and workforce expertise;

(2) shall, to the extent practicable, minimize the modification and development of ground infrastructure and maximize the utilization of existing software, vehicle, and mission operations processes;

(3) shall complete construction and activation of the A–3 test stand with a completion goal of September 30, 2013;

(4) may procure, develop, and flight test applicable components; and

(5) shall take appropriate actions to ensure timely and cost-effective development of the Space Launch System and the multi-purpose crew vehicle, including the use of a procurement approach that incorporates adequate and effective oversight, the facilitation of contractor efficiencies, and the stream-lining of contract and procurement requirements.

SEC. 305. NASA LAUNCH SUPPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE MODERNIZATION PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall carry out a program the primary purpose of which is to prepare infrastructure at the Kennedy Space Center that is needed to enable processing and launch of the Space Launch System. Vehicle interfaces and other ground processing and payload integration areas should be simplified to minimize overall costs, enhance safety, and complement the purpose of this section.

(b) ELEMENTS.—The program required by this section shall include—

(1) investments to improve civil and national security operations at the Kennedy Space Center, to enhance the overall capabilities of the Center, and to reduce the long term cost of operations and maintenance;

(2) measures to provide multi-vehicle support, improvements in payload processing,

and partnering at the Kennedy Space Center; and

(3) such other measures, including investments to improve launch infrastructure at NASA flight facilities scheduled to launch cargo to the ISS under the commercial orbital transportation services program as the Administrator may consider appropriate.

(c) REPORT ON NASA LAUNCH SUPPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE MODERNIZATION PROGRAM.—

(1) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report on the plan for the implementation of the NASA launch support and infrastructure modernization program.

(2) ELEMENTS.—The report required by this subsection shall include—

(A) a description of the ground infrastructure plan tied to the Space Launch System and potential ground investment activities at other NASA centers related to supporting the development of the Space Launch System;

(B) a description of proposed initiatives intended to be conducted jointly or in cooperation with Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, Florida, or other installations or components of the United States Government; and

(C) a description of plans to use funds authorized to be appropriated by this Act to improve non-NASA facilities, which plans shall include a business plan outlining the nature and scope of investments planned by other parties.

SEC. 306. REPORT ON EFFECTS OF TRANSITION TO SPACE LAUNCH SYSTEM ON THE SOLID AND LIQUID ROCKET MOTOR INDUSTRIAL BASES.

(a) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall submit to Congress a report setting forth an assessment, prepared by the Administrator, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Commerce, of the effects of the retirement of the Space Shuttle, and of the transition to the Space Launch System developed pursuant to section 302, on the solid rocket motor industrial base and the liquid rocket motor industrial base in the United States.

(b) MATTERS TO BE ADDRESSED.—In preparing the assessment required by subsection (a), the Administrator shall address the following:

(1) The effects of efficiencies and efforts to stream-line the industrial bases referred to in subsection (a) for support of civil, military, and commercial users.

(2) The extent to which the United States is reliant on non-United States systems, including foreign rocket motors and foreign launch vehicles.

(3) Such other matters as the Administrator, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Commerce, may consider appropriate.

SEC. 307. SENSE OF CONGRESS ON OTHER TECHNOLOGY AND ROBOTIC ELEMENTS IN HUMAN SPACE FLIGHT AND EXPLORATION.

It is the sense of Congress that a balance is needed in human space flight between using and building upon existing capabilities and investing in and enabling new capabilities. Technology development provides the potential to develop an increased ability to operate and extend human presence in space, while at the same time enhance the nation's economic development and aid in addressing challenges here on Earth. Additionally, the establishment of in-space capabilities, use of space resources, and the ability to repair and reuse systems in space can contribute to the overall goals of extending human presence in space in an international manner, consistent with section 301(a).

SEC. 308. DEVELOPMENT OF TECHNOLOGIES AND IN-SPACE CAPABILITIES FOR BEYOND NEAR-EARTH SPACE MISSIONS.

(a) DEVELOPMENT AUTHORIZED.—The Administrator may initiate activities to develop the following:

(1) Technologies identified as necessary elements of missions beyond low-Earth orbit.

(2) In-space capabilities such as refueling and storage technology, orbital transfer stages, innovative in-space propulsion technology, communications, and data management that facilitate a broad range of users (including military and commercial) and applications defining the architecture and design of such missions.

(3) Spacesuit development and associated life support technology.

(4) Flagship missions.

(b) INVESTMENTS.—In developing technologies and capabilities under subsection (a), the Administrator may make investments—

(1) in space technologies such as advanced propulsion, propellant depots, in situ resource utilization, and robotic payloads or capabilities that enable human missions beyond low-Earth orbit ultimately leading to Mars;

(2) in a space-based transfer vehicle including these technologies with an ability to conduct space-based operations that provide capabilities—

(A) to integrate with the Space Launch System and other space-based systems;

(B) to provide opportunities for in-space servicing of and delivery to multiple space-based platforms; and

(C) to facilitate international efforts to expand human presence to deep space destinations;

(3) in advanced life support technologies and capabilities;

(4) in technologies and capabilities relating to in-space power, propulsion, and energy systems;

(5) in technologies and capabilities relating to in-space propellant transfer and storage;

(6) in technologies and capabilities relating to in situ resource utilization; and

(7) in expanded research to understand the greatest biological impediments to human deep space missions, especially the radiation challenge.

(c) UTILIZATION OF ISS AS TESTBED.—The Administrator may utilize the ISS as a testbed for any technology or capability developed under subsection (a) in a manner consistent with the provisions of this Act.

(d) COORDINATION.—The Administrator shall coordinate development of technologies and capabilities under this section through an overall agency technology approach, as authorized by section 905 of this Act.

SEC. 309. REPORT REQUIREMENT.

Within 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, or upon completion of reference designs for the Space Launch System and Multi-purpose Crew Vehicle authorized by this Act, whichever occurs first, the Administrator shall provide a detailed report to the appropriate committees of Congress that provides an overall description of the reference vehicle design, the assumptions, description, data, and analysis of the systems trades and resolution process, justification of trade decisions, the design factors which implement the essential system and vehicle capability requirements established by this Act, the explanation and justification of any deviations from those requirements, the plan for utilization of existing contracts, civil service and contract workforce, supporting infrastructure utilization and modifications, and procurement strategy to expedite development activities through modification of existing contract vehicles, and the schedule of design and development milestones and related schedules leading to the accomplishment of operational goals established by this Act. The Administrator shall provide an update of this report as part of the President's annual Budget Request.

TITLE IV—DEVELOPMENT AND USE OF COMMERCIAL CREW AND CARGO TRANSPORTATION CAPABILITIES

SEC. 401. COMMERCIAL CARGO DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM.

The Administrator shall continue to support the existing Commercial Orbital Transportation Services program, aimed at enabling the commercial space industry in support of NASA to develop reliable means of launching cargo and supplies to the ISS throughout the duration of the facility's operation. The Administrator may apply funds towards the reduction of risk to the timely start of these services, specifically—

(1) efforts to conduct a flight test;

(2) accelerate development; and

(3) develop the ground infrastructure needed for commercial cargo capability.

SEC. 402. COMMERCIAL CREW DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM.

(a) CONTINUATION OF PROGRAM DURING FISCAL YEAR 2011.—The Administrator shall continue, and may expand the number of participants and the activities of, the Commercial Crew Development (CCDEV) program in fiscal year 2011, subject to the provisions of this title.

(b) CONTINUATION OF ACTIVITIES AND AGREEMENTS OF FISCAL YEAR 2010.—In carrying out subsection (a), the Administrator may continue or expand activities and agreements initiated in fiscal year 2010 that reduce risk, develop technologies, and lead to other advancements that will help determine the most effective and efficient means of advancing the development of commercial crew services.

SEC. 403. REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO DEVELOPMENT OF COMMERCIAL CREW TRANSPORTATION CAPABILITIES AND SERVICES.

(a) FY 2011 CONTRACTS AND PROCUREMENT AGREEMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the Administrator may not execute a contract or procurement agreement with respect to follow-on commercial crew services during fiscal year 2011.

(2) EXCEPTION.—Notwithstanding paragraph (1), the Administrator may execute a contract or procurement agreement with respect to follow-on commercial crew services during fiscal year 2011 if—

(A) the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) of subsection (b) are met; and

(B) the total amount involved for all such contracts and procurement agreements executed during fiscal year 2011 does not exceed $50,000,000 for fiscal year 2011.

(b) SUPPORT.—The Administrator may, beginning in fiscal year 2012 through the duration of the program, support follow-on commercially-developed crew transportation systems dependent upon the completion of each of the following:

(1) HUMAN RATING REQUIREMENTS.—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall develop and make available to the public detailed human rating processes and requirements to guide the design of commercially-developed crew transportation capabilities, which requirements shall be at least equivalent to proven requirements for crew transportation in use as of the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) COMMERCIAL MARKET ASSESSMENT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall submit to the appropriate committees of

Congress an assessment, conducted, in coordination with the Federal Aviation Administration's Office of Commercial Space Transportation, for purposes of this paragraph, of the potential non-Government market for commercially-developed crew and cargo transportation systems and capabilities, including an assessment of the activities associated with potential private sector utilization of the ISS research and technology development capabilities and other potential activities in low-Earth orbit.

(3) PROCUREMENT SYSTEM REVIEW.—The Administrator shall review current Government procurement and acquisition practices and processes, including agreement authorities under the National Aeronautics and Space Act of 1958, to determine the most cost-effective means of procuring commercial crew transportation capabilities and related services in a manner that ensures appropriate accountability, transparency, and maximum efficiency in the procurement of such capabilities and services, which review shall include an identification of proposed measures to address risk management and means of indemnification of commercial providers of such capabilities and services, and measures for quality control, safety oversight, and the application of Federal oversight processes within the jurisdiction of other Federal agencies. A description of the proposed procurement process and justification of the proposed procurement for its selection shall be included in any proposed initiation of procurement activity for commercially-developed crew transportation capabilities and services and shall be subject to review by the appropriate committees of Congress before the initiation of any competitive process to procure such capabilities or services. In support of the review by such committees, the Comptroller General shall undertake an assessment of the proposed procurement process and provide a report to the appropriate committees of Congress within 90 days after the date on which the Administrator provides the description and justification to such committees.

(4) USE OF GOVERNMENT-SUPPLIED CAPABILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE.—In evaluating any proposed development activity for commercially-developed crew or cargo launch capabilities, the Administrator shall identify the anticipated contribution of government personnel, expertise, technologies, and infrastructure to be utilized in support of design, development, or operations of such capabilities. This assessment shall include a clear delineation of the full requirements for the commercial crew service (including the contingency for crew rescue). The Administrator shall include details and associated costs of such support as part of any proposed development initiative for the procurement of commercially-developed crew or cargo launch capabilities or services.

(5) FLIGHT DEMONSTRATION AND READINESS REQUIREMENTS.—The Administrator shall establish appropriate milestones and minimum performance objectives to be achieved before authority is granted to proceed to the procurement of commercially-developed crew transportation capabilities or systems. The guidelines shall include a procedure to provide independent assurance of flight safety and flight readiness before the authorization of United States government personnel to participate as crew onboard any commercial launch vehicle developed pursuant to this section.

(6) COMMERCIAL CREW RESCUE CAPABILITIES.—The provision of a commercial capability to provide ISS crew services shall include crew rescue requirements, and shall be undertaken through the procurement process initiated in conformance with this section. In the event such development is initiated, the Administrator shall make available any relevant government-owned intellectual property deriving from the development of a multi-purpose crew vehicle authorized by this Act to commercial entities involved with such crew rescue capability development which shall be relevant to the design of a crew rescue capability. In addition, the Administrator shall seek to ensure that contracts for development of the multi-purpose crew vehicle contain provisions for the licensing of relevant intellectual property to participating commercial providers of any crew rescue capability development undertaken pursuant to this section. If one or more contractors involved with development of the multi-purpose crew vehicle seek to compete in development of a commercial crew service with crew rescue capability, separate legislative authority must be enacted to enable the Administrator to provide funding for any modifications of the multi-purpose crew vehicle necessary to fulfill the ISS crew rescue function.

SEC. 404. REPORT ON INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION CARGO RETURN CAPABILITY.

Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report on potential alternative commercially-developed means for the capability for a soft-landing return on land from the ISS of—

(1) research samples or other derivative materials; and

(2) small to mid-sized (up to 1,000 kilograms) equipment for return and analysis, or for refurbishment and redelivery, to the ISS.

TITLE V—CONTINUATION, SUPPORT, AND EVOLUTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION

SEC. 501. CONTINUATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION THROUGH 2020.

(a) POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES.—It shall be the policy of the United States, in consultation with its international partners in the ISS program, to support full and complete utilization of the ISS through at least 2020.

(b) NASA ACTIONS.—In furtherance of the policy set forth in subsection (a), NASA shall pursue international, commercial, and intragovernmental means to maximize ISS logistics supply, maintenance, and operational capabilities, reduce risks to ISS systems sustainability, and offset and minimize United States operations costs relating to the ISS.

SEC. 502. MAXIMUM UTILIZATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—With assembly of the ISS complete, NASA shall take steps to maximize the productivity and use of the ISS with respect to scientific and technological research and development, advancement of space exploration, and international collaboration.

(b) NASA ACTIONS.—In carrying out subsection (a), NASA shall, at a minimum, undertake the following:

(1) INNOVATIVE USE OF U.S. SEGMENT.—The United States segment of the ISS, which has been designated as a National Laboratory, shall be developed, managed and utilized in a manner that enables the effective and innovative use of such facility, as provided in section 504.

(2) INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION.—The ISS shall continue to be utilized as a key component of international efforts to build missions and capabilities that further the development of a human presence beyond near-Earth space and advance United States security and economic goals. The Administrator shall actively seek ways to encourage and enable the use of ISS capabilities to support these efforts.

(3) DOMESTIC COLLABORATION.—The operations, management, and utilization of the ISS shall be conducted in a manner that provides opportunities for collaboration with other research programs and objectives of the United States Government in cooperation with commercial suppliers, users, and developers.

SEC. 503. MAINTENANCE OF THE UNITED STATES SEGMENT AND ASSURANCE OF CONTINUED OPERATIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall take all actions necessary to ensure the safe and effective operation, maintenance, and maximum utilization of the United States segment of the ISS through at least September 30, 2020.

(b) VEHICLE AND COMPONENT REVIEW.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out subsection (a), the Administrator shall, as soon as is practicable after the date of the enactment of this Act, carry out a comprehensive assessment of the essential modules, operational systems and components, structural elements, and permanent scientific equipment on board or planned for delivery and installation aboard the ISS, including both United States and international partner elements, for purposes of identifying the spare or replacement modules, systems and components, elements, and equipment that are required to ensure complete, effective, and safe functioning and full scientific utilization of the ISS through September 30, 2020.

(2) DATA.—In carrying out the assessment, the Administrator shall assemble any existing data, and provide for the development of any data or analysis not currently available, that is necessary for purposes of the assessment.

(c) REPORTS.—

(1) REPORT ON ASSESSMENT.—

(A) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report on the assessment required by subsection (b).

(B) ELEMENTS.—The report required by this paragraph shall include, at minimum, the following:

(i) A description of the spare or replacement modules, systems and components, elements, and equipment identified pursuant to the assessment that are currently produced, in inventory, or on order, a description of the state of their readiness, and a schedule for their delivery to the ISS (including the planned transportation means for such delivery), including for each such module, system or component, element, or equipment a description of—

(I) its specifications, including size, weight, and necessary configuration for launch and delivery to the ISS;

(II) its function;

(III) its location; and

(IV) its criticality for ISS system integrity.

(ii) A description of the spare or replacement modules, systems and components, elements, and equipment identified pursuant to the assessment that are not currently produced, in inventory, or on order, including for each such module, system or component, element, or equipment a description of—

(I) its specifications, including size, weight, and necessary configuration for launch and delivery to the ISS;

(II) its function;

(III) its location;

(IV) its criticality for ISS system integrity; and

(V) the anticipated cost and schedule for its design, procurement, manufacture, and delivery to the ISS.

(iii) A detailed summary of the delivery schedule and associated delivery vehicle requirements necessary to transport all spare and replacement elements considered essential for the ongoing and sustained functionality of all critical systems of the ISS, both in and of themselves and as an element of an integrated, mutually dependent essential capability, including an assessment of the current schedule for delivery, the availability of delivery vehicles to meet that schedule, and the likelihood of meeting that schedule through such vehicles.

(2) GAO REPORT.—

(A) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 90 days after the submittal to Congress under paragraph (1) of the assessment required by subsection (b), the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report on the assessment. The report shall set forth an evaluation of the assessment by the Comptroller General, including an evaluation of the accuracy and level of confidence in the findings of the assessment.

(B) COOPERATION WITH GAO.—The Administrator shall provide for the monitoring and participation of the Comptroller General in the assessment in a manner that permits the Comptroller General to prepare and submit the report required by subparagraph (A).

(d) UTILIZATION OF RESEARCH FACILITIES AND CAPABILITIES.—Utilization of research facilities and capabilities aboard the ISS (other than exploration-related research and technology development facilities and capabilities, and associated ground support and logistics), shall be planned, managed, and supported as provided in section 504. Exploration-related research and technology development facilities, capabilities, and associated ground support and logistics shall be planned, managed, and supported by the appropriate NASA organizations and officials in a manner that does not interfere with other activities under section 504.

(e) SPACE SHUTTLE MISSION TO ISS.—

(1) SPACE SHUTTLE MISSION.—The Administrator shall fly the Launch-On-Need Shuttle mission currently designated in the Shuttle Flight Manifest dated February 28, 2010, to the ISS in fiscal year 2011, but no earlier than June 1, 2011, unless required earlier by an operations contingency, and pending the results of the assessment required by paragraph (2) and the determination under paragraph (3)(A).

(2) ASSESSMENT OF SAFE MEANS OF RETURN.—The Administrator shall provide for an assessment by the NASA Engineering and Safety Center of the procedures and plans developed to ensure the safety of the Space Shuttle crew, and alternative means of return, in the event the Space Shuttle is damaged or otherwise unable to return safely to Earth.

(3) SCHEDULE AND PAYLOAD.—The determination of the schedule and payload for the mission authorized by paragraph (1) shall take into account the following:

(A) The supply and logistics delivery requirements of the ISS.

(B) The findings of the study required by paragraph (2).

(4) FUNDS.—Amounts authorized to be appropriated by section 101(2)(B) shall be available for the mission authorized by paragraph (1).

(f) SPACE SHUTTLE MANIFEST FLIGHT ASSURANCE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall take all actions necessary to preserve Space Shuttle launch capability through fiscal year 2011 in a manner that enables the launch, at a minimum, of missions and primary payloads in the Shuttle flight manifest as of February 28, 2010.

(2) CONTINUATION OF CONTRACTOR SUPPORT.—The Administrator may not terminate any contract that provides the system transitions necessary for shuttle-derived hardware to be used on either the multi-purpose crew vehicle described in section 303 or the Space Launch System described in section 302.

SEC. 504. MANAGEMENT OF THE ISS NATIONAL LABORATORY.

(a) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH NOT-FOR PROFIT ENTITY FOR MANAGEMENT OF NATIONAL LABORATORY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall provide initial financial assistance and enter into a cooperative agreement with an appropriate organization that is exempt from taxation under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to manage the activities of the ISS national laboratory in accordance with this section.

(2) QUALIFICATIONS.—The organization with which the Administrator enters into the cooperative agreement shall develop the capabilities to implement research and development projects utilizing the ISS national laboratory and to otherwise manage the activities of the ISS national laboratory.

(3) PROHIBITION ON OTHER ACTIVITIES.—The cooperative agreement shall require the organization entering into the agreement to engage exclusively in activities relating to the management of the ISS national laboratory and activities that promote its long term research and development mission as required by this section, without any other organizational objectives or responsibilities on behalf of the organization or any parent organization or other entity.

(b) NASA LIAISON.—

(1) DESIGNATION.—The Administrator shall designate an official or employee of the Space Operations Mission Directorate of NASA to act as liaison between NASA and the organization with which the Administrator enters into a cooperative agreement under subsection (a) with regard to the management of the ISS national laboratory.

(2) CONSULTATION WITH LIAISON.—The cooperative agreement shall require the organization entering into the agreement to carry out its responsibilities under the agreement in cooperation and consultation with the official or employee designated under paragraph (1).

(c) PLANNING AND COORDINATION OF ISS NATIONAL LABORATORY RESEARCH ACTIVITIES.—The Administrator shall provide initial financial assistance to the organization with which the Administrator enters into a cooperative agreement under subsection (a), in order for the organization to initiate the following:

(1) Planning and coordination of the ISS national laboratory research activities.

(2) Development and implementation of guidelines, selection criteria, and flight support requirements for non-NASA scientific utilization of ISS research capabilities and facilities available in United States-owned modules of the ISS or in partner-owned facilities of the ISS allocated to United States utilization by international agreement.

(3) Interaction with and integration of the International Space Station National Laboratory Advisory Committee established under section 602 of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Authorization Act of 2008 (42 U.S.C. 17752) with the governance of the organization, and review recommendations provided by that Committee regarding agreements with non-NASA departments and agencies of the United States Government, academic institutions and consortia, and commercial entities leading to the utilization of the ISS national laboratory facilities.

(4) Coordination of transportation requirements in support of the ISS national laboratory research and development objectives, including provision for delivery of instruments, logistics support, and related experiment materials, and provision for return to Earth of collected samples, materials, and scientific instruments in need of replacement or upgrade.

(5) Cooperation with NASA, other departments and agencies of the United States Government, the States, and commercial entities in ensuring the enhancement and sustained operations of non-exploration-related research payload ground support facilities for the ISS, including the Space Life Sciences Laboratory, the Space Station Processing Facility and Payload Operations Integration Center.

(6) Development and implementation of scientific outreach and education activities designed to ensure effective utilization of ISS research capabilities including the conduct of scientific assemblies, conferences, and other fora for the presentation of research findings, methods, and mechanisms for the dissemination of non-restricted research findings and the development of educational programs, course supplements, interaction with educational programs at all grade levels, including student-focused research opportunities for conduct of research in the ISS national laboratory facilities.

(7) Such other matters relating to the utilization of the ISS national laboratory facilities for research and development as the Administrator may consider appropriate.

(d) RESEARCH CAPACITY ALLOCATION AND INTEGRATION OF RESEARCH PAYLOADS.—

(1) ALLOCATION OF ISS RESEARCH CAPACITY.—As soon as practicable after the date of the enactment of this Act, but not later than October 1, 2011, ISS national laboratory managed experiments shall be guaranteed access to, and utilization of, not less than 50 percent of the United States research capacity allocation, including power, cold stowage, and requisite crew time onboard the ISS through September 30, 2020. Access to the ISS research capacity includes provision for the adequate upmass and downmass capabilities to utilize the ISS research capacity, as available. The Administrator may allocate additional capacity to the ISS national laboratory should such capacity be in excess of NASA research requirements.

(2) ADDITIONAL RESEARCH CAPABILITIES.—If any NASA research plan is determined to require research capacity onboard the ISS beyond the percentage allocated under paragraph (1), such research plan shall be prepared in the form of a requested research opportunity to be submitted to the process established under this section for the consideration of proposed research within the capacity allocated to the ISS national laboratory. A proposal for such a research plan may include the establishment of partnerships with non-NASA institutions eligible to propose research to be conducted within the ISS national laboratory capacity. Until September 30, 2020, the official or employee designated under subsection (b) may grant an exception to this requirement in the case of a proposed experiment considered essential for purposes of preparing for exploration beyond low-Earth orbit, as determined by joint agreement between the organization with which the Administrator enters into a cooperative agreement under subsection (a) and the official or employee designated under subsection (b).

(3) RESEARCH PRIORITIES AND ENHANCED CAPACITY.—The organization with which the Administrator enters into the cooperative agreement shall consider recommendations of the National Academies Decadal Survey on Biological and Physical Sciences in Space

in establishing research priorities and in developing proposed enhancements of research capacity and opportunities for the ISS national laboratory.

(4) RESPONSIBILITY FOR RESEARCH PAYLOAD.—NASA shall retain its roles and responsibilities in providing research payload physical, analytical, and operations integration during pre-flight, post-flight, transportation, and orbital phases essential to ensure safe and effective flight readiness and vehicle integration of research activities approved and prioritized by the organization with which the Administrator enters into the cooperative agreement and the official or employee designated under subsection (b).

TITLE VI—SPACE SHUTTLE RETIREMENT AND TRANSITION

SEC. 601. SENSE OF CONGRESS ON THE SPACE SHUTTLE PROGRAM.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following findings:

(1) The Space Shuttle program represents a national asset consisting of critical skills and capabilities, including the ability to lift large payloads into space and return them to Earth.

(2) The Space Shuttle has carried more than 355 people from 16 nations into space.

(3) The Space Shuttle has projected the best of American values around the world, and Space Shuttle crews have sparked the imagination and dreams of the world's youth and young at heart.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) it is essential that the retirement of the Space Shuttle and the transition to new human space flight capabilities be done in a manner that builds upon the legacy of this national asset; and

(2) it is imperative for the United States to retain the skills and the industrial capability to provide a follow-on Space Launch System that is primarily designed for missions beyond near-Earth space, while offering some potential for supplanting shuttle delivery capabilities to low-Earth orbit, particularly in support of ISS requirements, if necessary.

SEC. 602. RETIREMENT OF SPACE SHUTTLE ORBITERS AND TRANSITION OF SPACE SHUTTLE PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall retire the Space Shuttle orbiters pursuant to a schedule established by the Administrator and in a manner consistent with provisions of this Act regarding potential requirements for contingency utilization of Space Shuttle orbiters for ISS requirements.

(b) UTILIZATION OF WORKFORCE AND ASSETS IN FOLLOW-ON SPACE LAUNCH SYSTEM.—

(1) UTILIZATION OF VEHICLE ASSETS.—In carrying out subsection (a), the Administrator shall, to the maximum extent practicable, utilize workforce, assets, and infrastructure of the Space Shuttle program in efforts relating to the initiation of a follow-on Space Launch System developed pursuant to section 302 of this Act.

(2) OTHER ASSETS.—With respect to the workforce, assets, and infrastructure not utilized as described in paragraph (1), the Administrator shall work closely with other departments and agencies of the Federal Government, and the private sector, to divest unneeded assets and to assist displaced workers with retraining and other placement efforts. Amounts authorized to be appropriated by section 101(2)(B) shall be available for activities pursuant to this paragraph.

SEC. 603. DISPOSITION OF ORBITER VEHICLES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Upon the termination of the Space Shuttle program as provided in section 602, the Administrator shall decommission any remaining Space Shuttle orbiter vehicles according to established safety and historic preservation procedures prior to their designation as surplus government property. The orbiter vehicles shall be made available and located for display and maintenance through a competitive procedure established pursuant to the disposition plan developed under section 613(a) of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Authorization Act of 2008 (42 U.S.C. 17761(a)), with priority consideration given to eligible applicants meeting all conditions of that plan which would provide for the display and maintenance of orbiters at locations with the best potential value to the public, including where the location of the orbiters can advance educational opportunities in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics disciplines, and with an historical relationship with either the launch, flight operations, or processing of the Space Shuttle orbiters or the retrieval of NASA manned space vehicles, or significant contributions to human space flight. The Smithsonian Institution, which, as of the date of enactment of this Act, houses the Space Shuttle Enterprise, shall determine any new location for the Enterprise.

(b) DISPLAY AND MAINTENANCE.—The orbiter vehicles made available under subsection (a) shall be displayed and maintained through agreements and procedures established pursuant to section 613(a) of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Authorization Act of 2008 (42 U.S.C. 17761(a)).

(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to NASA such sums as may be necessary to carry out this section. The amounts authorized to be appropriated by this subsection shall be in addition to any amounts authorized to be appropriated by title I, and may be requested by the President as supplemental requirements, if needed, in the appropriate fiscal years.

TITLE VII—EARTH SCIENCE

SEC. 701. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) Earth observations are critical to scientific understanding and monitoring of the Earth system, to protecting human health and property, to growing the economy of the United States, and to strengthening the national security and international posture of the United States. Additionally, recognizing the number of relevant participants and activities involved with Earth observations within the United States Government and internationally, Congress supports the strengthening of collaboration across these areas;

(2) NASA plays a critical role through its ability to provide data on solar output, sea level rise, atmospheric and ocean temperature, ozone depletion, air pollution, and observation of human and environment relationships;

(3) programs should utilize open standards consistent with international data-sharing principles and obtain and convert data from other government agencies, including data from the United States Geological Survey, and data derived from satellites operated by NOAA as well as from international satellites are important to the study of climate science and such cooperative relationships and programs should be maintained;

(4) Earth-observing satellites and sustained monitoring programs will continue to play a vital role in climate science, environmental understanding, mitigation of destructive environmental impacts, and contributing to the general national welfare; and

(5) land remote sensing observation plays a critical role in Earth science, and the national space policy supports this role by requiring operational land remote sensing capabilities.

SEC. 702. INTERAGENCY COLLABORATION IMPLEMENTATION APPROACH.

The Director of OSTP shall establish a mechanism to ensure greater coordination of the research, operations, and activities relating to civilian Earth observation of those Agencies, including NASA, that have active programs that either contribute directly or indirectly to these areas. This mechanism should include the development of a strategic implementation plan that is updated at least every 3 years, and includes a process for external independent advisory input. This plan should include a description of the responsibilities of the various Agency roles in Earth observations, recommended cost-sharing and procurement arrangements between Agencies and other entities, including international arrangements, and a plan for ensuring the provision of sustained, long term space-based climate observations. The Director shall provide a report to Congress within 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act on the implementation plan for this mechanism.

SEC. 703. TRANSITIONING EXPERIMENTAL RESEARCH TO OPERATIONS.

The Administrator shall coordinate with the Administrator of NOAA and the Director of the United States Geological Survey to establish a formal mechanism that plans, coordinates, and supports the transitioning of NASA research findings, assets, and capabilities to NOAA operations and United States Geological Survey operations. In defining this mechanism, NASA should consider the establishment of a formal or informal Interagency Transition Office. The Administrator of NASA shall provide an implementation plan for this mechanism to Congress within 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 704. DECADAL SURVEY MISSIONS IMPLEMENTATION FOR EARTH OBSERVATION.

The Administrator shall undertake to implement, as appropriate, missions identified in the National Research Council's Earth Science Decadal Survey within the scope of the funds authorized for the Earth Science Mission Directorate.

SEC. 705. EXPANSION OF EARTH SCIENCE APPLICATIONS.

It is the sense of the Congress that the role of NASA in Earth Science applications shall be expanded with other departments and agencies of the Federal government, State and local governments, tribal governments, academia, the private sector, nonprofit organizations, and international partners. NASA's Earth science data can increasingly aid efforts to improve the human condition and provide greater security.

SEC. 706. INSTRUMENT TEST-BEDS AND VENTURE CLASS MISSIONS.

The Administrator shall pursue innovative ways to fly instrument-level payloads for early demonstration or as co-manifested payloads. The Congress encourages the use of the ISS as an accessible platform for the conduct of such activities. Additionally, in order to address the cost and schedule challenges associated with large flight systems, NASA should pursue smaller systems where practicable and warranted.

SEC. 707. SENSE OF CONGRESS ON NPOESS FOLLOW-ON PROGRAM.

It is the Sense of the Congress that—

(1) polar orbiting satellites are vital for weather prediction, climate and environmental monitoring, national security, emergency response, and climate research;

(2) the National Polar Orbiting Environmental Satellite System has suffered from years of steadily rising cost estimates and schedule delays and an independent review

team recommended that the System be restructured to improve the probability of success and protect the continuity of weather and climate data;

(3) the Congress supports the decision made by OSTP in February, 2010, to restructure the program to minimize schedule slips and cost overruns, clarify the responsibilities and accountability of NASA, NOAA, and the Department of Defense, and retain necessary coordination across civil and defense weather and climate programs;

(4) the Administrator of NOAA and the Secretary of Defense should maximize the use of assets from the NPOESS program as they establish the NOAA Joint Polar Satellite System at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center, and the Department of Defense's Defense Weather Satellite System;

(5) the Administrator of NOAA and the Secretary of Defense should structure their programs in order to maintain satellite data continuity for the Nation's weather and climate requirements; and

(6) the Administrator of NOAA and the Secretary of Defense should provide immediate notification to the Congress of any impediments that may require Congressional intervention in order for the agencies to meet launch readiness dates, together with any recommended actions.

TITLE VIII—SPACE SCIENCE

SEC. 801. TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT.

The Administrator shall ensure that the Science Mission Directorate maintains a long term technology development program for space and Earth science. This effort should be coordinated with an overall Agency technology investment approach, as authorized in section 905 of this Act.

SEC. 802. SUBORBITAL RESEARCH ACTIVITIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The report of the National Academy of Sciences, Revitalizing NASA's Suborbital Program: Advancing Science, Driving Innovation and Developing Workforce, found that suborbital science missions were absolutely critical to building an aerospace workforce capable of meeting the needs of current and future human and robotic space exploration.

(b) MANAGEMENT.—The Administrator shall designate an officer or employee of the Science Mission Directorate to act as the responsible official for all Suborbital Research in the Science Mission Directorate. The designee shall be responsible for the development of short- and long term strategic plans for maintaining, renewing and extending suborbital facilities and capabilities, monitoring progress towards goals in the plans, and be responsible for integration of suborbital activities and workforce development within the agency, thereby ensuring the long term recognition of their combined value to the directorate, to NASA, and to the Nation.

(c) ESTABLISHMENT OF SUBORBITAL RESEARCH PROGRAM.—The Administrator shall establish a Suborbital Research Program within the Science Mission Directorate that shall include the use of sounding rockets, aircraft, high altitude balloons, suborbital reusable launch vehicles, and commercial launch vehicles to advance science and train the next generation of scientists and engineers in systems engineering and systems integration which are vital to maintaining critical skills in the aerospace workforce. The program shall integrate existing suborbital research programs with orbital missions at the discretion of the designated officer or employee and shall emphasize the participation of undergraduate and graduate students and post-doctoral researchers when formulating announcements of opportunity.

(d) REPORT.—The Administrator shall report to the appropriate committees of Congress on the number and type of suborbital missions conducted in each fiscal year and the number of undergraduate and graduate students participating in the missions. The report shall be made annually for each fiscal year under this section.

(e) AUTHORIZATION.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator such sums as may be necessary to carry out this section.

SEC. 803. OVERALL SCIENCE PORTFOLIO-SENSE OF THE CONGRESS.

Congress reaffirms its sense that a balanced and adequately funded set of activities, consisting of research and analysis grants programs, technology development, small, medium, and large space missions, and suborbital research activities, contributes to a robust and productive science program and serves as a catalyst for innovation.

SEC. 804. IN-SPACE SERVICING.

The Administrator shall continue to take all necessary steps to ensure that provisions are made for in-space or human servicing and repair of all future observatory-class scientific spacecraft intended to be deployed in Earth-orbit or at a Lagrangian point to the extent practicable and appropriate. The Administrator should ensure that agency investments and future capabilities for space technology, robotics, and human space flight take the ability to service and repair these spacecraft into account, where appropriate, and incorporate such capabilities into design and operational plans.

SEC. 805. DECADAL RESULTS.

NASA shall take into account the current decadal surveys from the National Academies' Space Studies Board when submitting the President's budget request to the Congress.

SEC. 806. ON-GOING RESTORATION OF RADIOISOTOPE THERMOELECTRIC GENERATOR MATERIAL PRODUCTION.

(a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds the following:

(1) The United States has led the world in the scientific exploration of space for nearly 50 years.

(2) Missions such as Viking, Voyager, Cassini, and New Horizons have greatly expanded knowledge of our solar system and planetary characteristics and evolution.

(3) Radioisotope power systems are the only available power sources for deep space missions making it possible to travel to such distant destinations as Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Pluto, and beyond and maintain operational control and systems viability for extended mission durations.

(4) Current radioisotope power systems supplies and production will not fully support NASA missions planned even in the next decade and, without a new domestic production capability, the United States will no longer have the means to explore the majority of the solar system by the end of this decade.

(5) Continuing to rely on Russia or other foreign sources for radioisotope power system fuel production is not a secure option.

(6) Reestablishing domestic production will require a long lead-time. Thus, meeting future space exploration mission needs requires that a restart project begin at the earliest opportunity.

(b) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall, in coordination with the Secretary of Energy, pursue a joint approach beginning in fiscal year 2011 towards restarting and sustaining the domestic production of radioisotope thermoelectric generator material for deep space and other science and exploration missions. Funds authorized by this Act for NASA shall be made available under a reimbursable agreement with the Department of Energy for the purpose of reestablishing facilities to produce fuel required for radioisotope thermoelectric generators to enable future missions.

(c) REPORT.—Within 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator and the Secretary of Energy shall submit a joint report to the appropriate committees of Congress on coordinated agreements, planned implementation, and anticipated schedule, production quantities, and mission applications under this section.

SEC. 807. COLLABORATION WITH ESMD AND SOMD ON ROBOTIC MISSIONS.

The Administrator shall ensure that the Exploration Systems Mission Directorate and the Space Operations Mission Directorate coordinate with the Science Mission Directorate on an overall approach and plan for interagency and international collaboration on robotic missions that are NASA or internationally developed, including lunar, Lagrangian, near-Earth orbit, and Mars spacecraft, such as the International Lunar Network. Within 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall provide a plan to the appropriate committees of Congress for implementation of the collaborative approach required by this section. The Administrator may not cancel or initiate any Exploration Systems Mission Directorate or Science Mission Directorate robotic project before the plan is submitted to the appropriate committees of Congress.

SEC. 808. NEAR-EARTH OBJECT SURVEY AND POLICY WITH RESPECT TO THREATS POSED.

(a) POLICY REAFFIRMATION.—Congress reaffirms the policy set forth in section 102(g) of the National Aeronautics and Space Act of 1958 (42 U.S.C. 2451(g)) relating to surveying near-Earth asteroids and comets.

(b) IMPLEMENTATION.—The Director of the OSTP shall implement, before September 30, 2012, a policy for notifying Federal agencies and relevant emergency response institutions of an impending near-Earth object threat if near-term public safety is at risk, and assign a Federal agency or agencies to be responsible for protecting the United States and working with the international community on such threats.

SEC. 809. SPACE WEATHER.

(a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds the following:

(1) Space weather events pose a significant threat to modern technological systems.

(2) The effects of severe space weather events on the electric power grid, telecommunications and entertainment satellites, airline communications during polar routes, and space-based position, navigation and timing systems could have significant societal, economic, national security, and health impacts.

(3) Earth and Space Observing satellites, such as the Advanced Composition Explorer, Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellites, Polar Operational Environmental Satellites, and Defense Meteorological Satellites, provide crucial data necessary to predict space weather events.

(b) ACTION REQUIRED.—The Director of OSTP shall—

(1) improve the Nation's ability to prepare, avoid, mitigate, respond to, and recover from potentially devastating impacts of space weather events;

(2) coordinate the operational activities of the National Space Weather Program Council members, including the NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center and the U.S. Air Force Weather Agency; and

(3) submit a report to the appropriate committees of Congress within 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act that—

(A) details the current data sources, both space- and ground-based, that are necessary for space weather forecasting; and

(B) details the space- and ground-based systems that will be required to gather data necessary for space weather forecasting for the next 10 years.

TITLE IX—AERONAUTICS AND SPACE TECHNOLOGY

SEC. 901. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) aeronautics research remains vital to NASA's mission and deserves continued support;

(2) NASA aeronautics research should be guided by, and consistent with, the National Aeronautics Research and Development Policy that guides the Nation's aeronautics research and development activities;

(3) the OSTP-led National Science and Technology Council Aeronautics Science and Technology subcommittee remains essential to developing and coordinating national aeronautics research and development plans and their prioritization for funding, and that it is also important that the plans include a focus on research, development, test, and evaluation infrastructure plans, as well as research and development goals and objectives; and

(4) technology research conducted by NASA as part of the larger national aeronautics effort would help to secure, sustain, and advance the leadership role of the United States in global aviation.

SEC. 902. AERONAUTICS RESEARCH GOALS.

The Administrator should ensure that NASA maintains a strong aeronautics research portfolio ranging from fundamental research through systems research with specific research goals, including the following:

(1) AIRSPACE CAPACITY.—NASA's Aeronautics Research Mission Directorate shall address research needs of the Next Generation Air Transportation System, including the ability of the National Airspace System to handle up to 3 times the current travel demand by 2025.

(2) ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY.—The Directorate shall consider and pursue concepts to reduce noise, emissions, and fuel consumption while maintaining high safety standards and shall pursue research related to alternative fuels.

(3) AVIATION SAFETY.—The Directorate shall proactively address safety challenges with new and current air vehicles and with operations in the Nation's current and future air transportation system.

SEC. 903. RESEARCH COLLABORATION.

(a) DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE.—The Administrator shall continue to coordinate with the Secretary of Defense, through the National Partnership for Aeronautics Testing, to develop and implement joint plans for those elements of the Nation's research, development, testing, and engineering infrastructure that are of common interest and use.

(b) FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION.—The Administrator shall continue to coordinate with, and work closely with, the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration, under the framework of the Senior Policy Council, in development of the Next Generation Air Transportation Program. The Administrator shall encourage the Council to explore areas for greater collaboration, including areas where NASA can help to accelerate the development and demonstration of NextGen technologies.

SEC. 904. GOAL FOR AGENCY SPACE TECHNOLOGY.

It is critical that NASA maintain an Agency space technology base that helps align mission directorate investments and supports long term needs to complement mission-directorate funded research and support, where appropriate, multiple users, building upon its Innovative Partnerships Program and other partnering approaches.

SEC. 905. IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR AGENCY SPACE TECHNOLOGY.

Within 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, NASA shall submit a plan to the appropriate committees of Congress that outlines how NASA's space technology program will meet the goal described in section 904, including an explanation of how the plan will link to other mission-directorate technology efforts outlined in sections 608, 801, and 802 of this Act.

SEC. 906. NATIONAL SPACE TECHNOLOGY POLICY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The President or the President's designee, in consultation with appropriate Federal agencies, shall develop a national policy to guide the space technology development programs of the United States through 2020. The policy shall include national goals for technology development and shall describe the role and responsibilities of each Federal agency that will carry out the policy. In developing the policy, the President or the President's designee shall utilize external studies that have been conducted on the state of United States technology development and have suggested policies to ensure continued competitiveness.

(b) CONTENT.—

(1) At a minimum, the national space technology development policy shall describe for NASA—

(A) the priority areas of research for technology investment;

(B) the basis on which and the process by which priorities for ensuing fiscal years will be selected;

(C) the facilities and personnel needed to carry out the technology development program; and

(D) the budget assumptions on which the policy is based, which for fiscal years 2011, 2012, and 2013 shall be the authorized level for NASA's technology program authorized by this Act.

(2) The policy shall be based on the premise that the Federal Government has an established interest in conducting research and development programs that help preserve the role of the United States as a global leader in space technologies and their application.

(3) CONSIDERATIONS.—In developing the national space technology development policy, the President or the President's designee shall consider, and include a discussion in the report required by subsection (c), of the following issues:

(A) The extent to which NASA should focus on long term, high-risk research or more incremental technology development, and the expected impact of that decision on the United States economy.

(B) The extent to which NASA should address military and commercial needs.

(C) How NASA will coordinate its technology program with other Federal agencies.

(D) The extent to which NASA will conduct research in-house, fund university research, and collaborate on industry research and the expected impact of that mix of funding on the supply of United States workers for industry.

(4) CONSULTATION.—In the development of the national space technology development policy, the President or the President's designee shall consult widely with academic and industry experts and with other Federal agencies. The Administrator may enter into an arrangement with the National Academy of Sciences to help develop the policy.

(c) REPORT.—

(1) POLICY.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the President shall transmit a report setting forth national space technology policy to the appropriate committees of Congress and to the Senate Committee on Appropriations and the House of Representatives Committee on Appropriations.

(2) IMPLEMENTATION.—Not later than 60 days after the President transmits the report required by paragraph (1) to the Congress, the Administrator shall transmit a report to the same committees describing how NASA will carry out the policy.

SEC. 907. COMMERCIAL REUSABLE SUBORBITAL RESEARCH PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The report of the National Academy of Sciences, Revitalizing NASA's Suborbital Program: Advancing Science, Driving Innovation and Developing Workforce, found that suborbital science missions were absolutely critical to building an aerospace workforce capable of meeting the needs of current and future human and robotic space exploration.

(b) MANAGEMENT.—The Administrator shall designate an officer or employee of the Space Technology Program to act as the responsible official for the Commercial Reusable Suborbital Research Program in the Space Technology Program. The designee shall be responsible for the development of short- and long term strategic plans for maintaining, renewing and extending suborbital facilities and capabilities.

(c) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Administrator shall establish a Commercial Reusable Suborbital Research Program within the Space Technology Program that shall fund the development of payloads for scientific research, technology development, and education, and shall provide flight opportunities for those payloads to microgravity environments and suborbital altitudes. The Commercial Reusable Suborbital Research Program may fund engineering and integration demonstrations, proofs of concept, or educational experiments for commercial reusable vehicle flights. The program shall endeavor to work with NASA's Mission Directorates to help achieve NASA's research, technology, and education goals.

(d) REPORT.—The Administrator shall submit a report annually to the appropriate committees of Congress describing progress in carrying out the Commercial Reusable Suborbital Research program, including the number and type of suborbital missions planned in each fiscal year.

(e) AUTHORIZATION.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator $15,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2011 through 2013 to carry out this section.

TITLE X—EDUCATION

SEC. 1001. REPORT ON EDUCATION IMPLEMENTATION OUTCOMES.

Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report on the metrics, internal and external relationships, and resources committed by NASA to each of the following:

(1) The development of a national STEM workforce.

(2) The retention of students in STEM disciplines as reflected by their education progression over time.

(3) The development of strategic partnerships and linkages between STEM formal and informal education providers.

SEC. 1002. SENSE OF CONGRESS ON THE EXPERIMENTAL PROGRAM TO STIMULATE COMPETITIVE RESEARCH.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research of NASA strengthens the research capabilities of jurisdictions that historically have not participated equally in competitive aerospace and aerospace-related research activities;

(2) the Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research of NASA has provided the American taxpayer with an excellent return on investment;

(3) the Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research of NASA has been successful in helping to achieve broader geographical distribution of research and development support by improving the research infrastructure in States that historically have received limited Federal research and development funds; and

(4) in order to continue improvement and to increase efficiency the award of grants under the Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research of NASA should be coordinated with the award of grants under the Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research of the National Science Foundation, the Department of Energy, the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Defense, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the National Institutes of Health.

SEC. 1003. SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, AND MATHEMATICS COMMERCIAL ORBITAL PLATFORM PROGRAM.

A fundamental and unique capability of NASA is in stimulating science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education in the United States. In ensuring maximum use of that capability, NASA shall—

(1) establish a program to annually sponsor scientific and educational payloads developed with United States student and educator involvement to be flown on commercially available orbital platforms, when available and operational, with the goal of launching at least 50 such payloads (with at least one from each of the 50 States) to orbit on at least one mission per year;

(2) contract with providers of commercial orbital platform services for their use by the STEM-Commercial Orbital Platform program, preceded by the issuance of a request for proposal, not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, to enter into at least one funded, competitively-awarded contract for commercial orbital platform services and make awards within 180 days after such date; and

(3) engage with United States students and educators and make available NASA's science, engineering, payload development, and payload operations expertise to student teams selected to participate in the STEM-Commercial Orbital Platform program.

TITLE XI—RE-SCOPING AND REVITALIZING INSTITUTIONAL CAPABILITIES

SEC. 1101. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that NASA needs to re-scope, and as appropriate, downsize, to fit current and future missions and expected funding levels. Eighty percent of NASA's facilities are over 40 years old. Additionally, in a number of areas NASA finds itself ''holding onto'' facilities and capabilities scaled to another era.

SEC. 1102. INSTITUTIONAL REQUIREMENTS STUDY.

Within 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall provide to the appropriate committees of Congress a comprehensive study that, taking into account the long term direction provided by this Act, carefully examines NASA's structure, organization, and institutional assets and identifies a strategy to evolve toward the most efficient retention, sizing, and distribution of facilities, laboratories, test capabilities, and other infrastructure consistent with NASA's missions and mandates. The Administrator should pay particular attention to identifying and removing unneeded or duplicative infrastructure. The Administrator should include in the study a suggested reconfiguration and reinvestment strategy that would conform the needed equipment, facilities, test equipment, and related organizational alignment that would best meet the requirements of missions and priorities authorized and directed by this Act. As part of this strategy, the Administrator should include consideration and application of the findings and recommendations of the National Research Council report, Capabilities for the Future: An Assessment of NASA Laboratories for Basic Research, prepared in response to section 1003 of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Authorization Act of 2008 (42 U.S.C. 17812).

SEC. 1103. NASA CAPABILITIES STUDY REQUIREMENT.

Upon completion of the study required by Section 1102, the Administrator shall establish an independent panel to examine alternative management models for NASA's workforce, centers, and related facilities in order to improve efficiency and productivity, while nonetheless maintaining core Federal competencies and keeping appropriately governmental functions internal to NASA. The study shall include a recommended implementation strategy, which shall identify any additional legislative authorities necessary to enable implementation of the recommended strategy, including recommended actions to provide aid and assistance to eligible communities to mitigate adverse impacts resulting from implementation of the proposed strategy. The Administrator shall provide the results of this study to the appropriate committees of Congress within 1 year after the date on which the study is begun.

SEC. 1104. SENSE OF CONGRESS ON COMMUNITY TRANSITION SUPPORT.

The Congress recognizes and supports current executive branch efforts to assist and provide aid to communities that are adversely impacted by NASA program changes, contract or program cancellations, or proposed institutional changes, so as to minimize the social and economic impacts to those communities, workers, and businesses. Communities eligible for such aid would be those in close proximity to NASA mission-related centers and their component facilities located in Alabama, California, Florida, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, New Mexico, Ohio, Texas, and Virginia which may be impacted by program changes authorized or directed by this Act or by the implementation strategy developed pursuant to section 1103.

SEC. 1105. WORKFORCE STABILIZATION AND CRITICAL SKILLS PRESERVATION.

Prior to receipt by the Congress of the study, recommendations, and implementation strategy developed pursuant to section 1103, none of the funds authorized for use under this Act may be used to transfer the functions, missions, or activities, and associated civil service and contractor positions, from any NASA facility without authorization by the Congress to implement the proposed strategy. The Administrator shall preserve the critical skills and competencies in place at NASA centers prior to enactment of this Act in order to facilitate timely implementation of the requirements of this Act and to minimize disruption to the workforce. The Administrator may not implement any reduction-in-force or other involuntary separations of permanent, non-Senior-Executive-Service, civil servant employees before September 30, 2013, except for cause on charges of misconduct, delinquency, or inefficiency.

TITLE XII—OTHER MATTERS

SEC. 1201. REPORT ON SPACE TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT.

The Administrator shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report on a status on the initiation of discussions with other nations on a framework to address space traffic management concerns, as required by section 1102 of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Act Authorization Act of 2008 (42 U.S.C. 17821).

SEC. 1202. NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ORBITAL DEBRIS MITIGATION.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following findings:

(1) A national and international effort is needed to develop a coordinated approach towards the prevention, negation, and removal of orbital debris.

(2) The guidelines issued by the Inter-Agency Space Debris Coordination Committee provide a consensus understanding of 10 national space agencies (including NASA) plus the European Space Agency on the necessity of mitigating the creation of space debris and measures for doing so. NASA's participation on the Committee should be robust, and NASA should urge other space-relevant Federal agencies (including the Departments of State, Defense, and Commerce) to work to ensure that their counterpart agencies in foreign governments are aware of these national commitments and the importance in which the United States holds them.

(3) Key components of such an approach should include—

(A) a process for debris prevention through agreements regarding spacecraft design, operations, and end-of-life disposition plans to minimize orbiting vehicles or elements which are nonfunctional;

(B) the development of a robust Space Situational Awareness network that can identify potential collisions and provide sufficient trajectory and orbital data to enable avoidance maneuvers;

(C) the interagency development of an overall strategy for review by the President, with recommendations for proposed international collaborative efforts to address this challenge.

(b) INTERNATIONAL DISCUSSION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall, in consultation with such other departments and agencies of the Federal Government as the Administrator considers appropriate, continue and strengthen discussions with the representatives of other space-faring countries, within the Inter-Agency Space Debris Coordination Committee and elsewhere, to deal with this orbital debris mitigation.

(2) INTERAGENCY EFFORT.—For purposes of carrying out this subsection, the Director of OSTP, in coordination with the Director of the National Security Council and using the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology coordinating mechanism, shall develop an overall strategy for review by the President, with recommendations for proposed international collaborative efforts to address this challenge.

SEC. 1203. REPORTS ON PROGRAM AND COST ASSESSMENT AND CONTROL ASSESSMENT.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following findings:

(1) The adherence of NASA to program cost and schedule targets and discipline across NASA programs remains a concern.

(2) The James Webb Space Telescope has exceeded its cost estimate.

(3) In 2007 the Government Accountability Office issued a report on NASA's high risk acquisition performance.

(4) In response, NASA prepared a corrective action plan two years ago.

(b) REPORTS.—

(1) REPORTS REQUIRED.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and not later than April 30 of each year thereafter, the Administrator shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report on the implementation during the preceding year for the corrective action plan referred to in subsection (a)(4).

(2) ELEMENTS.—Each report under this subsection shall set forth, for the year covered by such report, the following:

(A) A description of each NASA program that has exceeded its cost baseline by 15 percent or more or is more than 2 years behind its projected development schedule.

(B) For each program specified under subparagraph (A), a plan for such decrease in scope or requirements, or other measures, to be undertaken to control cost and schedule, including any cost monitoring or corrective actions undertaken pursuant to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Authorization Act of 2005 (Public Law 109–155), and the amendments made by that Act.

SEC. 1204. ELIGIBILITY FOR SERVICE OF INDIVIDUAL CURRENTLY SERVING AS ADMINISTRATOR OF NASA.

The individual serving in the position of Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration as of the date of the enactment of this Act comes from civilian life and is therefore eligible to serve in such position, in conformance with section 202 of the National Aeronautics and Space Act of 1958 (42 U.S.C. 2472(a)).

SEC. 1205. SENSE OF CONGRESS ON INDEPENDENT VERIFICATION AND VALIDATION OF NASA SOFTWARE.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) safety is at the heart of every NASA mission;

(2) the Office of Safety and Mission Assurance remains vital to assuring the safety of all NASA activities;

(3) among the most important activities of the Office of Safety and Mission Assurance is the performance of independent safety and mission assurance assessments and process verification reviews;

(4) as NASA embarks on a new path, independent verification and validation of software must be of the highest priority to ensure safety throughout all NASA programs;

(5) NASA's activities depend on software integrity to achieve their goals and deliver a successful mission to the American people;

(6) independent verification and validation is necessary to ensure that safety-critical software will operate dependably and support mission success;

(7) the creation of the Independent Verification and Validation Facility of NASA was the direct result of recommendations made by the National Research Council and the Report of the Presidential Commission on the Space Shuttle Challenger Accident;

(8) the mission-critical software of NASA must operate dependably and safely;

(9) the Independent Verification and Validation Facility of NASA plays an important role in assuring the safety of all NASA activities by improving methodologies for risk identification and assessment, and providing recommendations for risk mitigation and acceptance; and

(10) the Independent Verification and Validation Facility shall be the sole provider of independent verification and validation services for software created by or for NASA.

SEC. 1206. COUNTERFEIT PARTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall plan, develop, and implement a program, in coordination with other Federal agencies, to detect, track, catalog, and reduce the number of counterfeit electronic parts in the NASA supply chain.

(b) REQUIREMENTS.—In carrying out the program, the Administrator shall establish—

(1) counterfeit part identification training for all employees that procure, process, distribute, and install electronic parts that will—

(A) teach employees how to identify counterfeit parts;

(B) educate employees on procedures to follow if they suspect a part is counterfeit;

(C) regularly update employees on new threats, identification techniques, and reporting requirements; and

(D) integrate industry associations, manufacturers, suppliers, and other Federal agencies, as appropriate;

(2) an internal database to track all suspected and confirmed counterfeit electronic parts that will maintain, at a minimum—

(A) companies and individuals known and suspected of selling counterfeit parts;

(B) parts known and suspected of being counterfeit, including lot and date codes, part numbers, and part images;

(C) countries of origin;

(D) sources of reporting;

(E) United States Customs seizures; and

(F) Government-Industry Data Exchange Program reports and other public or private sector database notifications; and

(3) a mechanism to report all information on suspected and confirmed counterfeit electronic parts to law enforcement agencies, industry associations, and other databases, and to issue bulletins to industry on counterfeit electronic parts and related counterfeit activity.

(c) REVIEW OF PROCUREMENT AND ACQUISITION POLICY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In establishing the program, the Administrator shall amend existing acquisition and procurement policy to purchase electronic parts from trusted or approved manufacturers. To determine trusted or approved manufacturers, the Administrator shall establish a list, assessed and adjusted at least annually, and create criteria for manufacturers to meet in order to be placed onto the list.

(2) CRITERIA.—The criteria may include—

(A) authentication or encryption codes;

(B) embedded security markings in parts;

(C) unique, harder to copy labels and markings;

(D) identifying distinct lot and serial codes on external packaging;

(E) radio frequency identification embedded into high-value parts;

(F) physical destruction of all defective, damaged, and sub-standard parts that are by-products of the manufacturing process;

(G) testing certifications;

(H) maintenance of procedures for handling any counterfeit parts that slip through;

(I) maintenance of secure facilities to prevent unauthorized access to proprietary information; and

(J) maintenance of product return, buy back, and inventory control practices that limit counterfeiting.

(d) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Within one year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall report on the progress of implementing this section to the appropriate committees of Congress.

SEC. 1207. INFORMATION SECURITY.

(a) MONITORING RISK.—

(1) UPDATE ON SYSTEM IMPLEMENTATION.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, and on a biennial basis thereafter, the chief information officer of NASA, in coordination with other national security agencies, shall provide to the appropriate committees of Congress—

(A) an update on efforts to implement a system to provide dynamic, comprehensive, real-time information regarding risk of unauthorized remote, proximity, and insider use or access, for all information infrastructure under the responsibility of the chief information officer, and mission-related networks, including contractor networks;

(B) an assessment of whether the system has demonstrably and quantifiably reduced network risk compared to alternative methods of measuring security; and

(C) an assessment of the progress that each center and facility has made toward implementing the system.

(2) EXISTING ASSESSMENTS.—The assessments required of the Inspector General under section 3545 of title 44, United States Code, shall evaluate the effectiveness of the system described in this subsection.

(b) INFORMATION SECURITY AWARENESS AND EDUCATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In consultation with the Department of Education, other national security agencies, and other agency directorates, the chief information officer shall institute an information security awareness and education program for all operators and users of NASA information infrastructure, with the goal of reducing unauthorized remote, proximity, and insider use or access.

(2) PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.—

(A) The program shall include, at a minimum, ongoing classified and unclassified threat-based briefings, and automated exercises and examinations that simulate common attack techniques.

(B) All agency employees and contractors engaged in the operation or use of agency information infrastructure shall participate in the program.

(C) Access to NASA information infrastructure shall only be granted to operators and users who regularly satisfy the requirements of the program.

(D) The chief human capital officer of NASA, in consultation with the chief information officer, shall create a system to reward operators and users of agency information infrastructure for continuous high achievement in the program.

(c) INFORMATION INFRASTRUCTURE DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''information infrastructure'' means the underlying framework that information systems and assets rely on to process, transmit, receive, or store information electronically, including programmable electronic devices and communications networks and any associated hardware, software, or data.

SEC. 1208. NATIONAL CENTER FOR HUMAN PERFORMANCE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The National Center for Human Performance is located in Houston's Texas Medical Center which is home to 49 non-profit and academic patient care, biomedical research, and health educational institutions serving 6 million patients each year, and works collaboratively with individuals and organizations, including NASA, to advance science and research on human performance in space, health, the military, athletics, and the arts.

(b) DESIGNATION AS INSTITUTION OF EXCELLENCE.—The National Center for Human Performance is designated as an Institution of Excellence for Human Performance dedicated to understanding and improving all aspects of human performance.

SEC. 1209. ENHANCED-USE LEASING.

(a) SENSE OF THE CONGRESS.—It is the sense of the Congress that the NASA enhanced-use leasing program is a fiscally responsible program to further maintain the exploration-related infrastructure of our Nation's space centers while ensuring continued private utilization of these Federal assets, and every effort should be made to ensure effective utilization of this program.

SEC. 1210. SENSE OF CONGRESS CONCERNING THE STENNIS SPACE CENTER.

It is the sense of the Congress that the Stennis Space Center represents the national capability for development and certification of liquid propulsion technologies vital to our Nation's space flight program, and that the Federal government should fully utilize that resource and continue to make the testing facility available for further development of commercial aerospace capabilities.

TITLE XIII—COMPLIANCE WITH STATUTORY PAY-AS-YOU-GO ACT OF 2010

SEC. 1301. COMPLIANCE PROVISION.

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.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GORDON) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HALL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on S. 3729, the bill now under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Tennessee?

There was no objection.

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, in his fiscal 2011 budget request, the President proposed a number of initiatives for NASA in the coming years, many of which I and my colleagues support. However, after extensive hearings and oversight, we reluctantly came to the conclusion that both the current Constellation program and the President's proposed human space flight plan are unexecutable under the current and projected budgets.

For too long, the mission hasn't matched the money at NASA, and I am unwilling to let that practice continue. As a result, an alternative approach was needed that would be executable and affordable, and both the House and the Senate authorizing committees have spent the major part of this last year work on a NASA reauthorization bill. The bill before us today represents the results of the Senate's efforts.

The House Science and Technology Committee marked up its version in late July, and we have spent the last several months in discussion with the Senate to come up with compromise language that would incorporate the best of both bills. Last week, I released bipartisan compromise language that reflects those discussions, as well as constructive input from colleagues here in the House.

□ 2100

I have a number of concerns about the Senate bill which I have enumerated. It has now, though, become clear that there is not time remaining to pass the bill incorporating the compromise language through the House and Senate before the start of the election recess.

For the sake of providing a degree of certainty, stability, and clarity to the NASA workforce and the larger space community, I felt it was better to consider a flawed bill than no bill at all as the new fiscal year begins. Thus, despite its flaws, I will vote to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill.

However, I see today's floor consideration to be only one more step in crafting a substantial, affordable, and productive future path for NASA. To that end, I plan to continue to advocate to the appropriators for the provisions in the compromise language. I believe that the compromise language provides a solid basis for NASA's future activities.

Mr. Speaker, it has been a difficult year for NASA, its workforce and its contractors. We are in tough economic times and sacrifices will have to be made. However, NASA is an investment in our future and in the future of our children. The United States has been a global leader in space exploration and technology and innovation, and our efforts over the remainder of the Congress should be aimed at preserving that leadership position.

With that, I encourage the House to pass the suspension.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 3729, the NASA Authorization Act, and I yield myself such time as I may require.

Let me begin by commending the Science Committee chairman, BART GORDON; Space Subcommittee chairwoman, GABRIELLE GIFFORDS; and subcommittee ranking member, PETE OLSON, for their tireless efforts conducting oversight on NASA's programs and performance. During the 111th Congress, they held 13 hearings before either the subcommittee or full committee that thoroughly examined NASA in all its aspects. During the second session especially, they helped our committee better understand the full impact of the administration's proposal to revamp our Nation's human spaceflight program.

The bill we're about to vote on is a 3-year NASA authorization that was reported by the Senate in early August. In many respects, this bill shares features similar to H.R. 5781, introduced by Chairman GORDON and cosponsored by the committee's leadership. Both bills are fairly similar in their treatment of NASA's aeronautics research and space science programs, and they authorize at the same agency top-line number. They do, however, diverge with regard to the future of NASA's human spaceflight program.

The House bill passed out of the Science and Technology Committee with almost unanimous bipartisan support. This was a good bill that keeps NASA on course to develop a new crew exploration vehicle, with safety a top priority. Unfortunately, this bill never made it to the floor for a vote. So, in the past few weeks, Chairman GORDON sought to reach an agreement with the Senate on a compromise bill that would bridge the differences. It is now clear that time has run out and that we have very few days remaining to advance a NASA authorization bill through this Congress. I see no realistic choice but to take the Senate bill because doing so will be preferable to taking no action at all.

As many of you know, this administration has taken unprecedented steps regarding NASA that has resulted in massive layoffs and created a great deal of uncertainty within the agency and in many of our communities. Without congressional approval or authorization, they have reversed the direction given by the two preceding Congresses and proposed throwing away over $10 billion and 5 years of design investment on the successor vehicle to the shuttle. The administration offered instead no substantive plans to provide a U.S.-built launch system that would be capable of taking astronauts to the international space station and put off even planning to go beyond the international space station until the year 2015. In short, the administration's proposal would have added several years of development and unknown cost before the U.S. would be able to fly astronauts on a new NASA launch system. We find this unacceptable.

The bill before us today seeks to remedy many of the problems created by this administration. It authorizes the immediate development on a heavy lift launch vehicle capable of going beyond the ISS. It advances further development of commercial cargo capabilities to service the ISS, a development that Congress has supported since the year 2005, and provides $1.3 billion to begin the development of commercial crew systems. And through the development of a heavy lift launcher, it provides a backup system to the ISS in case the commercial providers or our international partners do not meet stated goals. One thing the House bill called for was a crew escape launch abort system, and we will need to exercise extensive oversight of NASA next year to ensure that such vitally important safety aspects are not overlooked or neglected by NASA.

It is also important to note that the annual authorizations in this bill are below the amount authorized for FY 2009 in our last NASA bill. Given that our Nation is in a tough economic climate, it is important that we are mindful of our spending.

During hearings this spring before the House Science Committee, three former Apollo astronauts, three giants—Neil Armstrong, Gene Cernan, and Tom Stafford—implored Congress to retain American leadership in space by maintaining continuity and certainty in NASA's role as manager of our space exploration programs. All three opposed the administration's efforts, and they are supportive of passing a bill that advances our Nation forward.

While the bill before us today is far from perfect, it offers clear direction to

an agency that is floundering and sets us on the path toward maintaining America's leadership in space.

I urge a ''yes'' vote on this bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. I yield 2 minutes to the gentlelady from Houston, Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE).

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. I thank the chairman very much.

I served 12 years on the Science Committee, and I want to add my appreciation to Chairman GORDON for his service to the Nation and his service and his hard work for providing for America's competitive edge, not only in space but technology. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you to the ranking member. Thank you to RALPH HALL for his leadership. Thank you to the subcommittee chair for her great leadership and friendship to this agency.

I rise today, as reluctant as my friends on the floor, the chairman and ranking member, to support this particular bill. But I'm glad to be able to be here to say to the NASA family that we are saving jobs, 10,000 potentially in the State of Florida, many others in the other States, and 6,000 in NASA Johnson.

I am delighted to be able to say that this bill, the Senate bill, though I don't like the process, provides for immediate development to begin on a heavy lift launch vehicle, stops the termination of technical workforce and valuable contractor jobs, provides funding to support the development of commercial crew services, and funds additional technology development to lower costs of long-term space exploration.

In addition, NASA Johnson will continue to provide the astronauts for the space station. We will be looking for the robotic research work that will address the question of space exploration. We'll also be doing the work for cargo and crew on the commercial side. And then as it relates to the issue of minorities, I want to ensure that as we hire or as we fire, if we have to, that those who are minorities who are last in are not the first out.

I'm delighted to work with Senators NELSON and JOHN ROCKEFELLER to save the STEM program and the MUREP program. These cuts are unacceptable for the Minority University Research and Education and the STEM program. I'm delighted, however, that we'll be working with Senator NELSON and Senator ROCKEFELLER to ensure that this program is included in the America COMPETES reauthorization and the funding for the STEM program. We have to save jobs in America but we have to stay at the cutting edge of science, and I believe this bill will help us make one step.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of S. 3729, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Authorization Act of 2010. Although I share the concerns of some of my House colleagues regarding the process with which this legislation came to the House from the Senate, especially those colleagues I served with on the House Science Committee for 12 years, I nevertheless do support this compromise legislation as the best way forward to strengthen NASA for the present and the future. I also believe this legislation will protect American jobs, drive innovation, and ensure that our Nation's youth are encouraged to pursue careers in science, exploration, engineering, technology, and math.

Despite my concerns about the Administration's proposal to eliminate NASA's Constellation Program, I have concluded that we need to have this NASA reauthorization legislation in place to avoid a complete dismantling of the manned space program. Although I advocated strongly for preserving the Constellation program, it is important to adopt this compromise in order to save more than 6,000 jobs in Texas and 10,000 in Florida, which would be in jeopardy without this legislation. This legislation will speed development of the heavy lift rocket crucial for reaching beyond low-Earth orbit and essential to keeping Houston's Johnson Space Center at the heart of future manned space operations. This compromise would also help bolster small contractors in the greater Houston area who serve as subcontractors for the major aerospace firms involved in NASA contracts.

I have also had extensive discussions with Administrator Bolden who has communicated NASA's intention to work with the Congress to make the transition of the Constellation program smooth and effective. NASA and the space industry are critical to Houston's economic success in both the short and long term. According to the Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership, NASA accounts for nearly 16,800 direct federal jobs and serves as the engine for another 3,100 civilian jobs that together supply more than $2.5 billion in payroll into Houston's regional economy. Protecting the Johnson Space Center is of paramount concern to me, and I will continue to advocate on its behalf.

This bill will authorize NASA appropriations for FY 2011–2013 with the same top-line budget values as the President's request to Congress. The bill would grow science, aeronautics, and space technology and define expanding human presence in space as the goal for human space flight beyond low-Earth orbit. Key objectives for human space flight would include full utilization of the International Space Station (ISS), maximizing the role of space exploration and technology in current and future missions, advancing knowledge and inspiring young people into higher education, and building upon international partnerships.

Initially, I was concerned that the Senate version of the NASA Authorization Act could have led to cuts in funding for the Minority University Research and Education (MUREP) and STEM programs. This is because the legislation increased funding for the NASA Space Grant and the Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCOR) while keeping the topline authorization for education fixed, which could have led to other education programs such as MUREP and STEM being cut to provide for necessary offsets.

However, I have worked with Senator JOHN ROCKEFELLER, Chairman of the U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, Senator BILL NELSON, Chairman of the Subcommittee on Science and Space, and NASA Administrator Charles Bolden to ensure that funding for MUREP and STEM will be protected. The Senate is including language in the NASA title of the America COMPETES Reauthorization ensuring that funding for STEM programs are preserved and protected. Furthermore, Chairman NELSON has agreed to work with the Senate Appropriations Committee to ensure funding for MUREP is continued at existing levels. Administrator Bolden has also assured me that they will continue their active support of not just MUREP and STEM programs, but also continue their existing efforts to increase the participation of minority serving institutions in the NASA Space Grant and College Fellowship Program as well as the Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research. These agreements are crucial to ensuring that minority serving institutions and minority students are an integral part to NASA's future.

The United States space program has existed for over half a century and this legislation reaffirms the ever growing and changing role of NASA, providing resources to carry the agency forward with its ambitious agenda of research, exploration, and discovery. Mr. Speaker, today's legislation will allow NASA to continue to push the boundaries of what is possible, keeping our Nation on the forefront of innovation and exploration. It is the responsibility of this Congress to ensure that the future of NASA is one of continued progress. Space exploration remains a part of our national destiny. It inspires our children to look to the stars and dream of what they too, one day, may achieve. Space exploration allows us to push the bounds of our scientific knowledge, as we carry out research projects not possible within the constraints of the planet Earth.

Today, NASA is the nations' primary civil space and aeronautics research and development agency, and its current activities employ over 18,000 Americans. Today's legislation emphasizes the importance of NASA leadership in a range of endeavors by investing more in NASA; extending the life of the international space station; launches a commercial space transportation industry; fosters the development of path-breaking technologies; helps create thousands of new jobs; and embarks on a fundamentally more ambitious strategy to expand our frontiers in space. Passage of this bill represents an important step forward towards helping NASA achieve key goals that President Obama has laid out, such as placing the U.S. space program on a more sustainable trajectory and inspiring a new generation of Americans to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. This important change in direction will not only help NASA chart a new path in space, but also reshape itself for the industries and jobs of the future that will be vital for long term economic growth.

As a Nation, we have made tremendous strides forward in the pursuit of space exploration since President John F. Kennedy set the course for our nation when on May 25, 1961, President John F. Kennedy proclaimed: ''I believe this Nation should commit itself to achieving the goal, before this decade is out, of landing a man on the moon and returning him safely to earth. No single space project in this period will be more impressive to mankind, or more important for the long-range exploration of space; and none will be so difficult or expensive to accomplish.'' Over the next 50 years, NASA has been involved in many defining events which have shaped the course of

human history and demonstrated to the world the character of the people of the United States.

The success of the United States space exploration program in the 20th Century augurs well for its continued leadership in the 21st Century. This success is largely attributable to the remarkable and indispensable partnership between the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and its 10 space and research centers. One of these important research centers is located in my home city of Houston. The Johnson Space Center, which manages the development, testing, production, and delivery of all United States human spacecraft and all human spacecraft-related functions, is one of the crown jewels of the Houston area.

Always on the forefront of technological innovation, NASA has been home to countless "firsts" in the field of space exploration. America has, countless times, proven itself to be a leader in innovation, and many technologies that have become part of our everyday lives were developed by NASA scientists. The benefits of NASA's programming and innovation are felt far beyond scientific and academic spheres. Space technologies provide practical, tangible benefits to society, and NASA provides valuable opportunities to businesses in our community.

I urge my colleagues to join me in support of this legislation, and in support of the future of American innovation, exploration, and jobs.

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Texas, Congressman OLSON, who is the ranking member on the Space Subcommittee.

Mr. OLSON. I thank my esteemed colleague from Texas.

Mr. Speaker, as we take on great endeavors, it's important to have a workable plan and to stick to it. Not doing so leads us to uncertainty, like the uncertainty that has gripped NASA for most of this year. Nowhere have I felt and seen the effects of this uncertainty more than when I'm home talking to the men and women of the Johnson Space Center. It's been especially difficult for these men and women and their families because their lives and careers have been centered on uncertainty. They wanted to be part of America's space program, and how do we reward that commitment? By providing insufficient funds, constantly changing goals, and second-guessing the past instead of embracing a clear path to the future.

□ 2110

Meanwhile, thousands of workers have watched, waited, and most of all, safely worked throughout the seemingly difficult ups and downs.

The low point in this debate came in February with the release of the President's budget for NASA. In NASA's history of bold adventures, this was one of the boldest. Unfortunately, not in a manner that the agency is used to. The proposal neglected to build on our past, discarded work of the present, and lacked a vision for our future. The plan was so bad, so misguided that it did something unheard of in Washington, D.C.: It united Congress in opposition.

And along these lines, I would like to thank Chairman GORDON and Ranking Member HALL for the partnership we have forged through these past several months. It has been an honor to work with each of you.

Our partnership has produced a great piece of legislation, our NASA authorization bill which passed out of the Science and Technology Committee in July. I believed then, and frankly believe now, that our bill was the right approach to sustain a robust exploration program. But we are running out of time. Let's send a message as a unified Congress that the proposal the administration submitted in February is not the direction our country is going to go.

If we fail to pass an authorization bill, we will witness the continued dismantling of America's human spaceflight infrastructure with no guarantee that it will be replaced. We will lose our most precious asset, our people.

This bill contains critical elements for the future: Funding for the Orion crew capsule; the ability to fly the ''launch on need'' flight of the space shuttle; extending the international space station through at least 2020; and a robust technology development program. We also agree with our Senate colleagues that NASA should focus on the immediate development of a heavy lift launch vehicle. Our future in space is not, not in low Earth orbit. We have to go beyond. A heavy lift vehicle will enable us to achieve the true mission of the agency—to explore.

This bill reaffirms what earlier Congresses have supported, particularly an increased role for commercial providers to fly cargo and eventually crew to the international space station. I will be vigilant in working with my colleagues, the agency, and those in the private sector who will conduct these cargo and crew flights. We need them to succeed, but we need to develop standard practices and an understanding of how a fundamentally different way of doing business will work. It is just another challenge for NASA, and one I know they will meet.

I grew up in Clear Lake, Texas, where the men and women who walked on the Moon, those people, and the people who got them there and back weren't just my heroes. They were my neighbors. I saw a community and a Nation unite around a grand goal and accomplish it. Today we take a step towards restoring the goals worthy of a great Nation. And in doing so, we are saying to the men and women of NASA currently and those to come that this Nation still chooses to explore. I ask my colleagues to support S. 3729.

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MEEK).

(Mr. MEEK of Florida asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I strongly urge all of my colleagues here in a bipartisan way to support the NASA Authorization Act of 2010. As the chairman mentioned, there are issues in this authorization bill that could be better. But I can tell you right now, there are a number of individuals that are involved in the space industry and also those hardworking men and women that are working as subcontractors and are looking for some direction from this Congress.

I want to commend Senator NELSON of Florida for being a leader, taking the very best of the administration's proposal and putting it in to work so that we can pass it in time to promote not only commercial and crew cargo as it relates to space exploration but also save the Kennedy Space Center and other NASA assets throughout the country. I think it's important. This makes our country very strong. And if not now, then when? I stand, Mr. Chairman, in full support of this bill. I ask all of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join me in making sure that we pass this very important authorization bill. Americans are counting on our leadership.

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California, the Honorable Mr. ROHRABACHER, a very valuable member of the Science Committee.

Mr. ROHRABACHER. I rise in support of S. 3729. The NASA authorization before us is a step in the right direction. It provides for an initial shift in human spaceflight from being an exclusive endeavor run by and controlled by bureaucrats or other government employees and moves us toward entrepreneurial, cost-effective, and commercial-based alternatives.

This legislation stimulates efforts within the private sector to develop and demonstrate safe, reliable, less costly, and more capable space transportation to and from low-Earth orbit. At the same time, it enables NASA to focus on Discovery and sending humans to explore the far reaches of the space frontier, and this bill increases NASA research and technology development. It should be viewed as enabling legislation because it will enable America in the decades ahead to be the world's leading space faring nation. To achieve this, NASA must not just be a government program but also a catalyst for scientific research, technological development, and the exploration of the solar system and the universe beyond.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation and, of course, my admiration for Ranking Member RALPH HALL and, yes, for the great leadership that we have seen in this endeavor by Chairman BART GORDON. This bill is a workable compromise for those of us in the committee who had different views on what direction America's space program should go. This compromise does justice to the various opinions from people who are involved in this policy debate. Of course this is the type of fairness that Chairman GORDON is known

for, and thus we have been able to get together and to put forth a piece of legislation that is the best possible legislation that we could have actually enacted. That is due to the leadership of Chairman GORDON, and we thank him for his long career of leadership of this kind.

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from California. I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Houston, Texas (Mr. GENE GREEN).

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, like my colleagues, both Republican and Democrat, I oppose the President's budget for NASA. And I thank Chairman GORDON and Ranking Member HALL and the whole Science Committee for their hard work to provide a way for NASA to do their job in space exploration.

Today the House has a profound choice, and the stakes are high for American-led spaceflight. The House will be voting on the Senate version of the NASA reauthorization act. This bill, while unperfect, is critical to the future of our Nation's spaceflight and exploration program and will greatly benefit our scientific research and development capabilities.

We share the concerns of some of you who are worried about certain provisions in this legislation, but I am pleased that this moves NASA in the correct direction. This is a good bill and could be stronger but is still a success for those of us who support NASA and understand what it means for our country, our economy, our national security, and our ability to maintain our edge in science and technology research and development. Simply said, if this bill fails today, it will profoundly undermine our space program. I urge all Members to pass this bill and commit to working with us and others interested in the future of NASA to improve this bill in significant ways down the road. If we fail to pass the bill, not only do we lose that opportunity, but we may lose the opportunity to keep NASA.

□ 2120

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. SCALISE).

Mr. SCALISE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the NASA reauthorization bill. Too often people use the term: You know, this isn't rocket science. Well, in my State of Louisiana, we have got the Michoud assembly facility, and they do rocket science. And right now there is tremendous uncertainty over the future of NASA because of the President's budget, and the fact that it actually cedes responsibility and our superiority in space exploration. We can't sit by and let that happen.

With this legislation tonight, we can actually present a clear future for NASA that involves heavy lift, that involves maintaining the United States of America's superiority in the space exploration program. And I don't think any of us can sit by and allow a country like Russia to take that superiority lead that we currently have today. And if we don't take action, that is exactly what will happen.

We need to make sure that we not only preserve those jobs that are so important, but that we also preserve that technological superiority that America enjoys today and America needs to enjoy in space exploration for the future. And we can do that tonight with this vote.

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON), a valued member of the Science and Technology Committee.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, let me thank our committee chair and ranking member for handling this bill, and thank all the staff who put it together and support it.

I rise to support Senate bill 3729, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Authorization Act of 2010.

Forty years ago, the United States Apollo program put the first human on the Moon. Children across the United States watched Neil Armstrong, an American, speak the words, ''That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind.'' After that moment, there was an outpouring of interest in science. Children dreamed that one day they too could be the next man or woman on the Moon.

I would like to see increased investments in these, particularly in the Minority University Education Research programs, which have been highly successful. But sometimes we can't get all that we want. This is that time. But we can continue without stopping.

And now is not the time for us to cede leadership to our international competitors. The research has been the most successful research in the history of our country for both commercial products and medical treatment.

I believe that NASA has a unique ability to touch the imagination of children like no other Federal agency. When money is short, however, we must adjust, not stop.

A robust NASA budget should contain concerted efforts toward inspiring our Nation's future scientists and engineers. A strong NASA is valuable to the national and Texas economies. Recent census data indicates that Texas ranks first in high-tech manufacturing and certain engineering industries. Space flight, aeronautics, and scientific research and education are top priorities for Texas.

NASA also conducts important educational programs.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. I yield the gentlewoman 30 more seconds.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. NASA should be congratulated for the great research it has supported and the fearless missions carried out by its astronauts, scientists, and engineers. I support the agency and am interested to know how Congress can continue to partner with it for the benefit of the American people.

We cannot let America cede its leadership in human space flight. We need a strong NASA, and NASA needs an authorization bill. I strongly encourage my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CULBERSON).

Mr. CULBERSON. Mr. Speaker, I think it is appropriate here in late September that we are discussing the future of America's manned space program, because it was in late September that America's first explorers, Lewis and Clark, returned from their incredible expedition to have seen the Pacific Ocean to find that overland route. And when they returned from that totally unknown country, they lit up the country, and something that America has always been built on, dreams and thinking big. It has always been a part of our spirit, our nature to explore the unknown. And NASA, more than any other function of the Federal Government, has the ability to inspire people, to encourage young people to go become scientists and engineers and astronauts.

In fact, today, Mr. Speaker, it was just reported by scientists at the University of California that they have discovered what appears to be an Earth-like planet with water in the habitable zone of a star only 20 light years away. But if we do not act, if we do not pass this NASA authorization bill tonight, the Obama administration will succeed in shutting down America's manned space program by the end of the year. And let me make it clear: that is what is really going on here, why all of us are working together, arm in arm, to save America's manned space program from being shut down by the Obama administration and the bureaucrats at NASA.

I asked Administrator Bolden in our subcommittee, Isn't what you are proposing, to totally privatize NASA? And we are all for partial privatization to supply fuel, food, et cetera. But to totally privatize NASA, Mr. Bolden, isn't that like privatizing the Navy?

Imagine if we were to allow the contractor that built a nuclear submarine or an aircraft carrier: Excuse me, may we please rent the aircraft carrier so that we can go to the Persian Gulf and defend America's interests?

What the Obama administration has proposed, and why Congress is passing this bill tonight, is to stop the administration from shutting down America's civilian space program, to ensure that we will always maintain the ability to build rockets in the civilian workforce, which keeps the cost of rockets for the military considerably less; to preserve our leadership role in outer space, to maintain that technological and, frankly, spiritual edge

America has always had to make dreams come true, to think about the exploration of the unknown.

NASA is the one entity that can combine the best of Americans, what makes us great as a Nation, inspiring young people, allowing, making dreams come true, exploring the unknown with very tangible technological spinoffs.

If we don't pass this bill tonight, by the end of this year there will be no more manned space program because the Obama administration is systematically and aggressively shutting it down.

We all have some disagreement with this bill; we would like to see a little different bill.

I thank Chairman GORDON and Mr. HALL, for bringing it to the floor. All of us working together to get it passed tonight will ensure that America preserves our manned space flight capability, the ability to build rockets with a tremendous civilian workforce of engineers and scientists who will all be gone. They will just lose their job, and we will lose that tremendous edge we have had as a Nation to build rockets and explore outer space.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support this vital legislation.

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. KOSMAS).

Ms. KOSMAS. Mr. Speaker, I also would like to thank the chairman and the ranking member for their leadership on this issue.

Mr. Speaker, tonight we consider legislation of great importance to Florida's Space Coast and to our Nation, the NASA Authorization Act.

I want to echo the sentiments of my colleagues who have suggested that the uncertainty surrounding NASA and our manned space exploration has caused a great deal of anguish and difficult times for my constituents, literally thousands of individuals, families and businesses.

This legislation will define NASA's future by building on its past. The legislation mandates one additional shuttle flight next year, which will provide additional job stability for thousands of workers and ensure the long-term viability of the international space station, a national laboratory, 200 miles above our heads, only now complete after 10 years of construction, which has endless research and education possibilities.

The bill also directs the development of new NASA-led heavy lift vehicles utilizing shuttle and constellation work, which will make our astronauts have the opportunity for even greater exploration to asteroids and eventually to Mars sooner than the current program. This exploration mission will drive technological innovation as we strive to address its challenges, as well as to inspire our students to become engineers and astronauts. And the bill provides funding to update the infrastructure at Kennedy Space Center so it will truly be America's 21st-century gateway to space.

Finally, the authorization bill seeds the commercial spaceflight industry, which includes new entrepreneurial small businesses, along with the giants of aerospace and decades of experience sending our astronauts and cargo into space.

□ 2130

This will provide new job opportunities for our skilled workforce and options for researchers and tourists to experience spaceflight.

On Friday in my district, about 900 workers will lose their jobs as the shuttle program begins to wind down. We must do everything that we can possibly do to preserve this unique workforce, as was referred to my by colleague earlier.

We cannot afford to lose our technological supremacy because we have failed to act. Failure is not an option. Please vote ''yes'' on the bill.

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

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield 7 minutes to the chair of the Space and Aviation Subcommittee, the gentlelady from Arizona (Ms. GIFFORDS), who has had, very conscientiously, 17 or 18 subcommittee meetings on this subject.

Ms. GIFFORDS. Mr. Speaker, first of all, I would like to recognize Chairman GORDON for his outstanding leadership chairing our full committee. We are going to miss you, Mr. Chairman. It has been an outstanding experience for me the last couple of terms. And as well, to Ranking Member HALL and Ranking Member OLSON for their leadership.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to S. 3729, the Senate's NASA authorization bill.

As chair of the House Space and Aeronautics Subcommittee, and along with the other members of the subcommittee and full committee, we care deeply about the future of NASA and the future of our Nation's civil space program. NASA defines us as a Nation, who we are—our defense, our innovation, our inspiration, our ability to explore. We care deeply about the role that Congress needs to play to ensure that NASA will embark on an executable and a sustainable path for the future.

In contrast to supporters of the Senate bill who will say that today they reluctantly support the Senate bill because it is better than doing nothing, I have no reluctance in telling you that this is a bad bill. It will do damage to NASA if enacted, and it should be voted down tonight.

Now, I know that Members have a lot of different issues on their minds today. Certainly most Members didn't even know that a NASA authorization bill was coming up for a vote today. So for Members who are making up their minds on whether to support this bill today, I would like to offer a couple of reasons why you should oppose it.

If you are a member of the Blue Dog Coalition or a member of the Republican Study Committee, you should oppose this bill because it lacks serious budgetary discipline. To be specific, the bill contains an unfunded mandate to keep the shuttle program going through all of fiscal year 2011, even after the shuttle is retired, which, by NASA estimates, will cost NASA more than one-half billion dollars for 2011, and it doesn't have that money. It will bust the budget for the shuttle and jeopardize NASA's other important science, aeronautics, and technology programs.

It also contains a rocket designed not by our best engineers but by our colleagues over on the Senate side. By NASA's own internal analysis, they estimate this rocket will cost billions more than the Senate provides.

And, finally, if you are a Blue Dog or a member of the Republican Study Committee, or any Member of Congress, you should strenuously oppose a $58 billion funding bill that is being brought up on the last day before adjourning with no House input on its creation and no opportunity for amendment by Members of the House. This is not the functioning bicameral legislature that our Founding Fathers fought to create.

Next, if you are a Member who cares deeply about STEM education or minority education programs, you need to know that this bill is written in a certain way that NASA's STEM education programs and Minority University Research and Education programs will be cut in excess of 30 percent.

What does this mean? Well, it means if you represent a Historically Black College or University or Hispanic-serving institution, a tribal college, this sort of institution, you will be affected by these cuts.

In addition, if you care about the future of NASA's human spaceflight program, you should oppose this bill. As I mentioned earlier, this bill contains provisions that will force NASA to build a rocket designed by Senators and not by engineers. Contrary to assertions that this bill's supporters talk about, this rocket will be too large to economically serve as a backup commercial crew transport to the space station. It may also prove to be too small to effectively undertake human missions beyond low-Earth orbit. Not only do NASA's own internal studies indicate that it will cost significantly more than the Senate is budgeting, but they also estimate that it will become operational years later than the Senate plan assumes.

So we are looking at this gap and, in short, the Senate bill forces NASA to build a rocket that doesn't meet its needs, with a budget that is not adequate to do the job, and on a schedule that NASA's own analyses says is unrealistic. That is not my idea of the executable and sustainable human spaceflight program that we all desire.

And, finally, if you care about corporate responsibility, if you care about safety, and if you want to prevent us

from being in the position a few years down the road of having to choose between sending more money to Russia or bailing out the would-be commercial crew and cargo providers who fail to perform in budget and on schedule, you should oppose this Senate NASA bill. The Senate bill gives an additional $1.6 billion to would-be commercial cargo and crew transport companies who have yet to demonstrate that they can do either. There is no obligation that these commercial companies put any ''skin in the game'' of their own, and the safety requirements on their rockets are vague at best.

Since the Senate bill provides no credible government backup capability to the would-be commercial providers, approving the Senate bill today would inevitably put NASA in the position of relying on these companies that will become too big to fail. The American taxpayers will then have to bear the responsibility and the burden of bad public policy if we vote on this bill tonight. I think that the public deserves better.

Now, I know that in the Senate there is a lot of debate, and some Members will fall back on the argument that they have to approve this tonight before the end of the fiscal year because the contractors are facing layoffs. And no one has more sympathy than members of our subcommittee about the workforce, but the reality is different. It is different than the rhetoric.

Aerospace jobs are tied to funding, and funding for NASA for the balance of this calendar year will be set by the continuing resolution that we will be voting on tonight, not this authorization bill. Funding for the remainder of fiscal year 2011 will be determined by the appropriations bill that we enact after we return for a lame duck session, not by this authorization.

The bill before us today cannot change the fact that the funding level for NASA's workforce, and any layoff that will result from that funding level, will be the result of the continuing resolution and subsequent appropriation bills and not this authorization. So Members should not be fooled by this red herring argument. The truth is that you will not be doing anything to stop layoffs tonight by voting for the Senate bill today.

Does the aerospace industry need certainty? Absolutely. But they need certainty in an executable and affordable program that the Senate bill does not provide.

Could the problems with the Senate bill be fixed? Of course they could. But that is what the legislative process is about, not under suspension of the rules with no amendments allowed.

The fact of the matter is that there was a compromise NASA Authorization Act of 2010 that Science and Technology Chairman Bart Gordon proposed and is the direct result of lengthy discussions with the Senate and the House Members. Of course, that isn't perfect, and no bill is, but flaws can be fixed by discussion between the Chambers. But if you vote tonight positively on this Senate bill, the democratic process that has been the cornerstone of our democracy will be undermined and that will not occur.

So let's take the time to get this job done, and done the right way. Let's vote down the Senate bill tonight so we can work with Chairman GORDON, Ranking Member HALL, and the Senate on a compromise bill so that we can have a responsible NASA bill that can be acted upon when we return for the lame duck session.

In closing, if you care about budgetary discipline, protecting STEM education, minority education programs, if you care about NASA's human spaceflight program, you should vote ''no'' on the Senate authorization bill.

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CULBERSON).

Mr. CULBERSON. Mr. Speaker, if I could just very briefly point out to remind the Members and the people here that if we don't pass this bill tonight, there is no more manned space program.

The administration is pursuing a policy of aggressively and rapidly shutting down America's manned space program by bureaucratic order, by Executive order. It is all being done right now as we speak. If we don't pass this bill, there will not be another one by the end of the year, and by the end of the year there will be no more manned space program.

So any differences or concerns we have with this bill—and we all have concerns with it—can be fixed next year in the process. But it is essential to supersede by Federal statute, which we will pass tonight, and we will stop the Obama administration cold. We will stop them from shutting down America's manned space program so we have a program for our kids in the future.

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. CULBERSON. I yield to the gentlewoman from Texas.

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Minority institutions and the STEM program are also to be protected, as we come back and we are able to work with the appropriations process and work with the Senate on protecting these programs that are very important to Historically Black Colleges.

Mr. CULBERSON. Absolutely. All the concerns that have been raised can all be solved through the legislative process and appropriations. We will take care of them.

□ 2140

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield the balance of my time to the gentleman from California (Mr. SCHIFF).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman is recognized for 1 minute.

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the NASA Authorization Act to provide direction and stability for our Nation's space program. Tens of thousands of aerospace workers in communities across the country are looking to Congress to set a sustainable path for human spaceflight that will minimize the spaceflight gap and ensure that NASA is able to accomplish its mission of human exploration into the solar system.

This bill fully funds NASA's science mission to continue Earth-observing satellites, Mars rovers, space telescopes and other missions that provide valuable insight into our planet, our solar system and our universe.

It also revitalizes NASA's dormant Technology Development Program, which will provide the tools needed to push human and robotic exploration to new heights and destinations. It authorizes an evolvable NASA launch vehicle. It also provides for an additional shuttle flight in bringing vital tools and supplies to the space station.

I want to express my sincere appreciation to our chairman for his extraordinary leadership for many years and his unwavering support of NASA, and urge my colleagues to support the bill.

Mr. HALL of Texas. I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Houston, Texas (Mr. AL GREEN).

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. HALL, the ranking member on the Science Committee, for allowing me this 1 minute. I also would like to thank the chairperson, Mr. GORDON, for his outstanding years of service and commitment.

This bill is about science, it is about technology, it is about education, but it is also about jobs, and it is about jobs at a time of high unemployment. It is about jobs and families that will benefit from having stability within the family unit.

I concede that there is more that I would like to see in the bill, but I am in a position where I must now stand for what is obtainable, and we need to go after the jobs in this bill.

I am begging my colleagues to please understand that in this time of high unemployment, let's keep Americans working. Let's make sure that every family has an opportunity to have a breadwinner. Let's vote for this bill, and let's improve upon it with other legislation that may follow.

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. POSEY).

Mr. POSEY. Mr. Speaker, certainly no one in this Chamber wants to yield the military high ground to countries that are not friendly to us, and without the passage of this legislation, unfortunately, we will do that.

The legislation before us asks NASA to do too much with too little. There is something in here for everybody to hate, sure enough, but there is no other alternative. If we at least pass this legislation, we will keep the dream alive through the first of the year, and hopefully through the appropriations process we can move this country back on

the right path to maintaining the economic and national militaristic security that is necessary for this generation and for future generations to prosper.

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I have.

Mr. Speaker, with my appreciation to Ms. GIFFORDS and the chairman and everybody here that has spoken, I just want to sum it up real quickly.

The Senate bill being considered today is an attempt to provide congressional direction to a floundering agency. We simply can't let anybody continue to shut down our human spaceflight program.

Failure to reauthorize NASA provides further uncertainty to an agency in limbo, stalling efforts to develop a successor vehicle once the shuttle is retired next year, and could result in the loss of thousands of high-tech jobs nationwide.

I could vote for either of these bills. I am not in love with either of these bills. I feel like the coach's wife who was crying. He came home. He said, ''What's wrong, honey?'' She said, ''You like football better than you do me.'' And he said, ''Yeah, but I like you better than I do basketball.''

I am that way with these two programs. I like both of them, either one of them. But we have to have one go, and I urge the acceptance of this bill today and passage of S. 3729.

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Authorization Act of 2010. As a stalwart supporter of NASA and with the privilege of representing the world-class workers at the NASA Glenn Research Center (NASA Glenn), I strongly support the vital workforce protections included in the Senate bill. My opposition to this legislation stems from my concern for the NASA's long-term health. I am concerned that the language in the underlying bill sends the agency on a path toward privatization, and privatization undermines the agency and its workers.

I unequivocally support language in the underlying bill that provides NASA's unparalleled civil-servants with three years of protection from layoffs under a Reductions-In-Force (RIF) moratorium. For years, NASA employees have been caught in the cross-hairs of repeated program reorganizations and major cuts in in-house R&D funding—and they have paid for it with job loss and insecurity. The compromise language proposed by Chairman GORDON does not have the RIF moratorium I wanted. But it does include a RIF moratorium for a year and a half. Chairman GORDON was making progress toward a viable alternative and I believe that provisions in this bill under consideration today leave NASA employees vulnerable in the long-term and could force the agency to continue down the unsustainable path it currently finds itself on.

NASA research centers such as NASA Glenn—and the agency as a whole—will benefit more from increased investments in Solar-Electric Propulsion, High Efficiency Space Power Systems, Green Aviation and Cryogenic Propellant Storage and Transfer within the Aeronautics, Space Technology and Exploration programs. These programs are critical in the development of next generation technologies to support future key NASA missions over the next decade. These programs need to be funded. And they are often the first to be cut. In fact, this legislation includes a $500 million unfunded mandate to extend Shuttle operations through Fiscal Year 2011, which means that Shuttle funding will have to come from somewhere else within NASA.

The NASA Authorization Act of 2010 privatizes two key functions for NASA; transporting crew and cargo to the International Space Station (ISS). Commercial providers have been given the opportunity to provide cargo to the space station and, according to Government Accountability Office (GAO), they have failed to meet the required safety benchmarks. The GAO also raises serious concerns about the lack of expertise at the Federal Aviation Administration to oversee the commercial space launch industry. This bill not only furthers the outsourcing of cargo transportation, but expands it to include transporting crew.

The results of privatizing government services frequently follow a pattern in which a company assumes control of a service from the government by promising lower costs. After winning the contract, the company requests more funding to do the job, and then attempts to save its own money by cutting corners through cuts in pay, benefits and safety. Our astronauts deserve better than to have their lives put at risk.

Further, if the services are privatized, those competencies among the expert staff at NASA would be effectively irreversible because it would take so much time to rebuild them. We must preserve and leverage ongoing technical work on Service Module for human spaceflight beyond Low Earth Orbit. This work will be critical to maintaining jobs and core-intellectual competencies embodied within the agency.

This legislation also fails to provide the agency with the option of a government-vehicle back-up should the commercial sector be unable to satisfactorily provide the services for which they were hired. The Augustine Commission—the Commission President Obama tasked with reviewing future human space flight plans—believed it would be too risky to rely solely on the commercial sector and suggested including a government back-up option.

Providing more money to the commercial sector without the necessary safety and regulatory safeguards could come at the expense of other in-house, long-lead research and development programs.

I cannot support legislation that provides the government with no other option than to rely exclusively on the commercial sector. I will continue to work with appropriators to preserve and protect civil servant jobs at NASA and I urge my colleagues to oppose this bill.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, today, I voted against S. 3729, the NASA Reauthorization Act because it will ultimately add $230 billion to our deficit to under the ruse that we must land a man on Mars.

In 2004, President Bush announced his Mission to Mars initiative, with a goal of manned space flight to the moon and then to Mars. What President Bush didn't reveal was the future costs of Mission to Mars that would swell to astronomic levels and create further havoc with the federal budget.

With our economy still in a ditch and our national debt having doubled in the last 8 years, the United States cannot afford to begin a new space cowboy adventure. It is only reasonable that we reassess our budget priorities, just as millions of struggling Americans are reassessing theirs. Tough choices must be made, and manned space expeditions are not worth expanded deficit spending.

A 2008 report from the Government Accountability Office reported that NASA has estimated the total cost of the planned Mission to Mars, will have a final cost of over $230 billion. That is not affordable in even the best of economic times.

In response to this breathtaking cost estimate, I attached an amendment to the 2008 NASA Reauthorization directing the Congressional Budget Office to update its budgetary analysis on NASA's near term exploration plans for the moon.

CBO reported that the average NASA program experiences a 50% cost growth over initial budget estimates, with some programs experiencing a final cost of almost 250% over initial estimates. It goes on to state that in order for NASA to meet its current schedule to get to the moon, it would have t spend $110 billion through 2020.

Americans need to know that in these uncertain times we are doing everything we can to restore fiscal discipline and put our economy back on track. We've been to the moon, and we do not need to spend $110 billion to go there again. We certainly can't afford the $230 billion to go to Mars.

S. 3729, continues the costly Constellation program and specifically insists on the development of heavy-lift rockets. This bill keeps alive a program that should be eliminated.

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support our national space industry. This industry is now facing a crisis point.

S. 3729, the NASA Authorization Act, gives NASA direction so the agency, contractors, and employees can plan for the future.

This bill will give NASA direction for foreseeable future. I am pleased that the ability to excite students and inspire our nation's youth to enter careers in STEM will continue. Being an astronaut or a rocket scientist are some the most exciting job descriptions one can have. This bill allows children to dream of becoming one of them again.

The bill contains an extra $50 million for the Space Technology Program led by NASA's new Chief Technology Officer, Bobby Braun, to include hundreds of scholarships allowing students to study math, science, and engineering. Minority education funding has been stable and this bill calls for the continuation of these programs. NASA and Administrator Bolden continue to actively support these programs and the Administration will work to ensure future funding is consistent with the President's request.

In addition this bill keeps shuttle employees and contractors in place for a while longer, sustains exploration funding. The country gains from launches and this bill continues those. This bill provides funding to upgrade critical infrastructure at Kennedy Space Center for the future of the space industry. Also, the bill extends the life of the International Space Station. The science we have received from the International Space Station is invaluable and this bill continues that project.

We need to pass this bill now. Science and space exploration wait for no one, not even

politicians. We cannot let the perfect be the enemy of the good.

NASA serves a vital role in our economy and education system. Therefore, please join me in voting Yes on S. 3729.

Mr. HALL of Texas. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GORDON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 3729.

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. GIFFORDS. 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.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF SENATE AMENDMENTS TO H.R. 3081, CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2011

Mr. PERLMUTTER, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 111–655) on the resolution (H. Res. 1682) providing for consideration of the Senate amendments to the bill (H.R. 3081) making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

DELAYING MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE IN AMERICAN SAMOA AND NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendments to the bill (H.R. 3940) to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to extend grants and other assistance to facilitate a political status public education program for the people of Guam.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the Senate amendments is as follows:

Senate amendments:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING POLITICAL STATUS EDUCATION IN GUAM.

It is the sense of Congress that the Secretary of the Interior may provide technical assistance to the Government of Guam under section 601(a) of the Act entitled ''An Act to authorize appropriations for certain insular areas of the United States, and for other purposes'', approved December 24, 1980 (48 U.S.C. 1469d(a)), for public education regarding political status options only if the political status options are consistent with the Constitution of the United States.

SEC. 2. MINIMUM WAGE IN AMERICAN SAMOA AND THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS.

(a) DELAYED EFFECTIVE DATE.—Section 8103(b) of the Fair Minimum Wage Act of 2007 (29 U.S.C. 206 note) (as amended by section 520 of division D of Public Law 111–117) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)(B), by inserting ''(except 2011 when there shall be no increase)'' after ''thereafter'' the second place it appears; and

(2) in paragraph (2)(C), by striking ''except that, beginning in 2010'' and inserting ''except that there shall be no such increase in 2010 or 2011 and, beginning in 2012''.

(b) GAO REPORT.—Section 8104 of such Act (as amended) is amended—

(1) by striking subsections (a) and (b) and inserting the following:

''(a) REPORT.—The Government Accountability Office shall assess the impact of minimum wage increases that have occurred pursuant to section 8103, and not later than September 1, 2011, shall transmit to Congress a report of its findings. The Government Accountability Office shall submit subsequent reports not later than April 1, 2013, and every 2 years thereafter until the minimum wage in the respective territory meets the federal minimum wage.''; and

(2) by redesignating subsection (c) as subsection (b).

Amend the title so as to read: ''An Act to clarify the availability of existing funds for political status education in the Territory of Guam, and for other purposes.''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER) and the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I request 5 legislative days during which Members may revise and extend and insert extraneous material on H.R. 3940 into the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of the Senate amendment to H.R. 3940. This amendment addresses two issues: The political status and education in Guam; and adjustment of the minimum wage schedules for two other Pacific territories, American Samoa and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Current law requires the minimum wage to increase in both of these territories by 50 cents per year until they reach the mainland's Federal minimum wage. Current law also requires the GAO to submit annual reports to the Congress on economic conditions for the minimum wage in both of these territories. These GAO reports are intended to give Congress information so that, if necessary, Congress can adjust the minimum wage schedules in these territories. The adjustments proposed in this bill are as a result of the GAO's latest report.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, as we wind down this session of this Congress, it is probably fitting that this bill is in front of us, because the bill before us today is intended to provide economic relief to the Territories of American Samoa and the Northern Marianas. Specifically, these territories, which are each home to approximately 70,000 people, are appealing to us, to Congress, to forestall congressionally mandated increases in the minimum wage in their territories.

It was the Speaker Pelosi-led Congress in 2007 that imposed this job-killing policy. The impacts in these territories have been very real and very severe, especially in American Samoa, which has seen one of its two primary employers, tuna packing plants, shut down after the minimum wage policy went into effect.

□ 2150

The next increase in the minimum wage in these territories is slated to take effect at the end of this month, Mr. Speaker. That's tomorrow, Thursday, September 30. So there is indeed an urgent need to act right now.

While I agree with the need to spare these territories from the economic havoc that this Democrat Congress has inflicted on them, there are other laws that this Democrat Congress has imposed over the objections, and against the will, of the American people. The most obvious one has been talked about for nearly a year—and that, of course, is the Big Government health care takeover that is threatening, among others, small businesses. It has also caused some seniors to lose their Medicare coverage and we are seeing costs in health care insurance premiums that are rising higher and higher. And the 2001 and 2003 tax relief that is slated to expire at the end of this year, of course, has not been addressed. Thousands of small businesses will be hit with this massive tax increase. In fact, rates will rise on all individual taxpayers. The child tax credit will be cut in half. The marriage penalty return and the death tax would revert back to its high rate. And yet, Mr. Speaker, this Congress has voted to adjourn and leave town without addressing these tax increases. This uncertainty we have seen across the country inflicts a terrible toll on our economy.

However, always a silver lining, Mr. Speaker. With this bill, the Democrat Congress admits that they were wrong, that the policies they imposed are costing real people their jobs. I'm glad that they admit here tonight what they have done. But I should say this as, again, we're winding down, Mr. Speaker. Relief shouldn't just come for American Samoa. Americans across the 50 States are losing jobs and hurting because of the actions of this Democrat Congress. They, too, Mr. Speaker, need relief.

With that, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. At this time I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO).

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California.

I rise in support of H.R. 3940, which clarifies the authority of the Secretary of the Interior to extend assistance to Guam for the purpose of public education regarding political status options available to the territory of Guam. I introduced H.R. 3940 in October of last year, and the House passed this bill last year by voice vote. The Senate recently made some changes to the bill, given the administration's testimony on the bill before the Senate Energy and Commerce Committee on May 19 of this year.

H.R. 3940 represents an opportunity for Congress to fulfill its responsibility to Guam under the United States Constitution. The territorial clause in article IV of the United States Constitution vests with this body the power to dispose of and make all needful rules and regulations respecting the territories of the United States. Guam has been part of the United States now for over 111 years as an unincorporated territory and at the moment remains listed by the United Nations as one of several non-self-governing territories. Ceded to the United States by Spain, along with our sister territory Puerto Rico at the end of the Spanish American War, the people of Guam are ready to exercise their aspirations toward self-determination of their political status.

This bill is not meant to favor any particular political status option, nor is it meant to assert direct congressional involvement in this process. Ultimately, it is the sole responsibility of Congress to respond to the desires of the people of Guam on the question of status.

The bill is supported by the Governor of Guam, the Speaker of the Guam legislature, and several indigenous rights organizations on Guam. Further, the administration supports the enactment of H.R. 3940. I would also add that section 2 of the bill before us would make an adjustment to the implementation of public law 110–28 to American Samoa and the Northern Mariana Islands. This adjustment comes based on the thorough analysis of the Government Accountability Office at the request of American Samoa and the Northern Marianas. The gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) has worked steadfastly on this matter to ensure an appropriate balance is struck. I, too, want to thank him for his diligence.

As chairwoman of the Subcommittee on Insular Affairs, Oceans, and Wildlife, and on behalf of my constituents, I ask that my colleagues support this bill.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. KING).

Mr. KING of Iowa. I thank the gentleman from Washington for yielding.

I came down here to the floor out of support for Guam, half a day, where America's day begins. And the first cup of coffee in America is there on Guam. So I have a special place in my heart for Guam, and I support the educational components of this legislation. I also come here, Mr. Speaker, and I think it is a bit unusual, but I support the balance of this underlying legislation that was amended to the gentlelady from Guam's bill in the Senate. I do that, but I also support the words of Mr. HASTINGS of Washington, who says that Democrats have admitted they were wrong.

We have to look at this legislation and see that the minimum wage was imposed upon the Northern Marianas and American Samoa in 2007. Two tuna canning factories; now one has closed as a direct result of the imposition of a minimum wage. And the sole garment factory in the Northern Marianas has also closed because of a direct result, at least in significant part, because of the imposition of minimum wage. It is a microcosm economy that anybody that understands free enterprise should know that when the government artificially raises the cost of wages, businesses that have to stay, therefore a profit, can't stay open unless they can operate from a profit.

Labor is, Mr. Speaker, a commodity. It is a commodity like gold or oil or corn or beans. Labor: it is a precious commodity. And the value of it needs to be determined by supply and demand in the marketplace, not by the United States Government.

And so here we are with a damaged economy out in the Pacific in America's territories and an example for all this Congress that if we continue to increase government-imposed regulations, government-imposed minimum wage, for example, and all of the burden that's been put upon the free enterprise system over here with this overmanagement and this Keynesian economist on steroids, which is our President's economic policy, we're going to pay the price in the United States of America the same way they're paying the price in American Samoa and the Northern Marianas.

I support the bill.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA).

(Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California, the distinguished chairman of the Education and Labor Committee, and I also want to thank my good friend, the distinguished ranking member of our Resources Subcommittee on the other side of the aisle for their management of this bill.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation is of critical importance to the people of American Samoa. How ironic, Mr. Speaker, that last year, on this very day, September 29, American Samoa was hit by the most powerful earthquake, which struck below the ocean at about 140 miles south of the Samoa Islands. The earthquake, which registered 8.3 on the Richter scale, set off a massive tsunami that ended up with 20-foot waves and causing a lot of villages to be severely damaged. People died, sweeping cars out in the ocean. It was a terrible experience for the people.

Mr. Speaker, one day after this, one of our two major tuna processing companies closed its operations in American Samoa, displacing well over 2,000 workers whose jobs were outsourced basically to Thailand, where workers are paid seventy-five cents per hour or even less at that time.

Mr. Speaker, today I am asking my colleagues in the House to support this legislation. While I am fully aware that some of my friends on the other side of the aisle who represent rural communities have similar challenges, I am deeply appreciative of the support that I have received from the other side of the aisle, my Republican friends.

□ 2200

I also want to thank Majority Leader REID and the Senator from Arizona, Senator MCCAIN, Senator DEMINT, and Senator COBURN for their support of this legislation on the other side, and especially my dear colleague from the territory of Guam and her chairmanship, and not only that but her sponsorship of this legislation, Congresswoman BORDALLO.

I thank Majority Leader HOYER, the chairman of our Education and Labor Committee, and Chairman RAHALL. And I also want to say that I need the support of my colleagues on this legislation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. I yield the gentleman an additional 30 seconds.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. I want to say to my friend from the distinguished State of Washington that, again, I deeply, deeply appreciate his support and help in getting this legislation and making it for the consideration of the Members of this body.

With that, again, I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

I just want to say, Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation. This corrects actions that were done to these territories 3 years ago, and I think this is a very good policy. I wish we could have addressed this earlier rather than 1 day before the law would go into effect. So I urge my colleagues to support this much-needed legislation.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

As I mentioned in my opening statement, the adjustment proposed by this

bill is the result of the GAO's recent report. The recent GAO report lays out in great detail the serious economic difficulties confronting each territory to varying degrees. These difficulties arise from a variety of factors, including recent global economic conditions, ongoing economic diversification issues within the territories.

The GAO report justifies an adjustment to the minimum wage scale. Accordingly, the bill adjusts the schedule over the next 2 years by foregoing the 2010 increase in American Samoa and foregoing to 2011 increase in both American Samoa and the CNMI, and then in 2012 the normal schedule will be resumed. Last year we took similar action, and I would hope that everybody would support this bill.

I have to say, however, we have to correct some history here. First of all, the gentleman from Washington—I thank him for his support of this legislation—indicated that the hardship has fallen mostly on American Samoa. As the gentleman from American Samoa pointed out, some of that was due to the tsunami, but I would also suggest that American Samoa was covered at the insistence of Mr. KIRK from Illinois in the Appropriations Committee who insisted that the original legislation apply to American Samoa. That was not the original intent of the bill when we introduced it.

Secondly, the jobs in the CNMI, of course, have been in decline for some years because of the changes in the Multi-Fiber Agreement, and those jobs started migrating to China. Most of those plants were Chinese-owned, and they started pulling the machinery out of those plants and moving the machinery to China. That was hastened because of the Jack Abramoff scandals, and many of the labels, the big international American labels that were having clothing made in those plants, did not want that association and they left those plants in haste. And now the CNMI has no further garment industry at all, but that's been migrating over the last couple of years.

The problem was that, in fact, as we know, they were using the CNMI to sew into the label of these shirts ''Made in the USA'' when, in fact, they were not and they were made with what turned out to be, in many instances, slave labor from some of the poorest countries around the world. Many labels pulled out because they didn't want to be associated with those labor practices. They went off and had their clothes made in Indonesia or Mexico or the Caribbean or wherever. Others stayed and then things started getting worse. The final tier of the Multi-Fiber Agreement came along, and like so many other places in the Pacific, that's how that industry migrated to China, to Vietnam and elsewhere and left the CNMI.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. I yield to the gentleman.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Well, I appreciate the gentleman's giving some background on this, and I'm not going to refute that. However, it seems to me that the mere evidence of the remedy that we are proposing here is aimed at the minimum wage, which was passed in 2007, and the remedy addressing the minimum wage would certainly indicate to me that, at least in the real near term, the reason for this is the minimum wage, and so I stand by my remarks, but I know there's always more to it.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Certainly, the delegate from the CNMI continues to support the increase in the minimum wage. We're just trying to time it.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. If the gentleman will yield, I will just simply say that I find it remarkable that the remedy we are trying to pursue is prolonging an increase in the minimum wage.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. We could have gone the other way, maybe more in keeping with the Republican doctrine. We could have lowered the wages to 70 cents an hour and then they could have kept the jobs from going to Malaysia, but I don't think they could support themselves in these territories with that, especially with the construction going on in Guam.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. If the gentleman will yield, I don't recall during the debate that there was a discussion of any level of minimum wage as the gentleman was referring to, but as was pointed out by the gentleman from Iowa, it simply is a matter of supply and demand, and we need to be cognizant of that.

So, with that, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. I am happy to yield to the gentleman.

Mr. KLINE of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Senate amendment to H.R. 3940.

With great fanfare, this Democratic majority increased the federally mandated minimum wage as one of its first acts. At the time, many of us warned that without adequate financial relief or transition time, especially for small businesses, workers would be harmed by a proposal that was intended to help them.

We warned that teens seeking their first job and the chance to build work experience would have fewer opportunities. We warned that unskilled workers would be replaced by a smaller number of more highly skilled workers. And we warned that regions with comparatively low wages and living expenses would be especially hard hit because of the added cost to job-creators.

With nearly 15 million Americans searching for work, it's a terrible time to have to say we told you so.

In July 2007, when the first phase of the wage hike took effect, the national unemployment rate was 4.6 percent. For teenagers, the unemployment rate was 15.3 percent.

Today, while the overall unemployment rate stands at an unacceptably high 9.6 percent, the figure for teens is far worse: more than one-quarter of all teens are unemployed, a total of 26.3 percent.

Young African-American men perhaps bear the greatest burden from this irresponsible tinkering with the free marketplace. At the time Democrats passed their minimum wage hike, 31 percent of African-American teen males were unemployed; today, these same young men have a 50–50 chance of being unemployed.

No one would suggest federal wage mandates are the sole cause of this spike in unemployment. But the difference between the overall jobless rate and the number of teens who cannot find work is startling and should not be ignored.

Economists from the University of California, Irvine and the Federal Reserve reviewed more than 100 academic studies on the impact of the minimum wage around the time these increases began. They found overwhelming evidence that the least skilled and the young suffer a loss of employment when the minimum wage is increased.

Similarly hard hit by the wage requirement are the territories of American Samoa and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. A major tuna cannery in American Samoa closed its doors last year, laying off some 2,000 workers—roughly 12 percent of the territory's workforce. The second cannery has already laid off hundreds of workers and its future remains in doubt.

In April of this year, the Government Accountability Office reported on the how the wage rate harms these territories:

In American Samoa . . . Many employers reported having taken cost-cutting actions, such as freezing hiring and cutting worker benefits, since the increases began. Employers also reported planning actions such as leaving American Samoa or closing by the end of 2010. More employers attributed their actions to the minimum wage increases than to other factors. . . . In discussion groups, workers generally said that their support for the wage increases had dwindled because of concerns about issues such as the cannery closure, job insecurity, and loss of benefits.

Today, the House is voting on a measure to temporarily suspend the destructive federal wage mandates. Another increase is scheduled to take effect tomorrow, which makes immediate action imperative.

But we can't pretend the negative consequences of the minimum wage hike wreaking havoc on businesses in American Samoa aren't equally damaging to businesses in Muncie, Indiana. Or Le Center, Minnesota. Or Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Or anywhere else a business is struggling to meet its payroll and provide opportunities for its workers.

I certainly support this small measure of relief for the territories. Congress should do everything it can to right any wrongs it imposes on the people we are here to serve. However, I hope we do not fail to learn the larger lesson: Federal laws that force one-size-fits-all mandates on vastly different workers, workplaces, and communities often do far more harm than good.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WEINER). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER) that the House suspend the rules and concur in

the Senate amendments to the bill, H.R. 3940.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. 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.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE REPUBLICAN LEADER

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable JOHN A. BOEHNER, Republican Leader:

SEPTEMBER 28, 2010.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House,
H–232, U.S. Capitol,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER PELOSI: Pursuant to Section 214(a) of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (42 U.S.C. 15344), I am pleased to reappoint Mr. Thomas A. Fuentes of Lake Forest, California to the Election Assistance Commission Board of Advisors.

Mr. Fuentes has expressed interest in continuing to serve in this capacity and I am pleased to fulfill his request.

Sincerely,

JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Republican Leader.

APPOINTMENT AS MEMBER TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE NATIONAL URBAN AIR TOXICS RESEARCH CENTER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 112 of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7412), and the order of the House of January 6, 2009, the Chair announces the Speaker's appointment of the following member on the part of the House to the board of directors of the National Urban Air Toxics Research Center:

Ms. Jane Luxton, McLean, Virginia.

REAPPOINTMENT AS MEMBER TO SOCIAL SECURITY ADVISORY BOARD

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 703 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 903), and the order of the House of January 6, 2009, and upon the recommendation of the minority leader, the Chair announces the Speaker's reappointment, effective October 9, 2010, of the following member on the part of the House to the Social Security Advisory Board for a term of 6 years:

Mrs. Dorcas R. Hardy, Spotsylvania, Virginia.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF SENATE AMENDMENTS TO H.R. 3081, DEPARTMENT OF STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 1682 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 1682

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution, it shall be in order to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 3081) making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes, with the Senate amendments thereto, and to consider in the House, without intervention of any point of order except those arising under clause 10 of rule XXI, a single motion offered by the chair of the Committee on Appropriations or his designee that the House concur in the Senate amendments. The Senate amendments and the motion shall be considered as read. The motion shall be debatable for one hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the motion to final adoption without intervening motion or demand for division of the question.

□ 2210

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from New York is recognized for 1 hour.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. DREIER). All time yielded during consideration of the rule is for debate only.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. SLAUGHTER. I ask unanimous consent that all Members be given 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on House Resolution 1682.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, H. Res. 1682 provides for consideration of the Senate amendments to H.R. 3081, the Continuing Appropriations Act of 2011. The rule makes in order a motion offered by the chair of the Committee on Appropriations, or his designee, that the House concur in the Senate amendments to H.R. 3081. The rule provides 1 hour of debate on the motion, equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the motion, except those arising under clause 10 of rule XXI. And finally, the rule provides the Senate amendments and the motion shall be considered as read.

Mr. Speaker, we are here tonight to approve the continuing resolution to maintain a level and consistent funding stream for the government. It is an easy issue to demagogue, and it is my hope that everybody will work together now and quickly move this bill to passage and to the President's desk. The Senate voted earlier this evening on the same straightforward bill that keeps funding even for the fiscal year that begins on Friday. As you know, the CR before us will fund government agencies until December 3, and Congress will revisit the issue in November.

There are some on the other side who question why we are considering a CR. They want us to stay here in Washington instead of getting this done and heading back to our districts. If you ask me, we've been here long enough. It has been an historic, groundbreaking session of Congress that will improve the quality of life for millions of Americans and has exceeded all of our expectations.

Generations from now, history will show that Speaker PELOSI and our majority helped usher in far-reaching health care reform that had been tried for 100 years and put curbs on insurance companies, restructured Wall Street rules, reformed student aid, increased small business assistance, added new regulations on tobacco, curbed credit card abuses, and protected Social Security. It has been one of the most productive sessions of Congress that I have ever been associated with, and I am proud of all the work that we have behind us. But now it's time to approve the CR and go home.

No one should be surprised with the CR. With the exception of fiscal years 1989, 1995 and 1997, one continuing resolution at least has been enacted for each fiscal year since 1955. In the 12 years that Republicans controlled the House, CRs were enacted 84 separate times. As in previous years, we are extending funding with a CR but are making no changes in policy. And I hope all of my colleagues would join me in voting ''yes'' on this rule.

Mr. Speaker, before we spend more time on conversations about budgets and currency, I want to pause to pay tribute to a very special person who is retiring from Congress in November. Katharine Hayford, known to the world as Sophie, is more than just a dedicated member of the Rules Committee staff. She is an icon in the House, a symbol of the best attributes of the dedicated staff that keeps this place humming. She is a deep and irreplaceable reservoir of institutional knowledge, and to say she will be missed is a critical understatement.

Sophie is one of those rare people in Congress who has always been content to work quietly and professionally in the background. She never sought or wanted attention. Her pride was in being prepared for any scenario that could unfold in the hearing room or on the House floor. And as someone with more than a little experience on the Rules Committee, I can vouch for that. Almost anything can and does happen

here every day, and that is one of the things that makes the place so wonderful to work in.

It's common knowledge to those of us on Rules that the tiny cubby holes and shelves behind her desk have more yellowed and dog-eared records than the National Archives and more paper and reports than a Presidential library. Sophie saved everything. Whenever the members were on the floor to manage a rule, Sophie was ready and waiting with a massive, double-phonebook-sized binder filled with House precedents, statistics, talking points, and even items that she had culled from the many blogs and Web sites she devoured.

My first email from her every morning came between 5:35 and 6 a.m. But she is much more than a mini research factory. Sophie has a smile for everyone and went out of her way to provide cookies, raisins, almonds, crackers, chips, and even doughnuts on a regular basis to our hardworking staff. She did that on her own because she knew it was needed and appreciated. She bakes cakes, even vegan ones, out of deference to our staff that don't eat dairy. Her birthday celebrations are a familiar and comforting routine.

Before we had the privilege of working with Sophie, she worked in the personal office of Congressman Joe Moakley, who was a friend to all of us. Sophie spent 10 years on Congressman Moakley's staff before coming to the Rules Committee in 1986, the year that I was elected to Congress, and some of my staff had not yet been born. More recently, she has discovered the pleasures of France and is a frequent visitor to Paris, where she is learning the language and discovering sites.

And now, as she prepares to leave the Hill and spend more time with Brad, her quiet and extremely talented musician husband, it is time for us to say goodbye to Sophie and thank her for all this work over these many years.

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, will the gentlewoman yield?

Ms. SLAUGHTER. I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. DREIER).

Mr. DREIER. I thank my friend for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, before I begin my formal remarks, I want to join in expressing both appreciation and congratulations to Sophie Hayford for her 34 years of dedicated service to this institution. It is true, I think, that the thing that struck me—I mean, I have never analyzed the National Archives hidden behind her desk. I have been able to benefit from some of the wonderful things that she has cooked. But I will say, Mr. Speaker, the most important thing from my perspective is that Sophie Hayford has always, always, always offered a smile and encouragement, which doesn't always take place from side to side in this institution. And that's the thing that I will miss the most.

I just want to wish her well. I know that her first action is going to be to jet off to Paris. And I will say, mine is going to be to jet off to Los Angeles, California. And while I am looking forward enthusiastically to that, I will say that the idea of going to Paris is very appealing. So after 34 years of great service, having worked with our Rules Committee colleague Mr. MCGOVERN on the staff of Mr. Moakley, and having worked so closely with that great man, our former chairman, it is something that obviously taught Sophie a great deal, Mr. Speaker, because Joe Moakley was a man from whom I learned a lot, and I know others in this body who had the opportunity to serve with him and staff members who had the opportunity to work for and with him learned as well. So I would say that those 10 years of service in Mr. Moakley's personal office obviously played a big role in creating the kind of spectacular public servant that Sophie has been. And I want to join in wishing her well, Mr. Speaker.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. I reserve the balance of my time.

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

(Mr. DREIER asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I want to begin by expressing appreciation to my very good friend from Rochester for yielding me the customary 30 minutes, and to say that, not surprisingly, I believe that based on the facts, the American people have a slightly different take on what it is that has gotten us to where we are and what it is that we are doing here this evening. Apparently, the House is wrapping up its business tonight, adjourning early for the campaign season. Our final act will be the passage of this continuing resolution, made necessary by this majority's many, many failures.

Our friends on the other side of the aisle like to remind us over and over again that they have completed their agenda. We just heard that from the distinguished chairwoman. That completed agenda is, Mr. Speaker, the failed stimulus bill, the unsuccessful cap-and-trade legislation, and the evermore unpopular government takeover of our health care system.

What they will not mention, Mr. Speaker, what they will not mention is the work that they did not do. They did not pass a budget for the first time since the implementation of the 1974 Budget and Empowerment Act. They did not complete work on a single appropriations bill. And to make matters worse, they are leaving town with a tax hike looming for the American people.

□ 2220

Mr. Speaker, this is not a record of which to be proud.

But that is not all. The 111th Congress is departing with another dubious distinction. Not a single bill was considered under an open amendment process, not one. Not a single bill in this entire Congress considered under an open amendment process. This fact alone makes this Congress the most closed Congress in history.

Let me say that again. Sadly for the American people who have been denied the opportunity to be heard in this institution, the action of not allowing one bill to be considered under an open rule has made this the single most closed Congress in the 221-year history of our Republic.

How did we end up here?

Wasn't it just 4 short years ago that we were promised a new direction?

Didn't Speaker PELOSI assure the American people that their business would be conducted in the most open, honest, ethical way possible?

Those promises are still available on the Speaker's Web site. It is almost eerie, as we look at the past 4 years, Mr. Speaker. It is almost eerie to read the words that appear on the Speaker's Web site. They read, in part: with integrity, civility and fiscal discipline, our new direction for America will use commonsense principles to address the aspirations and fulfill the hopes and dreams of all Americans. That is our promise to the American people.

Mr. Speaker, those are the words that at this moment are still on the Speaker's Web site: with integrity, civility and fiscal discipline, our new direction for America will use commonsense principles to address the aspirations and fulfill the hopes and dreams of all Americans. That is our promise to the American people.

Mr. Speaker, 4 years later, the hopes and dreams of the American people are being crushed by a tragically high unemployment rate and rising debt. They are clamoring to understand how and why legislation they pleaded with the Congress not to pass could be forced through with procedural games. They are wondering why, when they are being forced to tighten their own belts, the Congress refused to consider a budget for our Nation's spending priorities.

The American people know that this is not the new direction they were promised. They know that this majority has led our country the wrong way.

Today, my Republican colleagues on the Rules Committee and I released a new report that I have right here; and I would commend to my colleagues, and our colleagues who don't have a hard copy of it can get it by going to our site, which is houserulesrepublicans.house.gov. So I would commend this to our colleagues: ''The Wrong Way Congress: How the Democratic majority took America in the wrong direction with the wrong bills in the wrong way at the wrong time.''

And we have right inside here, Mr. Speaker, symbolic of what it is that we have gotten, the sign that many people across this country have seen: ''Putting America to Work Project funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.'' That is what we have right here. And we all know that this

sign, in and of itself, is an indication of the failure.

This report outlines the procedural abuses and the failures of the 111th Congress and the role that the House Rules Committee has played in executing them. Rather than focusing on job creation, as the American people wanted, the Democratic majority pursued a job-killing agenda based on reckless spending, over-regulation and, tragically, tax increases. The details are all too familiar by now.

It all started, Mr. Speaker, with the failed stimulus bill. There were no hearings, and well after midnight the bill was rushed through the Rules Committee at warp speed. We continue to hear that everything is done in the light of day, and the stimulus bill was passed out of the Rules Committee after midnight.

We were told that this lack of regular order, Mr. Speaker, was necessary to keep the unemployment rate below 8 percent. That is why we had to rush the stimulus through so we could make sure that the unemployment rate that at that point was at 7.7 percent would not exceed 8 percent.

Well, we all know today how painful it is that we across the country are suffering with a 9.6 percent unemployment rate, and in my State of California, a nearly 12½ percent unemployment rate.

Next up was the unsuccessful cap-and-trade legislation. Now, I don't need to remind any of my Rules Committee colleagues about our meeting on that bill. Think back to the cap-and-trade legislation. It wasn't considered in the light of day. Mr. Speaker, it was 3 o'clock in the morning—not 10 o'clock, 11 o'clock, 12 o'clock—3 o'clock in the morning, just hours before we voted here on the House floor, that my friend Mr. MCGOVERN was in the process of reading the motion to report out the special rule. He had already begun reading the motion to move this bill to the floor. And at that time, at 3 o'clock in the morning, we had dumped onto our places a very warm, 300-page amendment, a 300-page amendment that completely rewrote the bill.

It was that hearing, and that manager's amendment, that launched the hue and cry across this country when the American people said, read the bill. And the next day, Republican leader JOHN BOEHNER stood right where I am, and he took his privilege, as leader, to explain to our colleagues and the American people what was in that 300-page amendment.

Then, next up was the health care reform legislation. Who can forget the town hall meeting, the public outrage, the long hard slog that they went through, Mr. Speaker, to find the votes for its passage?

Things got so bad that the majority searched for ways to pass the bill without actually voting on it. It was dubbed the Slaughter Solution, named for our very distinguished committee chair. The public outrage was so intense that they eventually abandoned the so-called Slaughter Solution strategy.

Again, Mr. Speaker, that bill was reported from the Rules Committee in the middle of the night, not in the light of the day, in the middle of the night. The bill was unpopular when it was passed. And as we all know from public opinion polls today that we see from virtually every source, Democrat and Republican alike, that health care bill is even more unpopular now than it was then.

Mr. Speaker, as they pursued this job-killing agenda, the wrong-way Congress abandoned their constitutional responsibilities of budgeting and appropriations work. As I said earlier, for the first time since 1974, when the Budget Act was put into place, the House did not even consider a budget resolution. This failure was part and parcel of their strategy to shut down the appropriations process and restrict the amendment debate. It began in the summer of 2009, a year ago this past summer; and it became complete this year. We considered only two of the 12 spending bills and both with a hand-picked list of amendments.

Mr. Speaker, this crackdown was not without consequence. Listen to this number, Mr. Speaker. As the number of amendments declined, the rate of nondefense discretionary spending actually increased an astounding 91 percent. Nondefense discretionary spending since we put into place the crackdown on the opportunity for 435 Members, Democrat and Republican alike, to offer amendments, we have seen that increase take place since we saw the process for the first time ever completely shut down. This was not a coincidence.

So here we are on the final day of the legislative session before the election. The House is operating under unrestricted martial-law authority, giving the majority the ability to call up any bill at any time with just an hour's notice.

In the event that any of my colleagues are wondering when that happened, let me remind them that they voted for it last week when the House approved a rule providing for consideration of small business legislation. It is not surprising that most Members wouldn't notice. It was tucked into the rule, just as it has been for every single week that we have been in session, but one, since the month of May.

□ 2230

This is the new normal. The majority can do whatever it wants whenever they want to do it.

But let's remember, Mr. Speaker, what they won't do. They won't pass a budget. They won't vote to prevent the coming tax hikes that are crippling our economy with uncertainty. They won't allow a vote to get spending under control. They won't allow the House to debate a bill under an open rule.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I am an eternal optimist. I was privileged to be elected the day Ronald Reagan was elected President, and I believe in that Reagan sense of optimism. I believe that there is still a chance for the majority to do what was promised in a new direction for America, and that is to truly offer a new direction. I believe that the ''Wrong Way Congress'' can in fact make a U-turn and remove the uncertainty that is hurting our economy.

We can have a vote to prevent tax hikes on all Americans, including small businesses and job creators. We can have a vote on a responsible level of spending, sending a powerful signal that we will work together to get our fiscal house in order, as was promised and as can be still read on the Speaker's Web page. I believe, Mr. Speaker, that that would be the right thing to do for all of us and, most importantly, for the American people who have entrusted us with dealing with these very, very serious challenges and problems that we as a Nation face.

I urge my colleagues to defeat this rule, and I am going to urge my colleagues also to defeat the previous question first. And if we are successful in defeating the previous question, we will offer a motion to go to the spending levels that were before the failed stimulus and before the bailouts, to the 2008 spending levels.

Mr. Speaker, with that, I am going to urge a ''no'' vote on the previous question, and, if we are not successful on that, a ''no'' vote on the rule. And I will say let's work together in a bipartisan way to deal with these very important issues.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 30 seconds.

I just want to say to my friend, the eternal optimist, that I have served here for 22 years. I served in the State legislature in Albany, and I served in the county legislature. I have been a student of legislatures, Mr. Speaker, believe it or not, and I have never heard of, seen, or even contemplated any legislature anywhere where one party simply opted out and voted ''no'' on every single thing for political gain.

They did have plenty of opportunity at the hearings and all the committee meetings to make their input there and had a lot of effect, I think, with quite a bit of legislation that we passed. But we had to pass it, Mr. Speaker, the hard way.

I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN), from the Rules Committee.

Mr. MCGOVERN. I thank the chairwoman for yielding to me.

Mr. Speaker, I support the rule and I support the CR, and I hope that we will promptly act on it.

Mr. Speaker, rather than taking my time to talk about how the disgraceful policies of my Republican friends drove this economy into a ditch nearly bankrupting us and how we have had to spend all this time trying to clean up their awful mess, and rather than talk

about the Republicans' new pledge that they all just took that would drive this economy deeper into debt by, get this, passing tax cuts for millionaires and billionaires—not about middle-class tax cuts, but millionaires and billionaires; and that will be debt on the backs of our kids, and we will have to borrow that money from China and other countries—and, Mr. Speaker, rather than talking about how my Republican friends opposed all of our Democratic efforts to try to close corporate tax loopholes that eliminated tax incentives that allowed companies to ship jobs overseas, losing American jobs; and rather than talking about a number of the policies that they have stood for that I think have brought this country right to the edge of a cliff, I want to take my time instead to join with the distinguished chairwoman to praise my colleague and my friend, Sophie Hayford, who I am going to miss very much, not only because I think she represents the civility that desperately needs to come back to this House, but because she has been an incredible public servant.

At a time when we hear people denigrate those who work for the government, she is an example of what a government worker is all about—somebody who dedicates her entire life to trying to make the lives of others in this country better.

I have learned an awful lot from Sophie.

I first met her back in 1982, when I came to work here for Congressman Joe Moakley of South Boston, and Sophie was already a seasoned staffer when I arrived.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. I yield the gentleman an additional 1 minute.

Mr. DREIER. I yield my friend an additional 30 seconds.

Mr. McGOVERN. I thank the gentleman.

I learned a great deal from Sophie, and I admired her dedication and her loyalty to Joe Moakley. He treasured her as one of his most valued staff members and he truly loved her, because Sophie gave that job her all.

I got to work with Sophie in a new capacity when I got elected to Congress and she was already on the Rules Committee, and she taught me a lot about the Rules Committee, even more than I got to know when I worked for Joe Moakley. I think she is an incredible human being, and everybody who has had the honor and the privilege of working with her I think knows what I am talking about.

So, Mr. Speaker, I would like to just say that I think Sophie is a model for all of us, not just members of the staff, but Members of Congress, about what public service is all about. She has had her fingerprints on every major piece of legislation that has impacted the lives of millions of people. I will always admire her for that.

But most importantly and most personally, I admire her for being an incredible friend. She has been a wonderful friend for many, many years, and I am going to miss her a lot, and I think I speak for everybody when I say I love her a lot.

Mr. DREIER. I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. SUTTON), a former member of the Rules Committee.

Ms. SUTTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak to the underlying legislation. In particular, I rise in strong support of the provision that extends the period for filing stop loss compensation claims to December 3 of this year.

Under the stop loss measure that I originally introduced in 2008, servicemen and -women, including members of the Reserve, who had their service extended due to stop loss after September 11, 2001, are eligible for stop loss pay of $500 per month.

Our brave service men and women must know that we honor and respect their dedication and sacrifices to protect us and our country.

I received emails from servicemembers describing the effects of stop loss on their lives and the lives of their families. They share the hardship of being stop-lossed. They share some of the things that it has caused—financial problems and depression, family strife, and even divorce.

I am pleased that this bill will give our soldiers more time to file for the stop loss compensation that they deserve for all of their extended service in Iraq and Afghanistan.

I want my colleagues to know that these payments do not go unappreciated and urge all of you to help get the word out about the stop loss pay that some may be eligible for.

Yesterday, a posting online on VetVoice illustrates the importance of getting the word out about this pay. A Vietnam veteran tells us of an account of telling a few veterans about the stop loss pay, and he says:

''One, the big guy—I am over 6 feet and 200 pounds. If I call him a big guy, he is a big guy—had tears streaming down his face.

'' 'I was stop-lossed 11 months ago,' he said. 'I've used up all of my unemployment. You mean I can get $5,500?' he sputtered through the tears. 'Sure,' I answered. 'It's as easy as going to the Web site and following the links.'

''He grabbed me in a bear hug as he told me that his wife hadn't had a new thing in many months. His kids didn't even get new clothes for school, yet alone supplies. They'd been subsisting on food stamps and the occasional visit to the food bank. His gratitude was more crushing than his considerable strength.''

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. I yield 30 seconds more to Ms. SUTTON.

□ 2240

Ms. SUTTON. The other veteran said he hadn't quite sunk that low financially but he sure could use the money. They offered me their thanks, and we parted ways.

That is what this Vietnam veteran relayed in relation to an account that he had to share the news about stop loss pay that they were potentially entitled to. I hope that we will all get the word out. I am glad that we are extending the deadline. Our servicemembers deserve it and have earned it.

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I would ask if my friend is prepared to close.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. I am.

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, let me say that it is very troubling that we are here at this late hour having not passed a budget for the first time since the Budget Act was put into place in 1974, having not completed a single appropriations bill, and having passed legislation which has dramatically exacerbated the debt that is going to be shouldered by future generations.

We can do better, Mr. Speaker. I have no doubt that we can do better. We can do better right now. I and my colleagues are prepared to stay here so that we can ensure that Americans don't face the uncertainty of a tax increase, which will clearly impinge the potential for economic growth as we are struggling to get out of this recession. I am convinced that if we stay here, we can in fact get that done; I am convinced that if we stay, we could complete a budget; and I am convinced we could even complete the appropriations work.

Now, I know the writing is on the wall. We have passed an adjournment resolution. It is up to the majority leader to determine whether or not we can do this. But things have moved so quickly, things have moved out of the Rules Committee so quickly, I think that we should make an attempt to try and address our constitutionally mandated items, like passing a budget, like completing our appropriations work.

So I urge my colleagues to do that. It is very sad that this has become the wrong-way Congress. But as I said, I believe, Mr. Speaker, that we do have the chance to turn things around, make a U-turn.

This wrong-way Congress document is not filled with lots of hyperbole. It is filled with facts. It is filled with the very sad facts about what we have seen over the past 4 years, and I would commend it to my colleagues.

I am going to ask my colleagues to join me now in defeating the previous question. If the previous question is defeated, I will offer an amendment to the rule that will change the budget enforcement ''deemer'' resolution to reduce our discretionary spending levels to pre-bailout and pre-stimulus levels, 2008 levels.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the amendment appear in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD immediately prior to the vote on the previous question.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, this House, as I said, has failed to budget and failed to appropriate. The majority leadership of this House has actively denied Democrats and Republicans the opportunity to make spending decisions, particularly when it comes to cutting its Federal deficit. We can see the result, as I have been saying: A 91 percent increase in nondefense discretionary spending.

This amendment we have would restore some sanity to our fiscal outlook, and I urge my colleagues to join me in voting ''no'' on the previous question.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, let me talk about some of the consequences if we were to, and I pray we do not, vote ''no'' on the previous question.

My colleagues say they are going to extend the Bush tax cuts permanently, with a price tag of $4 trillion over the next 10 years, more than doubling the deficit, while cutting the domestic discretionary Federal budget back to 2008 levels, which they say will save $340 billion over the next decade.

Choosing once again to disinvest in America would save less than 10 percent of the increased deficits their policy would cause, but it would result in significant reductions to existing State and local law enforcement and crime-fighting programs.

It would slash and burn JAG grants, which help communities to fight crime, by $260 million. It would gut the STOP grant funding that helps States prevent and respond to violent crimes against women. Overall, the Department of Justice would be cut by $2.4 billion. That would result in thousands of law enforcement personnel being laid off.

The plan would slash $700 million from new law enforcement initiatives, including $210 million from DOJ and the FBI's cybersecurity, WMD, and counterterrorism programs, and 137 members from DEA, ATF and other agencies, all trying to fight the Mexican drug cartels that are threatening the communities along our borders.

The price is really much too great, Mr. Speaker. I urge a ''yes'' vote on the previous question.

The material previously referred to by Mr. DREIER is as follows:

AMENDMENT TO H. RES. 1682

OFFERED BY MR. DREIER OF CALIFORNIA

At the end of the resolution add the following new section:

BUDGET ENFORCEMENT

SEC. 2. In lieu of the budget enforcement levels established by paragraphs (a)(1)(B)(i) and (a)(1)(B)(ii) of House Resolution 1493:

(1) the new discretionary budget authority established by paragraph (a)(1)(B)(i) for fiscal year 2011 shall be $1,028,893,000,000; and

(2) the discretionary outlays established by paragraph (a)(1)(B)(ii) for fiscal year 2011 shall be $1,262,152,000,000.

(The information contained herein was provided by Democratic Minority on multiple occasions throughout the 109th Congress)

THE VOTE ON THE PREVIOUS QUESTION: WHAT IT REALLY MEANS

This vote, the vote on whether to order the previous question on a special rule, is not merely a procedural vote. A vote against ordering the previous question is a vote against the Democratic majority agenda and a vote to allow the opposition, at least for the moment, to offer an alternative plan. It is a vote about what the House should be debating.

Mr. Clarence Cannon's Precedents of the House of Representatives, (VI, 308–311) describes the vote on the previous question on the rule as ''a motion to direct or control the consideration of the subject before the House being made by the Member in charge.'' To defeat the previous question is to give the opposition a chance to decide the subject before the House. Cannon cites the Speaker's ruling of January 13, 1920, to the effect that ''the refusal of the House to sustain the demand for the previous question passes the control of the resolution to the opposition'' in order to offer an amendment. On March 15, 1909, a member of the majority party offered a rule resolution. The House defeated the previous question and a member of the opposition rose to a parliamentary inquiry, asking who was entitled to recognition. Speaker Joseph G. Cannon (R–Illinois) said: ''The previous question having been refused, the gentleman from New York, Mr. Fitzgerald, who had asked the gentleman to yield to him for an amendment, is entitled to the first recognition.''

Because the vote today may look bad for the Democratic majority they will say ''the vote on the previous question is simply a vote on whether to proceed to an immediate vote on adopting the resolution . . . [and] has no substantive legislative or policy implications whatsoever.'' But that is not what they have always said. Listen to the definition of the previous question used in the Floor Procedures Manual published by the Rules Committee in the 109th Congress, (page 56). Here's how the Rules Committee described the rule using information from Congressional Quarterly's ''American Congressional Dictionary'': ''If the previous question is defeated, control of debate shifts to the leading opposition member (usually the minority Floor Manager) who then manages an hour of debate and may offer a germane amendment to the pending business.''

Deschler's Procedure in the U.S. House of Representatives, the subchapter titled ''Amending Special Rules'' states: ''a refusal to order the previous question on such a rule [a special rule reported from the Committee on Rules] opens the resolution to amendment and further debate.'' (Chapter 21, section 21.2) Section 21.3 continues: Upon rejection of the motion for the previous question on a resolution reported from the Committee on Rules, control shifts to the Member leading the opposition to the previous question, who may offer a proper amendment or motion and who controls the time for debate thereon.''

Clearly, the vote on the previous question on a rule does have substantive policy implications. It is one of the only available tools for those who oppose the Democratic majority's agenda and allows those with alternative views the opportunity to offer an alternative plan.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on ordering the previous question.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. DREIER. 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, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

INTELLIGENCE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 1(c) of rule XIX, proceedings will resume on the bill (H.R. 2701) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2010 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 1674, the previous question is ordered.

The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. REYES).

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. REYES. 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, this 15-minute vote on the motion to concur will be followed by 5-minute votes on the previous question on House Resolution 1682; adoption of House Resolution 1682, if ordered; and motions to suspend the rules on S. 3729, Senate amendment to H.R. 946, and H.R. 512.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 244, nays 181, not voting 7, as follows:

[Roll No. 558]

YEAS—244

Ackerman	Cardoza	DeGette
Adler (NJ)	Carnahan	DeLauro
Altmire	Carson (IN)	Deutch
Andrews	Castor (FL)	Dicks
Arcuri	Chandler	Dingell
Baca	Childers	Djou
Baird	Chu	Doggett
Baldwin	Clarke	Donnelly (IN)
Barrow	Clay	Doyle
Bean	Cleaver	Driehaus
Becerra	Clyburn	Edwards (MD)
Berkley	Cohen	Edwards (TX)
Berman	Connolly (VA)	Ellison
Berry	Conyers	Ellsworth
Bishop (GA)	Cooper	Engel
Bishop (NY)	Costa	Eshoo
Blumenauer	Costello	Etheridge
Boccieri	Courtney	Farr
Boren	Critz	Fattah
Boswell	Crowley	Filner
Boucher	Cuellar	Foster
Boyd	Cummings	Frank (MA)
Brady (PA)	Dahlkemper	Fudge
Braley (IA)	Davis (AL)	Garamendi
Bright	Davis (CA)	Giffords
Brown, Corrine	Davis (IL)	Gonzalez
Butterfield	Davis (TN)	Gordon (TN)
Capps	DeFazio	Grayson

Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hall (NY)
Halvorson
Hare
Harman
Hastings (FL)
Heinrich
Herseth Sandlin
Higgins
Hill
Himes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hodes
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Inslee
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee (TX)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick (MI)
Kilroy
Kind
Kirkpatrick (AZ)
Kissell
Klein (FL)
Kosmas
Kratovil
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Luján
Lynch
Maffei
Maloney
Markey (CO)
Markey (MA)
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
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)
Payne
Perlmutter
Perriello
Peters
Peterson
Pingree (ME)
Polis (CO)
Pomeroy
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Reyes
Rodriguez
Ross
Rothman (NJ)
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Salazar
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schauer
Schiff
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sestak
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shuler
Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Space
Speier
Spratt
Stupak
Sutton
Tanner
Taylor
Teague
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Titus
Tonko
Towns
Tsongas
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watt
Weiner
Wilson (OH)
Woolsey
Yarmuth

NAYS—181

Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Austria
Bachmann
Bachus
Barrett (SC)
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Boehner
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boozman
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Broun (GA)
Brown (SC)
Brown-Waite, Ginny
Buchanan
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Buyer
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Cantor
Cao
Capito
Capuano
Carney
Carter
Cassidy
Castle
Chaffetz
Coble
Coffman (CO)
Cole
Conaway
Crenshaw
Culberson
Davis (KY)
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Dreier
Duncan
Ehlers
Emerson
Flake
Fleming
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Granger
Graves (GA)
Griffith
Guthrie
Hall (TX)
Harper
Hastings (WA)
Heller
Hensarling
Herger
Hoekstra
Hunter
Inglis
Issa
Jenkins
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan (OH)
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kirk
Kline (MN)
Kucinich
Lamborn
Lance
Latham
LaTourette
Latta
Lee (CA)
Lee (NY)
Lewis (CA)
Linder
LoBiondo
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel E.
Mack
Manzullo
Marchant
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul
McClintock
McCotter
McHenry
McKeon
McMorris Rodgers
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Moran (KS)
Murphy, Tim
Myrick
Neugebauer
Nunes
Olson
Paul
Paulsen
Pence
Petri
Pitts
Platts
Poe (TX)
Posey
Price (GA)
Putnam
Rehberg
Reichert
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Scalise
Schmidt
Schock
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shadegg
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Stark
Stearns
Sullivan
Terry
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Turner
Upton
Walden
Wamp
Watson
Waxman
Welch
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Wu
Young (AK)

NOT VOTING—7

Blunt
Delahunt
Fallin
Graves (MO)
Radanovich
Richardson
Young (FL)

□ 2315

Messrs. JOHNSON of Illinois, KIRK, and SHUSTER changed their vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

So the motion was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF SENATE AMENDMENTS TO H.R. 3081, CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2011

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on ordering the previous question on House Resolution 1682, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on ordering the previous question.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 240, nays 186, not voting 6, as follows:

[Roll No. 559]

YEAS—240

Ackerman
Altmire
Andrews
Arcuri
Baca
Baird
Baldwin
Barrow
Bean
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Boccieri
Boren
Boswell
Boucher
Boyd
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown, Corrine
Butterfield
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carson (IN)
Castor (FL)
Chandler
Chu
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Critz
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Dahlkemper
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis (TN)
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
Deutch
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly (IN)
Doyle
Driehaus
Edwards (MD)
Edwards (TX)
Ellison
Ellsworth
Engel
Eshoo
Etheridge
Farr
Fattah
Filner
Foster
Frank (MA)
Fudge
Garamendi
Gonzalez
Gordon (TN)
Grayson
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hall (NY)
Halvorson
Hare
Harman
Hastings (FL)
Heinrich
Herseth Sandlin
Higgins
Himes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hodes
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Inslee
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee (TX)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick (MI)
Kilroy
Kind
Kissell
Klein (FL)
Kosmas
Kucinich
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Luján
Lynch
Maffei
Maloney
Markey (CO)
Markey (MA)
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McIntyre
McMahon
McNerney
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Michaud
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy (NY)
Murphy, Patrick
Nadler (NY)
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Owens
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Payne
Perlmutter
Peters
Peterson
Pingree (ME)
Polis (CO)
Pomeroy
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Reyes
Richardson
Rodriguez
Ross
Rothman (NJ)
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Salazar
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schauer
Schiff
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sestak
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shuler
Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Speier
Spratt
Stark
Stupak
Sutton
Tanner
Teague
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Titus
Tonko
Towns
Tsongas
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch
Wilson (OH)
Woolsey
Wu
Yarmuth

NAYS—186

Aderholt
Adler (NJ)
Akin
Alexander
Austria
Bachmann
Bachus
Barrett (SC)
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Boehner
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boozman
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Bright
Broun (GA)
Brown (SC)
Brown-Waite, Ginny
Buchanan
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Buyer
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Cantor
Cao
Capito
Carter
Cassidy
Castle
Chaffetz
Childers
Coble
Coffman (CO)
Cole
Conaway
Crenshaw
Culberson
Davis (KY)
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Djou
Dreier
Duncan
Ehlers
Emerson
Flake
Fleming
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Giffords
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Granger
Graves (GA)
Griffith
Guthrie
Hall (TX)
Harper
Hastings (WA)
Heller
Hensarling
Herger
Hill
Hoekstra
Hunter
Inglis
Issa
Jenkins
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan (OH)
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kirk
Kirkpatrick (AZ)
Kline (MN)
Kratovil
Lamborn
Lance
Latham
LaTourette
Latta
Lee (NY)
Lewis (CA)
Linder
LoBiondo
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel E.
Mack
Manzullo
Marchant
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul
McClintock
McCotter
McHenry
McKeon
McMorris Rodgers
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Minnick
Mitchell
Moran (KS)
Murphy, Tim
Myrick
Neugebauer
Nunes
Nye
Olson
Paul
Paulsen
Pence
Perriello
Petri
Pitts
Platts
Poe (TX)
Posey

Price (GA)
Putnam
Rehberg
Reichert
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Scalise
Schmidt
Schock
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shadegg
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Space
Stearns
Sullivan
Taylor
Terry
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Turner
Upton
Walden
Wamp
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Young (AK)

NOT VOTING—6

Blunt
Delahunt
Fallin
Graves (MO)
Radanovich
Young (FL)

□ 2323

So the previous question was ordered.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 233, nays 191, not voting 8, as follows:

[Roll No. 560]

YEAS—233

Ackerman
Andrews
Arcuri
Baca
Baird
Baldwin
Barrow
Bean
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Boccieri
Boren
Boswell
Boucher
Boyd
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown, Corrine
Butterfield
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carson (IN)
Castor (FL)
Chandler
Chu
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Critz
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Dahlkemper
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis (TN)
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
Deutch
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle
Edwards (MD)
Edwards (TX)
Ellison
Ellsworth
Engel
Eshoo
Etheridge
Farr
Fattah
Filner
Foster
Frank (MA)
Fudge
Garamendi
Gonzalez
Gordon (TN)
Grayson
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hall (NY)
Halvorson
Hare
Harman
Hastings (FL)
Heinrich
Higgins
Himes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hodes
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Inslee
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee (TX)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick (MI)
Kilroy
Kind
Kissell
Klein (FL)
Kosmas
Kucinich
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Luján
Lynch
Maffei
Maloney
Markey (CO)
Markey (MA)
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McIntyre
McMahon
McNerney
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Michaud
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy, Patrick
Nadler (NY)
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Owens
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Payne
Perlmutter
Perriello
Peterson
Pingree (ME)
Polis (CO)
Pomeroy
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Reyes
Richardson
Rodriguez
Ross
Rothman (NJ)
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Salazar
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schauer
Schiff
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sestak
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Space
Speier
Spratt
Stupak
Sutton
Tanner
Teague
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Titus
Tonko
Towns
Tsongas
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch
Wilson (OH)
Woolsey
Wu
Yarmuth

NAYS—191

Aderholt
Adler (NJ)
Akin
Alexander
Altmire
Austria
Bachmann
Bachus
Barrett (SC)
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Boehner
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boozman
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Bright
Broun (GA)
Brown (SC)
Brown-Waite, Ginny
Buchanan
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Buyer
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Cao
Capito
Carter
Cassidy
Castle
Chaffetz
Childers
Coble
Coffman (CO)
Cole
Conaway
Crenshaw
Culberson
Davis (KY)
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Djou
Donnelly (IN)
Dreier
Driehaus
Duncan
Ehlers
Emerson
Flake
Fleming
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Giffords
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Granger
Graves (GA)
Griffith
Guthrie
Hall (TX)
Harper
Hastings (WA)
Heller
Hensarling
Herger
Herseth Sandlin
Hill
Hoekstra
Hunter
Inglis
Issa
Jenkins
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan (OH)
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kirk
Kirkpatrick (AZ)
Kline (MN)
Kratovil
Lamborn
Lance
Latham
LaTourette
Latta
Lee (NY)
Lewis (CA)
Linder
LoBiondo
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel E.
Mack
Manzullo
Marchant
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul
McClintock
McCotter
McHenry
McKeon
McMorris Rodgers
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Minnick
Mitchell
Moran (KS)
Murphy (NY)
Murphy, Tim
Myrick
Neugebauer
Nunes
Nye
Olson
Paul
Paulsen
Pence
Peters
Petri
Pitts
Platts
Poe (TX)
Posey
Price (GA)
Putnam
Rehberg
Reichert
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Scalise
Schmidt
Schock
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shadegg
Shimkus
Shuler
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Stark
Stearns
Sullivan
Taylor
Terry
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Turner
Upton
Walden
Wamp
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Young (AK)

NOT VOTING—8

Blunt
Cantor
Delahunt
Fallin
Graves (MO)
Kaptur
Radanovich
Young (FL)

□ 2329

So the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2010

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 3729) to authorize the programs of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration for fiscal years 2011 through 2013, 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 gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GORDON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 304, nays 118, not voting 10, as follows:

[Roll No. 561]

YEAS—304

Ackerman
Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Altmire
Arcuri
Baca
Bachmann
Bachus
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Becerra
Berkley
Biggert
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Blumenauer
Boccieri
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boozman
Boren
Boucher
Boustany
Boyd
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Bright
Broun (GA)
Brown (SC)
Brown, Corrine
Brown-Waite, Ginny
Buchanan
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Buyer
Calvert
Campbell
Cantor
Cao
Capito
Capps
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carson (IN)
Carter
Cassidy
Castor (FL)
Chaffetz
Chu
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coffman (CO)
Cole
Conaway
Connolly (VA)
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Crenshaw
Critz
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis (KY)
Davis (TN)
DeGette
DeLauro
Dent
Deutch
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Dicks
Dingell
Djou
Doggett
Donnelly (IN)
Doyle
Dreier
Driehaus
Edwards (TX)
Ellison
Ellsworth
Eshoo
Farr
Fattah
Filner
Fleming
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foster
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Fudge
Gallegly
Garamendi
Gerlach
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Gonzalez
Gordon (TN)
Granger
Grayson
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffith
Guthrie
Gutierrez
Hall (NY)
Hall (TX)
Halvorson
Hare
Harman
Harper
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Heinrich
Herseth Sandlin
Higgins
Himes
Holden
Honda
Hoyer
Hunter
Inslee
Issa
Jackson Lee (TX)
Jenkins
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick (MI)
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kirk
Kirkpatrick (AZ)
Kissell
Klein (FL)
Kline (MN)
Kosmas
Kratovil
Lamborn
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
Lee (NY)
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Linder
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luján
Lungren, Daniel E.

Maloney
Manzullo
Marchant
Markey (CO)
Markey (MA)
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul
McClintock
McCollum
McHenry
McIntyre
McKeon
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Minnick
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy, Patrick
Murphy, Tim
Nadler (NY)
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Neugebauer
Nunes
Nye
Obey
Olson
Olver
Ortiz
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Pence
Perlmutter
Perriello
Peters
Peterson
Pitts
Platts
Poe (TX)
Polis (CO)
Pomeroy
Posey
Price (NC)
Putnam
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Rehberg
Reichert
Reyes
Rodriguez
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rohrabacher
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Ross
Rothman (NJ)
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Salazar
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schauer
Schiff
Schock
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sessions
Sestak
Shadegg
Sherman
Shuler
Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Space
Speier
Spratt
Stearns
Stupak
Sutton
Taylor
Teague
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Titus
Tonko
Towns
Tsongas
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Wamp
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson
Weiner
Welch
Whitfield
Wilson (OH)
Wittman
Wolf

NAYS—118

Adler (NJ)
Andrews
Austria
Baird
Baldwin
Barrett (SC)
Barrow
Bean
Berman
Berry
Bilbray
Blackburn
Boehner
Boswell
Butterfield
Camp
Capuano
Castle
Chandler
Childers
Clarke
Clay
Coble
Cohen
Conyers
Courtney
Crowley
Dahlkemper
DeFazio
Duncan
Edwards (MD)
Ehlers
Emerson
Engel
Flake
Frank (MA)
Frelinghuysen
Garrett (NJ)
Giffords
Goodlatte
Graves (GA)
Grijalva
Heller
Hensarling
Herger
Hill
Hinchey
Hirono
Hodes
Hoekstra
Holt
Inglis
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Johnson (IL)
Jones
Jordan (OH)
Kagen
Kilroy
Kingston
Kucinich
Lance
LaTourette
Latta
Lee (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lummis
Lynch
Mack
Maffei
McCotter
McDermott
McGovern
Michaud
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Moore (WI)
Murphy (NY)
Myrick
Oberstar
Owens
Paul
Paulsen
Payne
Petri
Pingree (ME)
Price (GA)
Rogers (MI)
Roskam
Ryan (WI)
Schmidt
Sensenbrenner
Shea-Porter
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Stark
Sullivan
Tanner
Terry
Thompson (MS)
Tiberi
Tierney
Turner
Upton
Visclosky
Walden
Walz
Watt
Waxman
Westmoreland
Wilson (SC)
Woolsey
Wu
Yarmuth
Young (AK)

NOT VOTING—10

Blunt
Delahunt
Etheridge
Fallin
Graves (MO)
Hinojosa
McMahon
Radanovich
Richardson
Young (FL)

□ 2336

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. McMAHON. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 561, had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

PLAIN WRITING ACT OF 2010

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendments to the bill (H.R. 946) to enhance citizen access to Government information and services by establishing that Government documents issued to the public must be written clearly, 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 gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY) that the House suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendments.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 341, nays 82, not voting 9, as follows:

[Roll No. 562]

YEAS—341

Ackerman
Adler (NJ)
Alexander
Altmire
Andrews
Arcuri
Austria
Baca
Bachmann
Bachus
Baird
Baldwin
Barrett (SC)
Barrow
Barton (TX)
Bean
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Bilbray
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blackburn
Blumenauer
Boccieri
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boozman
Boren
Boswell
Boucher
Boustany
Boyd
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown (SC)
Brown, Corrine
Brown-Waite, Ginny
Buchanan
Burton (IN)
Butterfield
Camp
Cao
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carson (IN)
Castle
Castor (FL)
Chandler
Childers
Chu
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coffman (CO)
Cohen
Cole
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Crenshaw
Critz
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Dahlkemper
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis (KY)
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
Dent
Deutch
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Dicks
Dingell
Djou
Doggett
Donnelly (IN)
Doyle
Driehaus
Edwards (MD)
Edwards (TX)
Ehlers
Ellison
Ellsworth
Emerson
Engel
Eshoo
Etheridge
Farr
Fattah
Filner
Fleming
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foster
Foxx
Frank (MA)
Fudge
Gallegly
Garamendi
Gerlach
Giffords
Gingrey (GA)
Gonzalez
Goodlatte
Gordon (TN)
Grayson
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffith
Grijalva
Guthrie
Gutierrez
Hall (NY)
Hall (TX)
Halvorson
Hare
Harman
Harper
Hastings (FL)
Heinrich
Heller
Herseth Sandlin
Higgins
Hill
Himes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hodes
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Inslee
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee (TX)
Jenkins
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick (MI)
Kilroy
Kind
King (NY)
Kirk
Kirkpatrick (AZ)
Kissell
Klein (FL)
Kline (MN)
Kosmas
Kratovil
Lance
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
Lee (CA)
Lee (NY)
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Linder
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luján
Lynch
Maffei
Maloney
Markey (CO)
Markey (MA)
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul
McCollum
McCotter
McDermott
McGovern
McIntyre
McKeon
McMahon
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Mica
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Minnick
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy (NY)
Murphy, Patrick
Murphy, Tim
Nadler (NY)
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Nye
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Owens
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Paulsen
Payne
Perlmutter
Perriello
Peters
Peterson
Pingree (ME)
Platts
Polis (CO)
Pomeroy
Posey
Price (NC)
Putnam
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Rehberg
Reichert
Reyes
Richardson
Rodriguez
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Ros-Lehtinen
Ross
Rothman (NJ)
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Salazar
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schauer
Schiff
Schmidt
Schock
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sessions
Sestak
Shea-Porter
Shimkus
Shuler
Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Space
Speier
Spratt
Stark
Stupak
Sutton
Tanner
Taylor
Teague
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Tiberi
Tierney
Titus
Tonko
Towns
Tsongas
Turner
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walden
Walz
Wamp
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch
Wilson (OH)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Woolsey
Wu
Yarmuth

NAYS—82

Aderholt
Akin
Bartlett
Biggert
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Boehner
Brady (TX)
Bright
Broun (GA)
Burgess
Calvert
Campbell
Cantor
Carter
Cassidy
Chaffetz
Coble
Conaway
Culberson
Dreier
Duncan
Flake
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Garrett (NJ)
Gohmert
Granger
Graves (GA)
Hastings (WA)
Hensarling
Herger
Hoekstra
Hunter
Inglis
Issa
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan (OH)
King (IA)
Kingston
Kucinich
Lamborn
LaTourette
Latta
Lewis (CA)
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel E.
Mack
Manzullo
Marchant
McCarthy (CA)
McClintock
McHenry
Miller, Gary
Myrick
Neugebauer
Nunes
Olson
Paul
Pence
Petri
Pitts
Poe (TX)
Price (GA)
Rohrabacher
Rooney
Roskam
Royce
Scalise
Sensenbrenner
Shadegg
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Stearns
Sullivan
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Young (AK)

NOT VOTING—9

Blunt
Buyer
Davis (TN)
Delahunt
Fallin
Graves (MO)
Radanovich
Sherman
Young (FL)

□ 2344

Messrs. ADERHOLT and CANTOR changed their vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the Senate amendments were concurred in.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

FEDERAL ELECTION INTEGRITY 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. 512) to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to prohibit certain State election administration officials from actively participating in electoral campaigns, 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 California (Mrs. DAVIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 296, nays 129, not voting 7, as follows:

[Roll No. 563]

YEAS—296

Ackerman
Adler (NJ)
Altmire
Andrews
Arcuri
Austria
Baca
Baldwin
Barrow
Bean
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Bilbray
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Boccieri
Bono Mack
Boren
Boswell
Boucher
Boyd
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Bright
Brown (SC)
Brown, Corrine
Brown-Waite, Ginny
Buchanan
Butterfield
Buyer
Cao
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carson (IN)
Castle
Castor (FL)
Chandler
Childers
Chu
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coffman (CO)
Cohen
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Critz
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Dahlkemper
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis (TN)
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
Dent
Deutch
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Dicks
Dingell
Djou
Doggett
Donnelly (IN)
Doyle
Driehaus
Edwards (MD)
Edwards (TX)
Ehlers
Ellison
Ellsworth
Engel
Eshoo
Etheridge
Farr
Fattah
Filner
Fortenberry
Foster
Frank (MA)
Fudge
Gallegly
Garamendi
Gerlach
Giffords
Gonzalez
Gordon (TN)
Grayson
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Guthrie
Gutierrez
Hall (NY)
Halvorson
Hare
Harman
Hastings (FL)
Heinrich
Herseth Sandlin
Higgins
Hill
Himes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hodes
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Inslee
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee (TX)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick (MI)
Kilroy
Kind
King (NY)
Kirkpatrick (AZ)
Kissell
Klein (FL)
Kosmas
Kratovil
Kucinich
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
LaTourette
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Luetkemeyer
Luján
Lynch
Maffei
Maloney
Markey (CO)
Markey (MA)
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul
McClintock
McCollum
McCotter
McDermott
McGovern
McIntyre
McMahon
McNerney
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Michaud
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Minnick
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy (NY)
Murphy, Patrick
Murphy, Tim
Nadler (NY)
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Nye
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Owens
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Payne
Perlmutter
Perriello
Peters
Peterson
Pingree (ME)
Platts
Polis (CO)
Pomeroy
Posey
Price (NC)
Putnam
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Reichert
Reyes
Richardson
Rodriguez
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Ros-Lehtinen
Ross
Rothman (NJ)
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Salazar
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schauer
Schiff
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sestak
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shuler
Simpson
Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Space
Speier
Spratt
Stark
Stupak
Sutton
Tanner
Taylor
Teague
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Tiberi
Tierney
Titus
Tonko
Towns
Tsongas
Turner
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch
Whitfield
Wilson (OH)
Wittman
Woolsey
Wu
Yarmuth

NAYS—129

Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Bachmann
Bachus
Baird
Barrett (SC)
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Biggert
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Boehner
Bonner
Boozman
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Broun (GA)
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Cantor
Carter
Cassidy
Chaffetz
Coble
Cole
Conaway
Crenshaw
Culberson
Davis (KY)
Dreier
Duncan
Emerson
Flake
Fleming
Forbes
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Garrett (NJ)
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Granger
Graves (GA)
Griffith
Hall (TX)
Harper
Hastings (WA)
Heller
Hensarling
Herger
Hoekstra
Hunter
Inglis
Issa
Jenkins
Johnson, Sam
Jordan (OH)
King (IA)
Kingston
Kirk
Kline (MN)
Lamborn
Lance
Latham
Latta
Lee (NY)
Lewis (CA)
Linder
Lucas
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel E.
Mack
Manzullo
Marchant
McCarthy (CA)
McHenry
McKeon
McMorris Rodgers
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Moran (KS)
Myrick
Neugebauer
Nunes
Olson
Paul
Paulsen
Pence
Petri
Pitts
Poe (TX)
Price (GA)
Rehberg
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rohrabacher
Rooney
Roskam
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Scalise
Schmidt
Schock
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shadegg
Shimkus
Shuster
Smith (NE)
Stearns
Sullivan
Terry
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Upton
Walden
Wamp
Westmoreland
Wilson (SC)
Wolf
Young (AK)

NOT VOTING—7

Blunt
Delahunt
Fallin
Graves (MO)
Moore (WI)
Radanovich
Young (FL)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). Two minutes remain in this vote.

□ 2352

Messrs. GOODLATTE, WOLF and McKEON 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.

FURTHER MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A further message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed a bill of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 3774. An act to extend the deadline for Social Services Block Grant expenditures of supplemental funds appropriated following disasters occurring in 2008.

CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2011

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 1682, I call up the bill (H.R. 3081) making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes, with the Senate amendments thereto, and offer the motion.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LARSEN of Washington). The Clerk will designate the Senate amendments.

The text of the Senate amendments is as follows:

Senate amendments:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

That the following sums are hereby appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, and out of applicable corporate or other revenues, receipts, and funds, for the several departments, agencies, corporations, and other organizational units of Government for fiscal year 2011, and for other purposes, namely:

SEC. 101. Such amounts as may be necessary, at a rate for operations as provided in the applicable appropriations Acts for fiscal year 2010 and under the authority and conditions provided in such Acts, for continuing projects or activities (including the costs of direct loans and loan guarantees) that are not otherwise specifically provided for in this Act, that were conducted in fiscal year 2010, and for which appropriations, funds, or other authority were made available in the following appropriations Acts:

(1) The Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010 (Public Law 111–80).

(2) Division A of the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2010 (division A of Public Law 111–118).

(3) The Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010 (Public Law 111–85).

(4) The Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2010 (Public Law 111–83) and section 601 of the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2010 (Public Law 111–212).

(5) The Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010 (division A of Public Law 111–88).

(6) The Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2010 (division A of Public Law 111–68).

(7) The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2010 (Public Law 111–117).

(8) Chapter 3 of title I of the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2010 (Public Law 111–212), except for appropriations under the heading ''Operation and Maintenance'' relating to Haiti following the earthquake of January 12, 2010, or the Port of Guam: Provided, That the amount provided for the Department of Defense pursuant to this paragraph shall not exceed a rate for operations of $29,387,401,000: Provided further, That the Secretary of Defense shall allocate such amount to each appropriation account, budget activity, activity group, and subactivity group, and to each program, project, and activity within each appropriation account, in the same proportions as such appropriations for fiscal year 2010.

(9) Section 102(c) of chapter 1 of title I of the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2010 (Public Law 111–212) that addresses guaranteed loans in the rural housing insurance fund.

(10) The appropriation under the heading ''Department of Commerce—United States Patent and Trademark Office'' in the United States Patent and Trademark Office Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2010 (Public Law 111–224).

SEC. 102. (a) No appropriation or funds made available or authority granted pursuant to section 101 for the Department of Defense shall be used for (1) the new production of items not funded for production in fiscal year 2010 or prior years; (2) the increase in production rates above those sustained with fiscal year 2010 funds; or (3) the initiation, resumption, or continuation of any project, activity, operation, or organization (defined as any project, subproject, activity, budget activity, program element, and subprogram within a program element, and for any investment items defined as a P–1 line item in a budget activity within an appropriation account and an R–1 line item that includes a program element and subprogram element within an appropriation account) for which appropriations, funds, or other authority were not available during fiscal year 2010.

(b) No appropriation or funds made available or authority granted pursuant to section 101 for the Department of Defense shall be used to initiate multi-year procurements utilizing advance procurement funding for economic order quantity procurement unless specifically appropriated later.

SEC. 103. Appropriations made by section 101 shall be available to the extent and in the manner that would be provided by the pertinent appropriations Act.

SEC. 104. Except as otherwise provided in section 102, no appropriation or funds made available or authority granted pursuant to section 101 shall be used to initiate or resume any project or activity for which appropriations, funds, or other authority were not available during fiscal year 2010.

SEC. 105. Appropriations made and authority granted pursuant to this Act shall cover all obligations or expenditures incurred for any project or activity during the period for which funds or authority for such project or activity are available under this Act.

SEC. 106. Unless otherwise provided for in this Act or in the applicable appropriations Act for fiscal year 2011, appropriations and funds made available and authority granted pursuant to this Act shall be available until whichever of the following first occurs: (1) the enactment into law of an appropriation for any project or activity provided for in this Act; (2) the enactment into law of the applicable appropriations Act for fiscal year 2011 without any provision for such project or activity; or (3) December 3, 2010.

SEC. 107. Expenditures made pursuant to this Act shall be charged to the applicable appropriation, fund, or authorization whenever a bill in which such applicable appropriation, fund, or authorization is contained is enacted into law.

SEC. 108. Appropriations made and funds made available by or authority granted pursuant to this Act may be used without regard to the time limitations for submission and approval of apportionments set forth in section 1513 of title 31, United States Code, but nothing in this Act may be construed to waive any other provision of law governing the apportionment of funds.

SEC. 109. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, except section 106, for those programs that would otherwise have high initial rates of operation or complete distribution of appropriations at the beginning of fiscal year 2011 because of distributions of funding to States, foreign countries, grantees, or others, such high initial rates of operation or complete distribution shall not be made, and no grants shall be awarded for such programs funded by this Act that would impinge on final funding prerogatives.

SEC. 110. This Act shall be implemented so that only the most limited funding action of that permitted in the Act shall be taken in order to provide for continuation of projects and activities.

SEC. 111. (a) For entitlements and other mandatory payments whose budget authority was provided in appropriations Acts for fiscal year 2010, and for activities under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, activities shall be continued at the rate to maintain program levels under current law, under the authority and conditions provided in the applicable appropriations Act for fiscal year 2010, to be continued through the date specified in section 106(3).

(b) Notwithstanding section 106, obligations for mandatory payments due on or about the first day of any month that begins after October 2010 but not later than 30 days after the date specified in section 106(3) may continue to be made, and funds shall be available for such payments.

SEC. 112. Amounts made available under section 101 for civilian personnel compensation and benefits in each department and agency may be apportioned up to the rate for operations necessary to avoid furloughs within such department or agency, consistent with the applicable appropriations Act for fiscal year 2010, except that such authority provided under this section shall not be used until after the department or agency has taken all necessary actions to reduce or defer non-personnel-related administrative expenses.

SEC. 113. Funds appropriated by this Act may be obligated and expended notwithstanding section 10 of Public Law 91–672 (22 U.S.C. 2412), section 15 of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2680), section 313 of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1994 and 1995 (22 U.S.C. 6212), and section 504(a)(1) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 414(a)(1)).

SEC. 114. The following amounts are designated as an emergency requirement and necessary to meet emergency needs pursuant to sections 403(a) and 423(b) of S. Con. Res. 13 (111th Congress), the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2010:

(1) Amounts incorporated by reference in this Act that were previously designated as available for overseas deployments and other activities pursuant to such concurrent resolution.

(2) Amounts made available pursuant to paragraph (8) of section 101 of this Act.

SEC. 115. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, funds appropriated under the heading ''Food for Peace Title II Grants'' in chapter 1 of title I of the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2010 (Public Law 111–212) may be used to reimburse obligations incurred for the purposes provided therein prior to the enactment of such Act.

SEC. 116. The authority provided by section 18(h)(5) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1769(h)(5)) shall continue in effect through the earlier of the date of enactment of an authorization Act related to the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act or the date specified in section 106(3) of this Act.

SEC. 117. Notwithstanding section 101, amounts are provided for ''Department of Commerce—Bureau of the Census—Periodic Censuses and Programs'', for necessary expenses to collect and publish statistics for periodic censuses and programs provided for by law, at a rate for operations of $964,315,000.

SEC. 118. The authority provided by section 1202 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2006 (Public Law 109–163), as most recently amended by section 1222 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010 (Public Law 111–84; 123 Stat. 2518), shall continue in effect through the date specified in section 106(3) of this Act.

SEC. 119. Notwithstanding subsection (b) of section 310 of the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2009 (Public Law 111–32; 123 Stat. 1870), a claim described in that subsection that is submitted before the date specified in section 106(3) of this Act shall be treated as a claim for which payment may be made under such section 310.

SEC. 120. (a) RESCISSION.—The unobligated balance of authority provided for investigations under the heading ''Department of Defense—Civil, Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers—Civil, Investigations'', in chapter 4 of title I of the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2010 (Public Law 111–212; 124 Stat. 2312) is rescinded as of the date of enactment of this Act.

(b) APPROPRIATION.—Notwithstanding any other provision in this Act—

(1) there is appropriated to the Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers, an amount equal to the unobligated balance rescinded by subsection (a), to remain available until expended, for investigations;

(2) that such amount be available on the date of enactment of this Act; and

(3) the amount is designated as an emergency requirement and necessary to meet emergency needs pursuant to sections 403(a) and 423(b) of S. Con. Res. 13 (111th Congress), the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2010.

SEC. 121. (a) RESCISSION.—The unobligated balance of authority provided for in section 401 of chapter 4 of title I of the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2010 (Public Law 111–212; 124 Stat. 2313) for drought emergency assistance is rescinded as of the date of enactment of this Act.

(b) APPROPRIATION.—Notwithstanding any other provision in this Act—

(1) there is appropriated to the Bureau of Reclamation, an amount equal to the unobligated balance rescinded by subsection (a), to remain available until expended, for drought emergency assistance: Provided, That financial assistance may be provided under the Reclamation States Emergency Drought Relief Act of 1991 (43 U.S.C. 2201 et seq.) and any other applicable Federal law (including regulations) for the optimization and conservation of project water supplies to assist drought-plagued areas of the West;

(2) that such amount be available on the date of enactment of this Act; and

(3) the amount is designated as an emergency requirement and necessary to meet emergency needs pursuant to sections 403(a) and 423(b) of S. Con. Res. 13 (111th Congress), the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2010.

SEC. 122. Notwithstanding section 101, amounts are provided for ''Department of Energy—Weapons Activities'' at a rate for operations of $7,008,835,000.

SEC. 123. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, except section 106, the District of Columbia may expend local funds for programs and activities under the heading ''District of Columbia Funds'' for such programs and activities under title IV of S. 3677 (111th Congress), as reported by the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate, at the rate set forth under ''District of Columbia Funds'' as included in the Fiscal Year 2011 Budget Request Act (D.C. Act 18–448), as modified as of the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 124. Section 550(b) of Public Law 109–295, as amended by section 550 of Public Law 111–83, shall be applied by substituting the date specified in section 106(3) of this Act for ''October 4, 2010''.

SEC. 125. Section 203(m) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5133(m)) shall be applied by substituting the date specified in section 106(3) of this Act for ''September 30, 2010''.

SEC. 126. Any funds made available pursuant to section 101 for the Federal Air Marshals may be obligated at a rate for operations not exceeding that necessary to sustain domestic and international flight coverage at the same level as the final quarter of fiscal year 2010.

SEC. 127. Any funds made available pursuant to section 101 for U.S. Customs and Border Protection may be obligated at a rate for operations not exceeding that necessary to sustain the numbers of personnel in place in the final quarter of fiscal year 2010. The Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate on each use of the authority provided in this section.

SEC. 128. Notwithstanding section 101, amounts are provided for ''Department of the Interior—Minerals Management Service—Royalty and Offshore Minerals Management'' at a rate for operations of $365,000,000: Provided, That amounts provided herein from the general fund shall be reduced in an amount not to exceed $154,890,000, as receipts from increases to rates in effect on August 5, 1993, and from cost recovery fees are received: Provided further, That of the prior-year unobligated balances available for ''Department of the Interior—Minerals Management Service—Royalty and Offshore Minerals Management'', $25,000,000 are rescinded.

SEC. 129. Section 2(e)(1)(B) of Public Law 109–129 shall be applied by substituting the date specified in section 106(3) of this Act for ''September 30, 2010''.

SEC. 130. From funds transferred to ''Department of Health and Human Services—Office of the Secretary—Public Health and Social Services Emergency Fund'' by Public Law 111–117 in the fourth paragraph under such heading, amounts shall be available through the date specified in section 106(3) of this Act to support advanced research and development pursuant to section 319L of the Public Health Service Act, at a rate for operations of $305,000,000.

SEC. 131. (a) EXTENSION OF THE TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES PROGRAM.—Activities authorized by part A of title IV and section 1108(b) of the Social Security Act (other than the Emergency Contingency Fund for State Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Programs established under subsection (c) of section 403 of such Act) shall continue through the date specified in section 106(3) of this Act in the manner authorized for fiscal year 2010, subject to the amendments made by subsection (b) of this section, and out of any money in the Treasury of the United States not otherwise appropriated, there are hereby appropriated such sums as may be necessary for such purpose. Grants and payments may be made pursuant to this authority through the applicable portion of the first quarter of fiscal year 2011 at the pro rata portion of the level provided for such activities through the first quarter of fiscal year 2010.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) SUPPLEMENTAL GRANTS FOR POPULATION INCREASES.—Section 403(a)(3)(H)(ii) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 603(a)(3)(H)(ii)) is amended to read as follows:

''(ii) subparagraph (G) shall be applied as if 'the date specified in section 106(3) of the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2011' were substituted for 'fiscal year 2001'; and''.

(2) CONTINGENCY FUND.—

(A) DEPOSIT INTO FUND.—Section 403(b)(2) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 603(b)(2)) is amended—

(i) by striking ''fiscal years 1997'' and all that follows through ''2003'' and inserting ''fiscal years 2011 and 2012''; and

(ii) by striking ''$2,000,000,000'' and inserting '', in the case of fiscal year 2011, $506,000,000 and in the case of fiscal year 2012, $612,000,000''.

(B) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 403(b)(3)(C)(ii) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 603(b)(3)(C)(ii)) is amended by striking ''fiscal years 1997 through 2010 shall not exceed the total amount appropriated pursuant to paragraph (2)'' and inserting ''fiscal year 2011 and 2012, respectively, shall not exceed the total amount appropriated pursuant to paragraph (2) for each such fiscal year''.

(3) MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT.—Section 409(a)(7) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 609(a)(7)) is amended—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''or 2011'' and inserting ''2011, or 2012''; and

(B) in subparagraph (B)(ii), by striking ''2010'' and inserting ''2011''.

SEC. 132. Activities authorized by section 429 of the Social Security Act shall continue through September 30, 2011, in the manner authorized for fiscal year 2010, and out of any money in the Treasury of the United States not otherwise appropriated, there are hereby appropriated such sums as may be necessary for such purpose. Grants and payments may be made pursuant to this authority on a quarterly basis through fiscal year 2011 at the level provided for such activities for the corresponding quarter of fiscal year 2010.

SEC. 133. Effective October 1, 2010, subpart 2 of part B of title IV of the Social Security Act is amended—

(1) in section 436 (42 U.S.C. 629f)—

(A) in subsection (a)—

(i) by striking ''2011'' and inserting ''2010''; and

(ii) by inserting before the period the following: '', and $365,000,000 for fiscal year 2011''; and

(B) by striking ''$10,000,000'' in subsection (b)(2) and inserting ''$30,000,000''; and

(2) in section 438 (42 U.S.C. 629h)—

(A) by striking ''2010'' in subsection (c)(2)(A) and inserting ''2011''; and

(B) by adding at the end of subsection (e) the following flush sentence: ''For fiscal year 2011, out of the amount reserved pursuant to section 436(b)(2) for such fiscal year, there are available $10,000,000 for grants referred to in subsection (b)(2)(B), and $10,000,000 for grants referred to in subsection (b)(2)(C).''.

SEC. 134. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, for payment in equal shares to the children and grandchildren of Robert C. Byrd, $193,400 is appropriated.

SEC. 135. Notwithstanding section 101, amounts are provided for deposit into ''Department of Defense Base Closure Account 2005'' at a rate for operations of $2,354,285,000.

SEC. 136. Notwithstanding section 101, amounts are provided for ''Department of State—Administration of Foreign Affairs—Diplomatic and Consular Programs'' at a rate for operations of $8,601,000,000.

SEC. 137. Notwithstanding section 101, amounts are provided for ''International Security Assistance—Funds Appropriated to the President—Foreign Military Financing Program'' at a rate for operations of $5,160,000,000, of which not less than $2,775,000,000 shall be available for grants only for Israel, not less than $1,300,000,000 shall be available for grants only for Egypt, and not less than $300,000,000 shall be available for assistance for Jordan: Provided, That the dollar amount in the fourth proviso under such heading in title IV of division F of Public Law 111–117 shall be deemed to be $729,825,000.

SEC. 138. (a) Notwithstanding section 101, amounts are provided for ''International Security Assistance—Funds Appropriated to the President—Pakistan Counterinsurgency Capability Fund'' at a rate for operations of $700,000,000.

(b) Amounts provided by subsection (a) shall be available to the Secretary of State under the terms and conditions provided for this Fund in Public Law 111–32 and Public Law 111–212 through the date specified in section 106(3) of this Act.

SEC. 139. Section 1(b)(2) of the Passport Act of June 4, 1920 (22 U.S.C. 214(b)(2)) shall be applied by substituting the date specified in section 106(3) of this Act for ''September 30, 2010''.

SEC. 140. (a) Section 1115(d) of Public Law 111–32 shall be applied by substituting the date specified in section 106(3) of this Act for ''October 1, 2010''.

(b) Section 824(g) of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 4064(g)) shall be applied by substituting the date specified in section 106(3) of this Act for ''October 1, 2010'' in paragraph (2).

(c) Section 61(a) of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2733(a)) shall be applied by substituting the date specified in section 106(3) of this Act for ''October 1, 2010'' in paragraph (2).

(d) Section 625(j)(1) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2385(j)(1)) shall be applied by substituting the date specified in section 106(3) of this Act for ''October 1, 2010'' in subparagraph (B).

SEC. 141. The authority provided by section 1334 of the Foreign Affairs Reform and Restructuring Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6553) shall remain in effect through the date specified in section 106(3) of this Act.

SEC. 142. Commitments to guarantee loans incurred under the General and Special Risk Insurance Funds, as authorized by sections 238 and 519 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715z–3 and 1735c), shall not exceed a rate for operations of $20,000,000,000: Provided, That total loan principal, any part of which is to be guaranteed, may be apportioned through the date specified in section 106(3) of this Act, at $80,000,000 multiplied by the number of days covered by this Act.

SEC. 143. The provisions of title II of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11311 et seq.) shall continue in effect, notwithstanding section 209 of such Act, through the earlier of: (1) the date specified in section 106(3) of this Act; or (2) the date of the enactment into law of an authorization Act relating to the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.

SEC. 144. Notwithstanding any other provision of law or of this Act, for mortgages for which the mortgagee issues credit approval for the borrower during fiscal year 2011, the second sentence of section 255(g) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715z–20(g)) shall be considered to require that in no case may the benefits of insurance under such section 255 exceed 150 percent of the maximum dollar amount in effect under the sixth sentence of section 305(a)(2) of the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation Act (12 U.S.C. 1454(a)(2)).

SEC. 145. (a) LOAN LIMIT FLOOR BASED ON 2008 LEVELS.—For mortgages for which the mortgagee issues credit approval for the borrower during fiscal year 2011, if the dollar amount limitation on the principal obligation of a mortgage determined under section 203(b)(2) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1709(b)(2)) for any size residence for any area is less than such dollar amount limitation that was in effect for such size residence for such area for 2008

pursuant to section 202 of the Economic Stimulus Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–185; 122 Stat. 620), notwithstanding any other provision of law or of this Act, the maximum dollar amount limitation on the principal obligation of a mortgage for such size residence for such area for purposes of such section 203(b)(2) shall be considered (except for purposes of section 255(g) of such Act (12 U.S.C. 1715z–20(g))) to be such dollar amount limitation in effect for such size residence for such area for 2008.

(b) DISCRETIONARY AUTHORITY FOR SUB-AREAS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law or of this Act, if the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development determines, for any geographic area that is smaller than an area for which dollar amount limitations on the principal obligation of a mortgage are determined under section 203(b)(2) of the National Housing Act, that a higher such maximum dollar amount limitation is warranted for any particular size or sizes of residences in such sub-area by higher median home prices in such sub-area, the Secretary may, for mortgages for which the mortgagee issues credit approval for the borrower during fiscal year 2011, increase the maximum dollar amount limitation for such size or sizes of residences for such sub-area that is otherwise in effect (including pursuant to subsection (a) of this section), but in no case to an amount that exceeds the amount specified in section 202(a)(2) of the Economic Stimulus Act of 2008.

SEC. 146. (a) LOAN LIMIT FLOOR BASED ON 2008 LEVELS.—For mortgages originated during fiscal year 2011, if the limitation on the maximum original principal obligation of a mortgage that may be purchased by the Federal National Mortgage Association or the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation determined under section 302(b)(2) of the Federal National Mortgage Association Charter Act (12 U.S.C. 1717(b)(2)) or section 305(a)(2) of the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation Act (12 U.S.C. 1754(a)(2)) respectively, for any size residence for any area is less than such maximum original principal obligation limitation that was in effect for such size residence for such area for 2008 pursuant to section 201 of the Economic Stimulus Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–185; 122 Stat. 619), notwithstanding any other provision of law or of this Act, the limitation on the maximum original principal obligation of a mortgage for such Association and Corporation for such size residence for such area shall be such maximum limitation in effect for such size residence for such area for 2008.

(b) DISCRETIONARY AUTHORITY FOR SUB-AREAS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law or of this Act, if the Director of the Federal Housing Finance Agency determines, for any geographic area that is smaller than an area for which limitations on the maximum original principal obligation of a mortgage are determined for the Federal National Mortgage Association or the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, that a higher such maximum original principal obligation limitation is warranted for any particular size or sizes of residences in such sub-area by higher median home prices in such sub-area, the Director may, for mortgages originated during fiscal year 2011, increase the maximum original principal obligation limitation for such size or sizes of residences for such sub-area that is otherwise in effect (including pursuant to subsection (a) of this section) for such Association and Corporation, but in no case to an amount that exceeds the amount specified in the matter following the comma in section 201(a)(l)(B) of the Economic Stimulus Act of 2008.

This Act may be cited as the ''Continuing Appropriations Act, 2011''.

Amend the title so as to read: ''An Act making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2011, and for other purposes.''.

MOTION TO CONCUR

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will designate the motion.

The text of the motion is as follows:

Mr. Obey moves that the House concur in the Senate amendments.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 1682, the motion shall be debatable for 1 hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations.

The gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY) and the gentleman from California (Mr. LEWIS) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the pending legislation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Wisconsin?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. LEWIS of California. I yield myself such time as I might consume.

(Mr. LEWIS of California asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I had planned to deliver a 10-minute oration outlining my concerns about this CR before us. However, given the late hour, I'll simply say that I believe it spends too much by continuing funding at least year's levels.

Mr. Speaker, I am reminded of the words of my friend and yours, Will Rogers, whose statue stands outside the door of the House Chamber. He said, ''Never miss a good chance to shut up.''

Mr. Speaker, by any definition, this year's appropriations process has been a complete and utter failure. The current fiscal year ends tomorrow and to date, only two spending bills have cleared the full Appropriations Committee and passed the House. In two of the last four years under Democrat control, Congress has failed to enact a single appropriations bill by the beginning of the new fiscal year.

It is now certain that any further consideration of the ten unfinished spending bills is unlikely this year, leaving a massive, end-of-the-year omnibus bill as the most likely course of action following the November elections.

The omnibus would be the latest in a long list of big money bills passed by this Congress—on top of health care reform, Stimulus, TARP, and too many bailouts to mention by name—over the loud objections of House Republicans. Taken together, these costly measures have cemented this legislative session's reputation as the most expensive in our country's history.

According to CNN, this Democrat-controlled Congress has committed our country to at least $11 trillion in bailout spending alone over the last 2 years. Let me repeat that: Over eleven trillion dollars in new bailout spending in just two years paid for by the American taxpayer.

It is this spending by this Administration and this Democrat controlled Congress that has resulted in historic deficits and record levels of debt. Add to this spending the potential cost of cap and trade legislation, more costly regulations on small businesses, and the prospect of higher taxes on all Americans at the end of this year, it's no wonder that our country is facing 10 percent unemployment.

This is the most pro-spending, pro-regulation, anti-small business Congress in memory. What company or small business wants to hire anyone in this environment?

This record is all the more striking when you consider the fact that the House has spent week after week, month after month, considering hundreds of insignificant bills while ignoring the substantive work required of Congress each year to pass a federal budget.

This Continuing Resolution would have been the Democrat majority's last hope of telling voters that they're listening to the public's concern about out-of-control spending—and yet, one more time, they have turned a deaf ear. If voters need any additional motivation to go to the polls in November, this Democrat-controlled Congress has certainly provided it.

While I recognize the need to keep the government running in the absence of any spending bills being enacted, I cannot and will not support this CR because it continues unsustainable and unrestrained levels of spending established last year. Republicans have, and will continue, to advocate for lower spending that is nearly $100 billion below the current level set by Chairman OBEY and the White House.

We should pass a bill that includes these reductions while maintaining the essential functions of government until Congress completes this year's budget. This CR as presently written fails that critical test.

In closing, I want to applaud the Senate for resisting the temptation to add a variety of legislative items and billions in additional spending requested by the Obama White House. At a time of extreme spending fatigue, it's simply unacceptable to use a must-pass CR as a legislative vehicle for more wasteful federal spending or completing an array of unfinished political business before the election.

Mr. Speaker, I don't believe we should shut down the government. But voters are telling Congress that Uncle Sam needs a diet. At a time of historic deficits, record debt, and 10 percent unemployment, I believe we owe our constituents more than the status quo. There's no question that we can keep government running and spend far less of the voters' money than we're presently spending.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I urge a ''no'' vote and yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 2 minutes.

Mr. Speaker, this continuing resolution is designed to keep the government open and running. We have an obligation to do this. We've got enough problems in the economy right now without adding to uncertainty. The Senate passed this continuing resolution by a vote of 69–30. The House ought to pass it. It is a relatively straightforward and unadorned CR which simply keeps the government open for 64 days.

As far as the funding levels are concerned, in total this CR is a bit below what was enacted in 2010. The CR allows agencies to continue fiscal 2010

levels, with three exceptions. First, it provides additional funding for the National Nuclear Security Administration at the President's requested level of $7 billion. This is for weapons security, included at the request of Senate Republicans. Second, the CR provides less funding for the Census and Defense BRAC activities because less is needed for 2011. Third, the CR provides funding equal to last year's security assistance for Israel, Egypt, Jordan, Pakistan, and the State Department operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. This exception is needed because some of last year's funding was provided in the 2009 supplemental. It also extends a number of authorizations that would otherwise expire, such as TANF. It also extends higher mortgage loan limits, stop-loss payments to our troops, and other programs.

Frankly, I had hoped that this CR would do a few other things, but the Senate would not accept them. For example, I had hoped that the CR would allow continuation of the emergency job program through which 37 States provide subsidized jobs for nearly 250,000 otherwise unemployed parents and youth. The Senate would not allow this program to continue.

I urge an ''aye'' vote on the legislation. And I would simply note that, given the calendar, a vote against this proposition would be a vote to shut down the government.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of this Continuing Resolution, which will fund continued government operations through December 3, 2010.

Mr. Speaker, I have no substantive objection to the temporary funding, authorization extensions and other spending included in this legislation. They are necessary to keep the government running and to minimize program disruption until Congress' FY 2011 appropriations bills can be enacted into law. But I am deeply disappointed that due to Republican opposition in the Senate the bill does not include a critical provision for our nation's wounded warriors.

This zero-cost technical correction, developed in consultation with and supported by the Department of Defense, would have allowed $300 million of already appropriated FY 10 funds to be spent on needed BRAC-related infrastructure improvements at our nation's military medical hospitals. As a result of the action in the Senate, wounded warriors and their families may very well not get timely access to the care they have earned and deserve.

Mr. Speaker, I will support today's Continuing Resolution, but I will continue to work with the Department of Defense and my colleagues in both chambers on both sides of the aisle to make sure the federal government meets its responsibilities to our nation's wounded warriors. With BRAC-mandated consolidation at our military medical facilities now less than a year away, there is literally not a moment to waste.

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the Senate Amendment to H.R. 3081 and the Continuing Appropriations Act of 2011. This bill is necessary to keep federal agencies running and I support a number of provisions contained in it. These programs provide vital assistance to American families across the country as we continue to experience the worst economic downturn in recent history.

However, I cannot support any bill that provides funding for the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq. Vice President JOE BIDEN was recently quoted in The Washington Post as telling President Obama that we were ''locked into Vietnam'' with the war in Afghanistan. The exposé on the war by veteran journalist Bob Woodward showed a military that was unwilling to provide our Commander in Chief with a way out. We are stuck in a seemingly endless war in Afghanistan.

The Obama Administration also wants us to believe that combat operations in Iraq have ended. The reality is that the remaining 50,000 U.S. troops in the country continue to conduct joint combat operations with Iraqi military forces. This number does not reflect the 11,000 private security contractors currently operating in Iraq. Innocent Iraqi civilians and U.S. troops continue to be killed.

I also oppose funding in this bill that provides counterinsurgency assistance to Pakistan. These funds go toward their military, police and Frontier Corps forces—and toward U.S. military personnel operating in the country. I have long expressed concern over the growing presence of U.S. military personnel in Pakistan and the implications it has for our own national security.

We cannot afford to continue the status quo in Pakistan, Afghanistan and Iraq. Our counterinsurgency strategy places our troops and our national security in great peril. The truth is that we cannot afford these wars. We cannot afford an open-ended commitment to wars that have done nothing to further our security or moral standing in the world. The American people cannot afford to have Congress allocate vital resources under the façade of nation-building overseas, especially while people here at home have such urgent unmet economic needs.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time for debate has expired.

Pursuant to House Resolution 1682, the previous question is ordered.

The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY).

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, this 15-minute vote on the motion to concur will be followed by a 5-minute vote on concurring in Senate amendments to H.R. 3940.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 228, noes 194, not voting 10, as follows:

[Roll No. 564]

AYES—228

Ackerman
Altmire
Andrews
Arcuri
Baca
Baird
Baldwin
Barrow
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Boccieri
Boren
Boswell
Boucher
Boyd
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown, Corrine
Butterfield
Cao
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carson (IN)
Castor (FL)
Chandler
Chu
Clarke
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Critz
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Dahlkemper
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis (TN)
DeGette
DeLauro
Deutch
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly (IN)
Doyle
Edwards (MD)
Edwards (TX)
Ellison
Ellsworth
Engel
Eshoo
Etheridge
Farr
Fattah
Filner
Foster
Frank (MA)
Fudge
Garamendi
Gonzalez
Gordon (TN)
Grayson
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hall (NY)
Halvorson
Hare
Harman
Hastings (FL)
Heinrich
Higgins
Hill
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Inslee
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee (TX)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick (MI)
Kilroy
Kind
Kissell
Klein (FL)
Kosmas
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Luján
Lynch
Maffei
Maloney
Markey (CO)
Markey (MA)
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McMahon
McNerney
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Michaud
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy, Patrick
Nadler (NY)
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Owens
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Payne
Perlmutter
Peters
Peterson
Pingree (ME)
Polis (CO)
Pomeroy
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Reyes
Richardson
Rodriguez
Ross
Rothman (NJ)
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Salazar
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schauer
Schiff
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sestak
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Speier
Spratt
Stupak
Sutton
Tanner
Teague
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Titus
Tonko
Towns
Tsongas
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Walz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson
Waxman
Weiner
Welch
Wilson (OH)
Woolsey
Wu
Yarmuth

NOES—194

Aderholt
Adler (NJ)
Akin
Alexander
Austria
Bachmann
Bachus
Barrett (SC)
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Bean
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Boehner
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boozman
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Bright
Broun (GA)
Brown (SC)
Brown-Waite, Ginny
Buchanan
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Buyer
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Cantor
Capito
Carter
Cassidy
Castle
Chaffetz
Coble
Coffman (CO)
Cole
Conaway
Crenshaw
Culberson
Davis (KY)
DeFazio
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Djou
Dreier
Driehaus
Duncan
Ehlers
Emerson
Flake
Fleming
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Giffords
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Granger

Graves (GA)
Griffith
Guthrie
Hall (TX)
Harper
Hastings (WA)
Heller
Hensarling
Herger
Herseth Sandlin
Hodes
Hoekstra
Hunter
Inglis
Issa
Jenkins
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan (OH)
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kirk
Kirkpatrick (AZ)
Kline (MN)
Kratovil
Kucinich
Lamborn
Lance
Latham
LaTourette
Latta
Lee (NY)
Lewis (CA)
Linder
LoBiondo
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel E.
Mack
Manzullo
Marchant
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul
McClintock
McCotter
McHenry
McIntyre
McKeon
McMorris Rodgers
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Minnick
Mitchell
Moran (KS)
Murphy (NY)
Murphy, Tim
Myrick
Neugebauer
Nunes
Nye
Olson
Paul
Paulsen
Pence
Perriello
Petri
Pitts
Platts
Poe (TX)
Posey
Price (GA)
Putnam
Rehberg
Reichert
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Scalise
Schmidt
Schock
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shadegg
Shimkus
Shuler
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Space
Stark
Stearns
Sullivan
Taylor
Terry
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Turner
Upton
Visclosky
Walden
Wamp
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Young (AK)

NOT VOTING—10

Blunt
Childers
Clay
Delahunt
Fallin
Graves (MO)
Himes
Radanovich
Watt
Young (FL)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

□ 0018

So the motion was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

DELAYING MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE IN AMERICAN SAMOA AND NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendments to the bill (H.R. 3940) to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to extend grants and other assistance to facilitate a political status public education program for the people of Guam, 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 gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER) that the House suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendments.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 386, nays 5, not voting 41, as follows:

[Roll No. 565]

YEAS—386

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

NAYS—5

Hall (TX)
Kildee
McHenry
Nunes
Owens

NOT VOTING—41

Barton (TX)
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Blunt
Brown-Waite, Ginny
Calvert
Crowley
Davis (AL)
DeGette
Delahunt
Dicks
Fallin
Fudge
Gallegly
Graves (MO)
Halvorson
Hill
Hodes
Kennedy
Kilpatrick (MI)
King (NY)
Kirkpatrick (AZ)
LaTourette
Lee (NY)
Linder
Marchant
McKeon
Miller, Gary
Neal (MA)
Radanovich
Rangel
Sanchez, Loretta
Sestak
Slaughter
Stark
Thompson (CA)
Tsongas
Waxman
Yarmuth
Young (FL)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

□ 0025

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the Senate amendments were concurred in.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I inadvertently voted "nay" on H.R. 3940, rollcall vote 565. I intended to vote "yea."

ALL-AMERICAN FLAG ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on suspending the rules and passing the bill (H.R. 2853) to require the purchase of domestically made flags of the United States of America for use by the Federal Government, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. DRIEHAUS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, 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.

EMIL BOLAS POST OFFICE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on suspending the rules and passing the bill (H.R. 4602) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1332 Sharon Copley Road in Sharon Center, Ohio, as the ''Emil Bolas Post Office''.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. DRIEHAUS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

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.

JAMES M. ''JIMMY'' STEWART POST OFFICE BUILDING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on suspending the rules and passing the bill (H.R. 5606) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 47 South 7th Street in Indiana, Pennsylvania, as the ''James M. 'Jimmy' Stewart Post Office Building''.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. DRIEHAUS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

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.

GEORGE C. MARSHALL POST OFFICE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on suspending the rules and passing the bill (H.R. 5605) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 47 East Fayette Street in Uniontown, Pennsylvania, as the ''George C. Marshall Post Office''.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. DRIEHAUS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

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.

□ 0030

SUPPORTING UNITED STATES MILITARY HISTORY MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on suspending the rules and agreeing to the resolution (H. Res. 1442) supporting the goals and ideals of United States Military History Month.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. DRIEHAUS) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CONGRATULATING THE WASHINGTON STEALTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on suspending the rules and agreeing to the resolution (H. Res. 1546) congratulating the Washington Stealth for winning the National Lacrosse League Championship, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. CHU) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SUPPORTING THE UNITED STATES PARALYMPICS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on suspending the rules and agreeing to the resolution (H. Res. 1479) supporting the United States Paralympics, honoring the Paralympic athletes, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. CHU) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

DOROTHY I. HEIGHT POST OFFICE BUILDING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on suspending the rules and agreeing to the resolution (H. Res. 6118) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2 Massachusetts Avenue, N.E., in Washington, D.C., as the ''Dorothy I. Height Post Office Building,'' as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. CHU) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, as amended.

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

The title was amended so as to read: ''A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2 Massachusetts Avenue, N.E., in Washington, D.C., as the 'Dorothy I. Height Post Office'.''.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

HURRICANE IKE SURVIVORS

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Tomorrow, thousands of Hurricane Ike survivors across the gulf region may be stopped from receiving benefits that were due because of this terrible disaster. We have been working on this as the House and the Senate. The Senate passed the UC tonight to provide an extension for those benefits; however, we have not had an opportunity to do so, and many people are suffering. I hope that we will have that occasion again.

I would like to yield to the distinguished majority leader to inquire about the needs of those Hurricane Ike victims across the whole gulf region, as we did for Katrina and Rita, the opportunity to work on this matter so that their benefits could be continued for the families that are in need.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentlelady for her question.

Clearly, this is, as the gentlelady points out, a very serious matter of great concern. And I want to say that we will join with the lady and with all of those who represent the region on both sides of the aisle to look at this matter to make sure that we give it our earliest possible consideration and action.

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. I thank the gentleman.

This is going to be comforting news to those individuals who are still suffering and living in the backdrop of Hurricane Ike.

I encourage my colleagues to work with us.

SUPPORTING GOLD STAR MOTHERS DAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on suspending the rules and agreeing to

the resolution (H. Res. 1617) supporting the goals and purpose of Gold Star Mothers Day, which is observed on the last Sunday in September of each year in remembrance of the supreme sacrifice made by mothers who lose a son or daughter serving in the Armed Forces.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. CHU) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SUPPORTING NATIONAL CRANIOFACIAL ACCEPTANCE MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on suspending the rules and agreeing to the resolution (H. Res. 1603) expressing support for designation of September 2010 as National Craniofacial Acceptance Month.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. CHU) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

AMENDING RULE ON FIREFIGHTER OVERTIME PAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on suspending the rules and passing the bill (H.R. 3243) to amend section 5542 of title 5, United States Code, to provide that any hours worked by Federal firefighters under a qualified trade-of-time arrangement shall be excluded for purposes of determinations relating to overtime pay.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

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

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.

PRE-ELECTION PRESIDENTIAL TRANSITION ACT OF 2010

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on suspending the rules and passing the bill (S. 3196) to amend the Presidential Transition Act of 1963 to provide that certain transition services shall be available to eligible candidates before the general election.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

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

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.

PEDIATRIC RESEARCH CONSORTIA ESTABLISHMENT ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on suspending the rules and passing the bill (H.R. 758) to amend title IV of the Public Health Service Act to provide for the establishment of pediatric research consortia, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, 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.

VETERINARY PUBLIC HEALTH AMENDMENTS ACT OF 2010

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on suspending the rules and passing the bill (H.R. 2999) to amend the Public Health Service Act to enhance and increase the number of veterinarians trained in veterinary public health, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, 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.

FURTHER MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A further message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate concurs in amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 3619) ''An act to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard for fiscal year 2010, and for other purposes,'' with amendments and Senate agrees to House amendment to the title.

□ 0040

GESTATIONAL DIABETES ACT OF 2010

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on suspending the rules and passing the bill (H.R. 5354) to establish an Advisory Committee on Gestational Diabetes, to provide grants to better understand and reduce gestational diabetes, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, 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 provide grants to better understand and reduce gestational diabetes, and for other purposes.''.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

METHAMPHETAMINE EDUCATION, TREATMENT, AND HOPE ACT OF 2010

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on suspending the rules and passing the bill (H.R. 2818) to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the establishment of a drug-free workplace information clearinghouse, to support residential methamphetamine treatment programs for pregnant and parenting women, to improve the prevention, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, 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.

CONCUSSION TREATMENT AND CARE TOOLS ACT OF 2010

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on suspending the rules and passing the bill (H.R. 1347) to amend title III of the Public Health Service Act to provide for the establishment and implementation of concussion management guidelines with respect to school-aged children, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr.

PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, 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 amend title III of the Public Health Service Act to provide for the establishment and implementation of concussion management guidelines with respect to school-aged children, and for other purposes.''.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

STEM CELL THERAPEUTIC AND RESEARCH REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2010

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on suspending the rules and passing the bill (S. 3751) to amend the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Act of 2005.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

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.

HEART DISEASE EDUCATION, ANALYSIS RESEARCH, AND TREATMENT FOR WOMEN ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on suspending the rules and passing the bill (H.R. 1032) to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act and the Public Health Service Act to improve the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of heart disease, stroke, and other cardiovascular diseases in women, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, 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 amend the Public Health Service Act to improve the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of heart disease, stroke, and other cardiovascular diseases in women.''.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SCLERODERMA RESEARCH AND AWARENESS ACT OF 2010

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on suspending the rules and passing the bill (H.R. 2408) to expand the research and awareness activities of the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention with respect to scleroderma, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, 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.

ACQUIRED BONE MARROW FAILURE DISEASE RESEARCH AND TREATMENT ACT OF 2010

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on suspending the rules and passing the bill (H.R. 1230) to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the establishment of a National Acquired Bone Marrow Failure Disease Registry, to authorize research on acquired bone marrow failure diseases, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, 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 amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for research on acquired bone marrow failure diseases, minority-focused programs on such diseases, and the development of best practices for diagnosis of and care for individuals with such diseases.''.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GYNECOLOGIC CANCER EDUCATION AND AWARENESS ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on suspending the rules and passing the bill (H.R. 2941) to reauthorize and enhance Johanna's Law to increase public awareness and knowledge with respect to gynecologic cancers, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, 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.

BIRTH DEFECTS PREVENTION, RISK REDUCTION, AND AWARENESS ACT OF 2010

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on suspending the rules and passing the bill (H.R. 5462) to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, to establish and implement a birth defects prevention, risk reduction, and public awareness program, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, 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 amend title III of the Public Health Service Act to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish and implement a birth defects prevention, risk reduction, and public awareness program.''.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ARTHRITIS PREVENTION, CONTROL, AND CURE ACT OF 2010

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on suspending the rules and passing the bill (H.R. 1210) to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for arthritis research and public health, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, 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.

UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE UNIFORMED DIVISION MODERNIZATION ACT OF 2010

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (S. 1510) to transfer statutory entitlements to pay and hours of work authorized by the District of Columbia Code for current members of the United States Secret Service Uniformed Division from the District of Columbia Code to the United States Code, with the Senate amendment to the House amendment thereto, and concur in the Senate amendment to the House amendment.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Clerk read the Senate amendment to the House amendment, as follows:

Senate amendment to House amendment:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; PURPOSE.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the ''United States Secret Service Uniformed Division Modernization Act of 2010''.

(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to transfer statutory entitlements to pay and hours of work authorized by laws codified in the District of Columbia Official Code for current members of the United States Secret Service Uniformed Division from such laws to the United States Code.

SEC. 2. HUMAN RESOURCES FOR UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE UNIFORMED DIVISION.

(a) PAY FOR MEMBERS OF THE UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE UNIFORMED DIVISION.—Subpart I of part III of title 5, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''CHAPTER 102—UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE UNIFORMED DIVISION PERSONNEL

''Sec.
''10201. Definitions.
''10202. Authorities.
''10203. Basic pay.
''10204. Rate of pay for original appointments.
''10205. Service step adjustments.
''10206. Technician positions.
''10207. Promotions.
''10208. Demotions.
''10209. Clothing allowances.
''10210. Reporting requirement.

''§ 10201. Definitions

''In this chapter—

''(1) the term 'member' means an employee of the United States Secret Service Uniformed Division having the authorities described under section 3056A(b) of title 18;

''(2) the term 'Secretary' means the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security; and

''(3) the term 'United States Secret Service Uniformed Division' has the meaning given that term under section 3056A of title 18.

''§ 10202. Authorities

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary is authorized to—

''(1) fix and adjust rates of basic pay for members of the United States Secret Service Uniformed Division, subject to the requirements of this chapter;

''(2) determine what constitutes an acceptable level of competence for the purposes of section 10205;

''(3) establish and determine the positions at the Officer and Sergeant ranks to be included as technician positions; and

''(4) determine the rate of basic pay of a member who is changed or demoted to a lower rank, in accordance with section 10208.

''(b) DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY.—The Secretary is authorized to delegate to the designated agent or agents of the Secretary, any power or function vested in the Secretary under in this chapter.

''(c) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary may prescribe such regulations as may be necessary to administer this chapter.

''§ 10203. Basic pay

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The annual rates of basic pay of members of the United States Secret Service Uniformed Division shall be fixed in accordance with the following schedule of rates, except that the payable annual rate of basic pay for positions at the Lieutenant, Captain, and Inspector ranks is limited to 95 percent of the rate of pay for level V of the Executive Schedule under subchapter II of chapter 53.

''Rank	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8	Step 9	Step 10	Step 11	Step 12	Step 13
Officer	$44,000	$46,640	$49,280	$51,920	$54,560	$57,200	$59,840	$62,480	$65,120	$67,760	$70,400	$73,040	$75,680
Sergeant	.....	.....	.....	59,708	62,744	65,780	68,816	71,852	74,888	77,924	80,960	83,996	87,032
Lieutenant	.....	.....	.....	.....	69,018	72,358	75,698	79,038	82,378	85,718	89,058	92,398	95,738
Captain	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	79,594	83,268	86,942	90,616	94,290	97,964	101,638	105,312
Inspector	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	91,533	95,758	99,983	104,208	108,433	112,658	116,883	121,108
Deputy Chief	The rate of basic pay for Deputy Chief positions will be equal to 95 percent of the rate of pay for level V of the Executive Schedule.												
Assistant Chief	The rate of basic pay the Assistant Chief position will be equal to 95 percent of the rate of pay for level V of the Executive Schedule.												
Chief	The rate of basic pay the Chief position will be equal to the rate of pay for level V of the Executive Schedule.												

''(b) SCHEDULE ADJUSTMENT.—

''(1)(A) Effective at the beginning of the first pay period commencing on or after the first day of the month in which an adjustment in the rates of basic pay under the General Schedule takes effect under section 5303 or other authority, the schedule of annual rates of basic pay of members (except the Deputy Chiefs, Assistant Chief and Chief) shall be adjusted by the Secretary by a percentage amount corresponding to the percentage adjustment made in the rates of pay under the General Schedule.

''(B) The Secretary may establish a methodology of schedule adjustment that—

''(i) results in uniform fixed-dollar step increments within any given rank; and

''(ii) preserves the established percentage differences among rates of different ranks at the same step position.

''(2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), the payable annual rate of basic pay for positions at the Lieutenant, Captain, and Inspector ranks after adjustment under paragraph (1) may not exceed 95 percent of the rate of pay for level V of the Executive Schedule under subchapter II of chapter 53.

''(3) Locality-based comparability payments authorized under section 5304 shall be applicable to the basic pay for all ranks under this section, except locality-based comparability payments may not be paid at a rate which, when added to the rate of basic pay otherwise payable to the member, would cause the total to exceed the rate of basic pay payable for level IV of the Executive Schedule.

''§ 10204. Rate of pay for original appointments

''(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection (b), all original appointments shall be made at the minimum rate of basic pay for the Officer rank set forth in the schedule in section 10203.

''(b) EXCEPTION FOR SUPERIOR QUALIFICATIONS OR SPECIAL NEED.—The Director of the United States Secret Service or the designee of the Director may appoint an individual at a rate above the minimum rate of basic pay for the Officer rank based on the individual's superior qualifications or a special need of the Government for the individual's services.

''§ 10205. Service step adjustments

''(a) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term 'calendar week of active service' includes all periods of leave with pay or other paid time off, and periods of non-pay status which do not cumulatively equal one 40-hour workweek.

''(b) ADJUSTMENTS.—Each member whose current performance is at an acceptable level of competence shall have a service step adjustment as follows:

''(1) Each member in service step 1, 2, or 3 shall be advanced successively to the next higher service step at the beginning of the first pay period immediately following the completion of 52 calendar weeks of active service in the member's service step.

''(2) Each member in service step 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, or 11 shall be advanced successively to the next higher service step at the beginning of the first pay period immediately following the completion of 104 calendar weeks of active service in the member's service step.

''(3) Each member in service step 12 shall be advanced successively to the next higher service step at the beginning of the first pay period immediately following the completion of 156 calendar weeks of active service in the member's service step.

''§ 10206. Technician positions

''(a) IN GENERAL.—(1) Each member whose position is determined under section 10202(a)(3) to be included as a technician position shall, on or after such date, receive, in addition to the member's scheduled rate of basic pay, an amount equal to 6 percent of the sum of such member's rate of basic pay and the applicable locality-based comparability payment.

''(2) A member described in this subsection shall receive the additional compensation authorized by this subsection until such time as the member's position is determined under section 10202(a)(3) not to be a technician position, or until the member no longer occupies such position, whichever occurs first.

''(3) The additional compensation authorized by this subsection shall be paid to a member in the same manner and at the same time as the member's basic pay is paid.

''(b) EXCEPTIONS.—(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), the additional compensation authorized by subsection (a)(1) shall be considered as basic pay for all purposes, including section 8401(4).

''(2) The additional compensation authorized by subsection (a)(1) shall not be considered as basic pay for the purposes of—

''(A) section 5304; or

''(B) section 7511(a)(4).

''(3) The loss of the additional compensation authorized by subsection (a)(1) shall not constitute an adverse action for the purposes of section 7512.

''§ 10207. Promotions

''(a) IN GENERAL.—Each member who is promoted to a higher rank shall receive basic pay at the same step at which such member was being compensated prior to the date of the promotion.

''(b) CREDIT FOR SERVICE.—For the purposes of a service step adjustment under section 10205, periods of service at the lower rank shall be credited in the same manner as

if it was service at the rank to which the employee is promoted.

"§ 10208. Demotions

''When a member is changed or demoted from any rank to a lower rank, the Secretary may fix the member's rate of basic pay at the rate of pay for any step in the lower rank which does not exceed the lowest step in the lower rank for which the rate of basic pay is equal to or greater than the member's existing rate of basic pay.

"§ 10209. Clothing allowances

''(a) IN GENERAL.—In addition to the benefits provided under section 5901, the Director of the United States Secret Service or the designee of the Director is authorized to provide a clothing allowance to a member assigned to perform duties in normal business or work attire purchased at the discretion of the employee. Such clothing allowance shall not to be treated as part of the member's basic pay for any purpose (including retirement purposes) and shall not be used for the purpose of computing the member's overtime pay, pay during leave or other paid time off, lump-sum payments under section 5551 or section 5552, workers' compensation, or any other benefit. Such allowance for any member may be discontinued at any time upon written notification by the Director of the United States Secret Service or the designee of the Director.

''(b) MAXIMUM AMOUNT AUTHORIZED.—A clothing allowance authorized under this section shall not exceed $500 per annum.

"§ 10210. Reporting requirement

''Not later than 3 years after the date of the enactment of this chapter, the Secretary shall prepare and transmit to Congress a report on the operation of this chapter. The report shall include—

''(1) an assessment of the effectiveness of this chapter with respect to efforts of the Secretary to recruit and retain well-qualified personnel; and

''(2) recommendations for any legislation or administrative action which the Secretary considers appropriate.''.

(b) ANNUAL LEAVE LIMITATION FOR MEMBERS IN THE DEPUTY CHIEF, ASSISTANT CHIEF, AND CHIEF RANKS.—Section 6304(f)(1) of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (F), by striking ''or'' after the semicolon;

(2) in subparagraph (G), by striking the period and inserting ''; or''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(H) a position in the United States Secret Service Uniformed Division at the rank of Deputy Chief, Assistant Chief, or Chief.''.

(c) SICK LEAVE FOR WORK-RELATED INJURIES AND ILLNESSES.—Section 6324 of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking ''Executive Protective Service force'' and inserting ''United States Secret Service Uniformed Division'';

(2) in subsection (b)(3), by striking ''the Treasury for the Executive Protective Service force'' and inserting ''Homeland Security for the United States Secret Service Uniformed Division''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(c) This section shall not apply to members of the United States Secret Service Uniformed Division who are covered under chapter 84 for the purpose of retirement benefits.''.

SEC. 3. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS.

(a) CONVERSION TO NEW SALARY SCHEDULE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—

(A) RATES OF PAY FIXED.—Effective the first day of the first pay period which begins after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall fix the rates of basic pay for members of the United States Secret Service Uniformed Division, as defined under section 10201 of title 5, United States Code, (as added by section 2(a)) in accordance with the provisions of this subsection.

(B) RATE BASED ON CREDITABLE SERVICE.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Each member shall be placed in and receive basic pay at the corresponding scheduled rate under chapter 102 of title 5, United States Code, as added by section 2(a) (after any adjustment under paragraph (3) of this subsection) in accordance with the member's total years of creditable service, as provided in the table in this clause. If the scheduled rate of basic pay for the step to which the member would be assigned in accordance with this paragraph is lower than the member's rate of basic pay immediately before the date of enactment of this paragraph, the member shall be placed in and receive basic pay at the next higher service step, subject to the provisions of clause (iv). If the member's rate of pay exceeds the highest step of the rank, the rate of basic pay shall be determined in accordance with clause (iv).

Full Years of Creditable Service	Step Assigned Upon Conversion
0	1
1	2
2	3
3	4
5	5
7	6
9	7
11	8
13	9
15	10
17	11
19	12
22	13

(ii) CREDITABLE SERVICE.—For the purposes of this subsection, a member's creditable service is any police service in pay status with the United States Secret Service Uniformed Division, the United States Park Police, or the District of Columbia Metropolitan Police Department.

(iii) STEP 13 CONVERSION MAXIMUM RATE.—

(I) IN GENERAL.—A member who, at the time of conversion, is in step 13 of any rank below Deputy Chief, is entitled to that rate of basic pay which is the greater of—

(aa) the rate of pay for step 13 under the new salary schedule; or

(bb) the rate of pay for step 14 under the pay schedule in effect immediately before conversion.

(II) STEP 14 RATE.—Clause (iv) shall apply to a member whose pay is set in accordance with subclause (I)(bb).

(iv) ADJUSTMENT BASED ON FORMER RATE OF PAY.—

(I) DEFINITION.—In this clause, the term ''former rate of basic pay'' means the rate of basic pay last received by a member before the conversion.

(II) IN GENERAL.—If, as a result of conversion to the new salary schedule, the member's former rate of basic pay is greater than the maximum rate of basic pay payable for the rank of the member's position immediately after the conversion, the member is entitled to basic pay at a rate equal to the member's former rate of basic pay, and increased at the time of any increase in the maximum rate of basic pay payable for the rank of the member's position by 50 percent of the dollar amount of each such increase.

(III) PROMOTIONS.—For the purpose of applying section 10207 of title 5, United States Code, relating to promotions, (as added by section 2(a)) an employee receiving a rate above the maximum rate as provided under this clause shall be deemed to be at step 13.

(2) CREDIT FOR SERVICE.—Each member whose position is converted to the salary schedule under chapter 102 of title 5, United States Code, (as added by section 2(a)) in accordance with this subsection shall be granted credit for purposes of such member's first service step adjustment made after conversion to the salary schedule under that chapter for all satisfactory service performed by the member since the member's last increase in basic pay before the adjustment under this section.

(3) ADJUSTMENTS DURING TRANSITION.—The schedule of rates of basic pay shall be increased by the percentage of any annual adjustment applicable to the General Schedule authorized under section 5303 of title 5, United States Code, or any other authority, which takes effect during the period beginning on January 1, 2010, through the last day of the last pay period preceding the first pay period which begins after the date of the enactment of this Act. The Secretary of Homeland Security may establish a methodology of schedule adjustment that results in uniform fixed-dollar step increments within any given rank and preserves the established percentage differences among rates of different ranks at the same step position.

(b) IMPACT ON BENEFITS UNDER THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA POLICE AND FIREFIGHTERS' RETIREMENT AND DISABILITY SYSTEM.—

(1) SALARY INCREASES FOR PURPOSES OF CERTAIN PENSIONS AND ALLOWANCES.—For purposes of section 3 of the Act entitled ''An Act to provide increased pensions for widows and children of deceased members of the Police Department and the Fire Department of the District of Columbia'', approved August 4, 1949 (sec. 5–744, D.C. Official Code) and section 301 of the District of Columbia Police and Firemen's Salary Act of 1953 (sec. 5–745, D.C. Official Code)—

(A) the conversion of positions and members of the United States Secret Service Uniformed Division to appropriate ranks in the salary schedule set forth in this Act and the amendments made by this Act shall not be treated as an increase in the salary of individuals who are members of the United States Secret Service Uniformed Division on the date of the enactment of this Act; and

(B) any adjustment of rates of basic pay of those positions and individuals in accordance with this Act and the amendments made by this Act which is made after such conversion shall be treated as an increase in the salary of individuals who are members of the United States Secret Service Uniformed Division on the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) TREATMENT OF RETIREMENT BENEFITS AND PENSIONS OF CURRENT AND FORMER MEMBERS.—Except as otherwise provided in this Act, nothing in this Act shall affect retirement benefits and pensions of current members and former members who have retired under the District of Columbia Police and Firefighters' Retirement and Disability System.

SEC. 4. TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—To the extent that any provision of any law codified in the District of Columbia Official Code that authorizes an

entitlement to pay or hours of work for current members of the United States Secret Service Uniformed Division is not expressly revoked by this Act, such provision shall not apply to such members after the effective date of this Act.

(b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS TO LAWS CODIFIED IN DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA OFFICIAL CODE.—The following laws codified in the District of Columbia Official Code are amended as follows:

(1) The Act entitled ''An Act to provide for granting to officers and members of the Metropolitan Police force, the Fire Department of the District of Columbia, and the White House and United States Park Police forces additional compensation for working on holidays'', approved October 24, 1951, is amended—

(A) in the second sentence of section 1 (sec. 5–521.01, D.C. Official Code), by striking ''the Fire Department of the District of Columbia,'' and all that follows through ''and the United States Park Police Force'' and inserting ''the Fire Department of the District of Columbia, and the United States Park Police Force'';

(B) in section 2 (sec. 5–521.02, D.C. Official Code), by striking ''and with respect'' and all that follows through ''United States Park Police force'' and inserting ''and with respect to officers and members of the United States Park Police force''; and

(C) in section 3 (sec. 5–521.03, D.C. Official Code), by striking ''shall be applicable'' and all that follows and inserting the following: ''shall be applicable to the United States Park Police force under regulations promulgated by the Secretary of the Interior.''.

(2) The District of Columbia Police and Firemen's Salary Act of 1958 is amended as follows:

(A) In section 202 (sec. 5–542.02, D.C. Official Code), by striking ''United States Secret Service Uniformed Division,''.

(B) In section 301(b) (sec. 5–543.01(b), D.C. Official Code), by striking ''the United States Secret Service Uniformed Division,''.

(C) In section 302 (sec. 5–543.02, D.C. Official Code)—

(i) in subsection (a), by striking ''the Secretary of Treasury, in the case of the United States Secret Service Uniformed Division,'';

(ii) in subsection (b), by striking ''the United States Secret Service Uniformed Division or''; and

(iii) in subsection (e), by striking ''the United States Secret Service Uniformed Division or''.

(D) In section 303(a)(5) (sec. 5–543.03(a)(5), D.C. Official Code), by striking ''the United States Secret Service Uniformed Division and''.

(E) In section 304(d)(1) (sec. 5–543.04(d)(1)), by striking ''the United States Secret Service Uniformed Division or''.

(F) In section 305 (sec. 5–543.05, D.C. Official Code)—

(i) by striking ''the United States Secret Service Uniformed Division,''; and

(ii) by striking ''or the Secretary of the Treasury,''.

(G) In section 501 (sec. 5–545.01, D.C. Official Code)—

(i) in subsection (a), by striking ''and the United States Secret Service Uniformed Division'';

(ii) in subsection (c)(1)—

(I) by striking ''the United States Secret Service Uniformed Division and''; and

(II) in the schedule set forth in such subsection, by striking ''United States Secret Service Uniformed Division'';

(iii) in subsection (c)(2), by striking ''the annual rates of basic compensation'' and all that follows through ''the Secretary of the Treasury, and'';

(iv) in subsection (c)(5), by striking ''officers and members of the United States Secret Service Uniformed Division or'';

(v) in subsection (c)(6)(A), by striking ''the United States Secret Service Uniformed Division or''; and

(vi) in subsection (c)(7)(A), by striking ''the United States Secret Service Uniformed Division or''.

(H) In section 506 (sec. 5–545.06, D.C. Official Code), by striking '', the Secretary of the Treasury,''.

(3) Section 118 of the Treasury and General Government Appropriations Act, 1998, is amended by striking subsection (b) (sec. 5–561.01, D.C. Official Code).

(4) Section 905(a)(1) of the Law Enforcement Pay Equity Act of 2000 (Public Law 106–554; sec. 5–561.02(a)(1), D.C. Official Code) is amended by striking ''the Secretary of Treasury'' and all that follows through ''United States Secret Service Uniformed Division, and''.

(5) Subsection (k)(2)(B) of the Policemen and Firemen's Retirement and Disability Act (sec. 5–716(b)(2), D.C. Official Code) is amended by inserting '', or, for a member who was an officer or member of the United States Secret Service Uniformed Division, or the United States Secret Service Division, 40 percent of the corresponding salary for step 5 of the Officer rank in section 10203 of title 5, United States Code'' after ''member's death''.

(6) Section 1 of the Act entitled ''An Act to provide a 5-day week for officers and members of the Metropolitan Police force, the United States Park Police force, and the White House Police force, and for other purposes'', approved August 15, 1950 (sec. 5–1304, D.C. Official Code), is amended—

(A) in subsection (a)(1)—

(i) by inserting ''and'' before ''the Secretary of the Interior''; and

(ii) by striking '', and the Secretary of the Treasury in the case of the United States Secret Service Uniformed Division'';

(B) in subsection (a)(9)—

(i) by inserting ''or'' before ''the United States Park Police force''; and

(ii) by striking ''or the United States Secret Service Uniformed Division'';

(C) in subsection (b)—

(i) by inserting ''or'' before ''the Secretary of the Interior''; and

(ii) by striking ''or the Secretary of the Treasury,'';

(D) in subsection (h)(3)(A), by striking ''of the United States Secret Service Uniformed Division or''; and

(E) in subsection (h)(3)(B), by striking ''of the United States Secret Service Uniformed Division or''.

(7) Section 117(a) of the District of Columbia Police and Firemen's Salary Act Amendments of 1972 (sec. 5–1305, D.C. Official Code) is amended—

(A) by striking ''the Fire Department of the District of Columbia,'' and all that follows through ''or the United States Park Police force'' and inserting ''the Fire Department of the District of Columbia, or the United States Park Police force''; and

(B) by striking '', the Secretary of the Treasury,''.

(c) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS TO THE UNITED STATES CODE.—Title 5 of the United States Code is amended—

(1) in section 5102(c)(5), by striking ''the Executive Protective Service'' and inserting ''the United States Secret Service Uniformed Division'';

(2) in section 5541(2)(iv)(II), by striking ''a member of the United States Secret Service Uniformed Division,''; and

(3) in the table of chapters for subpart I of part III by adding at the end the following:

''102. United States Secret Service Uniformed Division Personnel ..... 10201''.

SEC. 5. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Act and the amendments made by this Act shall take effect on the first day of the first pay period which begins after the date of the enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the reading). Without objection, the reading is dispensed with.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the original request of the gentleman from Missouri?

There was no objection.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 0050

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CLAY. 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 measure just considered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Missouri?

There was no objection.

COAST GUARD AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEARS 2010 AND 2011

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 3619) to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard for fiscal year 2010, and for other purposes, with the Senate amendments to the House amendment to the Senate amendment thereto, and concur in the Senate amendments to the House amendment to the Senate amendment.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Clerk read the Senate amendments to the House amendment to the Senate amendment, as follows:

Senate amendments to House amendment to Senate amendment:

In section 617(b), in the quoted subsection (d), strike ''INDIVIDUALS QUALIFIED AS ABLE SEAMEN.—Offshore'' and insert Individuals qualified as able seamen—offshore''.

Strike section 917 and insert the following:

''SEC. 917. MARITIME LAW ENFORCEMENT.

''(a) PENALTIES.—Subsection (b) of section 2237 of title 18, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

'''(b)(1) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, whoever knowingly violates subsection (a) shall be fined under this title or imprisoned for not more than 5 years, or both.

'''(2)(A) If the offense is one under paragraph (1) or (2)(A) of subsection (a) and has an aggravating factor set forth in subparagraph (B) of this paragraph, the offender shall be fined under this title or imprisoned for any term of years or life, or both.

'''(B) The aggravating factor referred to in subparagraph (A) is that the offense—

'''(i) results in death; or

'''(ii) involves—

'''(I) an attempt to kill;

'''(II) kidnapping or an attempt to kidnap; or

'''(III) an offense under section 2241.

'''(3) If the offense is one under paragraph (1) or (2)(A) of subsection (a) and results in serious

bodily injury (as defined in section 1365), the offender shall be fined under this title or imprisoned for not more than 15 years, or both.

'''(4) If the offense is one under paragraph (1) or (2)(A) of subsection (a), involves knowing transportation under inhumane conditions, and is committed in the course of a violation of section 274 of the Immigration and Nationality Act, or chapter 77 or section 113 (other than under subsection (a)(4) or (a)(5) of such section) or 117 of this title, the offender shall be fined under this title or imprisoned for not more than 15 years, or both.'.

''(b) DEFINITION.—Section 2237(e) of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

''(1) by amending paragraph (3) to read as follows:

'''(3) the term ''vessel subject to the jurisdiction of the United States'' has the meaning given the term in section 70502 of title 46;';

''(2) in paragraph (4), by striking 'section 2 of the Maritime Drug Law Enforcement Act (46 U.S.C. App. 1903).' and inserting ''section 70502 of title 46; and'; and

''(3) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

'''(5) the term ''transportation under inhumane conditions'' means—

'''(A) transportation—

'''(i) of one or more persons in an engine compartment, storage compartment, or other confined space;

'''(ii) at an excessive speed; or

'''(iii) of a number of persons in excess of the rated capacity of the vessel; or

'''(B) intentional grounding of a vessel in which persons are being transported.'.''.

Strike section 1032(b) and insert the following:

''(b) VIOLATIONS; SUBPOENAS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—In any investigation under this section, the Secretary may issue a subpoena to require the attendance of a witness or the production of documents or other evidence if—

''(A) before the issuance of the subpoena, the Secretary requests a determination by the Attorney General of the United States as to whether the subpoena will interfere with a criminal investigation; and

''(B) the Attorney General—

''(i) determines that the subpoena will not interfere with a criminal investigation; or

''(ii) fails to make a determination under clause (i) before the date that is 30 days after the date on which the Secretary makes a request under subparagraph (A).

''(2) ENFORCEMENT.—In the case of refusal to obey a subpoena issued to any person under this subsection, the Secretary may request the Attorney General to invoke the aid of the appropriate district court of the United States to compel compliance.''.

Strike section 1033(a)(2) and insert the following:

''(2) SUBPOENAS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In any investigation under this section, the Administrator may issue a subpoena to require the attendance of a witness or the production of documents or other evidence if—

''(i) before the issuance of the subpoena, the Administrator requests a determination by the Attorney General of the United States as to whether the subpoena will interfere with a criminal investigation; and

''(ii) the Attorney General—

''(I) determines that the subpoena will not interfere with a criminal investigation; or

''(II) fails to make a determination under subclause (I) before the date that is 30 days after the date on which the Administrator makes a request under clause (i).

''(B) ENFORCEMENT.—In the case of refusal to obey a subpoena issued to any person under this paragraph, the Administrator may request the Attorney General to invoke the aid of the appropriate district court of the United States to compel compliance.''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Minnesota?

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, and I will not object, I yield to the gentleman from Minnesota, chairman of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, to explain the legislation.

Mr. OBERSTAR. I thank the gentleman for yielding and compliment the gentleman from Alaska, Mr. Speaker, for his decades of advocacy for and in support of the United States Coast Guard.

My unanimous consent request to agree to H.R. 3619 with the Senate amendments corrects two errors in the drafting of H.R. 3619, the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2010, which passed the House last night on a voice vote.

If the gentleman would allow, I would further yield to Chairman Cummings to explain in a couple of paragraphs the substance.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. I yield to the gentleman from Maryland.

Mr. CUMMINGS. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

The Senate Judiciary Committee raised concerns about the drafting of section 917, which enhanced criminal penalties for individuals who fail to follow Coast Guard orders to ''heave to'' and stop their boat when they are smuggling people into the United States or when the incident results in a death, an attempt to kill, or a kidnapping. The Senate amendment clarifies those penalties and corrects cross-references in the original bill.

The other concern raised by the Senate Judiciary Committee is if the Coast Guard uses the subpoena authority in this act without coordinating that action with the Attorney General, it could compromise a criminal investigation. The Senate amendment addresses that concern by requiring the Coast Guard to coordinate its subpoenas under this act with the Attorney General.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I want to compliment the chairmen of the full committee and subcommittee on this legislation. It is vitally important to the State of Alaska and to the Coast Guard.

Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Minnesota?

There was no objection.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MOUNT STEVENS AND TED STEVENS ICEFIELD DESIGNATION ACT

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Natural Resources be discharged from further consideration of the bill (S. 3802) to designate a mountain and icefield in the State of Alaska as the ''Mount Stevens'' and ''Ted Stevens Icefield'', respectively, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Minnesota?

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Reserving the right to object, Mr. Speaker, and I shall not object, I want to thank the gentleman for bringing this resolution up. This is in recognition of Senator Ted Stevens, who yesterday we laid to rest in Arlington Cemetery, for his service to the United States of America; and the Air Force at that time, flying for the Flying Tigers; receiving the Distinguished Flying Cross; serving in the Senate for 40 years; and serving this Nation with great honor. This is just a small tribute to his service to the great State of Alaska by naming a mountain and actually a glacier field after Ted Stevens and the great efforts he did for the State of Alaska.

It is an honor to have this done tonight, and I thank the gentleman for bringing this legislation up, and I thank the Senate.

Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Minnesota?

There was no objection.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 3802

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 ''Mount Stevens and Ted Stevens Icefield Designation Act''.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds that—

(1) Theodore ''Ted'' Fulton Stevens, who began serving in the Senate 9 years after Alaska was admitted to Statehood, represented the people of the State of Alaska with distinction in the Senate for over 40 years from 1968 to 2009 and played a significant role in the transformation of the State of Alaska from an impoverished territory to a full-fledged State through the assistance he provided in building energy facilities, hospitals and clinics, roads, docks, airports, water and sewer facilities, schools, and other community facilities in the State of Alaska, which earned him recognition as ''Alaskan of the Century'' from the Alaska Legislature in 2000;

(2) Ted Stevens distinguished himself as a transport pilot during World War II in support of the ''Flying Tigers'' of the United States Army Air Corps, 14th Air Force, earning 2 Distinguished Flying Crosses and other decorations for his skill and bravery;

(3) Ted Stevens, after serving as a United States Attorney in the territory of Alaska, came to Washington, District of Columbia in 1956 to serve in the Eisenhower Administration in the Department of the Interior, where he was a leading force in securing the legislation that led to the admission of Alaska as the 49th State on January 3, 1959, and then as Solicitor of the Department of the Interior;

(4) in 1961, Ted Stevens returned to the State of Alaska and, in 1964, was elected to the Alaska House of Representatives, where he was subsequently elected as Speaker pro

tempore and majority leader until his appointment on December 24, 1968, to the Senate to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Senator E.L. Bartlett;

(5) Ted Stevens, the longest-serving Republican Senator in the history of the Senate, served as President pro tempore of the Senate from 2003 through 2007 and as President pro tempore emeritus from 2008 to 2009, and over the course of his career in the Senate, Ted Stevens served as assistant Republican leader, Chairman of the Select Committee on Ethics, Chairman of the Committee on Rules and Administration, Chairman of the Committee on Governmental Affairs, Chairman of the Committee on Appropriations, and Chairman of the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation;

(6) Ted Stevens worked tirelessly for the enactment of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.), which provided for the conveyance of approximately 44,000,000 acres of land in the State of Alaska to the Aleut, Eskimo, and Indian peoples and created Native Corporations to secure the long-term economic, cultural, and political empowerment of the Native peoples of the State of Alaska;

(7) Ted Stevens was a leader in shaping the communications policies of the United States, as he helped to establish the spectrum auction policy, negotiated the Telecommunications Act of 1996, authored the Digital Television Transition and Public Safety Act of 2005 (47 U.S.C. 309 note; Public Law 109–171), and passionately advocated for the connection of rural America to the rest of the world and to improve the lives of the people of the United States through the use of telemedicine and distance learning;

(8) Ted Stevens was a conservationist who championed the safe development of the natural resources of the United States, as illustrated by his authorship of the Trans-Alaska Pipeline Authorization Act (43 U.S.C. 1651 et seq.), the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.), which established the 200-mile exclusive economic zone and led to a reduction in the dominance of foreign fishing fleets in the fisheries of the United States, the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Reauthorization Act of 2006 (Public Law 109–479; 120 Stat. 3575), which established conservation measures designed to end overfishing, and the High Seas Driftnet Fisheries Enforcement Act (16 U.S.C. 1826a et seq.), which provided for the denial of entry into ports of the United States and the imposition of sanctions on vessels carrying out large-scale driftnet fishing beyond the exclusive economic zone of any nation;

(9) Ted Stevens was committed to health and fitness in his personal life and in his legislative accomplishments, as illustrated by his authorship of the Ted Stevens Amateur and Olympic Sports Act (36 U.S.C. 220501 et seq.), his encouragement of providing equality to female athletes through the enactment of title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 U.S.C. 1681 et seq.), and his leadership in improving physical education programs in schools through the Carol M. White Physical Education Program (20 U.S.C. 7261 et seq.);

(10) Ted Stevens unconditionally supported the needs of the Armed Forces of the United States through visits to soldiers, sailors, airmen, marines, and Coast Guardsmen in every major military conflict and war zone where United States military personnel have been assigned during his service in the Senate, including Vietnam, Kuwait, Bosnia, Kosovo, Iraq, and Afghanistan, and in his role as Chairman and Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Defense Appropriations for more than 20 years;

(11) Ted Stevens was a devoted husband, father, and grandfather who worked to promote family-friendly policies in the Federal government;

(12) Ted Stevens was well-respected for reaching across the aisle to forge bipartisan alliances and enjoyed many close friendships with colleagues in both political parties and with his staff, who were deeply loyal to him; and

(13) the designation of the unnamed highest peak in the State of Alaska, along with an icefield in the Chugach National Forest in that State, in honor of Ted Stevens would be a fitting tribute to his honorable life and legacy.

SEC. 3. DESIGNATION OF MOUNT STEVENS.

(a) DESIGNATION.—Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the United States Board on Geographic Names (referred to in this Act as the ''Board'') shall designate the unnamed, 13,895-foot peak in the Alaska Range in Denali National Park and Preserve in the State of Alaska, located at latitude 62.920469308 and longitude –151.066510314, as the ''Mount Stevens''.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the peak referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the ''Mount Stevens''.

SEC. 4. DESIGNATION OF TED STEVENS ICEFIELD.

(a) DEFINITION OF ICEFIELD.—In this section, the term ''icefield'' means the icefield in the northern Chugach National Forest in the State of Alaska—

(1) comprising approximately 8,340 square miles, as delineated by the map entitled ''Ice Field Name Proposal in Honor of Stevens'' dated September 24, 2010, as prepared by the Forest Service and available for inspection at Forest Service headquarters in Washington, District of Columbia; and

(2) including the Harvard, Yale, Columbia, Nelchina, Tazlina, Valdez, and Shoup Glaciers.

(b) DESIGNATION.—Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Board shall designate the icefield as the ''Ted Stevens Icefield''.

(c) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the icefield shall be deemed to be a reference to the ''Ted Stevens Icefield''.

The bill was ordered to be read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CONGRATULATING ROCKLAND COUNTY, NEW YORK, HOST OF THE 2012 MACCABI GAMES

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

Mr. ENGEL. I rise to express my support for the JCC Maccabi Games, which will be held in 2012 in Rockland County, New York. The JCC Maccabi Games is an amazing event where thousands of Jewish teams meet, compete, and learn the values of sportsmanship. 2012 will also be the 40th anniversary of the massacre at the Munich Olympic Games. I can remember the moment as if it were yesterday when, on September 5, 1972, 11 athletes and coaches representing the State of Israel were taken hostage and ultimately killed by terrorists. The Rockland JCC Maccabi Games will commemorate the solemn event. It is important to note that nearly 38 years after the Munich massacre, the International Olympic Committee has yet to memorialize these individuals with a moment of silence at the Olympic Games. This should happen, and I will introduce a resolution to encourage the International Olympic Committee in the next Congress to hold a minute of silence at the Olympic Games in 2012 and to urge that all future Olympics honor the Munich 11.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Rockland County, New York, which will host the 2012 Maccabi Games and look forward to joining with the community in celebrating the sport and friendship which these games are about.

□ 0100

HONORING ROBERT D. GRIFFITH ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE PENNSYLVANIA RECREATION AND PARK SOCIETY

(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 honor a man who has given 33 years of his life to the Pennsylvania Recreation and Park Society.

Robert D. Griffith is the executive director of the association of more than 1,600 members who provide recreation and parks programs and services to the citizens of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania through Federal, State and local recreation and park agencies.

During his tenure, he was instrumental in the passage of the statewide Growing Greener 1 and 2 funding programs; and worked on another statewide funding program for parks, recreation and conservation through the Renew Growing Greener Coalition.

He headed up the Governor's Conference on Recreation, Parks and Leisure in 1990 and has assisted in the development of the State's comprehensive recreation plans through the State Recreation and Park Advisory Committee and the Citizens Recreation Advisory Council.

Bob is a veteran serving as commanding officer for six different units at naval reserve centers in Altoona, Ebensburg and McKeesport, Pennsylvania.

Recently, Bob made the decision to retire from his position with the Recreation and Park Society. The State and its citizens will miss his leadership and stewardship of our parks. He deserves our thanks and our commendation.

HONORING UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

(Mrs. LUMMIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. LUMMIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the University of Wyoming Athletics Hall of Fame Class of 2010.

This year's inductees include Norwegian skiers Steinar Hybertsen and Staale Engen, who was also recognized for his accomplishments in track and field along with Karen Sanford Gall of Casper, Wyoming.

Cowboy wrestler Jerry Frude of Laramie is inducted alongside football players Bob Jacobs of Bozeman, Montana, and Chuck Lamson of Ames, Iowa.

And rounding out this year's class is the 1966 Pokes football team that won the Western Athletic Conference title, then finished with a 10–1 record by beating Florida State 28–20 in the Sun Bowl.

I extend my congratulations to all the student-athletes voted into the University of Wyoming Hall of Fame Class of 2010 on their outstanding accomplishments and their inspiration to Wyoming's community of fans.

Powder River Let'r Buck and Go Pokes.

A LOOK BACK AT THE 111TH CONGRESS

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

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, we were assured of a number of things when this Congress started. For one thing, the swamp was going to be drained. We were told that. There have been a lot of allegations. There's been no draining of anything.

We were told this would be the most open Congress in history. And yet, instead, the exact opposite. For the first time in the history of the United States Congress, we have gone right up, and as I understand we're not going to be back in session before this election, we will have gone through this entire Congress without having a single open rule for a vote, where anybody could make any amendments.

The old saying is, ''Democracy ensures that people are governed no better than they deserve.'' The people have deserved better. They deserve bipartisan. When one chairman, DINGELL, wanted to make a bipartisan approach to a bill, he was eliminated. We deserve better. And may God grant we get it.

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

By unanimous consent, permission to revise and extend remarks was granted to:

Mr. FILNER, and to include therein extraneous material, notwithstanding the fact that it exceeds two pages of the RECORD and is estimated by the Public Printer to cost $3,259.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Lorraine C. Miller, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled bills of the House of the following titles, which were thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 553. An act to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to develop a strategy to prevent the over-classification of homeland security and other information and to promote the sharing of unclassified homeland security and other information, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1177. An act to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in recognition of five United States Army 5-Star Generals, George Marshall, Douglas MacArthur, Dwight Eisenhower, Henry ''Hap'' Arnold, and Omar Bradley, alumni of the United States Army Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, to coincide with the celebration of the 132nd Anniversary of the founding of the United States Army Command and General Staff College.

H.R. 3081. An act making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2011, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3689. An act to provide for an extension of the legislative authority of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, Inc, to establish a Vietnam Veterans Memorial visitor center, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3980. An act to provide for identifying and eliminating redundant reporting requirements and developing meaningful performance metrics for homeland security preparedness grants, and for other purposes.

SENATE ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

The Speaker announced her signature to enrolled bills of the Senate of the following titles:

S. 1132. An act to amend title 18, United States Code, to improve the provisions relating to the carrying of concealed weapons by law enforcement officers, and for other purposes.

S. 3304. An act to increase the access of persons with disabilities to modern communications, and for other purposes.

S. 3828. An act to make technical corrections in the Twenty-First Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act of 2010 and the amendments made by that Act.

S. 3839. An act to provide for an additional temporary extension of programs under the Small Business Act and the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, and for other purposes.

S. 3847. An act to implement certain defense trade cooperation treaties, and for other purposes.

BILLS PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Lorraine C. Miller, Clerk of the House, reports that on September 28, 2010 she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bills.

H.R. 6190. 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 the airport improvement program, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1517. To allow certain U.S. Customs and Border Protection employees who serve under an overseas limited appointment for at least 2 years, and whose service is rated fully successful or higher throughout that time, to be converted to a permanent appointment in the competitive service.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Concurrent Resolution 321, 111th Congress, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 1 o'clock and 4 minutes a.m.), the House adjourned until Monday, November 15, 2010, at 2 p.m.

EXPENDITURE REPORTS CONCERNING OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL

Reports concerning the foreign currencies and U.S. dollars utilized for Speaker-Authorized Official Travel during the second and third quarters of 2010 pursuant to Public Law 95–384 are as follows:

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, MARGARET CANTRELL, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN AUG. 6 AND AUG. 16, 2010

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	$ U.S. equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	$ U.S. equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	$ U.S. equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	$ U.S. equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Margaret Cantrell	8/08	8/12	India		2,030.00						2,030.00
	8/12	8/16	Thailand		760.00						760.00
Committee total					2,790.00						2,790.00

[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.

MARGARET CANTRELL, Sept. 21, 2010.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2010

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	$ U.S. Equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	$ U.S. Equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	$ U.S. Equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	$ U.S. Equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Keenan Keller	5/31	6/03	Belgium		141.00		1,040.70				1,181.70
Committee total					141.00		1,040.70				1,181.70

[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.

HON. JOHN CONYERS, Jr., Chairman, Sept. 15, 2010.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2010

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	$ U.S. Equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	$ U.S. Equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	$ U.S. Equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	$ U.S. Equivalent or U.S. currency [2]

HOUSE COMMITTEES
Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. ☒

[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.

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY, Chairman, Sept. 10, 2010.

BUDGETARY EFFECTS OF PAYGO LEGISLATION

Pursuant to Public Law 111–139, Mr. SPRATT hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, the attached estimate of the costs of the bill H.R. 847, the James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act of 2010, as amended, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

ESTIMATE OF THE STATUTORY PAY-AS-YOU-GO EFFECTS FOR AN AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE TO H.R. 847, THE JAMES ZADROGA 9/11 HEALTH AND COMPENSATION ACT OF 2010

	By fiscal year in millions of dollars—												
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2010–2015	2010–2020
NET INCREASE OR DECREASE (−) IN THE DEFICIT													
Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Impact	0	−173	233	1,733	147	−2,060	1,619	−180	−153	−434	−732	−120	0

H.R. 847 would provide compensation and health care benefits to certain individuals who worked or lived near the sites of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. The bill would also change tax provisions that in some cases allow a U.S. subsidiary of a foreign corporation to avoid U.S. withholding tax on payments related to a subsidiary in a country that has a tax treaty with the United States and the legislation would shift about $1.8 billion in revenues from 2016 to 2015 by temporarily changing the required amounts of quarterly estimated tax payments of large corporations to offset those casts.
Note: Components may not sum to totals because of rounding.
Sources: Congressional Budget Office and Joint Committee on Taxation.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

9754. A letter from the Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting the Selected Acquisition Reports (SARs) for the quarter ending June 30, 2010 pursuant to section 2432, Title 10 United States Code; to the Committee on Armed Services.

9755. A letter from the Chairman, Military Leadership Diversity Commission, transmitting letter of extension for the Military leadership Diversity Commission; to the Committee on Armed Services.

9756. A letter from the Executive Director, The Appraisal Subcommittee, Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council, transmitting the 2009 Annual Report of the Appraisal Subcommittee, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 3332; to the Committee on Financial Services.

9757. A letter from the Administrator, Energy Information Administration, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's report for calendar year 2009 on the country of origin and the sellers or uranium and uranium enrichment services purchased by owners and operators of U.S. civilian nuclear power reactors, pursuant to Public Law 102-486, section 1015; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

9758. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting FY 2009 Performance Report to Congress for the Medical Device User Fee Amendments of 2007; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

9759. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Agency, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Department's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Designation of Areas for Air Quality Planning Purposes; State of California; PM-10; Redesignation of the Coso Junction Planning Area to Attainment; Approval of PM-10 Maintenance Plan for the Coso Junction Planning Area [EPA-R09-OAR-2010-0336; FRL-9191-1] received August 30, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

9760. A letter from the Director, International Cooperation, Department of Defense, transmitting Pursuant to Section 27(f) of the Arms Export Control Act and Section 1(f) of Executive Order 11958, Transmittal No. 10-12 informing of an intent to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with Canada; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

9761. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Department of State and the Agency for International Development report entitled ''Joint Summary of Performance and Financial Information Fiscal year 2009''; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

9762. 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.

9763. A letter from the Director of Legislative Affairs, Office of the Director of National Intelligence, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9764. A letter from the Inspector General, Railroad Retirement Board, transmitting the Board's budget request for the Office of the Inspector General of the Railroad Retirement Board for fiscal year 2012, in accordance with Section 7(f) of the Railroad Retirement Act, pursuant to 45 U.S.C. 231f(f); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9765. A letter from the Under Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's report regarding the activities of the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization for 2008 and 2009, pursuant to 16 U.S.C. 5601 et. seq.; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

9766. A letter from the Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, transmitting a copy of a report required by Section 202(a)(1)(C) of Pub. L. 107-273, the ''21st Century Department of Justice Appropriations Authorization Act'', related to certain settlements and injunctive relief, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 530D Public Law 107-273, section 202; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

9767. A letter from the Deputy Chief Financial Officer, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting notification that a sixth transfer of $100 million from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund to the Emergency Fund has occurred; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

9768. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Model 777-200LR and -300ER Series Airplanes Equipped with GE90-100 Series Engines [Docket No.:

FAA-2010-0704; Directorate Identifier 2010-NM-037-AD; Amendment 39-16389; AD 2010-16-12] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received August 24, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

9769. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; BAE SYSTEMS (OPERATIONS) LIMITED Model BAe 146-100A and -200A Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2010-0434; Directorate Identifier 2010-NM-221-AD; Amendment 39-16386 AD 2010-16-09] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received August 24, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

9770. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; BAE SYSTEMS (OPERATIONS) LIMITED Model Avro 146-RJ and BAe 146 Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2010-0222; Directorate Identifier 2010-NM-012-AD; Amendment 39-16387; AD 2010-16-10] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received August 24, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

9771. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Rolls-Royce plc (RR) RB211-Trent 900 Series Turbofan Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2010-0748; Directorate Identifier 2010-NE-13-AD; Amendment 39-16384 AD 2010-16-07] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received August 24, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

9772. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Model A300 B4-600, B4-600R, and F4-600R Series Airplanes, and Model C4-605R Variant F airplanes (Collectively Called A300-600 series airplanes); and A310 Series Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2010-0281; Directorate Identifier 2010-NM-184-AD; Amendment 39-16390; AD 2010-16-13] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received August 24, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

9773. A letter from the Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Ontic Engineering and Manufacturing, Inc. Propeller Governors, Part Numbers C210776, T210761, D210760, and J210761 [Docket No.: FAA-2010-0102; Directorate Identifier 2010-NE-09-AD; Amendment 39-16341; AD 2010-13-10] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received August 24, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

9774. A letter from the Senior Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; BAE SYSTEMS (OPERATIONS) LIMITED Model BAe 146-100A and -200A Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2010-0434; Directorate Identifier 2010-NM-221-AD; Amendment 39-16386; AD 2010-16-09] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received August 24, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

9775. A letter from the Senior Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Model 777-200LR and -300ER Series Airplanes Equipped with GE90-100 Series Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2010-0704; Directorate Identifier 2010-NM-037-AD; Amendment 39-16389; AD 2010-16-12] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received August 24, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

9776. A letter from the Senior Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Maneuvering Speed Limitation Statement [Docket No.: FAA-2009-0810; Amendment No. 25-130] (RIN: 2120-AJ21) received August 24, 2010, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

9777. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting a report entitled ''Analysis of the Classification Criteria for Inpatient Rehabilitation Facilities (IRFs)''; jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means.

9778. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting a report entitled ''Evaluation of the Medical Adult Day Services Demonstration''; jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and 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. ARCURI: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 1674. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 847) to amend the Public Health Service Act to extend and improve protections and services to individuals directly impacted by the terrorist attack in New York City on September 11, 2001, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2378) to amend title VII of the Tariff Act of 1930 to clarify that fundamental exchange-rate misalignment by any foreign nation is actionable under United States countervailing and anti-dumping duty laws, and for other purposes; and providing for consideration of the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 2701) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2010 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes. (Rept. 111–648). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. WAXMAN: Committee on Energy and Commerce. House Resolution 1561. Resolution directing the Secretary of Health and Human Services to transmit to the House of Representatives copies of each portion of any document, record, or communication in her possession consisting of or relating to documents prepared by or for the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services regarding the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, and for other purposes (Rept. 111–649). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. RAHALL: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 4416. A bill to reauthorize the Great Ape Conservation Act, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 111–650). Referred to the Committee on the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. RAHALL: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 5479. A bill to amend the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 to provide for use of excess funds available under that Act to provide for certain benefits, and for other purposes (Rept. 111–651). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. OBERSTAR: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H.R. 5897. A bill to reauthorize and improve programs and activities carried out under the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 111–652 Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed.

Mr. PETERSON: Committee on Agriculture. H.R. 4645. A bill to remove obstacles to legal sales of United States agricultural commodities to Cuba and to end travel restrictions on all Americans to Cuba (Rept. 111–653 Pt. 1). Ordered to be printed.

Mr. OBERSTAR: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H.R. 5892. A bill to provide for the conservation and development of water and related resources, to authorize the Secretary of the Army to construct various projects for improvements to rivers and harbors of the United States, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 111–654). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Ms. SLAUGHTER: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 1682. Resolution providing for consideration of the Senate Amendments to the bill (H.R. 3081) making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes (Rept. 111–655). Referred to the House Calendar.

DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII the Committee on Financial Services discharged from further consideration. H.R. 5897 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. SMITH of Texas:

H.R. 6239. A bill to provide targeted liability protections for claims based on damages resulting from, or aggravated by, the inclusion of ethanol in certain fuel, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. LUMMIS (for herself, Mr. DONNELLY of Indiana, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. MANZULLO, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee, Mr. KIND, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. CRITZ, Mr. WAMP, Mr. REHBERG, Mrs. KIRKPATRICK of Arizona, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. MARCHANT, and Mr. PETERSON):

H.R. 6240. A bill to amend the Arms Export Control Act to provide that certain firearms listed as curios or relics may be imported into the United States by a licensed importer without obtaining authorization from the Department of State or the Department of Defense, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on 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 Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD (for herself, Mr. WAMP, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. WOLF, Mr. WATT, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. SERRANO, Ms. WATSON, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Ms. CLARKE, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. HINOJOSA, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, and Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas):

H.R. 6241. A bill to provide for programs and activities with respect to the prevention

of underage drinking; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. CHILDERS:

H.R. 6242. A bill to render inadmissible to the United States aliens who have been convicted of a sex offense against a minor, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GONZALEZ (for himself, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, and Mr. RODRIGUEZ):

H.R. 6243. A bill to make the United States exclusively liable for certain claims of liability to the extent such liability is a claim for damages resulting from, or aggravated by, the inclusion of ethanol in transportation fuel; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. POLIS (for himself, Mr. HINOJOSA, and Ms. HIRONO):

H.R. 6244. A bill to provide incentives for States and local educational agencies to implement comprehensive reforms and innovative strategies that are designed to lead to significant improvement in outcomes for all students and significant reductions in achievement gaps among subgroups of students, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia (for himself, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Ms. NORTON):

H.R. 6245. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to require the electronic recording of custodial interrogations in Federal criminal cases; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. POMEROY:

H.R. 6246. A bill to provide for loans to rural energy-producing communities in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committee on Financial Services, 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. CARNAHAN (for himself and Mr. ROGERS of Michigan):

H.R. 6247. A bill to optimize transportation through efficient operations and maintenance programs; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. HONDA:

H.R. 6248. A bill to stimulate collaboration with respect to, and provide for coordination and coherence of, the Nation's science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education initiatives; to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committee on Science and Technology, 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. SKELTON (for himself and Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky):

H.R. 6249. A bill to create a system to educate, train, and develop interagency national security professionals across the Government; to require personnel selected for senior-level interagency national security positions to meet interagency education, training, and experience requirements; to provide appropriate interagency training, education, and assignment opportunities for national security professionals throughout their careers; and to authorize funds and create program structures for implementation of the system; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. NUNES:

H.R. 6250. A bill to establish the terms and conditions States must follow in carrying out Congressional redistricting; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WU (for himself, Mr. BLUMENAUER, and Mr. DEFAZIO):

H.R. 6251. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to temporarily designate as a HUBZone counties that are most affected by a recession; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas (for himself, Mr. THOMPSON of California, and Mr. CARTER):

H.R. 6252. A bill to prohibit the export from the United States of certain electronic waste, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. POE of Texas (for himself, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. OLSON, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. CARTER, Ms. GRANGER, Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. HALL of Texas, Mr. ROYCE, Mr. BARTON of Texas, Mr. CULBERSON, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. BRADY of Texas, Mr. BARTLETT, Mr. HOEKSTRA, Mr. SHADEGG, Mr. FLEMING, Mr. GRAVES of Georgia, Mr. MCCAUL, and Mr. ROHRABACHER):

H.R. 6253. A bill to utilize the National Guard to provide support for the border control activities of the United States Customs and Border Protection of the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mrs. KIRKPATRICK of Arizona:

H.R. 6254. A bill to amend the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 to provide for certain exceptions to the mandatory 30-day waiting period before new or modified flood insurance coverage takes effect; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. SHEA-PORTER:

H.R. 6255. A bill to require mail-order pharmacies to notify customers when generic drugs become available and to prevent mail-order pharmacies from substituting drugs without the express authorization of the prescriber; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California:

H.R. 6256. A bill to establish a shared equity homeownership pilot program for FHA mortgage insurance; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. TURNER:

H.R. 6257. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exempt certain emergency medical devices from the excise tax on medical devices; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. FUDGE (for herself, Mr. CAO, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. RUSH, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. HARE, Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. HONDA, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, and Ms. CHU):

H.R. 6258. A bill to address childhood obesity, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Education and Labor, Ways and Means, Natural Resources, Agriculture, the Judiciary, and Financial Services, 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. SPACE:

H.R. 6259. A bill to require approval to enter into trade agreements with foreign countries, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. WATERS (for herself, Mr. SHERMAN, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. CLAY, Mr. SIRES, and Mr. MILLER of North Carolina):

H.R. 6260. A bill to amend the Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act of 1974 to prohibit certain transfer fees and covenants in connection with the sale of real property; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD:

H.R. 6261. A bill to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to improve oversight of nursing facilities under the Medicare and Medicaid programs by ensuring adequate, trained surveyors, and for other purposes; 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. HARE (for himself, Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Mr. FILNER):

H.R. 6262. A bill to stimulate job creation by directing Federal procurement to domestic sources, to ensure the enforcement of domestic sourcing requirements, to prohibit the procurement of sweatshop goods by the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, 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. YOUNG of Alaska:

H.R. 6263. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow Indian tribes to receive charitable contributions of apparently wholesome food; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. YOUNG of Alaska (for himself and Mr. WU):

H.R. 6264. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to require labeling of genetically-engineered fish; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. YOUNG of Alaska:

H.R. 6265. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to prevent the approval of genetically-engineered fish; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California:

H.R. 6266. A bill to amend the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act to require sex offenders to notify appropriate government officials before traveling internationally, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. TOWNS (for himself and Mr. ISSA):

H.R. 6267. A bill to require Federal agencies to begin acquiring all telecommunications services under the Networx contracts of the General Services Administration not later than May 31, 2011; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. HARE (for himself, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, and Ms. BERKLEY):

H.R. 6268. A bill to establish a wage theft prevention grant program in the Department of Labor to prevent wage and hour violations and expand and improve cooperative efforts between enforcement agencies and members of the community; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Ms. SHEA-PORTER:

H.R. 6269. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to expand eligibility for burial in national cemeteries for certain members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces and National Guard, and to increase the amount payable by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs for the burial and funeral expenses of certain veterans; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. KILDEE (for himself, Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California, Mr. LIPINSKI, and Mr. WELCH):

H.R. 6270. A bill to amend chapter 89 of title 40, United States Code, to require commemorative works in the District of Columbia and its environs to be constructed of materials that are grown, produced, or manufactured in the United States; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. CHAFFETZ:

H.R. 6271. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain Federal features of the electric distribution system to the South Utah Valley Electric Service District, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. GIFFORDS (for herself and Mr. JONES):

H.R. 6272. A bill to amend the Homeowners Assistance Program of the Department of Defense to eliminate the discretion of the Secretary of Defense to set an earlier termination date for the eligibility of a member of the Armed Forces for homeowner assistance when the member is permanently reassigned by order of the United States Government to a duty station or home port outside a 50-mile radius of the member's base or installation of residence; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Financial Services, 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. PETERSON (for himself, Mr. HOLDEN, Mr. BOSWELL, Mr. CARDOZA, Mr. SKELTON, Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN, Mr. CHILDERS, Mr. ROSS, Mr. COSTA, Mr. POMEROY, Mr. KISSELL, Mr. ELLSWORTH, and Mr. OWENS):

H.R. 6273. A bill to amend the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act to exempt the application of pesticides subject to that Act, when applied in conformance with that Act, from certain permit requirements under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, 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. DAVIS of California (for herself and Mr. POLIS):

H.R. 6274. A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to require the establishment of teacher evaluation programs; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. MARKEY of Massachusetts (for himself, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, and Mr. JONES):

H.R. 6275. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to improve air cargo security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security, and in addition to the Committee on 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 Ms. SHEA-PORTER (for herself and Ms. BORDALLO):

H.R. 6276. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to identify and declare wildlife disease emergencies and to coordinate rapid response to these emergencies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, 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. SMITH of New Jersey (for himself and Mr. WOLF):

H.R. 6277. A bill to amend the Global Anti-Semitism Review Act of 2004 and the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 to provide for additional reporting and briefing on anti-Semitism around the world and on Department of State actions to monitor and combat anti-Semitism, funding the Office to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism, training for Foreign Service Officers and other employees and staff of the Department of State, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 6278. A bill to amend the National Children's Island Act of 1995 to expand allowable uses for Kingman and Heritage Islands by the District of Columbia, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Ms. GIFFORDS:

H.R. 6279. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for the retention of members of the reserve components on active duty for a period of 45 days following an extended deployment in contingency operations or homeland defense missions to support their reintegration into civilian life, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. POLIS:

H.R. 6280. A bill to designate certain lands in the State of Colorado as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System, to designate the Red Table Mountain, Pisgah Mountain, Castle Peak, Tenmile, and Hoosier Ridge Special Management Areas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. HASTINGS of Washington:

H.R. 6281. A bill to amend the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to provide grants and enter into cooperative agreements for integrated regional water conservation plans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. LEE of California (for herself, Mr. JONES, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. KUCINICH, Mr. PAUL, Mr. HONDA, Ms. PINGREE of Maine, Mr. STARK, Mr. ELLISON, and Mr. GRIJALVA):

H.R. 6282. A bill to repeal Public Law 107-40; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. LEE of California (for herself, Ms. WOOLSEY, Ms. SLAUGHTER, and Ms. DEGETTE):

H.R. 6283. A bill to amend title V of the Social Security Act to eliminate the abstinence-only education program; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Appropriations, 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. BROUN of Georgia (for himself, Mr. CHAFFETZ, Mr. TIAHRT, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. BARTLETT, Mr. ROONEY, Mr. GINGREY of Georgia, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mr. POSEY, Mr. NEUGEBAUER, Ms. GRANGER, Mr. MARCHANT, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. WAMP, Mr. LATTA, Mr. LAMBORN, Mrs. SCHMIDT, Mr. PITTS, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. JORDAN of Ohio, Mr. SHADEGG, Mr. MANZULLO, Mr. HOEKSTRA, Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado, Mr. OLSON, Mr. CULBERSON, Mr. GRAVES of Georgia, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. CARTER, Mr. AKIN, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mrs. LUMMIS, Mr. REHBERG, Mr. MORAN of Kansas, and Mr. SCALISE):

H.R. 6284. A bill to prohibit the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency from regulating, based on material composition, any type of firearm ammunition or fishing tackle; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. KAGEN (for himself and Mr. DEFAZIO):

H.R. 6285. A bill to prohibit the importation into the United States of paper products that are not manufactured in accordance with requirements that are at least as stringent as the requirements under the Clean Air Act and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. COLE:

H.R. 6286. A bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to repeal the limitation on the annual aggregate amount of contributions individuals may make to candidates for election for Federal office, to repeal the limitations on the amount of coordinated expenditures by political parties, and to protect uncompensated Internet activity by individuals from treatment as a contribution or expenditure under the Act; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. COLE:

H.R. 6287. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend for 1 year the deduction for expenses of elementary and secondary school teachers and to allow such deduction with respect to home school expenses; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. COLE (for himself and Mr. BOREN):

H.R. 6288. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the benefits of empowerment zones and enterprise communities if those zones and communities are determined to still qualify for designation; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. FOSTER:

H.R. 6289. A bill to direct the Librarian of Congress to make available to the public the bulk legislative summary and status data used to provide the information posted on the THOMAS website, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Ms. SCHAKOWSKY (for herself, Mr. HALL of Texas, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. TERRY, and Mr. BARROW):

H.R. 6290. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to require Medicaid coverage of optometrists; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. RICHARDSON:

H.R. 6291. A bill to provide for merit-based investment in the freight transportation system of the United States to ensure economic growth, increase vitality and competitiveness in national and global markets, address goods mobility and accessibility issues, reduce air pollution and other environmental impacts of freight transportation, better public health conditions, enhance energy security, and improve the condition and connectivity of the freight transportation system, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, and Rules, 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 Ms. RICHARDSON:

H.R. 6292. A bill to improve the ability of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the Coast Guard, and coastal States to sustain healthy ocean and coastal ecosystems by maintaining and sustaining their capabilities relating to oil spill preparedness, prevention, response, restoration, and research, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committees on Science and Technology, and 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 Ms. RICHARDSON:

H.R. 6293. A bill to assist States and local governments develop and implement emergency notification systems suitable for use on public recreational lands, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Homeland Security, 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 Ms. RICHARDSON:

H.R. 6294. A bill to ensure that seniors, veterans, and people with disabilities who receive Social Security and certain other Federal benefits receive a $250 payment in the event that no cost-of-living adjustment is payable in a calendar year; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, and 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 Ms. SPEIER (for herself, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. RICHARDSON, Ms. WOOLSEY, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. HONDA, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. SCHAUER, Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California, Mr. FILNER, Mr. STARK, Ms. CHU, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. FARR, Mr. TONKO, Mrs. CAPPS, and Ms. SLAUGHTER):

H.R. 6295. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to enhance pipeline safety, to provide communities with access to improved information concerning the equipment and operations of pipeline facilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, 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. SHERMAN (for himself, Mr. ROYCE, Mr. KLEIN of Florida, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. POE of Texas, Mr. SIRES, Mrs. MALONEY, Ms. BERKLEY, and Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas):

H.R. 6296. A bill to enhance United States diplomatic efforts with respect to Iran by imposing additional economic sanctions against Iran, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, the Judiciary, Financial Services, and Oversight and Government Reform, 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. SHERMAN:

H.R. 6297. A bill to improve the international strategy of the United States for monitoring, reducing, and responding to biological risks, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. RICHARDSON (for herself, Mr. CONYERS, and Mr. GRIJALVA):

H.R. 6298. A bill to establish national and State putative father registries, to make grants to States to promote permanent families for children and responsible fatherhood, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. RICHARDSON:

H.R. 6299. A bill to amend title 23, United States Code, to reauthorize and modify the surface transportation project delivery pilot program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. KUCINICH (for himself and Mr. FILNER):

H.R. 6300. A bill to provide for general revenue sharing for States; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Ms. RICHARDSON:

H.R. 6301. A bill to clarify the application of section 14501(d) of title 49, United States Code, to prevent the imposition of unreasonable transportation terminal fees; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. ALTMIRE (for himself and Mr. HIMES):

H.R. 6302. A bill to provide professional development for elementary school principals in early childhood education and development; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. ARCURI (for himself and Mr. MCMAHON):

H.R. 6303. A bill to preserve Medicare beneficiary choice by repealing section 3204(a) of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act; 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. BACA (for himself, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. MILLER of North Carolina, Mr. MEEKS of New York, and Mr. SIRES):

H.R. 6304. A bill to establish in the Department of the Treasury the Office of the Homeowner Advocate to assist homeowners, housing counselors, and housing lawyers in resolving problems with the Home Affordable Modification Program; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. BACA:

H.R. 6305. A bill to require financial institutions to offer services to protect seniors from affinity scams, to report suspected affinity scams, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on 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 Ms. BALDWIN:

H.R. 6306. A bill to improve the understanding and coordination of critical care health services; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. BALDWIN:

H.R. 6307. A bill to amend title 17, United States Code, to enable a public broadcaster to obtain statutory licenses for the transmission of sound recordings online, unless a substantial portion of the sound recordings transmitted, on a weekly basis, are by the same featured recording artist or of the same musical work, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BARTLETT (for himself, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania, Ms. SCHWARTZ, Mr. CARNEY, Mr. CRITZ, Mr. KANJORSKI, Mr. DENT, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. GERLACH, Mr. SHUSTER, Mr. PLATTS, Mr. HOLDEN, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. PITTS, Mr. LANCE, Mr. KRATOVIL, Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Ms. EDWARDS of Maryland, Mr. ANDREWS, Mr. CASTLE, Mr. HOYER, and Mr. SARBANES):

H.R. 6308. A bill to grant the consent of the Congress to the SMART Research and Development Compact; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BISHOP of New York:

H.R. 6309. A bill to require disclosure of the physical location of business agents engaging in customer service communications, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BLUMENAUER (for himself, Mr. SCHRADER, and Mr. JONES):

H.R. 6310. A bill to restore accountability and Congressional oversight to the defense contracting process; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. BLUMENAUER (for himself, Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, and Mr. DOGGETT):

H.R. 6311. A bill to amend the Trade Act of 1974 to authorize the United States Trade Representative to take discretionary action if a foreign country is engaging in unreasonable acts, policies, or practices relating to the environment, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BLUMENAUER:

H.R. 6312. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the excise tax on heavy trucks and trailers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BLUMENAUER:

H.R. 6313. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to impose a vehicle mileage tax for mobile mounted concrete boom pumps in lieu of the tax on taxable fuels, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. BORDALLO:

H.R. 6314. A bill to provide for the nonreduction in pay from a position of employment with the Federal Government for members of the Coast Guard Reserve or the National Guard participating in homeland defense missions; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Ms. BORDALLO (for herself, Mr. SABLAN, and Ms. HIRONO):

H.R. 6315. A bill to reauthorize and amend the Marine Debris Research, Prevention, and Reduction Act; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, 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. BOREN (for himself, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin, Mr. ROSS, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. BROWN of South Carolina, and Ms. BORDALLO):

H.R. 6316. A bill to amend the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act to mitigate the economic impact of the transition to sustainable fisheries on fishing communities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. BRADY of Texas:

H.R. 6317. A bill to amend Federal law, including the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, to reform and encourage investment in commercial real estate, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on 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 Mrs. CAPPS (for herself, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, and Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut):

H.R. 6318. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to ensure a national, coordinated approach to improving maternal and infant health; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. CARNEY (for himself and Mr. CRITZ):

H.R. 6319. A bill to waive the annuity buyback requirement under the Federal Employees Retirement Service with respect to certain law enforcement officers involuntarily called or retained on active duty, and

for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. COURTNEY:

H.R. 6320. A bill to improve the support, training, education, and compliance assistance regarding export licensing requirements provided to small businesses and medium-sized businesses; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on the Budget, 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. CRITZ (for himself, Mr. HOLDEN, Mr. KANJORSKI, and Mr. WESTMORELAND):

H.R. 6321. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for tax preferred savings accounts for individuals under age 26, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. CROWLEY (for himself and Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin):

H.R. 6322. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make permanent the deduction for mortgage insurance premiums; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. CROWLEY:

H.R. 6323. A bill to exempt gain from the sale of certain C corporation stock from the capital gains rate increase resulting from the sunset of the Jobs and Growth Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2003; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. DAVIS of Illinois:

H.R. 6324. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Education to make grants to local educational agencies to provide for the services of registered dieticians in schools; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Ms. DELAURO (for herself, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, and Ms. WOOLSEY):

H.R. 6325. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act and the Federal Meat Inspection Act to require that food that contains bioengineered products be labeled accordingly, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, 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. DENT:

H.R. 6326. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to provide waivers and appeals to certain individuals; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mr. DJOU:

H.R. 6327. A bill to authorize the cancellation of removal and adjustment of status of certain aliens who are long-term United States residents and who entered the United States as children, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, 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. ETHERIDGE:

H.R. 6328. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to encourage the re-refining of used oil; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. GARAMENDI (for himself, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Ms. MATSUI, and Mr. MCNERNEY):

H.R. 6329. A bill to establish the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey (for himself, Mr. HOEKSTRA, Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado, Mr. SHADEGG, Mr. CULBERSON, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mr. GINGREY of Georgia, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. PENCE, Mr. PITTS, Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. HENSARLING, Mr. CARTER, Mrs. SCHMIDT, and Mr. POSEY):

H.R. 6330. A bill to make permanent the reduced individual income tax rate on dividends; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. GINGREY of Georgia (for himself, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. WHITFIELD, Mr. ROGERS of Michigan, and Ms. DEGETTE):

H.R. 6331. A bill to provide incentives for the development of qualified infectious disease products; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. GINGREY of Georgia:

H.R. 6332. A bill to enhance disclosure of private transfer fees in real estate transactions; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. GRAVES of Missouri:

H.R. 6333. A bill to prohibit, for one year, the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency from issuing regulations that result in increased costs for small business concerns, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, and Agriculture, 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. GUTIERREZ (for himself, Ms. WATERS, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, and Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas):

H.R. 6334. A bill to amend the Community Reinvestment Act of 1977 to improve the assessments of regulated financial institutions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. HEINRICH:

H.R. 6335. A bill to amend the Mineral Leasing Act to permanently withdraw all Federal lands from location and entry for uranium mining, to provide for leasing of such lands under such Act for uranium mining, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. HEINRICH:

H.R. 6336. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend the time period in which an individual may transfer entitlement of Post-9/11 Educational Assistance benefits to dependents; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. HENSARLING (for himself, Mr. BACHUS, Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey, Mrs. BIGGERT, Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. PITTS, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. GINGREY of Georgia, Mr. ROONEY, Mr. SHADEGG, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. PRICE of Georgia, Mr. POSEY, Mr. PENCE, Mr. JORDAN of Ohio, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mr. CULBERSON, Mr. FLEMING, Mr. OLSON, Mr. ISSA, and Mr. AKIN):

H.R. 6337. A bill to amend the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 to require each institution with outstanding assistance under the Troubled Asset Relief Program to disclose such fact to the institution's customers; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN:

H.R. 6338. A bill to amend the Federal Crop Insurance Act to permit certain livestock owners to plant a secondary crop for the use of the producer as emergency feed; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN (for herself and Mr. BOOZMAN):

H.R. 6339. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a program to assist military medics and corpsmen in making transitions to civilian physician assistant jobs; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. HINCHEY:

H.R. 6340. A bill to amend the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2008 to modify the threshold rates of unemployment that must be met by a State in order to establish eligibility for fourth-tier emergency unemployment compensation with respect to such State; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. HOLDEN:

H.R. 6341. A bill to establish a loan program to promote energy conservation in rural areas; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. HOLDEN:

H.R. 6342. A bill to establish pilot projects for agriculture renewable energy systems; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. INSLEE:

H.R. 6343. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to make loans to qualified projects for the production of renewable source jet fuel; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. INSLEE (for himself and Mr. BAIRD):

H.R. 6344. A bill to promote the research, development, demonstration, and commercial application of marine and hydrokinetic renewable energy technologies, to identify the potential environmental impacts of these technologies and ways to address these impacts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science and Technology.

By Mr. ISRAEL (for himself and Mr. ANDREWS):

H.R. 6345. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to adjust personal exemptions for high cost-of-living areas; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. KIND (for himself and Mr. GRAVES of Missouri):

H.R. 6346. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to treat certain provider taxes as allowable costs for purposes of Medicare reimbursements to critical access hospitals; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. KLEIN of Florida (for himself and Mr. DEUTCH):

H.R. 6347. A bill to make certain entities ineligible to contract with any agency or instrumentality of a State or local government for any high-speed rail project that is funded, either partially or fully, by the Federal Government; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. KRATOVIL:

H.R. 6348. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to clarify the treatment of Medicaid EHR incentive payments for Federally qualified health centers; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. LAMBORN:

H.R. 6349. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for greater transparency in the conversion of Department of Defense functions previously performed by contractors to performance by Department of Defense employees, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. LANGEVIN:

H.R. 6350. A bill to amend title XIX of the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize the program under such title relating to lifespan respite care; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. LANGEVIN (for himself, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, and Mr. BARTLETT):

H.R. 6351. A bill to establish the Executive Cyber Director in the Executive Office of the President, to clarify the authority of the

Secretary of Homeland Security and the Executive Cyber Director with respect to critical information infrastructure policy creation, verification, and enforcement measures, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, 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. LATTA:

H.R. 6352. A bill to amend title 35, United States Code, to modify the penalty for false marking, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. LATTA (for himself and Mr. LATOURETTE):

H.R. 6353. A bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to assist municipalities that would experience a significant hardship raising the revenue necessary to finance projects and activities for the construction of wastewater treatment works, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. LEWIS of Georgia (for himself, Mr. STARK, Ms. KILPATRICK of Michigan, Ms. FUDGE, Ms. TSONGAS, and Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas):

H.R. 6354. A bill to reauthorize the Assets for Independence Act, to provide for the approval of applications to operate new demonstration programs and to renew existing programs, to enhance program flexibility, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. LOEBSACK:

H.R. 6355. A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to provide for the development of State statistical literacy plans and to authorize the Secretary of Education to make grants for statistics-related teacher professional development and the improvement of statistics education; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. LOEBSACK (for himself and Mr. PAYNE):

H.R. 6356. A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to foster community involvement, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California:

H.R. 6357. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude from gross income discharge of indebtedness incurred for purposes of paying long-term care expenses; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. MACK:

H.R. 6358. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a zero percent capital gains rate for individuals and corporations; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. MAFFEI (for himself and Mr. ANDREWS):

H.R. 6359. A bill to amend title IV of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to provide for a guarantee by the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation for qualified preretirement survivor annuities under insolvent or terminated multiemployer pension plans; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. MAFFEI:

H.R. 6360. A bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to direct the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to carry out activities for the restoration, conservation, and management of Onondaga Lake, New York, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York:

H.R. 6361. A bill to amend the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 to establish a demonstration grant program for nonprofit organizations to partner with juvenile justice agencies to monitor juvenile facilities and provide youth in the facilities and their families with increased positive engagement in the system; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York:

H.R. 6362. A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to improve school safety; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York:

H.R. 6363. A bill to require the Attorney General to establish a competitive grant program for State and local law enforcement agencies to carry out training programs based on lessons from the Holocaust; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York (for herself and Mr. WEINER):

H.R. 6364. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow individuals a credit against income tax for noise abatement property installed in residences impacted by train and airplane noise; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. MCGOVERN (for himself, Mr. ISSA, and Mr. HASTINGS of Florida):

H.R. 6365. A bill to make certain individuals ineligible for visas or admission to the United States and to revoke visas and other entry documents previously issued to such individuals, and to impose certain financial measures on such individuals, until the Russian Federation has thoroughly investigated the death of Sergei Leonidovich Magnitsky and brought the Russian criminal justice system into compliance with international legal standards, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Financial Services, 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. MORAN of Kansas:

H.R. 6366. A bill to amend the National Trails System Act to designate the routes of the Shawnee Cattle Trail, the oldest of the major Texas Cattle Trails, for study for potential addition to the National Trails System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. MORAN of Kansas:

H.R. 6367. A bill to restore American jobs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Education and Labor, the Judiciary, House Administration, Rules, Natural Resources, Appropriations, Financial Services, and 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 Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 6368. A bill to provide for a voluntary, non-work related disability insurance program for Federal employees; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. NYE:

H.R. 6369. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to codify the Military Spouse Career Advancement Account program (MyCAA) conducted by the Department of Defense to assist spouses of members of the Armed Forces serving on active duty to pursue educational opportunities and career training, to ensure that such educational opportunities and training are available to all military spouses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. NYE:

H.R. 6370. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to prevent fraud in transactions involving certain small business concerns; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. NYE:

H.R. 6371. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the payment of a monthly stipend to the surviving parents (known as ''Gold Star parents'') of members of the Armed Forces who die during a period of war; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. NYE (for himself, Mr. BISHOP of New York, and Mr. MCNERNEY):

H.R. 6372. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the entitlement of surviving spouses of members of the Armed Forces who die while serving on active duty to educational assistance under the Post-9/11 Educational Assistance Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. OLVER (for himself, Ms. BALDWIN, Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. HOLT, Mr. MARKEY of Massachusetts, Mrs. MALONEY, and Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD):

H.R. 6373. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to improve access to advanced practice nurses and physician assistants under the Medicaid Program; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. PAYNE:

H.R. 6374. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide for the refinancing of certain private education loans for physicians practicing primary care medicine; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. PITTS:

H.R. 6375. A bill to repeal the sugar price support program and marketing allotments for sugar, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. POMEROY (for himself and Mr. MORAN of Kansas):

H.R. 6376. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act with respect to physician supervision of therapeutic hospital outpatient services; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on 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. RAHALL:

H.R. 6377. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to enhance the roles and responsibilities of the Chief of the National Guard Bureau; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. ROSKAM:

H.R. 6378. A bill to reduce waste, fraud, and abuse under the Medicare, Medicaid, and CHIP programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, and the Judiciary, 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. ROTHMAN of New Jersey:

H.R. 6379. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 20 Main Street in Little Ferry, New Jersey, as the ''Sergeant Matthew J. Fenton Post Office''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. SABLAN:

H.R. 6380. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the National Park Service, to establish an annex in Tinian, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, as an extension of the American Memorial Park located in Saipan; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. SABLAN (for himself, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Ms.

BORDALLO, Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, and Mr. PIERLUISI):

H.R. 6381. A bill to clarify the application of certain Federal laws relating to elections to American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, and the United States Virgin Islands; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on House Administration, 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. SARBANES:

H.R. 6382. A bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to create a designation for property owners who take actions to reduce nutrient and sediment runoff into the Chesapeake Bay watershed, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mrs. SCHMIDT:

H.R. 6383. A bill to assist the State of Ohio in conducting a bed bug prevention and mitigation program; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. SHERMAN (for himself, Mr. HARE, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. SUTTON, Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California, Mr. KUCINICH, Mr. STARK, and Ms. KAPTUR):

H.R. 6384. A bill to repeal a limitation in the Labor-Management Relations Act regarding requirements for labor organization membership as a condition of employment; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. SMITH of Nebraska:

H.R. 6385. A bill to repeal the unearned income Medicare contribution provision in the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey:

H.R. 6386. A bill to amend the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 to require a nuclear power facility licensee to notify the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the State and county in which the facility is located within 24 hours of an unplanned release of radionuclides in excess of allowable limits, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. THOMPSON of California (for himself, Mr. BACA, Mr. BECERRA, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. BILBRAY, Mrs. BONO MACK, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. CARDOZA, Ms. CHU, Mr. COSTA, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. DREIER, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. FARR, Mr. FILNER, Mr. GALLEGLY, Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. HARMAN, Mr. HERGER, Mr. HONDA, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. ISSA, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. LEWIS of California, Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California, Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California, Mr. MCKEON, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. MCCARTHY of California, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. RADANOVICH, Ms. RICHARDSON, Mr. ROHRABACHER, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. ROYCE, Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. SHERMAN, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. STARK, Ms. WATERS, Ms. WATSON, Mr. WAXMAN, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. NUNES, and Ms. PELOSI):

H.R. 6387. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 337 West Clark Street in Eureka, California, as the ''Sam Sacco Post Office Building''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi:

H.R. 6388. A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to increase to $332 the maximum amount of the lump-sum death benefit; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. TOWNS:

H.R. 6389. A bill to reduce disparities and improve access to effective and cost efficient diagnosis and treatment of prostate cancer through advances in testing, research, and education, including through telehealth, comparative effectiveness research, and identification of best practices in patient education and outreach particularly with respect to underserved racial, ethnic and rural populations and men with a family history of prostate cancer, to establish a directive on what constitutes clinically appropriate prostate cancer imaging, and to create a prostate cancer scientific advisory board for the Office of the Chief Scientist at the Food and Drug Administration to accelerate real-time sharing of the latest research and accelerate movement of new medicines to patients; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Armed Services, and 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. WEINER:

H.R. 6390. A bill to require the disclosure to consumers of all fees and charges associated with the sale of Major League Baseball tickets prior to the completion of any Internet sale of such tickets; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. WEINER (for himself, Ms. CHU, Mr. QUIGLEY, and Ms. SLAUGHTER):

H.R. 6391. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit public officials from engaging in undisclosed self-dealing; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WOLF (for himself, Mr. PERRIELLO, Mr. CANTOR, Mr. BOUCHER, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. FORBES, Mr. NYE, and Mr. GOODLATTE):

H.R. 6392. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 5003 Westfields Boulevard in Centreville, Virginia, as the ''Colonel George Juskalian Post Office Building''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. YOUNG of Alaska (for himself and Mr. SIMPSON):

H.R. 6393. A bill to allow certain small public water systems to request an exemption from the requirements of any national primary drinking water regulation for a naturally occurring contaminant, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. YOUNG of Alaska:

H.R. 6394. A bill to amend the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 to allow transport, purchase, sale, and export of pelts of Southcentral and Southeast Alaska northern sea otters that are taken for subsistence purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. YOUNG of Alaska:

H.R. 6395. A bill to amend the Alaska Natural Gas Pipeline Act with respect to certain requirements for construction job training program grants; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. DEUTCH:

H.J. Res. 98. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States authorizing regulation of any expenditure in connection to an election; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. ARCURI:

H. Con. Res. 321. Concurrent resolution providing for a conditional adjourment of the House of Representatives and a conditional recess or adjournment of the Senate; considered and agreed to. considered and agreed to.

By Mr. ISSA (for himself, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, and Mr. GORDON of Tennessee):

H. Con. Res. 322. Concurrent resolution establishing the Congressional Commission on the European Union, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Rules, 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 Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ (for herself, Mr. WOLF, Mr. KLEIN of Florida, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. PENCE, Ms. BERKLEY, Mrs. MYRICK, Mr. NADLER of New York, Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. LATOURETTE, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. KIRK, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. BERMAN, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. WEINER, Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. BUCHANAN, and Mr. ROSKAM):

H. Con. Res. 323. Concurrent resolution supporting the goal of ensuring that all Holocaust survivors in the United States are able to live with dignity, comfort, and security in their remaining years; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. BRADY of Texas:

H. Con. Res. 324. Concurrent resolution honoring those persons whose lives have been taken by bacterial meningitis and those who continue to struggle with bacterial meningitis and its consequences, and supporting all work for the eradication of bacterial meningitis in the United States; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. HASTINGS of Florida (for himself, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Ms. WOOLSEY, Ms. NORTON, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. COHEN, Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mrs. BIGGERT, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. DEUTCH, and Ms. PINGREE of Maine):

H. Con. Res. 325. Concurrent resolution supporting the goals and ideals of National Homeless Persons' Memorial Day; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. TIAHRT (for himself and Ms. LEE of California):

H. Con. Res. 326. Concurrent resolution honoring the life of Dr. Ronald W. Walters and commending his life as an example to future generations of the people of the United States; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mrs. BONO MACK, Mr. REICHERT, Mr. CAO, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. MEEKS of New York, Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey, Ms. NORTON, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, and Mr. MORAN of Virginia):

H. Con. Res. 327. Concurrent resolution to recognize and support the efforts of the USA Bid Committee to bring the 2018 or 2022 Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) World Cup competition to the United States; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mrs. BONO MACK:

H. Res. 1675. A resolution amending the Rules of the House of Representatives to require live dissemination on the Internet of all markups of bills and resolutions that are open to the public; to the Committee on Rules.

By Mr. CARNAHAN (for himself, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, and Mr. DELAHUNT):

H. Res. 1676. A resolution recognizing the 10th anniversary of the unanimous adoption of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on women, peace, and security; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. MANZULLO (for himself, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. WOLF, Mr. PITTS, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. HOLT, and Mr. SMITH of New Jersey):

H. Res. 1677. A resolution condemning the Burmese regime's undemocratic upcoming elections on November 7, 2010; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, and the Judiciary, 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. BONO MACK (for herself and Mr. DELAHUNT):

H. Res. 1678. A resolution recognizing the importance of ''National Drug Facts Week'', beginning November 8, 2010; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. CARNAHAN:

H. Res. 1679. A resolution expressing support for designation of September as Childhood Cancer Awareness Month; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. TURNER (for himself and Mr. DELAHUNT):

H. Res. 1680. A resolution recognizing the 15th anniversary of the Dayton Peace Accords; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. BLUNT (for himself, Mr. BACHUS, Mrs. EMERSON, Mr. AKIN, and Mr. LUETKEMEYER):

H. Res. 1681. A resolution supporting effective enforcement of United States trade laws, including antidumping and countervailing duty orders and particularly with regard to transshipment, in order to protect United States revenue and consumers and remedy harm to impacted United States companies and industries and American workers; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. COLE (for himself, Mr. TEAGUE, Ms. FALLIN, and Mr. BOREN):

H. Res. 1683. A resolution recognizing the Department of Defense for its work in identifying the dangers of tinnitus, or the perception of sound where no external source of such sound exists, for members of the Armed Forces subjected to blast injuries and high-decibel equipment; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. TURNER (for himself and Mr. DELAHUNT):

H. Res. 1684. A resolution honoring the memories of Ronald H. Brown, 32 other remarkable Americans and 2 distinguished Croatians who prematurely lost their lives on April 3, 1996, while on a trade mission to the Balkans; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BERRY (for himself, Mrs. EMERSON, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. CHILDERS, Mr. POE of Texas, Mr. PAUL, Mr. HERGER, Mr. OLSON, and Mr. CASSIDY):

H. Res. 1685. A resolution recognizing the 20th anniversary of the annual September celebration of the harvest of rice in the United States; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mrs. BIGGERT:

H. Res. 1686. A resolution expressing support for designation of October 2, 2010, as World MRSA Day; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mrs. BIGGERT:

H. Res. 1687. A resolution recognizing and supporting the goals and ideals of National Runaway Prevention Month; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Ms. CLARKE (for herself, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. KING of New York, and Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California):

H. Res. 1688. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives with respect to supporting the goals and ideals of the seventh annual National Cybersecurity Awareness Month and supporting the efforts of the Department of Homeland Security to raise awareness of cyber threats and enhance cybersecurity in the United States; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mr. COSTA:

H. Res. 1689. A resolution recognizing the City of Fresno, California, as it celebrates its 125th anniversary; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Ms. DEGETTE (for herself, Mr. CASTLE, Mr. BECERRA, and Mr. KIRK):

H. Res. 1690. A resolution supporting the observance of American Diabetes Month; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida (for himself, Mr. OLSON, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. ROSKAM, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. PENCE, Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida, and Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN):

H. Res. 1691. A resolution recognizing Hispanic Heritage Month and celebrating the vast contributions of Hispanic-Americans to the strength and culture of the United States; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Ms. EDWARDS of Maryland (for herself, Ms. NORTON, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. FARR, and Ms. BORDALLO):

H. Res. 1692. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of the ''International Day for the Eradication of Poverty''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. ETHERIDGE (for himself, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. PLATTS, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. MOLLOHAN, Ms. FUDGE, Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. ISRAEL, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. CARTER, Mr. REYES, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. GIFFORDS, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. SHULER, Mrs. MALONEY, and Mr. LANGEVIN):

H. Res. 1693. A resolution honoring the 15th anniversary of the AbilityOne Base Supply Centers; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. GRAVES of Missouri:

H. Res. 1694. A resolution commending The Wall that Heals; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. HASTINGS of Florida:

H. Res. 1695. A resolution encouraging elected officials and political leaders in the Republic of Iraq to redouble their efforts to form a government that is just, representative, and accountable to the people of Iraq; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. HASTINGS of Florida (for himself, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Mr. BURTON of Indiana):

H. Res. 1696. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of United Nations General Assembly Resolution A/64/255 declaring a ''Decade of Action for Road Safety'' for 2011 to 2020; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, 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. HEINRICH:

H. Res. 1697. A resolution honoring the New Mexico Air National Guard and recognizing the invaluable service of the 150th Fighter Wing; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas (for herself, Ms. WATSON, Mr. HOLT, Mr. CARNAHAN, and Ms. BALDWIN):

H. Res. 1698. A resolution recognizing the myriad contributions of female ambassadors and members of the Foreign Service to help build a more free, prosperous, and secure world; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. KAGEN:

H. Res. 1699. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that foreign countries have engaged in unfair trade practices in the United States with regards to paper products; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. KING of New York (for himself, Mrs. MALONEY, Mr. LANCE, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. CASTLE, Mr. MARCHANT, Mrs. MILLER of Michigan, Mr. REICHERT, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. MARKEY of Massachusetts, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. TOWNS, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. BISHOP of New York, Ms. CLARKE, Mr. TONKO, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. JONES, Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey, and Mr. ISRAEL):

H. Res. 1700. A resolution supporting raising awareness and educating the public about Alper's disease; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. LANGEVIN (for himself, Mr. RODRIGUEZ, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. SCHIFF, Ms. GIFFORDS, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. BARTLETT, Ms. TSONGAS, Mr. GARAMENDI, and Mr. CRITZ):

H. Res. 1701. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of National Cyber Security Awareness Month and raising awareness and enhancing the state of computer security in the United States; to the Committee on Science and Technology.

By Mr. LANGEVIN:

H. Res. 1702. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that adding art and design into Federal programs that target the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) fields encourages innovation and economic growth in the United States; to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committee on Science and Technology, 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. MARSHALL (for himself, Mr. BROUN of Georgia, Mr. GINGREY of Georgia, Mr. PRICE of Georgia, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. BARROW, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. WESTMORELAND, and Mr. SCOTT of Georgia):

H. Res. 1703. A resolution congratulating the Warner Robins Little League softball team from Warner Robins, Georgia, on winning the 2010 Little League Softball World Series; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. MCGOVERN (for himself and Mr. SARBANES):

H. Res. 1704. A resolution honoring the 2500th anniversary of the Battle of Marathon; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. PASCRELL (for himself and Mr. TIBERI):

H. Res. 1705. A resolution expressing support for designation of the month of October as Italian and Italian American Heritage Month; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. PASCRELL (for himself, Mr. HOYER, Mrs. EMERSON, Mr. KING of New York, and Mr. ANDREWS):

H. Res. 1706. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of Fire Prevention Week, which begins on October 3, 2010, and the work of firefighters in educating and protecting the communities of the United States; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself, Mr. LEVIN, and Mr. HIMES):

H. Res. 1707. A resolution requiring the posting of information on the disbursements made during each session of Congress from the Members' Representational Allowance on official public Internet sites of the House of Representatives, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. ROYCE (for himself and Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN):

H. Res. 1708. A resolution recognizing the destructive role of the Government of Eritrea and calling on the Secretary of State to designate Eritrea as a country that has provided support for international terrorism; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. RUPPERSBERGER:

H. Res. 1709. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of Red Ribbon Week; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey (for himself, Mr. PITTS, and Mr. MCGOVERN):

H. Res. 1710. A resolution calling on the military regime in Burma, the State Peace and Development Council, to immediately recognize the Rohingya people as full and equal citizens of Burma, lift all restrictions on movement, marriage, and access to education for the Rohingya people, and end its campaign of religious and ethnic persecution amounting to crimes against humanity throughout Burma; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. WATSON:

H. Res. 1711. A resolution commemorating the eminently successful performance and record of excellence of Barbara A. McKinzie, immediate past international president of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

MEMORIALS

Under clause 4 of rule XXII, memorials were presented and referred as follows:

395. The SPEAKER presented a memorial of the Senate of the State of Louisiana, relative to Senate Resolution No. 147 memorializing the Congress to oppose the creation of a new consumer regulatory agency for FDIC insured institutions; to the Committee on Financial Services.

396. Also, a memorial of the Senate of the State of Louisiana, relative to Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 122 memorializing the Congress to continue to support and invest in the national Cancer Institute Community Cancer Centers Program; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

397. Also, a memorial of the Senate of the State of Louisiana, relative to Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 38 urging the Congress to adopt and submit to the states for ratification the Parental Rights Amendment to the Constitution of the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

398. Also, a memorial of the Senate of the State of Louisiana, relative to Senate Resolution No. 125 urging the United States Department of Commerce to establish a foreign trade zone in the Delta region of Louisiana; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

399. Also, a memorial of the Senate of the State of Louisiana, relative to Senate Resolution No. 136 requesting the federal government to explore creating a federal entity to oversee and enforce federal, state, and local safety regulations on all deep-water drilling rigs; jointly to the Committees on Oversight and Government Reform and Natural Resources.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 21: Mr. TOWNS.
H.R. 30: Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California.
H.R. 39: Mr. HILL.
H.R. 43: Mr. BROUN of Georgia.
H.R. 223: Mrs. CHRISTENSEN and Mr. MCGOVERN.
H.R. 268: Mr. BACHUS.
H.R. 423: Mr. MAFFEI.
H.R. 442: Mr. CARDOZA and Mr. WALZ.
H.R. 571: Mr. MOORE of Kansas, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. LATHAM, and Mr. MORAN of Kansas.
H.R. 691: Mr. WITTMAN.
H.R. 697: Mrs. NAPOLITANO.
H.R. 745: Mr. CULBERSON.
H.R. 760: Mr. WITTMAN.
H.R. 775: Mr. DEUTCH and Mr. DENT.
H.R. 789: Mr. STARK and Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 1074: Mr. CARDOZA.
H.R. 1079: Mr. LYNCH.
H.R. 1093: Mr. CRITZ.
H.R. 1098: Mr. VISCLOSKY.
H.R. 1126: Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey, Mr. CONYERS, and Ms. PINGREE of Maine.
H.R. 1199: Mr. KLINE of Minnesota.
H.R. 1204: Mr. BOOZMAN.
H.R. 1206: Mr. BOSWELL, Mr. UPTON, Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS, Ms. JENKINS, Mr. ROGERS of Michigan, and Mr. OLSON.
H.R. 1255: Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas and Mr. HIMES.
H.R. 1326: Mr. SHULER.
H.R. 1340: Mr. POLIS.
H.R. 1343: Mr. KLINE of Minnesota.
H.R. 1458: Mr. ANDREWS and Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California.
H.R. 1521: Mr. GALLEGLY, Mr. GRIFFITH, and Mr. KING of Iowa.
H.R. 1526: Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky.
H.R. 1545: Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania and Mr. HOLT.
H.R. 1547: Mr. FLAKE.
H.R. 1589: Mr. BACA.
H.R. 1616: Mr. GRAYSON.
H.R. 1625: Mr. LEWIS of Georgia.
H.R. 1643: Mr. PRICE of North Carolina.
H.R. 1708: Mr. CRITZ.
H.R. 1751: Mr. PALLONE.
H.R. 1806: Mr. DELAHUNT.
H.R. 1898: Mr. FILNER.
H.R. 1961: Mr. HONDA.
H.R. 1972: Mr. PRICE of North Carolina.
H.R. 2024: Mr. HOLDEN.
H.R. 2030: Mr. QUIGLEY, Ms. PINGREE of Maine, and Mr. MAFFEI.
H.R. 2067: Mr. MAFFEI.
H.R. 2085: Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 2139: Ms. PINGREE of Maine.
H.R. 2149: Ms. SCHWARTZ.
H.R. 2156: Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey.
H.R. 2262: Mr. WALZ.
H.R. 2275: Mr. TIERNEY, Mr. LATOURETTE, Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia, and Mr. DEFAZIO.
H.R. 2277: Mr. HIMES.
H.R. 2280: Mr. OWENS.
H.R. 2287: Mr. RAHALL, Mr. FLEMING, and Mrs. BACHMANN.
H.R. 2296: Mr. CARDOZA.
H.R. 2368: Mr. PRICE of North Carolina.
H.R. 2381: Mr. SCHRADER.
H.R. 2413: Mr. RAHALL.
H.R. 2425: Mr. CRITZ.
H.R. 2429: Mr. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 2472: Mr. KLINE of Minnesota and Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky.
H.R. 2559: Mr. SABLAN and Mr. VISCLOSKY.
H.R. 2579: Mr. DOYLE.
H.R. 2598: Mr. MARSHALL.
H.R. 2616: Ms. EDWARDS of Maryland.
H.R. 2625: Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. DICKS, Mr. SCHRADER, and Mr. FATTAH.
H.R. 2697: Mr. FOSTER.
H.R. 2719: Mr. ETHERIDGE.
H.R. 2850: Mr. FILNER.
H.R. 2906: Mr. CRITZ and Mr. MOORE of Kansas.
H.R. 2964: Mrs. EMERSON.
H.R. 3017: Mr. HOYER.
H.R. 3024: Mr. KISSELL and Mr. SHUSTER.
H.R. 3035: Mr. DRIEHAUS.
H.R. 3043: Mr. CUELLAR, Ms. GIFFORDS, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. KLEIN of Florida, and Ms. MATSUI.
H.R. 3059: Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. FILNER, and Mr. CASSIDY.
H.R. 3108: Mr. BOUCHER and Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California.
H.R. 3130: Mr. POLIS, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Mr. COHEN.
H.R. 3168: Mr. STARK.
H.R. 3271: Ms. PINGREE of Maine and Mr. HIMES.
H.R. 3286: Ms. TSONGAS.
H.R. 3355: Mr. HOLT and Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas.
H.R. 3380: Mr. JACKSON of Illinois and Mr. DEFAZIO.
H.R. 3439: Mr. CARNAHAN.
H.R. 3531: Ms. LEE of California.
H.R. 3564: Ms. DEGETTE and Mr. POLIS.
H.R. 3580: Mr. BACHUS.
H.R. 3586: Ms. SCHWARTZ and Mr. MORAN of Kansas.
H.R. 3652: Mr. CRITZ.
H.R. 3697: Mr. BACHUS.
H.R. 3744: Mr. OWENS and Mr. WELCH.
H.R. 3758: Mr. HONDA.
H.R. 3765: Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. BILBRAY, Mr. OLSON, Mr. BARTON of Texas, Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, and Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida.
H.R. 3772: Mr. MCGOVERN.
H.R. 3813: Mr. DOYLE.
H.R. 3927: Mr. RODRIGUEZ, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. CONAWAY, Ms. CLARKE, Mr. DONNELLY of Indiana, Mr. REYES, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mr. WAMP, and Mr. WITTMAN.
H.R. 3936: Mrs. KIRKPATRICK of Arizona and Mr. MARSHALL.
H.R. 3974: Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas.
H.R. 4077: Mr. STARK.
H.R. 4121: Mr. BRALEY of Iowa, Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. HARE, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. PLATTS, Mr. PASTOR of Arizona, Mr. DOYLE, Mr. REYES, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. BOSWELL, Mr. OWENS, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. ALTMIRE, Mr. RUSH, Mr. HIGGINS, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. BACA, Mr. MAFFEI, Mr. CARNAHAN, Mr. MINNICK, Mr. HIMES, Mr. GRAYSON, Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. MANZULLO, Ms. SCHWARTZ, Mrs. MALONEY, Mr. SHULER, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. GINGREY of Georgia, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. ACKERMAN, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. DENT, Mr. NYE, Mr. PERRIELLO, Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky, Mr. BISHOP of New York, Ms. TSONGAS, and Ms. CASTOR of Florida.
H.R. 4133: Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky.
H.R. 4144: Mr. PASCRELL.
H.R. 4223: Ms. CASTOR of Florida.
H.R. 4229: Mr. PERLMUTTER.
H.R. 4237: Mr. DEUTCH.
H.R. 4259: Mr. MURPHY of New York.
H.R. 4287: Mr. PRICE of North Carolina.
H.R. 4303: Mr. FILNER.
H.R. 4310: Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California and Mr. COSTELLO.
H.R. 4318: Ms. BALDWIN.

H.R. 4321: Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.
H.R. 4322: Mr. DENT.
H.R. 4324: Mr. FILNER.
H.R. 4353: Mr. LATHAM.
H.R. 4371: Ms. PINGREE of Maine.
H.R. 4480: Mr. SARBANES, Mr. WU, Ms. DELAURO, and Mr. BLUMENAUER.
H.R. 4601: Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. HONDA, and Ms. BERKLEY.
H.R. 4645: Ms. CASTOR of Florida.
H.R. 4677: Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania and Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida.
H.R. 4689: Mr. HODES and Ms. FUDGE.
H.R. 4717: Mr. BOREN.
H.R. 4720: Mrs. HALVORSON.
H.R. 4722: Mr. QUIGLEY.
H.R. 4746: Mrs. CAPITO and Mr. WITTMAN.
H.R. 4758: Mr. CALVERT.
H.R. 4788: Mr. MAFFEI, Mr. KISSELL, and Ms. EDWARDS of Maryland.
H.R. 4796: Mr. PUTNAM and Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California.
H.R. 4808: Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. ESHOO, and Mr. BECERRA.
H.R. 4829: Mr. HONDA.
H.R. 4844: Mr. WITTMAN and Ms. BORDALLO.
H.R. 4879: Mr. DEFAZIO.
H.R. 4890: Mr. BISHOP of New York, Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. NADLER of New York, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, and Ms. SUTTON.
H.R. 4891: Mr. ISRAEL and Mr. NADLER of New York.
H.R. 4914: Mr. FATTAH.
H.R. 4923: Ms. KOSMAS and Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 4971: Ms. NORTON, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. WATT, and Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas.
H.R. 4993: Mr. CHANDLER, Mr. GERLACH, Mr. CUELLAR, and Mr. LYNCH.
H.R. 5033: Mr. SCHIFF.
H.R. 5034: Mr. LUCAS, Mr. BACHUS, and Mr. CAO.
H.R. 5037: Mr. COSTELLO.
H.R. 5040: Ms. SLAUGHTER.
H.R. 5056: Mr. LATHAM.
H.R. 5081: Mr. MOORE of Kansas and Ms. BALDWIN.
H.R. 5089: Mr. BISHOP of New York.
H.R. 5095: Mr. HUNTER.
H.R. 5107: Ms. NORTON, Mr. CONYERS, and Mr. FARR.
H.R. 5120: Mr. CARNEY, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. TONKO, Mr. BACA, Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania, Mr. RUSH, Mr. HIGGINS, Mr. MAFFEI, Mr. SCHAUER, Mr. HIMES, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. SCHWARTZ, Mrs. MALONEY, Mr. HALL of New York, and Ms. TSONGAS.
H.R. 5141: Mr. WOLF.
H.R. 5191: Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. ISRAEL, and Mr. MARSHALL.
H.R. 5197: Mr. FORTENBERRY and Ms. MATSUI.
H.R. 5234: Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. CARNEY, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. RAHALL, Mr. BOUCHER, Mr. BERRY, Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California.
H.R. 5235: Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN and Mr. POMEROY.
H.R. 5258: Mr. HIMES and Ms. CHU.
H.R. 5260: Mr. MCGOVERN and Mr. KIND.
H.R. 5268: Mr. POLIS.
H.R. 5295: Ms. SPEIER.
H.R. 5300: Mr. CUMMINGS and Mr. WATT.
H.R. 5351: Mr. LATTA and Mrs. BONO MACK.
H.R. 5400: Ms. ESHOO, Mr. KLEIN of Florida, Mr. DENT, Mr. DOYLE, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. CARNAHAN, Mr. REYES, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. BOSWELL, Mr. OWENS, Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky, Mr. RUSH, Mr. BACA, Mr. ALTMIRE, Mr. MOORE of Kansas, Mr. MAFFEI, Mr. SHULER, Mr. KIND, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky, Mr. STARK, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. LATHAM, Mr. COSTELLO, Ms. TSONGAS, Mr. KUCINICH, Mr. GRAYSON, Mr. MINNICK, Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. REHBERG, Mr. MANZULLO, Mrs. MALONEY, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. CRITZ, and Ms. BORDALLO.
H.R. 5434: Mr. CARNAHAN, Mr. REICHERT, Mr. KUCINICH, Mr. SCHAUER, Mr. PALLONE, Ms. TITUS, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California, and Mr. TOWNS.
H.R. 5449: Mr. GARAMENDI.
H.R. 5477: Ms. PINGREE of Maine and Mr. DOYLE.
H.R. 5495: Mr. LOEBSACK.
H.R. 5504: Ms. PINGREE of Maine.
H.R. 5527: Mr. ARCURI.
H.R. 5533: Mrs. CAPPS and Mr. CRITZ.
H.R. 5549: Mr. KUCINICH, Mr. PERRIELLO, Mr. DENT, Mr. NYE, Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky, Mr. CARNAHAN, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. REYES, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. BOSWELL, Mr. KLEIN of Florida, Mr. KILDEE, Mrs. HALVORSON, Mr. OWENS, Mr. ALTMIRE, Mr. RUSH, Mr. HIGGINS, Mr. BACA, Mr. MAFFEI, Mr. SHULER, Mr. MOORE of Kansas, Mr. MINNICK, Mr. BOUCHER, Mr. GRAYSON, Mr. DOGGETT, Ms. SCHWARTZ, Mrs. MALONEY, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. COSTELLO, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. LYNCH, and Ms. TSONGAS.
H.R. 5561: Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas.
H.R. 5577: Mr. COHEN.
H.R. 5588: Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas.
H.R. 5597: Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 5600: Mr. PERRIELLO, Mr. DINGELL, and Mr. HONDA.
H.R. 5612: Mr. POLIS.
H.R. 5625: Mr. ELLISON.
H.R. 5627: Mr. NYE.
H.R. 5643: Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. LIPINSKI, and Mr. POLIS.
H.R. 5644: Mr. PRICE of North Carolina.
H.R. 5652: Mr. VAN HOLLEN and Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California.
H.R. 5692: Mr. HOLT.
H.R. 5740: Mr. FARR and Mr. KUCINICH.
H.R. 5746: Mr. CARNAHAN, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. NADLER of New York, Mrs. HALVORSON, Mr. COHEN, Ms. KOSMAS, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. PETERS, and Mr. HIMES.
H.R. 5766: Mr. QUIGLEY.
H.R. 5778: Mr. WALZ, Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois, and Mr. REHBERG.
H.R. 5786: Mr. TONKO, Ms. TITUS, and Mr. ELLISON.
H.R. 5789: Mr. SCHAUER, Mr. CLAY, and Mr. BLUNT.
H.R. 5790: Mr. SMITH of Texas and Mr. SCHOCK.
H.R. 5801: Mr. OLSON, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. LAMBORN, and Mr. LATTA.
H.R. 5803: Mr. ARCURI and Mr. CUELLAR.
H.R. 5807: Mr. INSLEE, Ms. SCHWARTZ, Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut, and Ms. PINGREE of Maine.
H.R. 5820: Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. TONKO, Mr. BERMAN, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. HODES, Ms. PINGREE of Maine, Mr. COHEN, Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California, Mrs. CAPPS, Ms. HARMAN, and Mr. ELLISON.
H.R. 5829: Mr. COURTNEY and Mr. MICHAUD.
H.R. 5833: Mr. COSTA, Mr. LOBIONDO, and Mr. ENGEL.
H.R. 5853: Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. LAMBORN, and Mr. FLEMING.
H.R. 5882: Mr. MILLER of Florida.
H.R. 5895: Ms. CHU.
H.R. 5902: Mr. PASCRELL.
H.R. 5905: Mr. FARR.
H.R. 5907: Mr. GERLACH.
H.R. 5922: Mr. TEAGUE.
H.R. 5923: Mr. CALVERT.
H.R. 5928: Mr. DENT, Mr. CARNAHAN, Mr. KLEIN of Florida, Mr. REYES, Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. BOSWELL, Mr. OWENS, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. BACA, Mr. ALTMIRE, Mr. RUSH, Mr. MOORE of Kansas, Mr. HIGGINS, Mr. MAFFEI, Mr. SHULER, Mr. KIND, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. STARK, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. COSTELLO, Mr. LATHAM, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. PERRIELLO, Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky, Ms. TSONGAS, Mr. BRIGHT, Mr. MINNICK, Mr. GRAYSON, Mrs. HALVORSON, Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. REHBERG, Ms. SCHWARTZ, Mrs. MALONEY, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. CRITZ, Mr. GINGREY of Georgia, and Ms. BORDALLO.
H.R. 5929: Mr. FILNER.
H.R. 5931: Mr. LUJÁN.
H.R. 5933: Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey, Mr. KIND, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. CLAY, Mr. UPTON, Mr. DONNELLY of Indiana, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. GERLACH, Ms. KILROY, Mr. EDWARDS of Texas, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. ALTMIRE, Mr. RUSH, Mr. HIGGINS, Mr. REYES, Mr. MAFFEI, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. HIMES, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. KLEIN of Florida, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. TAYLOR, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. HARE, Mr. MICHAUD, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. BRALEY of Iowa, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. BOCCIERI, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. FOSTER, Mr. SABLAN, Mr. SHULER, Mr. CARNAHAN, Mr. STARK, Mr. GRAYSON, Mr. DOGGETT, Ms. SCHWARTZ, Mr. REHBERG, Mrs. MALONEY, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. COSTELLO, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. LYNCH, and Ms. CASTOR of Florida.
H.R. 5939: Mr. PUTNAM, Mr. FLAKE, and Mr. ROHRABACHER.
H.R. 5940: Mr. BACHUS and Mr. BRIGHT.
H.R. 5942: Mr. TEAGUE.
H.R. 5944: Mr. COSTELLO and Mr. ARCURI.
H.R. 5945: Mr. BRIGHT, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. GRIFFITH, Mr. BACHUS, and Mr. PAUL.
H.R. 5950: Mr. HARE, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Mr. CRITZ.
H.R. 5967: Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. HIMES, and Mr. MCGOVERN.
H.R. 5983: Mr. HEINRICH.
H.R. 5987: Mr. MCMAHON, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. HOLDEN, Mr. MAFFEI, Mr. ALTMIRE, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. BOSWELL, Mr. HILL, Ms. BALDWIN, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. NYE, Mr. SKELTON, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. SESTAK, and Ms. MCCOLLUM.
H.R. 6021: Mr. VAN HOLLEN.
H.R. 6034: Mr. TURNER.
H.R. 6043: Mr. SHERMAN.
H.R. 6044: Mr. POSEY.
H.R. 6045: Mr. GRIJALVA and Mr. MICHAUD.
H.R. 6057: Mr. ARCURI.
H.R. 6070: Mr. WU.
H.R. 6072: Mr. COURTNEY and Mr. WAMP.
H.R. 6078: Ms. MATSUI, Mr. WU, and Ms. BERKLEY.
H.R. 6085: Mr. COSTA and Mr. MOORE of Kansas.
H.R. 6087: Mr. BACHUS and Mrs. MYRICK.
H.R. 6090: Mr. STARK.
H.R. 6112: Mr. ALEXANDER and Mr. MELANCON.
H.R. 6116: Ms. HIRONO, Mr. YARMUTH, Ms. WOOLSEY, and Mr. COSTELLO.
H.R. 6117: Ms. MATSUI.
H.R. 6123: Mr. YARMUTH and Mr. CHANDLER.
H.R. 6128: Mr. OWENS, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. BECERRA, Mr. PETERSON, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. WEINER, Mr. WILSON of Ohio, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, and Mr. ISRAEL.
H.R. 6147: Mr. PAUL, Mr. TONKO, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. PLATTS, Ms. SCHWARTZ, and Mr. DAVIS of Illinois.
H.R. 6169: Mr. KING of New York.
H.R. 6172: Mr. MCGOVERN.
H.R. 6181: Mr. DELAHUNT.
H.R. 6184: Mr. SCHRADER.

H.R. 6192: Mr. LEWIS of Georgia.
H.R. 6193: Ms. DELAURO, Mr. CONYERS, and Mr. LEWIS of Georgia.
H.R. 6196: Mr. JONES and Mrs. SCHMIDT.
H.R. 6199: Mr. DAVIS of Illinois.
H.R. 6201: Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia and Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 6211: Mr. MCGOVERN.
H.R. 6212: Ms. GIFFORDS.
H.R. 6214: Mr. STARK.
H.R. 6216: Mr. PETERS.
H.R. 6218: Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. FARR, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. BECERRA, Ms. WOOLSEY, Ms. RICHARDSON, Mr. STARK, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Ms. TITUS, Mr. PASTOR of Arizona, Ms. KILROY, Ms. SUTTON, Mr. HINCHEY, and Ms. HIRONO.
H.R. 6222: Ms. SLAUGHTER and Ms. LEE of California.
H.J. Res. 79: Mr. POE of Texas, Mr. CULBERSON, and Mrs. BACHMANN.
H.J. Res. 96: Mrs. MYRICK, Mr. ROYCE, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Ms. FOXX, Ms. JENKINS, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. HALL of Texas, Mr. LINDER, Mrs. BACHMANN, Mr. LATTA, Mr. COBLE, Mr. PENCE, Mrs. LUMMIS, Mr. BROWN of South Carolina, Ms. GRANGER, Mr. GINGREY of Georgia, Mr. CARTER, Mr. POE of Texas, Mr. REHBERG, and Mr. SULLIVAN.
H.J. Res. 97: Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. PRICE of Georgia, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS, Mr. BARTLETT, Mr. NEUGEBAUER, Mr. COBLE, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. HERGER, Mr. PAUL, Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey, Mr. BRADY of Texas, Mr. SHADEGG, Mr. HOEKSTRA, Mr. FLEMING, Mr. OLSON, Mr. CULBERSON, Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mr. GRAVES of Georgia, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. PENCE, Mr. PITTS, Mrs. SCHMIDT, Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. CARTER, Mr. AKIN, Mr. HARPER, Mr. DUNCAN, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BROUN of Georgia, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. THORNBERRY, Mrs. MYRICK, Mr. JORDAN of Ohio, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mr. MILLER of Florida, and Mr. CANTOR.
H. Con. Res. 102: Mr. COURTNEY.
H. Con. Res. 259: Mr. VAN HOLLEN and Mr. MCGOVERN.
H. Con. Res. 267: Mr. MANZULLO, Mr. GALLEGLY, Mr. INGLIS, Mr. SIRES, Mr. POE of Texas, Mrs. BIGGERT, Ms. RICHARDSON, and Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California.
H. Con. Res. 311: Mr. BERRY, Ms. GRANGER, Mr. CARTER, and Mr. BILBRAY.
H. Con. Res. 314: Mr. MORAN of Virginia.
H. Con. Res. 315: Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York.
H. Con. Res. 316: Mr. CAMPBELL, Mr. SIRES, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. AKIN, Mr. CARTER, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. CULBERSON, Mr. SHADEGG, Mr. PETERSON, and Mr. CAO.
H. Con. Res. 318: Mr. DELAHUNT.
H. Con. Res. 320: Mr. MEEKS of New York, Ms. RICHARDSON, Mr. CONAWAY, Mrs. MYRICK, Mr. WELCH, Mr. LEWIS of California, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, and Mr. MARCHANT.
H. Res. 22: Mr. POLIS.
H. Res. 173: Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida.
H. Res. 444: Mr. CONYERS.
H. Res. 481: Mr. STUPAK.
H. Res. 1122: Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas.
H. Res. 1207: Mr. POLIS.
H. Res. 1311: Mr. WAMP.
H. Res. 1314: Mr. KUCINICH.
H. Res. 1377: Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. PETRI, Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, and Mr. FARR.
H. Res. 1431: Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. HALL of Texas, Mr. ELLSWORTH, Mr. KILDEE, and Mr. BACHUS.
H. Res. 1444: Mr. ARCURI.
H. Res. 1461: Mr. SMITH of Texas and Mr. KING of New York.
H. Res. 1476: Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. HOLT, Ms. EDWARDS of Maryland, and Mr. QUIGLEY.
H. Res. 1488: Mr. EHLERS, Ms. MARKEY of Colorado, Mr. WITTMAN, and Mr. TIERNEY.
H. Res. 1507: Mr. JONES and Mr. MCGOVERN.
H. Res. 1518: Mr. SESTAK.
H. Res. 1523: Mr. BOCCIERI, Ms. JENKINS, Mr. COURTNEY, and Mr. SCHOCK.
H. Res. 1528: Mrs. DAVIS of California.
H. Res. 1531: Mr. ROGERS of Michigan, Mrs. MYRICK, Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN, Mr. SHULER, Ms. JENKINS, Mr. GOODLATTE, Mr. BACA, and Mr. WALZ.
H. Res. 1532: Mr. SPACE.
H. Res. 1534: Mr. CULBERSON, Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado, Mr. POSEY, Mrs. SCHMIDT, Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. WHITFIELD, and Mr. BISHOP of Utah.
H. Res. 1536: Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia, Ms. MARKEY of Colorado, Mr. ORTIZ, Mr. GERLACH, and Mr. SESTAK.
H. Res. 1541: Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. WALZ, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Ms. KOSMAS, Mrs. HALVORSON, Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia, Mr. KISSELL, Mr. OWENS, Ms. PINGREE of Maine, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. MURPHY of New York, Mr. TEAGUE, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. PASTOR of Arizona, Ms. SCHWARTZ, Mr. FOSTER, Ms. RICHARDSON, Mr. MITCHELL, and Mr. BISHOP of New York.
H. Res. 1544: Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. INGLIS, Mr. CARNEY, Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida, Mr. BARTLETT, Ms. SPEIER, and Mr. PRICE of North Carolina.
H. Res. 1570: Mr. MATHESON.
H. Res. 1572: Mr. BURTON of Indiana.
H. Res. 1590: Mr. WOLF, Mrs. KIRKPATRICK of Arizona, and Mrs. BLACKBURN.
H. Res. 1594: Mr. MARSHALL and Mr. ALEXANDER.
H. Res. 1600: Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Mr. MORAN of Kansas, Mr. MAFFEI, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. SCHAUER, Mr. DINGELL, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. JONES, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. CAMP, Mr. GERLACH, Ms. TITUS, Mr. ENGEL, and Mr. HILL.
H. Res. 1601: Mr. STARK and Mr. HONDA.
H. Res. 1615: Mr. LIPINSKI and Mrs. MYRICK.
H. Res. 1619: Mr. GUTIERREZ.
H. Res. 1621: Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. DRIEHAUS, Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California, Mr. KUCINICH, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. ALTMIRE, and Mr. COSTELLO.
H. Res. 1622: Mr. SESTAK, Mr. MURPHY of New York, and Mr. CAO.
H. Res. 1624: Mr. HASTINGS of Florida.
H. Res. 1625: Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California and Mr. PRICE of North Carolina.
H. Res. 1628: Mr. PETERS.
H. Res. 1632: Mr. BISHOP of Utah.
H. Res. 1633: Ms. CLARKE.
H. Res. 1641: Mrs. LUMMIS, Mr. SABLAN, and Mr. MCINTYRE.

DELETIONS OF SPONSORS FROM PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were deleted from public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 5820: Mr. DEFAZIO and Mr. HEINRICH.

DISCHARGE PETITIONS—ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS

The following Members added their names to the following discharge petition:

Petition 13 by Mr. LUNGREN, on H.R. 5141: Spencer Bachus, Donald A. Manzullo, Robert J. Wittman, Bob Goodlatte, Lee Terry, Scott Garrett, Jeff Flake, Kevin McCarthy, Sam Graves, and J. Randy Forbes.

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PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 111th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 156 WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2010 No. 133—Book II

Senate

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations and a withdrawal, which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

REPORT OF AN EXECUTIVE ORDER THAT TAKES ADDITIONAL STEPS WITH RESPECT TO THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO IRAN THAT WAS DECLARED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 12957—PM 67

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

To the Congress of the United States:

Pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) (IEEPA), I hereby report that I have issued an Executive Order (the ''order'') that takes additional steps with respect to the national emergency declared in Executive Order 12957 of March 15, 1995.

In Executive Order 12957, the President found that the actions and policies of the Government of Iran threaten the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States. To deal with that threat, the President in Executive Order 12957 declared a national emergency and imposed prohibitions on certain transactions with respect to the development of Iranian petroleum resources. To further respond to that threat, Executive Order 12959 of May 6, 1995, imposed comprehensive trade and financial sanctions on Iran. Finally, Executive Order 13059 of August 19, 1997, consolidated and clarified the previous orders.

I have determined that the actions and policies of the Government of Iran on or after its presidential election of June 12, 2009, including its violent response to peaceful demonstrations and its commission of serious human rights abuses, warrant the imposition of additional sanctions.

The prohibitions contained in the new order implement section 105(a) of the Comprehensive Iran Sanctions, Accountability, and Divestment Act of 2010 (Public Law 111–195) (CISADA) concerning, inter alia, the imposition of sanctions pursuant to IEEPA with respect to each person on the list referred to in section 105(b). I applaud the efforts of the Congress to demonstrate the strong and sustained commitment of the United States to advancing the universal rights of all Iranians, and to sanction those who have abused their rights. The order, however, goes beyond the scope of section 105 of CISADA by imposing sanctions pursuant to IEEPA on persons who meet a broader set of criteria than those specified in section 105(b).

The order blocks the property and interests in property of persons listed in the Annex to the order, who I have determined meet the first of the three criteria set forth below. The order also provides criteria for designations of persons determined by the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with or at the recommendation of the Secretary of State:

To be an official of the Government of Iran or a person acting on behalf of the Government of Iran (including members of paramilitary organizations) who is responsible for or complicit in, or responsible for ordering, controlling, or otherwise directing, the commission of serious human rights abuses against persons in Iran or Iranian citizens or residents, or the family members of the foregoing, on or after June 12, 2009, regardless of whether such abuses occurred in Iran;

To have materially assisted, sponsored, or provided financial, material, or technological support for, or goods or services to or in support of, the activities described in section 1(a)(ii)(A) of the order or any person whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to the order; or

To be owned or controlled by, or to have acted or purported to act for or on behalf of, directly or indirectly, any person whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to the order. I have delegated to the Secretary of the Treasury the authority, in consultation with the Secretary of State, to take such actions, including the promulgation of rules and regulations, and to employ all powers granted to the President by IEEPA and the relevant provisions of CISADA, as may be necessary to carry out the blocking-related purposes of the order and to take such actions, including the promulgation of rules and regulations, and to employ all powers granted to the President by IEEPA, as may be necessary to carry out section 104 of CISADA. I have delegated to the Secretary of State the functions and authorities related to visa sanctions conferred upon the President by the relevant provisions of CISADA. I have also delegated to the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury, the function of submitting to the appropriate congressional committees referred to in section 105(b) of CISADA the initial and updated lists of persons who are subject to visa sanctions and whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to the order. All executive agencies of the United States Government are directed to take all appropriate measures within

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

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their authority to carry out the provisions of the order.

The order, a copy of which is enclosed, became effective at 12:01 a.m. eastern daylight time on September 29, 2010.

BARACK OBAMA.

THE WHITE HOUSE, *September 28, 2010*.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 9:33 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 3839. An act to provide for an additional temporary extension of programs under the Small Business Act and the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, and for other purpose.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 3619) to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard for fiscal year 2010, and for other purposes, with amendments, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate.

At 10:23 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, 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. 3427. An act to amend title 23, United States Code, to protect States that have in effect laws or orders with respect to pay to play reform, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3787. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to recognize the service in the reserve components of certain persons by honoring them with status as veterans under law.

H.R. 4168. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand the definition of cellulosic biofuel to include algae-based biofuel for purposes of the cellulosic biofuel producer credit and the special allowance for cellulosic biofuel plant property.

H.R. 4337. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify certain rules applicable to regulated investment companies, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4387. An act to designate the Federal building located at 100 North Palafox Street in Pensacola, Florida, as the ''Winston E. Arnow Federal Building''.

H.R. 4714. An act to amend title 49, United States Code, to authorize appropriations for the National Transportation Safety Board for fiscal years 2011 through 2014, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5360. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements in the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5458. An act to amend the Truth in Lending Act and the Higher Education Act of 1965 to require additional disclosures and protections for students and cosigners with respect to student loans, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5591. An act to designate the airport traffic control tower located at Spokane International Airport in Spokane, Washington, as the ''Ray Daves Airport Traffic Control Tower''.

H.R. 6008. An act to ensure telephonic notice of certain incidents involving hazardous liquid and gas pipeline facilities, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6058. An act to ensure that the housing assistance programs of the Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Department of Veterans Affairs are available to veterans and members of the Armed Forces who have service-connected injuries and to survivors and dependents of veterans and members of the Armed Forces.

H.R. 6132. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish a transition program for new veterans, to improve the disability claim system, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6191. An act to amend the Small Business Jobs Act of 2010 to include certain construction and land development loans in the definition of small business lending.

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. 319. Concurrent resolution recognizing the anniversary of the tragic shootings that occurred at Fort Hood, Texas, on November 5, 2009.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

The President pro tempore (Mr. INOUYE) reported that he had signed the following enrolled bills, which were previously signed by the Speaker of the House:

H.R. 714. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to lease certain lands in Virgin Islands National Park, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2923. An act to enhance the ability to combat methamphetamine.

H.R. 3553. An act 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.

H.R. 3808. An act to require any Federal or State court to recognize any notarization made by a notary public licensed by a State other than the State where the court is located when such notarization occurs in or affects interstate commerce.

S. 2868. An act to provide increased access to the Federal supply schedules of the General Services Administration to the American Red Cross, other qualified organizations, and State and local governments.

At 11:23 a.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 bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 5630. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for qualifications for vocational rehabilitation counselors and vocational rehabilitation employment coordinators employed by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bills, without amendment:

S. 3304. An act to increase the access of persons with disabilities to modern communications, and for other purposes.

S. 3828. An act to make technical corrections in the Twenty-First Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act of 2010 and the amendments made by that Act.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 1:15 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

S. 3839. An act to provide for an additional temporary extension of programs under the Small Business Act and the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, and for other purposes.

S. 3847. An act to implement certain defense trade cooperation treaties, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bills were subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. INOUYE).

At 2:19 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 903. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to enhance the roles of dentists and allied dental personnel in the Nation's disaster response framework, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1362. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the establishment of permanent national surveillance systems for multiple sclerosis, Parkinson's disease, and other neurological diseases and disorders.

H.R. 1995. An act to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to prepare a report on the research and other public health activities of the Department of Health and Human Services with respect to diabetes among minority populations.

H.R. 3960. An act to clarify the existing authority of, and as necessary provide express authorization for, public authorities to offer discounts in transportation tolls to captive tollpayers, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4113. An act to amend title 28, United States Code, to clarify the jurisdiction of the Federal courts, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5717. An act 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.

H.R. 5932. An act to establish the Organized Retail Theft Investigation and Prosecution Unit in the Department of Justice, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5986. An act to require the submission of a report to the Congress on parasitic disease among poor Americans.

H.R. 6012. An act to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to review utilization of diabetes screening benefits and make recommendations on outreach programs with respect to such benefits, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6016. An act to provide for a GAO investigation and audit of the operations of the fund created by BP to compensate persons affected by the Gulf oil spill.

H.R. 6198. An act to amend title 11 of the United States Code to make technical corrections; and for related purposes.

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. 321. Concurrent resolution providing for a conditional adjournment of the House of Representatives and a conditional recess or adjournment of the Senate.

The message further announced that the House has agreed to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 553) to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to develop a strategy to prevent the over-classification of homeland security and other information and to promote the sharing of unclassified homeland security and other information, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 3980) to provide for identifying and eliminating redundant reporting requirements and developing meaningful performance metrics for homeland security preparedness grants, and for other purposes.

At 6:23 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 847. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to extend and improve protections and services to individuals directly impacted by the terrorist attack in New York City on September 11, 2001, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3685. An act to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to include on the main page of the Internet a website of the Department of Veterans Affairs a hyperlink to the VetSuccess Internet website and to publicize such Internet website.

H.R. 5993. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to ensure that beneficiaries of Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance receive financial counseling and disclosure information regarding life insurance payments, and for other purposes.

At 9:48 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has agreed to the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 3219) to amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements to the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs relating to insurance and health care, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 1132. An act to amend title 18, United States Code, to improve the provisions relating to the carrying of concealed weapons by law enforcement officers, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2378. An act to amend title VII of the Tariff Act of 1930 to clarify that countervailing duties may be imposed to address subsidies relating to a fundamentally undervalued currency of any foreign country.

H.R. 3421. An act to exclude from consumer credit reports medical debt that has been in collection and has been fully paid or settled, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4072. An act to require that certain Federal job training and career education programs give priority to programs that provide an industry-recognized and nationally portable credential.

H.R. 6160. An act to develop a rare earth materials program, to amend the National Materials and Minerals Policy, Research and Development Act of 1980, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6162. An act to provide research and development authority for alternative coinage materials to the Secretary of the Treasury, increase congressional oversight over coin production, and ensure the continuity of certain numismatic items.

H.R. 6166. An act to authorize the production of palladium bullion coins to provide affordable opportunities for investments in precious metals, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bill, with an amendment, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

S. 3397. An act to amend the Controlled Substances Act to provide for take-back disposal of controlled substances in certain instances, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 9:57 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

S. 3304. An act to increase the access of persons with disabilities to modern communications, and for other purposes.

S. 3828. An act to make technical corrections in the Twenty-First Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act of 2010 and the amendments made by that Act.

H.R. 553. An act to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to develop a strategy to prevent the over-classification of homeland security and other information and to promote the sharing of unclassified homeland security and other information, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1177. An act to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in recognition of five United States Army 5-Star Generals, George Marshall, Douglas MacArthur, Dwight Eisenhower, Henry ''Hap'' Arnold, and Omar Bradley, alumni of the United States Army Command and the General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, to coincide with the celebration of the 132nd Anniversary of the founding of the United States Army Command and General Staff College.

H.R. 3689. An act to provide for an extension of the legislative authority of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, Inc. to establish a Vietnam Veterans Memorial visitor center, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3980. An act to provide for identifying and eliminating redundant reporting requirements and developing meaningful performance metrics for homeland security preparedness grants, and for other purposes.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 6, 2009, the Secretary of the Senate, on September 24, 2010, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House announcing that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

S. 1132. An act to amend title 18, United States Code, to improve the provisions relating to the carrying of concealed weapons by law enforcement officers, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3081. An act making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2011, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 3081) making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 903. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to enhance the roles of dentists and allied dental personnel in the Nation's disaster response framework, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

H.R. 1362. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the establishment of permanent national surveillance systems for multiple sclerosis, Parkinson's disease, and other neurological diseases and disorders; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

H.R. 1995. To direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to prepare a report on the research and other public health activities of the Department of Health and Human Services with respect to diabetes among minority populations; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor , and Pensions.

H.R. 2378. An act to amend title VII of the Tariff Act of 1930 to clarify that fundamental exchange-rate misalignment by any foreign nation is actionable under United States countervailing and antidumping duty laws, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

H.R. 3421. An act to exclude from consumer credit reports medical debt that has been in collection and has been fully paid or settled, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 3427. An act to amend title 23, United States Code, to protect States that have in effect laws or orders with respect to pay to play reform, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

H.R. 3685. An act to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to include on the main page of the Internet website of the Department of Veterans Affairs a hyperlink to the VetSuccess Internet website and to publicize such Internet website; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 3787. To amend title 38, United States Code, to recognize the service in the reserve components of certain persons by honoring them with status as veterans under law; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs .

H.R. 3960. To clarify the existing authority of, and as necessary provide express authorization for, public authorities to offer discounts in transportation tolls to captive tollpayers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 4072. An act to require that certain Federal job training and career education programs give priority to programs that provide a national industry-recognized and portable credential; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

H.R. 4113. An act to amend title 28, United States Code, to clarify the jurisdiction of the Federal courts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 4347. An act to amend the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act to provide further self-governance by Indian tribes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

H.R. 4387. An act to designate the Federal building located at 100 North Palafox Street in Pensacola, Florida, as the ''Winston E. Arnow Federal Building''; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

H.R. 4714. An act to amend title 49, United States Code, to authorize appropriations for the National Transportation Safety Board for fiscal years 2011 through 2014, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 5360. To amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements in the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 5458. An act to amend the Truth in Lending Act and the Higher Education Act of 1965 to require additional disclosures and protections for students and cosigners with respect to student loans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

H.R. 5494. To direct the Secretary of the Interior to transfer certain properties to the District of Columbia; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 5591. To designate the airport traffic control tower located at Spokane International Airport in Spokane, Washington, as the ''Ray Daves Airport Traffic Control Tower''; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 5630. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for qualifications for vocational rehabilitation counselors and vocational rehabilitation employment coordinators employed by the Department of Veterans Affairs; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 5717. An act 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 Rules and Administration.

H.R. 5932. An act to establish the Organized Retail Theft Investigation and Prosecution Unit in the Department of Justice, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 5986. An act to require the submission of a report to the Congress on parasitic disease among poor Americans; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

H.R. 5993. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to ensure that beneficiaries of Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance receive financial counseling and disclosure information regarding life insurance payments, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 6008. To ensure telephonic notice of certain incidents involving hazardous liquid and gas pipeline facilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 6012. To direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to review utilization of diabetes screening benefits and make recommendations on outreach programs with respect to such benefits, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 6016. An act to provide for a GAO investigation and audit of the operations of the fund created by BP to compensate persons affected by the Gulf oil spill; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 6058. An act to ensure that the housing assistance programs of the Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Department of Veterans Affairs are available to veterans and members of the Armed Forces who have service-connected injuries and to survivors and dependents of veterans and members of the Armed Forces; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 6132. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish a transition program for new veterans, to improve the disability claim system, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 6160. An act to develop a rare earth materials program, to amend the National Materials and Minerals Policy, Research and Development Act of 1980, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 6162. An act to provide research and development authority for alternative coinage materials to the Secretary of the Treasury, increase congressional oversight over coin production, and ensure the continuity of certain numismatic items; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 6166. An act to authorize the production of palladium bullion coins to provide affordable opportunities for investments in precious metals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 6191. An act to amend the Small Business Jobs Act of 2010 to include certain construction and land development loans in the definition of small business lending; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

H.R. 6198. An act to amend title 11 of the United States Code to make technical corrections; and for related purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 2476. An act 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.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bills were read the first time:

H.R. 847. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to extend and improve protections and services to individuals directly impacted by the terrorist attack in New York City on September 11, 2001, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4168. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand the definition of cellulosic biofuel to include algae-based biofuel for purposes of the cellulosic biofuel producer credit and the special allowance for cellulosic biofuel plant property.

H.R. 4337. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify certain rules applicable to regulated investment companies, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILLS PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on September 29, 2010, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bills:

S. 2868. An act to provide increased access to the Federal supply schedules of the General Services Administration to the American Red Cross, other qualified organizations, and State and local governments.

S. 3839. An act to provide for an additional temporary extension of programs under the Small Business Act and Small Business Investment Act of 1958, and for other purposes.

S. 3847. An act to implement certain defense trade cooperation treaties, and for other purposes.

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–7587. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''National Veterinary Accreditation Program; Currently Accredited Veterinarians Performing Accredited Duties and Electing to Participate'' (Docket No. APHIS–2006–0093) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 28, 2010; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–7588. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fluoxastrobin; Pesticide Tolerances'' (FRL No . 8845–7) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 28, 2010; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–7589. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Spinosad; Pesticide Tolerances'' (FRL No. 8844–1) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 28, 2010; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–7590. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Vice Admiral Jeffrey L. Fowler, United States Navy, and his advancement to the grade of vice admiral on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–7591. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting, pursuant to law, the Combined Annual Report of the National Security Education Program for Fiscal Years 2008–09; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–7592. A communication from the Chairman, Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Board's Quarterly Report to Congress on the Status of Significant Unresolved Issues with the Department of Energy's Design and Construction Projects; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–7593. A communication from the Chairman, Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Board's first periodic Report to Congress on Infrastructure Needs in the Department of Energy's Aging Defense Nuclear Facilities; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–7594. 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; Motor Carrier Fuel Surcharge'' ((RIN0750–AG30)(DFARS Case 2008–D040)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 27, 2010; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–7595. A communication from the Chairman, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the 2009 Annual Report of the Securities Investor Protection Corporation (SIPC); to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–7596. A communication from the Associate Director, Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Final Rule Amending the Iranian Transactions Regulations'' (31 CFR Part 560) received in the Office of the President of the

Senate on September 25, 2010; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–7597. A communication from the Secretary, Office of the Chief Accountant, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Commission Guidance Regarding Auditing, Attestation, and Related Professional Practice Standards Related to Brokers and Dealers'' (17 CFR Part 241) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 28, 2010; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–7598. A communication from the Administrator of the Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act of 2003 (SAFETEA) and the DestiNY USA Project; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7599. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the 2010 Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) Program Advisory Committee Report; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7600. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting a legislative proposal entitled ''Strengthening Pipeline Safety and Enforcement Act of 2010''; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–7601. A communication from the Assistant Director of Program Support, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Technical Amendments 2010'' (RIN1029–AC62) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 27, 2010; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC–7602. A communication from the Director of the Bureau of Ocean Energy, Management, Regulation, and Enforcement, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''Report to Congress: The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation, and Enforcement, Royalty in Kind Program'' for fiscal year 2009; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC–7603. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Supplemental Determination for Renewable Fuels Produced Under the Final RFS2 Program from Canola Oil'' (FRL No. 9207–1) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 25, 2010; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7604. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''National Priorities List, Final Rule No. 50'' (FRL No. 9207–3) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 25, 2010; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7605. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''National Priorities List, Final Rule—Newtown Creek'' (FRL No. 9207–2) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 25, 2010; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7606. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval of Implementation Plans of Wisconsin: Nitrogen Oxides Reasonably Available Control Technology'' (FRL No. 9205–8) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 25, 2010; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7607. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans and Designation of Areas for Air Quality Planning Purposes; State of Nevada; Redesignation of Las Vegas Valley to Attainment for the Carbon Monoxide Standard'' (FRL No. 9204–9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 25, 2010; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7608. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Revisions to the California State Implementation Plan, San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District'' (FRL No. 9207–7) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 28, 2010; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7609. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Maryland; Control of Volatile Organic Compound Emissions from Industrial Solvent Cleaning Operations'' (FRL No. 9208–2) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 28, 2010; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7610. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Hazardous Waste Management System; Identification and Listing of Hazardous Waste; Direct Final Rule'' (FRL No. 9208–7) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 28, 2010; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–7611. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Extension of Replacement Period for Livestock Sold on Account of Drought in Specified Counties'' (Notice No. 2010–64) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 27, 2010; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–7612. A communication from the Secretary of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the 2010 report (covering trade in calendar year 2009) relative to the impact of the Andean Trade Preference Act on U.S. trade and employment; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–7613. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the employment of an adequate number of Americans during 2009 by the United Nations; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–7614. A communication from the Railroad Retirement Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Board's 2010 report for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2009; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–7615. A communication from the Director of the Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances, Mine Safety and Health Administration, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Maintenance of Incombustible Content of Rock Dust in Underground Coal Mines'' (RIN1219–AB76) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 29, 2010; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–7616. A communication from the Deputy Director of Operations, Legislative and Regulatory Department, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Allocation of Assets in Single-Employer Plans; Benefits Payable in Terminated Single-Employer Plans; Interest Assumptions for Valuing and Paying Benefits'' (29 CFR Parts 4022 and 4044) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2010; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–7617. A communication from the Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting a legislative proposal entitled ''Federal Hiring Modernization Act of 2010''; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–7618. A communication from the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, transmitting a legislative proposal relative to authorization of appropriations for major facility construction projects for fiscal year 2011 and major facility leases for fiscal year 2011; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petition or memorial was laid before the Senate and was referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM–145. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the Legislature of the State of Alabama relative to claiming sovereignty under the Tenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States over certain powers; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 27

Whereas, the Tenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States reads as follows: ''The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people''; and

Whereas, the Tenth Amendment defines the total scope of federal power as being that specifically granted by the Constitution of the United States and no more; and

Whereas, Federalism is the constitutional division of powers between the national and state governments and is widely regarded as one of America's most valuable contributions to political science; and

Whereas, James Madison, ''the Father of the Constitution,'' said, ''The powers delegated to the federal government are few and defined. Those which are to remain in the state governments are numerous and indefinite. The former will be exercised principally on external objects, [such] as war, peace, negotiation, and foreign commerce. The powers reserved to the several states will extend to all the objects which, in the ordinary course of affairs, concern the lives, liberties, and properties of the people.''; and

Whereas, Thomas Jefferson emphasized that the states are not ''subordinate'' to the national government, but rather the two are ''coordinate departments of one simple and integral whole. The one is the domestic, the

other the foreign branch of the same government.''; and

Whereas, Alexander Hamilton expressed his hope that ''the people will always take care to preserve the constitutional equilibrium between the general and the state governments.'' He believed that ''this balance between the national and state governments forms a double security to the people. If one [government] encroaches on their rights, they will find a powerful protection in the other. Indeed, they will both be prevented from overpassing their constitutional limits by [the] certain rivalship which will ever subsist between them.''; and

Whereas, the scope of power defined by the Tenth Amendment means that the federal government was created by the states specifically to be an agent of the states; and

Whereas, today, in 2009, the states are demonstrably treated as agents of the federal government; and

Whereas, many federal laws are directly in violation of the Tenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States; and

Whereas, the Tenth Amendment assures that we, the people of the United States of America and each sovereign state in the Union of States, now have, and have always had, rights the federal government may not usurp; and

Whereas, Article IV, Section 4, United States Constitution, says in part, ''The United States shall guarantee to every State in this Union a Republican Form of Government'', and the Ninth Amendment states that ''The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people''; and

Whereas, the United States Supreme Court has ruled in New York v. United States, 112 S. Ct. 2408 (1992), that Congress may not simply commandeer the legislative and regulatory processes of the states; and

Whereas, a number of proposals from previous administrations and some now pending from the present administration and from Congress may further violate the Constitution of the United States: Now therefore, be it

Resolved by the Legislature of Alabama, both Houses thereof concurring, That the State of Alabama hereby claims sovereignty under the Tenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States over all powers not otherwise enumerated and granted to the federal government by the Constitution of the United States; be it further

Resolved, That this resolution serves as notice and demand to the federal government, as our agent, to cease and desist, effective immediately, mandates that are beyond the scope of these constitutionally delegated powers; be it further

Resolved, That all compulsory federal legislation that directs states to comply under threat of civil or criminal penalties or sanctions or requires states to pass legislation or lose federal funding be prohibited or repealed; be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate of each state's legislature, and the entire delegation of the Alabama members of the U.S. Congress.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. LIEBERMAN, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:

Report to accompany S. 3243, To require U.S. Customs and Border Protection to administer polygraph examinations to all applicants for law enforcement positions with U.S. Customs and Border Protection, to require U.S. Customs and Border Protection to initiate all periodic background reinvestigations of certain law enforcement personnel, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 111—338).

Report to accompany H.R. 1345, A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to eliminate the discriminatory treatment of the District of Columbia under the provisions of law commonly referred to as the ''Hatch Act'' (Rept. No. 111—339).

By Mr. ROCKEFELLER, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

Report to accompany S. 2847, A bill to regulate the volume of audio on commercials (Rept. No. 111—340).

By Ms. LANDRIEU, from the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, without amendment:

S. 2862. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to improve the Office of International Trade, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 111—341).

By Ms. LANDRIEU, from the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, with an amendment:

S. 2869. A bill to increase loan limits for small business concerns, to provide for low interest refinancing for small business concerns, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 111—342).

By Ms. LANDRIEU, from the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 2989. A bill to improve the Small Business Act, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 111—343).

By Mr. LIEBERMAN, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, without amendment:

H.R. 4543. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4285 Payne Avenue in San Jose, California, as the ''Anthony J. Cortese Post Office Building''.

H.R. 5341. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 100 Orndorf Drive in Brighton, Michigan, as the ''Joyce Rogers Post Office Building''.

H.R. 5390. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 13301 Smith Road in Cleveland, Ohio, as the ''David John Donafee Post Office Building''.

H.R. 5450. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3894 Crenshaw Boulevard in Los Angeles, California, as the ''Tom Bradley Post Office Building''.

By Mr. LIEBERMAN, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment:

S. 3794. A bill to amend chapter 5 of title 40, United States Code, to include organizations whose membership comprises substantially veterans as recipient organizations for the donation of Federal surplus personal property through State agencies.

EXECUTIVE REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The following executive report of a nomination was submitted:

By Mr. LIEBERMAN for the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

*Maria Elizabeth Raffinan, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of fifteen years.

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

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 Mr. ISAKSON (for himself and Mr. CHAMBLISS):

S. 12. A bill to require the Secretary of the Army to operate the Buford Dam/Lake Sidney Lanier Project, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. ISAKSON (for himself and Mr. CHAMBLISS):

S. 13. A bill to require the Secretary of the Army to calculate the aggregate withdrawals of non-Federal entities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. JOHANNS (for himself, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. THUNE, Mr. BURR, Mr. COBURN, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. ENZI, Mr. HATCH, Mr. WICKER, Mr. DEMINT, Mr. ENSIGN, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. VITTER, and Mr. KYL):

S. 14. A bill to ensure that women seeking an abortion are fully informed regarding the pain experienced by their unborn child; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BROWNBACK:

S. 15. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a carbon sequestration investment tax credit, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. VOINOVICH:

S. 16. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to remove the temporary suspension of waiver authority for participation in the Visa Waiver Program and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GRAHAM:

S. 17. A bill to provide for an exchange of land between the Department of Homeland Security and the South Carolina State Ports Authority; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts:

S. 18. A bill to prohibit aliens who engage in certain activities with respect to Iran from being admitted into the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GRAHAM (for himself and Mr. CHAMBLISS):

S. 19. A bill to amend the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 to promote energy security through the production of petroleum from oil sands, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. GRAHAM:

S. 20. A bill to amend the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 to establish a Federal clean energy standard; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. BROWN of Ohio (for himself and Ms. STABENOW):

S. 3865. A bill to facilitate nationwide availability of volunteer income tax assistance for low-income and underserved populations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CARPER (for himself and Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts):

S. 3866. A bill to standardize training programs of the Transportation Security Administration, to establish an Office of Behavior Analysis in the Transportation Security Administration, to enhance partnerships between the Transportation Security Administration and State and local law enforcement agencies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. LEVIN:

S. 3867. A bill to modify the naturalization requirements related to physical presence in the United States for alien translators granted special immigrant status, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CASEY (for himself, Mr. KAUFMAN, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mrs. SHAHEEN):

S. 3868. A bill to require a minimum number of transition assistance advisors in each State in connection with the Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. CASEY (for himself, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. BURRIS, and Mr. KAUFMAN):

S. 3869. A bill to require reports by the Comptroller General on Department of Defense military spouse employment programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. JOHNSON:

S. 3870. A bill to amend the Federal Crop Insurance Act to permit certain livestock owners to plant a secondary crop for the use of the producer as emergency feed; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. LEAHY:

S. 3871. A bill to amend chapter 13 of title 28, United States Code, to authorize the designation and assignment of retired justices of the Supreme Court to particular cases in which an active justice is recused; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. UDALL of New Mexico:

S. 3872. A bill to improve billing disclosures to cellular telephone consumers; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mrs. BOXER):

S. 3873. A bill to provide for the establishment of a task force to address the environmental health and safety risks posed to children; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mrs. BOXER (for herself, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. CARDIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, and Mr. SANDERS):

S. 3874. A bill to amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to reduce lead in drinking water; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mrs. LINCOLN (for herself, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. GRASSLEY, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 3875. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to recognize the service in the reserve components of certain persons by honoring them with status as veterans under law; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself and Mr. HATCH):

S. 3876. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend and modify the alternative fuel vehicle refueling property credit; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CASEY (for himself and Mr. HARKIN):

S. 3877. A bill to amend the Port-to-Portal Act of 1947 to suspend the statute of limitations for certain rights of action under the Fair Labor Standards Act during investigations by the Secretary of Labor; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. LAUTENBERG (for himself, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. KERRY, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. MENENDEZ, and Mr. WHITEHOUSE):

S. 3878. A bill to amend title V of the Social Security Act to eliminate the abstinence-only education program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. BOXER (for herself and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 3879. A bill to establish the Sacramento River National Recreation Area in the State of California; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. CASEY:

S. 3880. A bill to increase Federal Pell Grants for the children of fallen public safety officers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself and Mr. MCCAIN):

S. 3881. A bill to require the Secretary of State to identify individuals responsible for the detention, abuse, or death of Sergei Magnitsky or for the conspiracy to defraud the Russian Federation of taxes on corporate profits through fraudulent transactions and lawsuits against Hermitage, and to impose a visa ban and certain financial measures with respect to such individuals, until the Russian Federation has thoroughly investigated the death of Sergei Magnitsky and brought the Russian criminal justice system into compliance with international legal standards, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BEGICH (for himself, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. LANDRIEU, and Mr. LIEBERMAN):

S. 3882. A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to invest in innovation for education; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BEGICH (for himself, Mr. CARPER, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, and Mr. LIEBERMAN):

S. 3883. A bill to amend part B of title II of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to promote effective STEM teaching and learning; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. PRYOR (for himself and Mr. ALEXANDER):

S. 3884. A bill to require the use of electronic on-board recording devices in motor carriers to improve compliance with hours of service regulations; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. LIEBERMAN:

S. 3885. A bill to provide incentives for States and local educational agencies to implement comprehensive reforms and innovative strategies that are designed to lead to significant improvement in outcomes for all students and significant reductions in achievement gaps among subgroups of students, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BURRIS:

S. 3886. A bill to authorize the establishment of a memorial in the District of Columbia to honor and commemorate the accomplishments of Mr. Benjamin Banneker; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. BENNET:

S. 3887. A bill to provide for a continuation and expansion of the Wounded Warrior Careers Demonstration program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. FRANKEN (for himself and Mr. LEMIEUX):

S. 3888. A bill to make improvements to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. BAUCUS (for himself, Mr. BENNET, and Mr. TESTER):

S. 3889. A bill to extend the deadline for the submittal of claims for retroactive stop-loss special pay compensation for members and former members of the Armed Forces; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. LAUTENBERG:

S. 3890. A bill to amend section 310 of the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2009, to extend the period of time during which claims for retroactive stop-loss special pay may be submitted, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. BURRIS:

S. 3891. A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to authorize the Secretary of Education to make grants for recruiting, training, and retaining individuals, with a preference for individuals from underrepresented groups, as teachers at public elementary and secondary schools, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. SCHUMER (for himself and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 3892. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax benefits to individuals who have been wrongfully incarcerated; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. DORGAN (for himself and Mr. BROWN of Ohio):

S. 3893. A bill to establish the Emergency Trade Deficit Commission, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. FEINGOLD:

S. 3894. A bill to allow the FCC to review petitions relating to the secondary transmission of broadcast programming in orphan counties; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. DODD (for himself and Mr. BURR):

S. 3895. A bill to protect students from inappropriate seclusion and physical restraint, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. GOODWIN:

S. 3896. A bill to protect children against hazards associated with swallowing button cell batteries by requiring the Consumer Product Safety Commission to promulgate a consumer product safety standard to require child-proof closures on remote controls and other consumer electronic products that use such batteries, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. DODD (for himself and Ms. LANDRIEU):

S. 3897. A bill to extend the final report deadline and otherwise reauthorize the National Commission on Children and Disasters; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. SCHUMER:

S. 3898. A bill to amend the Electronic Fund Transfer Act to treat municipalities and school districts as consumers for certain purposes under that Act; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mrs. BOXER:

S. 3899. A bill to provide enhanced Federal enforcement and assistance in preventing and prosecuting crimes of violence against children; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. COBURN (for himself, Mr. LEMIEUX, Mr. INHOFE, and Mr. DEMINT):

S. 3900. A bill to reduce waste, fraud, and abuse under the Medicare, Medicaid, and CHIP programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. HATCH:

S. 3901. A bill to promote enforcement of immigration laws and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. TESTER (for himself and Mr. BENNET):

S. 3902. A bill to deem references to Operation Iraqi Freedom in provisions of Federal law providing benefits for service in the Armed Forces to include references to Operation New Dawn; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. UDALL of New Mexico (for himself and Mr. BINGAMAN):

S. 3903. A bill to authorize leases of up to 99 years for lands held in trust for Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. BROWNBACK:

S. 3904. A bill to further continued economic viability in the communities on the High Plains by promoting sustainable groundwater management of the Ogallala Aquifer; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. BENNET (for himself and Mrs. MURRAY):

S. 3905. A bill to improve the Transition Assistance Program of the Department of Defense, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. ALEXANDER (for himself and Mr. DODD):

S. 3906. A bill to reduce preterm labor and delivery and the risk of pregnancy-related deaths and complications due to pregnancy, and to reduce infant mortality caused by prematurity; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. DODD (for himself and Mr. BROWN of Ohio):

S. 3907. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to increase access to health care for individuals with disabilities and increase awareness of the need for health care facilities and examination rooms to be accessible for individuals with disabilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. McCAIN:

S. 3908. A bill to ensure that private property, public safety, and human life are protected from flood hazards that directly result from post-fire watershed conditions that are created by wildfires on Federal land; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself and Mr. MERKLEY):

S. 3909. A bill to restore accountability and congressional oversight to the defense contracting process; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. CHAMBLISS (for himself and Mr. ISAKSON):

S. 3910. A bill to require the Secretary of the Army to update each water control manual of the Corps of Engineers regarding the Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint River system to include reallocation of storage to meet current and future municipal and industrial water supply needs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. CHAMBLISS (for himself and Mr. ISAKSON):

S. 3911. A bill to require the Secretary of the Army to operate the Buford Dam/Lake Sidney Lanier Project and the Allatoona Dam and Reservoir Project, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. CHAMBLISS:

S. 3912. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide for the temporary employment of foreign agricultural workers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. ROCKEFELLER:

S. 3913. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to enhance the roles and responsibilities of the Chief of the National Guard Bureau; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. BURRIS, Mr. REED, Mr. SANDERS, Mrs. HAGAN, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. CONRAD, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. WEBB, and Mr. BENNET):

S. 3914. A bill to amend title VIII of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to require the Secretary of Education to complete payments under such title to local educational agencies eligible for such payments within 3 fiscal years; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. LINCOLN:

S. 3915. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve the recruitment and retention of physicians under the Medicare program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. HUTCHISON (for herself and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 3916. A bill to require the Consumer Product Safety Commission to study and report on the impact on consumers of permitting an increase in the amount of ethanol blended with gasoline for use in gasoline-powered engines used in vehicles operated in interstate commerce, on public streets and roads, or offroad, appliances such as lawn mowers and other nonvehicular devices, and marine engines, and to require the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration to study and report on any safety or reliability impact of such an increase on motor vehicle engines and fuel systems; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. HATCH:

S. 3917. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain Federal features of the electric distribution system to the South Utah Valley Electric Service District, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. KERRY (for himself and Mr. CARDIN):

S. 3918. A bill to authorize the United States participation in, and appropriations for, the United States contribution to the ninth replenishment of the resources of the Asian Development Fund and the United States subscription to the fifth general capital increase of the Asian Development Bank; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. HATCH (for himself, Mr. RISCH, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. ENZI, and Mr. BARRASSO):

S. 3919. A bill to remove the gray wolf from the list of threatened species or the list of endangered species published under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts (for himself and Mr. WARNER):

S. 3920. A bill to address national security threats and vulnerabilities that could undermine economic recovery and financial markets; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. SANDERS:

S. 3921. A bill to ensure that rules for the approval of pharmaceutical and biological products do not require violations of medical ethics in the testing of products in humans and vertebrate animals; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. AKAKA (for himself, Mr. CARPER, and Mr. VOINOVICH):

S. 3922. A bill to underscore the importance of international nuclear safety cooperation for operating power reactors, encouraging the efforts of the Convention on Nuclear Safety, supporting progress in improving nuclear safety, and enhancing the public availability of nuclear safety information; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. SANDERS (for himself, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. LEAHY, and Mr. MERKLEY):

S. 3923. A bill to amend the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 to clarify the authority of States to adopt renewable energy incentives; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. CORNYN:

S. 3924. A bill to promote transparency and accountability concerning the implementation of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 3925. A bill to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to improve the energy efficiency of, and standards applicable to, certain appliances and equipment, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. BENNET:

S. 3926. A bill to amend the National Trails System Act to provide for the study of the Pike National Historic Trail; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Mrs. BOXER):

S. 3927. A bill to establish the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. INOUYE:

S. 3928. A bill to strengthen Federal consumer product safety programs and activities with respect to commercially-marketed seafood by directing the Secretary of Commerce to coordinate with the Federal Trade Commission and other appropriate Federal agencies to strengthen and coordinate those programs and activities; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. TESTER (for himself, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, and Mr. BAUCUS):

S. 3929. A bill to revise the Forest Service Recreation Residence Program as it applies to units of the National Forest System derived from the public domain by implementing a simple, equitable, and predictable procedure for determining cabin user fees, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. AKAKA (for himself and Mr. INOUYE):

S. 3930. A bill to provide for the expansion of Hakalau Forest National Wildlife Refuge, Hawaii County, Hawaii; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. ROCKEFELLER:

S. 3931. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to enhance the roles and responsibilities of the Chief of the National Guard Bureau; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself and Mr. LEAHY):

S. 3932. A bill to provide comprehensive immigration reform, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BUNNING:

S. 3933. A bill to protect electricity reliability by prohibiting the use of funds for carrying out certain policies and procedures that adversely affect domestic coal mining operations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. WICKER (for himself and Mr. VITTER):

S. 3934. A bill to provide tax relief for persons affected by the discharge of oil in connection with the explosion on, and sinking of, the mobile offshore drilling unit Deepwater Horizon; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself and Ms. SNOWE):

S. 3935. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve and extend certain energy-related tax provisions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BENNET:

S. 3936. A bill to establish a competitive grant program in the Department of Energy to provide grants to States and units of local government to carry out clean energy and carbon reduction measures, to close big oil company tax loopholes to pay for the competitive grant program and reduce the deficit, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND:

S. 3937. A bill to revitalize suburban communities, 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 Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. KOHL, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. HATCH, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. FEINGOLD, and Mrs. BOXER):

S. Res. 663. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of National Domestic Violence Awareness Month and expressing the sense of the Senate that Congress should continue to raise awareness of domestic violence in the United States and its devastating effects on families and communities, and support programs designed to end domestic violence; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SANDERS (for himself, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. INOUYE, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. AKAKA, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. MIKULSKI, and Mr. LAUTENBERG):

S. Res. 664. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate in opposition to privatizing Social Security, raising the retirement age, or other similar cuts to benefits under title II of the Social Security Act; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. GRASSLEY:

S. Res. 665. A resolution to require a witness before a committee hearing to file a disclosure form indentifying substantial financial interests or compensation from an organization or company directly related to the subject of a hearing; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. ROCKEFELLER:

S. Res. 666. A resolution designating October 15, 2010, as ''National Alternative Fuel Vehicle Day''; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. GREGG, and Ms. SNOWE):

S. Res. 667. A resolution recognizing the 40th anniversary of the Coastal States Organization; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. CASEY (for himself, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. SANDERS, and Mr. BROWN of Ohio):

S. Res. 668. A resolution expressing support for the designation of October 20, 2010, as the ''National Day on Writing''; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. REID (for himself, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. ENSIGN, Mr. MENENDEZ, and Ms. CANTWELL):

S. Res. 669. A resolution recognizing Filipino American History Month in October 2010; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. CRAPO (for himself, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. JOHANNS, Mr. RISCH, and Mr. LUGAR):

S. Res. 670. A resolution designating the week beginning on Monday, November 8, 2010, as ''National Veterans History Project Week''; considered and agreed to.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. SCHUMER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. CRAPO):

S. Res. 671. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of Red Ribbon Week, 2010; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. ROCKEFELLER (for himself and Mrs. HUTCHISON):

S. Res. 672. A resolution designating October 9, 2010, as ''National Chess Day'' to enhance awareness and encourage students and adults to engage in a game known to enhance critical thinking and problem-solving skills; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. LEAHY:

S. Res. 673. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that it values the active participation of the Republic of Macedonia as the state partner of the Vermont National Guard over the past 15 years; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. BROWNBACK (for himself, Mr. BURRIS, and Mr. ROBERTS):

S. Con. Res. 73. A concurrent resolution honoring the life of Dr. Ronald W. Walters and commending his life as an example to future generations of the people of the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CASEY (for himself and Mr. SPECTER):

S. Con. Res. 74. A concurrent resolution honoring the 28th Infantry Division for serving and protecting the United States; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 296

At the request of Mr. CHAMBLISS, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. DEMINT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 296, a bill to promote freedom, fairness, and economic opportunity by repealing the income tax and other taxes, abolishing the Internal Revenue Service, and enacting a national sales tax to be administered primarily by the States.

S. 433

At the request of Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 433, a bill to amend the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 to establish a renewable electricity standard, and for other purposes.

S. 833

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 833, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to permit States the option to provide Medicaid coverage for low-income individuals infected with HIV.

S. 1153

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the names of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) and the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1153, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the exclusion from gross income for employer-provided health coverage for employees' spouses and dependent children to coverage provided to other eligible designated beneficiaries of employees.

S. 1215

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1215, a bill to amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to repeal a certain exemption for hydraulic fracturing, and for other purposes.

S. 1275

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1275, a bill to establish a National Foundation on Physical Fitness and Sports to carry out activities to support and supplement the mission of the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports.

S. 1445

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1445, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to improve the health of children and reduce the occurrence of sudden unexpected infant death and to enhance public health activities related to stillbirth.

S. 1511

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1511, a bill to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to improve awareness and access to colorectal cancer screening tests under the Medicare and Medicaid programs, and for other purposes.

S. 1597

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1597, a bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to provide for the licensing by the Secretary of the Treasury of Internet poker and other games that are predominantly of skill, to provide for consumer protections on the Internet, to enforce the tax code, and for other purposes.

S. 1695

At the request of Mr. BURRIS, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1695, a bill to authorize the award of a Congressional gold medal to the Montford Point Marines of World War II.

S. 2919

At the request of Mr. UDALL of Colorado, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2919, a bill to amend the Federal Credit Union Act to advance the ability of credit unions to promote small business growth and economic development opportunities, and for other purposes.

S. 3036

At the request of Mr. BAYH, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr.

INOUYE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3036, a bill to establish the Office of the National Alzheimer's Project.

S. 3067

At the request of Mr. BURR, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3067, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the exclusion for employer-provided dependent care assistance.

S. 3184

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor 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. 3234

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3234, a bill to improve employment, training, and placement services furnished to veterans, especially those serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom, and for other purposes.

S. 3293

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3293, a bill to reauthorize the Special Olympics Sport and Empowerment Act of 2004, to provide assistance to Best Buddies to support the expansion and development of mentoring programs, and for other purposes.

S. 3398

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the names of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BAYH), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. JOHANNS), and the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CONRAD) were added as cosponsors of S. 3398, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the work opportunity credit to certain recently discharged veterans.

S. 3401

At the request of Mr. BURR, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3401, a bill to provide for the use of unobligated discretionary stimulus dollars to address AIDS Drug Assistance Program waiting lists and other cost containment measures impacting State ADAP programs.

S. 3424

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3424, a bill to amend the Animal Welfare Act to provide further protection for puppies.

S. 3447

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. KAUFMAN), the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER), the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU), the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND), the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER), the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI), and the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN) were added as cosponsors of S. 3447, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve educational assistance for veterans who served in the Armed Forces after September 11, 2001, and for other purposes.

S. 3474

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. BROWN), the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND), and the Senator from Florida (Mr. LEMIEUX) were added as cosponsors of S. 3474, a bill to provide an optional fast-track procedure the President may use when submitting rescission requests, and for other purposes.

S. 3517

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3517, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the processing of claims for disability compensation filed with the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 3572

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the names of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED), the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER), the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN), the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. CORKER), the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. NELSON), and the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER) were added as cosponsors of 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.

S. 3633

At the request of Mr. CARPER, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. KAUFMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3633, a bill to amend the Solid Waste Disposal Act to improve a provision relating to Federal procurement of recycled materials to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

S. 3694

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3694, a bill to prohibit the conducting of invasive research on great apes, and for other purposes.

S. 3709

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3709, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act and the Social Security Act to extend health information technology assistance eligibility to behavioral health, mental health, and substance abuse professionals and facilities, and for other purposes.

S. 3723

At the request of Mr. COBURN, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. CORKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3723, a bill to prohibit taxpayer funding of insurance plans or health care programs that cover abortion.

S. 3737

At the request of Mr. ENZI, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3737, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act and title XVIII of the Social Security Act to make the provision of technical services for medical imaging examinations and radiation therapy treatments safer, more accurate, and less costly.

S. 3748

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) and the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. GOODWIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 3748, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for the retention of members of the reserve components on active duty for a period of 45 days following an extended deployment in contingency operations of homeland defense missions to support their reintegration into civilian life, and for other purposes.

S. 3756

At the request of Mr. ROCKEFELLER, the names of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. BURRIS), the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN), and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) were added as cosponsors of S. 3756, a bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to provide public safety providers an additional 10 megahertz of spectrum to support a national, interoperable wireless broadband network and authorize the Federal Communications Commission to hold incentive auctions to provide funding to support such a network, and for other purposes.

S. 3779

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. LEMIEUX) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3779, a bill to provide for comprehensive budget reform in order to increase transparency and reduce the deficit.

S. 3786

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3786, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permit the Secretary of the Treasury to issue prospective guidance clarifying the employment status of individuals for purposes of employment taxes and to prevent retroactive assessments with respect to such clarifications.

S. 3801

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. FEINGOLD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3801, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to increase the maximum age for children eligible for medical care under the CHAMPVA program, and for other purposes.

S. 3804

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3804, a bill to combat online infringement, and for other purposes.

S. 3813

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the names of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. AKAKA), the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI), the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER), and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 3813, a bill to amend the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 to establish a Federal renewable electricity standard, and for other purposes.

S. 3817

At the request of Mr. DODD, the names of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) and the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) were added as cosponsors of S. 3817, a bill to amend the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act, the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act, the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment and Adoption Reform Act of 1978, and the Abandoned Infants Assistance Act of 1988 to reauthorize the Acts, and for other purposes.

S. 3845

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3845, a bill to establish the National Competition for Community Renewal to encourage communities to adopt innovative strategies and design principles, to programs related to poverty prevention, recovery and response, and for other purposes.

S. 3849

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 3849, a bill to extend the Emergency Contingency Fund for State Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program, and for other purposes.

S. 3858

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3858, a bill to improve the H–2A agricultural worker program for use by dairy workers, sheepherders, and goat herders, and for other purposes.

S. 3860

At the request of Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts, the names of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), the Senator from Utah (Mr. BENNETT), and the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BOND) were added as cosponsors of S. 3860, a bill to require reports on the management of Arlington National Cemetery.

S. CON. RES. 63

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 63, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that Taiwan should be accorded observer status in the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 63, supra.

At the request of Mr. COCHRAN, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 63, supra.

S. CON. RES. 71

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 71, a concurrent resolution recognizing the United States national interest in helping to prevent and mitigate acts of genocide and other mass atrocities against civilians, and supporting and encouraging efforts to develop a whole of government approach to prevent and mitigate such acts.

S. RES. 631

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the names of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER), and the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 631, a resolution designating the week beginning on November 8, 2010, as National School Psychology Week.

S. RES. 647

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, the names of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. JOHANNS) and the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 647, a resolution expressing the support for the goals of National Adoption Day and National Adoption Month by promoting national awareness of adoption and the children awaiting families, celebrating children and families involved in adoption, and encouraging Americans to secure safety, permanency, and well-being for all children.

S. RES. 654

At the request of Mr. BURR, the names of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET), the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER), and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 654, a resolution designating December 18, 2010, as ''Gold Star Wives Day''.

AMENDMENT NO. 4618

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, the names of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 4618 intended to be proposed to S. 3454, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2011 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. JOHANNS (for himself, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. THUNE, Mr. BURR, Mr. COBURN, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. ENZI, Mr. HATCH, Mr. WICKER, Mr. DEMINT, Mr. ENSIGN, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. VITTER, and Mr. KYL):

S. 14. A bill to ensure that women seeking an abortion are fully informed regarding the pain experienced by their unborn child; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. JOHANNS. Mr. President, I rise today to discuss an issue that I believe does cross the political divide; and that issue is, protecting children from needless pain. Forty years ago, when Roe v. Wade became the law of the land, it was believed that babies simply did not feel pain. At that time, the medical community thought a baby's nervous system was not yet developed enough to have a sense of pain, so surgeries were literally performed with no anesthesia. Parents were told not to worry if it appeared their child was in pain.

We found out the medical community was wrong.

Twenty-five years ago, a doctor at Oxford University proved that newborn babies do, in fact, feel pain. His groundbreaking research was inspired by his own recognition of the signs of pain.

Dr. Anand noticed preterm babies returning from operations with weak pulses, with rapid heart rates, and other signs of stress that would typically be associated with the feeling of pain.

As a result, he studied two groups of babies. One went through surgery without anesthesia, as was the practice at that time. A second group was given anesthesia before the surgery took place.

The results were remarkable. Most of the babies who were given pain medicine sailed through the procedures while the babies who were given no pain medicine suffered significant stress. This study opened the eyes of the medical community, shifting both medical opinion and common practice.

Today, pain relief for infants is now the standard of care. If my child needed surgery today, and a doctor told us it would be done without anesthesia, without pain medicine for the baby, we would walk straight out of the door; and any parent would.

Performing surgery on an infant without pain medicine is unimaginable today, despite having been common practice, the accepted standard of care 40 years ago. Medical research shattered a commonly held belief, and it changed medicine forever.

I stand before you today in recognition that medical research has again advanced. Again, it should shatter a misguided assumption. You see, doctors now perform surgery on unborn babies. They can go into the womb and save a baby as young as 20 weeks old.

This has allowed researchers to study reactions to pain by these unborn babies. The eye-opening results simply cannot be denied. Much like the original groundbreaking study of newborns,

the research involving unborn babies presented evidence that they feel pain.

When pain medicine was administered during surgery involving unborn children, their blood flow, their heart rate remained normal. But without pain medicine, blood flow and heart rate were affected, as unborn babies endured the pain.

The medical evidence is so compelling it alone should inspire us to act. But we do not have to rely upon a doctor's research. All of my colleagues have surely seen with their own eyes the breathtaking images from ultrasounds. Perhaps it was the picture of a child or a grandchild that showed a face and fingers and toes. Some might have been lucky enough to be in the room for a checkup and actually listened to that heartbeat.

There is no denying that those fingers and toes—that face, that heartbeat—is about a baby, a tiny, little miracle that can feel pain. Pretending there is some magical line that is crossed at the moment of birth that allows a baby to feel pain is literally absurd. There is no such line. There is no difference in the pain a baby begins feeling about halfway through pregnancy and the pain a newborn baby feels.

Just as the medical community now admits it was wrong to assert that newborns feel no pain, we know it is wrong to say unborn children feel no pain. But while medical science has moved forward and taken this step, our laws and our practices still rely on decades-old information and mistaken beliefs.

So it is time for us to acknowledge in law and in practice the realities revealed by these advancements in medical science. We must be willing to change our mindset based upon this evidence, and I would suggest we have an obligation to do so.

Mothers have a right to know that their unborn babies feel pain. Respected doctors are on record saying that abortions in the second and third trimester likely cause unborn babies ''intense pain.'' How can we claim to be compassionate, yet look the other way in denial of this pain? I would suggest we cannot. We can see these precious faces. We can hear their hearts beat.

That is why the legislation I am introducing today is so critically important. The Unborn Child Pain Awareness Act would merely require those who perform abortions 20 weeks into a pregnancy or later to inform the mother that her unborn child feels pain. And the mother may request anesthesia for that child to lessen the pain if she does not choose life.

Women should not be kept in the dark. They have the right to know what their unborn child will feel during an abortion. And those who provide abortions should not dismiss the reality of the anguish. The Unborn Child Pain Awareness Act says: At the very least, let's provide mothers with the complete medical and scientific research we have at our disposal today. Let's simply provide the truth before they make a life-changing decision. We cannot in good conscience know of this medical reality and fail to share it with mothers who are contemplating the most difficult and consequential decision of their entire lives.

Our country is awakening to the reality of the pain felt by unborn children but slowly, just as we were slow to accept that newborn babies, yes, in fact, do feel pain so many years ago. Thankfully, our States are leading the way when Congress has failed to act. Arkansas, Georgia, Louisiana, Minnesota, Oklahoma, and Utah have passed similar legislation. Several other States include information about the pain an unborn child experiences in their counseling materials. In fact, in my home State of Nebraska, we became the first State to ban abortions after 20 weeks on the basis that an unborn child can, in fact, feel pain.

Unborn children cannot tell us what they feel, but medical research cries out on their behalf. They deserve the same human compassion we show newborns, 2-year-olds, and children of every age. They all feel pain.

So I encourage my colleagues to join me in cosponsoring this legislation. Thus far, 18 Senators have signed on, and I hope more will follow. I would suggest that this legislation has little to do with whether you call yourself pro-life or pro-choice. It is about basic human decency and concern for human suffering. I hope my colleagues will review the medical research, look to their conscience, and follow what is right. I hope they join me in cosponsoring this legislation.

By Mr. JOHNSON:

S. 3870. A bill to amend the Federal Crop Insurance Act to permit certain livestock owners to plant a secondary crop for the use of the producer as emergency feed; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, today I introduce legislation that will enable livestock producers who have been affected by excessive precipitation to have access to emergency feed stocks. The rain producers faced last fall, coupled with the abnormal snowfall this winter and the subsequent rain this spring and summer, has led to major flooding throughout South Dakota, particularly in the northeastern part of our State. Unfortunately, there are many areas in which land that would normally be available for planting was not available because of the wet conditions. As a result of the flooding earlier this year, many producers claimed prevented planting coverage through their crop insurance policies.

A side effect of the flooding was that many producers have faced a shortage of forage for their livestock. I have spoken with many producers who would like to be able to plant a secondary crop on land that has qualified for prevented planting coverage for the purposes of providing emergency feed for their own livestock. As currently provided by the Agricultural Risk Protection Act of 2000, in States like South Dakota, which are not permitted to plant two crops during a single year, a producer loses 65 percent of their prevented planting compensation if they plant a secondary crop and harvest or graze that crop before the end of the crop year, which is interpreted as November 1 by the Risk Management Agency, RMA. The actual production history, APH, of the land is also reduced to 60 percent of the normal yield for that year. Given the suffering producers in my State have experienced this year because of flooding, it is necessary to provide them the flexibility they need to stay in business.

My legislation would permit producers to plant and harvest or graze a secondary crop before November 1 for the purposes of ensuring sufficient feed for their livestock without penalty of a reduction in prevented planting coverage and benefits. In order to ensure accountability, my legislation would require producers to own livestock, to have suffered from excessive precipitation which prohibited the first crop from being planted by the Risk Management Agency's final planting date for that crop, and the producer must use the second crop only for feed for their own livestock. The producer would not be permitted to sell the crop. Additionally, any revenue generated from the second planting would be taken into account when calculating the producer's benefits from Federal disaster programs, like the Supplemental Revenue, SURE, Assistance Program. Ultimately, this legislation is very fiscally responsible as it would encourage a reduction in Federal dollars spent on disaster assistance.

Agriculture is a vital industry in South Dakota. Year after year, our producers continue to provide the world with a cheap, safe, and abundant source of food, fuel, and fiber. In fact, according to the South Dakota Department of Agriculture, each year on average, one South Dakota producer raises enough food to feed 144 people. Our farmers and ranchers are absolutely essential to ensuring we can feed an ever-growing world population and to the continued growth of our State's economy, and my legislation would help them through rough times when factors outside of their control, like the weather, would otherwise force them out of business.

By Mr. LEAHY:

S. 3871. A bill to amend chapter 13 of title 28, United States Code, to authorize the designation and assignment of retired justices of the Supreme Court to particular cases in which an active justice is recused; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, today, I am introducing legislation to ensure that the Nation's highest court can serve its function as the court of last

resort in our judicial system. The Supreme Court's effectiveness is compromised when it does not have a full slate of nine justices sitting in a given case. When a Justice needs to recuse from a matter under the rules that govern judicial conflicts of interest, the Supreme Court may be rendered ineffective, because there are no provisions in place to allow another to be designated to sit in his or her place. Given the Court's recent rash of 5:4 rulings, the absence of one Justice could result in a 4:4 decision. In that scenario, the Supreme Court cannot serve its function and the lower court decision stands. This was a very real concern for Chief Justice William Rehnquist. He explained that such a stalemate on the Court where there were conflicting rulings in the lower courts, ''would lay down 'one rule in Athens, and another rule in Rome' with a vengeance.''

Under the existing statute, retired Justices may be designated to sit on any court in the land except the one to which they were confirmed. The bill I am introducing today will ensure that the Supreme Court can continue to serve its essential function. I hope that it will encourage Justices to recuse themselves when they have a financial conflict of interest or their participation would create the appearance of impropriety. In recent history, Justices have refused to recuse themselves and one of their justifications has been that the Supreme Court is unlike lower courts because no other judge can serve in their place when Justices recuse.

When I met with Justice John Paul Stevens earlier in the year before he announced his retirement, he suggested exploring legislation that would allow retired U.S. Supreme Court Justices to sit by designation on all of our federal courts. Currently, Justices Stevens, Sandra Day O'Connor and David Souter may sit by designation on any Federal court except the U.S. Supreme Court, the Court to which they were confirmed. This defies common sense.

Recent news about conflicts of interest has raised serious questions in the minds of Americans about the impartiality of the judiciary. These serious concerns only serve to undermine the public trust in our Nation's courts. Allowing retired Justices to sit on the Supreme Court would encourage sitting justices to recuse themselves when there is even an appearance of a conflict of interest regarding a case before the Court. Such a designation would also help to avoid the potential of 4:4 splits which concerned Chief Justice Rehnquist. I am confident the American people want the Supreme Court to serve as the final word in our federal judicial system. I encourage my fellow Senators to consider the legislation I am introducing today as a commonsense solution to preserve the role that the Supreme Court plays in our democracy.

Mr. President, I ask by unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objetion, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 3871

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

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION AND ASSIGNMENT OF RETIRED SUPREME COURT JUSTICES.

Section 294 of title 28, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by inserting ''(1)'' after ''(a)'';

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(2) Any retired Chief Justice of the United States or any retired Associate Justice of the Supreme Court may be designated and assigned to serve as a justice on the Supreme Court of the United States in a particular case if—

''(A) any active justice is recused from that case; and

''(B) a majority of active justices vote to designate and assign that retired Chief Justice or Associate Justice.''; and

(3) in subsection (d), by striking ''No such designation or assignment shall be made to the Supreme Court.'' and inserting ''Except as provided under subsection (a)(2), no designation or assignment under this section shall be made to the Supreme Court.''.

By Mr. UDALL of New Mexico:

S. 3872. A bill to improve billing disclosures to cellular telephone consumers; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. President, cell phones today are becoming ubiquitous and more essential to our everyday lives. Americans today have 285 million wireless phones.

We use these phones in new and innovative ways. Consumers today increasingly use their cell phones for much more than just talking. Mobile broadband services now allow us to surf the Internet, search for nearby shops or restaurants, and watch videos right on our wireless handsets.

Since we now use these devices in new ways, it can be more difficult for consumers to realize they have exceeded their monthly subscriptions for cell phone service. This can have dramatic consequences for consumers.

Consider the case of a Navy ROTC midshipman who mistakenly left his smartphone's roaming function turned on while he was abroad. His phone downloaded e-mail messages, and he was sent a bill for almost $1,300. News outlets have highlighted other cases from across the country, including cases where children on family subscription plans racked up thousands of dollars in extra charges. A 13 year-old's cell phone data usage led to a bill for almost $22,000. Another man was billed $18,000 for a 6-week period when his son used a cell phone to connect a computer to the Internet. These stories we hear about in the media are certainly not isolated cases, just the most egregious.

In fact, a recent Federal Communications Commission, FCC, survey found that 30 million Americans, or 1 in 6 adult cell phone users, have experienced cases of ''bill shock.'' Cell phone bill shock is when a consumer's monthly bill increases when they have not changed their plan. In about one in four cases, the consumer's bill increased by more than $100. According to a survey by Consumers Union, the publishers of Consumer Reports magazine, the median bill shock amount was $83.

Although consumers can already access their phone usage by requesting this information from their cell phone provider, the FCC survey found that almost 85 percent of American consumers who suffered bill shock were not alerted that they were about to exceed their allowed voice minutes, text messages, or data downloads.

In many cases, a simple alert message would help consumers avoid bill shock. That is why today I am introducing the Cell Phone Bill Shock Act of 2010.

My legislation would require that cell phone companies do two things; first, that they notify cell phone customers when they have used 80 percent of their limit of voice minutes, text messages, or data usage. This notification could be in the form of a text message or email, and should be free of charge. Secondly, this legislation would require cell phone companies to obtain a customer's consent before charging for services in excess of their limit of voice, text, or data usage. Customers could give such consent by calling or sending a free text message or e-mail to their phone company.

In the European Union, wireless phone companies already provide similar notifications when wireless consumers are roaming and when they reach 80 percent of their monthly data roaming services.

Earlier this year, Congress approved legislation to help consumers avoid bank overdraft fees from everyday debit card and ATM transactions. Banks must now obtain their customer's permission before allowing debit card transactions which would incur overdraft fees. My legislation extends that same concept to cell phone customers, who should benefit from similar protections against ''bill shock.''

The texting and Internet capabilities that make today's cell phones more useful than ever should be applied to help consumers avoid bill shock. Sending an automatic text notification to one's phone or an e-mail alert should not place a burden on cell phone companies. Passing my commonsense legislation will help prevent consumer's from facing ''bill shock'' problems in the future.

I look forward to working with my colleagues to pass this important legislation. 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. 3872

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 ''Cell Phone Bill Shock Act of 2010''.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) A recent survey conducted by the Federal Communications Commission found that 1 out of 6 consumers who subscribe to commercial mobile service has experienced ''bill shock'', which is the sudden increase in the monthly bill of a subscriber even though the subscriber has not made changes to their monthly service plan.

(2) Most consumers who experience bill shock do not receive notification from their provider of commercial mobile service when the consumer is about to exceed the monthly limit of voice minutes, text message, or data megabytes.

(3) Most consumers who experience bill shock do not receive notification from their provider of commercial mobile service that their bill has suddenly increased.

(4) Prior to the enactment of this Act, a provider of commercial mobile service was under no obligation to notify a consumer of such services of a pending or sudden increase in their bill for the use of such service.

(5) Section 332 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 332) requires that all commercial mobile service provider charges, practices, classifications, and regulations ''for or in connection with'' interstate communications service be just and reasonable, and authorizes the Federal Communications Commission to promulgate rules to implement this requirement.

SEC. 3. NOTIFICATION OF CELL PHONE USAGE LIMITS; SUBSCRIBER CONSENT.

(a) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ''commercial mobile service'' has the same meaning as in section 332(d)(1) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 332(d)(1)).

(b) NOTIFICATION OF CELL PHONE USAGE LIMITS.—The Federal Communications Commission shall promulgate regulations to require that a provider of commercial mobile service shall—

(1) notify a subscriber when the subscriber has used 80 percent of the monthly limit or prepaid amount of voice minutes, text messages, or data megabytes agreed to in the commercial mobile service contract of the subscriber;

(2) send, at no charge to the subscriber, the notification described in paragraph (1) in the form of a voice message, text message, or email; and

(3) ensure that such text message or email is not counted against the monthly limit or prepaid amount for voice minutes, text messages, or data megabytes of the commercial mobile service contract of the subscriber.

(c) SUBSCRIBER CONSENT.—The Federal Communications Commission shall promulgate regulations to require a provider of commercial mobile service shall—

(1) obtain the consent of a subscriber who received a notification under subsection (b) to use voice, text, or data services in excess of the monthly limit of the commercial mobile service contract of the subscriber before the provider may allow the subscriber to use such excess services; and

(2) allow a subscriber to, at no cost, provide the consent required under paragraph (1) in the form of a voice message, text message, or email that is not counted against the monthly limit or prepaid amount for voice minutes, text messages, or data megabytes of the commercial mobile service contract of the subscriber.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself and Mr. HATCH):

S. 3876. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend and modify the alternative fuel vehicle refueling property credit; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I am pleased to join with my colleague from Utah, Senator ORRIN HATCH, in introducing legislation to renew an existing Federal program to provide tax incentives for the installation of equipment to refuel cars and trucks with alternative fuels including biodiesel, gasohol, electricity, compressed natural gas, propane, liquefied natural gas, and hydrogen.

The United States continues to import far more oil than we produce. Upwards of ⅔ of the oil we use is imported from other countries, many of whom do not have Americans' best interests at heart, or worse. Similarly, ⅔ of all of the oil used in the U.S. goes to power our cars, buses, and trucks. If the U.S. is going to reduce our dependence on imported oil, it is going to have to adopt alternative transportation technologies such as plug-in hybrid and all electric vehicles, fuel cells, and natural gas vehicles. Each of these alternative technologies has pluses and minuses in terms of their technical maturity, usefulness in different types of vehicles, cost, and the availability of refueling infrastructure to support them. This legislation only addresses the need for refueling and recharging infrastructure, but without a certainty that there will be places to refuel and recharge their alternative fueled vehicles Americans are not going to buy them. No one wants to run out of fuel while looking for a place to fill up.

This legislation extends an already existing tax credit, Sec. 30C of the Tax Code, which is intended to help defray the cost of installing new alternative refueling and recharging equipment. The current credit expires in a matter of a few months at the end of calendar year 2010. Given the critical need to cut our national appetite for imported oil, it is essential that Congress extend this tax credit. This legislation would extend the existing credit for another 4 years, until the end of 2014.

The legislation also makes several changes in the credit to make it more practical. For example, this bill would make it clear that a fueling station could obtain a separate credit for each type of alternative fuel that it chooses to distribute. Right now, the credit is capped at $50,000 per location regardless of the number of fuels that it may want to sell. The bill would also expand the base credit from $50,000 to $100,000 to bring it more in line with the actual cost of refueling and recharging equipment. Third, the bill would allow the credit to cover additional upgrades to building wiring or natural gas piping or other improvements that are necessary for the installation of the alternative fuel equipment, and expand the kinds of equipment that would be covered to include on-site fuel generation. The bill would also allow an option to obtain a smaller $10,000 credit for the installation of refueling devices, such as chargers for plug-in electric cars or slow-fill natural gas compressors, in lieu of the $100,000 credit per location. Finally, the bill would allow multiple owners of buildings, such as a condominium or a co-op, to share the credit.

Continued dependence on imported oil is an economic and national security danger. Giving Americans options to use alternative fueled vehicles is one major way in which to dramatically reduce this danger. This bill does not tell Americans which kind of car or truck to buy. It does not pick winners and losers from among already recognized alternative fuels. What it would do is make the availability of all alternative motor fuels more likely, and then the market will decide which technologies work best.

I urge other Senators to support this legislation and give Americans a real chance to cut our oil imports.

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. 3876

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

SECTION 1. EXTENSION AND MODIFICATION OF ALTERNATIVE FUEL VEHICLE REFUELING PROPERTY CREDIT.

(a) EXTENSION.—Subsection (g) of section 30C of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking ''placed in service—'' and all that follows and inserting ''placed in service after December 31, 2014''.

(b) INCREASED CREDIT.—

(1) CREDIT PERCENTAGE.—Subsection (a) of section 30C of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking ''30 percent'' and inserting ''50 percent''.

(2) DOLLAR LIMITATIONS.—

(A) INCREASE AND PER DEVICE LIMITATION.—Paragraph (1) of section 30C(b) of such Code is amended to read as follows:

''(1) the greater of—

''(A) $100,000 for each type of clean-burning fuel (among all clean-burning fuels listed in subsection (c)(2)) utilized in property placed in service at the location by the taxpayer during the taxable year, or

''(B) $10,000 multiplied by the number of devices placed in service at the location by the taxpayer during the taxable year,

in the case of a property of a character subject to an allowance for depreciation, and''.

(B) NONDEPRECIABLE PROPERTY.—Paragraph (2) of section 30C(b) of such Code is amended by striking ''$1,000'' and inserting ''$2,000''.

(3) DEVICE.—Subsection (e) of section 30C of such Code is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(7) DEVICE.—For the purposes of subsection (b)(1), the term 'device' means an individual item of property, whether a standalone item or part of property that includes multiple devices, which functions to refuel or recharge one alternative fuel vehicle at a time.''.

(4) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Paragraph (6) of section 30C(e) of such Code is amended—

(A) by inserting ''and which is placed in service before the date of the enactment of

paragraph (8)'' after ''hydrogen'' in subparagraph (A), and

(B) by striking ''$30,000'' in subparagraph (B) and inserting ''$100,000''.

(c) TREATMENT OF PERSONAL CREDIT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (2) of section 30C(d) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended to read as follows:

''(2) PERSONAL CREDIT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this title, the credit allowed under subsection (a) for any taxable year (determined after application of paragraph (1)) shall be treated as a credit allowable under subpart A for such taxable year.

''(B) LIMITATION BASED ON AMOUNT OF TAX.—In the case of a taxable year to which section 26(a)(2) does not apply, the credit allowed under subsection (a) for any taxable year (determined after application of paragraph (1)) shall not exceed the excess of—

''(i) the sum of the regular tax liability (as defined in section 26(b)) plus the tax imposed by section 55, over

''(ii) the sum of the credits allowable under subpart A (other than this section and sections 25D and 30D) and section 27 for the taxable year.''.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Clause (ii) of section 30D(c)(2)(B) of such Code is amended by striking ''section 25D'' and inserting ''sections 25D and 30C''.

(d) TREATMENT OF PROPERTY USED BY TAX-EXEMPT ENTITY.—Paragraph (2) of section 30C(e) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended—

(1) by striking the last sentence, and

(2) by inserting ''(including use by an Indian tribal government)'' after ''paragraph (3) or (4) of section 50(b)''.

(e) JOINT OWNERSHIP OF ALTERNATIVE FUEL VEHICLE REFUELING PROPERTY.—Subsection (e) of section 30C of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended by subsection (b), is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(8) JOINT OWNERSHIP OF ALTERNATIVE FUEL VEHICLE REFUELING PROPERTY.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Any qualified alternative fuel vehicle refueling property shall not fail to be treated as such property solely because such property is placed in service with respect to 2 or more dwelling units.

''(B) LIMITS APPLIED SEPARATELY.—In the case of any qualified alternative fuel vehicle refueling property which is placed in service with respect to 2 or more dwelling units, this section (other than this subparagraph) shall be applied separately with respect to the portion of such property attributable to each such dwelling unit.''.

(f) DEFINITION OF ALTERNATIVE FUEL VEHICLE REFUELING PROPERTY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (3) of section 179A(d) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended to read as follows:

''(3) such property is—

''(A) for the generation, storage, compression, blending, or dispensing of a clean-burning fuel into the fuel tank of a motor vehicle propelled by such fuel, but only if the generation, storage, compression, or dispensing of such fuel is at the point where such fuel is delivered into the fuel tank of the motor vehicle, or

''(B) for the recharging of motor vehicles propelled by electricity (including property relating to providing electricity for such recharging or otherwise necessary for such recharging property).''.

(2) BUILDING COMPONENTS.—Subsection (d) of section 179A of such Code is amended by striking ''and its structural components''.

(g) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to property placed in service after the date of the enactment of this Act.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself and Mr. MCCAIN):

S. 3881. A bill to require the Secretary of State to identify individuals responsible for the detention, abuse, or death of Sergei Magnitsky or for the conspiracy to defraud the Russian Federation of taxes on corporate profits through fraudulent transactions and lawsuits against Hermitage, and to impose a visa ban and certain financial measures with respect to such individuals, until the Russian Federation has thoroughly investigated the death of Sergei Magnitsky and brought the Russian criminal justice system into compliance with international legal standards, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the Justice for Sergei Magnitsky Act of 2010.

As Chairman of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, I first learned about Sergei Magnitsky at a hearing I held on Russia in June 2009.

Sergei Magnitsky was a young Russian anti-corruption lawyer employed by a prominent American law firm in Moscow who blew the whistle on the largest known tax rebate fraud in Russian history perpetrated by high level Russian officials. After discovering this complex and brazen corruption scheme, Sergei Magnitsky dutifully testified to the authorities detailing the conspiracy to defraud the Russian people of approximately $230 million and naming the names of those officials. Shortly after his testimony, Sergei was arrested by subordinates of the very law enforcement officers he had implicated in this crime. He was held in detention for nearly a year without trial under torturous conditions and died in an isolation cell while prison doctors waited outside his door on November 16, 2009.

In April of this year I sent a letter to our Secretary of State urging a visa ban for Russian officials connected to the death of Sergei Magnitsky. I also released a list of 60 senior officials from the Russian Interior Ministry, Federal Security Service, Federal Tax Service, Regional Courts, General Prosecutor's Office, and Federal Prison Service, along with detailed descriptions of their involvement in this matter. My bill reminds the Department of State that I have not forgotten and will not forget this issue. In fact, this bill goes a bit further adding an asset freeze provision to be applied against those implicated in this tragic affair.

Sergei Magnitsky, a lawyer with what should have been a promising career ahead of him died at age 37 leaving behind a mother, a wife, and two boys who never saw him or even heard his voice after his arrest. Since his death, no one has been held accountable and some of those involved even have been promoted. Also, there is strong evidence that the criminal enterprise that stole the money from the Russian treasury and falsely imprisoned and tortured Magnitsky, continues to operate. In fact, the American founding partner of Magnitsky's firm fled Russia for his safety in the months following his colleague's death after learning that a similar fraud scheme was attempted by the same criminals.

This is a heartbreaking story, and let me be clear, my bill does not even attempt to deliver justice as that would be impossible since nothing can bring Sergei back. There are obvious limits to what we can do as Americans, but we can deny the privilege of visiting our country and accessing our financial system. This bill sends a strong message to those who are currently acting with impunity in Russia that there will be consequences for corruption should you wish to travel and invest abroad. I hope others, especially in the EU, UK, and Canada will adopt similar sanctions.

This measure is also about the future and protecting our business interests abroad by making it clear that, even if your home country allows you to trample the rule of law, we will not stand by and become an unwitting accomplice in your crimes.

Sadly, Sergei Magnitsky joins the ranks of a long list of Russian heroes who lost their lives because they stood up for principle and for truth. These ranks include Natalia Estemirova, a brave human rights activist shot in the head and chest and stuffed into the trunk of a car, Anna Politkovskaya, an intrepid reporter shot while coming home with an armful of groceries, and too many others.

Often in these killings there is a veil of plausible deniability, gunmen show up in the dark and slip away into the shadows, but Sergei, in inhuman conditions managed to document in 450 complaints exactly who bears responsibility for his false arrest and death. We must honor his heroic sacrifice and do all we can to learn from this tragedy that others may not share his fate.

Few are made in the mold of Sergei Magnitsky—able to withstand barbaric depravations and cruelty without breaking and certainly none of us would want to be put to such a test. For those corrupt officials who abuse their office, Sergei's life stands as a rebuke to what is left of their consciences. To those who suffer unjustly, Sergei's experience can be a reminder to draw strength from and to know that they are not completely alone in their struggle.

In closing, I wish to address those prominent Russian human rights defenders who just a couple weeks ago appealed to our government and to European leaders to adopt the sanctions I called for in my April letter to Secretary Clinton. You are the conscience of Russia and we have heard your plea. You are not alone, and while you and your fellow citizens must do the heavy lifting at home, I assure you that ''human rights'' are not empty words for this body and for my government. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill and a letter be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 3881

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 ''Justice for Sergei Magnitsky Act of 2010''.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) The United States supports the people of the Russian Federation in their efforts to realize their full economic potential and to advance democracy, human rights, and the rule of law.

(2) The Russian Federation—

(A) is a member of the United Nations, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, and the International Monetary Fund;

(B) has ratified the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and the United Nations Convention against Corruption; and

(C) is bound by the legal obligations set forth in the European Convention on Human Rights.

(3) States voluntarily commit themselves to respect obligations and responsibilities through the adoption of international agreements and treaties, which must be observed in good faith in order to maintain the stability of the international order. Human rights are an integral part of international law, and lie at the foundation of the international order. The protection of human rights, therefore, particularly in the case of a country that has incurred obligations to protect human rights under an international agreement to which it is a party, is not left exclusively to the internal affairs of that country.

(4) Good governance and anti-corruption measures are instrumental in the protection of human rights and in achieving sustainable economic growth, which benefits both the people of the Russian Federation and the international community through the creation of open and transparent markets.

(5) Systemic corruption erodes trust and confidence in democratic institutions, the rule of law, and human rights protections. This is the case when public officials are allowed to abuse their authority with impunity for political or financial gains in collusion with private entities.

(6) The President of the Russian Federation, Dmitry Medvedev, has addressed corruption in many public speeches, including stating in his 2009 address to Russia's Federal Assembly, ''[Z]ero tolerance of corruption should become part of our national culture. . . . In Russia we often say that there are few cases in which corrupt officials are prosecuted. . . . [S]imply incarcerating a few will not resolve the problem. But incarcerated they must be.''. President Medvedev went on to say, ''We shall overcome underdevelopment and corruption because we are a strong and free people, and deserve a normal life in a modern, prosperous democratic society.''. Furthermore, President Medvedev has acknowledged Russia's disregard for the rule of law and used the term ''legal nihilism'' to describe a criminal justice system that continues to imprison innocent people.

(7) The systematic abuse of Sergei Magnitsky, including his repressive arrest and torture in custody by the same officers of the Ministry of the Interior of the Russian Federation that Mr. Magnitsky had implicated in the embezzlement of funds from the Russian Treasury and the misappropriation of 3 companies from his client, Hermitage, reflects how deeply the protection of human rights is affected by corruption.

(8) The denial by all state bodies of the Russian Federation of any justice or legal remedies to Mr. Magnitsky during the nearly 12 full months he was kept without trial in detention, and the impunity of state officials he testified against for their involvement in corruption and the carrying out of his repressive persecution since his death, shows the politically motivated nature of the persecution of Mr. Magnitsky.

(9) Mr. Magnitsky died on November 16, 2009, at the age of 37, in Matrosskaya Tishina Prison in Moscow, Russia, and is survived by a mother, a wife, and 2 sons.

(10) There is extensive evidence that public officials from the Ministry of the Interior of the Russian Federation, the Russian federal tax authorities, the Prosecutor General's Office of the Russian Federation, and the Russian Federal Security Service, as well as regional courts and the prison system of the Russian Federation, have abused their powers and positions to commit serious human rights violations, embezzled funds from the Russian Treasury, and retaliated against whistleblowers.

(11) While he was in detention, Sergei Magnitsky called himself a hostage of officials who misappropriated companies from his client, the Hermitage Fund, and embezzled funds from the Russian Treasury. He said that his criminal prosecution, arrest, and detention were organized as a retribution by police officers who had the full knowledge of his innocence.

(12) The Public Oversight Commission of the City of Moscow for the Control of the Observance of Human Rights in Places of Forced Detention, an organization empowered by Russian law to independently monitor prison conditions, concluded, ''A man who is kept in custody and is being detained is not capable of using all the necessary means to protect either his life or his health. This is a responsibility of a state which holds him captive. Therefore, the case of Sergei Magnitsky can be described as a breach of the right to life. The members of the civic supervisory commission have reached the conclusion that Magnitsky had been experiencing both psychological and physical pressure in custody, and the conditions in some of the wards of Butyrka can be justifiably called torturous. The people responsible for this must be punished.''.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) ADMITTED; ALIEN; SPOUSE.—The terms ''admitted'', ''alien'', and ''spouse'' have the meanings given those terms in section 101(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)).

(2) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means—

(A) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives; and

(B) the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate.

(3) FINANCIAL INSTITUTION; DOMESTIC FINANCIAL AGENCY; DOMESTIC FINANCIAL INSTITUTION.—The terms ''financial institution'', ''domestic financial agency'', and ''domestic financial institution'' have the meanings given those terms in section 5312 of title 31, United States Code.

(4) PARENT.—The term ''parent'' has the meaning given that term in section 101(b) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(b)).

(5) UNITED STATES PERSON.—The term ''United States person'' means—

(A) a United States citizen or an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence to the United States; or

(B) an entity organized under the laws of the United States or of any jurisdiction within the United States, including a foreign branch of such an entity.

SEC. 4. IDENTIFICATION OF INDIVIDUALS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DETENTION, ABUSE, AND DEATH OF SERGEI MAGNITSKY AND FOR THE CONSPIRACY TO DEFRAUD THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION OF TAXES ON CERTAIN CORPORATE PROFITS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury, shall publish a list of each individual the Secretary has reason to believe—

(1) is responsible for the detention, abuse, or death of Sergei Magnitsky;

(2) conspired to defraud the Russian Federation of taxes on corporate profits through fraudulent transactions and lawsuits against the foreign investment company known as Hermitage and to misappropriate entities owned or controlled by Hermitage; or

(3) participated in efforts to conceal the detention, abuse, or death of Sergei Magnitsky described in paragraph (1) or the existence of the conspiracy described in paragraph (2).

(b) UPDATES.—The Secretary of State shall update the list required by subsection (a) as new information becomes available.

(c) NOTICE.—The Secretary of State shall, to the maximum extent practicable, provide notice and an opportunity for a hearing to an individual before the individual is placed on the list required by subsection (a).

SEC. 5. INADMISSIBILITY OF CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS.

(a) INELIGIBILITY FOR VISAS.—An alien is ineligible to receive a visa to enter the United States and ineligible to be admitted to the United States if the alien—

(1) is an individual on the list required by section 4(a); or

(2) is the spouse, son, daughter, or parent of an individual on that list.

(b) CURRENT VISAS REVOKED.—The Secretary of State shall revoke, in accordance with section 221(i) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1201(i)), the visa or other documentation of any alien who would be ineligible to receive such a visa or documentation under subsection (a).

(c) WAIVER FOR NATIONAL INTERESTS.—The Secretary of State may waive the application of subsection (a) or (b) in the case of an alien if the Secretary determines that such a waiver is in the national interests of the United States. Upon granting such a waiver, the Secretary shall provide to the appropriate congressional committees notice of, and a justification for, the waiver.

SEC. 6. FINANCIAL MEASURES.

(a) SPECIAL MEASURES.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall instruct domestic financial institutions and domestic financial agencies to take 1 or more special measures described in section 5318A(b) of title 31, United States Code, if the Secretary of the Treasury makes a determination under section 5318A of such title with respect to money laundering relating to the conspiracy described in section 4(a)(2).

(b) FREEZING OF ASSETS.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall freeze and prohibit all transactions in all property and interests in property of an individual that are in the United States, that come within the United States, or that are or come within the possession or control of a United States person if the individual—

(1) is on the list required by section 4(a); or

(2) acts as an agent of or on behalf of an individual on the list in a matter relating to an act described in paragraph (1), (2), or (3) of section 4(a).

(c) WAIVER FOR NATIONAL INTERESTS.—The Secretary of the Treasury may waive the application of subsection (a) or (b) if the Secretary determines that such a waiver is in the national interests of the United States. Upon granting such a waiver, the Secretary shall provide to the appropriate congressional committees notice of, and a justification for, the waiver.

(d) REGULATORY AUTHORITY.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall issue such regulations, licenses, and orders as are necessary to carry out this section.

(e) ENFORCEMENT.—A person that violates, attempts to violate, conspires to violate, or causes a violation of this section or any regulation, license, or order issued to carry out this section shall be subject to the penalties set forth in subsections (b) and (c) of section 206 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1705) to the same extent as a person that commits an unlawful act described in subsection (a) of such section.

SEC. 7. REPORT TO CONGRESS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State and the Secretary of the Treasury shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on the actions taken to carry out this Act.

(b) UPDATES.—The Secretary of State and the Secretary of the Treasury shall submit an updated version of the report required by subsection (a) as new information becomes available.

SEC. 8. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Act shall take effect on the date that is 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 9. TERMINATION.

The provisions of this Act shall cease to be effective on the date on which the Secretary of State and the Secretary of the Treasury certify to the appropriate congressional committees that—

(1) the Government of the Russian Federation has conducted a thorough and impartial investigation into—

(A) the detention, abuse, and resulting death in custody of Sergei Magnitsky; and

(B) the conspiracy (described in section 4(a)(2)) to defraud the Russian Federation of taxes on corporate profits and to misappropriate entities owned or controlled by Hermitage; and

(2) the investigation described in paragraph (1) was properly conducted, transparent, and free of political influence;

(3) the individuals responsible for the detention, abuse, or resulting death of Sergei Magnitsky or for the conspiracy referred to in paragraph (1)(B) have been brought to justice according to the laws of the Russian Federation and pursuant to the international legal obligations of the Russian Federation; and

(4) the Government of the Russian Federation—

(A) has taken significant steps to bring the criminal justice system and penal system of the Russian Federation into compliance with applicable international legal standards;

(B) has substantially strengthened statutory protections for individuals who disclose evidence of illegal government activities; and

(C) has recognized the contribution of Sergei Magnitsky to the fight against corruption and for the rule of law.

COMMISSION ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE,
Washington, DC, April 26, 2010.

Hon. HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON,
Secretary of State, Washington, DC.

DEAR SECRETARY CLINTON: I am writing to request the immediate cancelation of U.S. visas held by a number of Russian officials and others who are involved in significant corruption in that country and who are responsible for last year's torture and death in prison of the Russian anti-corruption lawyer, Sergei Magnitsky, who testified against them. While there are many aspects of this case which are impossible to pursue here in the United States, one step we can take, however, is to deny the individuals involved in this crime and their immediate family members the privilege of visiting our country. The United States has a clear policy of denying entry to individuals involved in corruption, and it is imperative that the U.S. Department of State act promptly on this matter.

By way of brief background, on June 23, 2009, the Helsinki Commission heard testimony from the CEO of Hermitage Capital, Bill Browder, about a major crime committed by senior Interior Ministry officials in Russia, along with others in the Russian government and private sector. The crime, which involved a fraudulent $230 million tax refund paid to the criminal group, was exposed by Hermitage's lawyer, Sergei Magnitsky. Through Mr. Browder's testimony we heard about the plight of Mr. Magnitsky, who, after discovering the crime, chose to testify against the Interior Ministry officers who had carried it out. One month after his testimony he was arrested in front of his wife and two young children in his Moscow home by a team of Interior Ministry troopers reporting directly to the officers Mr. Magnitsky had accused.

Since our June hearing, this story has taken a tragic turn for the worse. As highlighted in the 2009 State Department Country Report of Human Rights in Russia, Sergei Magnitsky was tortured in an attempt to force him to withdraw his testimony and to incriminate himself and his client. His detailed letters from prison attest to the inhuman conditions in which he was kept for nearly a year without a trial. During the course of his imprisonment he developed gallstones and pancreatitis, but was denied any medical attention as he continued to refuse to withdraw his testimony. On the night of November 16, 2009, he died awaiting trial.

Sergei Magnitsky's family were denied an independent autopsy by the Russian authorities, who claimed he died of natural causes. Members of Moscow's independent Prison Oversight Commission, a local watchdog group, described Magnitsky's death as ''intentional'' and ''murder'' and highlighted the role of government officials and prison administrators in his torture. Since the death, a number of prison officials have been fired, but no one has been prosecuted for his torture or death, nor for participating in the corruption he exposed.

While there is a limit to the direct action our government can take in this case, we can take the concrete action to ensure those public officials and others who share responsibility for this crime should be denied entry visas to the United States. As you know, the United States has the policy of prohibiting individuals involved in corruption from visiting our country, and the State Department is mandated by the President to achieve this aim. Pursuant to Presidential Proclamation 7750 (''To Suspend Entry as Immigrants or Nonimmigrants of Persons Engaged in or Benefiting From Corruption'' (12 January 2004)).

The colleagues of Sergei Magnitsky and his attorneys have provided to the Helsinki Commission a list of those individuals involved in the $230 million tax refund fraud and the subsequent torture and death of Sergei Magnitsky. The list includes senior officials from the Russian Interior Ministry, Federal Security Service, Federal Tax Service, Arbitration Courts, General Prosecutor Office, and Federal Prison Service, along with detailed descriptions of their involvement.

On this basis, I urge you to immediately cancel and permanently withdraw the U.S. visa privileges of all those involved in this crime, along with their dependents and family members. Doing so will provide some measure of justice for the late Mr. Magnitsky and his surviving family and will send an important message to corrupt officials in Russia and elsewhere that the U.S. is serious about combating foreign corruption and the harm it does. It will also help to protect U.S. companies operating in Russia who risk falling prey to similar schemes in the future.

Sincerely,

BENJAMIN L. CARDIN,
Chairman.

By Mr. PRYOR (for himself and Mr. ALEXANDER):

S. 3884. A bill to require the use of electronic on-board recording devices in motor carriers to improve compliance with hours of service regulations; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I come to the floor today to introduce legislation with Senator ALEXANDER of Tennessee that I believe will have a dramatic impact on the safety of our Nation's highways and interstates, called the Commercial Driver Compliance Improvement Act. This bill will require the Department of Transportation's Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, FMCSA, to implement regulations requiring the use of electronic on-board recording devices, EOBRs, for motor carriers in order to improve compliance with Hours-of-Service, HOS, regulations. Requiring the use of these technologies in motor carriers will not only improve compliance with HOS regulations, but it will also reduce the number of fatigued commercial motor vehicle drivers on the road. This will have a profound impact on highway safety and reduce accidents and fatalities on our highways and interstates.

Hours-of-Service regulations place limits on when and how long commercial motor vehicle drivers may drive. These regulations are based on an exhaustive scientific review and are designed to ensure truck drivers get the necessary rest to drive safely. In developing HOS rules the FMCSA reviewed existing fatigue research and worked with nongovernmental organizations like the Transportation Research Board of the National Academies and the National Institute for Occupational Safety. HOS regulations are designed to continue the downward trend in truck driving fatalities and maintain motor carrier operational efficiencies.

Unfortunately, compliance with HOS regulations is often spotty due to inaccurate reporting by drivers as they are

only required to fill out a paper log, a tracking method that dates back to the 1930s. Inaccurate reporting may result from an honest mistake or an intentional error by a driver seeking to extend his work day. These inaccuracies can lead to too much time on the road leaving the driver fatigued and placing other drivers at risk. After listening to the many interest groups and experts on this issue in meetings and Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee hearings, I have come to learn that there is an available and affordable 21st century technology that can ensure accurate logs, enhance compliance, and reduce the number of fatigued drivers on the road. They are being used today, and they are producing results. I believe that widespread utilization of these devices as soon as possible will significantly reduce further loss of life resulting from driver fatigue.

Our legislation will require motor carriers to install in their trucks an electronic device that performs multiple tasks to ensure compliance with HOS regulations. These devices must be engaged to the truck engine control module and capable of identifying the driver operating the truck, recording a driver's duty status, and monitoring the location and movement of the vehicle. Requiring electronic log books that are integrally connected to the vehicle engine as this bill requires will dramatically increase the accuracy of information submitted for hours of service compliance. Our bill will also require these recording devices to be tamper resistant and fully accessible by law enforcement personnel and federal safety regulators only for purposes of enforcement and compliance reviews.

While I understand that some drivers may be reluctant to transition to electronic logging devices, I strongly believe that the safety benefits of the use of these devices far outweigh the costs. I don't want to see more lives lost due to driver fatigue resulting from log book manipulation. I also believe that with the rapid development of electronic technology, especially in the wireless telecommunications area, we will see strong competition among EOBR manufacturers and reduced costs for these technologies. In addition, the price of these products should go down as the demand increases through regulatory requirement to utilize this equipment.

In order to protect the privacy of the driver, an issue which I know is a major concern among truck drivers, this legislation would explicitly provide privacy protections for use of information beyond enforcement and compliance monitoring. Ownership of data is protected for the owner of the vehicle or the person entitled to possession of the vehicle as the lessee.

Senator ALEXANDER and I are not alone in calling for this technology to be more widely used by commercial vehicles. There are a number of Senators, including Senator LAUTENBERG, who have long been strong proponents of implementing the use of this technology. In addition, multiple federal agencies and nongovernmental organizations have recognized the benefits of this technology and called for its widespread use.

For example, Mr. Francis France of the Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance witness stated at the April 28, 2010, Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation hearing on Oversight of Motor Carrier Safety Efforts that:

> All motor vehicles should be equipped with EOBRs to better comply with Hours of Service laws . . . CVSA has been working with a broad partnership to help provide guidance to achieve uniform performance standards for EOBRs.

Similarly, the Chairman of the National Transportation Safety Board, the Honorable Deborah Hersman, stated at the same hearing that:

> For the past 30 years, the NTSB has advocated the use of onboard data recorders to increase Hours of Service compliance . . . the NTSB recommended that they be required on all commercial vehicles.

During the same hearing, Ms. Jacqueline S. Gillan, with the Advocates for Highway and Auto Safety stated that:

> We regard the mandatory, universal installation and use of EOBRs as crucial to stopping the epidemic of hours of service violations that produce fatigued, sleep-deprived commercial drivers . . . at very high risk of serious injury and fatal crashes.

I have also heard from Administrator Ferro of the FMCSA on her thoughts of how EOBRs would enhance compliance and improve highway safety. The FMCSA recently implemented a rule to require that these devices be mandated for truck drivers and trucking companies that have been found to be noncompliant with FMCSA rules. These rules will be effective in June 2012. It is my understanding that they are looking to expand these requirements to include more motor carriers, and I support those efforts as they reflect the qualities and intent of this legislation.

Finally, in addition to the support from safety advocates and Federal transportation safety officials, I have also heard from a number of Arkansas trucking companies currently utilizing this technology. These companies have experienced reductions in driver fatigue, increases in compliance, and reductions in insurance premiums. The executives of these companies, which include J.B. Hunt and Maverick U.S.A. among others, support the expanded use of these devices to increase compliance, improve highway safety, and level the playing field among the industry. I agree with their views on the importance of widespread utilization of this safety and compliance device.

The Commercial Driver Compliance Improvement Act, if enacted, will require the Department of Transportation to issue regulations within 18 months from enactment to require commercial motor vehicles used in interstate commerce to be equipped with electronic onboard recorders for purposes of improving compliance with hours of service regulations. The regulation will apply to commercial motor carriers, commercial motor vehicles, and vehicle operators subject to both hours of service and record of duty status requirements three years after the date of enactment of this act. This population represents a vast majority of drivers and carriers who operate trucks weighing 10,001 pounds or more involved in interstate commerce. It will cover one hundred percent of over-the-road, long-haul truck drivers.

I urge my colleagues in the Senate to recognize the importance of this technology in saving lives on our nation's highways and interstates. I also ask for their support for this legislation and help in moving it to the President as quickly as possible. While I understand our time in the 111th Congress is quickly shrinking as the number of legislative days are limited, it is my hope that we move this legislation through the Senate no later than the Surface Transportation Reauthorization legislation that the Senate will take up in the near future.

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. 3884

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 ''Commercial Driver Compliance Improvement Act''.

SEC. 2. ELECTRONIC ON-BOARD RECORDING DEVICES.

(a) AMENDMENTS.—Subchapter III of chapter 311 of title 49, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in section 31132—

(A) by redesignating paragraphs (2) through (11) as paragraphs (4) through (13), respectively; and

(B) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following:

''(2) 'driving time' has the meaning given such term under section 395.2 of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations.

''(3) 'electronic on-board recording device' means an electronic device that—

''(A) is capable of recording a driver's duty hours of service and duty status accurately and automatically; and

''(B) meets the requirements under section 395.16(b) of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations.''; and

(2) in section 31137—

(A) in the section heading by striking ''**Monitoring device**'' and inserting ''**Electronic on-board recording devices**''; and

(B) by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

''(a) ELECTRONIC ON-BOARD RECORDING DEVICES.—

''(1) REQUIREMENT.—All commercial motor vehicles involved in interstate commerce and subject to both the hours of service and the record of duty status requirements under part 395 of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, shall be equipped with an electronic on-board recording device to improve compliance with hours of service regulations under such part.

''(2) LIMITATIONS OF INFORMATION RETRIEVAL.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Data recorded by an electronic on-board recording device that meets the requirements under part 395 of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, is not admissible in any civil, criminal, or administrative proceeding for any purpose other than establishing compliance or noncompliance with the applicable Federal hours-of-service rules governing the maximum driving time and minimum off-duty time applicable to motor carriers and drivers.

''(B) APPLICABILITY TO CIVIL AND CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS.—The prohibition under subparagraph (A) shall apply to any civil or criminal action or proceeding, whether in Federal or State court, and to any administrative action, whether by Federal or State authorities, unless—

''(i) the owner consents to the retrieval of the information; or

''(ii) the information—

''(I) is retrieved by a government motor vehicle safety agency or law enforcement agency to determine compliance with hours of service regulations under part 395 of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, and enforcing penalties for violating hours of service regulations under such part; and

''(II) is not used by any person or entity other than a government motor vehicle agency for the purposes set forth in subclause (I) without owner consent.

''(C) DEFINED TERM.—In this paragraph, the term 'owner' means a person or entity—

''(i) in whose name the motor vehicle, which is equipped with the device from which the data is retrieved, is registered or titled; or

''(ii) entitled to possession of the motor vehicle as lessee pursuant to a written lease or rental agreement.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made under subsection (a) shall take effect on the effective date of the final regulations prescribed by the Secretary of Transportation pursuant to section 3.

SEC. 3. RULEMAKING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Transportation shall prescribe final regulations to carry out section 31137 of title 49, United States Code, as amended by section 2.

(b) PERFORMANCE AND DESIGN STANDARDS.—The regulations prescribed by the Secretary under this section shall establish performance and design standards that require each electronic on-board recording device—

(1) to be integrally linked or communicate with the vehicle's engine control module;

(2) to identify each individual who operates the vehicle;

(3) to accurately record driving time;

(4) to provide real-time tracking of the vehicle's location;

(5) to enable law enforcement personnel to access the information contained in the device during roadside inspections; and

(6) to be tamper resistant.

(c) ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS.—The regulations prescribed by the Secretary under this section shall—

(1) define a standardized user interface to aid vehicle operator compliance and law enforcement reviews;

(2) establish a secure process for standardized and unique vehicle operator identification, data access, data transfer for vehicle operators between motor vehicles, data storage for motor carriers, and data transfer and transportability for law enforcement;

(3) establish a standard security level for electronic on-board recording devices to be tamper resistant; and

(4) establish a process for approving eligible electronic on-board recorder systems.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE; APPLICABILITY.—The regulations prescribed under this section shall apply to all motor carriers, commercial motor vehicles, and vehicle operators subject to both the hours of service and the record of duty status requirements under part 395 of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, beginning on the date that is 3 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

By Mr. LIEBERMAN:

S. 3885. A bill to provide incentives for States and local educational agencies to implement comprehensive reforms and innovative strategies that are designed to lead to significant improvement in outcomes for all students and significant reductions in achievement gaps among subgroups of students, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the Race to the Top Act of 2010. Congressman JARED POLIS is introducing companion legislation in the House today. The Race to the Top Act will authorize the continuation of the highly successful Race to the Top, RTTT, program which was established by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, and expand that program to school districts. RTTT calls for competitive grants from states and school districts that invest in bold educational reforms designed to bring about significant improvement in academic outcomes for all students and significant reductions in achievement gaps. Our bill will authorize the act for 2011 and the succeeding 5 years.

When No Child Left Behind, NCLB, was signed into law 9 years ago, we made a national commitment to fix our educational system—a system in which low-income minority students were performing significantly below their higher-income peers. We made a commitment to bring an end to unacceptable achievement gaps and to ensure that each and every child—regardless of race, nationality or family income—could succeed in our public schools and graduate with the skills necessary for success in college or the workforce. Despite the commitments we made, unacceptable achievement gaps persist in our country today. Still today our public schools are not preparing our students to succeed in college and the workforce. Each year, 30 percent of American students fail to receive their high school diploma on time, and graduation rates are consistently lower for minority students. One-third of our students who do graduate from high school are not college ready, and in international standardized tests involving students from 30 nations, 14-year-olds in the United States rank 25th in mathematics and 21st in science. Improving public education and closing student achievement gaps remains one of the most important issues of our time. We have made some progress, but until we have equal and excellent educational opportunities for all of our children, regardless of ethnicity or income, we have not done our job. While, in many ways, NCLB moved us in the right direction, it needs to be updated. I believe the time is long overdue for Congress to tackle reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, which was the underlying law to NCLB, and continuing the Race to the Top program should be part of this debate.

The positive impact of RTTT, in a very short period of time, is evident and impressive. We have engaged states, school districts, unions, teachers, parents, and students in the mission of a better education for all of our children. RTTT has without a doubt helped to focus the country's attention on school reform.

The competition for RTTT money has already had a significant impact on state and local educational policies across the nation. It has incentivized states to implement high, internationally benchmarked, core standards and to create a positive climate for public charter schools. RTTT recognizes the essential role teachers play in education and has prompted states to get serious about teacher effectiveness, distribution, evaluation, and accountability. And RTTT has prompted states to improve policies aimed at turning around America's lowest performing schools. In sum, RTTT has encouraged states to make real progress towards closing the unacceptable achievement gaps that persist and to improve the state of public education for all students.

Under Race to the Tops: 46 States and DC developed statewide reform plans; 15 States changed laws to increase their ability to intervene in their lowest performing schools; 22 States enacted laws to improve teacher quality, including alternative certification, effectiveness and evaluation systems; 36 States and DC have adopted high college- and career-ready standards; 15 States have altered laws or policies to create or expand the number of charter schools.

RTTT is working. We know it is benefiting states that were successful in receiving funds but it is also working for states that did not receive funds, simply because those states have already enacted changes that will improve education. Many States remain committed to their new educational reforms regardless of their success in achieving RTTT funding. Students in many States will be better off because of the important policy changes enacted as a result of RTTT. Rarely have we witnessed so much change in educational policy in such a short period of time.

I know some officials in my home state, Connecticut, were disappointed about not being selected as a RTTT winner. But I do believe the children in Connecticut were winners because we have strengthened our state laws, policies, and curriculum to lift our charter school caps, improve STEM education,

and strengthen our teacher evaluation process. I commend the state and local leaders that collaborated in the process. If we continue the RTTT program, as our bill would do, more States, and now districts, will be winners and we can continue this movement towards important educational reform.

RTTT has been an effective catalyst for educational reform and has encouraged all stakeholders in states to come together and work together to improve state agendas. It is essential that we keep the momentum of the first two waves of Race to the Top moving forward. Since our goal is to make all schools high quality schools, the real winner in the RTTT competition will be the students across America.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objecion, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 3885

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 ''Race to the Top Act of 2010''.

SEC. 2. RACE TO THE TOP.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title VI of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7301 et seq.) is amended—

(1) by redesignating part C as part D;

(2) by redesignating sections 6301 and 6302 as sections 6401 and 6402, respectively; and

(3) by inserting after part B the following:

''PART C—RACE TO THE TOP

''SEC. 6301. PURPOSES.

''The purposes of this part are to—

''(1) provide incentives for States and local educational agencies to implement comprehensive reforms and innovative strategies that are designed to lead to—

''(A) significant improvements in outcomes for all students, including improvements in student achievement, secondary school graduation rates, postsecondary education enrollment rates. and rates of postsecondary education persistence; and

''(B) significant reductions in achievement gaps among subgroups of students; and

''(2) encourage the broad identification, adoption, use, dissemination, replication, and expansion of effective State and local policies and practices that lead to significant improvement in outcomes for all students, and the elimination of those policies and practices that are not effective in improving student outcomes.

''SEC. 6302. RESERVATION OF FUNDS.

''From the amounts made available under section 6308 for a fiscal year, the Secretary may reserve not more than 10 percent to carry out activities related to technical assistance, monitoring, outreach, dissemination, and prize awards that support the purposes of this part.

''SEC. 6303. PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—From the amounts made available under section 6308 for a fiscal year and not reserved under section 6302, the Secretary shall award grants, on a competitive basis, to States or local educational agencies, or both, in accordance with section 6304(b), to enable the States or local educational agencies to carry out the purposes of this part.

''(b) GRANT AND SUBGRANT ELIGIBILITY LIMITATIONS.—

''(1) ARRA STATE INCENTIVE GRANTS.—A State that has received a grant under section 14006 of division A of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Public Law 111–5; 123 Stat. 283) may not receive a grant under this part during the period of its grant under such section.

''(2) NUMBER OF GRANTS.—A State or local educational agency may not receive more than 1 grant under this part per grant period.

''(3) NUMBER OF SUBGRANTS.—A local educational agency may receive 1 grant and 1 subgrant under this part for the same fiscal year.

''(c) DURATION OF GRANTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—A grant under this part shall be awarded for a period of not more than 4 years.

''(2) CONTINUATION OF GRANTS.—A State or local educational agency that is awarded a grant under this part shall not receive grant funds under this part for the second or any subsequent year of the grant unless the State or local educational agency demonstrates to the Secretary, at such time and in such manner as determined by the Secretary, that the State or local educational agency, respectively, is—

''(A) making progress in implementing the plan under section 6304(a)(3) at a rate that the Secretary determines will result in the State or agency fully implementing such plan during the remainder of the grant period; or

''(B) making progress against the performance measures set forth in section 6305 at a rate that the Secretary determines will result in the State or agency reaching its targets and achieving the objectives of the grant during the remainder of the grant period.

''SEC. 6304. APPLICATIONS.

''(a) APPLICATIONS.—Each State or local educational agency that desires to receive a grant under this part shall submit an application to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may reasonably require. At a minimum, each such application shall include—

''(1) documentation of the applicant's record, as applicable—

''(A) in increasing student achievement, including for all subgroups described in section 1111(b)(2)(C)(v)(II);

''(B) in decreasing achievement gaps, including for all subgroups described in section 1111(b)(2)(C)(v)(II);

''(C) in increasing secondary school graduation rates, including for all subgroups described in section 1111(b)(2)(C)(v)(II);

''(D) in increasing postsecondary education enrollment and persistence rates, including for all subgroups described in section 1111(b)(2)(C)(v)(II); and

''(E) with respect to any other performance measure described in section 6305 that is not included in subparagraphs (A) through (D);

''(2) evidence of conditions of innovation and reform that the applicant has established and the applicant's proposed plan for implementing additional conditions for innovation and reform, including—

''(A) a description of how the applicant has identified and eliminated ineffective practices in the past and the applicant's plan for doing so in the future;

''(B) a description of how the applicant has identified and promoted effective practices in the past and the applicant's plan for doing so in the future; and

''(C) steps the applicant has taken and will take to eliminate statutory, regulatory, procedural, or other barriers and to facilitate the full implementation of the proposed plan under this paragraph;

''(3) a comprehensive and coherent plan for using funds under this part, and other Federal, State, and local funds, to improve the applicant's performance on the measures described in section 6305, consistent with criteria set forth by the Secretary, including how the applicant will, if applicable—

''(A) improve the effectiveness of teachers and school leaders, and promote equity in the distribution of effective teachers and school leaders, in order to ensure that low-income and minority children are not taught by ineffective teachers, and are not in schools led by ineffective leaders, at higher rates than other children;

''(B) strengthen the use of high-quality and timely data to improve instructional practices, policies, and student outcomes, including teacher evaluations;

''(C) implement internationally benchmarked, college- and career-ready elementary and secondary academic standards, including in the areas of assessment, instructional materials, professional development, and strategies that translate the standards into classroom practice;

''(D) turn around the persistently lowest-achieving elementary schools and secondary schools served by the applicant;

''(E) support or coordinate with early learning programs for high-need children from birth through grade 3 to improve school readiness and ensure that students complete grade 3 on track for school success; and

''(F) create or maintain successful conditions for high-performing charter schools and other innovative, autonomous public schools;

''(4)(A) in the case of an applicant that is a State—

''(i) evidence of collaboration between the State, its local educational agencies, schools (as appropriate), parents, teachers, and other stakeholders, in developing the plan described in paragraph (3), including evidence of the commitment and capacity to implement the plan; and

''(ii)(I) the names of the local educational agencies the State has selected to participate in carrying out the plan; or

''(II) a description of how the State will select local educational agencies to participate in carrying out the plan; or

''(B) in the case of an applicant that is a local educational agency, evidence of collaboration between the local educational agency, schools, parents, teachers, and other stakeholders, in developing the plan described in paragraph (3), including evidence of the commitment and capacity to implement the plan;

''(5) the applicant's annual performance measures and targets, consistent with the requirements of section 6305; and

''(6) a description of the applicant's plan to conduct a rigorous evaluation of the effectiveness of activities carried out with funds under this part.

''(b) CRITERIA FOR EVALUATING APPLICATIONS.—

''(1) AWARD BASIS.—The Secretary shall award grants under this part on a competitive basis, based on the quality of the applications submitted under subsection (a), including—

''(A) each applicant's record in the areas described in subsection (a)(1);

''(B) each applicant's record of, and commitment to, establishing conditions for innovation and reform, as described in subsection (a)(2);

''(C) the quality and likelihood of success of each applicant's plan described in subsection (a)(3) in showing improvement in the areas described in subsection (a)(1), including each applicant's capacity to implement the plan and evidence of collaboration as described in subsection (a)(4); and

''(D) each applicant's evaluation plan as described in subsection (a)(6).

''(2) EXPLANATION.—The Secretary shall publish an explanation of how the application review process under this section will ensure an equitable and objective evaluation based on the criteria described in paragraph (1).

''(c) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants to local educational agencies under this part, the Secretary shall give priority to—

''(1) local educational agencies with the highest numbers or percentages of children from families with incomes below the poverty line; and

''(2) local educational agencies that serve schools designated with a school locale code of 41, 42, or 43.

''SEC. 6305. PERFORMANCE MEASURES.

''Each State and each local educational agency receiving a grant under this part shall establish performance measures and targets, approved by the Secretary, for the programs and activities carried out under this part. These measures shall, at a minimum, track the State's or local educational agency's progress in—

''(1) implementing its plan described in section 6304(a)(3); and

''(2) improving outcomes for all subgroups described in section 1111(b)(2)(C)(v)(II) including, as applicable, by—

''(A) increasing student achievement;

''(B) decreasing achievement gaps;

''(C) increasing secondary school graduation rates;

''(D) increasing postsecondary education enrollment and persistence rates;

''(E)(i) improving the effectiveness of teachers and school leaders, increasing the retention of effective teachers and school leaders; and

''(ii) promoting equity in the distribution of effective teachers and school leaders in order to ensure that low-income and minority children are not taught by ineffective teachers, and are not in schools led by ineffective leaders, at higher rates than other children; and

''(F) making progress on any other measures identified by the Secretary.

''SEC. 6306. USES OF FUNDS.

''(a) GRANTS TO STATES.—Each State that receives a grant under this part shall use—

''(1) not less than 50 percent of the grant funds to make subgrants to the local educational agencies in the State that participate in the State's plan under section 6304(a)(3), based on such local educational agencies' relative shares of funds under part A of title I for the most recent year for which those data are available; and

''(2) not more than 50 percent of the grant funds for any purpose included in the State's plan under section 6304(a)(3).

''(b) GRANTS TO LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCIES.—Each local educational agency that receives a grant under this part shall use the grant funds for any purpose included in the local educational agency's plan under section 6304(a)(3).

''(c) SUBGRANTS TO LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCIES.—Each local educational agency that receives a subgrant under this part from a State shall use the subgrant funds for any purpose included in the State's plan under section 6304(a)(3).

''SEC. 6307. REPORTING.

''(a) ANNUAL REPORTS.—A State or local educational agency that receives a grant under this part shall submit to the Secretary, at such time and in such manner as the Secretary may require, an annual report including—

''(1) data on the State's or local educational agency's progress in achieving the targets for the performance measures established under section 6305;

''(2) a description of the challenges the State or agency has faced in implementing its program and how it has addressed or plans to address those challenges; and

''(3) findings from the evaluation plan as described in section 6304(a)(6).

''(b) LOCAL REPORTS.—Each local educational agency that receives a subgrant from a State under this part shall submit to the State such information as the State may require to complete the annual report required under subsection (a).

''SEC. 6308. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

''There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this part $1,350,000,000 for fiscal year 2011 and such sums as may be necessary for each of the 5 succeeding fiscal years.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—The table of contents for the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.7301 et seq.) is amended—

(1) by striking the items relating to part C of title VI; and

(2) by inserting after the item relating to section 6234 the following:

''PART C—RACE TO THE TOP

''Sec. 6301. Purposes.
''Sec. 6302. Reservation of funds.
''Sec. 6303. Program authorized.
''Sec. 6304. Applications.
''Sec. 6305. Performance measures.
''Sec. 6306. Uses of funds.
''Sec. 6307. Reporting.
''Sec. 6308. Authorization of appropriations.

''PART D—GENERAL PROVISIONS

''Sec. 6401. Prohibition against Federal mandates, direction, or control.
''Sec. 6402. Rule of construction on equalized spending.''.

By Mr. FRANKEN (for himself and Mr. LEMIEUX):

S. 3888. A bill to make improvements to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

Mr. FRANKEN. Mr. President, we have big problems in the debt collection industry that are long overdue in being addressed. Before I even begin, I wish to preface my remarks by saying when someone takes out a loan, they ought to pay it back. I have no intention of making it easier for people to skip out on legitimate debts. But we also cannot sit idly by as debt collectors prey on good people who have always tried to do the right thing.

In 1977, by my calculations 33 years ago, Congress passed the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act to protect consumers from abusive practices by debt collectors. But times have changed and that law needs updating.

Congress did not foresee the abuses that would arise as the growing debt collection industry found ways around the intent of the law to make a profit on the backs of hard-working Americans. All around our country, there are numerous stories of people being taken advantage of by unscrupulous debt collectors. The debt collectors do not let the law or common decency stop them from doing whatever it takes for them to make a buck.

Those abuses include nasty and harassing calls, including the use of racial slurs and going after innocent people for debts they do not owe. In my State alone, and you can find similar stories from all over the country, consumers have been subjected to endless collection attempts over debts they do not recognize or debts they do not believe ever existed, debts that have already been paid, debts owed by different people, and debts that have been dramatically inflated.

Just this week, I met a man from Minnesota who was repeatedly harassed by debt collectors for a debt he did not owe. And in spite of the evidence he provided, it did not stop until he got a lawyer. Debt collectors have time and money on their side, and now some are even exploiting scarce law enforcement resources to go after unsuspecting Minnesotans. Debt collection firms are preying on people with good intentions. But without the time and money to figure out their rights and to fight back, this is basically a David and Goliath situation, but here, usually Goliath is the one that wins.

For some people, this bad situation spirals into an even worse nightmare. The problems in the debt collection industry first came to my attention in June, when my hometown newspaper, the Star Tribune, began a series on the subject about the story about the Minnesotans who have landed in jail because debt collectors were pursuing them for a debt.

One woman who told her story, a Minneapolis resident, spent a full day in jail over a $250 credit card debt. During that day she was treated like a criminal, groped by an inmate, and offered drugs by another, and slept in a room with a dozen other women, sharing a toilet with no privacy.

Here is what she told the newspaper.

> We hear every day about how there is no money for public services. But it seems like the collectors have found a way to get the police to do their work.

She is right. These rogue debt collectors are gaming the system and using law enforcement resources for the sole purpose of corporate profit. Then there is the story of a woman from Richfield, MN, a suburb south of Minneapolis, who was arrested one day recently because she had defaulted on a credit card in 2006. A debt-buying company had bought up her old credit card debt and started sending collection notices. But she ignored them because she had never heard of that company. The next thing you know, she was stopped on the road and arrested.

This harassment and abuse needs to be stopped. That is why Senator LEMIEUX and I are introducing the End Debt Collector Abuse Act, which would forbid debt collectors from seeking the arrest of a consumer in pursuit of payment. The court can initiate it, just not the debt collector.

It would also require the debt collectors to provide consumers with, get this, basic information upfront such as an itemization of principle, fees, and interest that make up the debt, so that consumers can recognize a debt, determine whether the collectors' claim is accurate, and exercise their rights.

This bill will also require the debt collectors provide the name of the original creditor upfront so we can avoid cases such as that women from Richfield, who received collection notices from a company she had never heard of and, quite reasonably, ignored them. It is just common sense to make sure that debt collectors provide this sort of basic information upfront so these misunderstandings do not happen.

In the case a consumer does identify an inaccuracy with a debt claim, some debt collectors currently do little or nothing in terms of investigating whether the consumer's dispute is correct. For that reason, this bill would require the collectors conduct a thorough investigation when a consumer contacts them about a mistake. The collector would then have to provide the consumer with specific evidence about the dispute.

Finally, the End Debt Collector Abuse Act would increase the penalties for violating consumer rights in order to crack down on the rogue debt collectors who have been blatantly and willfully ignoring current Federal prohibitions against harassing calls and other abusive practices.

In this tough economy, Minnesotans are suffering enough right now and they deserve to have the basic protections against abusive debt collective practices. I urge my colleagues to join Senator LEMIEUX and me in supporting this bill so we can stop the abuse and harassment of hard-working Americans by rogue debt collection firms.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill and a list of supports be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 3888

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 ''End Debt Collector Abuse Act of 2010''.

SEC. 2. ENHANCED VALIDATION NOTICES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 809(a) of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act (15 U.S.C. 1692g(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (4), by striking ''and'' at the end; and

(2) by striking paragraph (5) and inserting the following:

''(5) the date of the last payment to the creditor on the subject debt by the consumer and the amount of the debt at the time of default;

''(6) the name and address of the last person to extend credit with respect to the debt;

''(7) an itemization of the principal, fees, and interest that make up the debt and any other charges added after the date of the last payment to the creditor;

''(8) a description of the rights of the consumer—

''(A) to request that the debt collector cease communication with the consumer under section 805(c); and

''(B) to have collection efforts stopped under subsection (b); and

''(9) the name and contact information of the person responsible for handling complaints on behalf of the debt collector.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section and the amendments made by this section shall become effective 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 3. DISPUTE INVESTIGATIONS AND VERIFICATION.

Section 809(b) of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act (15 U.S.C. 1692g(b)) is amended—

(1) by inserting after ''(b)'' the following: ''DISPUTED DEBTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—''; and

(2) by striking ''Collection activities'' and inserting the following:

''(2) REASONABLE INVESTIGATION AND VERIFICATION REQUIRED.—Upon receipt of a notification under paragraph (1) that a debt is disputed by the consumer, the debt collector shall undertake a thorough investigation of the substance of the dispute, and shall timely provide to the consumer specific responsive information and verification of the disputed debt.

''(3) COLLECTION ACTIVITIES.—Collection activities''.

SEC. 4. AWARD OF DAMAGES.

(a) ADDITIONAL DAMAGES INDEXED FOR INFLATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 813 of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act (15 U.S.C. 1692k) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(f) ADJUSTMENT FOR INFLATION.—

''(1) INITIAL ADJUSTMENT.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this subsection, the Commission shall provide a percentage increase (rounded to the nearest multiple of $100 or $1,000, as applicable) in the amounts set forth in such section equal to the percentage by which—

''(A) the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (all items, United States city average) for the 12-month period ending on the June 30 preceding the date on which the percentage increase is provided, exceeds

''(B) the Consumer Price Index for the 12-month period preceding January 1, 1978.

''(2) ANNUAL ADJUSTMENTS.—With respect to any fiscal year beginning after the date of the increase provided under paragraph (1), the Commission shall provide a percentage increase (rounded to the nearest multiple of $100 or $1,000, as applicable) in the amounts set forth in this section equal to the percentage by which—

''(A) the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (all items, United States city average) for the 12-month period ending on the June 30 preceding the beginning of the fiscal year for which the increase is made, exceeds

''(B) the Consumer Price Index for the 12-month period preceding the 12-month period described in subparagraph (A).''.

(2) APPLICABILITY.—The increases made under section 813(f) of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, as added by paragraph (1) of this subsection, shall apply with respect to failures to comply with a provision of such Act (15 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.) occurring on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

(b) INJUNCTIVE RELIEF.—Section 813(d) of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act (15 U.S.C. 1692k(d)) is amended by adding at the end the following: ''In a civil action alleging a violation of this title, the court may award appropriate relief, including injunctive relief.''.

SEC. 5. SEEKING A WARRANT FOR ARREST OF DEBTOR AS AN UNFAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 808 of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act (15 U.S.C. 1692f) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(9) A request by a debt collector to a court or any law enforcement agency for the issuance of a warrant for the arrest of a debtor or any other similar request that a debt collector knows or should know would lead to the issuance of an arrest warrant, in relation to collection of a debt.''.

(b) CONSTRUCTION.—Paragraph (9) of such section 808, as added by subsection (a), shall not be construed to limit a court's inherent authority to hold a debtor in civil contempt, nor to limit a debt collector's ability to seek a writ of execution or similar remedy to take possession of property in order to satisfy a valid judgment of debt.

The following have endorsed the End Debt Collector Abuse Act:

National Consumer Law Center, Consumers Union; National Consumers League, Center for Responsible Lending, Service Employees International Union (SEIU), The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, National Association of Consumer Advocates, National Council of La Raza, Consumer Action, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), Minnesota Attorney General Lori Swanson, Legal Services Advocacy Project (Minnesota), Family Partnership (Minnesota), Minneapolis Urban League, Minnesota Community Action Partnership, Jewish Community Action (Minnesota), Housing Preservation Project (Minnesota), Lutheran Social Services of Minnesota—Financial Counseling Services, Catholic Charities' Office for Social Justice (Minnesota), Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity (Minnesota), Downtown Congregations to End Homelessness (Minnesota), Metropolitan Consortium of Community Developers (Minnesota).

By Mr. DODD (for himself and Mr. BURR):

S. 3895. A bill to protect students from inappropriate seclusion and physical restraint, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the Keeping All Students Safe Act to create a safe environment for students and school personnel by creating minimum standards around the use of seclusion and restraint in schools. In December, I introduced a similar bill. But today, I come to the floor with my good friend and colleague Senator BURR, with a revised act that incorporates additional protections for students.

In 1998, the Hartford Courant ran an award-winning series of stories about the use of seclusion and restraint in hospitals, residential facilities, and group homes for individuals with psychiatric and developmental disabilities. The Courant uncovered a hidden epidemic, confirming 142 deaths occurring during or after the use of seclusion or restraint.

One of those 142 cases was an 11-year-old boy from my home State of Connecticut. He was restrained face-down in a position that restricted his air flow. He died as a result.

In response, I led the charge to establish Federal standards to prevent the misuse of these practices. I helped pass The Children's Health Act of 2000, which included the Compassionate Care Act that I originally drafted to put these standards in place in certain hospitals and residential facilities. We

wanted to include schools in this legislation, but were unable to do so. Sadly, the need could not have been greater.

Over the past year, reports from the National Disability Rights Network, NDRN, the Alliance to Prevent Restraint, Aversive Interventions, and Seclusion, APRAIS, the Council of Parent Attorneys and Advocates, Inc., COPAA, and the Government Accountability Office, GAO, have painted a picture disturbingly similar to the one the Hartford Courant discovered more than a decade ago.

The statistics are chilling—hundreds of incidents of physical injury, psychological trauma, even death—but the stories are even more devastating.

The GAO found many examples of the inappropriate use of seclusion and restraint in the report it released on May 19, 2009.

A 14 year-old boy was restrained facedown by a teacher because he would not stay seated in class. The 230 lb. teacher sat on the 129 lb. boy, restricting his airflow and resulting in the boy's death.

A 4 year-old girl with cerebral palsy and autism was restrained in a wooden chair with leather straps for being ''uncooperative.''

In one school district, children with disabilities as young as six years old were allegedly placed in strangleholds, restrained for extended periods of time, confined to dark rooms, and tethered to ropes and prevented from using the restroom until they urinated on themselves.

To be clear, school personnel go to work every day with the goal of educating children, not harming them. I have the utmost respect and appreciation for the difficult job they do and want to make it clear that my concern signifies no disrespect for their challenging jobs, or the dangers they sometimes face.

However, these tragic stories reflect inadequate training and a lack of resources on the state and local levels to implement effective interventions, such as school-wide positive behavioral interventions and supports. According to a report by COPPA, over 71 percent of the 185 incidents they identified occurred in schools with no positive behavioral interventions or supports. If school personnel are provided with the necessary tools to prevent dangerous situations, the number of incidents requiring restraint and seclusion will decrease.

Just as students have a right to learn in a safe environment, educators have a right to work in a safe environment. They should be provided with the proper training and support to prevent injury to themselves and others.

In some states, parents have successfully advocated for laws that provide these resources, as well as guidelines to ensure that they are used effectively.

But the patchwork of state laws and regulations is confusing and especially troublesome for transient students.

According to the GAO study, 19 states have no law or regulations concerning seclusion and restraint in schools. Some laws apply to only certain schools or situations, and some apply to restraint but not seclusion. Only 19 states require parental notification, only 17 states require staff training, and only eight specifically prohibit restraints that restrict air flow.

Therefore, Senator BURR and I will today introduce the Keeping All Students Safe Act, a bill that will address these issues.

Our bill will establish clear minimum standards for the use of restraint and seclusion in schools, closely based on the Children's Health Act of 2000. It will also provide resources to assist with policy implementation and provide school personnel with necessary tools, training, and support.

It will improve data collection, analysis, and identification of effective practices to prevent and reduce seclusion and restraint in schools, so we may better understand the scope of the problem and the effectiveness of our solutions.

Specifically, the legislation will prohibit the use of seclusion and restraint in schools unless a student's behavior poses an immediate danger of serious physical injury and less restrictive interventions would be ineffective.

It will prohibit the use of mechanical, chemical, and physical restraints that restrict air flow to the lungs.

This legislation will require adequate training and state certification of school personnel imposing seclusion or restraint, immediate parental notification when such an incident occurs, and a debriefing session to prevent future incidents.

As a result of this act, the Department of Education will conduct, and provide to Congress, a national assessment that analyzes data on seclusion and restraint and determines effective practices in preventing and reducing the number of incidents. This assessment will provide us with a more accurate picture of the extent of seclusion and restraint in schools, and will help direct additional future efforts to ensure that our children and those who educate them are safe.

The Keeping All Students Safe Act includes language that solidifies Protection and Advocacy agencies', P&A, abilities to serve the students who are in need of protection. This legislation is meant to ensure that these P&As are spending their time and resources protecting our Nation's children in schools, and not in court about this already settled issue.

Finally, this legislation will amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as well as the Higher Education Act, to provide additional planning for and training on the use of positive behavioral interventions and supports.

I want to thank the many organizations representing individuals with disabilities, students, teachers, and schools that all came to the table with recommendations. Their time, energy, and input made this a much stronger and more effective bill, and I truly appreciate their hard work and support. I am especially thankful for Senator BURR'S commitment to this issue and his insights that have strengthened the bill. I am also grateful to Secretary Duncan for his leadership on this issue at the Department of Education. Finally, I want to thank my colleague and good friend, Chairman GEORGE MILLER in the House of Representatives. Earlier this year, he introduced companion legislation that passed the House in March. Senator BURR and I look forward to working with him to pass this into law.

Every child has a right to be safe in the place where he or she goes to learn and grow. Every educator deserves the training and support he or she needs to do his or her job safely and effectively. The Keeping All Students Safe Act will help to prevent tragedies in our schools. I am proud to introduce it today, and I urge my colleagues to join me.

By Mr. GOODWIN:

S. 3896. A bill to protect children against hazards associated with swallowing button cell batteries by requiring the Consumer Product Safety Commission to promulgate a consumer product safety standard to require child-proof closures on remote controls and other consumer electronic products that use such batteries, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Mr. GOODWIN. Mr. President, today I am pleased to introduce the Access to Button Cell Batteries Act. This legislation will ensure that the small batteries we find in everything from car keys to musical greeting cards are properly secured, and kept out of the hands of our children.

There is no question that technological progress makes our everyday activities a little easier. Such advancement has allowed for small batteries to be powerful enough to run many of today's devices, creating less bulky products.

Unfortunately, with advanced technology comes a new potential hazard. Many may not know the possible consequences when a child gets their hands on these tiny batteries.

Although many of these incidents are relatively harmless, should a child find one of these small button batteries, the consequences can be much, much worse—even deadly. We have discovered that battery ingestion has caused 13 deaths and numerous injuries, and from 1985 to 2009, there was an almost 7-fold increase in the percentage of ingestions with severe outcomes. This is unacceptable, and it is time for action.

Lithium cell batteries, some the size of a penny, are a growing concern. Beyond the choking risk to children, the real issue is what happens when they

are swallowed. The batteries can cause internal burns, and lasting damage can occur in just a couple of hours. These injuries can cause death or lifelong injuries including damaged vocal cords or torn intestinal tracts that require surgeries or feeding tubes.

The Access to Button Cell Batteries Act would require the Consumer Product Safety Commission to initiate a rule requiring that compartments on small battery products be properly secured.

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. 3896

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 ''Access to Button Cell Batteries Act of 2010''.

SEC. 2. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY STANDARD FOR BUTTON CELL BATTERY ACCESS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) BATTERY-OPERATED OR ASSISTED CONSUMER ELECTRONIC PRODUCT.—The term ''battery-operated or assisted consumer electronic product'' means a remote control, clock, musical greeting card, automobile key, flashlight, or other consumer product powered in whole or in part by a button cell battery that is designed, manufactured, and sold primarily for use by consumers in or around their homes or motor vehicles.

(2) BUTTON CELL BATTERY.—The term ''button cell battery'' means—

(A) a lithium cell battery that is 32 millimeters or less in diameter; or

(B) any other battery of that size, regardless of the technology used to produce an electrical charge, as determined by the Consumer Product Commission.

(3) CONSUMER PRODUCT.—The term ''consumer product'' has the meaning given the term in section 3 of the Consumer Product Safety Act (15 U.S.C. 2052).

(b) STANDARD REQUIRED.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Consumer Product Safety Commission shall promulgate, as a final consumer product safety standard under section 7(a) of the Consumer Product Safety Act (15 U.S.C. 2056(a)), a standard that requires button cell battery compartments of battery operated or assisted consumer electronic products be secured, to the greatest extent practicable, in a manner that reduces access to button cell batteries by children that are 3 years of age or younger.

(c) EXPEDITED RULEMAKING.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The standard required by subsection (b) shall be promulgated in accordance with section 553 of title 5, United States Code.

(2) INAPPLICABILITY OF CERTAIN PROMULGATION REQUIREMENTS.—The requirements of subsections (a) through (f) and (g)(1) of section 9 of the Consumer Product Safety Act (15 U.S.C. 2058) shall not apply to the promulgation of the standard required by subsection (b) of this section.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The final consumer product safety standard required by subsection (b) shall apply to battery-operated or assisted consumer electronic products manufactured on or after the date that is 1 year after the date on which the Commission promulgates such standard.

By Mr. COBURN (for himself, Mr. LEMIEUX, Mr. INHOFE, and Mr. DEMINT):

S. 3900. A bill to reduce waste, fraud, and abuse under the Medicare, Medicaid, and CHIP programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. COBURN. Mr. President, today, I, along with Senators LEMIEUX, DEMINT, and INHOFE, am introducing the FAST Act. At the same time, this same bill is being introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives by Representative PETER ROSKAM. Both of us were present at the White House summit with the President.

What the FAST Act does is attack the $100 billion worth of waste and fraud in Medicare, Medicaid, and SCHIP.

In the President's February 22, 2010 proposal for health reform, President Obama endorsed several Republican proposals designed to combat waste, fraud, and abuse in Medicare and Medicaid. While some anti-fraud provisions were included in the health care overhaul that passed Congress, these Republican proposals were not fully included.

Today, along with Senators LEMIEUX, DEMINT, and INHOFE, I am introducing the ''Fighting Fraud and Abuse to Save Taxpayers' Dollars'' or ''FAST'' Act. An identical bill is also being introduced today in the U.S. House of Representatives by Representative PETER ROSKAM, who also attended the White House health summit. The FAST Act notionally represents the Republican solutions the President endorsed to combat waste in Medicare and Medicaid as, as well as a bipartisan provision to reduce from by removing Social Security numbers from Medicare cards.

The status quo in Medicaid and Medicare is unsustainable and unacceptable. American taxpayers lose $60 to $100 billion in waste, fraud, and abuse in Medicare and Medicaid each year. Congress and the administration must do a better job of working to staunch this flow of taxpayer dollars that goes to crooks instead of providing care.

The current system was designed to be defrauded. And under the status quo today, organized crime affiliates and criminal gangs are bilking billions of taxpayer dollars from Medicare each year because it is so easy to defraud the system. HHS' Inspector General told Congress recently that a street gang in California has defrauded Medicare to the tune of $11 million by establishing a fake company and billing Medicare for expensive items like wheel chairs and oxygen supplies. The American people ought to be outraged and should not stand for this.

Imagine how we could improve Medicare's solvency if we could recoup two-thirds of the known fraud and abuse in the program each year. We could save $400 billion over a decade, just by preventing fraud.

But the loss of taxpayer dollars due to waste and fraud under Medicare and Medicaid not only threatens the financial viability of programs, they erode the public trust. American taxpayers should not be expected to tolerate rampant waste, fraud, and abuse in publicly-funded health care programs.

The new Federal health overhaul that Congress passed earlier this year dramatically expands Medicaid, significantly changes Medicare, creates new regulations, and will send hundreds of billions of dollars to insurance companies. Without improvements to current anti-fraud efforts, taxpayers could be at risk to even more money.

Congress and the Administration must do a more effective job in combating waste, fraud, and abuse in public health care programs and protecting the American taxpayer dollars. This bill is not a magic bullet, but I believe it offers a common-sense step forward to reduce fraud, waste, and abuse in our Nation's largest two health care programs. This bill gives increases data sharing, stiffens penalties, and pilots new ways of combating egregious fraud.

I sincerely hope politicians and bureaucrats can put the public interest ahead of their own. Congress and the administration cannot afford to continue to tolerate such fraud in Medicare and Medicaid. I look forward to working with any member of Congress who is serious about reducing waste, fraud, and abuse in public health care programs.

Just think for a minute what would happen to Medicare solvency if, in fact, we could recoup two-thirds of the fraud and inappropriate payments that are ongoing. It is straightforward. Many of the ideas in this were embraced by the President at our meeting.

It is my hope that the Senate will look at this and, in a bipartisan fashion, jump on board to fix a problem that is undermining one of our possible solutions to health care, which is that the Medicare trust fund is belly up.

There has been a lot of work done on this by Democrats and Republicans in the Senate. It is my hope we will have their consent and cosponsorship for the bill.

By Mr. HATCH:

S. 3901. A bill to promote enforcement of immigration laws and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the Strengthening Our Commitment to Legal Immigration and America's Security Act. Our immigration system is broken and needs reform. We can make progress by starting with the laws that already exist. My bill would enhance our core immigration and enforcement laws for both legal and illegal immigrants.

Much has been discussed this Congress on how to proceed on the very complex and, unfortunately at times, partisan issue of immigration reform. Some have introduced non-binding resolutions others have tried to attach

immigration-related measures to nongermane legislative vehicles. But, we're never going to get anywhere with these political stunts which do little to get to the root the problem.

Throughout my service, I have spent considerable time with my constituents and, quite frankly, have anguished with them on how to best address the considerable strain the illegal alien population is having on Utahns. Among other things, I have taken the initiative to increase immigration enforcement in Utah include bringing ICE Quick Response teams to our state, creating an immigration court, and establishing an ICE Field Office Director position to address Utah's immigration concerns. I also brought the 287(g) cross-deputizing program and just recently the Secure Communities program to Utah.

There is no question that more needs to be done. That is something everyone will agree on. Just recently legislation was enacted to enhance border security. I was pleased that this was a bipartisan effort. Some argue that the bill is sufficient to secure our border, but I disagree. There is much work to be done before the border is properly sealed. I continue to work with and support my colleagues whose states are located along the Southwest border. They know what resources we need to deploy to secure the border.

While Utah is not a border state, we still share the same concerns of our neighbors along the border. However, our problems result from a residual effect of a porous border and a breakdown of our immigration enforcement system.

For years, I have been saying most immigration problems could be solved if we would enforce the laws on the books. Unfortunately, the current Administration continues to explore ways to exploit current law and score political points.

During the past several months, the Obama administration has been holding behind-the-scenes talks to determine whether the Department of Homeland Security can unilaterally grant legal status, on a mass basis, to illegal immigrants via deferred action and parole. If the Administration is successful, it would be the equivalent of back-door amnesty for millions. For this reason, my bill specifies that an alien may only be paroled or granted deferred action on a case-by-case basis—not en mass—the way these laws were intended to be used.

The 287(g) and Secure Communities programs continue to be valuable tools to our law enforcement officials in detaining and deporting criminal aliens. For example, in Fiscal Year 2010, the 287(g) program was responsible for detaining 29,295 criminal aliens. What I don't understand is why some cities would choose to not participate in these effective programs. That is why my proposed legislation would require eligible states, counties, or cities to actively participate in the Secure Communities or 287(g) programs or forego compensation for incarceration expenses. Turning a blind eye to these law enforcement programs poses a serious risk to the public and creates sanctuary cities.

When I meet with my constituents, one of their top concerns is how we fix our visa programs. Many are concerned, and with good cause, about how some of these folks are getting into the country. Disturbingly, some visa holders are active participants in organized crime. They come to this country and infiltrate our communities, wreaking havoc in our neighborhoods.

In an effort to address this problem, my bill would provide our State Department consular officers the necessary legal authority to deny members of known gangs from coming into our country. It's not acceptable to allow these thugs to slip through the cracks.

After 9/11, many areas of our immigration system came under scrutiny. One of the top recommendations for reform to our system is to create an exit procedure for foreign visitors to the United States. Departure information is vital for determining whether foreign visitors are departing the U.S., maintaining their visa status, and evaluating future visa eligibility for these visitors. Not to mention, the ability to track departures goes to the heart of keeping America safe.

Without such exit procedures, however, the task of determining whether an alien has overstayed their visa in the United States is nearly impossible. Since 2004, the Department of Homeland Security has been testing exit programs and departure controls at U.S. airports for visa holders leaving the United States. As recently as July 2009, another pilot program was concluded by the Department of Homeland Security. To date, we still haven't seen any implementation of exit procedures for our country's visitors, nor have we seen any final conclusions made by the Department. It has been over 6 years since the first pilot program concluded. It is time to act.

Thus, my bill would require the Secretary of Homeland Security to create a mandatory exit procedure for foreign visitors to the United States. This should have been done years ago.

Additionally, the proposed legislation would eliminate the fraud-laden visa lottery, known as the Diversity Visa program. At present, applicants of the visa lottery program are open to being defrauded by so-called service providers who offer to assist them in obtaining Diversity Visa status. Unlike other immigrant visa categories, this is one of the few visas that allows people to immigrate to the United States without having any connection to the country. In other words, the applicants may not have any family, employment, or even provide an economic tie to the United States. And because of limited availability of verification, the program presents serious national security concerns.

Let me be clear: if anyone is a proponent of a diverse nation, one that enjoys the influence of many cultures, it is me. But what we have right now in the visa lottery program does not accomplish the intended goal.

After careful consultation with State Department officials, I have been advised that the Diversity Visa program needs serious reform, and some have even called for complete elimination of the program. In light of this guidance, I propose to sunset the Diversity Visa program, unless the State Department recommends to Congress how best to combat fraud and eliminate abuse currently in the program.

One of the most heated issues that is continually raised by my constituents, and many across the country, is the impact that illegal aliens are having upon our welfare programs. It came to my attention that Los Angeles County, California, actually tracks this information. Much to my amazement, L.A. County confirms that in 2009 alone, they distributed over $2.4 billion in Federal-State welfare and food stamp programs. Of that amount, $569 million was issued to households that include illegal aliens. Let me reiterate: the illegal alien population in L.A. County received over a half-billion dollars of welfare benefits in one year alone.

In order to have an honest discussion about the drain illegal aliens are having upon our welfare systems, we must be armed with state-specific information to understand the extent of this problem.

Thus, my bill would require the Secretary of Health and Human Services, in consultation with the Department of Homeland Security and any other appropriate Federal agency, to submit an annual report to Congress outlining the total dollar amount of Federal welfare benefits received by households of illegal aliens for each state and the District of Columbia. The annual report would also include the overall dollar amount each state spends on Federal welfare benefits.

Without having this information, we will continue to dismiss the serious economic ramifications to our country's prosperity. We cannot afford to perpetuate this problem any longer.

My legislation also includes a provision which revisits the legal immigrant policy included in the Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009, P.L. 111–3. The CHIP Reauthorization law overturned language requiring a 5-year waiting period before legal immigrants may be eligible for federal health coverage. The 5-year waiting period was included in the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, P.L. 104–193. As my colleagues will recall, the 1996 Welfare Reform Act required sponsors of legal immigrants to be responsible for individuals' expenses during the first 5 years of residency in our country. States had the option of offering legal immigrants CHIP and Medicaid coverage with State only dollars. In other words, States could not

receive Federal matching dollars for covering these legal immigrants.

The 2009 CHIP law overturned that policy. Today, States may still cover legal immigrant children and pregnant women who have been in the U.S. less than 5 years. However, the big difference is states now receive Federal matching dollars for covering those individuals.

The provision in the bill I am introducing today would permit states to continue receiving federal matching dollars for covering legal immigrant children and legal immigrant pregnant women but two conditions must be met. First, the state must demonstrate that it has covered 90 percent of its U.S. citizen children and pregnant women eligible for CHIP or Medicaid. These individuals' family income may not exceed 200 percent of the Federal poverty level. Second, the State must demonstrate that it is not supplanting state dollars which were being used to cover legal immigrants prior to passage of the 2009 CHIP reauthorization law with Federal dollars.

Another top concern I regularly hear about is identity theft—that of both adults and children who have to spend a great amount of their time and money to clear their good names and restore their credit history.

In 2006, parents of Utah 2-year old Tyler Lybbert realized their daughter's identity had been stolen by 38-year old Jose Tinoco. By the time the Lybberts became aware of the fraud, Mr. Tinoco had already taken out two loans and opened credit cards—saddling Tyler with over $15,000 in debt. Little Tyler was left holding the bag.

Fortunately, when Mr. Tinoco tried to obtain a loan from a local Utah bank, an employee spotted the discrepancy and alerted Tyler's parents. Mr. Tinoco was caught, but the Lybberts were left with countless hours of work to correct the fraud perpetrated against their child.

This past weekend, the Utah press reported on another identity theft case. A newly married radiology student at Weber State University has been battling to reclaim his identity for the last 15 years. When Cameron Noble was 7 years old his Social Security number was stolen by Mr. Jose Zavala of California—an over 60-year-old man.

Noble's parents thought they had corrected the error but when Cameron began working at the age of 16 he started receiving notices that his wages were being garnished to pay child support. The problem has continued to haunt him ever since—in the form of tax withholdings and credit report confusion. He is now nearing the end of the process to obtain a new Social Security number.

It is not a secret that many in the illegal immigrant community perpetuate identity theft with stolen or fabricated Social Security numbers, SSN. The identity theft they commit often affects the very young—who may not notice problems for years or decades until they are old enough to apply for their first job, car or school loan, or credit card.

As in little Tyler Lybbert's case, why did it take a bank employee to pick up on the theft? Because there is no formal system established to alert SSN holders when potential fraud or improper usage have occurred.

The federal agency that is best suited to track the use of mismatched SSN numbers is the Internal Revenue Service, IRS. That is why my bill requires the IRS to send a notice to an employer that an inaccurate SSN has been discovered for an employee. If the employer does not respond to the notice within 60-days to correct the inaccuracy, my legislation will require the IRS to notify the SSN holder or to parents and guardians of a minor, that a discrepancy has been detected and to do the following: if it is an actual mismatch to contact the IRS; if they suspect fraudulent use, the SSN holder is provided with contact information for the FTC and various credit bureaus to report the problem; and finally if no response is received by the SSN holder, the IRS would be required to refer the account number to appropriate Federal agencies for possible investigation.

Let me pause here to underscore a point. Currently, the original SSN holder never receives notice when a mismatch has occurred. Quite frankly, I do not have the assurances that the IRS is requiring much of the employer to correct or verify the submission. That is not acceptable. In this day and age, when at a click of a mouse, someone can apply for credit cards, mortgages, or even car loans, there is no excuse why SSN holders are left in the dark.

One can only imagine that if this simple notification step was taken in the case of little Tyler Lybbert or the Noble family that years of laborious efforts and countless hours of notifying credit bureaus, banks, and other authorities, could have been greatly reduced if not avoided all together.

To make matters more confusing in this area of the law, the Supreme Court has more or less tied the hands of prosecutors in going after these thieves and those who are involved in so-called document mills. The case of Flores-Figueroa v. United States undermined prosecutors' longstanding practice of using the aggravated identity theft statute by requiring them to also prove that a defendant knew that he or she was using a real person's identity information, as opposed to counterfeit information not connected to an actual person.

To clarify the Criminal Code and provide our prosecutors with the latitude they need to pursue these cases, my bill makes clear that defendants who possess or otherwise use identity information not their own, without lawful authority, and in the commission of another felony is still punishable for aggravated identity fraud, regardless of the defendants' ''knowledge'' of the victim.

Finally, my bill's identity theft would require the Secretary of the Treasury, the Chairman of the FTC, and the Commissioner of Social Security to conduct a study to determine the most feasible and cost-effective ways to protect the credit worthiness of individuals, especially that of children.

Mexican Cartel drug violence has been placed front and center by the media and members of this body. Some of my fellow colleagues have called for more resources directed to this problem. As additional federal law enforcement personnel and military units continue to be deployed to the southwest border the focus has been on weapons, drug interdiction and bulk cash smuggling. While I recognize the importance of these border enforcement activities, too little attention is being paid to outdoor marijuana cultivation by Mexican drug trafficking organizations.

Outdoor marijuana cultivation by Mexican drug trafficking organizations is causing increasing environmental damage, especially on publicly owned lands. From 2004–2009 more than 11 million marijuana plants have been eradicated from federal public lands. Outdoor marijuana cultivation is the chief source of revenue for Mexican drug trafficking organizations.

Growing marijuana in the U.S. saves traffickers the risk and expense of smuggling their product across the border and allows gangs to produce their crops closer to local markets. Illegal alien workers are smuggled in from Mexico to serve as laborers and provide security to the grow plots. Mexican gang plots can often be distinguished from those of domestic-based growers based on their plant volume and security measures. Many of the plots are encircled with crude explosives and are patrolled by armed illegal aliens providing security for the crop.

In my home State of Utah, the Drug Enforcement Administration and local law enforcement have seized more than 110,000 marijuana plants this year. Each plant can yield one pound of marijuana with a street value of $1,000. These remote plots were on federal land and nestled under the cover in a national forest or hidden high in the rugged-yet-fertile tracts of federal land. All of the sites were far from the eyes of law enforcement, where growers can take the time needed to grow far more potent marijuana. Growers of these fields have even created irrigation systems to disrupt or divert water sources. They even use illegal fertilizers that damage the environment and the local eco-system.

In one recent incident in Garfield County, Utah an illegal alien grow worker was armed with a shotgun and confronted six teenage girls who inadvertently hiked into the marijuana field. The worker brandished a shotgun and demanded to use their cell phone. Fortunately, the group of girls were able to run away from this armed man

and prevented what could have been a very tragic outcome. The girls were quite traumatized and reported the incident to local police. The Drug Enforcement Administration and the local authorities apprehended the man a short time later.

So far this year in Utah, as a result of joint investigative efforts between Federal, State and local law enforcement, 20 arrests have been made in connection with the outdoor cultivation of marijuana on Federal lands. Out of the 20 arrests made, 19 were illegal aliens. This is not a problem that is unique to Utah. Other States with substantial federal lands are also seeing a spike in marijuana cultivation by Mexican drug trafficking organizations, including Colorado, California, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon and Michigan.

It is for this reason why my legislation would provide tougher penalties for cultivating marijuana on federal lands and destroying the environment. Provisions of this legislation would also require the Office of National Drug Control Policy to formulate a comprehensive and coordinated action plan to address marijuana cultivation on Federal lands. This plan will be a broad strategic approach to disrupt Mexican drug trafficking organizations' central source of revenue and a key reason for organized alien smuggling.

The fight to control the border is no longer isolated to just the physical boundary between the United States and Mexico. Securing the border now means addressing Mexican cartels; prohibiting mass deferral or parole; streamlining the visa process; requiring participation in key law enforcement programs; clamping down on identity theft; tracking the amount of welfare benefits being diverted by illegal immigrant households; ensuring that dollars are being used to cover newly eligible American children in CHIP and Medicaid; and keeping our great national parks and Federal lands safe and free from drug traffickers, drug cultivation, and environmental damage.

Let me conclude by saying this bill represents key issues that are important to my Utah constituents and Americans across the country. They are common sense solutions to strengthen our commitment to legal immigration and American's security. I urge my colleagues to put partisanship aside and support this bill.

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. 3901

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 ''Strengthening Our Commitment to Legal Immigration and America's Security Act''.

SEC. 2. DEFERRED ACTION AND PAROLE.

Section 212(d)(5) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(d)(5)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(C) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an alien may only be paroled into the United States or granted deferred action of a final order of removal on a case-by-case basis for urgent humanitarian reasons or significant public benefit.''.

SEC. 3. STATE CRIMINAL ALIEN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

Section 241(i) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1231(i)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (5) and (6) as paragraphs (6) and (7);

(2) in paragraph (7), as so redesignated, by striking ''paragraph (5)'' and inserting ''paragraph (6)''; and

(3) by inserting after paragraph (4) the following:

''(5) A State, county, city, or township that is eligible to participate in Secure Communities or to cross-designate local law enforcement officers to perform immigration law enforcement functions under section 287(g) and does not participate in such programs may not receive compensation for incarceration expenses under this subsection.''.

SEC. 4. VISA REFORM.

(a) VISA INELIGIBILITY FOR ORGANIZED CRIME MEMBERS.—Section 212(a)(2) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(2)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(J) ALIENS ENGAGED IN ORGANIZED CRIME.—Any alien who the consular officer or the Attorney General knows or has reason to believe is a member of a known criminal organization that regularly engages in transnational criminal activity, is inadmissible.''.

(b) EXIT PROCEDURES FOR FOREIGN VISITORS.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security, in coordination with the Secretary of State and the aviation industry, as appropriate, shall create a mandatory exit procedure for foreign visitors, based upon—

(1) the results of the programs piloted by United States Customs and Border Protection to track the departure of foreign visitors, including US–VISIT; and

(2) the feasibility and benefits of the departure confirmation systems tested under such exit pilot programs.

(c) ELIMINATION OF THE DIVERSITY VISA PROGRAM.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 203 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1153) is amended by striking subsection (c).

(2) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Title II of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1151) is amended as follows:

(A) In section 201 (8 U.S.C. 1151)—

(i) in subsection (a)—

(I) in paragraph (1), by adding ''and'' at the end; and

(II) in paragraph (2), by striking ''; and'' at the end and inserting a period; and

(ii) by striking subsection (e).

(B) In section 203 (8 U.S.C. 1153)—

(i) in subsection (d), by striking ''subsection (a), (b), or (c)'' and inserting ''subsection (a) or (b)'';

(ii) in subsection (g), by striking ''subsection (a), (b), or (c)'' and inserting ''subsection (a) or (b)''; and

(iii) in subsection (h)(2)(B), by striking ''subsection (a), (b), or (c)'' and inserting ''subsection (a) or (b)''.

(C) Section 204(a)(1) (8 U.S.C. 1154(a)(1)) is amended by striking subparagraph (I).

(3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall become effective on the first day of the fiscal year beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act, unless Congress reviews the recommendations from the Secretary of State on how to combat fraud and eliminate abuse in the Diversity Visa Program and legislation is enacted to maintain the Diversity Visa Program that addresses such recommendations, with appropriate changes in the eligibility requirements.

SEC. 5. ANNUAL ACCOUNTABILITY OF FEDERAL WELFARE BENEFITS RECEIVED BY ALIENS UNLAWFULLY PRESENT IN THE UNITED STATES.

The Secretary of Health and Human Services, in consultation with the Secretary of Homeland Security and the head of any other appropriate Federal agency, shall submit to Congress an annual report that includes, for each State (and including the District of Columbia)—

(1) the total amount of Federal welfare benefits provided to such State during the most recent fiscal year, disaggregated by State; and

(2) the total amount of Federal welfare benefits provided to households with any persons who resided in the United States illegally during the most recent fiscal year.

SEC. 6. LIMITATION ON STATE OPTION TO EXPAND CHIP COVERAGE TO NONCITIZEN CHILDREN OR NONCITIZEN PREGNANT WOMEN.

Section 2107 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1397gg) is amended—

(1) in subsection (e)(1)(J), by inserting ''and only if the State satisfies the requirements described in subsection (g)'' before the period at the end; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(g) DEMONSTRATION OF COVERAGE AND MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT.—For purposes of subsection (e)(1)(J), the requirements described in this subsection are the following:

''(1) The State demonstrates to the Secretary (on the basis of the best data reasonably available to the Secretary and in accordance with such techniques for sampling and estimating as the Secretary determines appropriate) that the State has enrolled in the State plan under title XIX, the State child health plan under this title, or under a waiver of either such plan, at least 90 percent of the children residing in the State who are citizens or nationals of the United States, whose family income does not exceed 200 percent of the poverty line (as determined before January 1, 2014, without regard to the application of any general exclusion or disregard of a block of income that is not determined by type of expense or type of income, and as determined on or after January 1, 2014, in accordance with section 1902(e)(14)), and who are eligible for medical assistance under the State plan under title XIX or child health assistance under the State child health plan under this title.

''(2) The State provides assurances that the amount of State or other non-Federal funds expended annually by the State to provide medical assistance, child health assistance, or other health benefits coverage to lawfully residing immigrant children or lawfully residing immigrant pregnant women will not be less than the amount of such funds expended for such purposes for fiscal year 2009.''.

SEC. 7. IDENTITY THEFT.

(a) AMENDMENTS TO THE CRIMINAL CODE.—Chapter 47 of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in section 1028—

(A) in subsection (a)(7), by striking ''of another person'' and inserting ''other than his or her own''; and

(B) in subsection (b)(3)—

(i) in subparagraph (B), by striking ''or'' at the end;

(ii) in subparagraph (C), by adding ''or'' at the end; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

''(C) to facilitate or assist in harboring or hiring unauthorized workers in violation of section 274, 274A or 274C of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1324, 1324a, and 1324c)''.

(b) IRS NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENT.—

(1) REQUIREMENT TO NOTIFY SOCIAL SECURITY ACCOUNT NUMBER HOLDERS.—If the Commissioner of Internal Revenue sends a notice to an employer that an inaccurate social security account number has been discovered for an employee and the employer does not respond to the notice within 60 days to correct such account number, the Commissioner shall send such a notice—

(A) to the individual who was originally issued such social security account number; or

(B) if such individual is a minor, to the individual's legal guardian.

(2) CONTENT OF NOTICE.—A notice sent to an individual under paragraph (1) shall include the following:

(A) A request that the individual respond to such notice within 60 days to correct the information associated with the social security account number.

(B) Information on how to respond to the notice.

(C) Notification that if a response is not received by the Commissioner within 60 days, the Commissioner shall provide notice of the inaccurate social security account number to the appropriate agencies for possible investigation, including the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Justice, and the Federal Trade Commission.

(D) Notification—

(i) that if the individual suspects that the individual's social security account number may have been used fraudulently, the individual should notify the Federal Trade Commission and the various credit bureaus; and

(ii) information on how to provide the notifications described in clause (i).

(c) STUDY AND REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Treasury, the Chairman of the Federal Trade Commission, and the Commissioner of Social Security, in consultation with the Secretary of Commerce and other appropriate Federal officials, shall conduct a study to determine the most feasible and cost effective ways to protect the credit worthiness of individuals, especially children.

(2) ISSUES TO BE STUDIED.—The study conducted under paragraph (1) shall—

(A) assess the types of data held by the Federal Government and the private sector that could prove beneficial in protecting and verifying identity;

(B) assess current government and industry practices designed to protect personal privacy and determine how such practices could be improved to protect and verify individuals' credit worthiness;

(C) analyze the estimated impact of alternative systems of achieving effective protection of credit on the financial industry (including small banks, rural financial institutions, and credit unions), consumers, and the government with respect to—

(i) costs;

(ii) credit availability;

(iii) convenience;

(iv) privacy; and

(v) other nonfinancial burdens, including any effects on personal privacy; and

(D) determine the most effective ways to protect and verify credit information.

(3) PARTICIPATION.—Representatives of the financial industry, members of the public, government agencies, and other interested groups shall be given opportunities to provide information for the study conducted under paragraph (1).

(4) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Treasury shall submit a report containing the results of the study conducted under paragraph (1), including any recommendations for legislative or administrative actions, to the Committee on Finance of the Senate and the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 8. ENHANCED PENALTIES FOR CERTAIN DRUG OFFENSES ON FEDERAL LANDS.

(a) CULTIVATING OR MANUFACTURING CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES ON FEDERAL PROPERTY.—Section 401(b)(5) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 841(b)(5)) is amended by striking ''as provided in this subsection'' and inserting ''for not more than 10 years, in addition to any other term of imprisonment imposed under this subsection,''.

(b) USE OF HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES.—Pursuant to its authority under section 994 of title 28, United States Code, the United States Sentencing Commission shall amend the Federal Sentencing Guidelines and policy statements to ensure that the guidelines provide an additional penalty increase of 2 offense levels above the sentence otherwise applicable for a violation of section 401(a) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 841(a)) if the offense—

(1) includes the use of a poison, chemical, or other hazardous substance to cultivate or manufacture controlled substances on Federal property;

(2) creates a hazard to humans, wildlife, or domestic animals;

(3) degrades or harms the environment or natural resources; or

(4) pollutes an aquifer, spring, stream, river, or body of water.

(c) STREAM DIVERSION OR CLEAR CUTTING ON FEDERAL PROPERTY.—

(1) PROHIBITION ON STREAM DIVERSION OR CLEAR CUTTING ON FEDERAL PROPERTY.—Section 401(b) of the Controlled Substances Act is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(8) DESTRUCTION OF BODIES OF WATER.—Any person who violates subsection (a) in a manner that diverts, redirects, obstructs, or drains an aquifer, spring, stream, river, or body of water or clear cuts timber while cultivating or manufacturing a controlled substance on Federal property shall be fined in accordance with title 18, United States Code.''.

(2) FEDERAL SENTENCING GUIDELINES ENHANCEMENT.—Pursuant to its authority under section 994 of title 28, United States Code, the United States Sentencing Commission shall amend the Federal Sentencing Guidelines and policy statements to ensure that the guidelines provide an additional penalty increase of 2 offense levels for above the sentence otherwise applicable for a violation of section 401(a) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 841(a)) if the offense involves the diversion, redirection, obstruction, or draining of an aquifer, spring, stream, river, or body of water or the clear cut of timber while cultivating or manufacturing a controlled substance on Federal property.

(d) BOOBY TRAPS ON FEDERAL LAND.—Section 401(d)(1) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 841(d)(1)) is amended by inserting ''cultivated,'' after ''is being''.

(e) USE OR POSSESSION OF FIREARMS IN CONNECTION WITH DRUG OFFENSES ON FEDERAL LANDS.—Pursuant to its authority under section 994 of title 28, United States Code, the United States Sentencing Commission shall amend the Federal Sentencing Guidelines and policy statements to ensure that the guidelines provide an additional penalty increase of 2 offense levels above the sentence otherwise applicable for a violation of section 401(a) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 841(a)) if the offense involves the possession of a firearm while cultivating or manufacturing controlled substances on Federal lands.

SEC. 9. FEDERAL LANDS COUNTERDRUG ACTION PLAN.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE.—The term ''controlled substance'' has the meaning given the term in section 102 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 802).

(2) COVERED LANDS.—The term ''covered lands'' means—

(A) units of the National Park System;

(B) National Forest System land;

(C) public lands (as defined by section 103(e) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1702(e)); and

(D) all land administered by the Bureau of Land Management.

(b) IMPLEMENTATION OF FEDERAL LANDS COUNTERDRUG ACTION PLAN.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—

(A) REQUIREMENT FOR ACTION PLAN.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National Drug Control Policy shall implement an action plan for keeping controlled substances off of Federal lands (referred to in this section as the ''Federal Lands Counterdrug Action Plan'').

(B) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 2 years after the implementation of the Federal Lands Counterdrug Action Plan, the Director shall submit to Congress a report that describes the progress made in carrying out such Action Plan.

(2) CONSULTATION REQUIREMENT.—In implementing the Federal Lands Counterdrug Action Plan, the Director of National Drug Control Policy shall consult with the heads of relevant Federal agencies, including the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Forest Service, the National Park Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and any relevant State, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies.

(c) CONTENTS.—The Federal Lands Counterdrug Action Plan shall include—

(1) the Federal Government's action plan for preventing the illegal production, cultivation, manufacture, and trafficking of controlled substances on covered lands;

(2) the specific roles of relevant Federal agencies, including the Drug Enforcement Administration and relevant agencies within the Department of the Interior for implementing such an action plan;

(3) the specific resources required to enable the agencies referred to in paragraph (2) to implement that strategy;

(4) a strategy to reduce the cultivation and trafficking of marijuana on covered lands by Mexican drug trafficking organizations;

(5) the use of available technology to reduce the cultivation and trafficking of marijuana on covered lands;

(6) the impact of Federal land management statutes on law enforcement efforts; and

(7) the costs associated with marijuana eradication programs through high intensity drug trafficking areas.

(d) EFFECT ON EXISTING LAW.—The Federal Lands Counterdrug Action Plan—

(1) may not change existing agency authorities or laws governing interagency relationships; and

(2) may provide recommendations for changes to such authorities or laws.

(e) DISTRIBUTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy shall provide a copy of the Federal Lands Counterdrug Action Plan to—

(A) the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate;

(B) the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate;

(C) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate;

(D) the United States Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control;

(E) the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives;

(F) the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives;

(G) the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives;

(2) CLASSIFIED INFORMATION.—Any classified or law enforcement sensitive information contained in the Federal Lands Counterdrug Action Plan may be submitted in a classified annex to accompany the Action Plan.

By Mr. ALEXANDER (for himself and Mr. DODD):

S. 3906. A bill to reduce preterm labor and delivery and the risk of pregnancy-related deaths and complications due to pregnancy, and to reduce infant mortality caused by prematurity; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, today I am pleased to once again partner with my good friend and colleague Senator DODD to introduce the Prematurity Research Expansion and Education for Mothers who deliver Infants Early Act, or the PREEMIE Act. This bipartisan bill reauthorizes and expands upon the 2006 PREEMIE Act to enhance research into the causes and prevention of prematurity. The end result of this bill will hopefully be to find a solution to the serious problem of premature birth.

Premature birth is the leading killer of newborns and a major cause of lasting disabilities, and finding answers to this problem is one of the most urgent challenges confronting medicine today. More than half a million babies are born prematurely in the United States each year, and in nearly half the cases the causes are unknown. In Tennessee 236 babies are born preterm per week on average, and in 2007, 12,256 babies or 14.2 percent of all live births were premature.

The emotional toll a premature birth has on a family is significant. When an infant arrives prematurely before 37 weeks gestation, the family faces a stressful new world. Often, the parents see the baby only momentarily before he or she is whisked away to the neonatal intensive care unit, NICU. Instead of taking home a healthy baby, parents spend hours in the hospital, talking to all kinds of specialists who use clinical terms that they don't always understand. The baby's medical equipment is frightening, and the busy, hectic atmosphere in the NICU is stressful. Often the mother, who may have suffered from her own serious medical complications, recovers and leaves the hospital before the baby does.

Many preterm infants face life-threatening complications. Families with premature infants often refer to the NICU as a roller-coaster experience. One day the baby appears to be doing well; the next, hope seems to be lost. Day-to-day life is completely disrupted. Parents spend hours in the NICU, away from their other children and work. The average hospital stay in 2005 was nearly nine times as long for a preterm infant (13 days) compared to an infant born at term (1.5 days).

Families face financial stress as they struggle to pay the high NICU costs, since the average first year medical costs were about 10 times greater for preterm, $32,325, than for term infants, $3,325, in 2005. Additionally, 4 out of the 10 most expensive hospital stays regardless of age are related to infant care: infant respiratory distress syndrome, prematurity/low birthweight, cardiac/circulatory birth defects, and lack of oxygen in infants.

Advances in neonatology are saving even the smallest and most fragile newborns, but we need to prevent those births from happening too early in the first place. We now find ourselves facing enormous potential for progress, and technological innovation has made sequencing of the entire human genome possible, which will hasten the pace of discovery and application of new knowledge. Hopefully, research moves ahead to unravel the mysteries of premature birth and to find the answers that will save babies' lives. However, the private sector cannot accomplish this goal alone, which is why we need dedicated federal resources to support such efforts.

If we invest the money now and conduct additional research investigating the root causes of prematurity, it will save the Government money over time, and parents will not have to fear for their new child's life from the moment of birth. I strongly urge my colleagues to join me and support the PREEMIE Act—an investment in infants' health.

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I rise today to discuss a very serious issue that affects many Americans, and that is premature births. More than half a million babies will be born preterm this year and approximately 28,000 babies will die before they turn 1 year old.

In my home State of Connecticut, there were more than 4,000 preterm births in 2007, representing approximately 11 percent of all live births in the State. Between 1997 and 2007, the rate of infants born preterm in Connecticut increased 3 percent.

The incidence of preterm birth represents a huge disconnect between our scientific knowledge and our capacity to meet basic and critical needs in maternal-child health. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CDC, babies who died from preterm birth-related causes accounted for more than 36 percent of infant deaths in 2006. For newborns, prematurity is the leading cause of death.

Of the surviving preemies, approximately one-fourth will have serious health complications including hearing loss, cerebral palsy, intellectual disabilities, acute respiratory diseases, and other maladies. These health problems not only affect the child, but also place a financial and emotional burden on many families. According to the Institute of Medicine, the annual societal costs associated with preterm birth were $26.2 billion in 2005 or $51,600 per infant born preterm. Nearly two-thirds of this cost was for medical care. More importantly, the $26.2 billion estimate does not include the cost of medical care beyond early childhood or caretaker costs such as lost wages.

In nearly half of all cases, physicians and scientists cannot pinpoint a cause for preterm labor and delivery. However, research has shown that causes of preterm birth may include neighborhood characteristics, environmental exposures, biological factors, and medical conditions. Many of these factors can occur in combination, particularly for those who are socioeconomically disadvantaged and minority groups. Accordingly, there are significant disparities in the rates of preterm birth across these groups, with the highest rate of preterm births for non-Hispanic African Americans at 17.5 percent in 2008, according to the National Center for Health Statistics. It is clear that a greater commitment to eliminating these inequalities is needed. As the chairman of the U.S. Senate's Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions' Subcommittee on Children and Families, ensuring the health of America's children has been my life's work, making the correction of these inequalities an issue of great importance.

In 2006, my colleague Senator ALEXANDER and I worked to pass the Prematurity Research Expansion and Education for Mothers who deliver Infants Early Act or PREEMIE Act, Public Law 109–450, which authorized finding to enhance Federal research related to preterm labor and delivery and increased public and provider education and support services. Among the results of the PREEMIE Act were the 2008 Surgeon General's Conference on Preterm Birth and expanded research activities at CDC. The most notable accomplishment to date is a 3 percent decline in the preterm birth rate from 2007 to 2008. But there is still much work to be done. We must build on the progress recently achieved and use both public and private efforts to accelerate this decrease in the rate of preterm birth.

For these reasons, I rise today to join my colleague from Tennessee to introduce the PREEMIE Act to reauthorize these vital activities. It is my hope that this legislation will complement many of the efforts being conducted by the private sector, such as the March of Dimes campaign to raise public awareness and reduce the rate of preterm births. I urge my colleagues to join me in promoting a healthy start for America's children by supporting this legislation.

By Mr. DODD (for himself and Mr. BROWN of Ohio):

S. 3907. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to increase access to health care for individuals with disabilities and increase awareness of the need for health care facilities and examination rooms to be accessible for individuals with disabilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, as a co-chair of the Congressional Spina Bifida Caucus, I rise today to introduce the Debbie Blanchard Access to Health Care for Individuals with Disabilities Act of 2010 with my colleague, Senator SHERROD BROWN. This legislation provides an excellent opportunity to address a critical disparity that exists in our Nation's health care system.

Individuals with disabilities can face a myriad of challenges in accessing the health care they need and deserve. Such was the case for Debbie Blanchard, a woman who lived with Spina Bifida for nearly 56 years, and who passed away in August 2008 from cervical cancer. Due to the challenges she faced in finding a physician whose office and examination tables were accessible for individuals with disabilities, Debbie was not able to seek regular well-woman exams, including cervical cancer screenings. The barriers Debbie faced in physically accessing the regular preventive care she needed unfortunately contributed to her cervical cancer going undetected until it was too late. The lack of accessible care clearly contributed to her untimely death.

The Spina Bifida community is devastated by Debbie Blanchard's tragic passing, and we in the Congressional Spina Bifida Caucus wish to help ensure that the challenges and barriers that contributed to her illness and death are eliminated. To that end, we have developed the Debbie Blanchard Access to Health Care for Individuals with Disabilities Act in an effort to help facilitate access to health care by individuals with disabilities, including, but not limited to, those with Spina Bifida, and help them to identify providers whose offices and examination rooms are accessible for individuals with disabilities.

Before I discuss the details of this bill, I believe it is important to recognize the scope of the problem we are dealing with. According to the U.S. Census, more than 54 million Americans, about one out of every five, live with some level of disability. Approximately 34 million of those are classified as having a severe disability. In Connecticut, more than 540,000 individuals are living with some level of disability. Of those individuals, close to 22,000 have physical disabilities.

Studies conducted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have found that individuals with disabilities have difficulty in accessing routine and specialized health care. Numerous barriers exist for these patients, including the inability to find a health care provider who understands how to treat individuals with disabilities and is willing to have those individuals as patients. According to a survey commissioned by the National Organization on Disability, 19 percent of persons with disabilities reported they needed medical care within the previous year and did not get it. This is a number more than three times the percentage for those without disabilities.

Women with disabilities are particularly vulnerable. A study by the Center for Research on Women with Disabilities showed that nearly one-third of women with disabilities surveyed reported being denied services at a physician's office solely because of their disability, and 56 percent described their physicians' offices and hospitals as ill-prepared to accommodate their specific needs. Research by the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research shows that women with disabilities are less likely to have Pap smears and mammograms and are more likely to be diagnosed at a later stage of breast cancer. These women are less likely to receive standard treatments and more likely to have poor outcomes.

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, PL 111–148, includes an important component to establish standards for medical diagnostic equipment such as examination tables and chairs to improve access to health care for individuals with disabilities and I applaud Senator HARKIN for his leadership on that provision. As such, the legislation I propose today seeks to complement existing programs and other pending proposals. The Debbie Blanchard Access to Health Care for Individuals with Disabilities Act would empower individuals with disabilities with the information and tools they need to identify accessible providers. It would also increase awareness among health professionals of the need to provide an accessible environment. The bill provides for four key programs to achieve these goals.

First, this bill authorizes the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services to provide formula-based grants to States to create on-line directories of health care providers accessible to individuals with disabilities. States would not be required to engage in this activity, and the grants are strictly voluntary.

Second, it authorizes HHS to develop a pilot program to increase health care provider awareness of the need to provide accessible environments, examination rooms, and examination tables for individuals with disabilities.

Third, it authorizes the HHS Office on Disability, with the help of national organizations representing individuals with disabilities, to develop resources to support individuals with disabilities in their efforts to find accessible providers. Such resources include ''tips cards'' and questions to ask when calling a provider for the first time to make an appointment.

Finally, the bill authorizes HHS to create a National Advisory Committee on Access to Health Care for Individuals with Disabilities to ensure intra-agency coordination of efforts to improve access to care for individuals with disabilities.

The Debbie Blanchard Access to Health Care for Individuals with Disabilities Act would be a significant step in ensuring health care equity for the more than 50 million Americans who live with a disability. Debbie Blanchard's tragic passing should serve as a lesson on the barriers that exist for individuals with disabilities in accessing basic quality health care. We should take action to ensure that these barriers are eliminated to prevent Debbie's story from being repeated. I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this important legislation.

By Mr. MCCAIN:

S. 3908. A bill to ensure that private property, public safety, and human life are protected from flood hazards that directly result from post-fire watershed conditions that are created by wildfires on Federal land; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, today I am introducing legislation that would assist several communities in northern Arizona, and any other community in the United States, whose homes were damaged or destroyed in flash flood event caused by wildfires on federal lands. I am saddened to report that the flood in Arizona which is the genesis of this bill also killed a 12-year-old girl and caused an estimated $8 million in damage to the area's public infrastructure. While the flood itself occurred on July 20, 2010, the true account of this disaster actually began one month prior with a wildfire on the Coconino National Forest. The human-caused ''Schultz Fire'' severely burned 15,000 acres of forest land along the steep terrain of the San Francisco Peaks leaving little ground vegetation to absorb and hold back rainwater. After the fire was contained, the U.S. Forest Service quickly determined that residents living near the base of the Peaks would face a daily flooding threat from summer monsoon storms and publically urged them to purchase flood insurance. Less than two weeks later, a monsoon storm created a flash flood of rainwater, mud and wildfire debris that slammed into the homes below the Schultz burn area. Tragically, the affected homeowners who had purchased flood insurance as soon as they were alerted to the danger of flooding were deemed ineligible for coverage because Federal law mandates a 30-day waiting period before the policy takes effect.

This August I had an opportunity to tour the Schultz Fire burn and flood areas and also met with several affected homeowners. Needless to say they are deeply concerned that their homes remain threatened with every severe storm that passes through. This rural unincorporated community simply does not have the resources to cope

with a flood plain that didn't exist before the wildfire. While we were able to get a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers team to study and recommend some interim and long-term flood mitigation measures, much work remains to be done including additional soil and hydrological data collection which would assist in the planning and design of more permanent flood control projects.

This legislation would enable the FEMA Administrator to waive the 30-day waiting period for flood insurance for private property owners affected by wildfires. This bill would also clarify that the recently created FLAME Act Accounts, which were established by Congress to pay for wildfire supersession, can also be used for burn area recovery, including post-fire watershed flood prevention. With respect to the Schultz Fire, the bill would enhance coordination between the Army Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and other Federal, State and local government agencies by establishing a Schultz Fire Flood Area Task Force headed by the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency. This bill would also direct FEMA to complete a detailed study of the affected area to evaluate the potential of integrating various federal projects and programs into a long-term flood protection system. Finally, this bill would require that the Attorney General disclose any payments made under the Equal Access to Justice Act program that went to activist litigants who blocked the forest thinning project that many experts agree would have prevented the Schultz Fire from occurring.

The flood risk to this community will remain high for many years unless action is taken now. I strongly believe that because the Schultz Fire occurred on Federal land, the Federal Government is obligated to provide an appropriate level of disaster assistance, including Federal flood insurance, to these homeowners. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

By Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. BURRIS, Mr. REED, Mr. SANDERS, Mrs. HAGAN, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. CONRAD, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. WEBB, and Mr. BENNET):

S. 3914. A bill to amend title VIII of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to require the Secretary of Education to complete payments under such title to local educational agencies eligible for payments within 3 fiscal years; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I congratulate Child Care Resources of King County for 20 years of service to the community. This organization is a leader in King County and occupies a critical role for children and families within the community. Through promoting equity for all children, establishing community stability, and helping children prepare for school, Child Care Resources of King County has impacted and helped shape the lives of many Washingtonians.

As a former preschool teacher, on the first day of class it was easy to identify which students had participated in high-quality child care before entering my classroom. We know that children who participate in high-quality care are better prepared for school and more likely to lead a successful life. Child Care Resources of King County has worked tirelessly for 20 years to ensure children in King County have access to high-quality care and enter school well prepared. Additionally, they work to incorporate culturally relevant care that reflects a child's culture and language which builds positive self identity and improves school readiness.

I believe strongly in the Child Care Resources of King County and their mission. Congratulations to them on a job well done and I wish them twenty more years of continued success.

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. 3914

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

SECTION 1. TIMELY PAYMENTS.

Section 8010 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7710) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(d) TIMELY PAYMENTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), the Secretary shall pay a local educational agency the full amount that the agency is eligible to receive under this title for a fiscal year not later than September 30 of the second fiscal year following the fiscal year for which such amount has been appropriated if, not later than 1 calendar year following the fiscal year in which such amount has been appropriated, such local educational agency submits to the Secretary all the data and information necessary for the Secretary to pay the full amount that the agency is eligible to receive under this title for such fiscal year.

''(2) PAYMENTS WITH RESPECT TO FISCAL YEARS IN WHICH INSUFFICIENT FUNDS ARE APPROPRIATED.—For a fiscal year in which the amount appropriated under section 8014 is insufficient to pay the full amount a local educational agency is eligible to receive under this title, paragraph (1) shall be applied by substituting 'is available to pay the agency' for 'the agency is eligible to receive' each place it appears.''.

By Mrs. HUTCHISON (for herself and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 3916. A bill to require the Consumer Product Safety Commission to study and report on the impact on consumers of permitting an increase in the amount of ethanol blended with gasoline for use in gasoline-powered engines used in vehicles operated in interstate commerce, on public streets and roads, or offroad, appliances such as lawn mowers and other nonvehicular devices, and marine engines, and to require the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration to study and report on any safety or reliability impact of such an increase on motor vehicle engines and fuel systems; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Mrs. HUTCHISON: Mr. President, I rise today to introduce legislation that will protect our nation's consumers from adverse impacts that could result from a potential government mandate to increase the current percentage of ethanol which is blended with gasoline. Significant questions and concerns exist as to the effects of increasing the current blend percentage of ethanol into gasoline above its current level of 10 percentage for motor vehicles, equipment and engines. If the United States Government is going to require an increase of the ethanol blend, I believe it is necessary to conduct extensive studies to ensure no Americans are injured or suffer any economic damages as a result of that decision.

The legislation I am introducing today will require the Consumer Product Safety Commission to conduct a study of the potential impact consumers may face by increasing the amount of ethanol blended with gasoline or other petroleum products used for internal combustion engines. This study would examine how the higher blend would impact consumers in different regions of the country through interstate commerce, whether the cost increase is associated with the higher blend rate and most importantly, whether a higher blend of gasoline and ethanol poses danger to consumers' well being.

Additionally, my legislation would require the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration to conduct a study to determine whether the use of ethanol-gasoline blends of more than 10 percent will have an adverse impact on tailpipe emissions, exhaust temperatures, catalytic converters and motor engine performance.

I believe it is irresponsible for the United States Government to require an untested mandate, such an increase in the percentage of ethanol mixed with gasoline, without all tests having been performed to guarantee there are no detrimental consequences on any American. It is common sense for all of the science to be revealed before such an important decision is made, and that is what my legislation will do.

By Mr. HATCH (for himself, Mr. RISCH, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. ENZI, and Mr. BARRASSO):

S. 3919. A bill to remove the gray wolf from the list of threatened species or the list of endangered species published under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce S. 3919, an act to remove Endangered Species Act, ESA,

protections for gray wolves. Delisting of this species is long overdue.

Gray wolves are listed as endangered under the ESA in the United States, except in Minnesota where they are listed as threatened. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service removed ESA protection from these wolves in 2009, but subsequently reinstated protection under a court decision following a lawsuit.

Legislative action is the only solution to stop the endless cycle of litigation and return the sovereign ability of states to manage their wildlife. Gray wolves are the iconic species of the ESA. But we cannot let the preconceived and inaccurate perceptions surrounding this animal prevent us from doing our due diligence in providing protections and safeguards for other species including elk, deer, moose, and big horn sheep. With a population growth rate of 24 percent, gray wolf overpopulation is now doing significant damage to wildlife populations throughout the West and Midwest.

Gray wolf predation is erasing decades of effort and hundreds of millions invested in rebuilding healthy big game populations. Wolves do not know or care where recovery plan lines are drawn. They will roam wherever necessary to find adequate food and habitat. Research indicates that wolf and ungulate populations are generally inversely proportional and cyclical over relatively long periods of time.

Ill-advised experimentation and anti-management philosophy continues to be pushed by extreme animal rights and anti-sportsmen special interest groups. This war on the west threatens big game herds, proactive State wildlife management, use of renewable wildlife resources, and the western way of life. This bill, while viewed with suspicion and opposed with philosophical arguments by some environmental organizations, ensures that delicate wildlife populations are restored to healthy levels.

When Congress passed the ESA, it envisioned legislation to make certain that species would not become extinct. The key to success of the new law was finding a way to conserve and protect species truly in danger of becoming extinct. The gray wolf is not endangered as a species. There are thousands alive and well in North America. The ESA has become a vehicle by which some organizations and individuals seek to halt all activities on our public lands which they happen to oppose. I would submit to you that such use of the ESA was not envisioned nor would it have been condoned by a majority of those who originally crafted the law.

Some groups want to use the gray wolf as a surrogate for other agendas. Others have used it to raise a lot of money from citizens of this country truly concerned about the place of the wolf in our environment. Still others have used it for political purposes. What a shame that the laws of this great Nation can be subverted for purposes other than the reason the law was originally written.

The gray wolf has been protected by the ESA since 1973, the year the ESA was passed. The single exception to that classification is in the State of Minnesota where they are classified as threatened. The original recovery plan for the gray wolf in the Northern Rockies was written in 1974. The main States involved are owned largely by the Federal Government. Thirty percent of Montana, 50 percent of Wyoming, and 64 percent of Idaho is federally owned. Access to and use of the public lands and resources on them has a great deal to do with the economy of these sparsely populated States. When the economy suffers, so do these communities and these people.

The working men and women of our States have no alternative but to rely on continued access to and the use of grass, water, timber, and minerals from public lands to support their families. Those working people have mortgages to pay just like you and I; they have bills that are due each month; and they want to be able to feed and clothe their children just as you and I do.

We must recognize the legitimate concerns of the hundreds of honest, hardworking citizens who are being directly affected by the continued listing of the gray wolf on the ESA. In my opinion, we have a responsibility to protect their right to make an honest living and to live the lifestyle they have chosen.

I hope my colleagues will join me in this attempt to resolve this important issue.

By Mr. AKAKA (for himself, Mr. CARPER, and Mr. VOINOVICH):

S. 3922. A bill to underscore the importance of international nuclear safety cooperation for operating power reactors, encouraging the efforts of the Convention on Nuclear Safety, supporting progress in improving nuclear safety, and enhancing the public availability of nuclear safety information; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the Furthering International Nuclear Safety Act of 2010. This bipartisan legislation, which is cosponsored by Senators Carper and Voinovich, will enhance the implementation of the Convention on Nuclear Safety by taking a more systematic approach to improving civilian nuclear power safety.

The Chernobyl disaster in Ukraine in 1986 was the worst nuclear power accident in history and made clear the need for international nuclear safety norms. According to a report commissioned by United Nations agencies, millions of people were exposed to high doses of radiation and approximately 350,000 people were displaced from their homes. On top of this, the countries most directly impacted by the disaster were estimated to have suffered economic damages on the order of hundreds of billions of dollars, while thousands of square miles of agricultural and forest lands were removed from service.

In the aftermath of this accident, over 50 countries, led by the United States, worked together to develop the Convention on Nuclear Safety. This convention was formally established in 1994, and the United States joined in 1999. Through the cooperative nature of the convention, which relies on peer-reviewed national reports and the sharing of best practices, countries that are party to the treaty have been able to improve their nuclear safety.

Although civilian nuclear power programs have become safer, we must not be complacent. As history has shown, a nuclear accident in one country can have devastating effects across several countries. Currently there are over 400 civilian nuclear power reactors operating in 29 countries around the world, and at least 56 more are under construction. Countries such as Jordan, the United Arab Emirates, Indonesia, Libya, Thailand, and Vietnam are interested in starting civilian nuclear power programs. The construction of new nuclear power facilities, along with an increasing number of countries readying to build nuclear power plants, should be accompanied by greater attention to nuclear safety.

Earlier this year, the Government Accountability Office, GAO, completed a review of the Convention in which GAO obtained the views of 40 parties to the Convention, while carefully protecting individual respondent information. GAO found that the Convention has been very successful in improving nuclear safety, but made recommendations to the United States Government that would enhance the Convention's effectiveness.

The bill I am introducing today will implement GAO's recommendations and additional steps to improve safety. This bill requires the United States delegate to the Convention to take certain actions to enhance international nuclear safety. This includes the United States advocating that parties to the Convention more systematically assess their own progress in improving nuclear safety through the broader use of performance metrics. Additionally, to increase access to information about nuclear safety and implementation of the Convention, the delegate to the Convention will encourage parties to post their annual reports and answers to questions from other parties on the International Atomic Energy Agency's, IAEA, public website. IAEA will be encouraged to offer additional support, such as providing assistance as needed for the production of parties' national reports; support for Convention meetings, including language translation services; and providing additional technical support to improve civilian nuclear power program safety. Further, the United States delegate will encourage all countries that have or are considering establishing a civilian nuclear power program to join the Convention. Finally, this bill calls for the Secretary of State to lead the development

of a United States Government strategic plan for international nuclear safety cooperation for operating power reactors, and to report on the plan's implementation and the progress on implementing this bill.

International nuclear safety deserves our Nation's ongoing attention. As we approach the 25th anniversary of the Chernobyl disaster, we should be mindful that the use and expansion of nuclear power needs to be combined with supreme vigilance and concern for safety.

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. 3922

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 ''Furthering International Nuclear Safety Act of 2010''.

SEC. 2. PURPOSES.

The purposes of this Act are as follows:

(1) To recognize the paramount importance of international nuclear safety cooperation for operating power reactors.

(2) To further the efforts of the Convention on Nuclear Safety as a vital international forum on nuclear safety.

(3) To support progress in improving nuclear safety for countries that currently have or are considering the development of a civilian nuclear power program.

(4) To enhance the public availability of nuclear safety information.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means—

(A) the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate;

(B) the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate;

(C) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate;

(D) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives;

(E) the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives; and

(F) the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform of the House of Representatives.

(2) CONVENTION.—The term ''Convention'' means the Convention on Nuclear Safety, done at Vienna September 20, 1994, and ratified by the United States April 11, 1999.

(3) MEETING.—The term ''meeting'' means a meeting as described under Article 20, 21, or 23 of the Convention.

(4) NATIONAL REPORT.—The term ''national report'' means a report as described under Article 5 of the Convention.

(5) PARTY.—The term ''party'' means a nation that has formally joined the Convention through ratification or other means.

(6) SUMMARY REPORT.—The term ''summary report'' means a report as described under Article 25 of the Convention.

SEC. 4. UNITED STATES EFFORTS TO FURTHER INTERNATIONAL NUCLEAR SAFETY.

The President shall instruct the United States official serving as the delegate to the meetings of the Convention on Nuclear Safety pursuant to Article 24 of the Convention to use the voice, vote, and influence of the United States, while recognizing that these efforts by parties are voluntary, to encourage, where appropriate—

(1) parties to more systematically assess where and how they have made progress in improving safety, including where applicable through the incorporation of performance metric tools;

(2) parties to increase the number of national reports they make available to the public by posting them to a publicly available Internet Web site of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA);

(3) parties to expand public dissemination of written answers to questions raised by other parties about national reports by posting the information to a publicly available Internet Web site of the IAEA;

(4) the IAEA to further its support of the Convention, upon request by a party and where funding is available, by—

(A) providing assistance to parties preparing national reports;

(B) providing additional assistance to help prepare for and support meetings, including language translation services; and

(C) providing additional technical support to improve the safety of civilian nuclear power programs; and

(5) all countries that currently have or are considering the establishment of a civilian nuclear power program to formally join the Convention.

SEC. 5. STRATEGIC PLAN.

Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in cooperation with the heads of other relevant United States Government agencies, shall develop the United States Government's strategic plan and goals for international nuclear safety cooperation for operating power reactors and shall submit them to the appropriate congressional committees.

SEC. 6. REPORTS.

Not later than 180 days after the issuance of each of the first two summary reports of the Convention issued after the date of the enactment of this Act—

(1) the Secretary of State, in cooperation with the heads of other relevant United States Government agencies, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report that describes the status of implementing the strategic plan and achieving the goals set forth in section 5; and

(2) the United States official serving as the delegate to the meetings of the Convention shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report providing the status of achieving the actions set forth in section 4.

By Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 3925. A bill to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to improve the energy efficiency of, and standards applicable to, certain appliances and equipment, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources has worked diligently throughout this Congress to develop legislation that would strengthen our nation's energy security. In July of last year, on a strong bipartisan vote, the Committee reported the American Clean Energy Leadership Act of 2009, ACELA, and this past May, again with bipartisan votes, the Committee reported several amendments that would enhance ACELA. I know that other committees also have reported energy legislation, with the expectation that all of this work would be combined into a single bill that the full Senate could consider.

Unfortunately, the Senate has, so far, not been able to find a combination of these energy policy proposals that it can move. This situation is particularly unfortunate because many of the provisions caught in this energy policy grid-lock have no known opposition.

There is no rational reason why the Senate should not pass legislation which would save our nation energy, strengthen our economy, save Americans money, lower carbon dioxide emissions, and to which there is no known opposition, should not be passed by the Senate.

In an effort to bypass this grid-lock, I am pleased to introduce a bill which packages many of these consensus elements. The Implementation of National Consensus Appliance Agreements Act, INCAAA, consolidates all of the consensual legislative provisions regarding the Department of Energy's appliance and consumer product energy efficiency program that the Energy Committee has reported, along with four more-recent agreements, into one bill.

The DOE appliance standards program is one of the most powerful tools that our Nation has to reduce energy demand. It is a mature, broadly-supported program which has been estimated to have reduced the nation's electricity demand by about 10 percent.

The enactment of INCAAA would strengthen this program by establishing, or increasing, energy efficiency standards for several classes of products. Such new or improved standards have been agreed to by the manufacturers of these products as well by as the Nation's leading energy efficiency advocacy groups such as the American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy, the Alliance to Save Energy, and the Natural Resources Defense Council. INCAAA includes new efficiency standards for outdoor lighting, supported by the National Electrical Manufacturing Association and major lighting manufacturers such as General Electric, Osram Sylvania, Philips, and Acuity Brands.

It includes increased efficiency standards for furnaces, heat pumps, and central air conditioners, supported by the Air-Conditioning, Heating and Refrigeration Institute and its dozens of members, including Carrier, Johnson Controls, Rheem and Trane.

It includes new efficiency standards for portable lamps, supported by the American Lighting Association.

It includes increased energy and water efficiency standards for refrigerators and freezers, clothes washers and dryers, dishwashers, and room air-conditioners as supported by the Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers and its many members, including Electrolux, General Electric, Panasonic, and Whirlpool.

INCAAA also includes consensus standards and legislation reported by the Energy Committee covering smaller classes of products such as drinking

water dispensers, hot food holding cabinets, and electric spas. Finally, this bill strengthens DOE's operation and administration of the appliance standards programs to include accelerated rulemaking and updated decision-making criteria to include new developments such as emerging smart-grid technologies. It is important to note that the bill requires no new authorizations or spending. These changes would be integrated into and administered by the existing DOE program.

The American Council for an Energy Efficiency Economy estimates that INCAAA would save the Nation over 1.2 Quadrillion Btus of energy each year by 2030—enough energy to meet the needs of 6.5 million typical American households. ACEEE also estimated that INCAAA would save nearly 5 trillion gallons of water annually by 2030, roughly the amount of water needed to meet the current needs of every resident of Los Angeles for 25 years.

Broad Senate support for the provisions of INCAAA is demonstrated by the bipartisan votes in the Energy Committee when many elements of this bill were reported as a part of ACELA, or as amendments to ACELA. Broad support for these consensus standards among manufacturers and energy efficiency, and consumer groups is voiced in the letter written to the Senate Majority and Minority Leaders on August 13. In this letter, 16 manufacturing, energy efficiency advocacy, and consumer groups urged our Senate leadership to ''quickly pass several consensus appliance and equipment efficiency standards this session of Congress.''

Even if the Senate is unable to enact comprehensive energy legislation this year, enactment of the consensus agreements in this bill offers an opportunity to strengthen our economy by reducing energy use, saving consumers money, and improving the environment.

I urge my colleagues to support and co-sponsor this legislation and seek its enactment this year. While there are plenty of energy policy proposal Senators disagree on, the efficiency standards and program improvements in INCAAA deserves the Senate's unanimous support.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill and a letter of support be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 3925

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 ''Implementation of National Consensus Appliance Agreements Act''.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
Sec. 2. Energy conservation standards.
Sec. 3. Energy conservation standards for heat pump pool heaters.
Sec. 4. Portable light fixtures.
Sec. 5. GU–24 base lamps.
Sec. 6. Efficiency standards for bottle-type water dispensers, commercial hot food holding cabinets, and portable electric spas.
Sec. 7. Test procedure petition process.
Sec. 8. Energy efficiency provisions.
Sec. 9. Measuring icemaker energy.
Sec. 10. Credit for Energy Star smart appliances.
Sec. 11. Video game console energy efficiency study.
Sec. 12. Refrigerator and freezer standards.
Sec. 13. Room air conditioner standards.
Sec. 14. Uniform efficiency descriptor for covered water heaters.
Sec. 15. Clothes dryers.
Sec. 16. Standards for clothes washers.
Sec. 17. Dishwashers.
Sec. 18. Standards for certain incandescent reflector lamps and reflector lamps.
Sec. 19. Petition for amended standards.
Sec. 20. Efficiency standards for class A external power supplies.
Sec. 21. Prohibited acts.
Sec. 22. Outdoor lighting.
Sec. 23. Standards for commercial furnaces.
Sec. 24. Service over the counter, self-contained, medium temperature commercial refrigerators.
Sec. 25. Motor market assessment and commercial awareness program.
Sec. 26. Study of compliance with energy standards for appliances.
Sec. 27. Study of direct current electricity supply in certain buildings.
Sec. 28. Technical corrections.

SEC. 2. ENERGY CONSERVATION STANDARDS.

(a) DEFINITION OF ENERGY CONSERVATION STANDARD.—Section 321 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6291) is amended—

(1) by striking paragraph (6) and inserting the following:

''(6) ENERGY CONSERVATION STANDARD.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'energy conservation standard' means 1 or more performance standards that—

''(i) for covered products (excluding clothes washers, dishwashers, showerheads, faucets, water closets, and urinals), prescribe a minimum level of energy efficiency or a maximum quantity of energy use, determined in accordance with test procedures prescribed under section 323;

''(ii) for showerheads, faucets, water closets, and urinals, prescribe a minimum level of water efficiency or a maximum quantity of water use, determined in accordance with test procedures prescribed under section 323; and

''(iii) for clothes washers and dishwashers—

''(I) prescribe a minimum level of energy efficiency or a maximum quantity of energy use, determined in accordance with test procedures prescribed under section 323; and

''(II) include a minimum level of water efficiency or a maximum quantity of water use, determined in accordance with those test procedures.

''(B) INCLUSIONS.—The term 'energy conservation standard' includes—

''(i) 1 or more design requirements, if the requirements were established—

''(I) on or before the date of enactment of this subclause;

''(II) as part of a direct final rule under section 325(p)(4); or

''(III) as part of a final rule published on or after January 1, 2012; and

''(ii) any other requirements that the Secretary may prescribe under section 325(r).

''(C) EXCLUSION.—The term 'energy conservation standard' does not include a performance standard for a component of a finished covered product, unless regulation of the component is specifically authorized or established pursuant to this title.''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(67) EER.—The term 'EER' means energy efficiency ratio.

''(68) HSPF.—The term 'HSPF' means heating seasonal performance factor.''.

(b) EER AND HSPF TEST PROCEDURES.—Section 323(b) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6293(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(19) EER AND HSPF TEST PROCEDURES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (B), for purposes of residential central air conditioner and heat pump standards that take effect on or before January 1, 2015—

''(i) the EER shall be tested at an outdoor test temperature of 95 degrees Fahrenheit; and

''(ii) the HSPF shall be calculated based on Region IV conditions.

''(B) REVISIONS.—The Secretary may revise the EER outdoor test temperature and the conditions for HSPF calculations as part of any rulemaking to revise the central air conditioner and heat pump test method.''.

(c) CENTRAL AIR CONDITIONERS AND HEAT PUMPS.—Section 325(d) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6295(d)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(4) CENTRAL AIR CONDITIONERS AND HEAT PUMPS (EXCEPT THROUGH-THE-WALL CENTRAL AIR CONDITIONERS, THROUGH-THE-WALL CENTRAL AIR CONDITIONING HEAT PUMPS, AND SMALL DUCT, HIGH VELOCITY SYSTEMS) MANUFACTURED ON OR AFTER JANUARY 1, 2015.—

''(A) BASE NATIONAL STANDARDS.—

''(i) SEASONAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY RATIO.—The seasonal energy efficiency ratio of central air conditioners and central air conditioning heat pumps manufactured on or after January 1, 2015, shall not be less than the following:

''(I) Split Systems: 13 for central air conditioners and 14 for heat pumps.

''(II) Single Package Systems: 14.

''(ii) HEATING SEASONAL PERFORMANCE FACTOR.—The heating seasonal performance factor of central air conditioning heat pumps manufactured on or after January 1, 2015, shall not be less than the following:

''(I) Split Systems: 8.2.

''(II) Single Package Systems: 8.0.

''(B) REGIONAL STANDARDS.—

''(i) SEASONAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY RATIO.—The seasonal energy efficiency ratio of central air conditioners and central air conditioning heat pumps manufactured on or after January 1, 2015, and installed in States having historical average annual, population weighted, heating degree days less than 5,000 (specifically the States of Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, Nevada, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia) or in the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or any other territory or possession of the United States shall not be less than the following:

''(I) Split Systems: 14 for central air conditioners and 14 for heat pumps.

''(II) Single Package Systems: 14.

''(ii) ENERGY EFFICIENCY RATIO.—The energy efficiency ratio of central air conditioners (not including heat pumps) manufactured on or after January 1, 2015, and installed in the State of Arizona, California, New Mexico, or Nevada shall be not less than the following:

''(I) Split Systems: 12.2 for split systems having a rated cooling capacity less than 45,000 BTU per hour and 11.7 for products

having a rated cooling capacity equal to or greater than 45,000 BTU per hour.

''(II) Single Package Systems: 11.0.

''(iii) APPLICATION OF SUBSECTION (O)(6).—Subsection (o)(6) shall apply to the regional standards set forth in this subparagraph.

''(C) AMENDMENT OF STANDARDS.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Not later than January 1, 2017, the Secretary shall publish a final rule to determine whether the standards in effect for central air conditioners and central air conditioning heat pumps should be amended.

''(ii) APPLICATION.—The rule shall provide that any amendments shall apply to products manufactured on or after January 1, 2022.

''(D) CONSIDERATION OF ADDITIONAL PERFORMANCE STANDARDS OR EFFICIENCY CRITERIA.—

''(i) FORUM.—Not later than 4 years in advance of the expected publication date of a final rule for central air conditioners and heat pumps under subparagraph (C), the Secretary shall convene and facilitate a forum for interested persons that are fairly representative of relevant points of view (including representatives of manufacturers of the covered product, States, and efficiency advocates), as determined by the Secretary, to consider adding additional performance standards or efficiency criteria in the forthcoming rule.

''(ii) RECOMMENDATION.—If, within 1 year of the initial convening of such a forum, the Secretary receives a recommendation submitted jointly by such representative interested persons to add 1 or more performance standards or efficiency criteria, the Secretary shall incorporate the performance standards or efficiency criteria in the rulemaking process, and, if justified under the criteria established in this section, incorporate such performance standards or efficiency criteria in the revised standard.

''(iii) NO RECOMMENDATION.—If no such joint recommendation is made within 1 year of the initial convening of such a forum, the Secretary may add additional performance standards or efficiency criteria if the Secretary finds that the benefits substantially exceed the burdens of the action.

''(E) NEW CONSTRUCTION LEVELS.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—As part of any final rule concerning central air conditioner and heat pump standards published after June 1, 2013, the Secretary shall determine if the building code levels specified in section 327(f)(3)(C) should be amended subject to meeting the criteria of subsection (o) when applied specifically to new construction.

''(ii) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Any amended levels shall not take effect before January 1, 2018.

''(iii) AMENDED LEVELS.—The final rule shall contain the amended levels, if any.''.

(d) THROUGH-THE-WALL CENTRAL AIR CONDITIONERS, THROUGH-THE-WALL CENTRAL AIR CONDITIONING HEAT PUMPS, AND SMALL DUCT, HIGH VELOCITY SYSTEMS.—Section 325(d) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6295(d)) (as amended by subsection (c)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(5) STANDARDS FOR THROUGH-THE-WALL CENTRAL AIR CONDITIONERS, THROUGH-THE-WALL CENTRAL AIR CONDITIONING HEAT PUMPS, AND SMALL DUCT, HIGH VELOCITY SYSTEMS.—

''(A) DEFINITIONS.—In this paragraph:

''(i) SMALL DUCT, HIGH VELOCITY SYSTEM.—The term 'small duct, high velocity system' means a heating and cooling product that contains a blower and indoor coil combination that—

''(I) is designed for, and produces, at least 1.2 inches of external static pressure when operated at the certified air volume rate of 220–350 CFM per rated ton of cooling; and

''(II) when applied in the field, uses high velocity room outlets generally greater than 1,000 fpm that have less than 6.0 square inches of free area.

''(ii) THROUGH-THE-WALL CENTRAL AIR CONDITIONER; THROUGH-THE-WALL CENTRAL AIR CONDITIONING HEAT PUMP.—The terms 'through-the-wall central air conditioner' and 'through-the-wall central air conditioning heat pump' mean a central air conditioner or heat pump, respectively, that is designed to be installed totally or partially within a fixed-size opening in an exterior wall, and—

''(I) is not weatherized;

''(II) is clearly and permanently marked for installation only through an exterior wall;

''(III) has a rated cooling capacity no greater than 30,000 Btu/hr;

''(IV) exchanges all of its outdoor air across a single surface of the equipment cabinet; and

''(V) has a combined outdoor air exchange area of less than 800 square inches (split systems) or less than 1,210 square inches (single packaged systems) as measured on the surface area described in subclause (IV).

''(iii) REVISION.—The Secretary may revise the definitions contained in this subparagraph through publication of a final rule.

''(B) RULEMAKING.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Not later than June 30, 2011, the Secretary shall publish a final rule to determine whether standards for through-the-wall central air conditioners, through-the-wall central air conditioning heat pumps and small duct, high velocity systems should be established or amended.

''(ii) APPLICATION.—The rule shall provide that any new or amended standard shall apply to products manufactured on or after June 30, 2016.''.

(e) FURNACES.—Section 325(f) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6295(f)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(5) NON-WEATHERIZED FURNACES (INCLUDING MOBILE HOME FURNACES, BUT NOT INCLUDING BOILERS) MANUFACTURED ON OR AFTER MAY 1, 2013, AND WEATHERIZED FURNACES MANUFACTURED ON OR AFTER JANUARY 1, 2015.—

''(A) BASE NATIONAL STANDARDS.—

''(i) NON-WEATHERIZED FURNACES.—The annual fuel utilization efficiency of non-weatherized furnaces manufactured on or after May 1, 2013, shall be not less than the following:

''(I) Gas furnaces, 80 percent.

''(II) Oil furnaces, 83 percent.

''(ii) WEATHERIZED FURNACES.—The annual fuel utilization efficiency of weatherized gas furnaces manufactured on or after January 1, 2015, shall be not less than 81 percent.

''(B) REGIONAL STANDARD.—

''(i) ANNUAL FUEL UTILIZATION EFFICIENCY.—The Secretary shall by May 1, 2011, establish a standard for the annual fuel utilization efficiency of non-weatherized gas furnaces manufactured on or after May 1, 2013, and installed in States having historical average annual, population weighted, heating degree days equal to or greater than 5,000 (specifically the States of Alaska, Colorado, Connecticut, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Utah, Vermont, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming).

''(ii) APPLICATION OF SUBSECTION (O)(6).—Subsection (o)(6) shall apply to the regional standard set forth in this subparagraph.

''(iii) SEPARATE STANDARDS.—The Secretary may establish separate standards for furnaces to be installed in newly constructed buildings and for replacement in existing buildings.

''(C) AMENDMENT OF STANDARDS.—

''(i) NON-WEATHERIZED FURNACES.—

''(I) IN GENERAL.—Not later than January 1, 2014, the Secretary shall publish a final rule to determine whether the standards in effect for non-weatherized furnaces should be amended.

''(II) APPLICATION.—The rule shall provide that any amendments shall apply to products manufactured on or after January 1, 2019.

''(ii) WEATHERIZED FURNACES.——

''(I) IN GENERAL.—Not later than January 1, 2017, the Secretary shall publish a final rule to determine whether the standard in effect for weatherized furnaces should be amended.

''(II) APPLICATION.—The rule shall provide that any amendments shall apply to products manufactured on or after January 1, 2022.

''(D) NEW CONSTRUCTION LEVELS.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—As part of any final rule concerning furnace standards published after June 1, 2013, the Secretary shall determine if the building code levels specified in section 327(f)(3)(C) should be amended subject to meeting the criteria of subsection (o) when applied specifically to new construction.

''(ii) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Any amended levels shall not take effect before January 1, 2018.

''(iii) AMENDED LEVELS.—The final rule shall contain the amended levels, if any.''.

(f) EXCEPTION FOR CERTAIN BUILDING CODE REQUIREMENTS.—Section 327(f) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6297(f)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (3), by striking subparagraphs (B) through (F) and inserting the following:

''(B) The code does not contain a mandatory requirement that, under all code compliance paths, requires that the covered product have an energy efficiency exceeding 1 of the following levels:

''(i) The applicable energy conservation standard established in or prescribed under section 325.

''(ii) The level required by a regulation of the State for which the Secretary has issued a rule granting a waiver under subsection (d).

''(C) If the energy consumption or conservation objective in the code is determined using covered products, including any baseline building designs against which all submitted building designs are to be evaluated, the objective is based on the use of covered products having efficiencies not exceeding—

''(i) for residential furnaces, central air conditioners, and heat pumps, effective not earlier than January 1, 2013, and until such time as a level takes effect for the product under clause (ii)—

''(I) for the States described in section 325(f)(5)(B)(i)—

''(aa) 92 percent AFUE for gas furnaces; and

''(bb) 14 SEER for central air conditioners (not including heat pumps);

''(II) for the States and other localities described in section 325(d)(4)(B)(i) (except for the States of Arizona, California, Nevada, and New Mexico)—

''(aa) 90 percent AFUE for gas furnaces; and

''(bb) 15 SEER for central air conditioners;

''(III) for the States of Arizona, California, Nevada, and New Mexico—

''(aa) 92 percent AFUE for gas furnaces;

''(bb) 15 SEER for central air conditioners;

''(cc) an EER of 12.5 for air conditioners (not including heat pumps) with cooling capacity less than 45,000 Btu per hour; and

''(dd) an EER of 12.0 for air conditioners (not including heat pumps) with cooling capacity of 45,000 Btu per hour or more; and

''(IV) for all States—

''(aa) 85 percent AFUE for oil furnaces; and

''(bb) 15 SEER and 8.5 HSPF for heat pumps;

''(ii) the building code levels established pursuant to section 325; or

''(iii) the applicable standards or levels specified in subparagraph (B).

''(D) The credit to the energy consumption or conservation objective allowed by the code for installing a covered product having an energy efficiency exceeding the applicable standard or level specified in subparagraph (C) is on a 1-for-1 equivalent energy use or equivalent energy cost basis, which may take into account the typical lifetimes of the products and building features, using lifetimes for covered products based on information published by the Department of Energy or the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers.

''(E) If the code sets forth 1 or more combinations of items that meet the energy consumption or conservation objective, and if 1 or more combinations specify an efficiency level for a covered product that exceeds the applicable standards and levels specified in subparagraph (B)—

''(i) there is at least 1 combination that includes such covered products having efficiencies not exceeding 1 of the standards or levels specified in subparagraph (B); and

''(ii) if 1 or more combinations of items specify an efficiency level for a furnace, central air conditioner, or heat pump that exceeds the applicable standards and levels specified in subparagraph (B), there is at least 1 combination that the State has found to be reasonably achievable using commercially available technologies that includes such products having efficiencies at the applicable levels specified in subparagraph (C), except that no combination need include a product having an efficiency less than the level specified in subparagraph (B)(ii).

''(F) The energy consumption or conservation objective is specified in terms of an estimated total consumption of energy (which may be specified in units of energy or its equivalent cost).'';

(2) in paragraph (4)(B)—

(A) by inserting after ''building code'' the first place it appears the following: ''contains a mandatory requirement that, under all code compliance paths,''; and

(B) by striking ''unless the'' and all that follows through ''subsection (d)''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(5) REPLACEMENT OF COVERED PRODUCT.—Paragraph (3) shall not apply to the replacement of a covered product serving an existing building unless the replacement results in an increase in capacity greater than—

''(A) 12,000 Btu per hour for residential air conditioners and heat pumps; or

''(B) 20 percent for other covered products.''.

SEC. 3. ENERGY CONSERVATION STANDARDS FOR HEAT PUMP POOL HEATERS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—

(1) EFFICIENCY DESCRIPTOR.—Section 321(22) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6291(22)) is amended—

(A) in subparagraph (E), by inserting ''gas-fired'' before ''pool heaters''; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

''(F) For heat pump pool heaters, coefficient of performance of heat pump pool heaters.''.

(2) COEFFICIENT OF PERFORMANCE OF HEAT PUMP POOL HEATERS.—Section 321 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6291)) is amended by inserting after paragraph (25) the following:

''(25A) COEFFICIENT OF PERFORMANCE OF HEAT PUMP POOL HEATERS.—The term 'coefficient of performance of heat pump pool heaters' means the ratio of the capacity to power input value obtained at the following rating conditions: 50.0 °F db/44.2 °F wb outdoor air and 80.0 °F entering water temperatures, according to AHRI Standard 1160.''.

(3) THERMAL EFFICIENCY OF GAS-FIRED POOL HEATERS.—Section 321(26) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6291(26)) is amended by inserting ''gas-fired'' before ''pool heaters''.

(b) STANDARDS FOR POOL HEATERS.—Section 325(e)(2) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6295(e)(2)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''(2) The thermal efficiency of pool heaters'' and inserting the following:

''(2) POOL HEATERS.—

''(A) GAS-FIRED POOL HEATERS.—The thermal efficiency of gas-fired pool heaters''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(B) HEAT PUMP POOL HEATERS.—Heat pump pool heaters manufactured on or after the date of enactment of this subparagraph shall have a minimum coefficient of performance of 4.0.''.

SEC. 4. PORTABLE LIGHT FIXTURES.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—Section 321 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6291) (as amended by section 2(a)(2)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(69) ART WORK LIGHT FIXTURE.—The term 'art work light fixture' means a light fixture designed only to be mounted directly to an art work and for the purpose of illuminating that art work.

''(70) LED LIGHT ENGINE.—The term 'LED light engine' or 'LED light engine with integral heat sink' means a subsystem of an LED light fixture that—

''(A) includes 1 or more LED components, including—

''(i) an LED driver power source with electrical and mechanical interfaces; and

''(ii) an integral heat sink to provide thermal dissipation; and

''(B) may be designed to accept additional components that provide aesthetic, optical, and environmental control.

''(71) LED LIGHT FIXTURE.—The term 'LED light fixture' means a complete lighting unit consisting of—

''(A) an LED light source with 1 or more LED lamps or LED light engines; and

''(B) parts—

''(i) to distribute the light;

''(ii) to position and protect the light source; and

''(iii) to connect the light source to electrical power.

''(72) LIGHT FIXTURE.—The term 'light fixture' means a product designed to provide light that includes—

''(A) at least 1 lamp socket; and

''(B) parts—

''(i) to distribute the light;

''(ii) position and protect 1 or more lamps; and

''(iii) to connect 1 or more lamps to a power supply.

''(73) PORTABLE LIGHT FIXTURE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'portable light fixture' means a light fixture that has a flexible cord and an attachment plug for connection to a nominal 120-volt circuit that—

''(i) allows the user to relocate the product without any rewiring; and

''(ii) typically can be controlled with a switch located on the product or the power cord of the product.

''(B) EXCLUSIONS.—The term 'portable light fixture' does not include—

''(i) direct plug-in night lights, sun or heat lamps, medical or dental lights, portable electric hand lamps, signs or commercial advertising displays, photographic lamps, germicidal lamps, or light fixtures for marine use or for use in hazardous locations (as those terms are defined in ANSI/NFPA 70 of the National Electrical Code); or

''(ii) decorative lighting strings, decorative lighting outfits, or electric candles or candelabra without lamp shades that are covered by Underwriter Laboratories (UL) standard 588, 'Seasonal and Holiday Decorative Products'.''.

(b) COVERAGE.—Section 322(a) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6292(a)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraph (20) as paragraph (21); and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (19) the following:

''(20) Portable light fixtures.''.

(c) TEST PROCEDURES.—Section 323(b) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6293(b)) (as amended by section 2(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(20) LED FIXTURES AND LED LIGHT ENGINES.—Test procedures for LED fixtures and LED light engines shall be based on Illuminating Engineering Society of North America test procedure LM–79, Approved Method for Electrical and Photometric Testing of Solid-State Lighting Devices and an IES-approved test procedure for testing LED light engines.''.

(d) STANDARDS.—Section 325 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6295) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (ii) as subsection (kk); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (hh) the following:

''(ii) PORTABLE LIGHT FIXTURES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraphs (2) and (3), portable light fixtures manufactured on or after January 1, 2012, shall meet 1 or more of the following requirements:

''(A) Be a fluorescent light fixture that meets the requirements of the Energy Star Program for Residential Light Fixtures, Version 4.2.

''(B) Be equipped with only 1 or more GU–24 line-voltage sockets, not be rated for use with incandescent lamps of any type (as defined in ANSI standards), and meet the requirements of version 4.2 of the Energy Star program for residential light fixtures.

''(C) Be an LED light fixture or a light fixture with an LED light engine and comply with the following minimum requirements:

''(i) Minimum light output: 200 lumens (initial).

''(ii) Minimum LED light engine efficacy: 40 lumens/watt installed in fixtures that meet the minimum light fixture efficacy of 29 lumens/watt or, alternatively, a minimum LED light engine efficacy of 60 lumens/watt for fixtures that do not meet the minimum light fixture efficacy of 29 lumens/watt.

''(iii) All portable fixtures shall have a minimum LED light fixture efficacy of 29 lumens/watt and a minimum LED light engine efficacy of 60 lumens/watt by January 1, 2016.

''(iv) Color Correlated Temperature (CCT): 2700K through 4000K.

''(v) Minimum Color Rendering Index (CRI): 75.

''(vi) Power factor equal to or greater than 0.70.

''(vii) Portable luminaries that have internal power supplies shall have zero standby power when the luminaire is turned off.

''(viii) LED light sources shall deliver at least 70 percent of initial lumens for at least 25,000 hours.

''(D)(i) Be equipped with an ANSI-designated E12, E17, or E26 screw-based socket and be prepackaged and sold together with 1 screw-based compact fluorescent lamp or screw-based LED lamp for each screw-based socket on the portable light fixture.

''(ii) The compact fluorescent or LED lamps prepackaged with the light fixture

shall be fully compatible with any light fixture controls incorporated into the light fixture (for example, light fixtures with dimmers shall be packed with dimmable lamps).

''(iii) Compact fluorescent lamps prepackaged with light fixtures shall meet the requirements of the Energy Star Program for CFLs Version 4.0.

''(iv) Screw-based LED lamps shall comply with the minimum requirements described in subparagraph (C).

''(E) Be equipped with 1 or more single-ended, non-screw based halogen lamp sockets (line or low voltage), a dimmer control or high-low control, and be rated for a maximum of 100 watts.

''(2) REVIEW.—

''(A) REVIEW.—The Secretary shall review the criteria and standards established under paragraph (1) to determine if revised standards are technologically feasible and economically justified.

''(B) COMPONENTS.—The review shall include consideration of—

''(i) whether a separate compliance procedure is still needed for halogen fixtures described in subparagraph (E) and, if necessary, what an appropriate standard for halogen fixtures shall be;

''(ii) which of the specific technical criteria described in subparagraphs (A), (C), and (D)(iii) should be modified; and

''(iii) which fixtures should be exempted from the light fixture efficacy standard as of January 1, 2016, because the fixtures are primarily decorative in nature (as defined by the Secretary) and, even if exempted, are likely to be sold in limited quantities.

''(C) TIMING.—

''(i) DETERMINATION.—Not later than January 1, 2014, the Secretary shall publish amended standards, or a determination that no amended standards are justified, under this subsection.

''(ii) STANDARDS.—Any standards under this subsection take effect on January 1, 2016.

''(3) ART WORK LIGHT FIXTURES.—Art work light fixtures manufactured on or after January 1, 2012, shall—

''(A) comply with paragraph (1); or

''(B)(i) contain only ANSI-designated E12 screw-based line-voltage sockets;

''(ii) have not more than 3 sockets;

''(iii) be controlled with an integral high/low switch;

''(iv) be rated for not more than 25 watts if fitted with 1 socket; and

''(v) be rated for not more than 15 watts per socket if fitted with 2 or 3 sockets.

''(4) EXCEPTION FROM PREEMPTION.—Notwithstanding section 327, Federal preemption shall not apply to a regulation concerning portable light fixtures adopted by the California Energy Commission on or before January 1, 2014.''.

SEC. 5. GU–24 BASE LAMPS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—Section 321 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6291) (as amended by section 4(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(74) GU–24.—The term 'GU–24' '' means the designation of a lamp socket, based on a coding system by the International Electrotechnical Commission, under which—

''(A) 'G' indicates a holder and socket type with 2 or more projecting contacts, such as pins or posts;

''(B) 'U' distinguishes between lamp and holder designs of similar type that are not interchangeable due to electrical or mechanical requirements; and

''(C) 24 indicates the distance in millimeters between the electrical contact posts.

''(75) GU–24 ADAPTOR.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'GU–24 Adaptor' means a 1-piece device, pig-tail, wiring harness, or other such socket or base attachment that—

''(i) connects to a GU–24 socket on 1 end and provides a different type of socket or connection on the other end; and

''(ii) does not alter the voltage.

''(B) EXCLUSION.—The term 'GU–24 Adaptor' does not include a fluorescent ballast with a GU–24 base.

''(76) GU–24 BASE LAMP.—'GU–24 base lamp' means a light bulb designed to fit in a GU–24 socket.''.

(b) STANDARDS.—Section 325 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6295) (as amended by section 4(d)) is amended by inserting after subsection (ii) the following:

''(jj) GU–24 BASE LAMPS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—A GU–24 base lamp shall not be an incandescent lamp as defined by ANSI.

''(2) GU–24 ADAPTORS.—GU–24 adaptors shall not adapt a GU–24 socket to any other line voltage socket.''.

SEC. 6. EFFICIENCY STANDARDS FOR BOTTLE-TYPE WATER DISPENSERS, COMMERCIAL HOT FOOD HOLDING CABINETS, AND PORTABLE ELECTRIC SPAS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—Section 321 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6291) (as amended by section 5(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(77) BOTTLE-TYPE WATER DISPENSER.—The term 'bottle-type water dispenser' means a drinking water dispenser that is—

''(A) designed for dispensing hot and cold water; and

''(B) uses a removable bottle or container as the source of potable water.

''(78) COMMERCIAL HOT FOOD HOLDING CABINET.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'commercial hot food holding cabinet' means a heated, fully-enclosed compartment that—

''(i) is designed to maintain the temperature of hot food that has been cooked in a separate appliance;

''(ii) has 1 or more solid or glass doors; and

''(iii) has an interior volume of 8 cubic feet or more.

''(B) EXCLUSIONS.—The term 'commercial hot food holding cabinet' does not include—

''(i) a heated glass merchandising cabinet;

''(ii) a drawer warmer;

''(iii) a cook-and-hold appliance; or

''(iv) a mobile serving cart with both hot and cold compartments.

''(79) COMPARTMENT BOTTLE-TYPE WATER DISPENSER.—The term 'compartment bottle-type water dispenser' means a drinking water dispenser that—

''(A) is designed for dispensing hot and cold water;

''(B) uses a removable bottle or container as the source of potable water; and

''(C) includes a refrigerated compartment with or without provisions for making ice.

''(80) PORTABLE ELECTRIC SPA.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'portable electric spa' means a factory-built electric spa or hot tub that—

''(i) is intended for the immersion of persons in heated water circulated in a closed system; and

''(ii) is not intended to be drained and filled with each use.

''(B) INCLUSIONS.—The term 'portable electric spa' includes—

''(i) a filter;

''(ii) a heater (including an electric, solar, or gas heater);

''(iii) a pump;

''(iv) a control; and

''(v) other equipment, such as a light, a blower, and water sanitizing equipment.

''(C) EXCLUSIONS.—The term 'portable electric spa' does not include—

''(i) a permanently installed spa that, once installed, cannot be moved; or

''(ii) a spa that is specifically designed and exclusively marketed for medical treatment or physical therapy purposes.

''(81) WATER DISPENSER.—The term 'water dispenser' means a factory-made assembly that—

''(A) mechanically cools and heats potable water; and

''(B) dispenses the cooled or heated water by integral or remote means.''.

(b) COVERAGE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 322(a) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6292(a)) (as amended by section 4(b)(1)) is amended—

(A) by redesignating paragraph (21) as paragraph (24); and

(B) by inserting after paragraph (20) the following:

''(21) Bottle-type water dispensers and compartment bottle-type water dispensers.

''(22) Commercial hot food holding cabinets.

''(23) Portable electric spas.''.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) Section 324 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6294) is amended by striking ''(19)'' each place it appears in subsections (a)(3), (b)(1)(B), (b)(3), and (b)(5) and inserting ''(24)''.

(B) Section 325(l) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6295(l)) is amended by striking ''paragraph (19)'' each place it appears in paragraphs (1) and (2) and inserting ''paragraph (24)''.

(c) TEST PROCEDURES.—Section 323(b) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6293(b)) (as amended by section 4(c)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(21) BOTTLE-TYPE WATER DISPENSERS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Test procedures for bottle-type water dispensers and compartment bottle-type water dispensers shall be based on the document 'Energy Star Program Requirements for Bottled Water Coolers version 1.1' published by the Environmental Protection Agency.

''(B) INTEGRAL, AUTOMATIC TIMERS.—A unit with an integral, automatic timer shall not be tested under this paragraph using section 4D of the test criteria (relating to Timer Usage).

''(22) COMMERCIAL HOT FOOD HOLDING CABINETS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Test procedures for commercial hot food holding cabinets shall be based on the test procedures described in ANSI/ASTM F2140–01 (Test for idle energy rate-dry test).

''(B) INTERIOR VOLUME.—Interior volume shall be based under this paragraph on the method demonstrated in the document 'Energy Star Program Requirements for Commercial Hot Food Holding Cabinets' of the Environmental Protection Agency, as in effect on August 15, 2003.

''(23) PORTABLE ELECTRIC SPAS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Test procedures for portable electric spas shall be based on the test method for portable electric spas described in section 1604 of title 20, California Code of Regulations, as amended on December 3, 2008.

''(B) NORMALIZED CONSUMPTION.—Consumption shall be normalized under this paragraph for a water temperature difference of 37 degrees Fahrenheit.

''(C) ANSI TEST PROCEDURE.—If the American National Standards Institute publishes a test procedure for portable electric spas, the Secretary shall revise the procedure established under this paragraph, as determined appropriate by the Secretary.''.

(d) STANDARDS.—Section 325 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6295) (as amended by sections 4(d) and 5(b)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (kk) as subsection (oo); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (jj) the following:

''(kk) BOTTLE-TYPE WATER DISPENSERS.—Effective beginning January 1, 2012—

''(1) a bottle-type water dispenser shall not have standby energy consumption that is greater than 1.2 kilowatt-hours per day; and

''(2) a compartment bottle-type water dispenser shall not have standby energy consumption that is greater than 1.3 kilowatt-hours per day.

''(ll) COMMERCIAL HOT FOOD HOLDING CABINETS.—Effective beginning January 1, 2012, a commercial hot food holding cabinet shall have a maximum idle energy rate of 40 watts per cubic foot of interior volume.

''(mm) PORTABLE ELECTRIC SPAS.—Effective beginning January 1, 2012, a portable electric spa shall not have a normalized standby power rate of greater than 5 ($V^{2/3}$) Watts (in which 'V' equals the fill volume (in gallons)).

''(nn) REVISIONS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than January 1, 2013, the Secretary shall—

''(A) consider in accordance with subsection (o) revisions to the standards established under subsections (kk), (ll), and (mm); and

''(B)(i) publish a final rule establishing the revised standards; or

''(ii) make a finding that no revisions are technically feasible and economically justified.

''(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Any revised standards under this subsection take effect on January 1, 2016.''.

(e) PREEMPTION.—Section 327 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6297) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (6), by striking ''or'' after the semicolon at the end;

(B) in paragraph (7), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; or''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(8) is a regulation that—

''(A) establishes efficiency standards for bottle-type water dispensers, compartment bottle-type water dispensers, commercial hot food holding cabinets, or portable electric spas; and

''(B) is in effect on or before the date of enactment of this paragraph.''; and

(2) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (8)(B), by striking ''and'' after the semicolon at the end;

(B) in paragraph (9)—

(i) by striking ''except that—'' and all that follows through ''if the Secretary'' and inserting ''except that if the Secretary'';

(ii) by redesignating clauses (i) and (ii) as subparagraphs (A) and (B), respectively, and indenting appropriately; and

(iii) in subparagraph (B) (as so redesignated), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; or''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(10) is a regulation that—

''(A) establishes efficiency standards for bottle-type water dispensers, compartment bottle-type water dispensers, commercial hot food holding cabinets, or portable electric spas; and

''(B) is adopted by the California Energy Commission on or before January 1, 2013.''.

SEC. 7. TEST PROCEDURE PETITION PROCESS.

(a) CONSUMER PRODUCTS OTHER THAN AUTOMOBILES.—Section 323(b)(1) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6293(b)(1)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A)(i), by striking ''amend'' and inserting ''publish in the Federal Register amended''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(B) PETITIONS.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any covered product, any person may petition the Secretary to conduct a rulemaking—

''(I) to prescribe a test procedure for the covered product; or

''(II) to amend the test procedures applicable to the covered product to more accurately or fully comply with paragraph (3).

''(ii) DETERMINATION.—The Secretary shall—

''(I) not later than 90 days after the date of receipt of the petition, publish the petition in the Federal Register; and

''(II) not later than 180 days after the date of receipt of the petition, grant or deny the petition.

''(iii) BASIS.—The Secretary shall grant a petition if the Secretary finds that the petition contains evidence that, assuming no other evidence was considered, provides an adequate basis for determining that an amended test method would more accurately or fully comply with paragraph (3).

''(iv) EFFECT ON OTHER REQUIREMENTS.—The granting of a petition by the Secretary under this subparagraph shall create no presumption with respect to the determination of the Secretary that the proposed test procedure meets the requirements of paragraph (3).

''(v) RULEMAKING.—

''(I) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subclause (II), not later than the end of the 18-month period beginning on the date of granting a petition, the Secretary shall publish an amended test method or a determination not to amend the test method.

''(II) EXTENSION.—The Secretary may extend the period described in subclause (I) for 1 additional year.

''(III) DIRECT FINAL RULE.—The Secretary may adopt a consensus test procedure in accordance with the direct final rule procedure established under section 325(p)(4).''.

(b) CERTAIN INDUSTRIAL EQUIPMENT.—Section 343 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6314) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the following:

''(1) AMENDMENT AND PETITION PROCESS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—At least once every 7 years, the Secretary shall review test procedures for all covered equipment and—

''(i) publish in the Federal Register amended test procedures with respect to any covered equipment, if the Secretary determines that amended test procedures would more accurately or fully comply with paragraphs (2) and (3); or

''(ii) publish notice in the Federal Register of any determination not to amend a test procedure.

''(B) PETITIONS.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any class or category of covered equipment, any person may petition the Secretary to conduct a rulemaking—

''(I) to prescribe a test procedure for the covered equipment; or

''(II) to amend the test procedures applicable to the covered equipment to more accurately or fully comply with paragraphs (2) and (3).

''(ii) DETERMINATION.—The Secretary shall—

''(I) not later than 90 days after the date of receipt of the petition, publish the petition in the Federal Register; and

''(II) not later than 180 days after the date of receipt of the petition, grant or deny the petition.

''(iii) BASIS.—The Secretary shall grant a petition if the Secretary finds that the petition contains evidence that, assuming no other evidence was considered, provides an adequate basis for determining that an amended test method would more accurately promote energy or water use efficiency.

''(iv) EFFECT ON OTHER REQUIREMENTS.—The granting of a petition by the Secretary under this paragraph shall create no presumption with respect to the determination of the Secretary that the proposed test procedure meets the requirements of paragraphs (2) and (3).

''(v) RULEMAKING.—

''(I) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subclause (II), not later than the end of the 18-month period beginning on the date of granting a petition, the Secretary shall publish an amended test method or a determination not to amend the test method.

''(II) EXTENSION.—The Secretary may extend the period described in subclause (I) for 1 additional year.

''(III) DIRECT FINAL RULE.—The Secretary may adopt a consensus test procedure in accordance with the direct final rule procedure established under section 325(p).'';

(2) by striking subsection (c); and

(3) by redesignating subsections (d) and (e) as subsections (c) and (d), respectively.

SEC. 8. ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROVISIONS.

(a) DIRECT FINAL RULE.—Section 323(b)(1) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6293(b)(1)) (as amended by section 7(a)(2)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(C) TEST PROCEDURES.—The Secretary may, in accordance with the requirements of this subsection, prescribe test procedures for any consumer product classified as a covered product under section 322(b).

''(D) NEW OR AMENDED TEST PROCEDURES.—The Secretary shall direct the National Institute of Standards and Technology to assist in developing new or amended test procedures.''.

(b) CRITERIA FOR PRESCRIBING NEW OR AMENDED STANDARDS.—Section 325(o) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6295(o)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2)(B)—

(A) in clause (i)—

(i) in subclause (III), by adding before the semicolon ''and the estimated impact on average energy prices'';

(ii) in subclause (VI), by striking ''; and'' and inserting a semicolon;

(iii) by redesignating subclause (VII) as subclause (VIII); and

(iv) by inserting after subclause (VI) the following:

''(VII) the net energy, environmental, and economic impacts due to smart grid technologies or capabilities in a covered product that enable demand response or response to time-dependent energy pricing, taking into consideration the rate of use of the smart grid technologies or capabilities over the life of the product that is likely to result from the imposition of the standard; and''; and

(B) in clause (iii)—

(i) by striking ''(iii) If the Secretary finds'' and inserting the following:

''(iii) REBUTTABLE PRESUMPTION.—

''(I) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subclause (II), if the Secretary finds'';

(ii) in subclause (I) (as designated by clause (i)), by striking ''three'' and inserting ''4''; and

(iii) by striking the second sentence and inserting the following:

''(II) MULTIPLIER FOR CERTAIN PRODUCTS.—For any product with an average expected useful life of less than 4 years, the rebuttable presumption described in subclause (I) shall be determined using 75 percent of the average expected useful life of the product as a multiplier instead of 4.

''(III) REQUIREMENT FOR REBUTTAL OF PRESUMPTION.—A presumption described in subclause (I) may be rebutted only if the Secretary finds, based on clear and substantial evidence, that—

''(aa) the standard level would cause substantial hardship to the average consumer of the product, or to manufacturers supplying a significant portion of the market for the product, in terms of manufacturing or product cost or loss of product utility or features, the aggregate of which outweighs the benefits of the standard level;

''(bb) the standard and implementing regulations cannot reasonably be designed to avoid or mitigate any hardship described in item (aa) (including through the adoption of regional standards for the products identified in, and consistent with, paragraph (6) or other reasonable means consistent with this part) and the hardship cannot be avoided or mitigated through the procedures described in section 504 of the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7194); and

''(cc) the same or a substantially similar hardship with respect to a hardship described in item (aa) would not occur under a standard adopted in the absence of the presumption, but that otherwise meets the requirements of this section.

''(IV) PROHIBITED FACTORS FOR DETERMINATION.—

''(aa) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in item (bb), a determination by the Secretary that the criteria triggering a presumption described in subclause (I) are not met, or that the criterion for rebutting the presumption are met, shall not be taken into consideration by the Secretary in determining whether a standard is economically justified.

''(bb) EXCEPTION.—Evidence presented regarding the presumption may be considered by the Secretary in making a determination described in item (aa).''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(7) INCORPORATION OF SMART GRID TECHNOLOGIES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, after consultation with the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, may incorporate smart grid technologies or capabilities into standards described in subparagraph (B).

''(B) STANDARDS.—Standards referred to in subparagraph (A) shall meet the requirements of this section, including through incorporation of—

''(i) standards that provide credit for smart grid technologies or capabilities, if the smart grid technologies or capabilities provide net benefits substantially equivalent to benefits of products that meet the standards without smart grid technologies or capabilities, taking into consideration energy, economic, and environmental impacts (including emissions reductions from electrical generation); and

''(ii) 1 or more performance standards or design requirements, if the required smart grid technologies or capabilities are technologically feasible and provide net benefits, taking into consideration energy, economic, and environmental impacts (including emissions reductions from electrical generation).''.

(c) OBTAINMENT OF APPLIANCE INFORMATION FROM MANUFACTURERS.—Section 326 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6296) is amended by striking subsection (d) and inserting the following:

''(d) INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of carrying out this part, the Secretary shall promulgate proposed regulations not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Implementation of National Consensus Appliance Agreements Act, and after receiving public comment, final regulations not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of that Act, under this part or other provision of law administered by the Secretary, that shall require each manufacturer of a covered product, on a product specific basis, to submit information or reports to the Secretary—

''(A) in such form as the Secretary may adopt; and

''(B)(i) on an annual basis; or

''(ii) at longer-than-annual intervals, but not less frequently than once every 3 years.

''(2) FORM AND CONTENT OF REPORTS.—The form and content of each report required by a manufacturer of a covered product under paragraph (1)—

''(A) may vary by product type, as determined by the Secretary; and

''(B) shall include information or data regarding—

''(i) the annual shipments by the manufacturer of each class or category of covered products, subdivided, to the extent practicable, by—

''(I) energy efficiency, energy use, and, in the case of products with water use standards, water use;

''(II) the presence or absence of such efficiency related or energy consuming operational characteristics or components that are or may be required as part of a standard as the Secretary determines to be relevant for the purposes of carrying out this part; and

''(III) for covered products for which the Secretary may adopt regional standards, shipments to California and regional location of sale; and

''(ii) such other categories of information that the Secretary determines to be relevant to carry out this part, including such other information that may be necessary—

''(I) to establish and revise—

''(aa) test procedures;

''(bb) labeling rules; and

''(cc) energy conservation standards;

''(II) to ensure compliance with the requirements of this part; and

''(III) to estimate the impacts on consumers and manufacturers of energy conservation standards in effect as of the reporting date.

''(3) REQUIREMENTS OF SECRETARY IN PROMULGATING REGULATIONS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In promulgating regulations under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall consider—

''(i) existing public sources of information, including nationally recognized certification or verification programs of trade associations and States; and

''(ii)(I) whether some or all of the information described in paragraph (2) is submitted to another Federal agency; and

''(II) the means by which to minimize any duplication of requests for information by Federal agencies.

''(B) COORDINATION WITH TRADE ASSOCIATIONS AND STATES.—In carrying out subparagraph (A)(i), the Secretary shall, to the extent practicable, coordinate with trade associations and States—

''(i) to ensure the uniformity of the reporting requirements; and

''(ii) to mitigate reporting burdens.

''(4) MINIMIZATION OF BURDENS ON MANUFACTURERS.—In carrying out this subsection, the Secretary shall exercise the authority of the Secretary under this subsection in a manner designed to minimize burdens on the manufacturers of covered products.

''(5) REPORTING OF ENERGY INFORMATION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Section 11(d) of the Energy Supply and Environmental Coordination Act of 1974 (15 U.S.C. 796(d)) shall apply with respect to information obtained under this subsection to the same extent and in the same manner as section 11(d) of that Act applies with respect to energy information obtained under section 11 of that Act.

''(B) DISCLOSURE OF INDUSTRY AGGREGATED SHIPMENT DATA.—To protect individual company shipment information from public disclosure, the Secretary shall, to the maximum extent practicable, disclose to the public the information required under clauses (i) and (ii) of paragraph (2)(B) in a form that has been aggregated by industry associations that are authorized by manufacturers to report the aggregated information for public disclosure on behalf of the manufacturers.

''(6) LIMITATIONS.—Nothing in this subsection limits—

''(A) the ability of any State to collect information and data from manufacturers, industry or trade associations, or other entities, pursuant to the statutory or regulatory authority of the State;

''(B) the application of section 327(a) to any State law (including regulations); or

''(C) the authority of the Secretary to require each manufacturer of a covered product to submit information or reports regarding the compliance by the manufacturer with the requirements of this part.

''(7) PERIODIC REVISIONS.—In accordance with each procedure and criteria required under paragraph (1), the Secretary may periodically revise the reporting requirements adopted under this subsection.''.

(d) WAIVER OF FEDERAL PREEMPTION.—Section 327(d)(1) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6297(d)(1)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (B)—

(A) by inserting ''(i)'' before ''Subject to paragraphs''; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

''(ii) In making a finding under clause (i), the Secretary may not reject a petition for failure of the petitioning State or river basin commission to produce confidential information maintained by any manufacturer or distributor, or group or association of manufacturers or distributors, that the petitioning party has requested and not received.''; and

(2) in the matter following subparagraph (C)(ii), by adding at the end the following: ''Notwithstanding the preceding sentence, the Secretary may approve a waiver petition submitted by a State that does not have an energy plan and forecast if the waiver petition concerns a State regulation adopted pursuant to a notice and comment rulemaking proceeding.''.

(e) PERMITTING STATES TO SEEK INJUNCTIVE ENFORCEMENT.—Section 334 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6304) is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 334. PERMITTING STATES TO SEEK INJUNCTIVE ENFORCEMENT.

''(a) JURISDICTION.—The United States district courts shall have original jurisdiction of a civil action seeking an injunction to restrain—

''(1) any violation of section 332; and

''(2) any person from distributing in commerce any covered product that does not comply with an applicable rule under section 324 or 325.

''(b) AUTHORITY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), an action under subsection (a) shall be brought by—

''(A) the Commission; or

''(B) the attorney general of a State in the name of the State.

''(2) EXCEPTIONS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding paragraph (1), only the Secretary may bring an action under this section to restrain—

''(i) a violation of section 332(a)(3) relating to a requirement prescribed by the Secretary;

''(ii) a violation of section 332(a)(4) relating to a request by the Secretary under section 326(b)(2); or

''(iii) a violation of paragraph (8), (9), or (10) of section 332(a).

''(B) OTHER PROHIBITED ACTS.—An action under this section regarding a violation of paragraph (5) or (7) of section 332(a) shall be brought by—

''(i) the Secretary; or

''(ii) the attorney general of a State in the name of the State.

''(c) LIMITATION.—If an action under this section is brought by the attorney general of a State—

''(1) not less than 30 days before the date of commencement of the action, the State shall—

''(A) provide written notice to the Secretary and the Commission; and

''(B) provide the Secretary and the Commission with a copy of the complaint;

''(2) the Secretary and the Commission—

''(A) may intervene in the suit or action;

''(B) upon intervening, shall be heard on all matters arising from the suit or action; and

''(C) may file petitions for appeal;

''(3) no separate action may be brought under this section if, at the time written notice is provided under paragraph (1), the same alleged violation or failure to comply is the subject of a pending action, or a final judicial judgment or decree, by the United States under this Act; and

''(4) the action shall not be construed—

''(A) as to prevent the attorney general of a State, or other authorized officer of the State, from exercising the powers conferred on the attorney general, or other authorized officer of the State, by the laws of the State (including regulations); or

''(B) as to prohibit the attorney general of a State, or other authorized officer of the State, from proceeding in a Federal or State court on the basis of an alleged violation of any civil or criminal statute of the State.

''(d) VENUE; SERVICE OF PROCESS.—

''(1) VENUE.—An action under this section may be brought in the United States district court for—

''(A) the district in which the act, omission, or transaction constituting the applicable violation occurred; or

''(B) the district in which the defendant—

''(i) resides; or

''(ii) transacts business.

''(2) SERVICE OF PROCESS.—In an action under this section, process may be served on a defendant in any district in which the defendant resides or is otherwise located.''.

(f) TREATMENT OF APPLIANCES WITHIN BUILDING CODES.—Section 327 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6297) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(h) RECOGNITION OF ALTERNATIVE REFRIGERANT USES.—With respect to State or local laws (including regulations) prohibiting, limiting, or restricting the use of alternative refrigerants for specific end uses approved by the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency pursuant to the Significant New Alternatives Program under section 612 of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7671k) for use in a covered product under section 322(a)(1) considered on or after the date of enactment of this subsection, notice shall be provided to the Administrator before or during any State or local public comment period to provide to the Administrator an opportunity to comment.''.

(g) ENFORCEMENT.—Section 333 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6303) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking the first sentence and inserting the following:

''(1) PROHIBITED ACTS.—Except as provided in subsection (c), any person who knowingly violates any provision of section 332, or any regulation promulgated pursuant to that section, shall be subject to a civil penalty.'';

(B) in the second sentence—

(i) by striking ''Such penalties'' and inserting the following:

''(2) ASSESSMENT.—The penalties''; and

(ii) by striking ''violations of section 332(a)(5)'' and inserting ''violations of paragraphs (5), (8), (9), and (10) of section 332(a)'';

(C) in the third sentence, by striking ''Civil penalties'' and inserting the following:

''(3) COMPROMISE.—Civil penalties''; and

(D) by striking the fourth sentence and inserting the following:

''(4) SEPARATE VIOLATIONS.—Each violation of paragraph (1), (2), or (5) of section 332(a) shall constitute a separate violation with respect to each covered product, with a maximum civil penalty of up to $100,000 or $400 per unit, whichever is greater, and each day of violation of paragraph (3), (4), (8), (9), or (10) of section 332(a) shall constitute a separate violation, with a maximum civil penalty of $500 per day.''; and

(2) in subsection (d)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking the second sentence; and

(B) in paragraph (2)(A), by striking ''Unless an election is made within 30 calendar days after receipt of notice under paragraph (1) to have paragraph (3) apply with respect to such penalty,'' and inserting ''If the proposed penalty arises from an alleged violation of paragraph (3), (4), (5), (9), or (10) of section 332(a),'';

(3) by striking paragraph (3) and inserting the following:

''(3) FAILURE TO CERTIFY.—If the proposed penalty arises from an alleged failure to certify a covered product as required by section 332(a)(8), the Secretary shall assess the penalty, by order, after an informal adjudication conducted under section 555 of title 5, United States Code.''; and

(4) in paragraph (4), in the first sentence, by striking ''amount of such penalty'' and inserting ''amount of the penalty, plus interest assessed from the date upon which the assessment of a civil penalty became a final and unappealable order under paragraph (2),''.

SEC. 9. MEASURING ICEMAKER ENERGY.

Section 323(b) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6293(b)) (as amended by section 6(c)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(24) REFRIGERATOR AND FREEZER TEST PROCEDURE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than January 1, 2011, the Secretary shall finalize the test procedure proposed on May 27, 2010, with such modifications as the Secretary determines to be appropriate and consistent with this part.

''(B) RULEMAKING.—

''(i) INITIATION.—Not later than January 1, 2012, the Secretary shall initiate a rulemaking to amend the test procedure described in subparagraph (A) only to incorporate measured automatic icemaker energy use.

''(ii) FINAL RULE.—Not later than December 31, 2012, the Secretary shall publish a final rule regarding the matter described in clause (i).

''(25) ADDITIONAL HOME APPLIANCE TEST PROCEDURES.—

''(A) FINAL RULE.—Not later than October 1, 2011, the Secretary shall publish a final rule amending the residential clothes washer test procedure.

''(B) FINALIZATION OF TEST PROCEDURE FOR CLOTHES DRYERS.—Not later than April 1, 2011, the Secretary shall finalize the test procedure for clothes dryers proposed on June 29, 2010, with such modifications as the Secretary determines to be appropriate and consistent with this part.

''(C) FINALIZATION OF TEST PROCEDURE FOR ROOM AIR CONDITIONERS.—Not later than April 1, 2011, the Secretary shall finalize the test procedure for room air conditioners proposed on June 29, 2010, with such modifications as the Secretary determines to be appropriate and consistent with this part.''.

SEC. 10. CREDIT FOR ENERGY STAR SMART APPLIANCES.

Section 324A of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6294a) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(e) CREDIT FOR SMART APPLIANCES.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this subsection, after soliciting comments pursuant to subsection (c)(5), the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, in cooperation with the Secretary, shall determine whether to update the Energy Star criteria for residential refrigerators, refrigerator-freezers, freezers, dishwashers, clothes washers, clothes dryers, and room air conditioners to incorporate smart grid and demand response features.''.

SEC. 11. VIDEO GAME CONSOLE ENERGY EFFICIENCY STUDY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Part B of title III of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act is amended by inserting after section 324A (42 U.S.C. 6294a) the following:

''SEC. 324B. VIDEO GAME CONSOLE ENERGY EFFICIENCY STUDY.

''(a) INITIAL STUDY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall conduct a study of—

''(A) video game console energy use; and

''(B) opportunities for energy savings regarding that energy use.

''(2) INCLUSIONS.—The study under paragraph (1) shall include an assessment of all power-consuming modes and media playback modes of video game consoles.

''(b) ACTION ON COMPLETION.—On completion of the initial study under subsection (a), the Secretary shall determine, by regulation, using the criteria and procedures described in section 325(n)(2), whether to initiate a process for establishing minimum energy efficiency standards for video game console energy use.

''(c) FOLLOW-UP STUDY.—If the Secretary determines under subsection (b) that standards should not be established, the Secretary shall conduct a follow-up study in accordance with subsection (a) by not later than 3 years after the date of the determination.''.

(b) APPLICATION DATE.—Subsection (oo)(1) of section 325 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6295) (as redesignated by sections 4(d)(1) and 6(d)(1)) is amended by inserting ''or section 324B'' after ''subsection (l), (u), or (v)'' each place it appears.

SEC. 12. REFRIGERATOR AND FREEZER STANDARDS.

Section 325(b) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6295(b)) is amended by striking paragraph (4) and inserting the following:

''(4) REFRIGERATORS, REFRIGERATOR-FREEZERS, AND FREEZERS MANUFACTURED AS OF JANUARY 1, 2014.—

''(A) DEFINITION OF BUILT-IN PRODUCT CLASS.—In this paragraph, the term 'built-in product class' means a refrigerator, freezer, or refrigerator with a freezer unit that—

''(i) is 7.75 cubic feet or greater in total volume and 24 inches or less in cabinet depth (not including doors, handles, and custom front panels);

''(ii) is designed to be totally encased by cabinetry or panels attached during installation;

''(iii) is designed to accept a custom front panel or to be equipped with an integral factory-finished face;

''(iv) is designed to be securely fastened to adjacent cabinetry, walls, or floors; and

''(v) has 2 or more sides that are not—

''(I) fully finished; and

''(II) intended to be visible after installation.

''(B) MAXIMUM ENERGY USE.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Based on the test procedure in effect as of July 9, 2010, the maximum energy use allowed in kilowatt hours per year for each product described in the table contained in clause (ii) (other than refrigerators and refrigerator-freezers with total refrigerated volume exceeding 39 cubic feet and freezers with total refrigerated volume exceeding 30 cubic feet) that is manufactured on or after January 1, 2014, is specified in the table contained in that clause.

''(ii) STANDARDS EQUATIONS.—The allowed maximum energy use referred to in clause (i) is as follows:

"Standards Equations	
Product Description	
Automatic Defrost Refrigerator-Freezers	
Top Freezer w/o TTD ice	7.35 AV+ 207.0
Top Freezer w/ TTD ice	7.65 AV+ 267.0
Side Freezer w/o TTD ice	3.68 AV+ 380.6
Side Freezer w/ TTD ice	7.58 AV+304.5
Bottom Freezer w/o TTD ice	3.68 AV+ 367.2
Bottom Freezer w/ TTD ice	4.0 AV+ 431.2
Manual & Partial Automatic Refrigerator-Freezers	
Manual Defrost	7.06 AV+ 198.7
Partial Automatic	7.06 AV+198.7
All Refrigerators	
Manual Defrost	7.06AV+198.7
Automatic Defrost	7.35 AV+ 207.0
All Freezers	
Upright with manual defrost	5.66 AV+ 193.7
Upright with automatic defrost	8.70 AV+ 228.3
Chest with manual defrost	7.41 AV+ 107.8
Chest with automatic defrost	10.33 AV+ 148.1
Automatic Defrost Refrigerator-Freezers–Compact Size	
Top Freezer and Bottom Freezer	10.80 AV+ 301.8
Side Freezer	6.08 AV+ 400.8
Manual & Partial Automatic Refrigerator-Freezers–Compact Size	
Manual Defrost	8.03 AV+ 224.3
Partial Automatic	5.25 AV+ 298.5
All Refrigerators–Compact Size	
Manual defrost	8.03 AV+ 224.3
Automatic defrost	9.53 AV+ 266.3
All Freezers–Compact Size	
Upright with manual defrost	8.80 AV+ 225.7
Upright with automatic defrost	10.26 AV+ 351.9
Chest	9.41AV+ 136.8
Automatic Defrost Refrigerator-Freezers–Built-ins	
Top Freezer w/o TTD ice	7.84 AV+ 220.8
Side Freezer w/o TTD ice	3.93 AV+ 406.0
Side Freezer w/ TTD ice	8.08 AV+ 324.8
Bottom Freezer w/o TTD ice	3.91 AV+ 390.2
Bottom Freezer w/ TTD ice	4.25 AV+ 458.2
All Refrigerators–Built-ins	

Automatic Defrost	7.84 AV+ 220.8
All Freezers–Built-ins	
Upright with automatic defrost	9.32 AV+ 244.6

''(iii) FINAL RULES.—

''(I) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subclause (II), after the date of publication of each test procedure change made pursuant to section 323(b)(19), in accordance with the procedures described in section 323(e)(2), the Secretary shall publish final rules to amend the standards specified in the table contained in clause (ii).

''(II) EXCEPTION.—The standards amendment made pursuant to the test procedure change required under section 323(b)(19)(B) shall be based on the difference between—

''(aa) the average measured automatic ice maker energy use of a representative sample for each product class; and

''(bb) the value assumed by the Department of Energy for ice maker energy use in the test procedure published pursuant to section 323(b)(19)(A).

''(III) APPLICABILITY.—Section 323(e)(3) shall not apply to the rules described in this clause.

''(iv) FINAL RULE.—The Secretary shall publish any final rule required by clause (iii) by not later than the later of the date that is 180 days after—

''(I) the date of enactment of this clause; or

''(II) the date of publication of a final rule to amend the test procedure described in section 323(b)(19).

''(v) NEW PRODUCT CLASSES.—The Secretary may establish 1 or more new product classes as part of the final amended standard adopted pursuant to the test procedure change required under section 323(b)(19)(B) if the 1 or more new product classes are needed to distinguish among products with automatic icemakers.

''(vi) EFFECTIVE DATES OF STANDARDS.—

''(I) STANDARDS AMENDMENT FOR FIRST REVISED TEST PROCEDURE.—A standards amendment adopted pursuant to a test procedure change required under section 323(b)(19)(A) shall apply to any product manufactured as of January 1, 2014.

''(II) STANDARDS AMENDMENT AFTER REVISED TEST PROCEDURE FOR ICEMAKER ENERGY.—An amendment adopted pursuant to a test procedure change required under section 323(b)(19)(B) shall apply to any product manufactured as of the date that is 3 years after the date of publication of the final rule amending the standards.

''(vii) SLOPE AND INTERCEPT ADJUSTMENTS.—

''(I) IN GENERAL.—With respect to refrigerators, freezers, and refrigerator-freezers, the Secretary may, by rule, adjust the slope and intercept of the equations specified in the table contained in clause (ii)—

''(aa) based on the energy use of typical products of various sizes in a product class; and

''(bb) if the average energy use for each of the classes is the same under the new equations as under the equations specified in the table contained in clause (ii).

''(II) DEADLINE.—If the Secretary adjusts the slope and intercept of an equation described in subclause (I), the Secretary shall publish the final rule containing the adjustment by not later than July 1, 2011.

''(viii) EFFECT.—A final rule published under clause (iii) pursuant to the test procedure change required under section 323(b)(19)(B) or pursuant to clause (iv) shall not be considered to be an amendment to the standard for purposes of section 325(m).''.

SEC. 13. ROOM AIR CONDITIONER STANDARDS.

Section 325(c) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6295(c)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(3) MINIMUM ENERGY EFFICIENCY RATIO OF ROOM AIR CONDITIONERS MANUFACTURED ON OR AFTER JUNE 1, 2014.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Based on the test procedure in effect as of July 9, 2010, the minimum energy efficiency ratios of room air conditioners manufactured on or after June 1, 2014, shall not be less than that specified in the table contained in subparagraph (B).

''(B) MINIMUM ENERGY EFFICIENCY RATIOS.—The minimum energy efficiency ratios referred to in subparagraph (A) are as follows:

Without Reverse Cycle w/Louvers	
<6,000 Btu/h	11.2
6,000 to 7,999 Btu/h	11.2
8,000-13,999 Btu/h	11.0
14,000 to 19,999 Btu/h	10.8
20,000-27,999 Btu/h	9.4
≥28,000 Btu/h	9.0
Without Reverse Cycle w/o Louvers	
<6,000 Btu/h	10.2
6,000 to 7,999 Btu/h	10.2
8,000-10,999 Btu/h	9.7
11,000-13,999 Btu/h	9.6
14,000 to 19,999 Btu/h	9.4
≥20,000 Btu/h	9.4
With Reverse Cycle	
<20,000 w/Louvers Btu/h	9.9
≥ 20,000 w/Louvers Btu/h	9.4
<14,000 w/o Louvers Btu/h	9.4
≥14,000 w/o Louvers Btu/h	8.8
Casement	
Casement Only	9.6
Casement-Slider	10.5

''(C) FINAL RULE.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The final rule to amend the room air conditioner test procedure adopted pursuant to section 323(b)(20)(C) shall amend the standards specified in the

table contained in subparagraph (B) in accordance with the procedures described in section 323(e)(2).

''(ii) STANDBY AND OFF MODE ENERGY CONSUMPTION.—

''(I) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall integrate standby and off mode energy consumption into the amended energy efficiency ratios standards required under clause (i).

''(II) REQUIREMENTS.—The amended standards described in subclause (I) shall reflect the levels of standby and off mode energy consumption that meet the criteria described in section 325(o).

''(iii) APPLICABILITY.—

''(I) AMENDMENT OF STANDARD.—Section 323(e)(3) shall not apply to the amended standards described in clause (i).

''(II) AMENDED STANDARDS.—The amended standards required by this subparagraph shall apply to products manufactured on or after June 1, 2014.''.

SEC. 14. UNIFORM EFFICIENCY DESCRIPTOR FOR COVERED WATER HEATERS.

Section 325(e) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6295(e)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(5) UNIFORM EFFICIENCY DESCRIPTOR FOR COVERED WATER HEATERS.—

''(A) DEFINITIONS.—In this paragraph:

''(i) COVERED WATER HEATER.—The term 'covered water heater' means—

''(I) a water heater; and

''(II) a storage water heater, instantaneous water heater, and unfired water storage tank (as defined in section 340).

''(ii) FINAL RULE.—The term 'final rule' means the final rule published under this paragraph.

''(B) PUBLICATION OF FINAL RULE.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this paragraph, the Secretary shall publish a final rule that establishes a uniform efficiency descriptor and accompanying test methods for covered water heaters.

''(C) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the final rule shall be to replace with a uniform efficiency descriptor—

''(i) the energy factor descriptor for water heaters established under this subsection; and

''(ii) the thermal efficiency and standby loss descriptors for storage water heaters, instantaneous water heaters, and unfired water storage tanks established under section 342(a)(5).

''(D) EFFECT OF FINAL RULE.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, effective beginning on the effective date of the final rule, the efficiency standard for covered water heaters shall be denominated according to the efficiency descriptor established by the final rule.

''(ii) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The final rule shall take effect 1 year after the date of publication of the final rule under subparagraph (B).

''(E) CONVERSION FACTOR.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall develop a mathematical conversion factor for converting the measurement of efficiency for covered water heaters from the test procedures in effect on the date of enactment of this paragraph to the new energy descriptor established under the final rule.

''(ii) APPLICATION.—The conversion factor shall apply to models of covered water heaters affected by the final rule and tested prior to the effective date of the final rule.

''(iii) EFFECT ON EFFICIENCY REQUIREMENTS.—The conversion factor shall not affect the minimum efficiency requirements for covered water heaters otherwise established under this title.

''(iv) USE.—During the period described in clause (v), a manufacturer may apply the conversion factor established by the Secretary to rerate existing models of covered water heaters that are in existence prior to the effective date of the rule described in clause (v)(II) to comply with the new efficiency descriptor.

''(v) PERIOD.—Subclause (E) shall apply during the period—

''(I) beginning on the date of publication of the conversion factor in the Federal Register; and

''(II) ending on April 16, 2015.

''(F) EXCLUSIONS.—The final rule may exclude a specific category of covered water heaters from the uniform efficiency descriptor established under this paragraph if the Secretary determines that the category of water heaters—

''(i) does not have a residential use and can be clearly described in the final rule; and

''(ii) are effectively rated using the thermal efficiency and standby loss descriptors applied (as of the date of enactment of this paragraph) to the category under section 342(a)(5).

''(G) OPTIONS.—The descriptor set by the final rule may be—

''(i) a revised version of the energy factor descriptor in use as of the date of enactment of this paragraph;

''(ii) the thermal efficiency and standby loss descriptors in use as of that date;

''(iii) a revised version of the thermal efficiency and standby loss descriptors;

''(iv) a hybrid of descriptors; or

''(v) a new approach.

''(H) APPLICATION.—The efficiency descriptor and accompanying test method established under the final rule shall apply, to the maximum extent practicable, to all water heating technologies in use as of the date of enactment of this paragraph and to future water heating technologies.

''(I) PARTICIPATION.—The Secretary shall invite interested stakeholders to participate in the rulemaking process used to establish the final rule.

''(J) TESTING OF ALTERNATIVE DESCRIPTORS.—In establishing the final rule, the Secretary shall contract with the National Institute of Standards and Technology, as necessary, to conduct testing and simulation of alternative descriptors identified for consideration.

''(K) EXISTING COVERED WATER HEATERS.—A covered water heater shall be considered to comply with the final rule on and after the effective date of the final rule and with any revised labeling requirements established by the Federal Trade Commission to carry out the final rule if the covered water heater—

''(i) was manufactured prior to the effective date of the final rule; and

''(ii) complied with the efficiency standards and labeling requirements in effect prior to the final rule.''.

SEC. 15. CLOTHES DRYERS.

Section 325(g)(4) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6295(g)(4)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(D) MINIMUM ENERGY FACTORS FOR CLOTHES DRYERS.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Based on the test procedure in effect as of July 9, 2010, clothes dryers manufactured on or after January 1, 2015, shall comply with the minimum energy factors specified in the table contained in clause (ii).

''(ii) NEW STANDARDS.—The minimum energy factors referred to in clause (i) are as follows:

''Product Description	EF
Vented Electric Standard	3.17
Vented Electric Compact 120V	3.29
Vented Electric Compact 240V	3.05
Vented Gas	2.81
Vent-Less Electric Compact 240V	2.37
Vent-Less Electric Combination Washer/Dryer	1.95

''(iii) FINAL RULE.—

''(I) REQUIREMENTS.—

''(aa) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in item (bb), the final rule to amend the clothes dryer test procedure adopted pursuant to section 323(b)(20)(B) shall amend the energy factors standards specified in the table contained in clause (ii) in accordance with the procedures described in section 323(e)(2).

''(bb) EXCEPTION.—To establish a representative sample of compliant products, the Secretary shall select a sample of minimally compliant dryers that automatically terminate the drying cycle at not less than 4 percent remaining moisture content.

''(II) STANDBY AND OFF MODE ENERGY CONSUMPTION.—

''(aa) INTEGRATION.—The Secretary shall integrate standby and off mode energy consumption into the amended standards required under subclause (I).

''(bb) REQUIREMENTS.—The amended standards described in item (aa) shall reflect levels of standby and off mode energy consumption that meet the criteria described in section 325(o).

''(III) APPLICABILITY.—

''(aa) AMENDMENT OF STANDARD.—Section 323(e)(3) shall not apply to the amended standards described in subclause (I).

''(bb) AMENDED STANDARDS.—The amended standards required by this clause shall apply to products manufactured on or after January 1, 2015.''.

SEC. 16. STANDARDS FOR CLOTHES WASHERS.

Section 325(g)(9) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6295(g)(9)) is amended by striking subparagraph (B) and inserting the following:

''(B) AMENDMENT OF STANDARDS.—

''(i) PRODUCTS MANUFACTURED AS OF JANUARY 1, 2015.—

''(I) IN GENERAL.—Based on the test procedure in effect as of July 9, 2010, clothes washers manufactured as of January 1, 2015, shall comply with the minimum modified energy factors and maximum water factors specified in the table contained in subclause (II).

''(II) STANDARDS.—The minimum modified energy factors and maximum water factors referred to in subclause (I) are as follows:

	''MEF	WF
Top Loading—Standard	1.72	8.0
Top Loading—Compact	1.26	14.0
Front Loading—Standard	2.2	4.5
Front Loading—Compact (less than 1.6 cu. ft. capacity)	1.72	8.0

''(ii) PRODUCTS MANUFACTURED ON OR AFTER JANUARY 1, 2018.—

''(I) IN GENERAL.—Based on the test procedure in effect as of July 9, 2010, top-loading clothes washers manufactured on or after January 1, 2018, shall comply with the minimum modified energy factors and maximum water factors specified in the table contained in subclause (II).

''(II) STANDARDS.—The minimum modified energy factors and maximum water factors referred to in subclause (I) are as follows:

	''MEF	WF
Top Loading—Standard	2.0	6.0
Top Loading—Compact	1.81	11.6

''(iii) FINAL RULE.—

''(I) IN GENERAL.—The final rule to amend the clothes washer test procedure adopted pursuant to section 323(b)(20)(A) shall amend the standards described in clauses (i) and (ii) in accordance with the procedures described in section 323(e)(2).

''(II) STANDBY AND OFF MODE ENERGY CONSUMPTION.—

''(aa) INTEGRATION.—The Secretary shall integrate standby and off mode energy consumption into the amended modified energy factor standards required under subclause (I).

''(bb) REQUIREMENTS.—The amended modified energy factor standards described in item (aa) shall reflect levels of standby and off mode energy consumption that meet the criteria described in section 325(o).

''(III) APPLICABILITY.—

''(aa) AMENDMENT OF STANDARD.—Section 323(e)(3) shall not apply to the amended standards described in subclause (I).

''(bb) AMENDED STANDARDS FOR PRODUCTS MANUFACTURED ON OR AFTER JANUARY 1, 2015.—Amended standards required by this clause that are based on clause (i) shall apply to products manufactured on or after January 1, 2015.

''(cc) AMENDED STANDARDS FOR PRODUCTS MANUFACTURED ON OR AFTER JANUARY 1, 2018.—Amended standards required by this clause that are based on clause (ii) shall apply to products manufactured on or after January 1, 2018.''.

SEC. 17. DISHWASHERS.

Section 325(g)(10) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6295(g)(10)) is amended—

(1) by striking subparagraph (A);

(2) by redesignating subparagraph (B) as subparagraph (D); and

(3) by inserting before subparagraph (D) (as redesignated by paragraph (2)) the following:

''(A) DISHWASHERS MANUFACTURED ON OR AFTER JANUARY 1, 2010.—A dishwasher manufactured on or after January 1, 2010, shall—

''(i) for a standard size dishwasher, not exceed 355 kilowatt hours per year and 6.5 gallons per cycle; and

''(ii) for a compact size dishwasher, not exceed 260 kilowatt hours per year and 4.5 gallons per cycle.

''(B) DISHWASHERS MANUFACTURED ON OR AFTER JANUARY 1, 2013.—A dishwasher manufactured on or after January 1, 2013, shall—

''(i) for a standard size dishwasher, not exceed 307 kilowatt hours per year and 5.0 gallons per cycle; and

''(ii) for a compact size dishwasher, not exceed 222 kilowatt hours per year and 3.5 gallons per cycle.

''(C) REQUIREMENTS OF FINAL RULES.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Any final rule to amend the dishwasher test procedure after July 9, 2010, and before January 1, 2013, shall amend the standards described in subparagraph (B) in accordance with the procedures described in section 323(e)(2).

''(ii) APPLICABILITY.—

''(I) AMENDMENT OF STANDARD.—Section 323(e)(3) shall not apply to the amended standards described in clause (i).

''(II) AMENDED STANDARDS.—The amended standards required by this subparagraph shall apply to products manufactured on or after January 1, 2013.''.

SEC. 18. STANDARDS FOR CERTAIN INCANDESCENT REFLECTOR LAMPS AND REFLECTOR LAMPS.

Section 325(i) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6295(i)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(9) CERTAIN INCANDESCENT REFLECTOR LAMPS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than July 1, 2011, the Secretary shall publish a final rule establishing standards for incandescent reflector lamp types described in paragraph (1)(D)(i).

''(B) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The standards described in subparagraph (A) shall take effect on July 1, 2013.

''(C) STANDARDS.—In conducting a rulemaking for incandescent reflector lamps under this paragraph after the date of enactment of this paragraph, the Secretary shall consider the standards for all incandescent reflector lamps, including lamp types described in paragraph (1)(D)(i).

''(10) REFLECTOR LAMPS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than January 1, 2015, the Secretary shall publish a final rule establishing and amending standards for reflector lamps, including incandescent reflector lamps.

''(B) ADMINISTRATION.—In conducting the rulemaking for reflector lamps under this paragraph, the Secretary shall consider—

''(i) incandescent and nonincandescent technologies; and

''(ii) a new metric, other than lumens per watt, that is based on the photometric distribution of those lamps.

''(C) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The standards described in subparagraph (A) shall take effect not earlier than the date that is 3 years after the date of publication of the final rule, as determined by the Secretary.''.

SEC. 19. PETITION FOR AMENDED STANDARDS.

Section 325(n) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6295(n)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraph (3) as paragraph (5); and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (2) the following:

''(3) NOTICE OF DECISION.—Not later than 180 days after the date of receiving a petition, the Secretary shall publish in the Federal Register a notice of, and explanation for, the decision of the Secretary to grant or deny the petition.

''(4) NEW OR AMENDED STANDARDS.—Not later than 3 years after the date of granting a petition for new or amended standards, the Secretary shall publish in the Federal Register—

''(A) a final rule that contains the new or amended standards; or

''(B) a determination that no new or amended standards are necessary.''.

SEC. 20. EFFICIENCY STANDARDS FOR CLASS A EXTERNAL POWER SUPPLIES.

Section 325(u)(3) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6295(u)(3)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''(D)'' and inserting ''(E)''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(E) NONAPPLICATION OF NO-LOAD MODE ENERGY EFFICIENCY STANDARDS TO EXTERNAL POWER SUPPLIES FOR CERTAIN SECURITY OR LIFE SAFETY ALARMS OR SURVEILLANCE SYSTEMS.—

''(i) DEFINITION OF SECURITY OR LIFE SAFETY ALARM OR SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM.—In this subparagraph:

''(I) IN GENERAL.—The term 'security or life safety alarm or surveillance system' means equipment designed and marketed to perform any of the following functions (on a continuous basis):

''(aa) Monitor, detect, record, or provide notification of intrusion or access to real property or physical assets or notification of threats to life safety.

''(bb) Deter or control access to real property or physical assets, or prevent the unauthorized removal of physical assets.

''(cc) Monitor, detect, record, or provide notification of fire, gas, smoke, flooding, or other physical threats to real property, physical assets, or life safety.

''(II) EXCLUSION.—The term 'security or life safety alarm or surveillance system' does not include any product with a principal function other than life safety, security, or surveillance that—

''(aa) is designed and marketed with a built-in alarm or theft-deterrent feature; or

''(bb) does not operate necessarily and continuously in active mode.

''(ii) NONAPPLICATION OF NO-LOAD MODE REQUIREMENTS.—The No-Load Mode energy efficiency standards established by this paragraph shall not apply to an external power supply manufactured before July 1, 2017, that—

''(I) is an AC-to-AC external power supply;

''(II) has a nameplate output of 20 watts or more;

''(III) is certified to the Secretary as being designed to be connected to a security or life safety alarm or surveillance system component; and

''(IV) on establishment within the External Power Supply International Efficiency Marking Protocol, as referenced in the 'Energy Star Program Requirements for Single Voltage External Ac–Dc and Ac–Ac Power Supplies', published by the Environmental Protection Agency, of a distinguishing mark for products described in this clause, is permanently marked with the distinguishing mark.

''(iii) ADMINISTRATION.—In carrying out this subparagraph, the Secretary shall—

''(I) require, with appropriate safeguard for the protection of confidential business information, the submission of unit shipment data on an annual basis; and

''(II) restrict the eligibility of external power supplies for the exemption provided under this subparagraph on a finding that a substantial number of the external power supplies are being marketed to or installed in applications other than security or life safety alarm or surveillance systems.''.

SEC. 21. PROHIBITED ACTS.

Section 332(a) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6302(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking ''for any manufacturer or private labeler to distribute'' and inserting ''for any manufacturer (or representative of a manufacturer), distributor, retailer, or private labeler to offer for sale or distribute'';

(2) by striking paragraph (5) and inserting the following:

''(5) for any manufacturer (or representative of a manufacturer), distributor, retailer, or private labeler—

''(A) to offer for sale or distribute in commerce any new covered product that is not in conformity with an applicable energy conservation standard established in or prescribed under this part; or

''(B) if the standard is a regional standard that is more stringent than the base national standard, to offer for sale or distribute in commerce any new covered product having knowledge (consistent with the definition of 'knowingly' in section 333(b)) that the product will be installed at a location covered by a regional standard established in or prescribed under this part and will not be in conformity with the standard;'';

(3) in paragraph (6) (as added by section 306(b)(2) of Public Law 110–140 (121 Stat. 1559)), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon;

(4) by redesignating paragraph (6) (as added by section 321(e)(3) of Public Law 110–140 (121 Stat. 1586)) as paragraph (7);

(5) in paragraph (7) (as so redesignated)—

(A) by striking ''for any manufacturer, distributor, retailer, or private labeler to distribute'' and inserting ''for any manufacturer (or representative of a manufacturer), distributor, retailer, or private labeler to offer for sale or distribute''; and

(B) by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(6) by inserting after paragraph (7) (as so redesignated) the following:

''(8) for any manufacturer or private labeler to distribute in commerce any new covered product that has not been properly certified in accordance with the requirements established in or prescribed under this part;

''(9) for any manufacturer or private labeler to distribute in commerce any new covered product that has not been properly tested in accordance with the requirements established in or prescribed under this part; and

''(10) for any manufacturer or private labeler to violate any regulation lawfully promulgated to implement any provision of this part.''.

SEC. 22. OUTDOOR LIGHTING.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—

(1) COVERED EQUIPMENT.—Section 340(1) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6311(1)) is amended—

(A) by redesignating subparagraph (L) as subparagraph (O); and

(B) by inserting after subparagraph (K) the following:

''(L) Pole-mounted outdoor luminaires.

''(M) High light output double-ended quartz halogen lamps.

''(N) General purpose mercury vapor lamps.''.

(2) INDUSTRIAL EQUIPMENT.—Section 340(2)(B) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6311(2)(B)) is amended—

(A) by striking ''and'' before ''unfired hot water''; and

(B) by inserting after ''tanks'' the following: '', pole-mounted outdoor luminaires, high light output double-ended quartz halogen lamps, and general purpose mercury vapor lamps''.

(3) NEW DEFINITIONS.—Section 340 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6311) is amended—

(A) by redesignating paragraphs (22) and (23) (as amended by sections 312(a)(2) and 314(a) of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (121 Stat. 1564, 1569)) as paragraphs (23) and (24), respectively; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

''(25) AREA LUMINAIRE.—The term 'area luminaire' means a luminaire intended for lighting parking lots and general areas that—

''(A) is designed to mount on a pole using an arm, pendant, or vertical tenon;

''(B) has an opaque top or sides, but may contain a transmissive ornamental element;

''(C) has an optical aperture that is open or enclosed with a flat, sag, or drop lens;

''(D) is mounted in a fixed position with the optical aperture near horizontal, or tilted up; and

''(E) has photometric output measured using Type C photometry per IESNA LM–75–01.

''(26) DECORATIVE POSTTOP LUMINAIRE.—The term 'decorative posttop luminaire' means a luminaire with—

''(A) open or transmissive sides that is designed to be mounted directly over a pole using a vertical tenon or by fitting the luminaire directly into the pole; and

''(B) photometric output measured using Type C photometry per IESNA LM–75–01.

''(27) DUSK-TO-DAWN LUMINAIRE.—The term 'dusk-to-dawn luminaire' means a fluorescent, induction, or high intensity discharge luminaire that—

''(A) is designed to be mounted on a horizontal or horizontally slanted tenon or arm;

''(B) has an optical assembly that is coaxial with the axis of symmetry of the light source;

''(C) has an optical assembly that is—

''(i) a reflector or lamp enclosure that surrounds the light source with an open lower aperture; or

''(ii) a refractive optical assembly surrounding the light source with an open or closed lower aperture;

''(D) contains a receptacle for a photocontrol that enables the operation of the light source and is either coaxial with both the axis of symmetry of the light source and the optical assembly or offset toward the mounting bracket by less than 3 inches, or contains an integral photocontrol; and

''(E) has photometric output measured using Type C photometry per IESNA LM–75–01.

''(28) FLOODLIGHT LUMINAIRE.—The term 'floodlight luminaire' means an outdoor luminaire designed with a yoke, knuckle, or other mechanism allowing the luminaire to be aimed 40 degrees or more with its photometric distributions established with only Type B photometry in accordance with IESNA LM–75, revised 2001.

''(29) GENERAL PURPOSE MERCURY VAPOR LAMP.—The term 'general purpose mercury vapor lamp' means a mercury vapor lamp (as defined in section 321) that—

''(A) has a screw base;

''(B) is designed for use in general lighting applications (as defined in section 321);

''(C) is not a specialty application mercury vapor lamp; and

''(D) is designed to operate on a mercury vapor lamp ballast (as defined in section 321) or is a self-ballasted lamp.

''(30) HIGH LIGHT OUTPUT DOUBLE-ENDED QUARTZ HALOGEN LAMP.—The term 'high light output double-ended quartz halogen lamp' means a lamp that—

''(A) is designed for general outdoor lighting purposes;

''(B) contains a tungsten filament;

''(C) has a rated initial lumen value of greater than 6,000 and less than 40,000 lumens;

''(D) has at each end a recessed single contact, R7s base;

''(E) has a maximum overall length (MOL) between 4 and 11 inches;

''(F) has a nominal diameter less than ¾ inch (T6);

''(G) is designed to be operated at a voltage not less than 110 volts and not greater than 200 volts or is designed to be operated at a voltage between 235 volts and 300 volts;

''(H) is not a tubular quartz infrared heat lamp; and

''(I) is not a lamp marked and marketed as a Stage and Studio lamp with a rated life of 500 hours or less.

''(31) MEAN RATED LAMP LUMENS.—The term 'mean rated lamp lumens' means the rated lumens at—

''(A) 40 percent of rated lamp life for metal halide, induction, and fluorescent lamps; or

''(B) 50 percent of rated lamp life for high pressure sodium lamps.

''(32) OUTDOOR LUMINAIRE.—The term 'outdoor luminaire' means a luminaire that—

''(A) is intended for outdoor use and suitable for wet locations; and

''(B) may be shipped with or without a lamp.

''(33) POLE-MOUNTED OUTDOOR LUMINAIRE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'pole-mounted outdoor luminaire' means an outdoor luminaire that is designed to be mounted on an outdoor pole and is—

''(i) an area luminaire;

''(ii) a roadway and highmast luminaire;

''(iii) a decorative posttop luminaire; or

''(iv) a dusk-to-dawn luminaire.

''(B) EXCLUSIONS.—The term 'pole-mounted outdoor luminaire' does not include—

''(i) a portable luminaire designed for use at construction sites;

''(ii) a luminaire designed to be used in emergency conditions that—

''(I) incorporates a means of storing energy and a device to switch the stored energy supply to emergency lighting loads automatically on failure of the normal power supply; and

''(II) is listed and labeled as Emergency Lighting Equipment;

''(iii) a decorative gas lighting system;

''(iv) a luminaire designed explicitly for lighting for theatrical purposes, including performance, stage, film production, and video production;

''(v) a luminaire designed as theme elements in theme or amusement parks and that cannot be used in most general lighting applications;

''(vi) a luminaire designed explicitly for hazardous locations meeting the requirements of Underwriters Laboratories Standard 844—2006, 'Luminaires for Use in Hazardous (Classified) Locations';

''(vii) a residential pole-mounted luminaire that is not rated for commercial use utilizing 1 or more lamps meeting the energy conservation standards established under section 325(i) and mounted on a post or pole not taller than 10.5 feet above ground and not rated for a power draw of more than 145 watts;

''(viii) a floodlight luminaire;

''(ix) an outdoor luminaire designed for sports and recreational area use in accordance with IESNA RP–6 and utilizing an 875 watt or greater metal halide lamp;

''(x) a decorative posttop luminaire designed for using high intensity discharge lamps with total lamp wattage of 150 or less, or designed for using other lamp types with total lamp wattage of 50 watts or less;

''(xi) an area luminaire, roadway and highmast luminaire, or dusk-to-dawn luminaire designed for using high intensity discharge lamps or pin-based compact fluorescent lamps with total lamp wattage of 100 or less, or other lamp types with total lamp wattage of 50 watts or less; and

''(xii) an area luminaire, roadway and highmast luminaire, or dusk-to-dawn luminaire with a backlight rating less than 2 and with the maximum of the uplight or glare rating 3 or less.

''(34) ROADWAY AND HIGHMAST LUMINAIRE.—The term 'roadway and highmast luminaire' means a luminaire intended for lighting streets and roadways that—

''(A) is designed to mount on a pole by clamping onto the exterior of a horizontal or horizontally slanted, circular cross-section pipe tenon;

''(B) has opaque tops or sides;

''(C) has an optical aperture that is open or enclosed with a flat, sag or drop lens;

''(D) is mounted in a fixed position with the optical aperture near horizontal, or tilted up; and

''(E) has photometric output measured using Type C photometry per IESNA LM–75–01.

''(35) SPECIALTY APPLICATION MERCURY VAPOR LAMP.—The term 'specialty application mercury vapor lamp' means a mercury vapor lamp (as defined in section 321) that is—

''(A) designed only to operate on a specialty application mercury vapor lamp ballast (as defined in section 321); and

''(B) is marked and marketed for specialty applications only.

''(36) TARGET EFFICACY RATING.—The term 'target efficacy rating' means a measure of luminous efficacy of a luminaire (as defined in NEMA LE–6–2009).

''(37) TUBULAR QUARTZ INFRARED HEAT LAMP.—The term 'tubular quartz infrared heat lamp' means a double-ended quartz halogen lamp that—

''(A) is marked and marketed as an infrared heat lamp; and

''(B) radiates predominately in the infrared radiation range and in which the visible radiation is not of principle interest.''.

(b) STANDARDS.—Section 342 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6313) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(g) POLE-MOUNTED OUTDOOR LUMINAIRES.—

''(1) TARGET EFFICACY RATING, LUMEN MAINTENANCE AND POWER FACTOR REQUIREMENTS.—

''(A) DEFINITION OF MAXIMUM OF UPLIGHT OR GLARE RATING.—In this paragraph, the term 'maximum of uplight or glare rating' means, for any specific outdoor luminaire, the higher of the uplight rating or glare rating of the luminaire.

''(B) REQUIREMENTS.—Each pole-mounted outdoor luminaire manufactured on or after the date that is 3 years after the date of enactment of this subsection shall—

''(i) meet or exceed the target efficacy ratings in the following table when tested at full system input watts:

''Area, Roadway or Highmast luminaires

	Maximum of Uplight or Glare rating		
Backlight Rating	0 or 1	2 or 3	4 or 5
0 or 1	38	38	38
2 or 3	38	38	42
4 or 5	38	42	43

''Decorative Posttop or Dusk-to-Dawn luminaires

	Maximum of Uplight or Glare rating		
Backlight Rating	0 or 1	2 or 3	4 or 5
0 or 1	25	25	25
2 or 3	25	25	28
4 or 5	25	28	28;

''(ii) use lamps that have a minimum of 0.6 lumen maintenance, as determined in accordance with IESNA LM–80 for Solid State Lighting sources or calculated as mean rated lamp lumens divided by initial rated lamp lumens for other light sources; and

''(iii) have a power factor equal to or greater than 0.9 at ballast full power, except in the case of pole-mounted outdoor luminaires designed for using high intensity discharge lamps with a total rated lamp wattage of 150 watts or less, which shall have no power factor requirement.

''(2) CONTROL REQUIREMENTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), each area luminaire manufactured on or after the date that is 3 years after the date of enactment of this subsection shall be sold—

''(i) with integral controls that shall have the capability of operating the luminaire at full power and a minimum of 1 reduced power level plus off, in which case the power reduction shall be at least 30 percent of the rated lamp power; or

''(ii) with internal electronics and connective wiring or hardware (including wire leads, pigtails, inserts for wires, pin bases, or the equivalent) that—

''(I) collectively enable the area luminaire, if properly connected to an appropriate control system, to operate at full power and a minimum of 1 reduced power level plus off, in which case the reduced power level shall be at least 30 percent lower than the rated lamp power in response to signals sent by controls not integral to the luminaire as sold, that may be connected in the field; and

''(II) have connections from the components that are easily accessible in the luminaire housing and have instructions applicable to appropriate control system connections that are included with the luminaire.

''(B) NONAPPLICATION.—The control requirements of this paragraph shall not apply to—

''(i) pole-mounted outdoor luminaires utilizing probe-start metal halide lamps with rated lamp power greater than 500 watts operating in non-base-up positions; or

''(ii) pole-mounted outdoor luminaires utilizing induction lamps.

''(C) INTEGRAL PHOTOSENSORS.—Each pole-mounted outdoor luminaire sold with an integral photosensor shall use an electronic-type photocell.

''(3) RULEMAKING COMMENCING NOT LATER THAN 60 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF ENACTMENT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this subsection, the Secretary shall initiate a rulemaking procedure to determine whether the standards in effect for pole-mounted outdoor luminaires should be amended.

''(B) FINAL RULE.—

''(i) PUBLICATION.—The Secretary shall publish a final rule containing the amendments, if any, not later than January 1, 2013, or the date that is 33 months after the date of enactment of this subsection, whichever is later.

''(ii) APPLICATION.—Any amendments shall apply to products manufactured on or after January 1, 2016, or the date that is 3 years after the final rule is published in the Federal Register, whichever is later.

''(C) REVIEW.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—As part of the rulemaking required under this paragraph, the Secretary shall review and may amend the definitions, exclusions, test procedures, power factor standards, lumen maintenance requirements, labeling requirements, and additional control requirements, including dimming functionality, for all pole-mounted outdoor luminaires.

''(ii) FACTORS.—The review of the Secretary shall include consideration of—

''(I) obstacles to compliance and whether compliance is evaded by substitution of nonregulated luminaires for regulated luminaires or allowing luminaires to comply with the standards established under this part based on use of non-standard lamps, as provided for in section 343(a)(10)(D)(i)(II);

''(II) statistical data relating to pole-mounted outdoor luminaires that—

''(aa) the Secretary shall request not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this subsection from all identifiable manufacturers of pole-mounted outdoor luminaires, directly from manufacturers of pole-mounted outdoor luminaires or, in the case of members of the National Electrical Manufacturers Association, from the National Electrical Manufacturers Association;

''(bb) is considered necessary for the rulemaking; and

''(cc) shall be made publicly available in a manner that does not reveal manufacturer identity or confidential business information, in a timely manner for discussion at any public proceeding at which comment is solicited from the public in connection with the rulemaking, except that nothing in this subclause restricts the Secretary from seeking additional information during the course of the rulemaking; and

''(III) phased-in effective dates for different types of pole-mounted outdoor luminaires that are submitted to the Secretary in the manner provided for in section 325(p)(4), except that the phased-in effective dates shall not be subject to subparagraphs (A) and (B) of this paragraph.

''(4) RULEMAKING BEFORE FEBRUARY 1, 2015.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than February 1, 2015, the Secretary shall initiate a rulemaking procedure to determine whether the standards in effect for pole-mounted outdoor luminaires should be amended.

''(B) FINAL RULE.—

''(i) PUBLICATION.—The Secretary shall publish a final rule containing the amendments, if any, not later than January 1, 2018.

''(ii) APPLICATION.—Any amendments shall apply to products manufactured on or after January 1, 2021.

''(C) REVIEW.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—As part of the rulemaking required under this paragraph, the Secretary shall review and may amend the definitions, exclusions, test procedures, power factor standards, lumen maintenance requirements, labeling requirements, and additional control requirements, including dimming functionality, for all pole-mounted outdoor luminaires.

''(ii) FACTORS.—The review of the Secretary shall include consideration of—

''(I) obstacles to compliance and whether compliance is evaded by substitution of nonregulated luminaires for regulated luminaires or allowing luminaires to comply with the standards established under this part based on use of nonstandard lamps, as provided for in section 343(a)(10)(D)(i)(II);

''(II) statistical data relating to pole-mounted outdoor luminaires that—

''(aa) the Secretary considers necessary for the rulemaking and requests not later than June 1, 2015, from all identifiable manufacturers of pole-mounted outdoor luminaires, directly from manufacturers of pole-mounted outdoor luminaires and, in the case of

members of the National Electrical Manufacturers Association, from the National Electrical Manufacturers Association; and

''(bb) shall be made publicly available in a manner that does not reveal manufacturer identity or confidential business information, in a timely manner for discussion at any public proceeding at which comment is solicited from the public in connection with the rulemaking, except that nothing in this subclause restricts the Secretary from seeking additional information during the course of the rulemaking; and

''(III) phased-in effective dates for different types of pole-mounted outdoor luminaires that are submitted to the Secretary in the manner provided for in section 325(p)(4), except that the phased-in effective dates shall not be subject to subparagraphs (A) and (B) of this paragraph.

''(h) HIGH LIGHT OUTPUT DOUBLE-ENDED QUARTZ HALOGEN LAMPS.—A high light output double-ended quartz halogen lamp manufactured on or after January 1, 2016, shall have a minimum efficiency of—

''(1) 27 LPW for lamps with a minimum rated initial lumen value greater than 6,000 and a maximum initial lumen value of 15,000; and

''(2) 34 LPW for lamps with a rated initial lumen value greater than 15,000 and less than 40,000.

''(i) GENERAL PURPOSE MERCURY VAPOR LAMPS.—A general purpose mercury vapor lamp shall not be manufactured on or after January 1, 2016.''.

(c) TEST METHODS.—Section 343(a) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6314(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(10) POLE-MOUNTED OUTDOOR LUMINAIRES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—With respect to pole-mounted outdoor luminaires to which standards are applicable under section 342, the test methods shall be those described in this paragraph.

''(B) PHOTOMETRIC TEST METHODS.—For photometric test methods, the methods shall be those specified in—

''(i) IES LM–10–96—Approved Method for Photometric Testing of Outdoor Fluorescent Luminaires;

''(ii) IES LM–31–95—Photometric Testing of Roadway Luminaires Using Incandescent Filament and High Intensity Discharge Lamps;

''(iii) IES LM–79–08—Electrical and Photometric Measurements of Solid-State Lighting Products;

''(iv) IES LM–80–08—Measuring Lumen Maintenance of LED Light Sources;

''(v) IES LM–40–01—Life testing of Fluorescent Lamps;

''(vi) IES LM–47–01—Life testing of High Intensity Discharge (HID) Lamps;

''(vii) IES LM–49–01—Life testing of Incandescent Filament Lamps;

''(viii) IES LM–60–01—Life testing of Low Pressure Sodium Lamps; and

''(ix) IES LM–65–01—Life testing of Compact Fluorescent Lamps.

''(C) OUTDOOR BACKLIGHT, UPLIGHT, AND GLARE RATINGS.—For determining outdoor backlight, uplight, and glare ratings, the classifications shall be those specified in IES TM–15–07—Luminaire Classification System for Outdoor Luminaires with Addendum A.

''(D) TARGET EFFICACY RATING.—For determining the target efficacy rating, the procedures shall be those specified in NEMA LE–6–2009—'Procedure for Determining Target Efficacy Ratings (TER) for Commercial, Industrial and Residential Luminaires,' and all of the following additional criteria (as applicable):

''(i) The target efficacy rating shall be calculated based on the initial rated lamp lumen and rated watt value equivalent to the lamp with which the luminaire is shipped, or, if not shipped with a lamp, the target efficacy rating shall be calculated based on—

''(I) the applicable standard lamp as established by subparagraph (E); or

''(II) a lamp that has a rated wattage and rated initial lamp lumens that are the same as the maximum lamp watts and minimum lamp lumens labeled on the luminaire, in accordance with section 344(f).

''(ii) If the luminaire is designed to operate at more than 1 nominal input voltage, the ballast input watts used in the target efficacy rating calculation shall be the highest value for any nominal input voltage for which the ballast is designed to operate.

''(iii) If the luminaire is a pole-mounted outdoor luminaire that contains a ballast that is labeled to operate lamps of more than 1 wattage, the luminaire shall—

''(I) meet or exceed the target efficacy rating in the table in section 342(g)(1)(B) calculated in accordance with clause (i) for all lamp wattages that the ballast is labeled to operate;

''(II) be constructed such that the luminaire is only capable of accepting lamp wattages that produce target efficacy ratings that meet or exceed the values in the table in section 342(g)(1)(B) calculated in accordance with clause (i); or

''(III) be rated and prominently labeled for a maximum lamp wattage that results in the luminaire meeting or exceeding the target efficacy rating in the table in section 342(g)(1)(B) when calculated and labeled in accordance with clause (i).

''(iv) If the luminaire is a pole-mounted outdoor luminaire that is constructed such that the luminaire will only accept an ANSI Type–O lamp, the luminaire shall meet or exceed the target efficacy rating in the table in section 342(g)(1)(B) when tested with an ANSI Type–O lamp.

''(v) If the luminaire is a pole-mounted outdoor luminaire that is marketed to use a coated lamp, the luminaire shall meet or exceed the target efficacy rating in the table in section 342(g)(1)(B) when tested with a coated lamp.

''(vi) If the luminaire is a solid state lighting pole-mounted outdoor luminaire, the luminaire shall have its target efficacy rating calculated based on the combination of absolute luminaire lumen values and input wattages that results in the lowest possible target efficacy rating for any light source, including ranges of correlated color temperature and color rendering index values, for which the luminaire is marketed by the luminaire manufacturer.

''(vii) If the luminaire is a high intensity discharge pole-mounted outdoor luminaire using a ballast that has a ballast factor different than 1, the target efficacy rating of the luminaire shall be calculated by using the input watts needed to operate the lamp at full rated power, or by using the actual ballast factor of the ballast.

''(E) TABLE OF STANDARD LAMP TYPES.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The National Electrical Manufacturers Association shall develop and publish not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this paragraph and thereafter maintain and regularly update on a publicly available website a table including standard lamp types by wattage, ANSI code, initial lamp lumen value, lamp orientation, and lamp finish.

''(ii) INITIAL LAMP LUMEN VALUES.—The initial lamp lumen values shall—

''(I) be determined according to a uniform rating method and tested according to accepted industry practice for each lamp that is considered for inclusion in the table; and

''(II) in each case contained in the table, be the lowest known initial lamp lumen value that approximates typical performance in representative general outdoor lighting applications.

''(iii) ACTIONS.—On completion of the table required by this subparagraph and any updates to the table—

''(I) the National Electrical Manufacturers Association shall submit the table and any updates to the Secretary; and

''(II) the Secretary shall—

''(aa) publish the table and any comments that are included with the table in the Federal Register;

''(bb) solicit public comment on the table; and

''(cc) not later than 180 days after date of receipt of the table, after considering the factors described in clause (iv), adopt the table for purposes of this part.

''(iv) REBUTTABLE PRESUMPTION.—

''(I) IN GENERAL.—There shall be a rebuttable presumption that the table and any updates to the table transmitted by the National Electrical Manufacturers Association to the Secretary meets the requirements of this subparagraph, which may be rebutted only if the Secretary finds by clear and substantial evidence that—

''(aa) data have been included that were not the result of having applied applicable industry standards; or

''(bb) lamps have been included in the table that are not representative of general outdoor lighting applications.

''(II) CONFORMING CHANGES.—If subclause (I) applies, the National Electrical Manufacturers Association shall conform the published table of the Association to the table adopted by the Secretary.

''(v) NONTRANSMISSION OF TABLE.—If the National Electrical Manufacturers Association has not submitted the table to the Secretary within 1 year after the date of enactment of this paragraph, the Secretary shall develop, publish, and adopt the table not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this paragraph and update the table regularly.

''(F) AMENDMENT OF TEST METHODS.—The Secretary may, by rule, adopt new or additional test methods for pole-mounted outdoor luminaires in accordance with this section.''.

(d) LABELING.—Section 344 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6315) is amended—

(1) in subsections (d) and (e), by striking ''(h)'' each place it appears and inserting ''(i)'';

(2) by redesignating subsections (f) through (k) as subsections (g) through (l), respectively; and

(3) by inserting after subsection (e) the following:

''(f) LABELING RULES FOR POLE-MOUNTED OUTDOOR LUMINAIRES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (i), not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this paragraph, the Secretary shall establish labeling rules under this part for pole-mounted outdoor luminaires manufactured on or after the date on which standards established under section 342(g) take effect.

''(2) RULES.—The rules shall require—

''(A) for pole-mounted outdoor luminaires, that the luminaire, be marked with a capital letter 'P' printed within a circle in a conspicuous location on both the pole-mounted luminaire and its packaging to indicate that the pole-mounted outdoor luminaire conforms to the energy conservation standards established in section 342(g); and

''(B) for pole-mounted outdoor luminaires that do not contain a lamp in the same shipment with the luminaire and are tested with a lamp with a lumen rating exceeding the

standard lumen value specified in the table established under section 343(a)(10)(E), that the luminaire—

''(i) be labeled to identify the minimum rated initial lamp lumens and maximum rated lamp watts required to conform to the energy conservation standards established in section 342(g); and

''(ii) bear a statement on the label that states: 'Product violates Federal law when installed with a standard lamp. Use only a lamp that meets the minimum lumens and maximum watts provided on this label.'.''.

(e) PREEMPTION.—Section 345 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6316) is amended—

(1) in the first sentence of subsection (a), by striking ''The'' and inserting ''Except as otherwise provided in this section, the''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(i) POLE-MOUNTED OUTDOOR LUMINAIRES AND HIGH LIGHT OUTPUT DOUBLE-ENDED QUARTZ HALOGEN LAMPS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), section 327 shall apply to pole-mounted outdoor luminaires and high light output double-ended quartz halogen lamps to the same extent and in the same manner as the section applies under part B.

''(2) STATE ENERGY CONSERVATION STANDARDS.—Any State energy conservation standard that is adopted on or before January 1, 2015, pursuant to a statutory requirement to adopt efficiency standard for reducing outdoor lighting energy use enacted prior to January 31, 2008, shall not be preempted.''.

SEC. 23. STANDARDS FOR COMMERCIAL FURNACES.

Section 342(a) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6313(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(11) Warm air furnaces with an input rating of 225,000 Btu per hour or more and manufactured after January 1, 2011, shall meet the following standard levels:

''(A) Gas-fired units shall—

''(i) have a minimum combustion efficiency of 80 percent;

''(ii) include an interrupted or intermittent ignition device;

''(iii) have jacket losses not exceeding 0.75 percent of the input rating; and

''(iv) have power venting or a flue damper.

''(B) Oil-fired units shall have—

''(i) a minimum thermal efficiency of 81 percent;

''(ii) jacket losses not exceeding 0.75 percent of the input rating; and

''(iii) power venting or a flue damper.''.

SEC. 24. SERVICE OVER THE COUNTER, SELF-CONTAINED, MEDIUM TEMPERATURE COMMERCIAL REFRIGERATORS.

Section 342(c) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6313(c)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) by redesignating subparagraph (C) as subparagraph (E); and

(B) by inserting after subparagraph (B) the following:

''(C) The term 'service over the counter, self-contained, medium temperature commercial refrigerator' or '(SOC-SC-M)' means a medium temperature commercial refrigerator—

''(i) with a self-contained condensing unit and equipped with sliding or hinged doors in the back intended for use by sales personnel, and with glass or other transparent material in the front for displaying merchandise; and

''(ii) that has a height not greater than 66 inches and is intended to serve as a counter for transactions between sales personnel and customers.

''(D) The term 'TDA' means the total display area (ft^2) of the refrigerated case, as defined in AHRI Standard 1200.'';

(2) by redesignating paragraphs (4) and (5) as paragraphs (5) and (6), respectively; and

(3) by inserting after paragraph (3) the following:

''(4) Each SOC-SC-M manufactured on or after January 1, 2012, shall have a total daily energy consumption (in kilowatt hours per day) of not more than 0.6 x TDA + 1.0.''.

SEC. 25. MOTOR MARKET ASSESSMENT AND COMMERCIAL AWARENESS PROGRAM.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(1) electric motor systems account for about half of the electricity used in the United States;

(2) electric motor energy use is determined by both the efficiency of the motor and the system in which the motor operates;

(3) Federal Government research on motor end use and efficiency opportunities is more than a decade old; and

(4) the Census Bureau has discontinued collection of data on motor and generator importation, manufacture, shipment, and sales.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) DEPARTMENT.—The term ''Department'' means the Department of Energy.

(2) INTERESTED PARTIES.—The term ''interested parties'' includes—

(A) trade associations;

(B) motor manufacturers;

(C) motor end users;

(D) electric utilities; and

(E) individuals and entities that conduct energy efficiency programs.

(3) SECRETARY.—The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of Energy, in consultation with interested parties.

(c) ASSESSMENT.—The Secretary shall conduct an assessment of electric motors and the electric motor market in the United States that shall—

(1) include important subsectors of the industrial and commercial electric motor market (as determined by the Secretary), including—

(A) the stock of motors and motor-driven equipment;

(B) efficiency categories of the motor population; and

(C) motor systems that use drives, servos, and other control technologies;

(2) characterize and estimate the opportunities for improvement in the energy efficiency of motor systems by market segment, including opportunities for—

(A) expanded use of drives, servos, and other control technologies;

(B) expanded use of process control, pumps, compressors, fans or blowers, and material handling components; and

(C) substitution of existing motor designs with existing and future advanced motor designs, including electronically commutated permanent magnet, interior permanent magnet, and switched reluctance motors; and

(3) develop an updated profile of motor system purchase and maintenance practices, including surveying the number of companies that have motor purchase and repair specifications, by company size, number of employees, and sales.

(d) RECOMMENDATIONS; UPDATE.—Based on the assessment conducted under subsection (c), the Secretary shall—

(1) develop—

(A) recommendations to update the detailed motor profile on a periodic basis;

(B) methods to estimate the energy savings and market penetration that is attributable to the Save Energy Now Program of the Department; and

(C) recommendations for the Director of the Census Bureau on market surveys that should be undertaken in support of the motor system activities of the Department; and

(2) prepare an update to the Motor Master+ program of the Department.

(e) PROGRAM.—Based on the assessment, recommendations, and update required under subsections (c) and (d), the Secretary shall establish a proactive, national program targeted at motor end-users and delivered in cooperation with interested parties to increase awareness of—

(1) the energy and cost-saving opportunities in commercial and industrial facilities using higher efficiency electric motors;

(2) improvements in motor system procurement and management procedures in the selection of higher efficiency electric motors and motor-system components, including drives, controls, and driven equipment; and

(3) criteria for making decisions for new, replacement, or repair motor and motor system components.

SEC. 26. STUDY OF COMPLIANCE WITH ENERGY STANDARDS FOR APPLIANCES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall conduct a study of the degree of compliance with energy standards for appliances, including an investigation of compliance rates and options for improving compliance, including enforcement.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report describing the results of the study, including any recommendations.

SEC. 27. STUDY OF DIRECT CURRENT ELECTRICITY SUPPLY IN CERTAIN BUILDINGS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall conduct a study—

(1) of the costs and benefits (including significant energy efficiency, power quality, and other power grid, safety, and environmental benefits) of requiring high-quality, direct current electricity supply in certain buildings; and

(2) to determine, if the requirement described in paragraph (1) is imposed, what the policy and role of the Federal Government should be in realizing those benefits.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report describing the results of the study, including any recommendations.

SEC. 28. TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS.

(a) TITLE III OF ENERGY INDEPENDENCE AND SECURITY ACT OF 2007—ENERGY SAVINGS THROUGH IMPROVED STANDARDS FOR APPLIANCES AND LIGHTING.—

(1) Section 325(u) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6295(u)) (as amended by section 301(c) of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (121 Stat. 1550)) is amended—

(A) by redesignating paragraph (7) as paragraph (4); and

(B) in paragraph (4) (as so redesignated), by striking ''supplies is'' and inserting ''supply is''.

(2) Section 302(b) of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (121 Stat. 1551)) is amended by striking ''6313(a)'' and inserting ''6314(a)''.

(3) Section 342(a)(6) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6313(a)(6)) (as amended by section 305(b)(2) of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (121 Stat. 1554)) is amended—

(A) in subparagraph (B)—

(i) by striking ''If the Secretary'' and inserting the following:

''(i) IN GENERAL.—If the Secretary'';

(ii) by striking ''clause (ii)(II)'' and inserting ''subparagraph (A)(ii)(II)'';

(iii) by striking ''clause (i)'' and inserting ''subparagraph (A)(i)''; and

(iv) by adding at the end the following:

''(ii) FACTORS.—In determining whether a standard is economically justified for the

purposes of subparagraph (A)(ii)(II), the Secretary shall, after receiving views and comments furnished with respect to the proposed standard, determine whether the benefits of the standard exceed the burden of the proposed standard by, to the maximum extent practicable, considering—

''(I) the economic impact of the standard on the manufacturers and on the consumers of the products subject to the standard;

''(II) the savings in operating costs throughout the estimated average life of the product in the type (or class) compared to any increase in the price of, or in the initial charges for, or maintenance expenses of, the products that are likely to result from the imposition of the standard;

''(III) the total projected quantity of energy savings likely to result directly from the imposition of the standard;

''(IV) any lessening of the utility or the performance of the products likely to result from the imposition of the standard;

''(V) the impact of any lessening of competition, as determined in writing by the Attorney General, that is likely to result from the imposition of the standard;

''(VI) the need for national energy conservation; and

''(VII) other factors the Secretary considers relevant.

''(iii) ADMINISTRATION.—

''(I) ENERGY USE AND EFFICIENCY.—The Secretary may not prescribe any amended standard under this paragraph that increases the maximum allowable energy use, or decreases the minimum required energy efficiency, of a covered product.

''(II) UNAVAILABILITY.—

''(aa) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may not prescribe an amended standard under this subparagraph if the Secretary finds (and publishes the finding) that interested persons have established by a preponderance of the evidence that a standard is likely to result in the unavailability in the United States in any product type (or class) of performance characteristics (including reliability, features, sizes, capacities, and volumes) that are substantially the same as those generally available in the United States at the time of the finding of the Secretary.

''(bb) OTHER TYPES OR CLASSES.—The failure of some types (or classes) to meet the criterion established under this subclause shall not affect the determination of the Secretary on whether to prescribe a standard for the other types or classes.''; and

(B) in subparagraph (C)(iv), by striking ''An amendment prescribed under this subsection'' and inserting ''Notwithstanding subparagraph (D), an amendment prescribed under this subparagraph''.

(4) Section 342(a)(6)(B)(iii) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (as added by section 306(c) of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (121 Stat. 1559)) is transferred and redesignated as clause (vi) of section 342(a)(6)(C) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (as amended by section 305(b)(2) of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (121 Stat. 1554).

(5) Section 345 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6316) (as amended by section 312(e) of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (121 Stat. 1567)) is amended—

(A) by striking ''subparagraphs (B) through (G)'' each place it appears and inserting ''subparagraphs (B), (C), (D), (I), (J), and (K)'';

(B) by striking ''part A'' each place it appears and inserting ''part B''; and

(C) in subsection (h)(3), by striking ''section 342(f)(3)'' and inserting ''section 342(f)(4)''.

(6) Section 340(13) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6311(13)) (as amended by section 313(a) of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (121 Stat. 1568)) is amended—

(A) by striking subparagraphs (A) and (B) and inserting the following:

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'electric motor' means any of the following:

''(i) A motor that is a general purpose T-frame, single-speed, foot-mounting, polyphase squirrel-cage induction motor of the National Electrical Manufacturers Association, Design A and B, continuous rated, operating on 230/460 volts and constant 60 Hertz line power as defined in NEMA Standards Publication MG1–1987.

''(ii) A motor incorporating the design elements described in clause (i), but is configured to incorporate 1 or more of the following variations:

''(I) U-frame motor.

''(II) NEMA Design C motor.

''(III) Close-coupled pump motor.

''(IV) Footless motor.

''(V) Vertical solid shaft normal thrust motor (as tested in a horizontal configuration).

''(VI) 8-pole motor.

''(VII) Poly-phase motor with a voltage rating of not more than 600 volts (other than 230 volts or 460 volts, or both, or can be operated on 230 volts or 460 volts, or both).''; and

(B) by redesignating subparagraphs (C) through (I) as subparagraphs (B) through (H), respectively.

(7)(A) Section 342(b) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6313(b)) is amended—

(i) in paragraph (1), by striking ''paragraph (2)'' and inserting ''paragraph (3)'';

(ii) by redesignating paragraphs (2) and (3) as paragraphs (3) and (4);

(iii) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following:

''(2) STANDARDS EFFECTIVE BEGINNING DECEMBER 19, 2010.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Except for definite purpose motors, special purpose motors, and those motors exempted by the Secretary under paragraph (3) and except as provided for in subparagraphs (B), (C), and (D), each electric motor manufactured with power ratings from 1 to 200 horsepower (alone or as a component of another piece of equipment) on or after December 19, 2010, shall have a nominal full load efficiency of not less than the nominal full load efficiency described in NEMA MG–1 (2006) Table 12–12.

''(B) FIRE PUMP ELECTRIC MOTORS.—Except for those motors exempted by the Secretary under paragraph (3), each fire pump electric motor manufactured with power ratings from 1 to 200 horsepower (alone or as a component of another piece of equipment) on or after December 19, 2010, shall have a nominal full load efficiency that is not less than the nominal full load efficiency described in NEMA MG–1 (2006) Table 12–11.

''(C) NEMA DESIGN B ELECTRIC MOTORS.—Except for those motors exempted by the Secretary under paragraph (3), each NEMA Design B electric motor with power ratings of more than 200 horsepower, but not greater than 500 horsepower, manufactured (alone or as a component of another piece of equipment) on or after December 19, 2010, shall have a nominal full load efficiency of not less than the nominal full load efficiency described in NEMA MG–1 (2006) Table 12–11.

''(D) MOTORS INCORPORATING CERTAIN DESIGN ELEMENTS.—Except for those motors exempted by the Secretary under paragraph (3), each electric motor described in section 340(13)(A)(ii) manufactured with power ratings from 1 to 200 horsepower (alone or as a component of another piece of equipment) on or after December 19, 2010, shall have a nominal full load efficiency of not less than the nominal full load efficiency described in NEMA MG–1 (2006) Table 12–11.''; and

(iv) in paragraph (3) (as redesignated by clause (ii)), by striking ''paragraph (1)'' each place it appears in subparagraphs (A) and (D) and inserting ''paragraphs (1) and (2)''.

(B) Section 313 of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (121 Stat. 1568) is repealed.

(C) The amendments made by—

(i) subparagraph (A) take effect on December 19, 2010; and

(ii) subparagraph (B) take effect on December 19, 2007.

(8) Section 321(30)(D)(i)(III) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6291(30)(D)(i)(III)) (as amended by section 321(a)(1)(A) of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (121 Stat. 1574)) is amended by inserting before the semicolon the following: ''or, in the case of a modified spectrum lamp, not less than 232 lumens and not more than 1,950 lumens''.

(9) Section 321(30)(T) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6291(30)(T) (as amended by section 321(a)(1)(B) of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (121 Stat. 1574)) is amended—

(A) in clause (i)—

(i) by striking the comma after ''household appliance'' and inserting ''and''; and

(ii) by striking ''and is sold at retail,''; and

(B) in clause (ii), by inserting ''when sold at retail,'' before ''is designated''.

(10) Section 325(i) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6295(i)) (as amended by sections 321(a)(3)(A) and 322(b) of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (121 Stat. 1577, 1588)) is amended by striking the subsection designation and all that follows through the end of paragraph (8) and inserting the following:

''(i) GENERAL SERVICE FLUORESCENT LAMPS, GENERAL SERVICE INCANDESCENT LAMPS, INTERMEDIATE BASE INCANDESCENT LAMPS, CANDELABRA BASE INCANDESCENT LAMPS, AND INCANDESCENT REFLECTOR LAMPS.—

''(1) ENERGY EFFICIENCY STANDARDS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Each of the following general service fluorescent lamps, general service incandescent lamps, intermediate base incandescent lamps, candelabra base incandescent lamps, and incandescent reflector lamps manufactured after the effective date specified in the tables listed in this subparagraph shall meet or exceed the standards established in the following tables:

''FLUORESCENT LAMPS

Lamp Type	Nominal Lamp Wattage	Minimum CRI	Minimum Average Lamp Efficacy (LPW)	Effective Date (Period of Months)
4-foot medium bi-pin	>35 W	69	75.0	36
	>35 W	45	75.0	36

''FLUORESCENT LAMPS—Continued

Lamp Type	Nominal Lamp Wattage	Minimum CRI	Minimum Average Lamp Efficacy (LPW)	Effective Date (Period of Months)
2-foot U-shaped	>35 W	69	68.0	36
	≤35 W	45	64.0	36
8-foot slimline	>65 W	69	80.0	18
	≤65 W	45	80.0	18
8-foot high output	>100 W	69	80.0	18
	≤100 W	45	80.0	18

''INCANDESCENT REFLECTOR LAMPS

Nominal Lamp Wattage	Minimum Average Lamp Efficacy (LPW)	Effective Date (Period of Months)
40–50	10.5	36
51–66	11.0	36

''INCANDESCENT REFLECTOR LAMPS—Continued

Nominal Lamp Wattage	Minimum Average Lamp Efficacy (LPW)	Effective Date (Period of Months)
67–85	12.5	36
86–115	14.0	36

''INCANDESCENT REFLECTOR LAMPS—Continued

Nominal Lamp Wattage	Minimum Average Lamp Efficacy (LPW)	Effective Date (Period of Months)
116–155	14.5	36
156–205	15.0	36

''GENERAL SERVICE INCANDESCENT LAMPS

Rated Lumen Ranges	Maximum Rated Wattage	Minimum Rated Lifetime	Effective Date
1490–2600	72	1,000 hrs	1/1/2012
1050–1489	53	1,000 hrs	1/1/2013
750–1049	43	1,000 hrs	1/1/2014
310–749	29	1,000 hrs	1/1/2014

''MODIFIED SPECTRUM GENERAL SERVICE INCANDESCENT LAMPS

Rated Lumen Ranges	Maximum Rated Wattage	Minimum Rated Lifetime	Effective Date
1118–1950	72	1,000 hrs	1/1/2012
788–1117	53	1,000 hrs	1/1/2013
563–787	43	1,000 hrs	1/1/2014
232–562	29	1,000 hrs	1/1/2014

''(B) APPLICATION.—

''(i) APPLICATION CRITERIA.—This subparagraph applies to each lamp that—

''(I) is intended for a general service or general illumination application (whether incandescent or not);

''(II) has a medium screw base or any other screw base not defined in ANSI C81.61–2006;

''(III) is capable of being operated at a voltage at least partially within the range of 110 to 130 volts; and

''(IV) is manufactured or imported after December 31, 2011.

''(ii) REQUIREMENT.—For purposes of this paragraph, each lamp described in clause (i) shall have a color rendering index that is greater than or equal to—

''(I) 80 for nonmodified spectrum lamps; or

''(II) 75 for modified spectrum lamps.

''(C) CANDELABRA INCANDESCENT LAMPS AND INTERMEDIATE BASE INCANDESCENT LAMPS.—

''(i) CANDELABRA BASE INCANDESCENT LAMPS.—Effective beginning January 1, 2012, a candelabra base incandescent lamp shall not exceed 60 rated watts.

''(ii) INTERMEDIATE BASE INCANDESCENT LAMPS.—Effective beginning January 1, 2012, an intermediate base incandescent lamp shall not exceed 40 rated watts.

''(D) EXEMPTIONS.—

''(i) STATUTORY EXEMPTIONS.—The standards specified in subparagraph (A) shall not apply to the following types of incandescent reflector lamps:

''(I) Lamps rated at 50 watts or less that are ER30, BR30, BR40, or ER40 lamps.

''(II) Lamps rated at 65 watts that are BR30, BR40, or ER40 lamps.

''(III) R20 incandescent reflector lamps rated 45 watts or less.

''(ii) ADMINISTRATIVE EXEMPTIONS.—

''(I) PETITION.—Any person may petition the Secretary for an exemption for a type of general service lamp from the requirements of this subsection.

''(II) CRITERIA.—The Secretary may grant an exemption under subclause (I) only to the extent that the Secretary finds, after a hearing and opportunity for public comment, that it is not technically feasible to serve a specialized lighting application (such as a military, medical, public safety, or certified historic lighting application) using a lamp that meets the requirements of this subsection.

''(III) ADDITIONAL CRITERION.—To grant an exemption for a product under this clause , the Secretary shall include, as an additional criterion, that the exempted product is unlikely to be used in a general service lighting application.

''(E) EXTENSION OF COVERAGE.—

''(i) PETITION.—Any person may petition the Secretary to establish standards for lamp shapes or bases that are excluded from the definition of general service lamps.

''(ii) INCREASED SALES OF EXEMPTED LAMPS.—The petition shall include evidence that the availability or sales of exempted incandescent lamps have increased significantly since the date on which the standards on general service incandescent lamps were established.

''(iii) CRITERIA.—The Secretary shall grant a petition under clause (i) if the Secretary finds that—

''(I) the petition presents evidence that demonstrates that commercial availability or sales of exempted incandescent lamp types have increased significantly since the standards on general service lamps were established and likely are being widely used in general lighting applications; and

''(II) significant energy savings could be achieved by covering exempted products, as determined by the Secretary based in part on sales data provided to the Secretary from manufacturers and importers.

''(iv) NO PRESUMPTION.—The grant of a petition under this subparagraph shall create no presumption with respect to the determination of the Secretary with respect to any criteria under a rulemaking conducted under this section.

''(v) EXPEDITED PROCEEDING.—If the Secretary grants a petition for a lamp shape or base under this subparagraph, the Secretary shall—

''(I) conduct a rulemaking to determine standards for the exempted lamp shape or base; and

''(II) complete the rulemaking not later than 18 months after the date on which notice is provided granting the petition.

''(F) EFFECTIVE DATES.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—In this paragraph, except as otherwise provided in a table contained in subparagraph (A) or in clause (ii), the term 'effective date' means the last day of the month specified in the table that follows October 24, 1992.

''(ii) SPECIAL EFFECTIVE DATES.—

''(I) ER, BR, AND BPAR LAMPS.—The standards specified in subparagraph (A) shall apply with respect to ER incandescent reflector lamps, BR incandescent reflector lamps, BPAR incandescent reflector lamps, and similar bulb shapes on and after January 1, 2008, or the date that is 180 days after the date of enactment of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007.

''(II) LAMPS BETWEEN 2.25–2.75 INCHES IN DIAMETER.—The standards specified in subparagraph (A) shall apply with respect to incandescent reflector lamps with a diameter of

more than 2.25 inches, but not more than 2.75 inches, on and after the later of January 1, 2008, or the date that is 180 days after the date of enactment of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007.

''(2) COMPLIANCE WITH EXISTING LAW.—Notwithstanding section 332(a)(5) and section 332(b), it shall not be unlawful for a manufacturer to sell a lamp that is in compliance with the law at the time the lamp was manufactured.

''(3) RULEMAKING BEFORE OCTOBER 24, 1995.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 36 months after October 24, 1992, the Secretary shall initiate a rulemaking procedure and shall publish a final rule not later than the end of the 54-month period beginning on October 24, 1992, to determine whether the standards established under paragraph (1) should be amended.

''(B) ADMINISTRATION.—The rule shall contain the amendment, if any, and provide that the amendment shall apply to products manufactured on or after the 36-month period beginning on the date on which the final rule is published.

''(4) RULEMAKING BEFORE OCTOBER 24, 2000.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 8 years after October 24, 1992, the Secretary shall initiate a rulemaking procedure and shall publish a final rule not later than 9 years and 6 months after October 24, 1992, to determine whether the standards in effect for fluorescent lamps and incandescent lamps should be amended.

''(B) ADMINISTRATION.—The rule shall contain the amendment, if any, and provide that the amendment shall apply to products manufactured on or after the 36-month period beginning on the date on which the final rule is published.

''(5) RULEMAKING FOR ADDITIONAL GENERAL SERVICE FLUORESCENT LAMPS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than the end of the 24-month period beginning on the date labeling requirements under section 324(a)(2)(C) become effective, the Secretary shall—

''(i) initiate a rulemaking procedure to determine whether the standards in effect for fluorescent lamps and incandescent lamps should be amended so that the standards would be applicable to additional general service fluorescent lamps; and

''(ii) publish, not later than 18 months after initiating the rulemaking, a final rule including the amended standards, if any.

''(B) ADMINISTRATION.—The rule shall provide that the amendment shall apply to products manufactured after a date which is 36 months after the date on which the rule is published.

''(6) STANDARDS FOR GENERAL SERVICE LAMPS.—

''(A) RULEMAKING BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2014.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Not later than January 1, 2014, the Secretary shall initiate a rulemaking procedure to determine whether—

''(I) standards in effect for general service lamps should be amended; and

''(II) the exclusions for certain incandescent lamps should be maintained or discontinued based, in part, on excluded lamp sales collected by the Secretary from manufacturers.

''(ii) SCOPE.—The rulemaking—

''(I) shall not be limited to incandescent lamp technologies; and

''(II) shall include consideration of a minimum standard of 45 lumens per watt for general service lamps.

''(iii) AMENDED STANDARDS.—If the Secretary determines that the standards in effect for general service lamps should be amended, the Secretary shall publish a final rule not later than January 1, 2017, with an effective date that is not earlier than 3 years after the date on which the final rule is published.

''(iv) PHASED-IN EFFECTIVE DATES.—The Secretary shall consider phased-in effective dates under this subparagraph after considering—

''(I) the impact of any amendment on manufacturers, retiring and repurposing existing equipment, stranded investments, labor contracts, workers, and raw materials; and

''(II) the time needed to work with retailers and lighting designers to revise sales and marketing strategies.

''(v) BACKSTOP REQUIREMENT.—If the Secretary fails to complete a rulemaking in accordance with clauses (i) through (iv) or if the final rule does not produce savings that are greater than or equal to the savings from a minimum efficacy standard of 45 lumens per watt, effective beginning January 1, 2020, the Secretary shall prohibit the manufacture of any general service lamp that does not meet a minimum efficacy standard of 45 lumens per watt.

''(vi) STATE PREEMPTION.—Neither section 327 nor any other provision of law shall preclude California or Nevada from adopting, effective beginning on or after January 1, 2018—

''(I) a final rule adopted by the Secretary in accordance with clauses (i) through (iv);

''(II) if a final rule described in subclause (I) has not been adopted, the backstop requirement under clause (v); or

''(III) in the case of California, if a final rule described in subclause (I) has not been adopted, any California regulations relating to these covered products adopted pursuant to State statute in effect as of the date of enactment of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007.

''(B) RULEMAKING BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2020.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Not later than January 1, 2020, the Secretary shall initiate a rulemaking procedure to determine whether—

''(I) standards in effect for general service lamps should be amended; and

''(II) the exclusions for certain incandescent lamps should be maintained or discontinued based, in part, on excluded lamp sales data collected by the Secretary from manufacturers.

''(ii) SCOPE.—The rulemaking shall not be limited to incandescent lamp technologies.

''(iii) AMENDED STANDARDS.—If the Secretary determines that the standards in effect for general service lamps should be amended, the Secretary shall publish a final rule not later than January 1, 2022, with an effective date that is not earlier than 3 years after the date on which the final rule is published.

''(iv) PHASED-IN EFFECTIVE DATES.—The Secretary shall consider phased-in effective dates under this subparagraph after considering—

''(I) the impact of any amendment on manufacturers, retiring and repurposing existing equipment, stranded investments, labor contracts, workers, and raw materials; and

''(II) the time needed to work with retailers and lighting designers to revise sales and marketing strategies.

''(7) FEDERAL ACTIONS.—

''(A) COMMENTS OF SECRETARY.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—With respect to any lamp to which standards are applicable under this subsection or any lamp specified in section 346, the Secretary shall inform any Federal entity proposing actions that would adversely impact the energy consumption or energy efficiency of the lamp of the energy conservation consequences of the action.

''(ii) CONSIDERATION.—The Federal entity shall carefully consider the comments of the Secretary.

''(B) AMENDMENT OF STANDARDS.—Notwithstanding section 325(n)(1), the Secretary shall not be prohibited from amending any standard, by rule, to permit increased energy use or to decrease the minimum required energy efficiency of any lamp to which standards are applicable under this subsection if the action is warranted as a result of other Federal action (including restrictions on materials or processes) that would have the effect of either increasing the energy use or decreasing the energy efficiency of the product.

''(8) COMPLIANCE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than the date on which standards established pursuant to this subsection become effective, or, with respect to high-intensity discharge lamps covered under section 346, the effective date of standards established pursuant to that section, each manufacturer of a product to which the standards are applicable shall file with the Secretary a laboratory report certifying compliance with the applicable standard for each lamp type.

''(B) CONTENTS.—The report shall include the lumen output and wattage consumption for each lamp type as an average of measurements taken over the preceding 12-month period.

''(C) OTHER LAMP TYPES.—With respect to lamp types that are not manufactured during the 12-month period preceding the date on which the standards become effective, the report shall—

''(i) be filed with the Secretary not later than the date that is 12 months after the date on which manufacturing is commenced; and

''(ii) include the lumen output and wattage consumption for each such lamp type as an average of measurements taken during the 12-month period.''.

(11) Section 325(l)(4)(A) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6295(l)(4)(A)) (as amended by section 321(a)(3)(B) of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (121 Stat. 1581)) is amended by striking ''only''.

(12) Section 327(b)(1)(B) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6297(b)(1)(B)) (as amended by section 321(d)(3) of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (121 Stat. 1585) and section 240(d)) is amended—

(A) in clause (i), by inserting ''and'' after the semicolon at the end;

(B) in clause (ii), by striking ''; and'' and inserting a period; and

(C) by striking clause (iii).

(13) Section 321(30)(C)(ii) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6291(30)(C)(ii)) (as amended by section 322(a)(1)(B) of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (121 Stat. 1587)) is amended by inserting a period after ''40 watts or higher''.

(14) Section 322(b) of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (121 Stat. 1588)) is amended by striking ''6995(i)'' and inserting ''6295(i)''.

(15) Section 327(c) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6297(c)) (as amended by sections 324(f) of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (121 Stat. 1594) and section 6(e)(2)) is amended—

(A) in paragraph (6), by striking ''or'' after the semicolon at the end;

(B) in paragraph (9)(B), by striking ''or'' at the end;

(C) in paragraph (10), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon;

(D) by adding at the end the following:

''(11) is a regulation for general service lamps that conforms with Federal standards and effective dates; or

''(12) is an energy efficiency standard for general service lamps enacted into law by the State of Nevada prior to December 19, 2007, if the State has not adopted the Federal

standards and effective dates pursuant to subsection (b)(1)(B)(ii).''.

(16) Section 325(b) of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (121 Stat. 1596)) is amended by striking ''6924(c)'' and inserting ''6294(c)''.

(17) This subsection and the amendments made by this subsection take effect as if included in the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (Public Law 110–140; 121 Stat. 1492).

(b) ENERGY POLICY ACT OF 2005.—

(1) Section 325(g)(8)(C)(ii) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6295(g)(8)(C)(ii)) (as added by section 135(c)(2)(B) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005) is amended by striking ''20°F'' and inserting ''−20°F''.

(2) This subsection and the amendment made by this subsection take effect as if included in the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (Public Law 109–58; 119 Stat. 594).

(c) ENERGY POLICY AND CONSERVATION ACT.—Section 343(a) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6314(a)) is amended by striking ''Air-Conditioning and Refrigeration Institute'' each place it appears in paragraphs (4)(A) and (7) and inserting ''Air-Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration Institute''.

AUGUST 13, 2010.

Hon. HARRY REID,
Hart Senate Office Building,
Washington, DC.
Hon. MITCH MCCONNELL,
Russell Senate Office Building,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATE MAJORITY LEADER REID AND MINORITY LEADER MCCONNELL: We are writing today to support and urge the Senate to quickly pass several consensus appliance and equipment efficiency standards this session of Congress. These standards were negotiated between industry and energy-efficiency supporters and reported out of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee on a bipartisan basis. Some of these standards take effect as soon as January 2012. If enactment is delayed until the next Congress, some of the effective dates will need to be delayed, reducing the energy savings and emissions reductions achieved. In addition, prompt enactment will allow manufacturers to better prepare for these new standards. Manufacturers are also very concerned that if Congress does not enact these standards soon, more states will enact their own standards for certain products, making it more difficult for manufacturers to sell the same products nationwide. We are not aware of any controversy on the pending versions of these bills, so they should continue to have bipartisan support while providing substantial energy savings and other benefits for the country.

Based on analysis by the American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy, these consensus standards will:

Reduce annual U.S. energy use by more than 1.2 quadrillion Btu (''quads'') by 2030, which is about 160% of the current annual energy use of Nevada and 60% of the current annual energy use of Kentucky.

Reduce annual U.S. CO2 emissions by about 71 million metric tons, providing a downpayment on our climate change emission reduction goals.

Provide net present value benefits to consumers of more than $90 billion from products sold by 2030. (This figure is the sum of benefits minus sum of costs, expressed in 2010 dollars.)

These consensus agreements cover the following products:

Residential appliances—refrigerators, freezers, clothes washers, clothes dryers, dishwashers and room air conditioners;

Residential heating and cooling equipment—furnaces, central air conditioners and heat pumps;

Pole-mounted outdoor lighting fixtures;

Residential portable lighting fixtures (e.g. floor and table lamps); and,

Drinking water dispensers, hot food holding cabinets and portable electric spas.

In addition, the agreements include some important changes to improve and expedite the Department of Energy appliance standards program and needed technical corrections to standards enacted in 2005 and 2007.

The potential energy, economic and environmental benefits are not the only positive facet. The consensus provisions contained in these bills represent a significant step forward in the relationship between many industries which produce energy-using products and advocates for improved efficiency and environmental protection. If enacted they will not only save energy and water but will also serve as a model for future collaboration between various parties by demonstrating that it is possible to balance manufacturer interests and consumer needs while advancing national goals of energy efficiency and environmental stewardship.

The undersigned parties urge your active support for passing this legislation during this Congress. If you have any questions please contact any of the individuals listed below for additional information on this legislation.

Sincerely,

Stephen R. Yurek, President, Air-Conditioning, Heating and Refrigeration Institute; Richard D. Upton, President & CEO, American Lighting Association; Steve Nadel, Executive Director, American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy; Floyd DesChamps, Senior Vice President of Policy and Research, Alliance to Save Energy; Carvin DiGiovanni, Senior Technical Director, Association of Pool and Spa Professionals; Joseph K. Doss, President and CEO, International Bottled Water Association; Evan R. Gaddis, President & CEO, National Electrical Manufacturers Association; Andrew deLaski, Executive Director, Appliance Standards Awareness Project; Karen Douglas, Chairman, California Energy Commission; Mell Hall-Crawford, Energy Projects Director, Consumer Federation of America; Charles Harak, Esq., National Consumer Law Center, (On behalf of its low-income clients); Scott Slesinger, Legislative Director, Natural Resources Defense Council; Susan E. Coakley, Executive Director, Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships; Claire Fulenwider, Executive Director, Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance; Stephen L. Crow, Executive Director, Northwest Power and Conservation Council.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Mrs. BOXER):

S. 3927. A bill to establish the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I rise on behalf of myself and Senator BOXER to introduce legislation to establish a National Heritage Area in the California Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. This legislation will create the first Heritage Area in California. I am pleased that I have had the opportunity to work with Senator BOXER, Representatives JOHN GARAMENDI, GEORGE MILLER, MIKE THOMPSON, DORIS MATSUI, JERRY MCNERNEY and the County Supervisors from the five Delta Counties to prepare this legislation and support their efforts to fully partner with the State, the Federal agencies, and other local governments to improve and care for the Delta.

This bill will establish the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta as a National Heritage Area.

The Delta Protection Commission, created by California law and responsible to the citizens of the Delta and California, will manage the Heritage Area. It will ensure an open and public process, working with all levels of Federal, State, and local government, tribes, local stakeholders, and private property owners as it develops and implements the management plan for the Heritage Area. The goal is to conserve and protect the Delta, its communities, its resources, and its history.

This bill does not create any new layers of government.

It does not infringe on private property rights. Nothing in this bill gives any governmental agency any more regulatory power than it already has.

In short, this bill provides no additional burden on local government or residents. Instead, it authorizes Federal assistance to a local process already required by State law that will elevate the Delta, providing a means to conserve and protect its valued communities, resources, and history.

The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta is the largest estuary on the West Coast. It is the most extensive inland delta in the world, and a unique national treasure.

Today, it is a labyrinth of sloughs, wetlands, and deepwater channels that connect the waters of the high Sierra mountain streams to the Pacific Ocean through the San Francisco Bay. Its approximately 60 islands are protected by 1,100 miles of levees, and are home to 3,500,000 residents, including 2,500 family farmers. The Delta and its farmers produce some of the highest quality specialty crops in the United States.

The Delta offers recreational opportunities to the two million Californians that visit the Delta each year for boating, fishing, hunting, visiting historic sites, and viewing wildlife. It provides habitat for more than 750 species of plants and wildlife. These include sand hill cranes that migrate to the Delta wetland from places as far away as Siberia. The Delta also provides habitat for 55 species of fish, including Chinook salmon—some as large as 60 pounds-that return each year to travel through the Delta to spawn in the tributaries.

These same waterways also channel fresh water to the Federal and State-owned pumps in the South Delta that provide water to 23 million Californians and three million acres of irrigated agricultural land elsewhere in the State.

Before the Delta was reclaimed for farmland in the 19th Century, the Delta flooded regularly with snow melt each spring, and provided the rich environment that, by 1492, supported the

largest settlement of Native Americans in North America.

The Delta was the gateway to the gold fields in 1849, after which Chinese workers built hundreds of miles of levees throughout the waterways of the Delta to make its rich peat soils available for farming and to control flooding.

Japanese, Italians, German, Portuguese, Dutch, Greeks, South Asians and other immigrants began the farming legacy, and developed technologies specifically adapted to the unique environment, including the Caterpillar Tractor, which later contributed to agriculture and transportation internationally.

Delta communities created a river culture befitting their dependence on water transport, a culture which has attracted the attention of authors from Mark Twain and Jack London to Joan Didion.

The Delta is in crisis due to many factors, including invasive species, urban and agricultural run-off, wastewater discharges, channelization, dredging, water export operations, and other stressors.

Many of the islands of the Delta are between 10 and 20 feet below sea level, and the levee system is presently inadequate to provide reliable flood protection for historic communities, significant habitats, agricultural enterprises, water resources, transportation and other infrastructure.

Existing levees have not been engineered to withstand earthquakes. Should levees fail for any reason, a rush of seawater into the interior of the Delta could damage the already fragile ecosystem, contaminate drinking water for many Californians, flood agricultural land, inundate towns, and damage roads, power lines, and water project infrastructure.

The State of California has been working for decades on a resolution to the water supply and ecosystem crisis in the State, and has a long history of partnerships with Federal agencies, working together to resolve challenges to the Delta's historic communities, ecosystem and the water it supplies so many Californians.

The Delta Protection Commission, established under state law, has been tasked by the California State Legislature with providing a forum for Delta residents to engage in decisions regarding actions to recognize and enhance the unique cultural, recreational, agricultural resources, infrastructure and legacy communities of the Delta and to serve as the facilitating agency for the implementation of a National Heritage Area in the Delta.

This legislation authorizes the creation of the Delta Heritage Area and federal assistance to the Delta Protection Commission in implementing the Area. This legislation is just a small part of the commitment the Federal government must make to the Delta and to California's ecosystem and water supply. I look forward to continuing to work with my colleagues at every level of government to restore and sustain the ecosystem in the Delta, to provide for reliable water supply in the State of California, to recover the native species of the Delta, protect communities in the Delta from flood risk, ensure economic sustainability in the Delta, improve water quality in the Delta, and; sustain the unique cultural, historical, recreational, agricultural and economic values of the Delta.

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. 3927

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 ''Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area Establishment Act''.

SEC. 2. SACRAMENTO-SAN JOAQUIN DELTA NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) HERITAGE AREA.—The term ''Heritage Area'' means the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Heritage Area established by this section.

(2) HERITAGE AREA MANAGEMENT PLAN.—The term ''Heritage Area management plan'' means the plan developed and adopted by the management entity under this section.

(3) MANAGEMENT ENTITY.—The term ''management entity'' means the management entity for the Heritage Area designated by subsection (b)(4).

(4) SECRETARY.—The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of the Interior.

(b) SACRAMENTO-SAN JOAQUIN DELTA HERITAGE AREA.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established the ''Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Heritage Area'' in the State of California.

(2) BOUNDARIES.—The boundaries of the Heritage Area shall be in the counties of Contra Costa, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Solano, and Yolo in the State of California, as generally depicted on the map entitled ''Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area Proposed Boundary'', numbered T27/105,030, and dated September 2010.

(3) AVAILABILITY OF MAP.—The map described in paragraph (2) shall be on file and available for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the National Park Service and the Delta Protection Commission.

(4) MANAGEMENT ENTITY.—The management entity for the Heritage Area shall be the Delta Protection Commission established by section 29735 of the California Public Resources Code.

(5) ADMINISTRATION; MANAGEMENT PLAN.—

(A) ADMINISTRATION.—For purposes of carrying out the Heritage Area management plan, the Secretary, acting through the management entity, may use amounts made available under this section in accordance with section 8001(c) of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (Public Law 111–11; 123 Stat. 991).

(B) MANAGEMENT PLAN.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to clause (ii), the management entity shall submit to the Secretary for approval a proposed management plan for the Heritage Area in accordance with section 8001(d) of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (Public Law 111–11; 123 Stat. 991).

(ii) RESTRICTIONS.—The Heritage Area management plan submitted under this paragraph shall—

(I) ensure participation by appropriate Federal, State, tribal, and local agencies, including the Delta Stewardship Council, special districts, natural and historical resource protection and agricultural organizations, educational institutions, businesses, recreational organizations, community residents, and private property owners; and

(II) not be approved until the Secretary has received certification from the Delta Protection Commission that the Delta Stewardship Council has reviewed the Heritage Area management plan for consistency with the plan adopted by the Delta Stewardship Council pursuant to State law.

(6) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER FEDERAL AGENCIES; PRIVATE PROPERTY.—

(A) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER FEDERAL AGENCIES.—The provisions of section 8001(e) of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (Public Law 111–11; 123 Stat. 991) shall apply to the Heritage Area.

(B) PRIVATE PROPERTY.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to clause (ii), the provisions of section 8001(f) of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (Public Law 111–11; 123 Stat. 991) shall apply to the Heritage Area.

(ii) OPT OUT.—An owner of private property within the Heritage Area may opt out of participating in any plan, project, program, or activity carried out within the Heritage Area under this section, if the property owner provides written notice to the management entity.

(7) EVALUATION; REPORT.—The provisions of section 8001(g) of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (Public Law 111–11; 123 Stat. 991) shall apply to the Heritage Area.

(8) EFFECT OF DESIGNATION.—Nothing in this section—

(A) precludes the management entity from using Federal funds made available under other laws for the purposes for which those funds were authorized; or

(B) affects any water rights or contracts.

(9) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $20,000,000, of which not more than $2,000,000 may be made available for any fiscal year.

(B) COST-SHARING REQUIREMENT.—The Federal share of the total cost of any activity under this section shall be determined by the Secretary, but shall be not more than 50 percent.

(C) NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—The non-Federal share of the total cost of any activity under this section may be in the form of—

(i) in-kind contributions of goods or services; or

(ii) State or local government fees, taxes, or assessments.

(10) TERMINATION OF AUTHORITY.—If a proposed management plan has not been submitted to the Secretary by the date that is 5 years after the date of enactment of this title, the Heritage Area designation shall be rescinded.

By Mr. ROCKEFELLER:

S. 3931. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to enhance the roles and responsibilities of the Chief of the National Guard Bureau; to the Committee on Armed Services.

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, I thank you for allowing me to speak on this important legislation, the Guardians of Freedom Act of 2010, that will make the Chief of the National Guard Bureau a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

As the former Governor of West Virginia, I recognize the importance of the

National Guard. I can tell you that the National Guard is always there. Whether it is flooding, snow storms, tornados, or other disasters, the National Guard comes to the rescue of the community. And I would bet there is a member of the National Guard living in every congressional district and every community in our country. These citizen-soldiers are the Governor's 911 force.

The National Guard is the oldest element of our Armed Forces. Our Guard members celebrate their 374th birthday on December 13, 2010. For 374 years they have served this country with great distinction.

Unlike our active-duty forces, the National Guard has both a state and federal mission. Now I'm not taking anything away from our active-duty military as they have always performed, and will continue to perform, in an outstanding fashion. However, the National Guard is unique in that it serves each State's governor as well as the President and Commander-in-Chief.

The National Guard's state mission includes responding to invasions, insurrections, natural and man-made disasters, and domestic emergencies. In recent times, the National Guard has been called to assist with border security, to respond to hurricanes, floods, snow storms, and to provide support for other operations, such as the G20 summit and the Presidential Inauguration.

Perhaps the best example of our Guard members' domestic responsibilities is their historic response Hurricane Katrina. There the National Guard, in the largest and swiftest response to a domestic disaster in history, deployed more than 50,000 troops in support of the Gulf States.

As I have mentioned, the National Guard also has its Federal mission. Among those responsibilities are providing Homeland Defense and defense support to civil authorities. It accomplishes its federal mission through a variety of programs. One of those programs is the Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, or High-Yield Explosive Teams, which respond to incidents and support local, state, and federal agencies as they conduct decontamination, medical support, and casualty search and extraction. Much of this training is performed at the Joint Interagency Education and Training Center in West Virginia.

Other programs include the Counterdrug Program, which bridges the gap between the Department of Defense and local, State, and Federal law enforcement agencies in the fight against illicit drugs, and the Civil Support Teams, responsible for assessing suspected Weapons of Mass Destruction attacks.

These Federal programs, along with the National Guard's state mission, clearly show that it has always been here to protect the home front. I have yet to even mention our Guard members' tremendous contributions to military operations outside of the United States.

They have bravely fought in every war this country has declared. They have been subjected to activation more and more often in order to respond to global crises. Prior to 9/11 the National Guard participated in operations in Haiti, Bosnia, Kosovo, and in the skies over Iraq. Since 9/11 more than 50,000 Guard members have been called up by both their states and the Federal Government to provide security at home and combat terrorism in Iraq, Afghanistan and elsewhere around the world.

Today, tens of thousands of Guard members are serving here at home and in harm's way as they fulfill the obligations of their dual mission. They continue to train with first responders and protect life and property here at home, while also engaging in combat operations in far-off, dangerous locations.

Given the National Guard's role in defending our country, it is important that it be resourced and equipped to fulfill its dual mission. Our Guard members must be assured of the ability to meet their obligations to their governors and their next door neighbors.

The relationship between the active-duty forces and the National Guard is one of great mutual respect and dependence—a relationship that has only become stronger since 9/11. Each knows why the other is so important to the nation. The repeated deployments of both the National Guard and active-duty units has built a bond between the two. You cannot tell the difference between a member of the National Guard and an active-duty servicemember.

By making the Chief of the National Guard Bureau a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Guardians of Freedom Act of 2010 will guarantee that the National Guard is a part of the discussion as the nation prepares to respond to threats both domestic and foreign. It also makes certain that the concerns of the nation's governors are considered when resources are scarce. It will build upon the relationship developed between the active-duty forces and the National Guard, a bond has been strengthened as a result of the ongoing wars.

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. 3931

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 ''Guardians of Freedom Act of 2010''.

SEC. 2. CHIEF OF NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU.

(a) ROLE AS ADVOCATE AND LIAISON.—Section 10502 of title 10, United States Code, is amended—

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

(2) by inserting after subsection (c) the following new subsection (d):

''(d) ADVOCATE AND LIAISON FOR STATE NATIONAL GUARDS.—The Chief of the National Guard Bureau shall serve as an advocate and liaison for the National Guard of each State, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the District of Columbia, Guam, and the Virgin Islands and inform such National Guards of all actions that could affect their Federal or State missions, including any equipment level or force structure changes.''.

(b) INCLUSION AS MEMBER OF JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Such section is further amended by inserting after subsection (d), as added by subsection (a) of this section, the following new subsection:

''(e) MEMBER OF JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF.—(1) The Chief of the National Guard Bureau shall be a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff under section 151 of this title.

''(2) As a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Chief of the National Guard Bureau has the specific responsibility of advocating for the National Guards of the States, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the District of Columbia, Guam, and the Virgin Islands and coordinate the efforts of the National Guard warfighting support and force provider mission with the homeland defense, defense support to civil authorities, and State emergency response missions of the National Guard to ensure the National Guard has the resources to perform its multiple missions.

''(3) The Chief of the National Guard Bureau shall consult with the Governors and their Adjutant Generals before any changes are made in National Guard force structure or equipment levels (or both) to determine the impact those changes may have on the homeland defense, defense support to civil authorities, and State emergency response missions of the National Guard.''.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 151(a) of such title is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(7) The Chief of the National Guard Bureau.''.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself and Mr. LEAHY):

S. 3932. A bill to provide comprehensive immigration reform, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, in the opening days of this Congress, I expressed my steadfast commitment to reform of our Nation's broken immigration system. The Senate passed a bill in the 109th Congress and debated one in the 110th. Action is long overdue, but until today, no truly comprehensive immigration package has been introduced in the Senate in the 111th Congress.

I congratulate Senator MENENDEZ on the introduction of the Comprehensive Immigration Reform Act of 2010, and am pleased to join him as an original cosponsor. The bill protects the rights and opportunities of American workers, while simultaneously ensuring that our Nation's employers and American farms can find the workers they need to prosper. The bill will increase national security by adding personnel and equipment where they are most needed in border communities. And by bringing undocumented immigrants out of the shadows, the bill will help to make our towns and cities safer. These are goals we can all share.

The Comprehensive Immigration Reform Act of 2010 includes several provisions that are priorities for Vermont,

such as AgJOBS, which will provide critically needed workers for farms in Vermont and across the Nation. The bill would permanently extend the EB–5 Regional Center program, which generates investment capital and creates jobs. The Comprehensive Immigration Reform Act also includes one of my top civil rights priorities, the Uniting American Families Act, and a bill I have long supported, the DREAM Act. And, the bill includes measures from my bill, the Refugee Protection Act. Improving protections for refugees will honor the American tradition of offering safety to victims of persecution.

There is bipartisan agreement that immigration reform is needed. I hope that the bill we introduce today will gain support from both sides of the aisle. I strongly believe that Congress is capable of finding a realistic solution to our immigration problems. Our friend the late Senator Ted Kennedy believed that, President Bush believed that, and I know President Obama believes that.

I commend Senator MENENDEZ for his leadership and urge all Senators to join us in supporting the Comprehensive Immigration Reform Act of 2010.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 663—SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH AND EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT CONGRESS SHOULD CONTINUE TO RAISE AWARENESS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN THE UNITED STATES AND ITS DEVASTATING EFFECTS ON FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES, AND SUPPORT PROGRAMS DESIGNED TO END DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. KOHL, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. HATCH, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. FEINGOLD, and Mrs. BOXER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 663

Whereas National Domestic Violence Awareness Month will be observed during October 2010;

Whereas domestic violence affects people of all ages and all racial, ethnic, gender, economic, and religious backgrounds;

Whereas females are disproportionately victims of domestic violence, and 1 in 4 women will experience domestic violence at some point in her life;

Whereas, on average, more than 3 women are murdered by their husbands or boyfriends in the United States every day;

Whereas, in 2007, 1,640 women were murdered by an intimate partner, and were the victims of 70 percent of all intimate partner homicides that year;

Whereas women from 16 to 24 years of age experience the highest rates, per capita, of intimate partner violence;

Whereas 1 out of 3 Native American women will be raped and 6 out of 10 will be physically assaulted in their lifetimes;

Whereas, in 2003, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimated that the costs of intimate partner violence exceeded $8,300,000,000, including the cost of medical care, mental health services, and lost productivity;

Whereas ¼ to ½ of domestic violence victims report that they have lost a job due, at least in part, to domestic violence;

Whereas the annual cost of lost productivity due to domestic violence is estimated at $727,800,000 with more than 7,900,000 paid workdays lost per year;

Whereas some landlords deny housing to victims of domestic violence who have protection orders or evict victims of domestic violence who seek help after a domestic violence incident, such as by calling 911, or who have other indications that they are domestic violence victims;

Whereas 92 percent of homeless women experience severe physical or sexual abuse at some point in their lifetimes;

Whereas approximately 40 to 60 percent of men who abuse women also abuse children;

Whereas it is critical to ensure that children who are exposed to domestic violence are placed in the protective care of a responsible and loving parent or guardian;

Whereas a study of over 17,000 adults by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Kaiser Permanente found that children who live with their abusers are at high risk for grave medical, psychological, and behavioral disorders and even death;

Whereas approximately 15,500,000 children are exposed to domestic violence every year;

Whereas children exposed to domestic violence are more likely to attempt suicide, abuse drugs and alcohol, run away from home, and engage in teenage prostitution;

Whereas one large study found that men exposed to physical abuse, sexual abuse, and adult domestic violence as children were almost 4 times more likely than other men to have perpetrated domestic violence as adults;

Whereas nearly 1,500,000 high school students nationwide experienced physical abuse from a dating partner in a single year;

Whereas 13 percent of teenage girls who have been in a relationship report being hit or hurt by their partners and 1 in 4 teenage girls has been in a relationship in which she was pressured by her partner into performing sexual acts;

Whereas adolescent girls who reported dating violence were 60 percent more likely to report one or more suicide attempts in the past year;

Whereas there is a need for middle schools, secondary schools, and post-secondary schools to educate students about the issues of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking;

Whereas 88 percent of men in a national poll reported that they think that our society should do more to respect women and girls;

Whereas a multi-State study shows conclusively that the domestic violence shelters in the United States are addressing urgent and long-term needs of victims and are helping victims protect themselves and their children;

Whereas a 2009 National Census Survey reported that 65,321 adults and children were served by domestic violence shelters and programs around the United States in a single day and those same understaffed programs were unable to meet 9,280 requests for help on that same day;

Whereas there is a need to support programs aimed at intervening and preventing domestic violence in the United States; and

Whereas individuals and organizations that are dedicated to preventing and ending domestic violence should be recognized: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of National Domestic Violence Awareness Month; and

(2) expresses the sense of the Senate that Congress should continue to raise awareness of domestic violence in the United States and its devastating effects on families and communities, and support programs designed to end domestic violence.

SENATE RESOLUTION 664—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE IN OPPOSITION TO PRIVATIZING SOCIAL SECURITY, RAISING THE RETIREMENT AGE, OR OTHER SIMILAR CUTS TO BENEFITS UNDER TITLE II OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

Mr. SANDERS (for himself, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. INOUYE, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. AKAKA, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. MIKULSKI, and Mr. LAUTENBERG) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Finance:

S. RES. 664

Whereas Social Security is America's most successful and reliable retirement program and continues to serve Americans well;

Whereas Social Security is not in crisis or going bankrupt and has been running surpluses for the last quarter-century;

Whereas Social Security, which currently has a $2,600,000,000,000 surplus, has not contributed a dime to the Federal budget deficit or national debt, and benefit cuts should not be proposed as a solution to reducing the Federal deficit;

Whereas for 75 years, through good times and bad, Social Security has succeeded in protecting working persons and their families from precipitous drops in household income because of lost wages;

Whereas Social Security has kept millions of Americans out of poverty, including senior citizens, widows, and disabled and dependent children whose parents have died, become disabled, or retired;

Whereas before President Franklin Roosevelt signed the Social Security Act into law on August 14, 1935, approximately half of the senior citizens in America lived in poverty, while less than 10 percent of seniors presently live in poverty;

Whereas more than 53,000,000 Americans receive Social Security benefits, including 36,500,000 retirees and their spouses, 8,200,000 disabled persons and their spouses, 4,500,000 surviving spouses of deceased workers, and 4,300,000 dependent children;

Whereas according to the Congressional Budget Office, even if no changes are made to the Social Security program, full benefits will still be available to every recipient until 2039, with enough funding remaining after that date to pay about 80 percent of promised benefits;

Whereas seniors have put in a lifetime of hard work, helping to make our economy grow and make our Nation great, and they deserve a dignified and secure retirement;

Whereas Social Security provides the majority of income for two-thirds of the elderly population in the United States, with approximately one-third of elderly individuals receiving nearly all of their income from Social Security;

Whereas proposals to privatize Social Security would jeopardize the retirement security of millions of Americans by relying on the ups-and-downs of the volatile stock market to provide benefits;

Whereas Social Security benefits have already been cut by 13 percent, as the Normal Retirement Age was raised in 1983 from 65 years of age to 67 years of age by 2022;

Whereas the physical demands of a job differ from industry to industry and, on average, the longevity of the lives of individuals differ significantly according to their level of income, education, and access to health care;

Whereas 45 percent of workers who are 58 years of age or older are in jobs that are physically demanding or have difficult working conditions;

Whereas raising the retirement age is especially burdensome to African-American, Latino, and older low-income workers;

Whereas according to data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, in April 2010, the job market for Americans 55 years of age and older was one of the worst on record;

Whereas Social Security benefits for retirees currently average a modest $14,000 a year, with the average for women receiving benefits being less than $12,000 per year; and

Whereas according to the Social Security Administration, raising the retirement age for future retirees would reduce benefits by 6 percent to 7 percent for each year that the Normal Retirement Age is raised under Social Security: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate to reaffirm our commitment to the Social Security program, one of the greatest legislative accomplishments in the history of our Nation, without privatizing Social Security, raising the Normal Retirement Age, or other similar cuts to benefits under title II of the Social Security Act.

SENATE RESOLUTION 665—TO REQUIRE A WITNESS BEFORE A COMMITTEE HEARING TO FILE A DISCLOSURE FORM IDENTIFYING SUBSTANTIAL FINANCIAL INTERESTS OR COMPENSATION FROM AN ORGANIZATION OR COMPANY DIRECTLY RELATED TO THE SUBJECT OF A HEARING

Mr. GRASSLEY submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. RES. 665

Resolved,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This resolution may be cited as the ''Witness Sunshine Resolution''.

SEC. 2. AMENDMENT TO THE STANDING RULES.

Paragraph 4(b) of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate is amended by—

(1) inserting ''(1)'' after ''(b)''; and

(2) inserting at the end the following:

''(2)(A) Each committee (including the Committee on Appropriations) shall require each witness who is to appear before the committee in any hearing to file with the clerk of the committee, at least 1 day before the date of the appearance of that witness, a disclosure form identifying any arrangement, affiliation, relationship, or substantial financial interest the witness has with any organization, company, private, or government entity directly related to the subject of the hearing as well as the nature of the relationship disclosed, unless the committee chairman and the ranking minority member determine that there is good cause for noncompliance.

''(B) For any witness who at the time of the hearing is employed by the Federal Government, submission of his or her Executive Branch Personnel Public Financial Disclosure Report may fulfill the requirements of this clause at the discretion of the Chairman and the Ranking Member so long as the completed form is up to date and discloses all relevant arrangements, affiliations, relationships, and substantial financial interests.

''(C) If so requested by the committee, the staff of the committee shall prepare for the use of the members of the committee before each day of hearing before the committee a digest of the disclosure forms which have been filed under this clause by witnesses who are to appear before the committee on that day. In addition, the disclosure forms shall be made part of the committee record.''.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, so far during the 111th Congress, the Finance Committee, of which I serve as the ranking Republican member, has held over 50 hearings. At those hearings, around 200 witnesses offered their testimony and answered members' questions. The witnesses who testify at our hearings are considered to be some of the most qualified experts in their field and their participation is critical to the legislative process. Because of their influence on legislation, it is important that Congress knows to what extent the witness' testimony is objective and if the witness has any significant interest in the outcome of potential legislation.

Three of the hearings held by the Finance Committee this Congress were roundtable discussions on health care reform. These discussions brought 41 witnesses, including industry stakeholders and academic leaders, before the committee to share their expert knowledge on policy options for health reform.

At one of these roundtables, Dr. Jonathan Gruber, a health care economist and professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, testified before the committee on health care reform. I thought he was an unbiased expert, but was later disappointed to hear that he had been paid over $400,000 by the administration to help advance the president's health care proposals. At the very least, he should have been straightforward with the committee and disclosed this financial interest.

In addition to his testimony before the Finance Committee, Dr. Gruber testified in front of the HELP Committee and was also a high-profile supporter of the administration's health care reform effort in the media. In only a handful of his many articles on health care reform did he disclose his financial conflict of interest.

While the propriety of Dr. Gruber advocating for administration positions in the media and other venues while failing to disclose his financial ties to the administration has been called into question, I am especially concerned about his advocacy before the U.S. Congress. When an academic leader comes before Congress to advocate a position, Congress should have confidence that the witness is both independent and objective and not being paid to assist the administration, or any other organization, in its efforts.

Equally troubling is the Department of Health and Human Services, which has been unresponsive to efforts by Senator ENZI and myself to learn more about their practice of hiring consultants to advance the President's agenda.

The fact that this expert was paid by the administration—and hid that fact from Congress—really taints everything this particular advocate told the committees. If Congress had been aware of his arrangement with HHS prior to his testimony, we would have had the opportunity to clarify that relationship with Dr. Gruber before considering his opinions and ideas. Unfortunately, when we learn about it after the fact, it completely discredits the information he presented.

To follow up on this alarming news, Senator ENZI and I sent a letter to Dr. Gruber on January 26, 2010, asking him for details of any other government contracts he might have or might have had over the last 5 years and for details on whether he disclosed his government ties during media interviews, speaking engagements and written works on health care reform.

Dr. Gruber's response failed to answer any of the questions posed in the letter. Instead, the response barely exceeded one page in length, was dismissive of any concern about the lack of disclosure and attempted to excuse his failure to disclose and to explain away the need for any detailed response. Furthermore, Dr. Gruber did not even commit to providing any such disclosure of the financial relationship with the Administration in the future.

Unfortunately, Dr. Gruber's failure to answer our questions came as no surprise. In my 30 years serving in the United States Congress, I have found that chasing answers on the back end is much more difficult than requiring clarity and transparency from the start. And many of my colleagues might be surprised to find out that although many witnesses voluntarily disclose their affiliations or relationships so that they can explain them, no Senate committee currently requires witnesses to disclose potential conflicts of interest.

Dr. Gruber even highlighted this point when he said in his February 23 letter that, ''to the best of my recollection, during the course of my health care reform work with Congress, no Member or staffer ever asked me whether I held any government contracts.''

In retrospect, if we were to have asked Dr. Gruber to disclose his agreements with the administration up front, we would have had the ability to ask him questions in-person, and he would have been given a chance to explain the relationship before testifying, so that his testimony could be given its proper weight. Our failure as an institution to ask for transparency in testimony is a problem that has a simple

solution, a solution that most other institutions that rely on the work of academic experts have already implemented. The solution is to simply ask witnesses who come before the Senate to disclose any potential conflicts of interest up front.

Our colleagues in the House of Representatives are already requiring witnesses to do this and there is no reason why we shouldn't require the same level of transparency from witnesses who come before the Senate.

That is why today I am submitting the Witness Sunshine resolution. This resolution will make the Senate committee hearings more transparent and thus more credible and valuable to the legislative process. It achieves this goal by requiring each witness that appears before any Senate committee to submit a form disclosing outside affiliations and financial interests in any organizations, including government entities, that are directly related to the topic of the committee hearing.

In August, I was happy to learn that the administration is supportive of this idea. In an August 4 letter, Secretary Sebelius wrote me saying, ''Should the Senate Finance Committee or any other Congressional Committee choose to [require witnesses to submit financial disclosure forms in advance of an appearance before the Committee], I would certainly encourage HHS contractors to fully comply with [that requirement].''

So adopting this rule should be an easy decision for the Senate. Our colleagues in the House of Representatives have been requiring this level of transparency for over a decade and now we know that the administration supports the idea as well. The House tells me that their witnesses are not overburdened or discouraged to offer testimony because of this requirement. I have carefully drafted this resolution so that the requirement for transparency similarly does not burden Senate witnesses.

It is time for this body to meet the standards for transparency set by the House and followed in so many other institutions across the country. Supporting my resolution will help ensure that future testimony can be given its proper weight, and end the uncertainty of unknown interests influencing testimony. I urge my colleagues to support my resolution.

SENATE RESOLUTION 666—DESIGNATING OCTOBER 15, 2010, AS ''NATIONAL ALTERNATIVE FUEL VEHICLE DAY''

Mr. ROCKEFELLER submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 666

Whereas the United States should reduce the dependence of the United States on foreign oil and enhance the energy security of the United States by creating a transportation sector that is less dependent on oil;

Whereas the United States should improve the air quality of the United States by reducing emissions from the millions of motor vehicles that operate in the United States;

Whereas the United States should foster national expertise and technological advancement in cleaner, more energy-efficient alternative fuel and advanced technology vehicles;

Whereas a robust domestic industry for alternative fuels and alternative fuel and advanced technology vehicles will create jobs and increase the competitiveness of the United States in the international community;

Whereas the people of the United States need more options for clean and energy-efficient transportation;

Whereas the mainstream adoption of alternative fuel and advanced technology vehicles will produce benefits at the local, national, and international levels;

Whereas consumers and businesses require a better understanding of the benefits of alternative fuel and advanced technology vehicles;

Whereas first responders require proper and comprehensive training to become fully prepared for any precautionary measures that the first responders may need to take during incidents and extrications that involve alternative fuel and advanced technology vehicles;

Whereas the Federal Government can lead the way toward a cleaner and more efficient transportation sector by choosing alternative fuel and advanced technology vehicles for the fleets of the Federal Government; and

Whereas Federal support for the adoption of alternative fuel and advanced technology vehicles can accelerate greater energy independence for the United States, improve the environmental security of the United States, and address global climate change: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates October 15, 2010, as ''National Alternative Fuel Vehicle Day'';

(2) supports National Alternative Fuel Vehicle Day as a day to promote programs and activities that will lead to the greater use of cleaner, more efficient transportation that uses new sources of energy; and

(3) urges the people of the United States—

(A) to increase the personal and commercial use of clean, energy-efficient alternative fuel and advanced technology vehicles;

(B) to promote public sector adoption of clean, energy-efficient alternative fuel and advanced technology vehicles; and

(C) to encourage the adoption of Federal policies to reduce the dependence of the United States on foreign oil through the advancement and adoption of alternative, advanced, and emerging vehicle and fuel technologies.

SENATE RESOLUTION 667—RECOGNIZING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE COASTAL STATES ORGANIZATION

Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. GREGG, and Ms. SNOWE) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 667

Whereas, in 2010, the Coastal States Organization (referred to in this preamble as the ''CSO'') is celebrating its 40th anniversary of representing the Governors of the 35 coastal States, commonwealths, and territories of the United States on issues relating to the sound management of coastal, ocean, and Great Lakes resources;

Whereas the CSO was created in 1969 by a resolution, which was endorsed unanimously, of the National Governors Association;

Whereas, in January 1970, the first meeting of the CSO was held in Savannah, Georgia;

Whereas, in October 2010, the CSO will celebrate its 40th anniversary in Monterey, California;

Whereas the CSO has been empowered to contribute to the development and operation of the national coastal zone management program, which was established by the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1451 et seq.);

Whereas the CSO is a nonpartisan organization comprised of economically, environmentally, geographically, and socially diverse States, territories, and commonwealths;

Whereas the CSO serves as a means for the Governors of the member States, territories, and commonwealths to communicate with Congress and the executive branch on coastal, ocean, and Great Lakes policies, programs, and affairs; and

Whereas the member States, territories, and commonwealths of the CSO have a responsibility to work with the Federal Government to manage and conserve the public trust in coastal and ocean ecosystems as well as the quality of life in coastal communities for the benefit of current and future generations: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the 40th anniversary of the Coastal States Organization; and

(2) supports the role of States, territories, and commonwealths in the stewardship of coastal, ocean, and Great Lakes resources.

SENATE RESOLUTION 668—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF OCTOBER 20, 2010, AS THE ''NATIONAL DAY ON WRITING''

Mr. CASEY (for himself, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. SANDERS, and Mr. BROWN of Ohio) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to.

S. RES. 668

Whereas people in the 21st century are writing more than ever before for personal, professional, and civic purposes;

Whereas the social nature of writing invites people of every age, profession, and walk of life to create meaning through composing;

Whereas more and more people in every occupation deem writing as essential and influential in their work;

Whereas writers continue to learn how to write for different purposes, audiences, and occasions throughout their lifetimes;

Whereas developing digital technologies expand the possibilities for composing in multiple media at a faster pace than ever before;

Whereas young people are leading the way in developing new forms of composing by using different forms of digital media;

Whereas effective communication contributes to building a global economy and a global community;

Whereas the National Council of Teachers of English, in conjunction with its many national and local partners, honors and celebrates the importance of writing through the National Day on Writing;

Whereas the National Day on Writing celebrates the foundational place of writing in the personal, professional, and civic lives of the people of the United States;

Whereas the National Day on Writing provides an opportunity for individuals across

the United States to share and exhibit their written works through the National Gallery of Writing;

Whereas the National Day on Writing highlights the importance of writing instruction and practice at every educational level and in every subject area;

Whereas the National Day on Writing emphasizes the lifelong process of learning to write and compose for different audiences, purposes, and occasions;

Whereas the National Day on Writing honors the use of the full range of media for composing, from traditional tools like print, audio, and video, to Web 2.0 tools like blogs, wikis, and podcasts; and

Whereas the National Day on Writing encourages all people of the United States to write, as well as to enjoy and learn from the writing of others: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of October 20, 2010, as the ''National Day on Writing'';

(2) strongly affirms the purposes of the National Day on Writing;

(3) encourages participation in the National Galley of Writing, which serves as an exemplary living archive of the centrality of writing in the lives of the people of the United States; and

(4) encourages educational institutions, businesses, community and civic associations, and other organizations to promote awareness of the National Day on Writing and celebrate the writing of the members those organizations through individual submissions to the National Gallery of Writing.

SENATE RESOLUTION 669—RECOGNIZING FILIPINO AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH IN OCTOBER 2010

Mr. REID (for himself, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. ENSIGN, Mr. MENENDEZ, and Ms. CANTWELL) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 669

Whereas the earliest documented Filipino presence in the continental United States was on October 18, 1587, when the first ''Luzones Indios'' set foot in Morro Bay, California, on board the Manila-built galleon ship Nuestra Senora de Esperanza;

Whereas the Filipino American National Historical Society recognizes the year of 1763 as the date of the first permanent Filipino settlement in the United States in St. Malo, Louisiana, which set in motion the focus on the story of our Nation's past from a new perspective by concentrating on the economic, cultural, social, and other notable contributions that Filipino Americans have made in countless ways toward the development of the history of the United States;

Whereas the Filipino-American community is the second largest Asian-American group in the United States, with a population of approximately 3,100,000 people;

Whereas Filipino-American servicemen and servicewomen have a longstanding history serving in the Armed Services, from the Civil War to the Iraq and Afghanistan conflicts, including the 250,000 Filipinos who fought under the United States flag during World War II to protect and defend this country;

Whereas 9 Filipino Americans have received the Congressional Medal of Honor, the highest award for valor in action against an enemy force that can be bestowed upon an individual serving in the United States Armed Forces;

Whereas Filipino Americans are an integral part of the United States health care system as nurses, doctors, and other medical professionals;

Whereas Filipino Americans have contributed greatly to the fine arts, music, dance, literature, education, business, literature, journalism, sports, fashion, politics, government, science, technology, and other fields in the United States that enrich the landscape of the country;

Whereas efforts should continue to promote the study of Filipino-American history and culture, as mandated in the mission statement of the Filipino American National Historical Society, because the roles of Filipino Americans and other people of color have been overlooked in the writing, teaching, and learning of United States history;

Whereas it is imperative for Filipino-American youth to have positive role models to instill in them the importance of education, complemented with the richness of their ethnicity and the value of their legacy; and

Whereas Filipino American History Month is celebrated during the month of October 2010: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the celebration of Filipino American History Month 2010 as a study of the advancement of Filipino Americans, as a time of reflection and remembrance, and as a time to renew efforts toward the research and examination of history and culture in order to provide an opportunity for all people in the United States to learn and appreciate more about Filipino Americans and their historic contributions to the Nation; and

(2) urges the people of the United States to observe Filipino American History Month 2010 with appropriate programs and activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 670—DESIGNATING THE WEEK BEGINNING ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2010, AS ''NATIONAL VETERANS HISTORY PROJECT WEEK''

Mr. CRAPO (for himself, Mrs, SHAHEEN, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. JOHANNS, Mr. RISCH, and Mr. LUGAR) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 670

Whereas 2010 marks the 10th anniversary of the establishment of the Veterans History Project by Congress in order to collect and preserve the wartime stories of veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States;

Whereas Congress charged the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress to undertake the Veterans History Project and to engage the public in the creation of a collection of oral histories that would be a lasting tribute to individual veterans;

Whereas the Veterans History Project relies on a corps of volunteer interviewers, partner organizations, and an array of civic minded institutions nationwide who interview veterans according to the guidelines outlined by the project;

Whereas these oral histories have created an abundant resource for scholars to gather first-hand accounts of veterans' experience in World War I, World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Persian Gulf War, and the Afghanistan and Iraq conflicts;

Whereas there are 17,000,000 wartime veterans in the United States whose stories can educate people of all ages about important moments and events in the history of the United States and the world and provide instructive narratives that illuminate the meanings of ''service'', ''sacrifice'', ''citizenship'', and ''democracy'';

Whereas more than 70,000 oral histories have already been collected and more than 8,000 oral histories are fully digitized and available through the website of the Library of Congress;

Whereas the Veterans History Project will increase the number of oral histories that can be collected and preserved and increase the number of veterans it honors; and

Whereas ''National Veterans Awareness Week'' has been recognized by Congress in previous years: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week beginning on Monday, November 8, 2010, as ''National Veterans History Project Week'';

(2) calls on the people of the United States to interview at least 1 veteran in their families or communities according to guidelines provided by the Veterans History Project; and

(3) encourages national, State, and local organizations along with Federal, State, city, and county governmental institutions to participate in support of the effort to document, preserve, and honor the service of veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 671—SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF RED RIBBON WEEK, 2010

Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. SCHUMER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. CRAPO) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 671

Whereas the Red Ribbon Campaign was established to commemorate the service of Enrique ''Kiki'' Camarena, a special agent of the Drug Enforcement Administration for 11 years who was murdered in the line of duty in 1985 while engaged in the battle against illicit drugs;

Whereas 2010 marks 25 years since the death of Special Agent Camarena;

Whereas the Red Ribbon Campaign was established by the National Family Partnership to preserve the memory of Special Agent Camarena and further the cause for which he gave his life;

Whereas the Red Ribbon Campaign has been nationally recognized since 1988 and is now the oldest and largest drug prevention program in the United States, reaching millions of young people each year during Red Ribbon Week;

Whereas the Drug Enforcement Administration, established in 1973, aggressively targets organizations involved in the growing, manufacturing, and distribution of controlled substances and has been a steadfast partner in commemorating Red Ribbon Week;

Whereas the Governors and attorneys general of the States, the National Family Partnership, Parent Teacher Associations, Boys and Girls Clubs of America, PRIDE Youth Programs, the Drug Enforcement Administration, and more than 100 other organizations throughout the United States annually celebrate Red Ribbon Week during the period of October 23 through October 31;

Whereas the objective of Red Ribbon Week is to promote the creation of drug-free communities through drug prevention efforts, education, parental involvement, and community-wide support;

Whereas drug abuse is one of the major challenges that the Nation faces in securing a safe and healthy future for families in the United States;

Whereas drug abuse and alcohol abuse contribute to domestic violence and sexual assault and place the lives of children at risk;

Whereas, between 1997 and 2007, the percentages of admissions to substance abuse treatment programs as a result of the abuse of marijuana and methamphetamines rose significantly;

Whereas drug dealers specifically target children by marketing illicit drugs that mimic the appearance and names of well-known brand-name candies and foods; and

Whereas parents, youth, schools, businesses, law enforcement agencies, religious institutions, service organizations, senior citizens, medical and military personnel, sports teams, and individuals throughout the United States will demonstrate their commitment to healthy, productive, and drug-free lifestyles by wearing and displaying red ribbons during the week-long celebration of Red Ribbon Week: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of Red Ribbon Week, 2010;

(2) encourages children and teens to choose to live drug-free lives; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States to—

(A) promote the creation of drug-free communities; and

(B) participate in drug prevention activities to show support for healthy, productive, and drug-free lifestyles.

SENATE RESOLUTION 672—DESIGNATING OCTOBER 9, 2010, AS ''NATIONAL CHESS DAY'' TO ENHANCE AWARENESS AND ENCOURAGE STUDENTS AND ADULTS TO ENGAGE IN A GAME KNOWN TO ENHANCE CRITICAL THINKING AND PROBLEM-SOLVING SKILLS

Mr. ROCKEFELLER (for himself and Mrs. HUTCHISON) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 672

Whereas it is estimated that chess is played by 39,000,000 people in the United States;

Whereas there are over 75,000 members of the United States Chess Federation (referred to in this preamble as the ''Federation''), and unknown numbers of additional people in the United States who play the game without joining an official organization;

Whereas approximately half of the members of the Federation are scholastic members, and many of the scholastic members join by the age of 10;

Whereas the Federation is very supportive of the scholastic programs and sponsors a Certified Chess Coach program that provides the coaches involved in the scholastic programs training and ensures schools and students can have confidence the program;

Whereas many studies have linked chess programs to the improvement of student scores in reading and math, as well as improved self-esteem, and the Federation offers a school curriculum to educators to help incorporate chess into the school curriculum;

Whereas chess is a powerful cognitive learning tool that can be used to successfully enhance reading and math concepts; and

Whereas chess engages students of all learning styles and strengths and promotes problem-solving and higher-level thinking skills: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates October 9, 2010, as ''National Chess Day''; and

(2) encourages the people of the United States to observe ''National Chess Day'' with appropriate programs and activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 673—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT IT VALUES THE ACTIVE PARTICIPATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA AS THE STATE PARTNER OF THE VERMONT NATIONAL GUARD OVER THE PAST 15 YEARS

Mr. LEAHY submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 673

Whereas the National Guard State Partnership Program was created by the Department of the Army in 1993 to link foreign partner countries with segments of the National Guard to foster mutual interests and establish long-term relationships;

Whereas in March 1995, after the signing of the Memorandum for Understanding in 1994, a Vermont State Partnership Program was established between the State of Vermont and the Republic of Macedonia;

Whereas since 1995, Macedonia and Vermont have participated in more than 200 joint activities;

Whereas more than 4,000 members of the Ministry of Defense and armed forces of Macedonia have received knowledge and training according to the standards, tactics, and strategies of the United States Armed Forces;

Whereas the joint activities of the Vermont Macedonia state partnership have shown the military of Macedonia how the military of the United States operates and have prepared and trained soldiers for international engagements, civil-military operations, crisis management, economic development, higher education, and environmental policy;

Whereas Macedonia has participated in NATO-led and international military missions in Afghanistan since August 2002 and increased troop levels in 2010;

Whereas the Government of Macedonia has made a substantial contribution of troops to the NATO International Security Assistance Force relative to the population size of the country;

Whereas the Government of Macedonia participates in regional cooperation initiatives and provides assistance to neighboring countries;

Whereas during the Kosovo crisis of 1999, territory in Macedonia served as a staging area and main corridor for logistical support to the NATO Kosovo Force (commonly referred to as ''KFOR'');

Whereas the Government of Macedonia has led the KFOR Coordination Centre for logistical support in Skopje since 2006;

Whereas in the interest of a faithful partnership with the United States, the Government of Macedonia deployed troops to Iraq under the leadership of the Government of the United States until 2008;

Whereas soldiers from Macedonia earned 120 medals awarded by the United States;

Whereas in July 2006, the Government of Macedonia deployed a helicopter detachment unit and medical team to Bosnia and Herzegovina as part of Operation Althea led by the European Union, which continues today; and

Whereas since April 2010, troops from Macedonia have deployed to Afghanistan and have been embedded in the 86th Infantry Brigade Combat Team of the Vermont National Guard as a result of the longstanding military partnership and spirit of mutual confidence and cooperation between Macedonia and Vermont: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the cooperation between the State of Vermont and the Republic of Macedonia and the joint military partnership between the Vermont National Guard and the Army of the Republic of Macedonia for the past 15 years;

(2) greatly appreciates these efforts by the Republic of Macedonia and congratulates the Government and people of Macedonia on their commitment to and participation with the Government and people of the United Sates and other countries in advancing peace, democracy, stability, and mutual understanding among governments and people around the world; and

(3) expresses appreciation for the joint endeavors of the Governments of Macedonia and the United States in combating terrorist activities around the world.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I am pleased to introduce and bring to the Senate's attention today a resolution which recognizes the value of the defense relationship between the National Guard of the State of Vermont and the military services of the Republic of Macedonia, under the National Guard State Partnership Program.

Time and again, the Republic of Macedonia has contributed to important NATO-led missions, including several hundred troops currently deployed to Afghanistan along with the 86th Infantry Brigade Combat Team of the Vermont National Guard. This relationship has yielded tangible benefits for both our countries, and I am proud of the role that Vermont has played in strengthening and broadening a growing international partnership.

The Vermont National Guard began its relationship with the armed services of the Republic of Macedonia in 1994, shortly after the Department of the Army created the National Guard State Partnership Program in 1993. Since 1995, the Republic of Macedonia and the Vermont Guard have participated in more than 200 joint activities, and more than 4000 members of the Macedonian Ministry of Defense have been trained by the Vermont Guard.

Macedonia has participated in NATO-led and international military missions in Afghanistan since August 2002, increasing its troop levels there in 2010. Especially given its relatively small population, Macedonia has made a substantial, needed and welcome contribution of troops to the NATO International Security Assistance Force.

Macedonia's participation in international security efforts also precedes the Afghanistan deployment. During the Kosovo crisis of 1999, territory in Macedonia served as a staging area and main corridor for logistical support to the NATO Kosovo Force, commonly referred to as ''KFOR,'' and the Government of Macedonia has led the KFOR Coordination Centre for logistical support in Skopje since 2006. In the interest of underscoring a faithful partnership with the United States, the Government of Macedonia even deployed troops to Iraq until 2008. Macedonian

soldiers have been recognized by the U.S. military with more than 120 medals.

Given all of these valuable efforts, I believe it is time the United States Senate offered its commendation and appreciation to the Government and people of the Republic of Macedonia. I hope the Senate will heartily concur in this much-deserved recognition.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 73—HONORING THE LIFE OF DR. RONALD W. WALTERS AND COMMENDING HIS LIFE AS AN EXAMPLE TO FUTURE GENERATIONS OF THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. BROWNBACK (for himself, Mr. BURRIS, and Mr. ROBERTS) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. CON. RES. 73

Whereas Dr. Walters was born on July 20, 1938, in Wichita, Kansas, the eldest of 7 children born to Gilmar and Maxine Fray Walters;

Whereas Dr. Walters received a Bachelor of Arts in History and Government from Fisk University in 1963, a Master of Arts in African Studies from American University in 1966, and a Doctor of Philosophy in International Studies from American University in 1971;

Whereas Dr. Walters was a lifelong scholar and activist on civil rights issues;

Whereas in July 1958, while a student at Fisk University, Dr. Walters organized with his cousin, Carol Parks, a 3-week, silent sit-in at the Dockum Drug Store in Wichita, Kansas to protest the segregated lunch counters at the Dockum Drug Store;

Whereas during the sit-in at the Dockum Drug Store, Dr. Walters, Carol Parks, and the other sit-in participants were taunted for their activism, which inspired others to join the protest and contributed to the eventual success of the sit-in;

Whereas as a result of the sit-in, the owner of the Dockum Drug Store eliminated the segregated lunch counters;

Whereas the success of the sit-in at the Dockum Drug Store led Dr. Walters and his fellow protestors to organize sit-ins at other segregated restaurants in Wichita, Kansas, which inspired others to organize sit-ins throughout the United States as acts of civil disobedience during the civil rights movement;

Whereas Dr. Walters was an Assistant Professor of Political Science at Syracuse University from 1968 through 1969;

Whereas Dr. Walters served as chair of the Afro-American Studies department at Brandeis University from 1969 through 1971;

Whereas Dr. Walters left Brandeis University for Howard University in 1971, where Dr. Walters taught for 25 years, serving as chair of the Political Science department from 1990 to 1996;

Whereas throughout his time at Howard University, Dr. Walters continued to work as an activist for civil rights policies;

Whereas Dr. Walters served as a top advisor for Congressman Charles Diggs, the first Chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus, and helped Congressman Diggs conceptualize the strategic vision of the Congressional Black Caucus;

Whereas Dr. Walters served on the staff of Congressman William Gray, III in 1979;

Whereas Dr. Walters served as the Deputy Campaign Manager for the 1984 Presidential campaign of the Reverend Jesse Jackson and as the Conventions Operations Consultant for the 1988 Presidential campaign of the Reverend Jesse Jackson;

Whereas Dr. Walters authored many political articles and books, and over the course of his academic career, received the Ralph Bunche Award for Black Presidential Politics in America from the American Political Science Association and the Best Book Award for Black Presidential Politics in America from the National Conference of Black Political Scientists;

Whereas Dr. Walters was a Professor of Government and Politics at the University of Maryland College Park from 1996 through 2009;

Whereas throughout his life, Dr. Walters was an active member of many national organizations, including the Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity, the Omicron Delta Kappa fraternity, and the Pi Sigma Alpha fraternity;

Whereas Dr. Walters founded 2 national organizations, the National Congress of Black Faculty and the National Black Independent Political Party;

Whereas Dr. Walters was an active member of many professional associations, including the African Heritage Studies Association, the American Political Science Association, the Association of Black Sociologists, the National Black Leadership Roundtable, the National Conference of Black Political Scientists, the Ralph Bunche Institute, the Social Science Research Council, and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference;

Whereas Dr. Walters participated in several important research studies including the National Black Election Study carried out from 1984 through 1985 with the Institute for Social and Political Research at the University of Michigan, the 1971 through 1973 Advisory Board Research Program, and the 1974 through 1979 Public Policy Fellows Program carried out at the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies in Washington, D.C.;

Whereas Dr. Walters received many university faculty honors, including the 1982 Distinguished Faculty Award from Howard University, the 1992 Distinguished Alumnus Award from Fisk University, the 2000 School of International Service Alumnus of the Year award from American University, and the Distinguished Faculty Award from the University of Maryland College Park;

Whereas Dr. Walters received many academic awards, including the 1963 Reader's Digest Writing Award, the 1984 Distinguished Scholar/Activist Award from The Black Scholar Magazine, the 1985 Ida Wells Barnett Award from the Association of Black School Educators, and an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from Fisk University in 2010;

Whereas Dr. Walters received several national service awards, including the 1st annual Distinguished Service Award from the Wichita Black Historical Society in 1987 and the 2002 Award for Distinguished Service to the Devolution Initiative from the W. K. Kellogg Foundation;

Whereas the sit-in at the Dockum Drug Store occurred almost 2 years before the more well-publicized lunchroom sit-ins in Greensboro, North Carolina, but the sit-in had received little national attention until Dr. Walters was honored in 2006 with a medal from the NAACP for organizing the historical Wichita, Kansas sit-in;

Whereas Dr. Walters died on September 10, 2010, at the age of 72 in Silver Spring, Maryland;

Whereas Dr. Walters was honored with a memorial service on September 16, 2010, at Howard University, as Dr. Walters had intended to return to Howard University as a senior researcher and lecturer;

Whereas Dr. Walters was also honored with a memorial service on September 20, 2010, at the historic Shiloh Baptist church; and

Whereas the eulogy for Dr. Walters was delivered by the Reverend Jesse Jackson at both memorial services: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress—

(1) expresses the condolences of Congress to family of Dr. Ronald W. Walters, especially his wife, Mrs. Patricia Walters, his 3 brothers, Duane, Terrance, and Kevin, and his 2 sisters, Marcia and Sharon; and

(2) honors the life of Dr. Ronald W. Walters, an ambassador for freedom and democracy, whose lifelong dedication and service stand as an outstanding example of leadership for all mankind.

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, it gives me great pleasure to join with my colleagues today and honor a native Kansan who, 52 years ago, committed an act of courage that was the basis for inspiring many civil rights movements throughout our country, the late Dr. Ronald Walters, humanitarian, civil rights activist and educator. In 1958, a young Ronald Walters returned to his hometown of Wichita, KS to work during his summer break from Fisk University in Nashville, TN. Like most college students, Ronald would often eat at one of the local Wichita hangouts for his lunch break, which, at the time, were segregated. Seeing the injustice of the segregation, Ronald and his cousin, Carol Parks, decided to organize a sit-in at one of the most popular lunch spots in Wichita, Dockum Drugstore. Ronald and his group of protestors silently sat at the Dockum's lunch counter in protest of their segregated policy. They were taunted for their action, but the taunting inspired more people to join the sit-in protest, both black and white.

After more than three weeks of the silent sit-in, the owner decided to discard the policy of segregated counters due to the fact the sit-in had caused him to lose too much money. Their success at Dockum's led Ronald and the group of protestors to continue their sit-ins at other segregated restaurants in Wichita. Though Ronald's sit-in was held in the middle of America—Wichita, KS—the effect reverberated around the Nation and is widely considered by scholars to be the Nation's first lunch-counter sit-in protests, which paved the way to ending segregation in our country.

Ronald Walters completed his education at Fisk University, receiving a Bachelor of Arts degree in History and Government, a Master of Arts in African Studies degree from American University in 1966, and a Doctor of Philosophy in International Studies degree from American University in 1971.

Dr. Walters went on to be an associate professor at both Syracuse and Brandeis Universities before moving to Howard University, where he stayed for 25 years and became the chair of the Political Science department from 1990–1996.

During his time at Howard, Dr. Walters continued his activism in civil rights policies. He worked as a Senior

Foreign Affairs Consultant for Congressman Charles Diggs, D–MI, and for Congressman William Gray, III, D–PA, in 1979. Dr. Walters was also chosen to be the Deputy Campaign Manager for Reverend Jesse Jackson's Presidential Campaign in 1984 and as the Conventions Operations Consultant in Reverend Jesse Jackson's 1988 Presidential run.

Dr. Walters was also a proud and active member of many national organizations, including the African Heritage Studies Association, American Political Science Association, the Kappa Alpha Psi, Omicron Delta Kappa, and Pi Sigma Alpha fraternities, and the National Conference of Black Political Scientists.

Dr. Walters not only was a civil rights activist, but a political scholar as well. He authored many articles and books throughout his life, and received awards for them, including the Ralph Bunche Award for the best book on race and politics from the American Political Science Association and the Best Book Award from the National Conference of Black Political Scientists.

Dr. Walters also received many academic awards, including the 1963 Reader's Digest Writing Award and the 1984 Distinguished Scholar/Activist Award from The Black Scholar Magazine.

Dr. Walters left Howard to become a Professor of Government and Politics at the University of Maryland College Park from 1996–2009.

Dr. Walters' sit-in occurred almost two years before the better publicized lunch-room sit-ins in Greensboro, NC, but it had received little attention until 2006, when he was honored with a medal from the NAACP for organizing the historical Wichita, KS, sit-in.

Today, I am proud to join with my colleagues in the United States Senate to honor this Kansans' courageous actions in our Nation's history and his legacy of ensuring that America lives up to the ideals upon which it was founded. Dr. Walters was a true and great ambassador of freedom and democracy, whose lifelong dedication and service stand as an outstanding example of leadership for all mankind.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 74—HONORING THE 28TH INFANTRY DIVISION FOR SERVING AND PROTECTING THE UNITED STATES

Mr. CASEY (for himself and Mr. SPECTER) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. CON. RES. 74

Whereas some units of the 28th Infantry Division date back to 1747;

Whereas units that would one day comprise the 28th Infantry Division served in the Revolutionary War, including units that served in the Continental Army under General George Washington;

Whereas what eventually became the 28th Infantry Division was initially established March 12 through 20, 1879, as the Division of the National Guard of Pennsylvania, and is recognized as the oldest, continuously serving division in the Army;

Whereas the 28th Infantry Division as we know it today was formed on September 1, 1917, and was integral to the success of World War I campaigns in the European theater, including those in Champagne, Champagne-Marne, Aisne-Marne, Oise-Aisne, Lorraine, and Meuse-Argonne;

Whereas the 28th Infantry Division adopted the title of ''Iron Division'' for the valiant efforts of the Division during World War I;

Whereas the 28th Infantry Division contributed to military operations in Normandy, Northern France, Rhineland, Ardennes-Alsace, and Central Europe during World War II;

Whereas the 28th Infantry Division withstood the onslaught of the German offensive during the Battle of the Bulge, giving time for reinforcements to arrive and defeat the Germans;

Whereas the 28th Infantry Division was Federalized again in 1950 to serve in Germany;

Whereas the 28th Infantry Division was folded into the Army Selective Reserve Force during the Vietnam War;

Whereas the 28th Infantry Division aided relief efforts throughout the devastating aftermath of Hurricane Agnes in 1972;

Whereas the 28th Infantry Division was called to action during the partial meltdown of the nuclear reactor of the Three Mile Island Nuclear Generating Station in 1979;

Whereas elements of the 28th Infantry Division contributed to the international coalition forces in Operation Desert Storm;

Whereas the 28th Infantry Division and its detached units mobilized and deployed as part of peacekeeping missions in Bosnia-Herzegovina, the Republic of Kosovo, and the Sinai Peninsula;

Whereas the 28th Infantry Division deployed troops as part of Operation Noble Eagle in the aftermath of the September 11, 2001, attacks;

Whereas the 28th Infantry Division deployed troops to Afghanistan as part of Operation Enduring Freedom, and helped to secure the country and bring humanitarian relief to the Afghan people;

Whereas in Operation Iraqi Freedom, elements of the 28th Infantry Division played a role in the invasion of Iraq, the provision of security in post-invasion Iraq, the training of an Iraqi police force, the securing of transport convoys, and the safe detainment of suspected terrorists;

Whereas more than 2,600 soldiers of the 28th Infantry Division remain missing in action from World War I and World War II;

Whereas the 28th Infantry Division has 127 units in 90 armories in 75 cities across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania;

Whereas the 28th Infantry Division has been sent to aid portions of the United States affected by winter storms, flooding, violent windstorms, and other severe weather emergencies; and

Whereas 10 recipients of the Medal of Honor, the Nation's highest award for valor, have been soldiers of the 28th Infantry Division: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress—

(1) honors the 28th Infantry Division for serving and protecting the United States; and

(2) directs the Secretary of the Senate to transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to the Adjutant General of the Pennsylvania National Guard for appropriate display.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on September 29, 2010, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing entitled ''A Comparison of International Housing Finance Systems.''

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on September 29, 2010, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing entitled ''The Al-Megrahi Release: One Year Later.''

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on September 29, 2010, at 2:15 p.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on September 29, 2010, at 10 a.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on September 29, 2010, at 2 p.m., in room SD–226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled ''Judicial Nominations.''

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Rules and Administration be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on September 29, 2010, at 10 a.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON CRIME AND DRUGS

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Crime and Drugs, be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on September 29, 2010, at 10 a.m., in room SD–226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled ''Crimes Against America's Homeless: Is the Violence Growing?''

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENERGY

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Energy be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on September 29, 2010, at 10 a.m. in room SD–366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON FEDERAL FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT, GOVERNMENT INFORMATION, FEDERAL SERVICES, AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the 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 September 29, 2010, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing entitled ''Improving Financial Accountability at the Department of Defense.''

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS AND THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON PUBLIC LANDS AND FOREST

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on National Parks, and the Subcommittee on Public Lands and Forest be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate to conduct a hearing on September 29, 2010, at 2:30 p.m., in room SD–366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Ellen Montz of my staff be allowed floor privileges during the consideration of the S.J. Res. 39.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that my intern, Jake Sullivan, be granted privileges of the floor for the remainder of the day.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING AID WORKERS KILLED IN AFGHANISTAN

SPEECH OF

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2010

Mr. GOODLATTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 10 courageous men and women whose lives were brutally cut short in Nuristan Province, Afghanistan, on August 5th, 2010. These individuals devoted their lives to helping others, and unfortunately, paid the ultimate price.

In particular, I would like to recognize and honor Brian Carderelli, a constituent of mine from Harrisonburg, Virginia. Mr. Carderelli was a recent graduate from James Madison University and was working to chronicle the work of the aid workers by recording them in photographs and video. Unlike many new college graduates, Mr. Carderelli chose to pursue a career in a challenging foreign environment, where his dedication to improving the lives of others took priority. His work with the International Assistance Mission and the International School of Kabul are a testament to that dedication.

Though the work of Mr. Carderelli and the International Assistance Mission team was certainly valued by those they helped, unfortunately not everyone appreciated their efforts. For several years, the Taliban ruled Afghanistan with brutality and terror. Intolerance for other religions and ignorance of human rights was standard. While the situation for the citizens of Afghanistan has improved since the rule of the Taliban, their presence has not been eliminated, and their brutal tactics persist.

The work of Brian Carderelli and his nine fellow workers is the work that will ultimately erode support for the Taliban and end that chapter in the country's history for good. Their efforts were selfless and humble, and are an inspiration to us all. These dedicated individuals will be missed, but the untold impact that each one of them had on the lives that they touched will certainly not be forgotten.

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. THOMAS E. PETRI

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2010

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, while there are several issues that we would like to continue working on as this bill moves forward, I want to voice my support for H.R. 4714, the "National Transportation Safety Board Reauthorization Act of 2010."

The NTSB is a small, but important, part of the federal government and makes critical contributions to our nation's transportation safety each year.

In 1967, Congress formed the NTSB as an independent agency to investigate civil aviation accidents and significant transportation accidents in the surface modes—railroad, highway, marine, and pipeline—as well as assisting victims of fatal accidents.

Since its creation in 1967, the NTSB has investigated more than 132,000 aviation accidents and more than 10,000 accidents in other transportation modes. As a result of these investigations, the Board has issued a total of almost 13,000 safety recommendations and over 82 percent of those have been adopted.

In making safety improvement recommendations based on world-class investigations, hundreds of NTSB professionals as well as the Federal Aviation Administration and the aviation industry have helped create the safest aviation system in the world. With its current resources, NTSB continues to do a tremendous service to this Nation and the traveling public in all modes of transportation.

H.R. 4714, as amended, provides for a four-year reauthorization—fiscal years 2011 through 2014.

Given the size of the federal deficit and the improvement in aviation safety resulting in fewer aviation accidents requiring NTSB's attention, we are concerned with the level of funding authorized in this bill.

We believe that a better starting point for the NTSB's funding levels is $100.4 million, the amount requested in the fiscal year 2011 President's budget. The NTSB both supports and is comfortable with the President's budget Request.

Despite the state of the federal budget, as introduced, H.R. 4714 would have authorized a twenty percent increase over current levels from 2010 to 2011.

Even a ten percent increase in authorization levels, as included in the amended version of H.R. 4714, raises concerns due to the Federal deficit. H.R. 4714, as amended, would authorize a total of a 27 percent increase in funding over 4 years.

We remain concerned with the authorization levels contained in the bill and look forward to continuing to work with our colleagues on this issue should H.R. 4714 go to conference.

This bill also expands the NTSB's authority to investigate "incidents" in all modes of transportation. The bill directs the NTSB to define the term "incidents" in a rulemaking. It is our understanding that the Department of Transportation will be given the opportunity to comment on and influence the NTSB's rulemaking. This bill would also require the formulation of Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) with each appropriate modal agency to describe and reach understanding on the roles and responsibilities of each party in the event of an NTSB incident investigation.

We believe that the inclusion of "incidents" in the definition of "accidents" will require close oversight by Congress to ensure that there are no negative impacts on the ability of each modal transportation agency to investigate and conduct enforcement activities. The potential for the NTSB to obtain evidence voluntarily from the parties involved in an incident may limit the evidence available to the modal agencies in the pursuit of an enforcement action.

We also remain concerned about the impact of a provision prohibiting the disclosure of information by party representatives during an investigation. While the intent of the provision is sincere, its impact may severely harm the party representative system, a system that has served the Nation well over the years.

We would like to work with the Chairman and Rep. CARNAHAN to ensure the provision achieves its intended result without unintended consequences.

Finally, we would like to thank the Chairman for trying to address the concerns raised at markup regarding the language in the bill on interim recommendations.

Unfortunately, despite these changes to the bill, we are still concerned that there may be some confusion with the issuance of both interim safety recommendations and final recommendations. Again, we hope the Chairman will continue to work with us to address these concerns as this bill moves forward.

While these are several issues that we would like to continue working on in a bipartisan manner, we do support H.R. 4714 and look forward to working together to improve the bill.

I thank the Chairman as well as my other colleagues for their work on this bipartisan bill.

HARVARD PILGRIM CANCELS MEDICARE ADVANTAGE PLAN, SADLY A SIGN OF MORE TO COME

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, sadly what we said would happen to the popular Medicare Advantage program when Congress enacted Obamacare is starting to come true. Harvard Pilgrim recently notified 22,000 New England seniors that it would be canceling their Medicare Advantage plans at the end of the year. The decision to cancel their participation in the program was made because of the newly enacted freeze in federal reimbursements and their concerns regarding the long-term viability of Medicare Advantage.

I am very afraid that Harvard Pilgrim is just the tip of the iceberg. Other Medicare Advantage providers will probably reach the same decision to cancel their participation. Health care reform was supposed to allow those individuals who liked their health care insurance to be able to keep it. Sadly these 22,000 New England seniors are now searching for new coverage in 2011. We must restore Medicare Advantage for our seniors that depend on it.

REGARDING THE IMPORTANCE OF NON-PROLIFERATION EFFORTS AND IRANIAN SANCTIONS

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. LANGEVIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to discuss the grave threat posed to the stability of the Middle East if the Iranian regime were to acquire or develop nuclear weapons technology.

In June, CIA Director Leon Panetta speculated that Iran probably has enough low-enriched uranium for two nuclear weapons. The silver lining, if there is one, is that according to Panetta we likely have sometime before they would be able to build weapons with this material. I firmly support the Administration's effort to use this limited time to press Iran in every way available to deter them from attaining a nuclear capability. It is important that the President have strong tools to enforce this effort, which is why I co-sponsored the Iran Sanctions Accountability and Divestment Act, which was signed into law on July 1, 2010. These sanctions have also been backed by the European Union.

Last week, in a speech at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, Stuart Levey, the Treasury Under Secretary for Terrorism and Financial Intelligence, said U.S. and international sanctions are ''dramatically isolating Iran financially and commercially.'' He was optimistic that this ''can and will create leverage for our diplomacy.'' By targeting Iran's import of refined petroleum and its banking industries, these sanctions are putting a squeeze on the regime and hopefully will ultimately discourage any illicit activity.

As Chairman of the Strategic Forces Subcommittee, I know all too well the seriousness of the nuclear weapons business. While these weapons cannot be put ''back in their bottle,'' responsible nations with this technology can work to stop those who seek to acquire them in order to hold the world and their neighbors hostage. I commend President Obama, Secretary of State Clinton, and my predecessor and friend Ellen Tauscher on making non-proliferation a cornerstone of U.S. foreign policy, and I hope the world community will join us in prioritizing non-proliferation and maintaining pressure on Iran as one critical step towards this goal.

NET ARMOR MADE IN FRANKLIN, MA SAVES LIVES IN AFGHANISTAN

HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. McGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I would like to share with my colleagues a message I received last week from Technology Solutions Group—LAST Armor, a manufacturing company in Franklin, Massachusetts, and a production facility of QinetiQ-NA (QNA). This company keeps good jobs in Franklin—but more importantly, Mr. Speaker, they save lives in Afghanistan.

The Franklin facility produces what is called ''net armor'' to protect a wide range of vehicles that transport our soldiers on missions in Afghanistan. This net design was developed jointly by QNA, DARPA and ONR. Easy to use, these QNA nets provide many types of vehicles with 360-degree protection, including overhead, from rocket-propelled grenades (RPGs). This ultra-lightweight, low-cost and easily adaptable protection will even defeat multiple RPG hits.

Earlier this year, I toured the Franklin facility. I had the opportunity to talk with the workers and plant managers, and I saw the net armor they were manufacturing. I heard the enthusiasm and pride they had in their work, and I tried to imagine how the light-weight nets that I held could possibly stop a rocket-launched grenade.

And then last Thursday, I received a note from the company. It was a story that appeared September 22nd in an online newsletter from Fort Campbell, Kentucky. It's written by U.S. Army 1st Lieutenant R.J. Peek, who is with the 3rd Battalion, 187th Infantry, 101st Airborne Division. His story is filed from Ghazni Province in Afghanistan, and he talks about how his platoon was ambushed and his truck, covered with the new net armor, had taken three direct hits by insurgent RPGs and not one penetrated the truck. He finishes his story with the following quote, ''All of the Soldiers whose vehicles were hit by RPGs are alive today and still in the fight'' because the QNA nets did exactly what they were supposed to do.

Madam Speaker, I hope all the workers at the Franklin facility have seen this report from the field. We are proud of the courage and sacrifice of our uniformed men and women in Afghanistan. But we are equally as proud of the men and women in Franklin, Massachusetts whose labor helps save the lives of our troops each and every day.

Madam Speaker, I would like to enter into the RECORD 1st Lieutenant Peek's story, so that all my colleagues can appreciate his candor and the description of what his platoon faces every day, and how the QNA nets are making a difference.

[From Clarksville Online, September 22, 2010]

(By U.S. Army 1st Lt. R.J. Peek, 3rd Battalion, 187th Infantry, 101st Airborne Division)

GHAZNI PROVINCE, AFGHANISTAN.—When 3rd Battalion, 187th Infantry began using new mine-resistant, ambush-protected all-terrain vehicles, they also made the switch from bar cage armor to net armor.

When the first few trucks moved into circulation with the net armor, many Soldiers were concerned about its effectiveness, but the nets were combat tested September 19th, and Soldiers approved.

U.S. Army 1st Lt. Matthew Ward from Herndon, VA, platoon leader of 2nd Platoon, B Company, 3rd Battalion, 187th Infantry, confessed he was skeptical about the nets. ''I just didn't think the thin net would be able to safeguard the vehicle and the Soldiers from a rocket-propelled grenade.''

While conducting a patrol along a highly traveled road in eastern Ghazni, insurgents initiated an ambush from close range. Less than 100 meters away, insurgents fired a volley of RPG rounds, followed by a series of machine gun fire and then another RPG.

The Soldiers of 2nd Plt., B Co. returned fire and moved their trucks forward out of the ambush. From their new position, the Soldiers continued to fire, forcing the enemy to break off the attack and flee. What amazed the Soldiers, and the leaders, was the trucks had taken three direct hits by insurgent RPGs and none had penetrated the trucks.

''The worst effect of the insurgents' RPG fire was that I got my bell rung a bit,'' said U.S. Army Pfc. Joseph Sweat from Smithville, Tennessee. Sweat was driving one of the trucks that was hit. ''The RPGs detonated at the nets, failing to penetrate the vehicle's armor,'' said U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Cameron Erisman from Hiram, GA.

''It turns out, the nets did exactly as advertised they would do,'' added Ward. ''All of the Soldiers whose vehicles were hit by RPGs are alive today and still in the fight.''

IN HONOR OF THE VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA—READING, PENNSYLVANIA CHAPTER

HON. JOE SESTAK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. SESTAK. Madam Speaker, on September 24th, 2010, in Reading, Pennsylvania, a ceremony marked the 22nd anniversary of that proud community's Vietnam Memorial. It is my personal honor to join the Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA), Reading, PA Chapter in celebrating that event. The author Myra MacPherson wrote that ''above all, Vietnam was a war that asked everything of a few and nothing of most in America.'' When called, many young Americans went abroad to fight for our Nation—just as their fathers did before them. Sadly, the sacrifices they made in Southeast Asia were not reciprocated by our government or the American public. They returned to a nation wracked by recession and without the medical care, counseling, educational opportunities or public support they deserved.

That outrageous neglect persisted for over thirty years as a grossly underfunded Department of Veterans Affairs was unable to meet their needs. As a result, courageous men and women suffered alone for years with the debilitating illnesses associated with exposure to Agent Orange and other physical and emotional maladies unique to that war. The fight to right those wrongs was led by the VVA, and as the senior most veteran ever elected to the House of Representatives, it has been my solemn duty in Congress to see that our Vietnam veterans receive the recognition and resources that belatedly fulfill our obligation to them and their families for their service to a now grateful Nation.

The 110th and 111th Congresses have worked very hard in that regard but more needs to be done. Madam Speaker, I ask that this chamber pause to acknowledge the patriotism, courage, and fraternity of the VVA and salute every veteran of the Vietnam War. With our nation again at war, let us continue our work to finally, fully support veterans of all conflicts. And let us pledge to never again abandon a generation of brave American warriors.

IN GRATITUDE TO CHRISTIAN SHREWSBURY

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of a brave young boy in my district, Christian Shrewsbury.

At just one year old, Christian is battling Spinal Muscular Atrophy II, a motor neuron disease, which affects the voluntary muscles that are used for activities such as crawling, walking, head and neck control and swallowing. It is a relatively common ''rare disorder'': approximately one in 6,000 babies born are affected, and about one in 40 people are genetic carriers.

Though there is currently no cure or treatment for SMA, I am profoundly inspired by the courage exhibited by Christian and his family each day.

On behalf of the U.S. House of Representatives, I extend our sincerest gratitude to Christian, for his spirit and the encouragement he provides to other young children and for the joy he brings to all around him.

PROVIDING FOR CONCURRENCE WITH AMENDMENTS IN SENATE AMENDMENT TO H.R. 3619, COAST GUARD AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2010

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, as Chairman of the Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 1665, which provides for concurrence by the House in the Senate Amendments to H.R. 3619, with amendments.

The Coast Guard reauthorization before us is the product of four years of work. I commend Chairman OBERSTAR for his leadership and Ranking Members MICA and LOBIONDO on the Transportation Committee for working so closely with us.

I also thank Chairman BENNIE THOMPSON and Ranking Member KING of the Homeland Security Committee—and I thank all of our Senate counterparts for their commitment to completing this authorization.

I have often described the Coast Guard as our ''thin blue line'' at sea. That line has rarely been stretched as thin as it was this past year as the service responded to the Gulf oil spill and the earthquake in Haiti while carrying out its other daily missions.

H.R. 3619 authorizes $10.2 billion in fiscal year 2011 for the Coast Guard and increases the authorized end-strength for military personnel by 1,500 members to 47,000 total personnel.

This is a small down-payment on what we owe our Coast Guardsmen and women—and it is long overdue.

This legislation also includes a number of finely tuned provisions strengthening the Coast Guard's implementation and management of its many missions.

Title IV of this legislation, which includes provisions I authored and that previously passed the House as H.R. 1665, will modernize the Coast Guard's management of its billion dollar annual acquisition program by imposing requirements that complement reforms the Coast Guard has already enacted and ensure full accountability for taxpayer funds.

Specifically, Title IV will require the appointment of a chief acquisition officer who can be a senior military officer or member of the senior executive service but who must be a trained acquisition professional with the highest available acquisition certification.

It will also eliminate the use of private sector lead systems integrators and require the Coast Guard to develop independent life-cycle cost estimates for its largest procurements.

Further, Title IV requires the Coast Guard to complete a thorough mission needs analysis and a preliminary affordability assessment before initiating a large acquisition; it requires the Coast Guard to consider trade-offs among cost, schedule, and performance when establishing operational requirements; and it requires thorough testing of new assets.

Finally, this legislation applies strict cost and schedule breach standards to Coast Guard acquisitions so that Congress will be alerted when cost overruns or schedule delays occur.

H.R. 3619 will also reorganize the service's senior leadership, strengthen its marine safety program, establish safety equipment and construction standards for certain fishing vessels, and strengthen the service's homeland security missions.

I am disappointed that a number of provisions in the House-passed legislation were dropped in the final bill, including provisions I authored that would have created a student loan program for maritime workers and provisions strengthening diversity at the Coast Guard Academy.

I will continue to work on these critical issues, including working to move legislation that I believe addresses significant current challenges.

That said, H.R. 3619 is an urgently needed authorization for the Coast Guard and I urge its passage in the House today.

Finally, I also join Chairman OBERSTAR in commending the outstanding service of the Staff Director of the Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, John Cullather.

John is one of the true professionals on the Hill—and he will be sorely missed.

His knowledge of maritime issues and of the history and missions of the Coast Guard is truly unparalleled—as is his knowledge of House procedures and his passion of service to those who work, travel, and recreate on our nation's waterways.

John is also an exceptional man—a profoundly generous and caring individual who has the respect of every single person on the Transportation Committee and of everyone throughout our maritime industry.

I wish John the very best as he begins his new adventures.

TRIBUTE TO HAROLD GILDEA

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Harold Gildea, a World War II Army veteran from Boone, Iowa, and to express my appreciation for his dedication and commitment to his country.

The Boone News Republican is currently running a series of articles that honors one Boone County veteran every Tuesday from Memorial Day to Veterans Day. Harold Gildea was recognized on Tuesday, September 28. Below is the article in its entirety:

BOONE COUNTY VETERANS: HAROLD GILDEA

(By: Greg Eckstrom)

Harold Gildea, a Luther native and World War II veteran, has had a varied military experience.

During his time in the service, he's escorted General George S. Patton, had a chance meeting with a prisoner of war overseas from Boxholm, saw the end of World War II and helped guard a boat full of beer.

Typical? Not really, but what was in World War II?

Gildea was born in Luther, a town his family had lived in for 150 years. After graduating from Luther High School, he signed up for the draft on Feb. 16, 1942 and was drafted after graduation. By September of 1942, he was processed at Camp Dodge and sent to Missouri to become a Military Policeman with the 211th Military Police in the Army.

''I don't know how come, but I was chosen to be in this military police company in Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.,'' he said . . . a decision that he considered lucky, ''in a way.''

After training, Gildea was met with an assignment that was far from normal. He was sent to California at the end of May to help accompany Gen. Patton across the Mojave Desert. While the assignment was an honor, it was hot, to say the least.

''He'd run these tanks through an intersection, and our men would be there to direct him,'' Gildea said. ''You could only stand out in the intersection about 30 minutes and your feet would start to scald. We'd have to have men in there to keep changing. Those tanks, the dust would be 8 to 10 inches deep, and that hot sun's over 120 degrees.''

From California, he was sent to southern New Guinea to relieve MP's in the area. The fourth morning he was there, Gildea was at breakfast when he spotted a soldier that looked familiar.

''I don't know why I put it like I did, but I said, 'Would you know any of the McFarlands from Madrid?''' Gildea said. ''He just sat there and stared at me. He said, 'I am one.'''

The chance encounter overseas with a fellow Boone County native was interesting—almost as interesting as Gildea's next assignment. He had been in southern New Guinea for only two weeks when he was put on guard duty . . . keeping watch over interesting cargo.

''We'd been there probably about two weeks and some ships come in, and they assigned us to guard this one ship,'' he said. ''When we got down there it was loaded with beer. A whole ship loaded with beer. Well, [Gen. Douglas] McArthur wouldn't let them have it, so they assigned us as duty to guard that beer to make sure it stayed there.''

For six weeks, the beer sat in the ship. It wasn't until a few soldiers figured out how to break open a port window and throw some of the beer into the ocean to scoop up later that any of it could be consumed. Finally, the beer was released and Gildea's strange guard duty was over.

Gildea moved around to several different areas, being assigned to various guard duties and police work. He remembers the climate being hot and humid, with not much for areas to escape the weather.

At a staging area where soldiers prepared to enter Japan, in Leyte, Gildea found himself in the hospital with an illness. While there, soldiers from Corregidor liberated American women and children from a prison there. These former prisoners were sent to the hospital that Gildea was recovering.

''I had been there for three weeks, and I was getting to where I could get up and move around,'' he said. ''They come in one morning and wanted to know if some of us boys could get up and help the women and children with their stuff. They were putting them through their interrogation. I went up to this lady and little girl and spoke to her and said I'd be glad to help her. We got to visiting, and the little girls' folks were from Boxholm, Iowa. Her mother had died in prison, and her dad was some place out in the jungles.

''This lady . . . I can't remember where this lady was from . . . this lady brought the girl back to Boone,'' Gildea said. ''They were in Boone and called my folks and went up and talked to them.''

The dropping of the atomic bombs brought about the end of the war, and with it great relief from many soldiers. Gildea had already been training to go to Japan. He was a part of three platoons in the company—one dealing with traffic control, one with prisoners and one general guard duty. While being given their duties, one that struck the soldiers was tagging bodies.

''That's how bad they were figuring it was going to be,'' he said.

Gildea was 3/4 of a mile away from the U.S.S. Missouri while the peace treaty signing was being done.

''We could see it through good field glasses,'' he said. ''You could see people moving around. We could say we've seen it, I guess.''

Following the end of the war, Gildea was sent to Yokohama, where he stayed in the third floor of a large building. Everything in the area had been fire bombed, however this building had been spared. He also recalled one other building in the area that was still standing.

''There was a little Methodist church,'' he said. ''It was made of brick, and it never burned.''

It was while staying in this building that he made a trade with a Japanese man that was moving out of the building. He had several postcards of the building on his desk, which Gildea asked for, and the man agreed. He then asked Gildea for some chocolate from his rations . . . he had a little boy who had never tasted chocolate. Gildea obliged.

''He had a little boy who was seven years old and never tasted chocolate,'' he said. ''It was kind of amazing to think that he wanted that candy.''

Gildea's time overseas was varied. His recollections vary from the odd to touching to humorous. He enjoyed his time overseas, however quickly reminds folks that at the time, it was not much of a choice. Whether being drafted or not, for most men at the time, serving their country was something they did without much thought.

''We had no other choice,'' he said. ''It's just our duty and we had to do it.''

I commend Harold Gildea for his many years of loyalty and service to our great nation. It is an immense honor to represent him in the United States Congress, and I wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF STEVE HEGEDUS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of Steve Hegedus, beloved family man, friend, mentor, firefighter, peace activist and United States veteran.

Mr. Hegedus grew up in Cleveland along Buckeye Road where many Hungarian immigrants, like his parents, had settled. He served with honor in the United States Army during World War II as a member of the 11th Airborne in the Pacific Theater. The young men he met while at war grew to be close and lifelong friends. After the war, Mr. Hegedus joined the Cleveland Heights Fire Department where he served with excellence, compassion and dedication for more than thirty years. He eventually attained the rank of Captain. While a firefighter, he operated a small home repair business. Although his work ethic was unwavering, his first priority was always his family. He and his wife, the late Mary Rose Hegedus, raised their children and remained closely connected to them and their grandchildren. When Mary Rose became ill, Mr. Hegedus lovingly cared for her. His daughter, Pamela; son, Steven; son-in-law, Timothy; daughter-in-law, Debbie; and grandchildren, Jordan and Ariel continued to be the center of his life.

Mr. Hegedus' energy for life, passion for learning and willingness to take a stand on issues of social justice were always part of who he was. He lived with love for humanity and concern for our planet. He was an environmentalist before most even knew what the word meant. Mr. Hegedus took great care of his garden and fruit trees, sharing his harvest with friends, family and neighbors. He utilized green practices before they were popular, was an active member of the Sierra Club and he served on the board of the Cleveland Peace Action. Mr. Hegedus was an outspoken advocate against nuclear arms and was an outspoken leader of the Lyndhurst Nuclear Weapons Freeze Group. He was also an avid patron of theater, music, literature and the arts, and he attended lectures and performances on a regular basis. Mr. Hegedus was a longtime member of the South Euclid Library Book Club.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and remembrance of Steve Hegedus, whose kindness, colorful personality, love for humanity, and devotion to family and friends framed his entire life. His beautiful spirit will live on, and he will always be remembered.

CALLING ON TURKISH-OCCUPIED CYPRUS TO PROTECT RELIGIOUS ARTIFACTS

SPEECH OF

HON. ED WHITFIELD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2010

Mr. WHITFIELD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to voice my strong opposition to H. Res. 1631, a one-sided resolution that seeks to advance political interests under the guise of the protection of religious sites on the island of Cyprus. This resolution carries with it the potential to significantly damage relations between Turkish and Greek Cypriots at a time when reconciliation talks are at a critical stage. In fact, the United Nations special envoy for Cyprus expressed hope that, an agreement on the divided island could be brokered by the end of the year.

In 2009, Greek and Turkish Cypriot leaders took a tremendous step toward reconciliation with the formation of the Cultural Heritage Technical Committee, an organization tasked with the protection, preservation, and restoration of the rich cultural heritage of Cyprus. This committee has made enormous progress in identifying sites, located in both northern and southern Cyprus, which are suitable for restoration and protection. This committee has been one of the most successful vehicles yet created for fostering open dialogue and honest conversation between Greek and Turkish Cypriots on an issue of great importance to both communities. It would be unfortunate if actions by the U.S. Congress were to somehow unintentionally disrupt the progress that has been made so far to protect and restore precious artifacts and heritage sites.

While I commend my colleagues for their desire to protect the rich cultural heritage of Cyprus, the two parties in this conflict are already working to correct the wrongs of the past. This resolution puts their hard work in jeopardy, and I urge Congress to play a peacemaking role, rather than take sides in a dispute.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF MR. JOE HUBBARD

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. COSTELLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the exemplary life of Mr. Joe Hubbard, a tireless advocate and dedicated servant for people in need.

For fifty years in the East St. Louis community, Joe Hubbard has been the person that people turn to when they have nowhere else to turn. When a single mother needs shelter and food for her children; when a family has seen all their possessions destroyed in a fire; when an unemployed father has lost all hope of finding a job; or when an elderly person comes to the end of life with no family or friends to see them through their final days, there has been one response—call Joe Hubbard.

Joe Hubbard learned about families in need the hard way. His father experienced a debilitating workplace injury when Joe was young,

forcing his family into financial hardship and requiring them to accept assistance from others. No doubt this early experience, in concert with Joe's deep Christian faith and the example of some compassionate mentors, played a significant role in setting him on his life's mission of helping those less fortunate.

As a young man, Joe became involved with the St. Vincent de Paul Society and began to expand his work with the poor through that organization. Realizing the need to provide an organizational foundation to capitalize on Joe's dedication and energy, the Catholic Diocese of Belleville began Catholic Urban Programs with Joe as Coordinator, a position he has held to this day.

There are those who say that Joe Hubbard can accomplish more with one phone call than others could with a week's work. In the past 50 years, Joe has developed many contacts and knows how to pull the right resources together to solve a problem. But Joe Hubbard is not just a high-level administrator. Joe goes into the broken homes and squalid apartments to deliver assistance. He visits the sick and elderly and those in prison. He delivers the food and clothing to families. He holds the hands of people as they lay dying, listening to their final words and seeing to it that they are laid to rest with dignity.

Joe Hubbard has received many accolades for the work he has done ministering to the poor and needy in his community but that has never been what drives him. Joe's faith, his family and many friends and service to his fellow man are important to him. Joe has been quoted, "When you are created in the image and likeness of God. . . . We all have a common bond of love." This statement probably best explains what has kept Joe Hubbard doing God's work for his fellow man for these past 50 years.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in an expression of appreciation to Mr. Joe Hubbard for a lifetime of compassionate care and to wish him the very best in the future.

IN HONOR OF THE EVESHAM TWINNING ASSOCIATION'S 20TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JOHN H. ADLER

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. ADLER of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I am extremely pleased to honor the Evesham Twinning Association on their 20th Anniversary of their "twin town" relationship between Evesham, New Jersey and Evesham, England. The year 2010 marks 20 years that the two towns of Evesham have shared a formal relationship of friendship.

The little known tradition of twin towns began after World War II to promote international relationships. This tradition was meant to unite a global community to guard against animosity between cultures. While still a new concept in the United States, twin towns has a rich tradition in Europe that fosters appreciation of other cultures and creates bonds between communities.

This tradition of acceptance of similarities and differences between Evesham, New Jersey and Evesham, England has been fostered for 20 years as guests from both countries have visited their twin town and become part of each other's families. The festivities for the 20th Anniversary of these two towns include a cultural convergence, as the Mayor and Mayoress of Evesham, England and Evesham, New Jersey will exchange gifts. Also, a ceremony with the Cherokee High School Girls Traveling Choir and the Boy Scout Troop #100 from Marlton will promote cultural unity between the two towns.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my fellow representatives of the House join me in congratulating the Evesham Twinning Association on their 20th Anniversary and the citizens of both New Jersey and England who have spent the last 20 years cultivating this cherished relationship. I am proud to be able to represent these exceptional citizens and their British brethren.

A TRIBUTE TO JIM HUDSON, ALHAMBRA CHIEF OF POLICE

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Jim Hudson, retiring as Chief of the Alhambra Police Department.

It is with great pleasure that I congratulate Chief Hudson on his very successful career in public service. His lifetime of dedication to public safety—an amazing 34 years—is remarkable. Chief Hudson not only exhibited valor and perseverance, he also fostered courage and dedication among our brave men and women in law enforcement.

Chief Hudson began his career as a Police Explorer, a Cadet, then a Reserve Officer at the Orange Police Department. He then joined the Glendale Police Department in 1981 before he transitioned back to Orange, where he quickly rose through the ranks as an Officer, Sergeant, and finally Lieutenant. In 2001, Chief Hudson made his way to the City of Alhambra where he started as Police Captain and eventually was promoted to Chief of Police in 2004.

Under his leadership, the Alhambra Police worked to build a safe community where Southern California families can live, work and play.

His great leadership and guidance of the police department and the community will be deeply missed.

I ask all Members to join me in thanking Chief Hudson for his extraordinary service. I wish you all the best in your retirement.

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR GENERAL HARRY "A.J." W. FEUCHT, JR.

HON. STEVE AUSTRIA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. AUSTRIA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Major General Harry "A.J." W. Feucht, Jr. for his outstanding service to our Nation, and the State of Ohio, on the occasion of his retirement.

It is an honor to join the people of Ohio's Seventh Congressional District in congratulating General Feucht upon his retirement as assistant adjutant general for Air, and as a commander for the Ohio Air National Guard.

He also served as the Air National Guard assistant to the commander, Air Force Materiel Command at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. In this role he provided support necessary to maintain and sustain Air Force weapon systems readiness.

In 1968, General Feucht joined the Ohio Air National Guard and during his service obtained a bachelor of business administration from the University of Cincinnati. He has commanded the 180th Fighter Wing and the 121st Air Refueling Wing in the Ohio Air National Guard and in 2004 was promoted to major general.

General Feucht is an accomplished command pilot with over 4,700 total flying hours with more than 4,000 in the F–100, A–7, and F–16 and over 700 in the KC–135. For his distinguished service, he was presented the Legion of Merit for exceptionally meritorious conduct in performance of outstanding services and achievements.

For his many years of dedication to our Nation, I again join the people of Ohio's Seventh Congressional District in extending our best wishes upon his retirement and wish him ongoing success in all future endeavors.

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF RAMON "RAY" LUGO III, NEWLY APPOINTED DIRECTOR OF NASA GLENN RESEARCH CENTER IN CLEVELAND, OHIO

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Ramon "Ray" Lugo III, the newly appointed Director of NASA Glenn Research Center in Cleveland, Ohio. Serving as Acting Director of NASA Glenn since 2007, Mr. Lugo is the first Hispanic-American Director in the history of NASA.

As Director, Mr. Lugo will continue his duties as the leader of NASA Glenn. He is responsible for planning, organizing, and implementing the vital programs and missions that keep NASA Glenn and the Cleveland community on the forefront of scientific research and innovation. In his new position, Mr. Lugo will continue to oversee NASA Glenn programs that focus on spaceflight systems development, aeropropulsion, space propulsion, power systems, nuclear systems, communications and human research.

Mr. Lugo began his career at NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida in 1975 while still a student. His experience there inspired him to earn a Bachelor of Science degree in engineering in 1979 and a Master's degree in engineering management in 1982. His work has been recognized with numerous national honors, including two NASA Exceptional Achievement Medals for his outstanding contributions to the Galileo mission and International Space Station redesign. He was also awarded three NASA Outstanding Leadership Medals.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of Mr. Ramon "Ray" Lugo III, upon being named the first

Hispanic-American to the position of Director of a NASA center. Mr. Lugo's journey at NASA has been framed by integrity, expertise and energy. He brings a renewed hope and vision to NASA Glenn, to the citizens of Cleveland and to our entire Nation.

HONORING BRIANNA COMMERFORD ON BEING NAMED HOPE ON WHEELS' NATIONAL YOUTH AMBASSADOR

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Hyundai Hope on Wheels program, and to congratulate a brave young woman named Brianna Commerford on being named the Hope on Wheels' National Youth Ambassador. This program will donate $6.8 million to 68 children's hospitals across the nation, continuing Hyundai's long-standing commitment to the treatment of pediatric cancer. The organization could not have picked a more able or appropriate ambassador than Brianna.

One of the great joys of serving in Congress is representing so many outstanding and remarkable citizens who use their life abilities and experiences to improve the lives of those they may never meet. Brianna Commerford is one of those exemplary citizens. Just twelve years old, Brianna displays a wisdom and maturity far beyond her years, and has created incredible good out of one of life's most terrifying situations.

When she was nine years old, Brianna was diagnosed with Stage IV Hodgkin's Lymphoma. With courage, tenacity, and support from those around her, Brianna overcame a year of grueling treatment and eventually defeated the cancer. Since entering remission in October 2009, Brianna has shared her story of survival in schools, hospitals, and other places across New Jersey, bringing hope and inspiration to so many. Moreover, Brianna has helped raise over $20,000 for the American Cancer Society.

Brianna has taken a scary and daunting prognosis and unlocked its potential for good. She has learned one of life's most difficult lessons—that greatness is found in our ability to create good within our own locus of control. I can think of no one better suited to serve as a National Ambassador for this important cause. The same energy that carried her through treatment will serve the Hope on Wheels initiative well, as Brianna and Hyundai partner to find new ways to treat and hopefully one day prevent and cure pediatric cancer.

Thanks to her courage and the skill of her doctors, Brianna is back to doing what she loves: riding horses, playing soccer, and living the life of an active twelve-year-old. She has made the commendable decision to further the cause of pediatric cancer research by sharing her story with us today. In closing, I would like to leave you with you a line from a poem Brianna wrote while she was in treatment: "I have CANCER and I really DON'T like it. The chemo is GROSS, but I'm STRONG and can fight it."

Brianna brings a powerful testimony to the importance of living courageously and pursuing your goals relentlessly. It is an honor to represent Brianna and her family in Congress, and pay tribute to the many successes she has achieved with her great courage and persistence.

SUPPORTING GOLD STAR MOTHERS DAY

SPEECH OF

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2010

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 1617, which supports the goals and ideals of Gold Star Mothers Day. Gold Star Mothers Day is observed on the last Sunday of September each year. I am proud to cosponsor H. Res. 1617, and I thank my colleague, Congressman ROSKAM for introducing this resolution.

Gold Star Mothers Day reminds us all of the ultimate sacrifice made by our men and women in uniform who gave their lives for our country. We also remember the mothers of our fallen soldiers who have to deal with the pain of losing their child.

On June 4, 1928, the American Gold Star Mothers, Inc. was established when twenty-five mothers who lost a child in World War I met in Washington, DC. Membership was later opened to mothers who lost children in other armed conflicts. Congress then designated the last Sunday as Gold Star Mothers Day on June 23, 1936.

These remarkable women have turned their grief into service to others. Gold Star Mothers provides a mutual bond of sympathy and support. They also assist veterans and their dependents with VA claims, and provide aid to service members and their families who have died or were wounded during active duty.

Mr. Speaker, I also want to recognize the 11 service members from Long Beach, California, which is in my district, who lost their lives during Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. They are: Pfc. Sephen Castellano, Sgt. Anthony Davis, Jr., Pvt. Ernesto Guerra, Spec. Roberto Martinez Salazar, Pfc. David T. Toomalatai, Staff Sgt. Joshua Whitaker, Sgt. 1st Class Randy Collins, Sgt. Israel Garcia, Pfc. Lyndon Marcus, Jr., Spec. Astor Sunsin-Pineda, Pfc. George Torres. I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking and remembering these individuals for their service to our country, and to keep their families and especially their mothers in our thoughts and prayers.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting H. Res. 1617 and I yield back the remainder of my time.

CONGRATULATING SRC, INC. PRESIDENT, BOB ROBERTS, ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. DANIEL B. MAFFEI

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. MAFFEI. Madam Speaker, I rise today in tribute to Robert U. Roberts, a lifelong servant to the U.S. military and defense industry, on the occasion of his retirement from SRC, Inc., formerly Syracuse Research Corporation.

A native of Hamilton, New York, Bob Roberts joined the U.S. Air Force in 1960 and soon after receiving his commission entered flight training at Dover Air Force Base. He flew more than 200 combat missions in Southeast Asia and in 1972, he became Director of Acquisition Management to the Office of the Secretary of the Air Force, Office of Special Projects. After 20 years of distinguished military service in numerous assignments at various levels of command, Bob retired from active duty in 1980. Bob received the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Air Medal with 15 Oak Leaf Clusters, Airman Medal and Meritorious Service Medal. He has always welcomed professional challenges and never declined an opportunity to serve his country. The list of Bob's active duty assignments is long and many Air Force personnel, both uniformed and civilian, count themselves fortunate for the opportunity to have served with and learned from Bob Roberts.

Bob joined SRC in 1991 as president and CEO. His knowledge and leadership in U.S. government and private sector programs has greatly advanced SRC's capabilities to support numerous customers, including the Department of Defense, the National Air Intelligence Center, the Naval Air Warfare Center and the Environmental Protection Agency, as well as state and local initiatives associated with economic development, technological innovation, environmental quality and academic-to-industry partnerships.

SRC was fortunate to have Bob's leadership for nearly 20 years. Under Bob's direction, the company has seen tremendous growth, and continues its mission to keep America safe and strong by protecting its people, environment and way of life. An independent, not-for-profit research and development company with more than 50 years of experience in defense, environment and intelligence, Bob helped shape the company into what it is today—a resource that is delivering unique, next-generation solutions of national significance to our government. SRC plays a critical role in protecting America's freedom and Bob leaves SRC strong, successful and well-positioned to meet future challenges.

Bob has been supported in his professional career by numerous close friends, strong relationships and his eight children. On behalf of the 25th District of New York, I would like to thank Bob Roberts for his many years of service to our Nation. Bob Roberts answered the call to serve his country, and his service has made a difference. We wish you well, Bob, and hope you know how deeply grateful we are for your contributions. Best wishes to you upon your retirement.

HONORING THE HOSPICE VOLUNTEERS OF WATERVILLE AREA

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. MICHAUD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Hospice Volunteers of Waterville Area on the 30th anniversary of their founding.

Hospice Volunteers of Waterville Area (HVWA) was founded in 1980 by a small

group of concerned community members looking to provide non-medical support for individuals and their families during the last phases of life and grieving process. It has since gone on to become a cornerstone for end of life care in the region, serving 27 communities in central Maine. HVWA has gone on to expand their services through the establishment of Camp Ray of Hope, an award winning statewide program aimed at bringing together those who have lost loved ones to illness, accidents, suicide, and homicide, as well as Hope's Place—a youth peer counseling program.

For anyone who finds themselves in this position, the last stages of life are often filled with tumultuous emotions, pain, and fear. The services which the staff and volunteers at HVWA provide to their neighbors during a period of ultimate vulnerability are truly remarkable. At no cost to patients or their families, volunteers operate a multitude of support groups, direct care companionship and bereavement counseling.

There is no way to quantify the value of HVWA to the central Maine region. For thirty years, they have remained a steadfast beacon of compassion, understanding and comfort for those who need it most. I wish them the very best going forward, and I hope their example stands as a testament to what can be achieved through the kindness of the human spirit.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring the Hospice Volunteers of Waterville Area for their three decades of devoted service to their community.

RETIREMENT OF DAVE NEWBY

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. KIND. Madam Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to a man who spent a majority of his career fighting for the rights of Wisconsin workers, the current President of the Wisconsin State AFL–CIO, David Newby. After years of service to workers in the State of Wisconsin, Dave is retiring this year. Although his leadership and dedication to the labor movement will be greatly missed, his contributions will not be forgotten.

For 16 years, Dave has led the Wisconsin State AFL–CIO, a federation of over 1,000 local unions, representing 250,000 Wisconsin workers. Dave was determined to achieve economic justice in the workplace and social justice in Wisconsin communities, and throughout the years he has had tremendous success accomplishing these goals. One issue at the forefront of Dave's agenda was to ensure quality health care for Wisconsin workers. In 2003, the Wisconsin AFL–CIO created the Wisconsin Health Care Partnership Plan, an innovative proposal that strengthened the debate in Wisconsin on how to solve the health care crisis. In 2007, this plan was combined with other health care proposals to become "Healthy Wisconsin: Your Choice, Your Plan," a plan to provide health care for all.

Dave's passion for equality and helping others goes back to his involvement in the civil rights and anti-war movements during the 1960s and 1970s. After the movements, Dave taught history at the Tuskegee Institute in Alabama before becoming a teaching and project assistant at the University of Wisconsin. His first labor leadership role came in 1982 when he was elected President of the Madison Labor Council. During this time Dave literally showcased how far he was willing to go to advocate for the labor movement during a strike against Greyhound. Dave stood in front of a fast-moving bus driven by a strikebreaker, forcing it to come to a screeching stop.

In 1986, Dave became the secretary-treasurer of the Wisconsin State AFL–CIO where his hard work and enthusiasm to help other unions helped him win the election for AFL–CIO President in 1994. In addition to his commitment to improved health care, minimum wage increases, family and medical leave, improved health and safety on the job, and plant closing notifications, Dave also spent his years leading the AFL–CIO reshaping the labor movement. He recognized that in order to achieve success, it was essential to build relationships with local communities and involve the general public. This transformation brought increased success and visibility to Wisconsin labor.

The AFL–CIO and the Wisconsin workers it represents will surely miss the hard work, courageous advocacy, and genuine dedication of Dave Newby. Personally, I will greatly miss his leadership, advocacy and vast knowledge. I wish Dave the happiest retirement and thank him for the work he has done to support Wisconsin's working families and their communities.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TRADING POST TRAIN SHOP

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of the 60th anniversary of the Trading Post Train Shop located on Pearl Road in Cleveland's Old Brooklyn neighborhood. I also recognize its owner, Mr. James Berilla.

The Trading Post Train Shop opened in the fall of 1950 under its first owner Ralph Brown. Mr. Brown discovered a community-wide clientele of train enthusiasts of all ages. Forty years later, he sold the shop to the current owner. Sixty years later, the Trading Post Train Shop serves clients including second and third generation patrons. The shop fills orders from throughout Ohio and across the country.

The Trading Post Train Shop carries Lionel model trains and collectibles for sale or trade. The busiest time of year for the Train Shop is always the December holiday season. Model trains with real smoke, metal tracks and whistles continue to be a treasured American holiday tradition, circling Christmas trees in millions of homes every December.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor of the Trading Post Train Shop, its patrons, past owner Ralph Brown and current owner James Berilla. Images of trains racing through a tunnel, across the desert or atop a bridge remain deeply embedded within the spirit of our nation. They reflect the great frontier, innovation, adventurous spirit and energy that define America. The legacy of the train will always manifest the trailblazing spirit Cleveland's small business owners, whose sense of independence and innovation are vital rails along the economic track running from Cleveland, Ohio to all points across our nation.

HONORING BILL FELTON

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. DUNCAN. Madam Speaker, Bill Felton of Knoxville, Tennessee, is one of the most respected men in my District. His military career and civic service make him admired by everyone fortunate to know him.

Bill Felton is a leading expert in the transportation field. His education began at the University of Tennessee, where he majored in transportation and received a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration. He soon found himself in the United States Army Transportation Corps, rising to top leadership positions.

Bill's long and distinguished career in the Corps began with his commission as Second Lieutenant and lasted three decades, when he retired as a Colonel. During his time in the military, Bill was stationed mostly at the U.S. Army Transportation Corps' headquarters at Fort Eustis, Virginia, where he became an expert in transportation and logistical matters for the military.

During his military career, Bill continued his training and education through many courses, including instruction at the Industrial College of the Armed Forces and the completion of the Defense Advanced Traffic Management Course, Transportation Movements Officer Extension Course, and Transportation Corps Career Officer Course. He also graduated from the Command and General Staff College.

Bill loves the military and does everything he can to help those in active service; but he has always had an especially soft spot for Veterans.

He is the founder of the East Tennessee Veteran's Memorial Association and is largely responsible for the Veterans Memorial at World's Fair Park in downtown Knoxville.

Bill has always felt very strongly about our Nation and is very patriotic. Never one to sit by idly and complain, he has always taken an active role in politics. He served as President of the West Knoxville Republican Club and Executive Committee Member of the Knox County Republican Party.

His other civic contributions include serving as Vice President of the Knoxville Convention and Visitor's Bureau and on the Board of Directors of the Bijou Art Center. He also worked tirelessly for the Knoxville Dogwood Arts Festival, Girls' Club, Knoxville Rotary Club, and rose to top leadership at the Knoxville Chamber of Commerce.

Bill is also a respected businessman who is a leader in the life insurance industry. Several articles he wrote on the industry have been published nationally, and he is the former President of the Knoxville Association of Life Underwriters.

Madam Speaker, I do not see how anyone could love this Country more than Bill Felton.

I call his service and devotion to the United States and his Community to the attention of my colleagues and other readers of the RECORD.

INTRODUCING A HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL HOMELESS PERSONS' MEMORIAL DAY

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce a concurrent resolution to support the goals and ideals of National Homeless Persons' Memorial Day, in recognition of the people who have died on our streets, in emergency shelters, condemned or abandoned properties, and from elements directly related to homelessness.

On or near the first day of winter and the longest night of the year, National Homeless Persons' Memorial events have been held nationwide every year since 1990 to remember the homeless persons whose lives and deaths might otherwise go without any public recognition.

Throughout my home state of Florida, this important day is being recognized, along with over 200 other local municipalities, organizations, and statewide organizations throughout the United States. With the support of the National Coalition for the Homeless, National Consumer Advisory Board, and the National Health Care for the Homeless Council, National Homeless Persons' Memorial Day brings attention to the tragedy of homelessness and to remember our homeless neighbors and friends who have paid the ultimate price for our nation's failure to end homelessness.

The statistics are daunting: more than half a million people in the United States do not have a place to call home each night and half of them are without shelter; nationwide each year, an estimated 2,000,000 people experience homelessness; and the mortality rate among homeless populations has been shown to be almost four times that of the general population.

As American citizens, it is not only our desire to help those in need; it is our duty to provide every homeless man, woman, and child with a place to sleep at night, an opportunity to sustain economic stability, and the right to access health care.

On June 22, 2010, President Obama and Members of Congress were presented with "Opening Doors: the federal strategic plan to prevent and end homelessness" which describes how the federal government will partner with states, local communities, non-profit organizations and the private sector. This resolution provides us with the opportunity to commend the efforts of the States, territories, and possessions of the United States who support the goals and ideals of National Homeless Persons' Memorial Day, to encourage those not already doing so, and to salute the dedicated professionals and organizations who provide assistance 365 days a year to people in need.

It is time we acknowledge, as a nation, all of the people in our country living on the streets who have paid the ultimate price for our failure to end homelessness. In remembering those who died on the streets, the cause of ending homelessness is kept urgent as is the Nation's collective commitment to preventing such deaths in the future.

I urge my colleagues to support this House Concurrent Resolution and reaffirm Congress' commitment to ending homelessness by promoting a comprehensive national response that addresses the housing, health care, income, and civil rights causal factors and consequences of extreme poverty. Let us make this year's first night of winter and longest night of the year, December 21, 2010, a true national day.

RECOGNIZING MILITARY MEDICAL AND AIR CREWS

SPEECH OF

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2010

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of House Resolution 1605, which recognizes the service of medical and air crews in helping our wounded warriors make the expeditious and safe trip home to the United States and commends the personnel of the Air Force for their commitment to the well-being of all our service men and women.

The Air Force's Aeromedical Evacuation Squadrons help guarantee that our wounded soldiers are quickly reunited with their families and given the best medical care in U.S. hospitals. Since September 11, 2001, Aeromedical Evacuation flights have been responsible for transporting over 81,000 patients from Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom, yielding a 98 percent survival rate for injured soldiers. Today, a soldier injured on the battlefield in Afghanistan or Iraq will be back in an American hospital in an average of three days. This is over seven days faster than during Operation Desert Storm and over 40 days quicker than during the conflict in Vietnam.

As a veteran who was wounded in Vietnam, I was flown into Travis Air Force Base in Northern California. Travis Air Force Base is now home to the 349th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron. These physicians, nurses and medical technicians go above and beyond the call of duty every day.

I am honored to bring this resolution to the floor and remain committed to supporting our Armed Forces.

HONORING BOB WHITLEY

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Bob Whitley.

As President of the United States Tour Operators Association, Bob Whitley dedicated his life to promoting travel, tourism and building lasting friendships. I am proud and honored to have worked with such a caring and dedicated professional on issues so important for our nation.

In my efforts to advance current legislation providing United States citizens the freedom to travel to Cuba, I seized an opportunity to visit New York City and create national media discussion of the issue. Accompanying me on that trip in September 2009 was Bob Whitley, truly one of the most knowledgeable and respected travel industry leaders.

As our trip progressed, I came to know Bob for the man he was and the legacy he would leave behind. His passion for United States generated tourism and his love for people around the world drew us together. This past March, Bob helped organize and lead the U.S. Cuba Travel Summit in Cancun, Mexico—an event that drew strong participation from both nations in an effort to open communications and discuss easing travel restrictions.

Bob passed away in May, and his funeral included an unrivaled gathering of travel industry colleagues and friends. Today, I add my name as one of his greatest admirers.

Bob held many distinguished positions throughout his career, including Director of both the Florida and Pennsylvania Departments of Tourism, Director of the Virginia Beach Convention and Tourist Bureau, and an incredible thirty-two years at the United States Tour Operators Association. Because of his outstanding record, Bob has been recognized internationally many times. This year, he will receive the 2010 National Tour Association Pioneer Award, an honor given to career leaders in tourism. I am proud to be a past recipient of this same award and it is my honor to share it with Bob.

In addition to his career accomplishments, Bob was an avid golfer and enjoyed traveling to new destinations around the globe, eventually visiting over 100 countries. He leaves his wife, two sons, a daughter, their spouses, and his grandchildren to carry on.

The travel industry has lost a giant, with Bob's passing. We will miss him.

HONORING JOSEPH BARBAGLIA

HON. RUSS CARNAHAN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. CARNAHAN. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Joseph Barbaglia, a successful businessman, person of faith and selfless community volunteer.

Joe and his business partner Guy Bopp are owners of Southwest Hill Auto Parts Inc. They are celebrating their 25th year in business at the same location in the famous "Hill" neighborhood in the City of St. Louis. Joe's business is one of the most successful and reputable auto parts firms in the St. Louis region, and Joe is a member of business organizations that are dedicated to providing quality service and products to the general public; groups such as the Better Business Bureau, the Alliance of Automotive Service Providers, the Hill Business Association and the Professional Business Men. Additionally, he is also on the Board of Directors of Eagle Bank.

Joe Barbaglia is a faithful leader in his church serving on various committees for the good of St. Ambrose Catholic Church. Joe has been instrumental in the success of such

church as La Festa at St. Ambrose Church, St. Ambrose Golf Tournament, and the Alumni Breakfast at St. Ambrose.

Joe will help out anyone in need. Joe and Southwest Auto Parts are the main sponsors for Car Show/Soap Box Derby held at Shaw School every year in June and the annual Muscular Dystrophy Association fishing tournament.

As a community leader Joe has held provided critical support for numerous community events such as the Fireworks Display at Sublette Park, Bike Race on the Hill, and Party in the Park at Berra Park, the Southwest High School Alumni, and Second District Police Association.

Joe has been named the Hill Neighborhood's ''Citizen of Year'' and is the president of the Hill 2000 Neighborhood Association, demonstrating the community's confidence in Joe Barbaglia's ability as a leader who gets things done.

He is married to his wife Thersea and has a loving daughter Nina. Joe Barbaglia is a shining example of what it means to be an exemplary citizen for one's community, state and nation.

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF MR. J. THOMAS MULLEN

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of Mr. J. Thomas Mullen, a devoted husband, father, and friend. His faith and his dedication to serving all of humanity, especially the poor and marginalized, were unshakable.

Mr. Mullen moved to Ohio in 1983 to work in the Cuyahoga County Juvenile Court. Two years later, Governor Dick Celeste appointed him Director of the Ohio Department of Youth Services. He joined Catholic Charities in 1987 and combined Gospel values with business savvy to transform the organization's Cleveland branch. At the time of his death, he was president and chief executive officer of Catholic Charities Health and Human Services. He was also serving his third term as Chair of the Governor's Council on Juvenile Justice.

Mr. Mullen played a key role in helping the Cleveland's Catholic Charities branch develop into a $100 million operation that serves hundreds of thousands of people. Coworker Tom Allio praised Mr. Mullen as ''brilliant in his capacity to leverage foundation and government support to help the poor, the homeless, and the marginalized.''

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and remembrance of Mr. J. Thomas Mullen. I offer my condolences to his wife, Julie; to his daughter, Maggie; to his sons, John, Patrick, Matt, and Jim; to his thirteen grandchildren; and to his many friends. Mr. Mullen lived his life with love, generosity, and commitment to social justice. He will always be remembered for his good work and his generous spirit.

RECOGNIZING ASSISTANT CHIEF STEPHANIE REDDING AND HER HISTORIC CAREER OF PUBLIC SERVICE

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, it is a privilege for me to rise today to celebrate the distinguished career of Assistant Police Chief Stephanie Redding. After twenty-five years on the force, Stephanie announced her plans to retire from the New Haven Police Department and I am honored to have this opportunity to join the many family, friends, and colleagues who have gathered to thank her for her exemplary service to the Department and our community.

The daughter of a former West Haven fire chief, Stephanie has always understood the importance of public service. She chose a career in law enforcement and entered the New Haven Police Academy in 1986—still in a time when women were not commonplace among the ranks. Stephanie started at the New Haven Police Department as a Patrol Officer and throughout her career served as a Mounted Patrol, Sergeant, and Lieutenant before becoming the first female Assistant Chief in New Haven's history.

Whether as District Manager of the East Shore/Morris Cove District, the Officer in Charge of the Family Services Division, or Assistant Chief, Stephanie has earned the respect and admiration of her colleagues and community leaders alike. Stephanie's tenure has been marked by her integrity, professionalism, and compassion. She has twice served as acting Chief of Police during transitional phases at the Department, and was appointed to the State Victim Advocate Advisory Committee. She has also shared her expertise with her colleagues around the world, serving as an instructor at the Academy and presenting on community policing and other family and children's issues at both national and international conferences.

Over the years, I have had the opportunity to work closely with Stephanie on a project we both care deeply about. She has spearheaded the collaborative effort between the NHPD and the Yale Child Study Center's National Center for Children Exposed to Violence and their extraordinary joint multi-disciplinary intervention programs—including the Child Development-Community Policing Program. This groundbreaking work has changed the way police officers and clinicians respond to children in trauma. It has galvanized support services around at-risk youth, and it has saved and healed lives.

Stephanie's contributions to our community and commitment to community service extend far beyond her professional career. She volunteers with the New Haven Boys and Girls Club, the Yale Child Study Center, and the United Way of Greater New Haven, and she has served as the cheerleading coach at the Sacred Heart Academy. In all that she does, Stephanie touches the lives of others and this is particularly true of our young people.

As a peace officer and a public citizen, Stephanie has been a credit to our New Haven community and to the State of Connecticut. A trailblazer in our City's history, she has fought hard to protect the public and worked to improve the lives of countless New Haven families for the better. I, like so many others, consider myself fortunate to have had the opportunity to work with Stephanie and find myself in awe of the many ways in which she has enriched the lives of others and enhanced the quality of life in our community.

I am so pleased to join her husband, New Haven Police Captain Pat Redding, their son Patrick, her parents William ''Wiggy'' and Dolly Johnson, as well as all of the family, friends, and colleagues who have gathered today to congratulate Assistant Chief Stephanie Redding as she celebrates her retirement. I cannot thank her enough for her decades of service and innumerable contributions to our community. Stephanie has set a standard to which we should all strive and I have no doubt that no matter what her future endeavors may be, she will continue to find ways in which she can make a difference in the lives of others. My very best wishes to her and her family for many more years of health and happiness.

CONGRATULATING PETER BOHLIN ON RECEIVING THE 2010 GOLD MEDAL FROM THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. KANJORSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Mr. Peter Bohlin on receiving the 2010 American Institute of Architects Gold Medal.

The Gold Medal is considered the highest individual honor an architect can receive from the American Institute of Architects. It recognizes ''a significant body of work of lasting influence on the theory and practice of architecture.'' Mr. Bohlin is the 66th recipient of this prestigious award.

Mr. Bohlin graduated from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in 1959 before receiving his Masters in Architecture from the Cranbrook Academy of Art in 1961.

During his sophomore year of college, Mr. Bohlin's parents moved from New York to Northeastern Pennsylvania.

After graduation from Cranbrook, Mr. Bohlin founded Bohlin and Powell in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania with his former Rensselaer classmate Dick Powell. Their first job was to design a home for Mr. Bohlin's parents in Bear Creek, Pennsylvania.

Only a few years later, they designed a second home for Mr. Bohlin's parents in Connecticut, known as the famous ''Forest House,'' which landed their small firm on the front page of the New York Times' Home section in 1976.

After the success of the ''Forest House,'' Bohlin and Powell continued to expand. Shortly thereafter they opened two more offices in Pennsylvania.

In 1989 Bohlin and Powell opened an office in Seattle, Washington after winning a contest to design Bill Gates' home.

In 1991 Mr. Powell retired and Bohlin and Powell became the firm Bohlin Cywinski Jackson.

In 1999, Bohlin Cywinski Jackson opened its first office in California to design Pixar Animation Studios. It was at this time the firm established its relationship with Apple founder and CEO Steve Jobs. Over the years Apple has hired Bohlin Cywinski and Jackson to design multiple Apple stores across the country, including its famous location on Fifth Avenue in New York City.

Today, Bohlin Cywinski Jackson maintains offices in Wilkes-Barre, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, Seattle, and San Francisco. The firm currently has almost 200 employees.

Over the years, Mr. Bohlin and his firms have been recognized for their work on hundreds of occasions by the Pennsylvania Society of Architects, AIA, Business Week, the National Parks Service, and the Society of American Registered Architects, among others.

Among his award-winning portfolio of projects, he has designed Seattle's City Hall, buildings throughout the campuses of Yale University and Syracuse University, and the Pocono Environmental Education Center in Dingmans Ferry, Pennsylvania.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing Mr. Bohlin on this remarkable achievement. From his humble beginnings in Northeastern Pennsylvania, Mr. Bohlin has established himself as one of our country's premier architects.

HONORING KENNEBEC BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. MICHAUD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Kennebec Behavioral Health on its 50th year of providing health care to central Maine residents.

Kennebec Behavioral Health (KBH) is dedicated to providing high quality, innovative, community-based services and to improving the lives of central Maine residents who experience mental illness, emotional difficulties or behavioral challenges. Founded in 1960 by Dr. Charles Rothstein as the Community Mental Health Center of Central Maine, KBH has grown by leaps and bounds. Today, Kennebec Behavioral Health employs over 340 Mainers in the service of helping their neighbors in need. With medical clinics in Augusta, Skowhegan, Waterville and Winthrop, KBH serves more than 12,000 children and adults every year.

Mainers far and wide have come to rely on the dedication and devotion of KBH and its employees. The programs and services offered demonstrate a keen understanding of mental and behavioral trauma across age and economic demographics. With many Mainers generally unable to afford the level of care provided by Kennebec Behavioral Health, the organization makes over $2.5 million dollars available in financial assistance each year. Governor Baldacci recently proclaimed June 16 as "Kennebec Behavioral Health Day" in recognition of the effectiveness of KBH's mental health services.

I am pleased to share in the recognition of Kennebec Behavioral Health as they reach this important milestone.

Madam Speaker, please join me in celebrating Kennebec Behavioral Health on reaching a half century of service to the residents of central Maine.

FOOTBALL RETURNS TO LAMAR UNIVERSITY

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, it is September and back home in Texas that can only mean one thing—football season is in full swing. Each week helmets are buckled and cleats are tied as hundreds of teams line up to compete across the state, from the Pop Warner leagues up to the professionals. I was honored to be a part of history as the Lamar University Cardinals played and won its first home game in over twenty years against the Weber International University Warriors.

Lamar University began playing football in 1923, when it was known as South Park Junior College. The team was a Southland Conference power in the late 1960s, notching four championships in seven years. In 1989, the program was discontinued, forcing alumni and football fans in the area to choose a new favorite college team. Now, after several years of hard work, the Cardinals are back on the gridiron with all of Southeast Texas supporting them.

The first steps towards bringing football back to Lamar were taken in January 2008, as the student body voted for a tuition increase to help fund the program. That tells you all you need to know about the hunger for football in Southeast Texas. Lamar University President Dr. James Simmons and Athletic Director Billy Tubbs searched long and hard for the coach who could oversee the rebirth of the football program from the ground up. The right man for the job was 20-year coaching veteran and former NFL player Ray Woodard. He assembled a staff of experienced coaches and developed an offensive and defensive scheme without a single player recruited.

When it came time to recruit players, Coach Woodard made good on his promise to attract local talent. Nine of his starters come from the area and he has eleven additional local backups. Leading the offense is Quarterback Andre Bevil, who played high school football a short drive down the road at West Orange–Stark. The defense is headed by former West Brook High School standout Jacody Coleman. Lamar is a young team with no senior starters, leaving the Cardinals with a bright future.

The Cardinals opened their returning season in Lake Charles, Louisiana, with a nail-biting 30–27 loss to longtime rival and nationally ranked McNeese State University. There was little time to lament, as the following week was sure to be one of the biggest events in Southeast Texas sports history—the return of football to Lamar University.

As I made my way through the Lamar campus on September 11, the sights I saw amazed me. Fans wearing red and white were lined up as far as the eye can see, enjoying the spirit of community that only college football can bring. I met some alumni who had been there battling the intense Texas heat since noon, others who flew in from across the Nation to witness the first home game in 21 years.

By kickoff time, the standing room only crowd of 16,600 was as loud and excited as I have ever seen. Less than two minutes into the game, Quarterback Bevil hit wide receiver J.J. Hayes for a 25-yard touchdown pass that had the newly remodeled Provost Umphrey stadium rocking. The Warriors evened the score at 7–7 in the first quarter. Then, both defenses stood strong, not allowing a score until Bevil threw a 57-yard touchdown pass to receiver Kendrick Prejean towards the end of the third quarter. In the end, the Cardinals prevailed 21–14, lead by Bevil and another local talent, former Lumberton running back Cody Hussey on the offense. Linebacker Asim Hick led the defense with 8 tackles and a sack.

Madam Speaker, after years of rumors and false starts, football has returned to Lamar University in grand fashion. The team is loaded with local, talented players. They have beautiful new facilities that help bring in the "big game" college experience. I am proud to celebrate the hard work that numerous people put in to bring college football back to Lamar University. I wish them the best of luck in the future. Finally, GO BIG RED!!

And that's the way it is.

CONDEMNING REMOVAL OF MOJAVE CROSS MEMORIAL

SPEECH OF

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2010

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, as has been mentioned the monument that is being debated has stood in the Mojave Desert for 75 years to honor our veterans. It stood there, that is, until the night of May 9th when vandals stole it. This memorial was a 7-foot cross that has endured much turmoil including a recent legal attempt to have the cross removed, which was turned away by the Supreme Court.

Those responsible for the disappearance of the cross have shown disrespect for both veterans and this Nation's legal process.

I would also like to commend the VFW for their determination in the face of this disrespectful act. They have vowed that the memorial will be rebuilt and are offering a $125,000 reward for information leading to an arrest.

President George Washington once said, "The willingness with which our young people are likely to serve in any war shall be directly proportional to how they perceive the Veterans of earlier wars were appreciated by their nation."

I think President Washington would agree that this appreciation includes allowing our veterans' memorials to stand in honor of them.

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF NASA'S OBSERVANCE OF 2010 HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of NASA Glenn Research Center's annual observance of Hispanic Heritage

Month, which was organized by the Hispanic Advisory Group at NASA Glenn. As employees at NASA celebrate the heritage, culture and numerous contributions of Hispanic Americans in Greater Cleveland and throughout our country, we reflect on this year's theme: ''Heritage, Diversity, Integrity and Honor; The Renewed Hope of America.''

Americans of Hispanic descent have served our country in numerous ways. Their rich and diverse culture has touched the life of every American and has been an invaluable component of Cleveland's diverse social fabric.

I also rise in honor of this year's keynote speaker, NASA astronaut Jose M. Hernandez, who was part of the crew aboard the space shuttle flight, *Discovery*, from liftoff on August 28, through touchdown on September 11, 2009. His leadership and expertise in the fields of chemical, computer and electrical engineering have promoted great strides in several areas of scientific study.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month, of the NASA Glenn Research Center and of Astronaut, Jose Hernandez. The innumerable contributions made by Hispanic Americans have added immeasurably to NASA Glenn's unparalleled global record of success.

HONORING LAKE PARSIPPANY VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Lake Parsippany Volunteer Fire Company, District #3 located in Morris County, New Jersey, which is celebrating its 75th Anniversary.

In 1935, a group of concerned citizens, recognizing the need for fire protection in the Lake Parsippany area, began taking steps toward the formation of the Lake Parsippany Volunteer Fire Company. The Fire Company was formally organized in early September with incorporation formalities approved on November 2, 1935.

Determined to start the company off successfully, members loaned money to purchase some fire equipment and a committee was formed to investigate the possibility of purchasing a used fire truck. By December 1935, just one month after organizing, the company had acquired its first fire truck from the Livingston Fire Company. The Morris Plains Fire Association provided fire rings with which to summon members to a fire.

In the early days, meetings were held in the residences of Mr. Peter Yeager and Mr. Edward Flanagan. The Lake Parsippany Property Owners Association Club House eventually became the gathering place.

After establishing a place to meet, the next step members took was to obtain a suitable location to house the fire truck. Land was purchased from the New York Daily Mirror and construction was started on the firehouse in August 1936. Through the efforts of its members organizing dances and raffles and the help from generous contributors, the Fire Company had become a fully functioning fire company just one year after organizing.

Shortly after their first anniversary in December 1936, the Fire Company welcomed the Ladies Auxiliary of the Lake Parsippany Volunteer Fire Company. The Auxiliary performed remarkable work for the firefighters and are credited with the company's steadfast progress. The Ladies Auxiliary spent many nights supplying hot coffee in the freezing weather while the members were engaged with firefighting duties.

The passing years have seen continued improvements for the Lake Parsippany Volunteer Fire Company. In the year 2002, the company moved across the street to their new home. However, the old firehouse still continues to serve the community as a substation for the Parsippany Rescue and Recovery Unit. In 2007 the Company added a 75 ft. Pierce Ladder Truck.

The Lake Parsippany Volunteer Fire Company continues to welcome new members into an organization dedicated to protecting their community and living out their motto: ''Neighbor protecting and helping neighbor.''

Madam Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Lake Parsippany Volunteer Fire Company, District #3 as they celebrate 75 years of community service.

RECOGNIZING REPUBLIC OF COLOMBIA'S AMBASSADOR CAROLINA BARCO

HON. GREGORY W. MEEKS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. MEEKS of New York. Madam Speaker, I offer these remarks on my own behalf and on behalf of my fellow co-chairs of the Congressional Colombia Caucus which includes Representative MARIO DIAZ-BALART, Representative HENRY CUELLAR, and Representative AARON SCHOCK. As co-chairs of the Caucus, we recognize today the tremendous work and legacy of the Republic of Colombia's outgoing Ambassador to the United States, Carolina Barco. Since 2006 Ambassador Barco has been an exemplary representative of the government and people of Colombia. She has worked tirelessly to deepen the ties between the United States and the nation of Colombia, a key South American ally.

Ambassador Carolina Barco has been an effective advocate on behalf of her country ensuring that we are well aware of the many ways that the United States can support a promising vision for the future and the continued progress of our ally, to the benefit of our entire hemisphere. There has been much progress for us to support. While she has been Ambassador to the United States, we have seen evidence of the commitment of Colombia to continue efforts to reestablish and maintain government control over its territory, fight drug trafficking and terrorist activities, reduce poverty, and become a more inclusive society. Despite Colombia's decades long conflict with guerrilla forces and paramilitary groups, public security has been restored in many areas previously under siege, and a stable environment for investment has been created.

As Ambassador Barco passes the baton to her successor, we know that her country is on strong footing and her work here in the United States has created long lasting relationships that will continue to be fruitful; though she is leaving her legacy lives on. We wish her well on her future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF HOWARD O'NEIL

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of Chief O'Neil, a resident of New Jersey and dedicated member of the Neptune Township police. Chief O'Neil has recently completed 40 years and 4 months of distinguished service in the township of Neptune and will be retiring this winter. I applaud Chief O'Neil's achievements and dedication and recognize his work which serves as an inspiration to us all.

A native resident of Ocean Grove, New Jersey, Chief O'Neil's career of public service began in 1964 when he served in the New Jersey National Guard until 1970. He was then assigned to the patrol division of Neptune Township Police until 1979. During his career on the force, O'Neil earned several promotions, including Sergeant in 1981, Lieutenant in 1985, Captain in 1987, Deputy Chief of Police in 1996 and most recently, Chief of Police in 2003. Furthermore, he remained an outstanding member, former president and vice president to the Policeman Benevolent Association as well as the Fraternal Order of Police State Lodge.

Chief O'Neil's civic achievements have also helped to form numerous organizations devoted to further advancing the safety and well-being of the Monmouth County community. In 1994, he chaired a committee that established a fund that gives monetary donations to families of officers who were killed in the line of duty. In addition, he helped establish an education fund as well as a fund for healthcare for special case residents of the area. Moreover, O'Neil has served or continues to serve on multiple organizations, including the New Jersey Governor's Awards committee and Attorney General's Awards committee.

Chief O'Neil's enthusiasm for service extends well beyond his call of duty as a police officer as evident in his active community leadership. A true member and devotee to his community, he has dedicated his time to coaching numerous youth sports teams including little league, recreational basketball and soccer, and travelling boys and girls soccer. The youth and families of Neptune Township are fortunate to have benefited from Chief O'Neil's energetic service and civic participation.

Chief O'Neil has tirelessly devoted his time to his community and epitomizes what it means to give back. Madam Speaker, please join me in leading this body in acknowledgement of the extraordinary contributions of Chief Howard O'Neil. He is a greatly valued citizen of the State of New Jersey, and I am honored to recognize him today.

COMMEMORATING THE VISIT TO CUBA OF THE FREEDOM SCHOONER AMISTAD IN RECOGNITION OF UN DAY OF REMEMBRANCE FOR SLAVERY VICTIMS

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, it is with enormous pride that I wish to inform my colleagues that the Freedom Schooner Amistad, a national human rights icon moored in New Haven, CT, is making history this week. As part of the United Nations commemoration of March 25 as the global Day of Remembrance for the victims of the Atlantic slave trade, the Amistad arrived Monday in Matanzas, Cuba and today will sail for Havana.

The Amistad entered Cuban waters on March 22, 2010 for a 10-day, two city Cuba tour that will culminate its recent Caribbean Heritage Voyage. The ship first visited Matanzas, site of a new UNESCO-affiliated slavery museum. Today, the Amistad will sail into Havana Harbor to commemorate the historic ''triangle of trade'' connections between America, Europe, Africa and the Caribbean. Tomorrow, the vessel will host a three-hour simulcast about the shared slave trade heritage, connecting Cuban students to classrooms across the Atlantic Ocean and at the UN in New York. In addition to public tours of the boat and academic panels on its history, the Cuba visits will focus on the impact of the slave trade on our transatlantic cultural heritage—including religious ritual, film, music, dance, poetry and visits to former plantations.

The sale of the Amistad captives in Havana was a small transaction in the thriving international slave trade. But the resulting events arguably turned the tide against slavery itself—and the historical connections across the modem African Diaspora are direct and profound.

This visit is especially poignant because Amistad's own story began in Cuba. The original ship was built in Cuba. In 1839, the Amistad sailed from Havana, the center of the illegal slave trade. This will be the replica's first visit to Cuba—and it coincides with the tenth anniversary of its launch at Mystic Seaport Museum on March 25, 2000.

The Amistad is a 140-foot replica of the two-masted black schooner that was at the center of the 1841 slave rebellion case argued successfully by John Quincy Adams, leading to the first U.S. Supreme Court case freeing African captives. The replica Amistad has visited 70 domestic and international ports as a symbol of this human rights milestone.

In 2008, the Amistad undertook a 14,000-mile transatlantic sail to Africa. On March 25 of that year, the Amistad was linked via satellite directly to the UN as the General Assembly voted to commemorate that date as the bicentennial of the pioneering British act that first outlawed the slave trade. Students from six countries sailed legs of the Africa voyage. Soon thereafter, the Amistad was designated as floating ambassador for the UN Permanent Memorial to Honour the Victims of Slavery and the Atlantic Slave Trade. The boat's most recent port of call was Santo Domingo, for a week of programs for youths from the Dominican Republic and Haiti.

During the two months after the current Caribbean tour, the vessel will visit five cities historically linked to the 19th century slave trade: Savannah, Charleston, Norfolk, Washington DC and Baltimore. The next heritage tour will include visits this summer to Boston, Halifax and seven Great Lakes ports, culminating in Chicago. In December, the Amistad sails back to Africa, including for celebrations of the 50th anniversary of the independence of Senegal. But for now, all eyes are on Cuba.

CELEBRATING THE BICENTENNIAL OF THE LAWRENCEVILLE SCHOOL

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the bicentennial of one of America's premier private secondary schools, The Lawrenceville School of Lawrenceville, New Jersey. Founded in 1810 as the Maidenhead Academy and run under such names as the Lawrenceville Classical and Commercial High School for more than 70 years, the school was ''refounded'' in 1883 to become The Lawrenceville School as we know it today. And for 200 years this remarkable institution has provided its students with an education that challenges the mind and has instilled in them a strong commitment to community service.

The Lawrenceville School facilities are designated a National Historic Landmark. Designed by the esteemed American landscape architect, Frederick Law Olmsted who designed New York's Central Park and Cadwaladar Park in Trenton, the campus contains several houses where students live, based on their gender and year of graduation. Most of the faculty lives on the campus as well, some in the houses with the students, and others in residences with their families. This provides a community rich in teaching and learning. Classes are held around oval wooden tables rather than in the traditional rows of desks. Students are held to the highest academic standards, and each day students practice their team sports, study or work at fulfilling their social service requirements.

Many of the leading figures in almost every field come from the Lawrenceville School. Lawrenceville has a proud history of public service. Graduates include three New Jersey Governors, Charles Olden, Joel Parker and Rodman Price, who also served as a Member of Congress; Lowell P. Weicker, who served as both Senator and Governor of Connecticut; Charles Fried, who was appointed by President Reagan as Solicitor General of the United States; J. Harvie Wilkinson, III, who sits on the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals; Ricardo Maduro, who was President of Honduras from 2002 to 2006; Brigadier General Horace Porter, who was awarded the Medal of Honor for his service in the Union Army; and World War I Aviator, Jarvis Offutt for whom Offutt Air Force Base is named.

Under the inspired leadership of Elizabeth A. Duffy, the first woman to be selected as Head Master, The Lawrenceville School has been faithful to its traditions as it prepares its young men and young women for leadership and service in a changing world. I ask all my colleagues to join me in congratulating this American treasure, The Lawrenceville School, which on October 8, 2010 will be celebrating its 200th birthday.

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF DR. ROBERT MULLER

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of Dr. Robert Muller, a lifelong champion for peace who served humanity tirelessly throughout his life.

Born in Belgium in 1923, Dr. Muller was raised in the Alsace-Lorraine region of France where he experienced unrelenting political and cultural turmoil. During World War II he was a member of the French Resistance and was imprisoned by the Germans during the Nazi occupation. In 1948, he won an essay contest with his entry about how to govern the world. The prize was an internship at the newly created United Nations.

The internship set him on a life path that led to 38 years of work behind the scenes at the United Nations where he rose to the official position of Assistant-Secretary General, serving three Secretaries General.

In 1986, Rodrigo Carazo, the President of Costa Rica, proposed that Dr. Muller become the chancellor of the U.N. University of Peace in Costa Rica of which he was the co-founder.

His deeply spiritual understanding of our planet and the life that graces it led him to create a ''World Core Curriculum'' which is taught at 34 Robert Muller Schools around the world. The Curriculum earned him the UNESCO Peace Education Prize in 1989 and the honorary title of ''father of global education.'' He also received the Albert Schweitzer International Prize for the Humanities and the Eleanor Roosevelt Man of Vision Award.

He was a prolific writer, having published fourteen books in various languages, including ''2000 Ideas and Dreams for a Better World'', in which he proposed concrete, visionary ideas designed to create a peaceful and harmonious planet.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and remembrance of Dr. Robert Muller, who will be deeply missed. I offer my heartfelt condolences to his entire family and to his many friends. Dr. Muller's life is one to celebrate, as he lived it with a generous heart, a true joy for living and unwavering love for his family, friends, colleagues and our beautiful planet.

A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF THE LIFE OF DAVID DRUKER, M.D.

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of an extraordinary physician and a distinguished constituent of California's 14th Congressional District, Dr. David Druker. After 35 years as a healer and leader in the medical community, Dr. Druker passed away

on July 23, 2010, following a three-year struggle with lung cancer.

Dr. Druker was trained as a clinical dermatologist, but his interest in people was anything but skin-deep. First as a practitioner and professor, then later as an executive, he always sought to engage those around him, to collaborate with and learn from his colleagues and friends. In this way, he nurtured ties between the medical profession and the broader Peninsula community, becoming a pillar of the Palo Alto Medical Foundation and the catalyst for an expanding and increasingly effective community health network.

With all of Dr. Druker's gifts as a doctor and director, it's hard to imagine him in any other profession. But he did not initially intend to enter medicine. Raised in Marshalltown, Iowa, Dr. Druker received his Bachelors Degree in Economics from Harvard University and was accepted by the University of Michigan Law School before changing his mind and entering the University of Iowa Medical School, under the condition that he make up his pre-med requirements first. Dr. Druker's precipitous career change brought him an avalanche of science coursework and ultimately brought Palo Alto residents an exceptional doctor. With his penchant for quiet understatement, Dr. Druker recalled his first year of medical school as ''a fun year.''

He married his wife Karen in 1966 and served two years in the U.S. Army before finishing his residency at the University of Oregon in 1975. After a year of private practice in Portland, Dr. Druker moved to Palo Alto to join what was then the Palo Alto Medical Clinic. While seeing 30 dermatology patients a day and teaching at the Stanford University School of Medicine, Dr. Druker rose to hold a number of leadership positions in the clinic and in regional and national organizations. He became Executive Director and then Chief Operating Officer of what had become, under his leadership, the Palo Alto Medical Foundation (PAMF), before being named President and Chief Executive Officer of PAMF in 1999.

Guided by Dr. Druker's vision of high-quality outpatient care and his ''multi-specialty group practice'' healthcare model, PAMF vastly expanded its range and its roster. The Foundation grew from 120 to nearly 1,000 physicians and now serves locations throughout the Bay Area, including Sunnyvale, Fremont, Los Altos, San Carlos, and Burlingame. Dr. Druker played a leading role in cementing the alliance between PAMF and Sutter Health in 1993, further integrating and enhancing community health services. The Palo Alto Medical Foundation remembered Dr. Druker as man who had ''a particular passion for children and education, and fostered long standing partnerships with schools.'' Along with his commitment to the health of youth, Dr. Druker promoted the idea of a ''Center for Innovation'' at PAMF to generate new and better approaches to clinical care.

Dr. Druker made countless contributions to the wider medical community as well. He chaired the American Medical Group Association and the California Medical Group Association, and served on the Board of the Unified Medical Group Association. He was a Trustee of the California Medical Association, a Fellow of the American Academy of Dermatology, and belonged to the Santa Clara County Medical Society, the California Medical Association, and the American Medical Association, among other affiliations. In addition to these responsibilities, Dr. Druker found time to author papers and textbooks on dermatology and medical administration, all the while devoting himself to his wife, his children, and his grandchildren.

Dr. Druker's impressive accomplishments have immeasurably enriched our community, but perhaps his most lasting legacy lies in the devoted care of his patients. One patient remembered him as ''a great guy and a fantastic doctor,'' a physician whose gentleness left the patient ''with this lasting fondness after all these years.'' Another simply and powerfully noted that back in the early 1980's, ''he saved my boyfriend's life.''

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in extending our deepest condolences to Dr. Druker's wife, Karen; his children, Daniel and Ellie; his five grandchildren; and his two sisters, Hannah and Leah. Dr. Druker's intellect and passion led him to become the human foundation of the Palo Alto Medical Foundation and the Peninsula's physician and friend. Whether diagnosing a patient or directing new and exciting health advances, Dr. David Druker's warm heart and healing hands will be missed by all who were touched by his dedication and humanity.

HONORING GEORGE WILFORD ARNOLD

HON. ED WHITFIELD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. WHITFIELD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor George Wilford Arnold for his lifelong contributions within his community. I wish to recognize his accomplishments by recalling some of his many achievements as an outstanding public servant.

Mr. Arnold began his public service in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II, and this service to his country and community continued throughout his life. Following his military service Mr. Arnold served on multiple boards as well as civic organizations that worked to improve the quality of life in the surrounding region. After many years of service he became a self-taught visionary seeking to improve the supply and the quality of water for his city, county, and region. This dedication to improving the people's quality of life led him to serve as chairman of the Logan/Todd Regional Water Commission from 1997 to 2003 and the executive director from 2003 to 2005. Mr. Arnold also served as the Mayor of Adairville for almost 20 years. During this time he was both trusted and respected for his commitment to the people.

In his community and surrounding area, Mayor George Wilford Arnold was seen as an example of hard work and ingenuity. One of his greatest strengths was that he possessed an unwavering belief in the people he represented. His work and leadership are largely responsible for the advancements of drinkable water within the First Congressional District.

Madam Speaker, Mayor George Wilford Arnold was an integral part of Kentucky's growth and advancement and it is an honor for me to bring to the attention of this House the achievements of this extraordinary gentleman. Although the death of Mayor Arnold is a great loss to our District, his work will live on in the many accomplishments we recognize here today.

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE HAWAIIAN PARTICIPANTS IN THE HOSA NATIONAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

HON. CHARLES K. DJOU

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. DJOU. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the students of Hawai'i HOSA who traveled to Orlando to compete in 25 health-related medical events with 7,000 delegates from 46 states. The excellence displayed by the team throughout this competition is indicative of the bright futures they can have in the health care community.

Hawai'i sent a delegation of 84 students from 12 high schools and four colleges from Maui and Oahu to compete in the 2010 HOSA National Leadership Conference. Hawai'i is incredibly proud of the 13 students awarded Top 3 Medallions and the 18 students who earned the Top 10 Finalist award. I would like to recognize the following students from Hawai'i for their tremendous accomplishments at the HOSA National Leadership Conference: Rance China, Josie Gomez, Brianna Daranciang, Ashley Layco, Carianne Matsuo, Ana Liza Capulong, Sandra Jamilla, Joybell Pablo, Vanessa Joy Sagaoinit, Tony Valdez Jr, Britteny Acoba, Joleen-Taylor Baxa, Marikris Racho, Nicole Kawahara, Allen Orense, Kevin Quitoriano, Kimiyo Lindley, Glady Meir Baloran, Cheryl Batara, Diana Simon, Woody Hoshibata, Brandy-Shaye Au-Stein, Mericris Neyra, Catherine Sabio, Ty Nakama, Zachery Grace, Nicole Colello, Samantha DeLeon, Liane Hisamoto, Aprilei Ramirez, Alnora Murai, Ruel Reyes, Lisa Kaaihue, Charmaine Alontaga, Shaneen Northington, Lian Balmores, Jenna Maligro, Judy Sadoyama, Harriet Gumban, Brittney Acoba, Jade Simpliciano, Angel Badua, Johnelyn Cadang, Jensine Domingo, Benedict Juliano, Suzanne Lieu, Shaynna Palasigue, Kristine Saguid, and Theodore Ueki.

The Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) promotes knowledge, technology education, and skill and leadership development for all health sciences to prepare and equip our students to meet the needs of the future healthcare community. Programs like HOSA promote academic excellence, encourage our students to specialize in subjects that interest them, and allow our students to interact with peers from around the country who share those interests. Education is crucial to our success as a nation and we must continue to ensure that quality education remains a priority.

On behalf of the schools, parents, and teachers of the First Congressional District of Hawai'i, I would like to extend my congratulations to the students of Hawai'i HOSA. Aloha.

HONORING DAVID ROMERO

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mrs. CAPPS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my constituent David Romero from San Luis Obispo, CA.

Mr. Romero is retiring as mayor of San Luis Obispo, after holding this office since 2002. Prior to serving as mayor, Mr. Romero served on the City Council, worked as the Public Works Director and further dedicated himself to our community by lecturing at Cal Poly, and serving in the Chamber of Commerce, SLO Council of Governments and SLO Regional Transit Authority.

Mr. Romero is a true public servant, and his contribution to San Luis Obispo and the greater community will not be forgotten any time soon. He is a sterling example of the work that a city can accomplish when its citizens roll up their sleeves, work together and dedicate themselves to making their community a better place.

It has been an honor to work with him to ensure the residents of San Luis Obispo are well-represented locally and in Washington, DC. In our conversations over the years, I am consistently struck by the dedication and responsibility he feels towards his friends and neighbors of this beautiful city.

On behalf of the entire San Luis Obispo community, I am proud to honor Mr. Romero and his wonderful family today. I wish him much rest and relaxation in his retirement!

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE MISSOURI STATE HIGHWAY PATROL

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, it has come to my attention that the Missouri State Highway Patrol recently received the 2010 Outstanding Law Enforcement Agency Award from Mothers Against Drunk Driving. I am proud to pay tribute to the men and women of the Highway Patrol and the exceptional service and protection they provide the citizens of Missouri.

For years, Missouri's Highway Patrol has been a national leader among law enforcement agencies in the fight to prevent drunk driving and care for the victims of this senseless crime. Sobriety check points and effective patrols have resulted in almost 285,000 DWI arrests since 1980, and investigations by the Highway Patrol have led to more than 17,600 criminal charges against drunk drivers in the same time period.

While these statistics are truly impressive and important to note, the Highway Patrol's greatest success cannot be measured. Countless lives are saved everyday because of the Highway Patrol's hard work and commitment to protecting Missouri families from the dangers of drunk driving. And, for those who are sadly affected by drunk driving, the Highway Patrol stands ready to help with a victim advocacy program that has long been considered among the finest in the nation. To date, the program has served victims in every county in Missouri. All these initiatives are complimented by the Highway Patrol's efforts to educate young people about the dangers drunk driving poses to all Missouri drivers.

Madam Speaker, the Missouri State Highway Patrol can be proud of all it has done for the State of Missouri, and they should be congratulated for receiving this well deserved award. I trust my fellow members of the House will join me in congratulating the men and women of the Highway Patrol.

IN HONOR OF TRICIA ROBERTS

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I recognize a great Delawarean, Tricia Roberts, a recipient of the Kathryn J.R. Swanson Public Service Award from the Governors Highway Safety Association (GHSA). Tricia was given this prestigious award for her tireless dedication to keeping Delaware's roadways safe during her career with the Office of Highway Safety (OHS). I am honored that the GHSA has selected Tricia for this award as she is certainly well-deserving. I also wish Tricia all the best in her new found retirement.

Tricia joined the Delaware OHS as a community relations officer in 1989, while I was serving as Governor of Delaware. Through hard work and determination, Tricia quickly rose to director of OHS in 1994. During her time as director, Tricia led the charge to enact strong motor vehicle safety measures, such as the primary seat belt law, bicycle helmet law, and the repeat DUI offender legislation. After legislation was signed into law in 2000 to make a .08 blood alcohol level the standard in all 50 states, which I and others in the House of Representatives worked to pass, Tricia worked tirelessly for several years to toughen drunk driving laws in Delaware to meet federal requirements. Also a steadfast proponent of Checkpoint Strikeforce DUI prevention programs, Tricia was extremely dedicated to keeping impaired drivers off of Delaware's roads. Her innovative measures and dedication to highway safety has improved Delaware's roadways and undoubtedly ensured the safety of thousands.

I am proud to represent a state where individuals such as Tricia Roberts reside. I am extremely grateful for Tricia's efforts toward improving highway safety and I wish her all the best in retirement. It is individuals like Tricia that give Delaware the good name that it has.

BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. WAXMAN. Madam Speaker, October 1 is the beginning of Breast Cancer Awareness Month. This is a moment to reflect on the great work done by scientists, physicians and nurses, patients, survivors, and their families every day to detect, treat, prevent and—one day—cure breast cancer. It is a time to recall the personal losses of so many family members and friends. And it is an occasion to measure the important progress made against breast cancer and the improvement in the chances of survival and in the quality of life for women and men with breast cancer.

But, for the more than 200,000 American women diagnosed with breast cancer this year, and the 40,000 who will die from breast cancer, it is also time for us to renew our commitment in this struggle, to reaffirm that we will complete this work, meet unmet needs, and once and for all end the risk of breast cancer to our families and our children.

This is a struggle that we willingly take on for our families, and for families around the world, where a woman dies from breast cancer every minute of every hour of every day. This year, 1.3 million women worldwide will be diagnosed with breast cancer, and of them a half million will die from breast cancer. As we mark Breast Cancer Awareness Month in the United States, we do so as members of a global community facing a common health threat.

This year brings other important commemorative milestones in the fight against breast cancer. I learned recently that this year is the thirtieth anniversary of Nancy Brinker's promise to her sister, Susan G. Komen, to pursue a cure for breast cancer—a promise that helped spark vital patient advocacy worldwide in the race for a cure.

This is the twentieth anniversary of the National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program (NBCCEDP), administered by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). In 1990, Congress stepped in to give women access to early cancer detection. By passing this law, we sent the message that no woman should have to forgo life-saving tests because she can't afford them. More than 3 million American women have benefitted from this program.

This is also the tenth anniversary of the National Breast and Cervical Cancer Prevention and Treatment Act, which expanded Medicaid coverage for American women diagnosed through the screening and early detection services supported by NBCCEDP. Today, this coverage is available in all fifty States.

Last year, in passing comprehensive health care reform, we built on these early achievements by expanding health coverage and making preventive health care more accessible for all Americans. We did this because uninsured cancer patients are 60 percent more likely to die than privately insured patients within five years of diagnosis. We did this because of the tens of millions of uninsured Americans who deserve screening, treatment and care—but do not receive them today.

We have important work that remains to be done. Only a fraction of the American women eligible to receive preventive health services under NBCCEDP do so. There are waiting lists at clinics, which mean women whose cancers could have been caught early and treated instead find out when their disease has progressed and spread. There are new screening technologies to be developed, new treatments and hopefully cures that await discovery.

Madam Speaker, I hope that every American family takes a moment during October to reflect on the progress we've made against

breast cancer and to commit to taking steps to protect their health or to contribute in some way to creating and achieving a world without breast cancer.

RECOGNIZING THE DEDICATED EMPLOYEES OF THE WASHINGTON SUBURBAN SANITARY COMMISSION

HON. DONNA F. EDWARDS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Ms. EDWARDS of Maryland. Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize the dedicated employees of the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) in safeguarding the citizens of Prince George's and Montgomery Counties in Maryland.

In the early morning hours of July 1, 2010, a WSSC fiber optics monitoring system notified key WSSC personnel of impending danger involving a 96'' water main located near Tuckerman Lane in Montgomery County, Maryland. This highly pressurized water main is one of the main distribution conduits serving both Counties, but is of particular importance to the citizens of Prince George's County. WSSC mobilized immediately coordinating with Maryland state and county officials to isolate the problem, dewater the main, replace the damaged section, and restore water service. This all occurred without a loss of water pressure in the system that could have impacted adversely critical services like hospitals and firefighting capabilities. WSSC instituted and enforced mandatory water restrictions over the holiday weekend to ensure adequate pressure was maintained for public health and safety.

WSSC is to be commended for their leadership and efforts throughout this incident. As Paul Hajek, Acting Director of Operations for the Maryland Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) wrote to WSSC's General Manager, ''I found WSSC to be highly professional, responsive and cautiously deliberate in how they handled the entire incident. From a State perspective, it was refreshing to work with a company that at every turn 'had it under control'. Your company's actions turned what was a probable 'emergency incident' into an 'event'.''

WSSC Commissioners and General Manager Jerry N. Johnson honored WSSC employees for their efforts in this incident during the July 21, 2010 Commission meeting. In a communication from the General Manager to the employees honored, Mr. Johnson wrote:

''As you know, I believe that our employees are our most valuable asset. The members of the WSSC team demonstrate their commitment every day whether they are responding to a customer inquiry in the Call Center, inspecting a contractor's repair of a sewer lateral, turning valves to isolate a water main break or repairing a pump in the machine shop. I am proud to be a member of such a dedicated and capable workforce that so fully understands the critical nature of our work and how each of us plays an important role in fulfilling our obligation to provide high quality reliable services to our customers.

''Due, in part, to your hard work, WSSC averted a potentially catastrophic break in the 96-inch main. We know from past experience the destructive power of such a break. There is no doubt a sudden break at Tuckerman Lane and Gainsborough Road would have been devastating.

''We appreciate your personal sacrifices, including the physical demands of working long hours in near-record breaking heat, and the time that could have been spent with loved ones celebrating our Nation's Independence Day holiday. Your professionalism and work ethic personify the work ethic of the entire WSSC team. We are so very proud of our employees and the contractors who represented the Commission in all phases of the repair operation.

''On behalf of our customers and staff, we want to express our sincere gratitude for your excellent implementation of WSSC's customer service goals and expectations. You selflessly carried out our mission to provide safe and reliable water, life's most precious resource, in an ethically and financially responsible manner. We salute you for a job well done!''

One noteworthy individual is WSSC Customer Care West Group Leader, Hak Kwon. Nicknamed by many during and after this event as ''The General,'' Mr. Kwan lead the WSSC Team working tirelessly and professionally to resolve the problem as quickly and as safely as possible.

In crisis situations such as this early July 2010 incident, it is comforting to know that the employees of the WSSC can rise to the occasion, make the difficult decisions, and safeguard our citizens.

Madam Speaker, I ask all of my colleagues to join General Manager Jerry Johnson and me in commending the WSSC and its employees on a job well done.

PROVIDING HONORARY TITLE FOR ARMY RESERVISTS

SPEECH OF

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2010

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge my colleagues to support H.R. 3787, which I joined my colleague the gentleman from Minnesota in introducing. Our military increasingly depends on the National Guard and Reserve to keep our country safe. Men and women who served our country faithfully for decades deserve full recognition as veterans, even if they were never deployed. The legislation would extend full veteran status under federal law to retired members of the Guard and Reserve. Current law does not consider Guard and Reserve members to be veterans unless they were deployed for more than 30 days. The policy excludes many soldiers in the Guard and Reserve who, while never deployed for long periods of time, carried out critical support roles during times of war and peace, engaged in frequent and often dangerous training exercises, and stood ready to risk their lives to protect our nation during military careers that spanned decades. This legislation recognizes the service and sacrifice of National Guard and Reserve retirees and grants them the full honor of being called veterans that they have earned. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, which is a matter of honor and fairness to our citizen soldiers.

A TRIBUTE TO MRS. JUDY TUCKER, DIRECTOR OF CONSTITUENT SERVICES FOR U. S. REP. BOBBY L. RUSH, ON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT AFTER 24 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. RUSH. Madam Speaker, we live in an age where the average length of time that a typical American worker spends on a job is from three to five years. That's why, as this month comes to a close, it is all the more remarkable that one of my most respected employees, Mrs. Judy Tucker, has served me with distinction, honor and humility for 24 years—only one year shy of a quarter century. Her commitment to service and to the people of the 1st Congressional District of Illinois is truly remarkable in this day and age. And for that, I thank her for her service.

But there's so much more to Judy Tucker's story.

When the history of Chicago's African American political community is written, Judy Tucker's name will be an important part of that vast network of tireless, determined men and women who served with distinction in those all important ''trenches''—you know, the nose-to-the grind, inner workings of government that mean the world to the typical voter, constituent and his or her family. Judy Tucker is the only employee to have served me, consistently, since I was first elected to the U. S. House of Representatives in 1992. That was 20 years ago. This tribute recognizes her for 24 years of service because, prior to my election to Congress, Judy served me capably and effectively, for four years, as my personal secretary in my Second Ward Aldermanic Office.

Judy's background in public service also includes playing key administrative leadership roles for my friend, Cook County Commissioner Jerry Butler, and, prior to that, working for several years for the iconic African American Member of Congress, Ralph Metcalfe, who also represented the people of the 1st Congressional District. It is my pleasure to note that through all of Judy's professional life she has prided herself on her service to the men and women of the City of Chicago, the State of Illinois and, for the past 20 years, the people of the 1st Congressional District that I'm so proud to serve.

As Director of Constituent Services, Judy managed those all important details of what it means to provide assistance to those constituents who need help. No matter the request, if it was within our power to assist a constituent, Judy Tucker made sure that their resource or information needs were addressed quickly, accurately and in a professional manner. There was never a request too large or too small for Judy to handle. In many ways, Judy's job is one of, if not the most important job that I have on staff. That's because her work hits home where it matters most—in the daily lives of the constituents that my staff and I are here to serve. Judy never forgot about the needs of my constituents and she worked tirelessly to

provide them with the information, services or access to resources and services that they needed for all the years I've been a member of Congress. Madame Speaker, I can't tell you how grateful I am for her capable service and how proud I am of the honor and distinction she has brought to my office.

In addition to being an effective Constituent Services Director, Judy is also a loving wife, mother and grandmother. Married to her husband, Elisheous Tucker for 38 years, she and her husband are faithful members of the Miracle House of Prayer Church. As she settles into her well deserved retirement, while my staff and I will miss her, I suspect she'll be able to spend more time with her church community, her family and friends. In addition to traveling, I can imagine her spending much more time tending to her garden, a hobby that I know she truly enjoys.

What more can I say other than every Member of Congress should be blessed to have someone of the caliber, grace and professionalism of Mrs. Judy Tucker. While my staff and I will miss her presence in our office, she will always be a valued member of the permanent "Rush Team" for years to come.

On behalf of my staff, my wife, Carolyn, and the people of the 1st Congressional District of Illinois, I wish Mrs. Judy Tucker all the joy and gifts that God can bestow upon her, and her family, for years and years to come.

Thank you so much, Judy, for a job well done. I value our friendship and you and your family are forever in my thoughts and prayers. My God richly bless you now and always.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE RHAWNHURST—BUSTLETON AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION

HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate the Rhawnhurst-Bustleton Ambulance Association on its 50th anniversary. This volunteer ambulance corps, located in Northeast Philadelphia, serves the residents of the Bustleton and Rhawnhurst neighborhoods.

Fifty years ago Rhawnhurst and Bustleton were not served by the ambulances operated by area hospitals. This lack of emergency medical services was a serious safety and health challenge for these residents and businesses. Seeing this need, a small group of dedicated citizens took action. Five individuals met in the basement of a neighborhood home to take an oath to provide this much needed service. Six months later, with two ambulances in its fleet, the Rhawnhurst-Bustleton Ambulance Association incorporated as a nonprofit organization.

The ambulance association is now state-licensed and certified, operating 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Over the past 50 years these dedicated volunteers have incorporated advanced technologies and practices into their daily operations. This neighborhood has been safer and more secure over these past 50 years because this small group of committed people decided to take an extra step to care for their neighbors.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating and wishing the Rhawnhurst-Bustleton Ambulance Association many more years of faithful service to the community.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING GOLDIE MORROW LONG BOERNER HARRISON ON HER 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker,

Whereas, Goldie Morrow Long Boerner Harrison was born in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, on October 3, 1910,

Whereas, Goldie joined the SPARS during World War II, where she sang and danced in a show for enlisted personnel in the Coast Guard,

Whereas, Goldie opened a hair salon in Massillon where she styled the hair of the stars who performed at the Canal Fulton Playhouse, including Vivian Vance, Tammy Grimes, Imogene Coco and President Truman's daughter Margaret,

Whereas, Givin now lives in Dover, Ohio, where she will celebrate with close friends and family,

Resolved that along with her friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Goldie Harrison on achieving her 100th birthday, and for her contributions to her community and country.

TESTIMONY OF MR. CHRISTOPHER COATES BEFORE THE U.S. COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS REGARDING UNEQUAL ENFORCEMENT OF THE LAW

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, I submit certain sections of the testimony of Mr. Christopher Coates before the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights in which he discusses the unequal enforcement of federal voting laws by political and career officials in the Department of Justice.

THE DECISION TO DISMISS AND TO LIMIT INJUNCTIVE RELIEF IN THE NBPP CASE

It was within this atmosphere, with these managers, and with pressure being applied by an organization—NAACP LDF—that is close to the Obama Administration's CRD management, that the decision to gut the NBPP case was made. Although there have been recent reports that indicate that senior political appointees at higher levels in the Department were involved in the NBPP case, it was Ms. King, along with her Deputy, Steve Rosenbaum, who the Justice Department has claimed made the decision to dismiss three of the party-defendants in the case and ordered the limitation on the broader injunctive relief recommended by both Voting Section and Appellate Section attorneys against the one remaining defendant.

It is my opinion that this disposition of the NBPP case was ordered because the people calling the shots in May 2009 were angry at the filing of the Ike Brown case and angry at our filing of the NBPP case. That anger was the result of their deep-seated opposition to the equal enforcement of the VRA against racial minorities and for the protection of whites who have been discriminated against. Ms. King, Mr. Rosenbaum, Mr. Kappelhoff, Ms. Clarke, a large number of the people who work in the Voting Section and the CRD, and many of the liberal private groups that work in the civil rights field believe, incorrectly but vehemently, that enforcement of the protections of the VRA should not be extended to white voters but should be limited to protecting racial, ethnic and language minorities.

The final disposition of the NBPP case, even in the face of a default by the defendants, was caused by this incorrect view of civil rights enforcement, and it was intended to send a direct message to people inside and outside the CRD. That message is that the filing of voting cases like the Ike Brown and the NBPP cases would not continue in the Obama Administration. The disposition of the NBPP case was not required by the facts developed during the case or the applicable law, as has been claimed, but was because of this incorrect view of civil rights enforcement that is at war with the statutory language in the VRA and with racially fair enforcement of federal law.

FAILURE TO ENFORCE SECTION 5

If anyone doubts that CRD and the Voting Section have failed to enforce the VRA in a race-neutral manner, one only has to look at the enforcement of the Section 5 preclearance requirements. Those requirements mandate that federal preclearance for voting changes within the covered jurisdictions be obtained for any covered change and that preclearance not be given for changes that have a racially discriminatory purpose or effect. The statutory language of Section 5 speaks in terms of protecting all voters from racial discrimination. But the Voting Section has never interposed an objection under Section 5 to a voting change on the ground that it discriminated against white voters in the forty-five (45) year history of the Act.

This failure includes no objections in the many majority-minority jurisdictions in the covered states. Indeed, the personnel in the Voting Section's unit which handles Section 5 submissions are instructed only to see if the change discriminates against racial, ethnic, and language minority voters. This practice of not enforcing Section 5's protections for white voters includes jurisdictions, such as Noxubee County, Mississippi where the Ike Brown case arose, where white voters are in the racial minority. It is in those jurisdictions the Voting Section's failure to apply Section 5's protections for the white minority is particularly problematic. On two occasions, while I was Chief of the Voting Section, I tried to persuade officials at the CRD level to change this policy so that white voters would be protected by Section 5 in appropriate circumstances, but to no avail. I believe that present management in both the CRD and the Voting Section are opposed to race-neutral enforcement of Section 5 and continue to enforce those provisions in a racially selective manner.

REASONS GIVEN BY THE DOJ FOR ITS ACTIONS IN NBPP CASE

As I have indicated, I am not going to testify about the statements made during my meetings with Ms. King and Mr. Rosenbaum, because of the DOJ's assertion of the deliberative process privilege. However, the DOJ and Mr. Perez have publicly articulated the reasons for the disposition of the NBPP case, and I will therefore address here several of

these publicly stated reasons for dismissals of three of the defendants and the limitation on the injunctive relief.

The primary reason cited by the CRD for not obtaining injunctive relief against Black Panther Jerry Jackson who stood at the Philadelphia polling place in uniform with fellow Panther King Samir Shabazz, but without a weapon, was that a Philadelphia police officer who came to the polling place made the determination that King Samir Shabazz had to leave the polling place, but that Black Panther Jackson could stay because he was a certified Democratic Party poll watcher. During my thirteen and one-half (13½) years in the Voting Section, I cannot remember another situation where the decision not to file suit under the VRA, much less to dismiss pending claims and parties, as in the NBPP case, was made in whole or in part on a determination of a local police officer. In my experience, officials in the Voting Section and the CRA always reserved for themselves, and correctly so, the determination as to what behavior constitutes a violation of federal law, and what does not. One of the reasons for this federal preemption of the determination of what constitutes a VRA violation is that a local police officer is not normally trained in what constitutes a VRA violation. In addition, in the Philadelphia Police Incident Report provided to this Commission, the Philadelphia police officer who came to the polling place did not determine that Black Panther Jackson's actions were not intimidating; instead, he simply reported that Mr. Jackson was certified by the Democratic Party to be a poll watcher at the polling place.

Further, as the history underlying the enactment and extension of the VRA shows, local police on occasion have had sympathy for persons who were involved in behavior that adversely affected the right to vote and violated the protections of the VRA. In this case, however, the fact that one Philadelphia police officer did not require Black Panther Jackson to leave the area became such a compelling piece of evidence that it was cited by the Assistant Attorney General Perez in his May 14, 2010 statement to this Commission. There Mr. Perez stated that ''the Department placed significant weight on the responses of the law enforcement first responder to the Philadelphia polling place,'' in allowing Black Panther Jackson to escape a default judgment and escape the entry of injunctive relief against his future actions. Based upon my experience, this reasoning is extraordinarily strange and an unpersuasive basis to support the CRD's disposition of the NBPP case.

Another publicly stated reason by the DOJ was in a July 13, 2009 letter to Congressmen Frank Wolf and Lamar Smith that pointed out that Panther Jackson lived at the apartment building whose lower level was being used as the polling place. This reason was later abandoned by the CRD, but the fact that it was asserted by the DOJ as a reason for the dismissals in the NBPP case strongly suggests that it was a reason asserted at some point close to the time of the dismissals. Regarding the location of Black Panther Jackson's residence, our investigation determined that Jackson's claim that his residence was at this apartment building was not true. However, even if Black Panther Jackson had resided there, it should be quite clear to all that such a fact would not have provided him a legal basis for intimidating voters.

To understand the irrationality of these articulated reasons for gutting this case, one only has to state the facts in the racial reverse. Assume that two members of the KKK, one of which lived in an apartment building that was being used as a polling place, showed up at the entrance in KKK uniform and that one of the Klansman was carrying a billy stick. Further assume that the two Klansmen were yelling racial slurs at black voters who were a minority of people registered to vote at this polling place, and the Klansmen were blocking ingress to the polling place. Assume further that a local policeman comes on the scene and determines that the Klansman with the billy club must leave but that the other Klansman could stay because he was certified as a poll watcher for a local political party.

In those circumstances does anyone seriously believe that the Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights would contend that on the basis of the facts and law, the CRD did not have a case under the VRA against this hypothetical Klansman because he resided in the apartment building where the polling place was located, or because he was allowed to stay at the polling place by a local police officer because he was a poll watcher? I certainly hope Mr. Perez would not find that hypothetical case lacking in merit, and I will guarantee you that Ms. King, Mr. Rosenbaum, Mr. Kappelhoff and Ms. Clarke would not either. However, such reasons are a part of the publicly articulated grounds for the CRD's decision to instruct me to dismiss a significant portion of the NBPP case.

Based upon my own personal knowledge of the events surrounding the NBPP case and the atmosphere that has existed in the CRD and the Voting Section against racially fair enforcement of certain federal voting laws, I do not believe these publicly stated representations to this Commission and other entities accurately reflect what occurred in the NBPP case. They do not acknowledge the hostile atmosphere that has existed within the CRD against race-neutral enforcement of the VRA.

MS. FERNANDEZ'S STATEMENTS TO THE VOTING SECTION

In the summer of 2009, Julie Fernandez was appointed as the Deputy Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights by the Obama Administration. One of her responsibilities is to oversee the Voting Section. Ms. Fernandez and I had worked together in the Voting Section during the Clinton Administration. She had spent years working for civil rights groups since our Clinton Administration days, mainly with the Leadership Conference for Civil Rights, but I hoped that she might have an enforcement approach different than Ms. King's and Mr. Rosenbaum's. I was to be disappointed.

Mr. Fernandez began scheduling lunches in the conference room of the Voting Section at which times the various statutes the Voting Section has the responsibility for enforcing were discussed as well as other enforcement activities. In September 2009, Ms. Fernandez held such a meeting to discuss enforcement of the anti-discrimination provisions of Section 2 of the VRA. At this meeting one of the Voting Section trial attorneys asked Ms. Fernandez what criteria would be used to determine what type of Section 2 cases the CRD Front Office would be interested in pursuing.

Ms. Fernandez responded by telling the gathering that the Obama Administration was only interested in bringing traditional types of Section 2 cases that would provide political equality for racial and language minority voters, and she went on to say that this is what we are all about, or words to that effect. When Ms. Fernandez made that statement, everyone in the room understood exactly what she meant—no more cases like the Ike Brown or NBPP cases. Ms. Fernandez reiterated that directive in another meeting held in December 2009 on the subject of federal observer election coverage, in which she stated to the entire group in attendance that the Voting Section's goal was to ensure equal access for voters of color or minority language.

In November 2009, a similar lunch meeting was held by Ms. Fernandez on the subject of the National Voter Registration Act (NVRA). The NVRA has three provisions that have led to enforcement activity by the Voting Section. The first is Section 7 which requires that certain government offices, such as the local office that provides public assistance, also provide their clients the opportunity to register to vote. The other two provisions of the NVRA are found in Section 8 of that Act. They require states to ensure that voter registration list maintenance be conducted so that registration lists do not have the names of persons who are no longer eligible to vote in the jurisdiction. Further, Section 8 also provides that certain notice procedures are to be followed in order to legally remove persons from a voter registration list.

In discussions specifically addressing the list maintenance provision of Section 8 of the NVRA, Ms. Fernandez stated that list maintenance had to do with the administration of elections. She went on to say that the Obama Administration was not interested in that type of issue, but instead interested in issues that pertained to voter access. During the Bush Administration, the Voting Section began filing cases under the list maintenance provision of Section 8 to compel states and local registration officials to remove ineligible voters. These suits were very unpopular with a number of the groups that work in the area of voting rights. When Ms. Fernandez told the Voting Section that the Obama Administration was not interested in Section 8 list maintenance enforcement activity, everyone in the room understood exactly what she meant. We understood that she was not talking about Section 8 cases in which there is a claim that the removal procedures of Section 8 were not being complied with; instead, she was talking about the types of cases that the Voting Section filed during the Bush Administration whose purpose was to compel the states to comply with the Section 8 directive that they do list maintenance by removing ineligibles from the list.

In June 2009, the Election Assistance Commission (EAC) issued its bi-annual report concerning which states appeared not to be complying with Section 8's list maintenance requirements. The report identified eight states that appeared to be the worst in terms of their non-compliance with the list maintenance requirements of Section 8. These were states that reported that no voters had been removed from any of their voters' list in the last two years. Obviously, this is a good indication that something is not right with the list maintenance practices in that state. As Chief of the Voting Section, I assigned attorneys to work on this matter, and in September 2009, I forwarded a memorandum to the CRD Front Office asking for approval to go forward with Section 8 list maintenance investigations in these states.

During the time that I was Chief, no approval was given to this project, and it is my understanding that approval has never been given for that Section 8 list maintenance project to date. That means that we have entered the 2010 election cycle with eight states appearing to be in major noncompliance with the list maintenance requirements of Section 8 of the NVRA, and yet the Voting Section which has the responsibility to enforce that law has yet to take any action. From these circumstances I believe that Ms. Fernandez's statement to the Voting Section in November 2009 not to, in effect, initiate

Section 8 list maintenance enforcement activities has been complied with.

In Mr. Perez's letter to this Commission of August 11, 2010, he stated that the CRD currently has active matters under the NVRA, ''including investigations under Section 8.'' In making this statement, I do not believe Mr. Perez was referring to Section 8 list maintenance cases, the kind of cases Ms. Fernandez was referring to when she talked about no interest in enforcing Section 8, because I do not believe that the Voting Section has recently been involved in any list maintenance enforcement during the Obama Administration.

I believe that federal prosecutors, criminal and civil, have prosecutorial discretion in deciding how we are going to use our resources, but I do not think that discretion goes so far as to allow us to decide not to do any enforcement of a law enacted by Congress, because political appointees determine that they are not interested in enforcing that law. That is an abuse of prosecutorial discretion.

Further, not to enforce the list maintenance provisions of Section 8 are likely to have partisan consequences as well. A number of the jurisdictions that have bloated voter registration lists are where there are sizable minority populations and are Democratic strongholds. For example, at the time of the trial in the Ike Brown case, the Noxubee County Election Commission had not purged its list, as required by Mississippi law and Section 8 of the NVRA, so that the number of persons on the voter registration list was approximately 130 percent of the number of people in that county who were eighteen (18) years or older. As Congress recognized in enacting the list maintenance provisions of Section 8, bloated voter registration lists increase the risk of voter fraud.

THE IMPORTANCE OF RACIAL-NEUTRAL ENFORCEMENT OF THE VRA

Equal enforcement of the VRA is absolutely essential for a number of reasons. First, it is required by the statutory language of the VRA. Congress did not use statutory language that speaks in terms of discrimination against racial or language minorities, but in terms of discrimination on the basis of race or color. In extending and amending Section 5 of the Act in 2006, the Congress used the term ''any voter'', not racial or ethnic minority voters. Further, the statutory construction given the VRA by the courts supports that the Act is written in race-neutral terms and is intended for the protection of all.

When we go to work with the DOJ, we all take an oath faithfully to enforce the laws of the United States. Enforcing the VRA in a racially selectively manner or choosing not to enforce certain provisions of federal voting law is not in compliance with the oaths that we have taken.

Second, when the VRA was originally enacted in 1965, it probably did not make a great deal of difference, as a practical matter, whether its prohibitions against race discrimination and intimidation were enforced against minority wrongdoers as well as white wrongdoers. During that time period, there were very few minority election officials in the overwhelming majority of jurisdictions, and in a number of jurisdictions there were no minority election officials. However, during the last forty-five (45) years, the United States has changed for the better. Large numbers of minority persons now serve as election and poll officials in hundreds of jurisdictions throughout America. In such a multi-racial and multi-cultural country, not the one of Bull Connor or Ross Barnett, but the country in which an African American serves as the President and as the Attorney General of the United States, and it is absolutely essential that the VRA be enforced equally against all racial and ethnic groups.

During my years in the Voting Section, and particularly during the time I served in a management capacity, I became acutely aware based on complaints and conducting investigations that a sizable number of voting illegalities are committed by members of racial and ethnic minorities. Noxubee County, Mississippi is a prime example. Noxubee was not, as some critics have claimed, a mere aberration. Let me give you two other examples.

During the time I was Chief of the Voting Section, we conducted a prolonged investigation in Wilkinson County, Mississippi, a majority-black county in the southwestern part of the State. A long battle between an all-black faction and a racially integrated faction had been going on for a substantial period of time in that county. Relations between the two factions had reached the point where the all-black faction would not allow members of the racially-integrated faction to play any role in the conduct of the local elections, including the counts of absentee ballots or the choosing of persons to work at the polls. After a local election in Wilkinson County in 2007, the home of a white candidate for local office was burned. No one was ever prosecuted for this burning, and the burning of this candidate's home never received any national attention. The Voting Section in the end did not file a VRA lawsuit in Wilkinson County for a number of reasons, including the pendency of multiple election contests in state courts during the time of our investigation and the fear that the filing of suit by the DOJ would suggest we were taking sides in election disputes. We did send federal observers to elections there, including the 2008 election. I came away from the Wilkinson County investigation with the clear impression that African American officials there were involved in voting-related acts of racial discrimination against whites.

In addition in 2005, I conducted an investigation in Hale and Perry Counties, Alabama, two other majority-black counties. Again, there were political factions in these counties with one faction all-black and the other a racially integrated faction. There were multiple claims by the racially integrated faction of absentee ballot and other types of voter fraud being perpetrated by the all-black factions in these counties. While investigating in Hale County, I learned that there had been a recent highly contentious election, and on the night of that election, election materials, including absentee ballots, were placed for safe keeping in a local bank vault so that those materials could be reviewed the next morning by election officials. Overnight that bank was set on fire. No one was ever prosecuted for that burning. Again, the Voting Section did not end up filing a VRA lawsuit in either of these Alabama counties for a number of reasons, including on-going voting fraud investigations by the state Attorney General's office in those counties. I have recently learned that several African American political officials have been convicted for absentee ballot fraud in Hale County. Again, I came away from the Hale and Perry County investigations with the clear impression that some individual African Americans in those counties were involved in acts of racial discrimination against whites.

In pointing these examples out, I am not suggesting that minority election and poll officials or minority political activists are more likely to commit voting law violations than are their white counterparts. What I am pointing out is that I believe that some minorities are just as likely to resort to lawlessness in the voting area as are some whites. For the CRD and Voting Section to pursue enforcement practices that ignore VRA violations by members of minority groups will encourage lawlessness in the voting area by those who will have no fear that the Federal Government will enforce the federal law against them. In our increasingly multiethnic society, that is a clear recipe to undermine the public's confidence in the legitimacy of our electoral process.

I have heard some argue that prosecutors, both criminal and civil, have prosecutorial discretion that gives attorneys in the CRD and the Voting Section the authority not to bring VRA lawsuits against minority wrongdoers. It is certainly true that prosecutors have discretion to decide what cases to bring based upon resource issues and other legal considerations. But we do not have the discretion to decide not to enforce the law based upon the race of the perpetrators or the race of the victims of the wrongdoing. Those discretionary decisions cannot constitutionally be based upon race.

In conclusion, I thank you for the time you have given me to testify on these important enforcement issues. I commend the Civil Rights Commission for making inquiries into these areas. Individuals of good will, regardless of their race, ethnicity or language-minority status, should be concerned about the CRD not enforcing laws in a race-neutral manner. As important as the mandate in the VRA is to protect minority voters, white voters also have an interest in being able to go to the polls without having race-haters such as Black Panther King Samir Shabazz whose public rhetoric includes such statements as ''kill cracker babies'' standing at the entrance of the polling place with a billy club in his hand hurling racial slurs. Given this outrageous conduct, it was a travesty on justice for the DIN not to allow attorneys in the Voting Section to obtain nation-wide injunctive relief against all four of the defendants.

CALLING ON JAPAN TO ADDRESS CHILD ABDUCTION CASES

SPEECH OF

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2010

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 1326, a resolution calling on the Government of Japan to immediately address the urgent problem involving United States citizen children who are abducted by one parent and unlawfully taken to Japan without intervention by the Japanese Government.

This resolution urges the Government of Japan to work closely with the United States Government to return American children to their custodial parent in the United States and to adopt the 1980 Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction.

As a father of three beautiful daughters, I have cherished every moment I have spent watching them grow up and I look forward to seeing them continue to develop into confident, young women. Sadly, not all parents have been as fortunate as me.

Since 1994, the State Department's Office of Children's Issues had opened 194 cases involving 214 American children taken to Japan. As of March 25, 2010, there were 95 open

cases involving 136 American children abducted or wrongfully retained in Japan. One of those cases is that of Melissa Braden, the daughter of one of my constituents, Patrick Braden.

In the midst of a custody dispute in 2006, Melissa was taken to Japan by her mother in violation of a court order giving both parents access to the child and prohibiting either parent from taking Melissa outside of the United States. Melissa has been in Japan ever since. Despite an arrest warrant issued by the FBI for her mother, Japanese authorities have refused to act on this case. Japanese courts give no recognition to the parental rights of the non-Japanese parent, and the Japanese government refuses to enforce U.S. court orders related to child custody or visitation.

I have tried for the past 3 years to help secure the return of Melissa or at the very least reunite Mr. Braden with his daughter in Japan. Unfortunately, Japan is not a signatory to the 1980 Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction. Parties to the Hague Abduction Convention agree to promptly return a child who is living in one Convention country and who has been removed to or retained in another Convention country in violation of a left-behind parent's custodial rights. I spoke about Melissa's case before this body last year, but it is important that I continue to speak about her case so that other parents do not have to live through what Mr. Braden is still experiencing today.

As my mother once told me: there is nothing worse than losing your own child, especially when your child is still alive. I thank Chairman BERMAN for his support of this issue and Mr. MORAN of Virginia and Mr. SMITH of New Jersey for standing up for America's parents and children.

I urge all of my colleagues to support this resolution to secure action on behalf of our American families with children retained in Japan.

TRIBUTE TO THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA WOMEN'S ROWING TEAM

HON. THOMAS S.P. PERRIELLO

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. PERRIELLO. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the University of Virginia Women's Rowing Team for their victory at the 2010 NCAA Championships on May 30, 2010. This victory gives the University of Virginia its 20th National Championship in school history.

I commend Head Coach Kevin Sauer and Associate Head Coach Steve Pritzker for their leadership. I also wish to recognize the members of the First Varsity Eight, Coxswain Sidney Thorsten, Jennifer Cromwell, Katrin Reinert, Desiree Burns, Kristine O'Brien, Martha Kuzzy, Helen Tompkins, Nora Phillips, and Summers Nelson, and the members of the Second Varsity Eight, Coxswain Cristine Candland, Victoria Burke, Marie Long, Lauren Hutchins, Sarah Borchelt, Caroline Sweeny, Christine Roper, Claudia Blandford, and Lauren Shook. These young women exemplify the best tradition of the student-athlete: hard work, dedication, and commitment to excellence in sport, in academics, and in teamwork.

The Cavaliers' Varsity Four, Ruth Retzinger, Hunter Terry, Chelsea Simpson, Inge Janssen, and Coxswain Sarah Pichardo, were also victorious in their own event, finishing more than a boat's length ahead of their closest competitor. Their NCAA Championship marks the final victory in an undefeated season. They are the seventh crew team in Virginia history to win the award, and the first since 2007. I congratulate these dynamic young women for their tremendous hard work, and for the leadership and inspiration they brought to the entire Women's Rowing Team.

I congratulate the women of the rowing team for their exciting victory. Their hard work, determination, and competitive spirit are a credit to the University of Virginia and the Commonwealth. I invite my colleagues to join me in congratulating these impressive student-athletes on their accomplishment.

RECOGNIZING THE AUBURN ALL-STARS LITTLE LEAGUE TEAM FOR THEIR PARTICIPATION IN THE WORLD SERIES

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Auburn, Washington's Little League Baseball team, the Auburn All-Stars, for their performance in the Little League World Series.

The 646th Little League World Series began August 20, 2010 and the Auburn All-Stars advanced to within one game of the United States Championships. The tournament hosts 16 national teams comprised of our country's top young baseball players. The Auburn All-Stars achieved a great accomplishment by reaching the Little League World Series, and even more so for coming so close to advancing to the United States Championships.

Mayor Peter Lewis of Auburn has recognized the team's success in the 2010 tournament. Mayor Lewis has also praised the Auburn All-Stars for bringing the Auburn community together. During the tournament, the Auburn Avenue Theater opened its doors to the public and showed the game free of charge. Many other local businesses supported the team in several ways such as contributing to the players' travel and other expenses. It is clear that the entire community embraced their team through immense pride.

Together, the Auburn All-Stars advanced further than any other team from Washington State since 1982. They should be extremely proud of what they have accomplished through each team member's hard work and dedication.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to please join me in congratulating the Auburn Little League Baseball team and their outstanding success in the Little League World Series.

HONORING JANE McLAUGHLIN

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. WALDEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to share with you and my colleagues my pride in an incredible woman who has the distinction of being the oldest active paramedic in Oregon. Jane McLaughlin is 74 years of age and is completing service as the Emergency Medical Services Chief for the Chiloquin Volunteer Ambulance Service, capping off a long and distinguished career.

Jane began her EMS career almost three decades ago when her youngest son suffered an accidental wound and was treated and transported by Chiloquin Volunteer Ambulance Service. From that day on, she knew that her calling was to meaningfully serve and comfort those in need of emergency medical assistance.

Since accepting this calling, Jane has served her community for over 28 years in a variety of emergency response functions. She has held every level of EMS certification the State of Oregon authorizes and has volunteered thousands of hours of service. Jane has never stopped learning and she has never stopped growing. At 61, she completed her fire fighting academy training.

The many awards and accolades presented to Jane are a strong testimony to how much her community and others value her service to her fellow man. The Klamath County United Way has recognized Jane both with their Accommodation for Excellence and Volunteer of the Year Award. The State of Oregon Department of EMS and Trauma Systems awarded her the Meritorious Service award as paramedic of the year. Jane was chosen by the mayor of Chiloquin to be the grand marshal in the 2009 Fourth of July Parade for her outstanding service.

Madam Speaker, however noteworthy Jane's age, years of service, and many awards are, the real story is the good that she has done for almost three decades of service. Jane's neighbors and local citizens are familiar with her accomplishments, but they know her best for her kindness, her compassion, her dedication, and her unselfishness. In the community, when people think about the Chiloquin Volunteer Ambulance Service, Jane McLaughlin comes immediately to mind.

Jane has demonstrated heroism when she has on many occasions risked her own life to save the lives of others. Jane's comforting ways as a first responder have helped the injured and sick cope with their emergency situation with reduced fear and confidence that their condition will improve. Jane has an incredible gift of healing that goes far beyond the administering of basic medical attention. She not only relieves pain, she delivers comfort and peace to people in distressed situations. The service that Jane has given to others comes from an acute sense of duty and the sincere goodwill of an unselfish, engaged, and compassionate person.

As my esteemed colleagues well know, an impact player like Jane McLaughlin sets the tone of a successful operation, provides a shining example for others to follow in a relentless path to excellence, and engages others to join her in serving their fellow man. Jane will be missed, but her good work will continue in the hands and hearts of those she has inspired and trained to deliver the best in emergency medical service.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, I invite you to join me in honoring Jane McLaughlin, the kind of person who improves our world and restores our faith in our fellow man. Her goodness is contagious, and she sets an example for all of us to follow.

HONORING YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 120th birthday of Yosemite National Park. Yosemite National Park was designated a national park by an Act of Congress on October 1, 1890. Yosemite was the third national park to be designated as such in the United States, following Yellowstone in 1872 and Sequoia in 1890. Friday, October 1, 2010 marks the 120th birthday of the park.

Although Yosemite was the third official national park, it was the history of Yosemite Valley that gave birth to the national park concept. In the 1860s, when commercial interests began to take a foothold in Yosemite, prominent citizens and politicians who were concerned about the effects of these interests began lobbying for Federal protection for the area. A park bill creating the Yosemite Grant passed both houses of Congress and was signed by President Abraham Lincoln on June 30, 1864. The Grant, which set aside the Yosemite Valley and Mariposa Grove, stated that the lands be held ". . . for public use, resort and recreation . . . inalienable for all time." It was the first time in history that land was set aside purely for preservation and recreation for all people by action of the U.S. Federal Government. The Grant's creation set the precedent for the eventual creation of the first national park, Yellowstone, in 1872. The Yosemite Grant was ceded to and administered by the State of California as a State park until 1906. The Grant was then ceded to the Federal Government and included in Yosemite National Park.

Today, Yosemite National Park encompasses 747,959 acres, stretching across 3 counties and the western slopes of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. Almost 95 percent of the park is Federally designated as wilderness. The park is home to thousands of species of plants and more than 400 species of vertebrates, including fish, amphibians, birds, reptiles, and mammals. Approximately 4 million people from around the world visit Yosemite every year. With endless opportunities for outdoor recreation, most visitors spend their time in the Yosemite Valley, where they hike the John Muir Trail, wander under the canopy of the Giant Sequoias and breathe in the mist of Bridalveil Fall. Other visitors backpack through the wilderness, ascend the granite peaks of Half Dome and El Capitan, or simply enjoy the beauty of Yosemite's nature and wildlife. It is no wonder that Yosemite, with its spectacular waterfalls, high country lakes, meadows and granite domes, is often referred to as the crown jewel of the national park system.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 120th birthday of Yosemite National Park. I invite my colleagues to join me in honoring the history and beauty of Yosemite National Park.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER RYAN SEITZ

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker,

Whereas, Ryan Seitz, a volunteer firefighter in McArthur, Ohio, lost his life while fighting a brush fire,

Whereas, in addition to serving as a volunteer firefighter, Seitz also served as assistant director and technology coordinator for the Herbert Wescoat Memorial Library,

Whereas, Seitz risked his life to help others by working as a firefighter,

Resolved, that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, we remember and honor the life of Ryan Seitz, whose courage was matched only by his selflessness, and whose sacrifice should serve as an example of the highest patriotism and devotion to duty.

A PROCLAMATION CONGRATULATING GRANT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN SOUTH CHICAGO HEIGHTS, ILLINOIS

HON. JESSE L. JACKSON JR.

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker,

Whereas, Grant Elementary School located at 2712 Miller Avenue in School District #170 of Chicago Heights, Illinois opened its doors in 1910.

Whereas, Grant Elementary has provided education to tens of thousands of children from the Chicago Heights/South Chicago Heights community during the past 100 years.

Whereas, Grant Elementary has served a diverse student body, providing an exemplary education for children in kindergarten through eighth grades.

Whereas, On October 19, 2010 current and past students and their families, as well as residents and elected officials of Chicago Heights and South Chicago Heights will celebrate Grant Elementary's Centennial Anniversary.

Resolved, That along with the past and present students, teachers, faculty and friends of Grant Elementary and the residents of the 2nd Congressional District of Illinois, I congratulate Grant Elementary School for providing 100 years of excellence in education to students in Chicago Heights and South Chicago Heights.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL GEAR UP DAY

HON. CHAKA FATTAH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. FATTAH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize National GEAR UP Day and the outstanding work of thousands of GEAR UP participants, families and staff. National GEAR UP Day is an opportunity to celebrate the hard work and dedication of both former and current teachers, counselors, program staff, and students who have been committed to GEAR UP and without whom GEAR UP would not be the success it is today.

This year, I will celebrate national GEAR UP Day with U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan at Friendship Charter Academy in Washington, DC and with students in Pennsylvania, North Carolina and Texas remotely. Governors in Iowa, New Mexico, Maine, Washington, Colorado and North Carolina have issued proclamations proclaiming GEAR UP Day, as has the Lieutenant Governor of American Samoa. They are joined by the Mayor of Lowell, Massachusetts and a message from New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg. Nevada has a proclamation and 130 Wisconsin students will be travelling to Eau Claire to celebrate GEAR UP Day. In Richland, South Carolina, students will sign a College Dreams Wall with the name of the college they plan to attend and in Puerto Rico students welcomed a group of law students to serve as mentors.

Twelve years ago, after witnessing far too few students from low-income communities graduate from high school and enter college, I created Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP). The program supports cohorts of students from 6th grade into their first year of college by providing essential services such as tutoring, scholarship assistance, college campus tours, counseling services, mentoring, and financial aid awareness. In addition, GEAR UP has created partnerships between postsecondary institutions, community groups, businesses, and parents aimed at increasing support for our students to ensure success not only in high school but college as well. The services and partnerships created by GEAR UP have proven to be a successful educational model that prepares students both academically and emotionally for the rigors of college.

Today, I am pleased to announce that twelve years after GEAR UP was enacted, 12 million students in 49 states have participated in the program. This year alone, GEAR UP is providing vital services to approximately 670,000 students in over 5,000 schools across 46 states, including the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. GEAR UP has been remarkably successful. In fact, 80% of GEAR UP students have completed high school and approximately half have matriculated into college—a significantly larger proportion than their non-GEAR UP peers. Furthermore, GEAR UP students take more rigorous and advanced courses. For example, half of all GEAR UP students complete Algebra by 9th grade—an important indicator for high school graduation and college matriculation. These results have proven that with essential services, appropriate resources, and high expectations, students from low-income communities can and will graduate from high school ready to pursue postsecondary education.

Finally, I sincerely want to thank all GEAR UP staff and students throughout the country who have made the program an extraordinary success. I look forward to witnessing future GEAR UP accomplishments and continuing to see increasing numbers of low-income students succeeding in high school, entering college ready to succeed!

GUIRAGOS SHEKERDJIAN: A SURVIVOR'S STORY

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to memorialize and record a courageous story of survival of the Armenian Genocide. The Armenian Genocide, perpetrated by the Ottoman Empire from 1915 to 1923, resulted in the death of 1.5 million Armenian men, women, and children. As the U.S. Ambassador to the Ottoman Empire Henry Morgenthau documented at the time, it was a campaign of ''race extermination.''

The campaign to annihilate the Armenian people failed, as illustrated by the proud Armenian nation and prosperous diaspora. It is difficult if not impossible to find an Armenian family not touched by the genocide, and while there are some survivors still with us, it is imperative that we record their stories. Through the Armenian Genocide Congressional Record Project, I hope to document the harrowing stories of the survivors in an effort to preserve their accounts and to help educate the Members of Congress now and in the future of the necessity of recognizing the Armenian Genocide.

This is one of those stories (submitted by Angel Shekerdjian):

My father, Guiragos, was born in 1905 in Adana, Turkey. He was 4 years old in 1909, when the massacres started in Adana. Several Armenians took refuge in the church; so did his pregnant mother with her 2-year-old daughter and little Guiragos. The Turks surrounded the church and set it to fire. As the people inside realized what was happening, they started running outside. So did my grandmother, carrying the toddler in her arms and holding my father by the hand. As soon as they were outside, a Turk killed her and the little girl. And he stabbed my father 3 times in the back—two stabs as the sign of the cross and a 3rd stab—all around the spine. A ''good-hearted'' Turk saw that the Turk who was stabbing was aiming again, stopped him saying: ''leave the child, he is already dead.'' However, instead of leaving him to die, the ''good'' Turk took him to a hospital. Once he recovered from his wounds, they asked my dad what his name was. He said it was Guiragos. And the last name? He did not know. So they asked what the profession of his father was. My father told them that his father used to make candy, lollipops. . . . So they gave him the name of Shekerdjian, meaning make of sugar. 'Sheker' is 'sugar' in Turkish. He was sent to an orphanage. He eventually ended up in Beirut, where he met my orphaned mother, also from Adana.

INTRODUCTION OF THE MARINE AND HYDROKINETIC RENEWABLE ENERGY PROMOTION ACT OF 2010

HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. INSLEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Marine and Hydrokinetic Renewable Energy Promotion Act of 2010, a bill to promote the development of renewable energy from our oceans and rivers, using the tides, currents, waves and even the thermal properties of our oceans to generate electricity. I also want to acknowledge the work of Chairman BRIAN BAIRD, my friend and Washington state colleague, who joins me in introducing this important legislation.

This bill will bolster research and development in marine renewable energy, to ensure the industry overcomes existing barriers to deployment so that our ocean and tidal currents can deliver power to homes and businesses in American communities. Improved federal research programs are key to meeting our long-term energy security and climate mitigation goals, and creating American jobs in the marine hydrokinetic industry.

A study by University of Washington, Virginia Tech Advanced Research Institute, and Electric Power Research Institute that was published in HydroReview stated that marine renewable resources could yield 51,000 MW of power—equivalent to 34 conventional coal-fired power plants. Yet at this time, our nation's commitment to this technology lags behind countries in Europe and Asia.

In Washington state, the private sector, universities, research institutions and public utilities are already working to bring affordable, reliable and abundant electricity to major urban load centers located near Puget Sound. But these, and similar efforts across the country, need national support in order to truly realize the benefits of commercial-scale marine hydrokinetic projects in the United States.

This bill will expand the renewable energy research and development program at the U.S. Department of Energy, so that Americans do not lose out on the global race to create and manufacture marine renewable energy technologies. To do so, the bill creates a competitive demonstration grant program to test technologies, devices and systems at a variety of scales to facilitate commercial application. The environmental research program established in this bill will also help us best monitor the environmental impacts of these projects, to help disseminate information on ways to identify and avoid any negative environmental impacts to protect our marine environment. Additionally, the bill will expand a Department of Energy research program to set up MHK test facilities in the United States, which are critical in our efforts to demonstrate a wide range of technologies, and evaluate the technical viability of each new and emerging type of technology at different scales.

In closing, I also want to thank the expert staff on the Science and Technology Subcommittee on Energy and Environment for their extensive knowledge of this issue and hard work. I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this bill, and hope that we can work together to move it towards passage as soon as possible.

IN HONOR OF MARGARET WONG, RECIPIENT OF THE FIRST ANNUAL ''SALUTING THE DREAMER'' AWARD

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Margaret Wong, internationally known immigration attorney from Cleveland, Ohio, as she is honored by the Cleveland Public Library as the first recipient of the ''Saluting the Dreamers'' Award.

As a young woman, Ms. Wong settled in Cleveland, Ohio, journeying here from her Chinese homeland. She studied in Cleveland and eventually became a practicing attorney. For more than twenty-five years, Ms. Wong has developed Margaret W. Wong and Associates, LPA, into a law firm known throughout the United States and the world for its expertise in immigration law. Currently, she co-chairs the Immigration Law Committee for the National Asian Pacific Bar Association, and she is chair of the Cleveland Bar Association's Immigration Law Section.

Ms. Wong has been recognized with numerous awards and honors, including Cleveland Magazine's ''Most Interesting People'' award and the 1997 Creative Philanthropy Award from the Women's Community Foundation. Ms. Wong was inducted into the Ohio Women's Hall of Fame in 2000.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of Ms. Margaret W. Wong of Margaret W. Wong and Associates, LLP, upon being named the first recipient of the ''Salute the Dreamers'' Award presented by the Cleveland Public Library. Ms. Wong's great success as attorney and business owner continues to inspire us to follow our dreams, and to achieve our dreams.

COMMENDING EYECARE AMERICA

SPEECH OF

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2010

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 1226, recognizing the 25th anniversary of EyeCare America, the public service program of the Foundation of the American Academy of Ophthalmology.

Founded in 1985, EyeCare America's mission is to reduce avoidable blindness and severe visual impairment by raising awareness about eye disease and care, providing free health education materials and facilitating access to medical eye care.

EyeCare America has programs for seniors, glaucoma, diabetes and children.

In 2010, EyeCare America celebrates its 25th anniversary and across our nation, nearly 7,000 ophthalmologists volunteer their services to this worthwhile public service program.

Approximately, 35 million Americans experience an age-related eye disease, including age-related macular degeneration, glaucoma, diabetic retinopathy, and cataracts, with this number expected to grow to 50 million by 2020.

Vision impairment and eye disease is a major public health issue, especially as 2010 begins the decade in which more than half of the 78 million Baby Boomers will turn 65 and be at greatest risk for aging eye disease.

EyeCare America works to ensure that eye health is not neglected, by matching eligible patients with one of nearly 7,000 volunteer ophthalmologists across the country committed to preventing unnecessary blindness in their communities.

These volunteer ophthalmologists will provide them with a medical eye exam and up to one year of care at no out-of-pocket cost. Seniors without insurance receive this care at no charge.

EyeCare America has helped over 1 million people since its inception and is one of the largest public service programs of its kind in American medicine today.

I'd like to thank Rep. WHITFIELD, Chairman PALLONE, Chairman WAXMAN, and Ranking Member BARTON for their support and assistance in moving this bipartisan resolution.

CALLING ON JAPAN TO ADDRESS CHILD ABDUCTION CASES

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2010

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, the resolution before us this week addresses a painful issue: the problem of international parental child abduction. Over the last several years, I've gained a greater understanding of this problem through the travails of one of my constituents, Mr. David Goldman of Tinton Falls, New Jersey. As the case involving his son, Sean, has received international media attention, I will not revisit all of the details of that case now. Suffice it to say that even with a treaty on his side—the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction—Mr. Goldman needed my help and that of our State Department, along with countless other generous Americans, to finally secure the return of his son in December 2009. Their 5½ year separation and the legal maneuvering surrounding the case helped focus the world's attention on the problem of international parental child abduction, but unfortunately, the overall problem remains.

Over the last decade alone, thousands of American children have been kidnapped by a foreign-born parent and taken to other countries, where the American-born parents inevitably face a years-long process of trying to recover their children. In the case of Japan—which is not a signatory to the Hague Convention—it has proven literally impossible for American parents to recover their parentally-kidnapped children. The resolution before us calls upon the government of Japan to facilitate the resolution of all such abduction cases, and to ratify the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction. Nearly a year ago, the members of the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission received testimony from parents whose children had been parentally kidnapped to Japan. Each story was heartbreaking, and the frustration and sense of despair of the affected parents was palpable. H. Res. 1326 will send a clear message to the government of Japan that the Congress remains seized of this issue, and it will also remind the affected parents that we stand with them and that we know we have much more work to do on behalf of their abducted children. I'm proud to be a co-sponsor of this measure, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NICK J. RAHALL, II

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. RAHALL. Madam Speaker, this morning, September 29, 2010, I was unavoidably delayed and not present to vote on the following bills:

(1) Republican Motion to Adjourn—Vote ''no'' on rollcall No. 545.

(2) Adjournment Resolution (H. Con. Res. 321)—To provide for the House to adjourn for the Autumn District Work Period—Vote ''yes'' on rollcall No. 546.

(3) Motion on Ordering the Previous Question on the Rule for H.R. 847—James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act; H.R. 2378—Currency Reform for Fair Trade Act; and H.R. 2701—Intelligence Authorization Act (H. Res. 1674)—Vote ''yes'' on rollcall No. 547.

(4) H. Res. 1674—Rule providing for consideration of H.R. 847—James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act; H.R. 2378—Currency Reform for Fair Trade Act; and H.R. 2701—Intelligence Authorization Act—Vote ''yes'' on rollcall No. 548.

If present, I would have voted ''aye'' on all except the motion to adjourn.

HONORING EXACTECH'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. CLIFF STEARNS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. STEARNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Exactech's 25th anniversary. I also want to recognize Exactech for being a leader in the business community and for its commitment to improving the lives of individuals by helping them to maintain their activity and independence.

Exactech develops, manufactures and distributes orthopedic implants, related surgical instrumentation and biologic services to hospitals and physicians for use in the repair of bone and joints that have been damaged due to injury or disease, such as arthritis.

Today, more than 46 million Americans are living with some type of arthritis. For a quarter of a century, orthopedic surgeons have counted on Exactech, for innovations that allow them to make their patients more mobile.

With its headquarters in Gainesville, Florida, in my congressional district, Exactech is one of Florida's fastest-growing companies with more than 500 employees and distributing products throughout the U.S. and in more than 35 countries around the world. Its products meet the most stringent quality requirements and have demonstrated excellent long-term clinical results.

Exactech attributes its success to a strong corporate culture, where the values of integrity, compassion, teamwork, excellence and innovation guide each employee's daily decisions. After 25 years of company development, the dedication to patient quality care remains unchanged.

Please join me in honoring Exactech on their silver anniversary and hoping for another 25 strong years.

U.S. FOREIGN ASSISTANCE HELPING TO EXTEND CHINESE INFLUENCE

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to bring to the attention of my colleagues the use of U.S. taxpayer financed foreign aid to expand Chinese influence around the world.

It recently came to my attention that the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) has awarded Chinese state-owned enterprises millions of dollars in contracts to build roads, construct schools, and erect airports in countries with MCC compacts. On June 30, Reuters reported that ''China's Sinohydro Corporations signed a contract with Mali to build a new airport for the capital, Bamako, a $71.6 million project'' financed by the MCC. This is not an isolated incident.

China's Sinohydro Corporation was also awarded a contract for construction work in Tanzania. Furthermore, according to news reports, on September 9 and 10 the MCC signed contacts with a Chinese state-owned construction company to renovate and expand 13 schools in Namibia. Thousands of dollars have been awarded to Chinese state-owned enterprises in Ghana for infrastructure construction. The list goes on.

According to the Treasury Department, China now holds $846.7 billion in U.S. debt making China our largest banker. At a time of economic hardship at home, the United States should not be giving U.S. taxpayer dollars to China through foreign assistance.

Furthermore, the U.S. should not be subsidizing countries with abysmal human rights records. The State Department's 2009 Human Rights Report states that the Chinese ''government's human rights record remained poor and worsened in some areas'' during the reporting period. The report goes on to cite violations including the severe cultural and religious repression of ethnic minorities, the detention and harassment of human rights activists, extrajudicial killings and the use of forced labor.

China perpetrates gross human rights abuses outside of its borders as well. In 2008, the international non-governmental organization, Human Rights First, found that China sold over $55 million worth of small arms to the genocidal regime of Omar al-Bashir in Sudan. According to the U.S. Campaign for Burma, China is one of the largest arms suppliers to the brutal Burmese military regime which has been implicated in gross human rights violations including murder, rape and the use of child soldiers.

Today, I sent a letter to the inspector general of the Millennium Challenge Corporation asking that he open an investigation into the extent to which Chinese state-owned enterprises have been involved in receiving grant awards through the MCC and determine if such actions are in violation of the Millennium Challenge Act of 2003. I look forward to the inspector general's report and will continue to monitor this issue closely.

HORIPSEMA ''HELEN'' MENESHIAN: A SURVIVOR'S STORY

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to memorialize and record a courageous story of survival of the Armenian Genocide. The Armenian Genocide, perpetrated by the Ottoman Empire from 1915 to 1923, resulted in the death of 1.5 million Armenian men, women, and children. As the U.S. Ambassador to the Ottoman Empire Henry Morgenthau documented at the time, it was a campaign of ''race extermination.''

The campaign to annihilate the Armenian people failed, as illustrated by the proud Armenian nation and prosperous diaspora. It is difficult if not impossible to find an Armenian family not touched by the genocide, and while there are some survivors still with us, it is imperative that we record their stories. Through the Armenian Genocide Congressional Record Project, I hope to document the harrowing stories of the survivors in an effort to preserve their accounts and to help educate the Members of Congress now and in the future of the necessity of recognizing the Armenian Genocide.

This is one of those stories (submitted by Shirley Collins):

My name is Shirley Kalashian-Collins. I was born in 1951 to Armenian parents. My mother was born in Aintab, Turkey, in 1920 in the midst of the genocide of Armenians. My mother and my grandparents narrowly made it out alive and found refuge in the U.S. My paternal grandmother also had a harrowing story. Due to the threat against the Armenians she was shipped to the U.S. at 15 years old to marry an Armenian, only to find out a few years later that her parents were killed and her younger sisters kidnapped. My mother tried hard to put all these stories down on paper so the world would know what happened to our families. After she passed away, I attempted to finish her project. After nearly 10 years and hundreds of hours of work, I put the story together.

Now I want to thank our Rep. Adam Schiff for his efforts to put these stories that are left untold in the Congressional Record. I know my mother, if she were alive, would be dancing up and down with joy. You can't imagine how exciting this is for me after all the years of work to make sure these stories are kept alive and heard so that history will be recorded accurately. Thank you Rep. Schiff. This is such a wonderful and amazing idea.

This is the story of my Grandmother, Horipsema ''Helen'' Meneshian, as told by my mother, Azadohi Kalashian:

My mother was a remarkable woman. She was born in Aintab in 1895. She was the only daughter of five children born to Soghmon and Khanoom Meneshian.

In 1914 she married Armen Guleserian. They had a big and fashionable wedding party that lasted for three days. Their first child was a beautiful and bright little girl who gave them much joy. This child was not quite two years old when the Turkish government sent orders to have the Turkish army go around and evacuate everyone in Aintab from their homes.

Only whatever could be placed on a donkey's back was allowed to be removed from the house. Then the Turkish soldiers sealed all the doors, windows and locks of our house. We were all ordered to march in the direction of the Syrian Desert.

My mother's trousseau of finest lace, satin and silk was not meant to be enjoyed by her. One by one, each article was sold for the price of something to eat. Her gold coins, chains and rings also went the same way. Eventually, hunger became unbearable, and death took its grim toll. One by one, God called their first born, then their second born, then their third born to be by HIS side. They were never to feel hunger again!

Armen had been sent off to the military and Hripsema had been left alone in Damascas. She tried to reach her father but they would not let her travel because she was Armenian. So, she found someone to travel with to go to Hama where her relative, Kevork, was. In an interview with daughter, Azad, in 1979 she says:

Everybody got off when we were near Hama. I was the only one left. They gave me to a woman who had donkeys and this woman took me to Hama on a donkey. We had nothing. I had the child in my arms and the child's necessities tied on my back. We came by a cemetery and the woman said, ''I will not go in here.'' She took me off of the donkey. She said, ''I will be afraid to be in a cemetery. You do whatever you will.''

I went in by myself, I found a shop. I asked the man in the shop, ''There is the Baronyan family living here, do you know them?'' He said, ''Yes, they went to Haleppo.'' I said, ''There is Kevork Guleserian here.'' He said, ''Yes, they are here but their place is very far.'' Then they locked the door.

The child wanted some water, I gave him some water and I went and sat by the store. And it got dark, it was evening. Then I saw my father-in-law's grandson, he later said that he would never walk the way I was sitting at, he would always go the other way. I lifted my head and saw him. I was looking for them. He got very surprised and asked what happened and I told him everything. He took me, the child was in my arms, he took the load I was carrying and took me to their home.

He knocked on the door; they opened the door, a month, or a month and a half. Papa's brother's wife was there. She was Guleserian as well. In about a month the child who was in my arms died. I was devastated. Then papa came and asked, ''Where is the boy?'' I said, ''May your soul live, you'll have another one.'' He was such a nice boy. They had asked to have him, ''Give him to us, we'll raise him up'' in Damascus. I would not. How can you give your own child?

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. COFFMAN. Madam Speaker, today our national debt is $13,472,761,083,757.88.

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 $2,834,335,337,464.00 so far this Congress.

This debt and its interest payments we are passing to our children and all future Americans.

ACCOUNTABILITY FOR DEFENSE CONTRACTORS ACT

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, since July, I have been working with 26 Oregon National Guard members who have filed a lawsuit against the defense contractor KBR for exposing them to the potent carcinogen, hexavalent chromium. These veterans have a compelling case for contractor negligence that resulted in their poisoning.

As the legal proceedings have unfolded, KBR has revealed the existence of a still-classified contract clause that could shift the cost of all damages and court fees onto the Department of Defense—and by extension the U.S. taxpayers.

Today I am introducing legislation, along with Representative SCHRADER, who has been a strong ally to these veterans, and Representative WALTER JONES, a leader on the House Armed Services Committee, to end the contracting practices that shield companies from their own reckless behavior and that remove incentives for contractors to operate responsibly.

This legislation will set important and long-overdue limits to indemnification agreements and will introduce much-needed congressional oversight of the defense contracting process.

Senators WYDEN and MERKLEY are introducing a version of this bill in the Senate, and I hope that our colleagues on both sides of the aisle and in both chambers will act swiftly to enact this legislation before the end of the session.

TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT COLONEL FRANCIS J. CURTIS

HON. STEVE KAGEN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. KAGEN. Madam Speaker, I rise here today to pay tribute to Lieutenant Colonel Francis J. Curtis as he relinquishes command of the 432nd Civil Affairs Battalion in Green Bay, Wisconsin.

Lt. Col. Curtis assumed command of the 432nd Civil Affairs Battalion in October 2007. He has served in key positions as a U.S. Army Civil Affairs and Psychological Operations Command (Airborne) officer, with a special focus on the conflict in Iraq. Under Lt. Col. Curtis's command, his battalion was deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom from late 2007 through late 2008. Prior to his deployment with the 432nd, he also served in Iraq from March 2003 through April 2004.

During his 24 years of exceptional service to this country in the United States Army Reserve, Lt. Col. Curtis has been awarded the Bronze Star Medal (3rd Award), Purple Heart, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal (6th Award), Army Achievement Medal (3rd Award), Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal (31rd Award), National Defense Service Medal (2nd Award), Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve

Medal w/M Device, Br. Hourglass, Roman Numeral 2, Army Service Ribbon, Reserve Components Overseas Training Ribbon, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, Presidential Unit Citation (Navy), Joint Meritorious Unit Award, Army Meritorious Unit Commendation, Army Superior Unit Award, Combat Action Badge, and the Parachutist Badge.

Lt. Col Curtis will turn over his command to Lt. Col. William A. Vaughn of the 422nd Civil Affairs Battalion in Greensboro, North Carolina on October 2, 2010 at Lambeau Field in Green Bay, Wisconsin.

Madam Speaker, I honor Lieutenant Colonel Curtis for his service to our country and the 432nd Civil Affairs Battalion and I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting a truly extraordinary member of our community.

U.S. MARSHALS SERVICE FUGITIVE SAFE SURRENDER PROGRAM

HON. MARCIA L. FUDGE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Ms. FUDGE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to share the recent success of the United States Marshals Service Fugitive Safe Surrender Program in my home of Northeast Ohio. From September 22 through 25, 2010, 7,431 fugitives surrendered and took advantage of the Fugitive Safe Surrender program held at Mt. Zion Church in Oakwood Village, Ohio. This set a new national record for fugitive surrenders in the program. Nearly 500 wanted felons, including individuals wanted on federal and out-of-state warrants all peacefully surrendered during the four-day program, representing over 12,000 outstanding warrants.

Law enforcement, judiciary at the municipal, state and federal level, Pastor Larry L. Macon Sr. of Mt. Zion, and over 40 partnering organizations joined together to offer those with outstanding warrants the ability to peacefully surrender within the safe environment of Mt. Zion Church. This program could not have succeeded without their extraordinary commitment of time and resources.

As you know, Fugitive Safe Surrender is administered by the Marshals Service in states with a particularly high volume of fugitive warrants, such as Ohio. The goal of Fugitive Safe Surrender is to reduce risks to police officers in pursuit of fugitives, neighborhoods where felons often hide, and possible injury to the fugitives themselves. Authorized by Congress in July 2006 and signed into law in 2007, it is believed to be the first program of its kind in the Nation. I am very proud that this program was created in 2005 by my friend, U.S. Marshal Peter Elliott in the Northern District of Ohio.

After Cleveland Police Officer Wayne Leon was shot and killed by a wanted fugitive, Marshal Elliott recognized the need for more safety in capturing felons and those persons wanted on outstanding warrants. Marshal Elliott found this creative approach to reduce violence between fugitives and law enforcement. The first year Marshal Elliott launched the program in Cleveland, 850 fugitives peacefully surrendered.

Building on this innovative program, Marshal Elliot later helped lead the program in 10 cities and was urged by mayors nationwide to implement the program in their communities. Since then, 30,000 wanted individuals have surrendered through the program in 18 cities across our nation in the past five years.

Fugitive Safe Surrender is a success. In addition to violent fugitives, thousands of individuals wanted for non-violent felony or misdemeanor crimes have also felt comfortable in voluntarily surrendering in faith-based or other neutral settings established by the program.

AHMADINEJAD

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, some things do not need to be elaborated on. Rudy Giuliani, a great American, recently spoke at a rally in New York City where 20,000 people showed up to protest the dictator Ahmadinejad and his corrupt regime. Ahmadinejad was in town to spew more of his hateful deology. This time, he interlaced his anti-Semitic rhetoric with conspiracy theories on 9/11. This man does not speak for the Iranian people, who only want freedom to live their lives without the shackles of a regime bent on preserving its power at all costs. The courageous opposition group MEK, who organized the rally, is fighting for this very freedom. The State Department has got them wrong—they are not a terrorist organization and should not be listed as one. Mayor Giuliani agreed with me and I'd like to submit his comments for the record.

God bless you and thank you very much for being here. I come here today for a very simple reason, to stand with you in support of the basic rights guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States and also the basic rights guaranteed by the preamble to the United Nations Charter. We need to remind the United Nations of what it stands for. According to the preamble of the United Nitions, it exists to reaffirm faith in fundamental rights in the dignity and worth of the human person, and in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small.

The people of Iran are as entitled as all of us to make a claim on the nations of the United Nations to reaffirm these goals for them; and that is what you are here to do.

For too long the world has acquiesced in a regime in Iran that through mass murder, violence and intimidation has denied basic rights of your brothers and sisters and friends and relatives and has been a consistent supporter of terrorism and of terrorist organizations beyond its borders.

All of you are here today to cry out for the world to stand with you and your brothers and sisters who are oppressed by the brutal regime in Iran.

They desire freedom! I desire freedom! We all desire freedom! No one can deny you your desire for freedom! I believe that desire is placed in your heart and soul by the Creator! It comes from above. Not from here, not from below, but from above. It is a basic human desire that the people of Iran are entitled to and it is a basic human desire that all good people should support.

And if this institution that stands behind us, the United Nations, wants to reclaim its lofty goal of protecting human rights; which is a goal that has alluded it for many many years, then it must stand with you against the regime in Iran, against the brutalization that goes on in Iran, and against the supporting of terrorism.

And it is time here in America to right a wrong that has been done to you and your cause out of a misguided notion that the violent and tyrannical regime of Iran could be mollified. It is about time that we change the listing of the People's Mojahedin Organization of Iran as a terrorist organization.

I've studied terrorism for much longer that I'd like to admit. For over 35 years. I have investigated terrorism, and I've seen firsthand, in my city, the devastation that terrorism can bring about.

This is not a terrorist organization. This is an organization dedicated to achieving freedom and dignity for its people.

It is time for the rest of our Congress to join 823 members—Democrats and Republicans—who have supported House Resolution 1431 which calls for the lifting of this unjust, unfair and inaccurate designation. It has been lifted by the British government; it has been lifted by the European Union; it should be lifted by the United States Congress and President Obama should support it as a defender of freedom.

Just as this great country of America is described as the last best hope for humanity, you and your cause are truly the best hope for Iran.

Your quest is as legitimate as solidarity was for Poland.

And it took lovers of freedom and leaders of historical consequence like Ronald Reagan, Margaret Thatcher and Pope John Paul, to stand with Solidarity no matter the consequences.

Your goals are our goals, they are the goals of a decent people; you want to guarantee equal rights for men and women; you want to see freedom of religion and speech and press; freedom of assembly in Iran, you want Iran that does not threaten the existence of other nations; and you want an Iran that is under no circustances a nuclear power.

It is your members and associates who have consistently drawn open the secret curtain that Iran tries to draw on its plans to develop nuclear weapons.

It is your members who have risked their lives and lost their lives revealing the plans and steps of Ahmadinejad and the regime to acquire nuclear weapons.

Without your brave investigations and revelations, America and the world would still be laboring under the inaccurate information that was contained in the National Intelligence Estimate of 2007 that said Iran had appeared to abandon its plans to build nuclear weapons. Your members, your associates, revealed that to be incorrect, inaccurate, and dangerously wrong.

If the history of the 20th century has taught us anything, it is that we must confront tyrants, oppressors, bullies and terrorists as early as possible.

Acquiescence only leads to increasing loss of human life and human liberty.

For too long the world has stood still as the people of Iran, particularly those of you desiring freedom, have been oppressed, imprisoned and slaughtered by a regime that has no right to exist.

It's time to make common cause with you in your noble quest.

It is a risk that is worth taking.

It is a cause that is worth the risk.

If the forebears of this country didn't take the risk for freedom, then this great nation would not exist.

Your people, the people of Iran, are willing to fight for freedom; you are willing to speak out against horrible atrocities to human dignity. And when they do, this country, America, should strongly stand with them, and speak out for them.

No more silence! Where is our Ronald Reagan when we need him? Ronald Reagan

would have stood with the people of Iran, strongly, bravely, and forthrightly. When they sought to protest the inaccuracies and illegitimacy of the elections in Iran, Ronald Reagan would have America standing with them toe to toe, body to body and person to person, as he did with Solidarity. Where is our Ronald Reagan when we need him?

One of the most monumental celebrations of freedom was on Christmas Day, 1989 in Berlin.

It was in the city of Berlin that severs years earlier Ronald Reagan standing by the wall that then divided the free from the oppressed and stood in front of that wall and he was not afraid to stand up and said, ''Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall.''

Now, in our time, we need a Ronald Reagan to cry out to the oppressors of your people to tear down the wall of tyranny, tear down the wall of oppression, tear down the wall of terrorism, and of slaughter.

On that Christmas Day of 1989 in Berlin the wall had been torn down because brave people like Ronald Reagan and many others were willing to stand with protesters and the oppressed in those communist countries. They weren't afraid to speak out and they weren't afraid to confront. Leonard Bernstein conducted a performance of Beethoven's ninth symphony that day and he called it a ''celebration of human freedom.'' I hope and I pray that you and I will go to Iran together; I hope we can have a celebration of freedom for the people of Iran because a celebration of freedom for Iran will be the celebration of freedom for all of us.

But that day is not going to come about by begging Ahmadinejad to negotiate. It is not going to come about from weakness. Bullies thrive from weakness. Tyrants are encouraged by weakness. They know only one thing: Strength. They must be confronted with America's strength, not America's weakness. America, the world, all of us must make it plain that under no set of circumstances will Ahmadinejad be allowed to have nuclear weapons. That is not negotiable. No discussion. No argument. No debate.

No! No! No, to nuclear weapons!

And instead, I say Yes to freedom, Yes to democracy, Yes to a free press, Yes to freedom for women, Yes to human dignity for Iran and for all of us.

God bless you in your noble pursuit! I stand with you and all freedom loving people stand with you. God bless you.

A GENOCIDE SURVIVOR STORY: KEVORK ''GEORGE'' HAKALMAZIAN

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to memorialize and record a courageous story of survival of the Armenian Genocide. The Armenian Genocide, perpetrated by the Ottoman Empire from 1915 to 1923, resulted in the death of 1.5 million Armenian men, women, and children. As the U.S. Ambassador to the Ottoman Empire, Henry Morgenthau, documented at the time, it was a campaign of ''race extermination.''

The campaign to annihilate the Armenian people failed, as illustrated by the proud Armenian nation and prosperous diaspora. It is difficult if not impossible to find an Armenian family not touched by the genocide, and while there are some survivors still with us, it is imperative that we record their stories. Through the Armenian Genocide Congressional Record Project, I hope to document the harrowing stories of the survivors in an effort to preserve their accounts and to help educate the Members of Congress now and in the future of the necessity of recognizing the Armenian Genocide.

This is one of those stories (story submitted by Scott Tejerian):

My grandfather, Kevork ''George'' Hakalmazian, lost his family in the genocide somewhere around age seven. His father was forced to give my grandpa's sister in marriage to the Turkish mayor of their town, Peri. My grandpa never saw his sister again. Shortly after, when my Grandpa's father, Sarkis, was reading the Bible one afternoon in front of their house, Turkish soldiers took him and my grandpa's mother, Oghapar, away. My grandfather never saw them again. My grandpa and the other children of the village, including his older brother Hagop, were rounded up by the soldiers and taken to the nearby river. At the river they were separated by size. My grandpa's nephew, the son of his eldest brother who was already living in the USA, was separated in the group of smaller children away from my grandpa and his brother, Hagop. The smaller children were thrown into the river to drown, except my grandpa's nephew knew how to swim. When the Turkish soldiers saw him swimming, they shot him dead in the water. For the next few years, my grandpa and Hagop were forced to work for a Turkish farm owner. They were his slaves. Eventually, my grandpa and Hagop were rescued by an older cousin, Marderos, who helped them escape to an orphanage in Lebanon. It was there that their eldest brother, Martin, who was living in Chicago at the time, found them and sent for them to come to America. My grandfather arrived in Ellis Island on July 4, 1923. He didn't know his birthday, so for every year after that his birthday was July 4th.

CALLING ON JAPAN TO ADDRESS CHILD ABDUCTION CASES

SPEECH OF

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2010

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 1326. It is time to reunite the families torn apart by the abduction and retention of American children in Japan.

In Tennessee, we have personally been affected by this issue. Sadly I have constituents that await the passage of this resolution with high hopes and are eager to see their children returned home.

Without an agreement on international child abduction between the U.S. and Japan, many children are left in limbo between feuding parents. Custodial arrangements are created to provide the optimal environment for children after a divorce. When foreign countries choose to not recognize these agreements, they are harming the well being of the children.

The best and most immediate solution to this issue is for Japan to adopt the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction. This agreement protects the rights of both parents while ensuring the heath and safety of the children.

A TRIBUTE TO ALVIN G. DAVIS

HON. RANDY NEUGEBAUER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize Alvin G. Davis for being named to the National 4–H Hall of Fame. Alvin is one of 16 honorees from around the country selected to receive this prestigious honor in 2010. Alvin will be the first 4–H Club member from Texas to join the Hall of Fame.

A Post, TX native, Alvin started in the 4–H program in 1939. In 1948, he was the top 4–H boy and National 4–H Leadership Award winner. Alvin has also served as president of the 4–H club at the local, county, district and college levels.

Alvin received a bachelor's degree in animal husbandry from Texas Tech in 1952. While at the university, he was president of the Texas Tech 4–H Club and Texas Tech Rodeo Association. In 1950, he became the director of the first National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association. Alvin was also the first inductee into the Texas Tech Rodeo Hall of Fame.

Along with his commitment to 4–H, Alvin has become a renowned rodeo announcer, poet, writer, and western artist. Several of his sculptures can be found in the collections of presidents, governors, and celebrities. Alvin founded the National Cowboy Symposium and Celebration and has written children's books, poetry books, and a rodeo periodical. In 2002, he was inducted into the National Cowboy Song and Poetry Hall of Fame.

I am enormously appreciative to Alvin for his hard work and for his contributions to promoting cowboy culture. On behalf of the 19th Congressional District, including myself, I thank Alvin for all of his time and effort to preserve the values, honor, and respect of the American Cowboy and congratulate him on joining the National 4–H Hall of Fame.

RECOGNIZING THE CAREER OF MR. SAM WOLF

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. COSTELLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the distinguished career and significant regional contributions of Mr. Sam Wolf.

Sam Wolf, a resident of Granite City, Illinois, served 18 years in the Illinois House of Representatives from 1974 until he retired in 1992. Among his more notable accomplishments during his time in the General Assembly was legislation establishing community college voting sub-districts. This was important to ensure equitable representation of the different geographic areas covered by a community college district.

Sam Wolf has been a strong proponent of Southwestern Illinois College and was a driving force in the establishment of the college's Granite City Campus in 1984. Sam worked to secure funding for the Industrial Technology Center at the Granite City Campus and the development of the Automotive Collision Repair Technology program there. Sam has been

a member of the Southwestern Illinois College Board of Trustees since October 1995.

In recognition of Sam's tireless efforts to expand and improve Southwestern Illinois College, the Granite City Campus is named the Sam Wolf Granite City Campus. This is a fitting tribute for a man who has done so much to provide quality educational opportunities for current and future generations.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in an expression of appreciation to Mr. Sam Wolf for his many contributions to the Southwestern Illinois region and to wish him the very best in the future.

CHARCOT-MARIE-TOOTH AWARENESS WEEK, SEPTEMBER 19–25

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to bring your attention to the first Charcot-Marie-Tooth (CMT) Awareness Week, September 19–25, 2010. This week-long event is coordinated by the Charcot-Marie-Tooth Association (CMTA), and its members have been working towards educating Americans about the disease.

Discovered in the late 1800s by physicians Jean-Martin Charcot, Pierre Marie and Howard Henry Tooth, CMT is a slowly progressive disease which attacks the nerves that control sensory information and muscle function of the feet, legs and arms. Although CMT is not life-threatening, it can cause severe disabilities, and patients may lose feeling in their legs and arms.

CMT is one of the most commonly inherited neurological disorders of our time. It affects nearly 2.6 million people worldwide, without regards to ethnicity or gender. One in every 2,500 Americans has CMT, and in the Tampa, St. Petersburg area alone, more than 300 people have been diagnosed.

To date, there is no cure for CMT, but groups like CMTA are working diligently with scientists from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to find a solution, and they are hopeful that a cure will be found in the coming future. The CMTA was founded in 1983 to generate the resources to find a cure, to create awareness and to improve the quality of life for those living with CMT. CMTA believes that before there can be a world without CMT the world has to be aware of CMT.

Seventeen states and the District of Columbia held activities this week to raise awareness of CMT. In my hometown of Tampa Bay, CMTA members distributed informational pamphlets to students at Eckerd College and to families at local post offices and libraries.

Madam Speaker, raising awareness about CMT through CMT Awareness Week will help to educate communities about this disease and help to find a cure for this disorder.

RECORD NUMBER OF AMERICANS DISTRUST THE MEDIA

HON. LAMAR SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Madam Speaker, more Americans than ever distrust the mass media, according to a new Gallup public opinion poll.

Just 12 percent say they have "a great deal" of confidence in the media to report the news "fully, accurately, and fairly."

A majority have little or no confidence in the media.

And by a margin of more than 3 to 1, Americans say the media are too liberal rather than too conservative, tying the highest mark of this decade.

Americans have good reason to be skeptical of the media. They repeatedly promote a liberal agenda and give the Obama Administration and Congressional Democrats a free pass.

If the national media want to restore the public's trust, they should give Americans the facts, not tell them what to think.

BEDROS VARTAN YESSAIAN: A SURVIVOR'S STORY

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to memorialize and record a courageous story of survival of the Armenian Genocide. The Armenian Genocide, perpetrated by the Ottoman Empire from 1915 to 1923, resulted in the death of 1.5 million Armenian men, women, and children. As the U.S. Ambassador to the Ottoman Empire, Henry Morgenthau, documented at the time, it was a campaign of "race extermination."

The campaign to annihilate the Armenian people failed, as illustrated by the proud Armenian nation and prosperous diaspora. It is difficult if not impossible to find an Armenian family not touched by the genocide, and while there are some survivors still with us, it is imperative that we record their stories. Through the Armenian Genocide CONGRESSIONAL RECORD Project, I hope to document the harrowing stories of the survivors in an effort to preserve their accounts and to help educate the Members of Congress now and in the future of the necessity of recognizing the Armenian Genocide.

This is one of those stories: (translated by the son and daughter of Bedros Vartan Yessaian—Hovhannes Yessaian and Dench Bedros Yessaian, respectively—a survivor of the Armenian Genocide.)

This is the true story in every detail that has been told to me and my sister by my father.——Hovhannes Yessaian.

BEDROS VARTAN YESSAIAN: A SURVIVOR'S STORY

My name is Bedros Vartan Yessaian. I was born in 1904 in a village called (Kinjilar), which is not far from Izmit and Istanbul, and had about 2,500 inhabitants, most of which were Armenians. My father is Vartan and my mother is Denchali. We were four brothers, Antranig (born 1989), Ohannes (born 1901) Bedros (born 1904) and Jirair (born 1907). My mother had two brothers, Minas and Hagop.

It was in the summer of 1915 that the Ottoman government gave orders that all Armenian males aged 18–45 go to the military service, while the rest of the family was to be deported. My father went to the military but actually was working as a day laborer cutting stones to pave roads.

So I accompanied my mother and two brothers, Antranig and Jirair, in deportation. My other brother, Ohannes, and two uncles were at that time in Istanbul and escaped deportation. In few days time we gathered what we could carry and took the train to a city called Konya. From there we walked all the way to Derzor, sometimes hiring horse or oxen driven carts, if we could fine one.

Later we learned a pregnant woman of our village had childbirth at the departure time and was obliged to throw her newborn child into the nearby Sakaria River. She was the young wife of Janig Belalian.

On our way we came across Armenian soldiers working as stone cutters and paving the road for the Berlin Baghdad railway project. My father was one of them, and was able to escape his group and joined us in the death march.

Somehow we managed our way until Aleppo in Syria. On the way many died of starvation, thirst and hunger besides the cruel treatment of the police and gendarmes. After that the march was horrible in the desert, especially for who live in colder climate.

Although the Euphrates River was nearby, we were forced to march far from it, as some would die of thirst and exhaustion. Sometimes we march in endless circles ending in the afternoon at same place we started in the morning.

We marched on foot from Aleppo to Meskena, Rakka Derzor and Shaddadiya. My younger brother, Jirair, died of starvation and hunger. We continued our march without knowing our final destination. On a rainy day and still under the tents, my father asked my brother, Antranig, to buy a cup of tea from the street vendor. My brother said he has no money. Father pulled the bed sheet over his head and few hours later we found him dead.

Few weeks later my mother died. Neighbors came consoling me and wishing them a peaceful death. In the morning the collector came and took her body. All who had died were stripped of their clothes and their bare bodies were thrown into a large ditch.

The more we marched the more the police and gendarmes grew cruel. They beat, tortured, raped and killed innocent and unarmed people. In a neighboring caravan two young beautiful girls threw themselves into the Euphrates River preferring death to rape. Raping became more regular and even pregnant women were not spared. the gendarmes gambled on the gender of the unborn child by cutting the woman's abdomen by sword letting the woman die in her blood.

The Arab Nomads who live in the Syrian Desert used to come to our tents asking us to live with them instead of sure death. Thousands of Armenians were thus saved. I saw no hope and informed my brother that I was going to live with the Arabs. My brother stayed with the caravan and later I learned that he reached Mosul city in Iraq.

With Arab nomads I stayed for two years and my Arab (parents) treated me as if their own biological son. The Arab Sheikhs (head of a tribe) even refused the invitation of the Turkish authorities to participate in killing the Armenians and keep any looted property.

They treated all the saved children and women with respect and dignity. While with the Arabs, I saw Turks forcing the Armenians to collect dry bushes and thorns and

later pushed them into a cave. then they burned the bushes and all inside the cave died of burns or choked to death.

Later I left my Arab parents and fled to Istanbul where my two uncles and brother Ohannes lived. After the armistice I returned to my village with my brother Ohannes and Uncle Hagop.

However in 1922, Kemal Ataturk forces invaded the western part of Turkey burning villages and killing the Christians. My uncle Hagop and brother Ohannes were killed and the entire village of Kinjilar was burnt to ashes. I fled the massacre to Istanbul and from there to Greece with my uncle Minas who later emigrated to Armenia.

After leaning that my brother was in Baghdad I traveled to Baghdad and formed a family. My wife Serpoohi was also a genocide survivor, originally from Bilejik, a nearby village to Kinjilar.

——Bedros Vartan Yessaian

HONORING NED AND MARY ANN ABRAHAMSEN ON RECEIVING THE ATTORNEY ROBERT W. MUNLEY DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD FROM LACKAWANNA PRO BONO

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. KANJORSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Mr. and Mrs. Ned and Mary Ann Abrahamsen on receiving the Attorney Robert W. Munley Distinguished Service Award from Lackawanna Pro Bono.

Lackawanna Pro Bono is a non-profit organization established in 1997 to increase the availability of free legal representation for low-income individuals and families throughout Lackawanna County.

Over the past thirteen years they have organized local attorneys to volunteer their time to provide representation in over 2,000 cases, and in the process have helped nearly 5,000 residents of Northeastern Pennsylvania.

Lackawanna Pro Bono will host its second annual Fundraising Gala on October 21, 2010 in Scranton, Pennsylvania. For the second year, Lackawanna Pro Bono will honor a select number of individuals and organizations who have demonstrated excellent service to the community with its Attorney Robert W. Munley Distinguished Service Award.

This year's group of deserving recipients includes Mr. and Mrs. Ned and Mary Ann Abrahamsen of Scranton.

Edwin "Ned" Abrahamsen was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1951. He graduated from Franklin & Marshall College in 1973, and received his Juris Doctorate from the Dickinson School of Law in 1976.

Mary Ann Conaboy Abrahamsen was born in Scranton in 1951. She graduated from Marywood College in 1973 before also receiving her Juris Doctorate from Dickinson School of Law in 1976.

Together, they are partners at Abrahamsen, Conaboy & Abrahamsen in Scranton. Mr. Abrahamsen specializes in personal injury cases, while Mary Ann specializes in family law, particularly in the areas of real estate, wills trusts and estates, and divorce. Their firm has received the Equal Access to Justice Award from the Lackawanna Bar Association and Lackawanna Pro Bono, as well as the Pro Bono Award from their Pennsylvania Bar Association.

Throughout their professional careers, Mr. and Mrs. Abrahamsen have continuously donated their time and efforts throughout the community.

Mr. Abrahamsen has served as Solicitor of the Scranton School District and School Building Authority and the Old Forge School District, and currently serves as Solicitor of Blakely Borough. He is also Chairman of the Financial Committee of St. Joseph's Church in Scranton.

Mrs. Abrahamsen has served as President of the Parents Club at Scranton Preparatory School, Chairman of the Board at Scranton Prep, President of the Board of Directors of the Friends of the Poor, and as Secretary of the Lackawanna Bar Association.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing Mr. and Mrs. Abrahamsen. Together they have demonstrated a remarkable commitment to community service in Northeastern Pennsylvania.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO MR. FRED HARRSCH

HON. STEVE KAGEN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. KAGEN. Madam Speaker, I rise here today to pay tribute to Mr. Fred Harrsch for his dedication in upholding the great tradition of the Green Bay Packers fence along Lombardi Avenue in the shadow of Lambeau Field in Green Bay, Wisconsin. Mr. Harrsch inherited the Packer tradition 6 years ago when he took ownership of the fence which creates a unique sense of pride and camaraderie among fans. As friends, family, and visitors gather this football season to pay tribute to his hard work and contributions, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this outstanding individual.

Hundreds of thousands of fans pass by the city landmark on their pilgrimage to Lambeau Field, which dons a new coat of paint and a fresh slogan at the start of every season. This season, Mr. Harrsch has chosen the slogan, "In Coach McCarthy We Trust", in honor of the Packers head coach. In addition to more than 100 volunteers who turned out to help Mr. Harrsch paint the fence this year, two special guests came to take part—Packers President and CEO Mark Murphy, and the fence's original owner, Steve Kraft. This marks the 26th year of the fence-painting tradition.

Madam Speaker, as Fred Harrsch celebrates another year of a great Green Bay tradition, I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting a truly extraordinary member of our community.

HONORING PANG GE MOUA

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Major Pang Ge Moua for his dedication and service to his country and his community. Major Moua passed away at the age of 81 on August 8th, 2010 in Fresno, California. A service honoring his life will be held on Saturday, August 21, 2010 in Fresno.

Major Moua was born on October 20th, 1928, in Ban Nong Het, Xiengkhouang province, Kingdom of Laos, 1928. In 1948, he completed grade 3 in the Lao elementary school in the same village where he was born. In 1963, Mr. Moua was recruited to train as a walking fighter, also known as an infantry man. After completing the training, he was placed in the 1st Company, 201st Battalion, Special Guerrilla Units where he served in southeast Asia and Laos during the Vietnam Conflict. Mr. Moua served in this unit through May 1975. During his time with the military, Mr. Moua participated in a number of missions for the United States and the Kingdom of Laos. For his outstanding service, Mr. Moua was promoted to the rank of Major. After the United States withdrew its troops and support from Indochina, Mr. Moua fled to Thailand and eventually moved on to the United States, where he settled on June 21, 1989.

Major Moua received a number of citations and awards for his service in southeast Asia including the Vietnam Campaign Medal, the Vietnam Veteran's Medal, the Vietnam Veteran's National Medal and the Lao Veterans of America National Medal.

Upon moving to the United States, Major Moua became active in community affairs. In 1991, he became a member of the Lao Veterans of America, Inc. The Lao Veterans of America, Inc. represents veterans who served the United States honorably during the Vietnam War. It is the largest organization of its kind in the U.S. and includes thousands of Hmong and Lao veterans and their families. Major Moua was elected to serve in a leadership role in the Lao Veterans of America Fresno Sub-Chapter in 2002. He has also attended Lao Veterans of America events in Washington, D.C. many times over the past few years.

Major Moua will be remembered for all that he has sacrificed and for all that he has achieved. He is survived by his wife, Kao Kim Lee, and their 7 children.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to posthumously honor Major Pang Ge Moua for his dedication to his family, his country and his community. I invite my colleagues to join me in honoring his life and wishing the best for his family.

CALLING ON JAPAN TO ADDRESS CHILD ABDUCTION CASES

SPEECH OF

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2010

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of House Resolution 1326, a resolution calling on the Government of Japan to immediately address the growing problem of American children abducted to Japan.

Since 1994, the Office of Children's Issues—commonly referred to as OCI—at the United States State Department had opened

194 cases involving 269 U.S. children abducted to or wrongfully retained in Japan. As of March 25, 2010, OCI had 85 open cases involving over 121 American children abducted to Japan. Of these abducted children, Keisuke Collins, is the son of one of my constituents, Randy Collins.

Unfortunately, since the signing of the Treaty of Peace with Japan between the Allied Powers and the Government of Japan in 1951, the Japanese Government has never issued and enforced a legal decision to return a single abducted child to the United States. In addition, Japan has not agreed to the 1980 Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction, which has resulted in the continued absence of an immediate remedy that would enable the expedited return of abducted children to their custodial parent in the United States. Sadly, the Government of Japan is the only G–7 country that has not acceded to the Hague Convention.

This problem is also compounded by Japan's legal system. Because Japan's existing family law system does not recognize joint custody nor actively enforces parental access agreements for both its own citizens and foreigners, there is little hope for children to have contact with the noncustodial parent in violation of internationally recognized and protected rights. What is worse, the Government of Japan has repeatedly claimed to foreign governments that parental child abduction is not considered a crime in Japan despite the fact that Article 3 of the Japanese Penal Code does indeed make it a crime for a Japanese citizen to abduct a child and move the child across national borders.

Although Japan's current Justice Minister said upon her appointment that she is determined to show that Japan ''is very proactive'' in adopting international protocols and conventions that are the ''international standard,'' child abductions to Japan continue to be a very serious and rampant problem. Consequently, is critical for the United States and Japan to work together to prevent future incidents of international parental child abduction to Japan.

As such, I call on my colleagues to support House Resolution 1326. This resolution calls on the Government of Japan to immediately address the growing problem of abduction to and retention of American children in Japan. The resolution also calls on Japan to work closely with the United States to return these children to their custodial parent in the United States and to provide left-behind parents immediate access to their children. Lastly, House Resolution 1326 calls on Japan to immediately adopt the 1980 Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction so that these abducted children can be returned to their custodial parent.

As an original cosponsor of this resolution, it is of utmost importance to not only me, but to my constituents Randy and Keisuke, that it is passed with the overwhelming support of the House of Representatives. These abducted kids—and their families—cannot wait any longer.

COMMEMORATING THE 90TH BIRTHDAY OF ENTERTAINER AND PHILANTHROPIST JOEY RUSSELL

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, on the occasion of his 90th birthday, I rise to commemorate Joey Russell of Milford, Connecticut, a comedian and humanitarian who has spent a lifetime working to make the world around him a better, happier place.

Known to generations of Connecticut children as ''Happy the Clown,'' a television staple in Hartford and my hometown of New Haven, Joey has brought laughter, good cheer, and good works to those around him for decades. In fact, Joey's wit and timing as a stand-up comic has taken him all over the world, including famed comedy venues like the Copacabana in New York and Grossinger's Hotel in the Catskills.

Throughout his career, Joey has matched his gift for entertaining with an impressive record of philanthropy and public service. The son of a rabbi who served in the United States Army, Joey has raised money for over 20 ambulances for American Red Magen David for Israel (ARMDI), formed the Golan Chapter of this international humanitarian organization, and has led over fifty tours of the Holy Land.

I congratulate Joey, his wife Josi, and their five children on reaching this impressive milestone, and I thank Joey for all the laughter over the years. With or without the ''happy sticks'' on hand, I know he will greet this cause for celebration with a smile.

MARGARET HOUGASIAN: A SURVIVOR'S STORY

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to memorialize and record a courageous story of survival of the Armenian Genocide. The Armenian Genocide, perpetrated by the Ottoman Empire from 1915 to 1923, resulted in the death of 1.5 million Armenian men, women, and children. As the U.S. Ambassador to the Ottoman Empire Henry Morgenthau documented at the time, it was a campaign of ''race extermination.''

The campaign to annihilate the Armenian people failed, as illustrated by the proud Armenian nation and prosperous diaspora. It is difficult if not impossible to find an Armenian family not touched by the genocide, and while there are some survivors still with us, it is imperative that we record their stories. Through the Armenian Genocide CONGRESSIONAL RECORD Project, I hope to document the harrowing stories of the survivors in an effort to preserve their accounts and to help educate the Members of Congress now and in the future of the necessity of recognizing the Armenian Genocide.

This is one of those stories:

(Submitted by Shirley Collins)

My name is Shirley Kalashian-Collins. I was born in 1951 to Armenian parents. My mother was born in Aintab, Turkey in 1920 in the midst of the genocide of the Armenians. My mother and my grandparents narrowly made it out alive and found refuge in the U.S. My paternal grandmother also had a harrowing story. Due to the threat against the Armenians she was shipped to the U.S. at 15 years old to marry an Armenian, only to find out a few years later that her parents were killed and her younger sisters kidnapped. My mother tried hard to put all these stories down on paper so the world would know what happened to our families. After she passed away, I attempted to finish her project. After nearly 10 years and hundreds of hours of work, I put the story together.

Now I want to thank our Rep. Adam Schiff for his efforts to put these stories that are left untold in the Congressional Record. I know my mother, if she were alive, would be dancing up and down with joy. You can't imagine how exciting this is for me after all the years of work to make sure these stories are kept alive and heard so that history will be recorded accurately.

Thank you Rep. Schiff. This is such a wonderful and amazing idea.

My great-grandfather, Sarkis Kalashian, married Margaret Hougasian after my great-grandmother, Shoushan, died. Sarkis was killed in 1915 by Turkish soldiers. This left Margaret a widow with small children. My cousin, Margo Torigiants, shared with me the following story of how her grandmother escaped to France after Sarkis was killed:

After the massacre of the Armenians started, Margaret suddenly became a widow when her husband and older son were killed in 1915. According to her granddaughter, Margo, Margaret had some gold nuggets as Sarkis had been a merchant in Kharpet. Earlier pictures of Sarkis and Margaret show them happy and very well dressed.

She used these gold nuggets to get some Turkish people to help her and her children: Khoren, Hrant, Dickran, Araksi and Vartan (and maybe Agavni—daughter of Khoren) to flee. She dressed up the boys as girls to disguise them. (Boys were more likely to be killed by the Turkish military). Somehow they were able to get to Aleppo, Syria. She tried to get them in an orphanage, but since they had a parent, she could not get them in. she cooked for people and took the leftovers home for the kids to eat. They stayed there for a few years, but stayed close.

They were afraid Arabs would kidnap the kids. From there they settled in Marsielle, France.

HONORING THE HANNAH WESTON CHAPTER OF THE DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. MICHAUD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Hannah Weston Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution for their care of the Burnham Tavern for 100 years.

The Chapter carries the name of Hannah Weston in honor of the 17-year-old pregnant woman who showed incredible courage in helping the patriots fight the British in the Battle of the Margaretta. This was also known as the Battle of the Machias, the first naval battle of the Revolutionary War. Since 1910, the Hannah Weston Chapter has owned and maintained the Burnham Tavern, where the

people of Maine first gathered to plan the defense of their homes and our young nation.

The Tavern was built in 1770, and has a rich history dating back to the Revolutionary War. Plans to capture the armed British vessel, H.M.S. *Margaretta*, in the first naval battle of the American Revolution were made in the Tavern, and the wounded were nursed there. Many items in the Tavern are associated with that battle and the patriots who fought it. The Tavern acts as a historical landmark that welcomes visitors from around the country and the world, who seek to learn more about this important part of our nation's struggle for independence.

The Burnham Tavern is the oldest building in eastern Maine, having withstood the test of time thanks to the members of the Hannah Weston Chapter. The Tavern has been kept in excellent condition, and the Chapter has paid out of their own pockets for the upkeep of the 18th century building.

The DAR has made a substantial contribution to the community through preserving a historical landmark and educating its visitors. Their efforts are truly remarkable, and all of Maine thanks them for their dedication to our nation's history.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring the Hannah Weston Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution for their work in preserving such an important part of our nation's history.

HONORING THE SAGINAW RIVER COAST GUARD STATION

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the members of the U.S. Coast Guard stationed at the Saginaw River Coast Guard Station. The Mt. Zion Lutheran Church in Bay City, Michigan will hold a program and reception on October 3rd to recognize these dedicated service members.

The United States Coast Guard established a presence in the Saginaw River in 1842 when a lighthouse was constructed. Over the years the Coast Guard has maintained a light range system and expanded to now include 8 boats, and is staffed by 27 active duty personnel and 5 reserve personnel. Its area of responsibility stretches from Point Lookout to Oak Point on the Saginaw Bay and from the mouth of the Saginaw River to Green Point in Saginaw. The station is responsible for servicing 134 aids to navigation. On the average, the station runs 110 search and rescue missions a year. The Station has been designated as the Ice Capabilities Center of Excellence, which is the formal training site for the ice rescue procedures for the United States Coast Guard. The crew is considered the specialists in ice rescue and fulfills the role of instructors in the field.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me and applaud the work for the Saginaw River Coast Guard Station. Their dedication to ensuring the safety and security of persons traveling the waters of the Saginaw Bay and Saginaw River is exemplary. I commend them for their service, enthusiasm, perseverance and I pray they will continue to do their job in safety for many years to come.

HONORING LIBERTY CORNER FIRE COMPANY

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Liberty Corner Fire Company, located in Bernards Township, Somerset County, New Jersey which is celebrating its 100th Anniversary.

The Liberty Corner Fire Company was incorporated on October 17, 1910 and spent the first 4½ years organizing and growing prior to its activation. On March 4, 1915, during a meeting that officially activated the company, 34 members joined what has become a fire company exuding bravery and rich in generosity.

After becoming active, the members needed a firehouse. In June of 1915, a lot was purchased and one month later construction began. At the time of completion, the Liberty Corner Fire Department funds ran low, but through the donation from the Bernardsville Fire Company, the Company acquired its first fire apparatus.

Over the years, the Liberty Corner Fire Company joined alongside many other departments as they battled fires. The members worked tirelessly to not only keep their own community safe, but surrounding communities as well. The company often reported to fires in other towns in an effort to provide assistance.

In 1954, it was decided that there was a need for a larger firehouse. Realizing the high cost to do so, the members dedicated 7,400 hours of manpower to expand the building. By doing so, they were able to save over half the cost of the expansion. The building was completed with a dedication ceremony on July 14, 1956. On December 10th of that same year, the Liberty Corner Fire Company received the Certificate of Perpetual Existence.

The 1980s brought about a boom of residential and commercial building in the department's primary service area. With the completion of an interstate highway and over 2,000 residential homes built, the demands of the Fire Company increased. In response, the Company purchased a command vehicle: 1982 Dodge Diplomat. However, the need also arose for a new firehouse to keep up with the new construction sizes of modern fire apparatuses.

After a long process of raising funds for a new firehouse, the groundbreaking was held in August of 1989. Over a year later, in September of 1990, the Liberty Corner Fire Company moved into its new home on a 10-acre lot purchased back in 1925. This house boasts a side bay with offices and rooms to facilitate day-to-day work at the company. On May 4, 1991, a wet down was held to celebrate the new firehouse

In an effort to keep up with rising costs, the company began the Santa Fund Drive in 2000. In conjunction with the holidays, the company offers parents the chance to have Santa Claus arrive on a fire truck to present their child with a gift.

On March 8, 2007, the members of the Liberty Corner Fire Company were presented with a grant from the Fireman's Fund Heritage Program to help fund safety equipment. In July of the same year, the company was invited to participate in America's Independence Day Parade in our nation's capital, Washington, DC.

In September 2009, insurance agency Lake McVicker, along with the Fireman's Fund Insurance Company, awarded the Liberty Corner Fire Company a grant for a new thermal imaging camera to replace on its new Pierce pumper.

Today, the Liberty Corner Fire Company boasts an impressive fleet of fire trucks and responds to a wide array of emergencies in and around their community. The success of volunteer fire departments such as this one is vital to the security of millions of Americans.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Liberty Corner Fire Company as they celebrate 100 years of exceptional service.

TRIBUTE TO CHARLES YOUNG

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a true American Hero, Charles Milton Young, who recently passed away at the age of 91. I am honored to recognize Charlie's brave and commendable service to the United States of America. Charlie Young proudly served our Nation in World War II as a United States Marine in 1944–1945. During his service, he sustained a severe injury during the battle of Okinawa, leading to a 9-month hospitalization. In fact, he distinguished himself in combat so greatly that he was awarded the Purple Heart and the Excellence in Service medals. There is nothing nobler than answering the call to serve your country. His actions are a true testament to his patriotism. It is always sad when we lose a hero; however, it also brings us hope when we remember men of the Greatest Generation, like Charlie, who have walked among us.

Charlie was a dedicated family man, having been married to his wife Hazel for 72 years. He was also the proud father of four children, 17 grandchildren, 50 great grandchildren, and 6 great-great grandchildren. Charlie and Hazel met and married in Beeville, Texas and later moved to Corpus Christi to raise their family. In 1960 they moved permanently to their lake home in Mathis, Texas. It is an honor to remember Charlie as a courageous soldier who risked his life for the American dream but it is also an even greater honor to recognize him as an honorable Texan, dedicated citizen, and a loving father, grandfather and husband.

There is no such thing as former Marine; once Marines leave the military they are still Marines in heart and soul and patriotic zeal. It is true that once a Marine always a Marine. Charlie was proud to be a Marine, so much so that as he said his final goodbyes to family members, his last words to his son-in-law, Maj. Joseph R. Ellis (retired USMC) was "Semper Fi, my son, Semper Fi" as he shook his fist with all the strength he could muster. There is nothing like a U.S. Marine. They are a breed of their own.

On September 28, 2010 PFC Milton Young, USMC was laid to rest with Full Marine Honor

Guard detail with a 21-gun salute and taps. I am honored to remember the life and memory of a Texas hero. He will forever remain a hero in the eyes of his family, his friends, his community, and his country. Semper Fi, Charlie Young. Semper Fi.

And that's just the way it is.

CONGRATULATING THE SOCIETY OF KASTORIANS ''OMONOIA'' OF NEW YORK ON THEIR 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. ACKERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 100th anniversary of the Society of the Kastorians "OMONOIA" of New York, located in Whitestone.

The first Kastorian immigrants, hailing from Kastoria, a North-Western Province in Greece, have deep roots in New York City. After their arrival in 1887, the community quickly grew. These new Americans organized a philanthropic group that has done charitable work and donated resources both in Greece and here in the United States.

Founded on August 7, 1910, the Society first began sending aid back to its members' homeland, Kastoria. The first donations supported a girls' school, a pharmacy, and earthquake-recovery efforts. During both World Wars, the Society was active in providing assistance to Greece's infrastructure and its defenses. During those turbulent times, the Society's efforts helped Greece construct a warship, a power plant and a water supply distribution system, as well as providing shipments of flour to Greek refugees.

Through the years, the Society's generosity has not been limited to Greece; it has supported many initiatives in New York and throughout the United States. In 1941, the Kastorians purchased $16,000 in U.S. Savings Bonds, and an aircraft was named *The Kastorian Spirit* in their honor. They have donated to the American Red Cross and have annually given over $50,000 for scholarships. The Kastorians donated to the World Trade Center Fund after the 9/11 attacks, and to Columbia University for its Hellenic Studies and Ancient History program. They also purchased a two-building complex in Whitestone that the Society uses as its headquarters, where cultural lectures and celebrations are hosted.

Madam Speaker, for the last hundred years, the Society's members have been able to maintain their heritage and devotion to Greece, while at the same time dedicating themselves to their home in the United States. I look forward to seeing the Society of Kastorians "OMONOIA" of New York's future efforts in improving the lives of not only Greek-Americans, but also all Americans, for many more years to come.

I ask that my colleagues in the House of Representatives join me, and rise in recognition of the Society of Kastorians, its President, Dr. Elias Panides, its Vice President, Vasili E. Zisis, and all its members, on their centennial anniversary.

A GENOCIDE SURVIVOR STORY: ARAM DEMERJIAN'S FATHER

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to memorialize and record a courageous story of survival of the Armenian Genocide. The Armenian Genocide, perpetrated by the Ottoman Empire from 1915 to 1923, resulted in the death of 1.5 million Armenian men, women, and children. As the U.S. Ambassador to the Ottoman Empire, Henry Morgenthau documented at the time, it was a campaign of "race extermination."

The campaign to annihilate the Armenian people failed, as illustrated by the proud Armenian nation and prosperous diaspora. It is difficult if not impossible to find an Armenian family not touched by the genocide, and while there are some survivors still with us, it is imperative that we record their stories. Through the Armenian Genocide Congressional Record Project, I hope to document the harrowing stories of the survivors in an effort to preserve their accounts and to help educate the Members of Congress now and in the future of the necessity of recognizing the Armenian Genocide.

This is one of those stories (submitted by Aram Demerjian):

My father, born in Diarbekir in 1901, told me about the real events as I was growing up. His experiences of what happened to his father and how he made to escape death were not pleasant for me to hear. I was born in Lebanon. I would like give you some of the accounts related to me.

My grand-father was an iron smith. He made hand-cuffs for the prison inmates. His own hand-cuffs clamped his own hands by the Turks. He was taken away from his home for questioning and his family never saw him again.

I consider my father a very talented man. For instance, he could play musical instruments, he could sing with a vibrant voice. He was not fanatic about his religious practice. On his way to exile, he stopped at many villages for few days or for few months. Some religious man (sheikh) gave him shelter during one stop. This host noticed that he has a good voice. So he invited my father to sing in the mosque. Of course, having nothing to support himself, he could not refuse Sheikh's request. I forgot to mention that my Dad also spoke Kurdish.

Three months later, my father who is also a good horse rider, left the village at night time. Not knowing anything about his destiny. At this time, I have not many details about how he made to Aleppo (Syria).

Someday, I shall sit down to write many other events regarding his brothers and his mother whom survived this genocide and how my Dad was able to meet them again in Lebanon. His older sister was forcefully taken away by a Turkish soldier.

I also have some recollections told to me by my mother's side whose family was also exiled from the town of Konia.

On my mother's side, the story is different. Her father (Sarkis) was a merchant. Sarkis owned some wealth. He converted his assets into gold coins. But he did not make the exile with his family made of 3 girls, one boy and his wife (my grand-mother). Sarkis was taken away one morning and never came back. The gold coins were hidden inside underwear of the women. A local Turk helped them ride the train out of Konia to Tarousse against a certain amount of monetary payment.

SECURING AMERICA'S VETERANS INSURANCE NEEDS AND GOALS ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. DEBORAH L. HALVORSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2010

Mrs. HALVORSON. Mr. Speaker, the intent of H.R. 5993, the Securing America's Veterans Insurance Needs and Goals (SAVINGs) Act is to increase transparency and disclosure of the Servicemembers Group Life Insurance (SGLI) program. The intent is to increase financial counseling for beneficiaries and to allow Congress to play a better role in providing oversight and access of the program.

It is not the intent of H.R. 5993 to have Congress weigh in on the legal question of whether or not the Department of Veterans Affairs has the authority to allow 'retained asset accounts'. The language in H.R. 5993 is not intended to validate in any manner whether 'retained asset accounts' are authorized in section 1970(d) of title 38, United States Code.

PEDIATRIC RESEARCH CONSORTIA ESTABLISHMENT ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2010

Mr. KING of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 758, the Pediatric Research Consortia Establishment Act.

This legislation is an important step towards understanding and eradicating diseases in children. The consortia will lead to new insights to the major disorders that affect children and will empower researchers to discover innovative strategies for diagnosis and treatment.

Pediatric research and care is currently underfunded despite the fact that children comprise 20 percent of our nation's population. Enrolling and evaluating a sufficiently large group of children is the most effective way of understanding these disorders and to monitor how they manifest in adults. By having Pediatric research institutions collaborate and share information in a methodical way, we can speed up breakthroughs and treatments to fight diseases that affect children.

This investment in research is an important step in speeding up the development of therapies to combat devastating diseases in children. I am proud to support this legislation.

HONORING FRÉDÉRIC CHOPIN'S 200TH BIRTHDAY

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 200th anniverary of the birth of

the composer and pianist, Frédéric Chopin, and recognize the influence his music has had on the world.

Frédéric Chopin was born in 1810 in the Napoleonic Duchy of Warsaw to a French father and Polish mother. He was a child prodigy in both playing and composing on the piano. In the following years Chopin moved to Paris after the Polish Uprising of 1830. There, he supported himself by teaching piano and an occasional public performance. In 1837 he became involved with the French novelist Amantine Dupin, better known under her pseudonym, George Sand. Unfortunately, for most of his life the artist suffered from a variety of maladies and died at the young age of 39.

Because of the strong Polish influence of his parents, Chopin never learned to fluently speak French. As such, much of his music retains influences of Polish culture; his Revolutionary Étude is interpreted as the story of the Polish Revolution—because of which he fled his homeland. While France and Poland both influenced the artist, he credits Bach and Mozart as the main forces that shaped his music.

While Chopin saw many of his contemporaries as lacking, he associated himself with many romantic artists, including many writers and painters. Under the direction of Bach and Mozart, Chopin's music is regarded as the epitome of the Romantic Style. Chopin preferred his music to remain unnamed except for the genre and number, as he wanted the listener to create their own associations. He is for these reasons regarded as one of the greatest composers and pianists who has ever lived.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Frédéric Chopin for his vast contributions and lasting effect on the world of classical music. We would be joining much of the world in celebrating, as festivals in honor of Chopin have occurred in places such as Warsaw, Paris, and my hometown Chicago. For 200 years, he has been renowned as a talented composer and will continue to be regarded as such for future generations.

RECOGNIZING THE SAGINAW VALLEY BABE RUTH 13–15 ALL-STAR TEAM

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today along with my colleague from Michigan, DAVE CAMP, to honor the Saginaw Valley Babe Ruth 13–15 All-Star Team as the National Runners-up at the Babe Ruth World Series. The Saginaw Valley team was crowned this title on August 25th in Monticello, Arkansas.

Hailing from across Mid-Michigan, the Saginaw Valley Babe Ruth 13–15 All-Stars completed the year with a 16–3 record including the Michigan State Championship and the Ohio Valley Regional Championship. They played against teams from across the Midwest and East Coast to earn their spot at the World Series tournament playing against 11 teams from across the United States.

The players are: Connor Foley, Grant Bridgewater, Grant Miller, Sam Brooks, Zach Olszewski, Brandon Vittitow, Chase Krager, Ryan Jankowski, Luke Scharich, Jordan Stainforth, Tyler Palm, Jake Warren, A.J. Rubio, and A.J. McInnis. The team was coached by Howard Miller, and Matt Jankowski. Mark Krzysiak serves as team Manager. During their World Series run, Grant Bridgewater and Brandon Vittitow were named to the All Tournament Team. A.J. McGinnis was named to the All Defensive Team as a pitcher.

Madam Speaker, we are very proud of the team members, their manager and coaches and congratulate them on earning this title. They are a credit to their families, and their communities, and they are a testament to discipline, dedication and perseverance. We wish them the best as they continue to pursue their goals and in their future endeavors.

URGING HUMAN RIGHTS AND DEMOCRACY IN KAZAKHSTAN

HON. ALAN B. MOLLOHAN

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. MOLLOHAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to alert my colleagues to some growing concerns in Kazakhstan.

As an ex-Soviet republic, Kazakhstan has made great strides in the past several decades. In fact, it was just 1991 when Kazakhstan became the last of the Soviet republics to declare its independence. Today, Kazakhstan serves as the Chair of the 56 member-nation Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE).

While I commend Kazakhstan for the progress it has made over the past several decades toward becoming a more democratic nation, I am increasingly concerned about ongoing allegations of corruption, human rights abuses, human trafficking, religious persecution, election tampering and suppression of free speech within the nation. In recent years, I have seen reports indicating that Kazakhstan's governmental system lacks the basic rights of democracy—elections are often fraught with fraud; political opposition is suppressed; few independent media outlets exist; and respect for human rights, religious freedom, and freedom of speech is questionable.

The United States has sought a mutually beneficial relationship with Kazakhstan and provides aid to Kazakhstan to enhance economic growth, democracy, security and humanitarian needs. We understand, because of Kazakhstan's centralized location between Europe and Asia, that it is in a unique position to help bridge East and West. However, I am concerned that the current U.S.-Kazakhstan relationship could be compromised and I think it is time we critically evaluate these very serious allegations.

I applaud the work of the Helsinki Commission under the current leadership of Senator BEN CARDIN, and previously, Congressman ALCEE HASTINGS for their ongoing commitment to bringing these matters to light and I would urge my colleagues to take the time to look into this issue.

HONORING GEORGIE O'CONNOR

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mrs. CAPPS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent Georgie O'Connor from San Luis Obispo County.

Georgie is retiring from the Lucia Mar Unified School District, after having served since its formation in 1965. Her almost 50 years of service on the school board is a California State record for the longest-serving school board member, as confirmed by the California School Boards Association.

Georgie is a local treasure who has dedicated her career to ensuring high standards and a quality education for the young people in San Luis Obispo County.

Over her tenure, Georgie has watched multiple generations of students make their way through and graduate from Lucia Mar, including many current teachers and administrators. Through it all, she has never lost sight of the invaluable importance of a rigorous education for our nation's young people.

She is a true public servant, and it gives me great pleasure on behalf of the Lucia Mar Unified School District Community to thank her for her dedicated service today. I wish her much rest and relaxation in her well-deserved retirement!

Thank you and I yield back.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF WILLIAM H. MOBLEY IV

HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. KINGSTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of an outstanding individual, William H. Mobley IV, who passed away on May 23, 2010.

For 35 years, Mr. Mobley worked as a Principal Evaluations Officer and curator at the Library of Congress. While his position was a source of enjoyment and intellectual fulfillment to him personally, it also served as an outlet for him to provide a love of history and books to others.

Throughout his time with the Library of Congress, Mr. Mobley encouraged the donation of thousands of books to local communities and libraries, and he had a special interest in providing resources to his home city of Valdosta, Georgia. Appointed by Valdosta State University to select and send books through the Library of Congress, Mr. Mobley spent years of his life shipping reading materials to Georgia, evidence of his willingness to make enormous personal sacrifices for the benefit of others. Valdosta State University recently found that the total cost of the books donated by Mr. Mobley to the VSU library added up to more than $750,000 over the years. To show their immense appreciation, VSU established The Bill Mobley Memorial Library Fund in Valdosta, Georgia.

On a personal level, Mr. Mobley was constantly seeking ways to make knowledge more accessible. He promoted a love of reading among his friends and family, concentrating on

historical accounts and always finding a way to keep the content interesting. Among those who knew him best, Mr. Mobley's kindness and patience were two qualities that stood out most, and he used these strengths to educate children and introduce them to the value of knowledge—including his own 33 nieces and nephews.

I commend William H. Mobley for his commitment to knowledge through education, his constant support of those around him, and his invaluable service to the people of Georgia.

COMMEMORATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF TAIWAN'S NATIONAL DAY

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Madam Speaker, I would like to extend my congratulations to the people of the Republic of China (Taiwan) as they mark their National Day this October 10. Taiwan is our important ally in the Asia Pacific region and a key trading partner with Alaska. Due to the hard work of Taiwan's president, Dr. Ma Ying-jeou, the relationship between the U.S. and Taiwan remains strong. I hope that these relations will continue to flourish as trade, educational and cultural exchanges, security cooperation, and Taiwan's participation in international organizations increases.

I would also like to recognize President Ma, who, in the last two years, has significantly improved the relations between Taiwan and Mainland China. There has been a considerable reduction of tension across the Taiwan Strait and there have been productive talks between the two sides on a number of important issues, including the signing of the Economic Cooperation Framework Agreement on June 29 this year.

In celebrating Taiwan's National Day, I hope that Taiwan will continue to have a strong relationship with United States, China and the rest of the global economy.

RECOGNITION OF KEITH GOLDHARDT

HON. MARY JO KILROY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Ms. KILROY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Keith Goldhardt for his unwavering commitment to his family, country and neighborhood. Mr. Goldhardt passed away on September 22, 2010, but left a lasting legacy for the many people whose lives he touched. Mr. Goldhardt's lifelong dedication to serving others is evidenced by his participation in numerous community organizations, his tenure in the U.S. Coast Guard, and his loving family. Mr. Goldhardt was a stellar example of what every American should strive to be, an active and enthusiastic member of the community.

Mr. Goldhardt spent his entire life in Ohio. He was born in Columbus and graduated from Pleasant View High School and Southern Ohio College. Growing up in a tight knit community instilled in Mr. Goldhardt the values of self-sacrifice and generosity, values which manifested themselves at an early age when Mr. Goldhardt joined the United States Coast Guard. Mr. Goldhardt spent six years patrolling America's water and ensuring the safety and security of our citizens.

Mr. Goldhardt's time in the Coast Guard signaled the beginning of his life-long commitment to public service. Mr. Goldhardt was a member of various organizations, including the Masonic Lodge, the Columbus Garden Railway Society, Men's Auxiliary V.F.W., the American Legion, the Franklin County Board of Zoning Appeals, and the Ohio Township Association in addition to putting in 22 years as a faithful employee at National City Bank and James Lang LaSalle. Mr. Goldhardt also served four terms as a Pleasant Hill township trustee during which he more than doubled the township's Fire Department and fought hard to protect Darbydale citizens from the environmental and health threats posed by untreated raw sewage in the area.

Mr. Goldhardt's stellar reputation also bespeaks of putting himself before others and untiring community activism. Mr. Goldhardt truly cared about the town he grew up in and the people he had known all of his life. He regularly volunteered at the Georgesville Fish Fry and Harrisburg Homecoming. His passion for Ohio State Football was legendary, as was his ''Buckeye Porch,'' where he would sit to watch the games every Saturday in the fall. Anyone in Pleasant View knew they could call Mr. Goldhardt at any time of day or night and he would be ready and willing to solve the caller's problem.

Most importantly, Mr. Goldhardt was a devoted family man. He left behind a loving wife, Patty, two sons, Scott and Martin, and a daughter, Mendy, as well as three grandchildren, Samantha, Scott and Nathan. I am proud to join his family members in remembering and honoring Mr. Goldhardt, who was an inspiration and a beloved family member.

HONORING JAMES ANULEWICZ

HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. McCOTTER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor and acknowledge Director of Public Services James Anulewicz upon his retirement after having served the Charter Township of Plymouth since 1984.

While working toward a Bachelor of Science degree at Michigan State University, James Anulewicz spent the summers of 1965 and 1966 working as a student intern at Caro State Hospital where his reports, plans and recommendations led to numerous changes, alterations and new construction on the hospital grounds. Jim graduated from Michigan State in 1967 and entered the graduate program in Landscape Architecture at the University of Michigan. During the summers of 1967 and 1968, he also became a student intern with the Huron Clinton Metropolitan Authority where he was solely responsible for the analysis of the Clinton River basin to determine its acceptability for a regional park.

Prior to the completion of his program at the University of Michigan, James Anulewicz was drafted into the United States Army. During his nearly 3 years of service Jim completed Officer's Candidate School and tours of duty at Fort Benning, Georgia and in DaNang, South Vietnam where he received the Bronze Star. Returning to civilian life, Jim again pursued his Master's Degree at the University of Michigan successfully completing those requirements to graduate in 1972.

Throughout the 1970s James Anulewicz was employed by Norman L. Dietrich Associates where his primary work involved the planning tasks for both the Township of Plymouth and the City of Flat Rock. In 1978, Jim was given full managerial responsibility for Norman L. Dietrich Associates.

James Anulewicz began a long tenure with the Charter Township of Plymouth in 1984 when he was hired as the Planning Director. He also established his own consulting firm, James D. Anulewicz Associates. Jim proved to be invaluable, working closely with the Township Supervisor related not only to planning but in other areas as well. Mr. Anulewicz served as a planning consultant for the City of Flat Rock and remains as a planning consultant to Frenchtown Township near Monroe.

In 1989, James Anulewicz became the Director of Public Services for Plymouth Township overseeing the Departments of Public Works, Parks, Planning, and Engineering as well as Solid Waste and Recycling. Jim was named Community Administrator of the Year by the Michigan Society of Planning Officials in 1994.

James Anulewicz is a member of the American Planning Association, the American Society of Landscape Architects and the Michigan Chapter of Landscape Architects. He has served as the 1st Vice President of the Fall Festival Committee and is a Past President of the Kiwanis Club of Colonial Plymouth.

Madam Speaker, since 1984 James Anulewicz has faithfully served the citizens of Plymouth Township. As he enters the next phase of his life, he leaves behind a legacy of dedication, integrity, and excellence. Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Plymouth Township Director of Public Services James Anulewicz upon his retirement and recognizing his years of loyal service to our community and country.

MAKE IT IN AMERICA AGENDA

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. RAHALL. Madam Speaker, the spark that long ignited our national economic engine has been the imagination, hard work and determination of Americans and American manufacturing. They are the creators of our Nation's economic strength, leadership and freedom.

American Manufacturing has long been the pride of our Nation, the foundation of our economic infrastructure and the core of our military might. It has been the driving force supporting generations of Americans in pursuit of the American dream to build a better life for ourselves, our children and our grandchildren.

Today, U.S. manufacturing directly employs 14 million Americans and creates 8 million more jobs in other sectors. And, American manufacturing workers are the most productive workers in the world—twice as productive

as workers in the next 10 leading manufacturing economies—contributing nearly 12 percent to our gross domestic product.

When we support American manufacturing, we not only help the bottom line, we support the American worker, and we create more American jobs. Equally as important is our ability to support our national defense and to sustain American infrastructure with American products.

We must go headlong into the fight to defend our Nation's economic and military security. We must rebuild our ailing industries and invest in our 21st century workforce.

There is not a one-size-fits-all solution, but we know the rules of supply and demand. We must tackle the issues head-on and fight tooth and nail to preserve American manufacturing and uphold every opportunity for Americans to have good paying jobs.

We are taking steps to right this ship and return America to a place of strength in manufacturing. Four "Make It in America" bills have already been signed into law to:

Close tax loopholes that encourage companies to ship jobs overseas.

Make it cheaper for U.S. companies to get the materials they need to manufacture goods.

Speed innovation by breaking the backlog of patents waiting for approval.

Unleash small business lending with $12 billion in small business tax cuts and new tools to help American small businesses export goods and compete abroad.

The Made in America legislation has the potential to assist manufacturing businesses throughout southern West Virginia. In my congressional district, we have nearly 13,000 people employed in manufacturing at 208 facilities. In 2009, the average U.S. manufacturing worker earned $70,666 annually, while the non-manufacturing worker earned $57,993 annually.

A poll for the Alliance for American Manufacturing showed large majorities believe manufacturing is the most important industry for our economy and national security, and support action to revive it. Two-thirds of Democrats, Republicans and Independents reject the view that "high-tech" and "services" industries can replace manufacturing in a strong U.S. economy. And, more than 75-percent of Americans support a national manufacturing strategy to make sure that economic, tax, labor and trade policies work together to help support manufacturing in the U.S.

Although the economy and the job market are on the way to recovery, America's manufacturing continues to face challenges. A helping hand is needed to level the playing field against foreign competition.

I support H.R. 2378, The Currency Reform for Fair Trade Act, to help American manufacturers fight back when it's clear that countries like China are using unfair trade practices, like undervaluing and manipulating its currency in foreign exchange markets. This is an exploitive export subsidy used to gain an unfair advantage over U.S.-made goods in the global marketplace.

Building a future for America's next generation stands on the shoulders of all of us. We must work together as Americans to invest in our country's long term future and create high-paying jobs. "American-Made" is far more than a label it is the key to our long term economic prosperity.

RECOGNIZING THE 99TH ANNIVERSARY OF TEN TEN DAY FOR THE PEOPLE OF TAIWAN

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 99th anniversary of "Ten Ten Day" for the people of Taiwan. Ten Ten Day traces its roots to the Wuchang Uprising that occurred on October 10, 1911, and that signaled the end of the Qing Dynasty and the start of a democratic movement that we continue to celebrate today.

Ten Ten Day is a celebration of the end of tyranny for the Chinese people and the birth of democracy. It is significant to all freedom loving people throughout the world.

I want to especially recognize the people of Taiwan on this most important occasion. Taiwan has much to celebrate and it is a thriving economic force in Asia, due to its visionary leadership. I met with President Ma Ying-jeou and I commend his efforts to promote trade and improve relations between Taiwan and China. Guam is home to many people of Chinese and Taiwanese ancestry and our island continues to benefit from their cultural contributions to our community and the promotion of trade and economic opportunities.

I congratulate the people of Taiwan on the 99th anniversary of Ten Ten Day. We celebrate this historic occasion with them and we honor their friendship with the American people. We wish them many years of future prosperity and we thank them for their friendship.

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICAN LEGION, POST 116

HON. JOHN P. SARBANES

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. SARBANES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 75th anniversary of the American Legion, Post 116, located in my district in Reisterstown, Maryland. The American Legion is the largest wartime veterans' service organization in Maryland with 147 active Legion Posts serving virtually every community throughout the state.

The Reisterstown American Legion Post 116 was formed in 1935 by a group of 13 charter members. The original members met at each others' homes, the local Masonic Temple and the firehouse to conduct the American Legion business before finding a permanent location at the Garrison Forest School in Owings Mills. In the early fifties, the Post was able to purchase their first home on Route 140 in Reisterstown, giving members their own facility for conducting Legion business. The Post remained there until 1986 when construction of Interstate 795 forced relocation to the present site about two miles from the first Post Home. The present location houses nearly 400 members and includes a Sons of the American Legion Squadron of about 75 members, an American Legion Auxiliary of about 100 members and an active Legion Riders organization.

Over the years, the Reisterstown American Legion Post 116 family has been active in many community endeavors. Some of the Post's many community activities include giving assistance to the Reisterstown Recreation Council, awarding scholarships to students at Franklin High School, participating in the American Legion Boys State and the Auxiliary's Girls State programs, as well as taking part in the American Legion Oratorical Contest for high school students. In addition, the Post compiled a list of all known local veterans and donated this to the Baltimore County Library.

The Reisterstown American Legion Post 116 has contributed time and treasure to help many charitable organizations including, the Maryland Special Olympics, the Epilepsy Foundation, the United Cerebral Palsy Association, the Muscular Dystrophy Association, and organizations combating Multiple Sclerosis.

In 2010, the Reisterstown American Legion Post 116 was the winner of the Outstanding Newsletter Award, produced by editor and Past Post Commander Doug Lawrence. I would also like to congratulate the Post Officers for the 2010–2011 term as they celebrate the 75th Anniversary:

Commander Glenn "Thumper" Krout
1st Vice Commander Diane Hackney
2nd Vice Commander Bill Finch
Adjutant Len Gmeiner, Past Post Commander
Finance Officer Maurice "Moe" Morton, Past Detachment Commander, Sons of the American Legion
Sergeant at Arms Keith Hughes, Past Post Commander
Chaplain Bill Finch
Judge Advocate Mark H. Olanoff
Service Officer Diane Hackney
Historian Keith Hughes, Past Post Commander

Madam Speaker, I strongly commend the Reisterstown American Legion Post 116 as they celebrate their 75th Anniversary on November 6, 2010.

GRANTING CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL TO JAPANESE AMERICAN BATTALION

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 23, 2010

Mr. HONDA. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of S. 1055, a bill to grant the Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the 100th Infantry Battalion and the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, United States Army, in recognition of their dedicated service during World War II.

The United States will forever be indebted to the Japanese Americans soldiers of the 100th Infantry Battalion and the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, United States Army, for their bravery, valor, and dedication to the country.

Though many of their families were unjustly incarcerated in internment camps after the attack on Pearl Harbor, Japanese Americans still fought to prove their loyalty to the United States of America. More than 20,000 Japanese Americans enlisted in the U.S. Army, approximately 14,000 of whom served in the 100th Infantry Battalion and the 442nd Regimental Combat Team. The Japanese American 442nd Regimental Combat Team, including the 100th Infantry Battalion, became the

most decorated unit for its size and length of service in American military history. Among their numerous awards, the Japanese American soldiers of World War II earned 21 Medals of Honor, 52 Distinguished Service Crosses, 559 Silver Stars, 4,000 bronze stars, nine (9) Presidential Unit Citations, and 9,486 Purple Hearts. The 442nd saw the highest percent of casualties of any unit in the Army, earning it the nickname ''Purple Heart Battalion.''

Nisei men fought for the U.S. and its allies across Europe in many key battles. The 442nd waged eight major campaigns in France, Germany, and Italy. Most notably, the 442nd led a heroic drive into enemy lines to free the surviving 211 members of a Texas unit who were trapped by the Germans in the rescue of the Lost Battalion. The governor of Texas would later name them ''Honorary Texans'' for their actions. Additionally, the Japanese American soldiers liberated towns such as Bruyeres, Biffontaine, and Belvedere. They also freed Holocaust victims from one of the Dachau concentration camps in Germany.

Japanese Americans also served with great distinction in the Pacific Theater in the U.S. Army's Military Intelligence Service, MIS. Through their command of the Japanese language, they greatly facilitated Allied war efforts and the MIS is credited with shortening the war in the Pacific by at least two years.

As a Japanese American who spent part of my childhood in Amache internment camp in Colorado, I am humbled by the perseverance of these Nisei soldiers through the difficult struggle against racial prejudices and discrimination that they endured both during and after the war. Having valiantly fought to liberate the world from tyranny and oppression while their own families were imprisoned back home, the 100th Infantry Battalion, the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, and the Military Intelligence Service are true American heroes. The unrelenting patriotism of these veterans, now in their late 80s and early 90s, paved the way for reconciliation and redress, and the full racial integration of the Armed Forces thereafter.

Once again, Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting S. 1055 to grant the congressional gold medal, collectively, to the 100th Infantry Battalion and the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, in recognition of their patriotism and dedicated service during World War II.

TRIBUTE TO RICHARD SCOTT ALDEN

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, Riverside has been fortunate to have dynamic and dedicated community leaders who willingly and unselfishly give their time and talent and make their communities a better place to live and work. I rise today to recognize and honor one of those individuals: Richard ''Dick'' Scott Alden. Dick passed away at his home on Monday, September 20, 2010. He will be deeply missed.

Dick Alden was born July 27, 1931, in Hibbing, Minnesota and is the son of Alvin and Verne Alden. As a young man his family moved to Pasadena, California. Dick was a student in the Pasadena school system and upon graduation, served honorably in the United States Air Force.

After his service in the Air Force, Dick earned his college degree from Woodbury Business School in Los Angeles. He began working for Union Oil and later moved his young family to Riverside acquiring what eventually became Empire Oil Company.

During his active life in Riverside, Dick, along with building Empire Oil into a major petroleum and chemical distributor, devoted his time and resources to a number of community-based charitable organizations. He also was active in Republican politics and various local sports programs. Dick was known for his generosity to many charitable organizations and those who know him remember his sense of humor.

Mr. Alden is survived by his son Eric Alden of Huntington Beach and wife Martha; Daughter Michelle Fisher of Aliso Viejo; Daughter-in-law Ann Alden of Riverside; five grandchildren and two great grandchildren. Also surviving are Dick's sister Barbara Meza of San Clemente and a brother Gayle Alden of Auburn, Washington. Dick was preceded in death by his son Scott, who played an important role in the building of Empire Oil, and by his granddaughter Jennifer Stevens. Dick was especially impacted by the death of his son and granddaughter, two individuals that were remarkable in their own right. Dick will be buried in Olivewood Memorial Park, the same cemetery where Scott and Jennifer were laid to rest.

On October 2, 2010, a memorial service celebrating Dick's extraordinary life will be held at the Salvation Army Chapel in Riverside. Dick will always be remembered for his incredible work ethic, generosity, love of family, and sense of humor. His dedication to his family and community, especially the Salvation Army, are a testament to a life lived well and a legacy that will continue. I extend my condolences to Dick's family and friends; although Dick may be gone, the light and goodness he brought to the world remain and will never be forgotten.

GUARDIANS OF FREEDOM ACT OF 2010

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. RAHALL. Madam Speaker, today, I rise on behalf of all of America's National Guard and proudly introduce the Guardians of Freedom Act of 2010—a bill to elevate the Chief of the National Guard Bureau to a position on the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

The National Guard is one of our nation's longest standing institutions, empowered by Congress and providing to the states a highly trained and well equipped force to protect life and property.

Over the course of its nearly four hundred year history, the National Guard has remained a dual state-Federal force, providing security on the home front and fighting threats to our Nation and our freedoms all over the globe.

Our National Guardsmen are true American patriots. Theirs is a proud story of tradition, service, sacrifice, and uncommon acts of heroism. They make each of us so very proud.

Aristotle said, ''Men acquire a particular quality by constantly acting a particular way . . . you become just, by performing just actions . . . brave by performing brave actions.''

The American people owe an enormous debt of gratitude to our 362,192 men and women members of the National Guard in service to these great United States. These extraordinary individuals maintain the Guard's multi-mission role—providing nearly 33 percent of America's combat power globally. Yet, simultaneously and with great skill, from approximately 3,400 community-based armories they serve their fellow citizens in defense of our homeland, and in support to states and local civil authorities and emergency response needs.

For decades there has been a significant evolution in the missions and capabilities of the National Guard. As Major General Allen E. Tackett, the Adjutant General of the West Virginia National Guard so appropriately states, ''Not since World War II has the Guard been so vital to the overseas mission and not since the founding of our Nation has the Guard been so vital to the defense of our homeland.''

Madam Speaker, for 34 years I have been privileged to represent the people of southern West Virginia, and it is with humble sincerity I say, our West Virginia National Guard is a model example of the training, commitment to excellence and professional dedication to America's defense.

From the home front to the front lines, we call upon our National Guard to fulfill missions of public safety and security on and between our borders here at home, and send them to foreign lands to combat terrorism abroad. They are among the first called to aid in a domestic disaster and have often times been the last to leave a battlefield.

This year the National Guard marks its 374th birthday. Formed as colonial militias, the new colonies in North America depended upon the Guard to protect fellow citizens from Indian attack, foreign invaders, and later to help achieve our independence. Recognizing the militia's role for the newly formed United States, the Framers of the Constitution empowered Congress to provide for training and equipping the militias.

Since founding and through an historic journey of ''call outs'' and stand out missions—from the bayou communities ravaged by Hurricane Katrina to the frontiers of freedom during the Cold War, our National Guard has seen its Federal mission change.

Our National Guard has a duty and commitment to the citizens and communities of the states in which these soldiers call ''family'' and ''home.'' It is a military service tradition that has been challenged by long-term and multiple deployments to front lines in two active theaters, and in support of missions in all corners of the globe as directed by our Nation's Commander in Chief.

Therefore, it is not only our duty it is an absolute necessity, that Congress take action to elevate the Chief of the National Guard Bureau to a position on the Joint Chiefs of Staff to serve as an advocate and liaison for the National Guard of each State to inform of all actions that could affect their Federal or State missions.

In a Nation such as ours, it is a stunning reality that today we ask our brothers and sisters, husbands, and wives to serve around the

globe to preserve democracy and promote freedom. But in our country, where every voice counts, our Nation's active duty leadership excludes the voice of the Chief of the National Guard Bureau.

Congress must ensure the National Guard has appropriate input during the planning and budgetary process within the Department of Defense, and end the challenge to live with ''after-the-fact'' process, as is now the case.

As a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Chief of the National Guard Bureau would have responsibility and authority to advocate and coordinate the Guard's warfighting support and force provider mission with its homeland security and support missions to ensure the Guard has the resources to perform its multiple missions and fulfill its Constitutional role to our states.

Creating a Veterans' preference in the Transportation sector is very simple. It seeks to give America's veterans an opportunity advantage in the contracting process for their service to our country—a means to attach importance and to acknowledge our fellow Americans who have put their life on the line to preserve our way of life.

Madam Speaker, from the battlefield to the home fields, our National Guard—America's patriots—exemplifies sacrifice and commitment to duty.

I urge my colleagues to vote for Guardians for Freedom Act of 2010—so that we may respectfully and gratefully fulfill our duty to support the original intent of our Constitution for each state to maintain an organized militia with integrity—and, effectively support and acknowledge the great sacrifice so many willingly make for all of us.

TRIBUTE TO ATHENS-CLARKE COUNTY, GA AND THE NAVY SUPPLY CORPS SCHOOL

HON. PAUL C. BROUN

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the exceptional partnership that has thrived for 57 years between the community of Athens-Clarke County, Georgia, and the Navy Supply Corps School (NSCS).

For more than half a century, America's Supply Corps officers have viewed Athens as the birthplace of their careers. Before the school cast anchor in the southern college town of Athens, the institution resided in numerous locations, including Washington, D.C., Philadelphia, and Harvard University.

On June 4, 1953, the United States Navy purchased 58 acres of land in the Oglethorpe Historic District of Athens. The beautiful property held a rich history of education. Dating back to the 1860's, the property served as campus to Georgia University High School, the Confederate Military School, the School for Disabled Confederate Veterans, the University of Georgia's College of Agriculture and Mechanical Arts, the State Normal School, and Coordinate College. Its legacy of education continued with the commissioning of the Navy Supply Corps School on January 15, 1954.

The Athens community had established a rapport with the U.S. Navy prior to the school's arrival. During World War II, Athens was home to one of only five naval preflight schools in the nation. For the past 57 years, the residents of Athens-Clarke County have enjoyed a wonderful relationship with NSCS. They have also benefitted from the quality of students who studied there and retired officers who have settled in the Athens area. Since 1954, NSCS has launched more than 89,000 officers into successful careers, and on October 29, 2010, approximately 81 more officers will graduate, the final class to complete their studies in Athens. This storied institution has remained in ''The Classic City'' longer than any other location, making Athens truly the ''Cradle of the Supply Corps.''

As the Navy Supply Corps School prepares to set sail for a new facility in Newport, Rhode Island, the Athens campus will continue in its heritage of higher learning by serving as home to the University of Georgia and Georgia Health Sciences University's new medical school.

Madam Speaker, I honor the Navy Supply Corps School for the tremendous service it has provided, not only to the community, but for the entire nation. I applaud the exceptional partnership that has existed over the last 57 years among the Navy school and Athens-Clarke County, Georgia.

CONGRATULATING LEO P. VERGNETTI ON BEING RECOGNIZED BY THE COLUMBUS DAY ASSOCIATION OF LACKAWANNA COUNTY AS MAN OF THE YEAR

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. KANJORSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Mr. Leo P. Vergnetti, this year's recipient of the Columbus Day Association of Lackawanna County's ''Man of the Year'' award.

Mr. Vergnetti will be honored at the Columbus Day Association of Lackawanna County's 102nd annual banquet in Dickson City, Pennsylvania on October 10, 2010.

Mr. Vergnetti is a native of Scranton, Pennsylvania. He is the son of Anthony and Angeline Vergnetti.

Since 1972 he has owned and operated LPV Enterprises, Inc., the sole food and beverage vendor in the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton International Airport.

Since 1994, Mr. Vergnetti has been President of Vergnetti Consulting, Inc. He is also an agent with Northeast Insurance and Financial Consultants.

Throughout this career, Mr. Vergnetti has been dedicated to helping individuals suffering from drug and alcohol abuse and addiction. Since 1994 he has served as an Aftercare Coordinator and Counselor at Clear Brook, Inc., helping to organize intervention services and support groups with schools, churches and other community organizations.

He also serves as a liaison with the Lackawanna County Treatment Court, and has served on the Medical and Legal Advisory Board of the Pennsylvania Drug and Alcohol Commission for the Pennsylvania Attorney General's Office.

In addition to his dedicated work with drug and alcohol addiction support services, Mr. Vergnetti has generously donated his time to numerous community and public service organizations throughout Northeastern Pennsylvania.

He has served on the Board of Directors of the American Cancer Society Ball of Hope, the Northeast Theater Group, the Arts and Cultural Commission of Lackawanna County, the Lackawanna County Council on Transportation, and the Lackawanna County Council on Economic Development.

Mr. Vergnetti currently resides in Scranton. He has nine children, fifteen grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing Mr. Leo P. Vergnetti as the Columbus Day Association of Lackawanna County's Man of the Year. Throughout his career he has been dedicated to improving the quality of life in Northeastern Pennsylvania.

HONORING MRS. MARIE BOUCHER

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. MICHAUD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of Marie Boucher and to celebrate her 101st birthday.

Marie moved to Greenville, Maine with her husband Auguste Boucher in 1951, and she has been the oldest citizen of Greenville since 2006. She is a proud mother and grandmother with eight children, twenty-eight grandchildren, fifty-one great-grandchildren and nine great-great-grandchildren.

Marie is well known throughout Greenville for her gracious hospitality and prowess in the kitchen. She not only cooked for her large family, but also made sure the woodsmen who worked with her husband were well fed after their long days in the Maine woods. For several years, she took her cooking skills to the kitchen at the Log Cabin Restaurant, and Marie has remained active in her community throughout her life as a long time parishioner of Holy Family Church.

As an exemplary member of the Greenville community, Marie is an asset not only for her town but also her state, and she celebrates her birthday surrounded by family and friends.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring Marie Boucher for her contributions and in celebrating her birthday.

BIRTH DEFECT PREVENTION, RISK REDUCTION, AND AWARENESS ACT

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, one out of every 33 babies born in our country suffers from a birth defect, and one out of every five infant deaths in America is the result of a defect. Even those children who survive a defect grow up with a greater chance of illness and long-term disability. Perhaps most tragic of all, there are many times when these defects could be readily prevented.

That is why I rise in support today of H.R. 5462, the Birth Defect Prevention, Risk Reduction, and Awareness Act of 2010. This legislation establishes a grant program to revitalize the Nation's network of pregnancy risk information services.

These services offer pregnant women and their health care providers information and consultation regarding exposures to medications, chemicals, infections, and illnesses that may pose a risk of birth defects, a risk to the pregnancy, or a risk to the mother while pregnant. They also provide similar information on exposures during breastfeeding.

Fifteen years ago, there were over 30 such services across the country. Today, there are fewer than 15. State and private funding has provided inadequate support, and even those that remain open have sustained budget cuts of as much as 60 percent. And there are currently no Federal programs to provide support for these counseling services.

This bill remedies that oversight. It gives mothers the information they need to protect their children. And it will help reduce the frequency of birth defects in our Nation. I urge my colleagues to support it.

HONORING MR. BILL KLING FOR HIS SERVICE TO AMERICA'S VETERANS

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. William "Bill" Kling for his continued service to America's veterans. Mr. Kling's unwavering patriotism and continued dedication to America's heroes are to be highly commended.

Bill Kling served in the Navy during the Second World War. It was during his time in the Navy that Mr. Kling developed an unceasing devotion to his fellow servicemen. For over 35 years since, Mr. Kling has served his fellow veterans living in south Florida through community service and political activism.

Mr. Kling currently serves as the chair of the Broward County Veterans Council (BCVC), a coalition of 57 organizations in Broward and Palm Beach Counties that operates under a common plan to protect and implement benefits for veterans.

Uniting behind its mission "To Serve and Unite our Veterans," the BCVC has achieved substantial benefits for our veterans under Mr. Kling's leadership. As an advocate for better health care for veterans, Mr. Kling led the drive to build the new state-of-the-art Broward County VA Outpatient Clinic in Sunrise, FL. In addition to a successful campaign for a veterans state nursing home located in Pembroke Pines—a crucial service for veterans living in south Florida—Mr. Kling and the BCVC were also instrumental in delivering a VA hospital to Palm Beach, FL.

Mr. Kling's leadership has even had a national impact. Mr. Kling and the BCVC are responsible for the implementation of the handicapped parking signs that are now ubiquitous in shopping malls and public areas across America.

Bill Kling's most recent service to America's veterans has focused on national legislation and keeping the BCVC's member organizations informed so that they may act accordingly. Mr. Kling has been an outspoken critic of the military's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy and a leading voice in the fight for its repeal. Additionally, Mr. Kling has been actively working to ensure that military families receive the same benefits as private citizens under America's recent landmark health care reform. Mr. Kling's leadership will help 700,000 young adults whose families are members of TRICARE, which covers military families, become eligible for health insurance coverage.

I have always valued Mr. Kling's insights and advice, and I proudly salute his exceptional service to our nation's veterans and, indeed, to all Americans. Not only is Bill Kling an American hero, Madam Speaker, he is a living testimony to the spirit of national service and a true role model.

HONORING CRAIG ZIMPHER

HON. JOHN A. BOEHNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. BOEHNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize a fellow Ohioan and diligent public servant. Craig Zimpher, a friend and native of Piqua, Ohio, is retiring from Nationwide Insurance, after a dignified career in which he served both his country and the State of Ohio.

Craig began to distinguish himself as a young man while pursuing his education at the Ohio State University. While earning a B.A. and M.A in history, Craig served as a resident advisor in the dean of student's office, where he helped design the honors undergraduate residential program. To this day, he remains active in the Ohio State University alumni community. Upon his graduation, he served as a first lieutenant in the United States Army; and, in 1973, he continued his commitment to public service by going to work as the policy director for the minority leader in the Ohio House of Representatives. In this role, Craig advised legislative leaders on a broad range of public policy issues facing Ohio families and businesses. Subsequently, Craig served as the deputy assistant to former Ohio Governor James Rhodes, where he coordinated policy research, drafted legislative proposals for Ohio, and advised the Governor on state regulatory matters. In 1980, he became a member of the Governor's cabinet, serving as the chairman of the Ohio Industrial Commission, where he administered the State's insurance program.

At the end of this year, Craig, a Vice President of Nationwide Insurance, will retire after nearly 30 years with the company. Craig is well liked and respected by his colleagues. He is happily married to Park Zimpher, and they are the proud parents of three sons, Fletch, Peter and Nate. Craig is an avid student of history and enjoys fishing and golf, pastimes he will hopefully have more time for in the months and years to come. I want to thank Craig Zimpher for his service to his country and Ohio, and I wish him good health and Godspeed in his retirement.

CELEBRATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA'S NATIONAL DAY

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Republic of China as it celebrates its 99th National Day on October 10th, 2010. This festive holiday, known as Double Ten Day, celebrates the start of the Wuchang Uprising in 1911, which led to the collapse of the Qing Dynasty in China and the establishment of the Republic of China.

The Republic of China has become a model of economic and democratic success in Asia. Through the diligence and ingenuity of the Taiwanese people, their economy continues to flourish and has become one of the strongest in the region. In the last few decades, the Republic of China on Taiwan has held several democratic elections and peaceful transfers of power. The Republic of China continues to serve as a shining example of a free and democratic nation in Asia.

The United States and the Republic of China remain close friends and allies through their mutual commitment to democratic principles, freedom, and entrepreneurship. Madam Speaker, I would urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Republic of China as it celebrates the 99th National Day.

HONORING MOLINA HEALTHCARE

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Madam Speaker, as we celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month, I would like to bring attention to Molina Healthcare, a managed care organization that provides healthcare services to families and individuals eligible for government-sponsored programs.

Thirty years ago, Dr. C. Molina, an emergency room physician, saw a need to provide quality healthcare for patients regardless of their financial status. Consequently, Molina Healthcare was started.

Molina Healthcare is dedicated to addressing the disparities in healthcare in order to positively impact members' long term health and well-being. In addition, Molina Healthcare is devoted to serving the community and positively impacting the neighborhoods they serve.

The vision of Molina Healthcare is consistent during Hispanic Heritage Month. They understand the need to develop linguistically and culturally sensitive healthcare programs members. I applaud Molina Healthcare, for reaching out to low-income children and women in rural counties in Texas through the Children's Health Insurance and Prenatal Plan. Lastly, I congratulate Molina Healthcare, for being named the 2010 largest Hispanic-owned business in the United States by Hispanic Business Magazine.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF MR. JOE HUBBARD

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. COSTELLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the exemplary life of Mr. Joe Hubbard, a tireless advocate and dedicated servant for people in need.

For 50 years in the East St. Louis community, Joe Hubbard has been the person that people turn to when they have nowhere else to turn. When a single mother needs shelter and food for her children; when a family has seen all their possessions destroyed in a fire; when an unemployed father has lost all hope of finding a job; or when an elderly person comes to the end of life with no family or friends to see them through their final days, there has been one response—call Joe Hubbard.

Joe Hubbard learned about families in need the hard way. His father experienced a debilitating workplace injury when Joe was young, forcing his family into financial hardship and requiring them to accept assistance from others. No doubt this early experience, in concert with Joe's deep Christian faith and the example of some compassionate mentors, played a significant role in setting him on his life's mission of helping those less fortunate.

As a young man, Joe became involved with the St. Vincent de Paul Society and began to expand his work with the poor through that organization. Realizing the need to provide an organizational foundation to capitalize on Joe's dedication and energy, the Catholic Diocese of Belleville began Catholic Urban Programs with Joe as Coordinator, a position he has held to this day.

There are those who say that Joe Hubbard can accomplish more with one phone call than others could with a week's work. In the past 50 years, Joe has developed many contacts and knows how to pull the right resources together to solve a problem. But Joe Hubbard is not just a high-level administrator. Joe goes into the broken homes and squalid apartments to deliver assistance. He visits the sick and elderly and those in prison. He delivers the food and clothing to families. He holds the hands of people as they lay dying, listening to their final words and seeing to it that they are laid to rest with dignity.

Joe Hubbard has received many accolades for the work he has done ministering to the poor and needy in his community but that has never been what drives him. Joe's faith, his family and many friends and service to his fellow man are important to him. Joe has been quoted, "When you are created in the image and likeness of God . . . We all have a common bond of love." This statement probably best explains what has kept Joe Hubbard doing God's work for his fellow man for these past 50 years.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in an expression of appreciation to Mr. Joe Hubbard for a lifetime of compassionate care and to wish him the very best in the future.

CONGRATULATING JOSEPH A. PAGLIANITE ON RECEIVING THE ITALIAN AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF LUZERNE COUNTY'S LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. KANJORSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Mr. Joseph A. Paglianite, this year's recipient of the "Lifetime Achievement" award from the Italian American Association of Luzerne County.

The Italian American Association of Luzerne County will hold its 33rd annual Columbus Day Dinner Dance in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania on October 10, 2010.

The Association currently has over 200 members.

Each year, the Association honors one of its members with its "Lifetime Achievement" award. Members meeting broad criteria are nominated and the award is ultimately selected by the Association's Board of Directors.

This year's recipient is Joseph A. Paglianite of Dallas, Pennsylvania.

Mr. Paglianite was born in Wyoming, Pennsylvania on October 13, 1925. He is the son of Antonio and Mary Paglianite.

Mr. Paglianite graduated from Wyoming High School before working as a wielder and inspector in the aircraft manufacturing industry.

After a short time working in the aircraft manufacturing industry, Mr. Paglianite was motivated by his Uncle's pizzeria to change careers and enter into the pizza business. In 1953, he opened Joe's Pizza in Harveys Lake, Pennsylvania.

By 1960, with the help of his brother-in-law, Mr. Paglianite had transformed Joe's Pizza into Grotto Pizza, and they opened their first restaurant in Delaware. Over the next few years, Grotto Pizza's success in Delaware led to more locations throughout the state.

In 1988, a fire destroyed the original restaurant in Pennsylvania. Mr. Paglianite and his family rebuilt a new 650-seat restaurant on the original site, and two more restaurants in Edwardsville and Wilkes-Barre quickly followed.

Today, along with the three locations in Northeastern Pennsylvania, there exist eighteen Grotto Pizza restaurants in Delaware.

Mr. Paglianite's success as an entrepreneur has been an inspiration throughout Northeastern Pennsylvania.

This year, the Luzerne County Community College will open the Joseph A. Paglianite Culinary Institute. Mr. Paglianite has donated over one million dollars to LCCC for the development of the new Culinary Institute and a scholarship program for first-year culinary students.

Mr. Paglianite is a member of the Plymouth Rotary Club and a member of the Gate of Heaven Roman Catholic Church in Dallas.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating Joseph A. Paglianite on this auspicious occasion. His hard work and generosity will continue to live on in northeastern Pennsylvania for generations.

HONORING U.S. MARINE CORPORAL AARON HOWELL

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. HUNTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a true American hero, United States Marine Cpl Aaron Howell from Potsdam, New York. On April 22, 2010, during a mortar attack in Afghanistan, Corporal Howell lost both his legs and most of his fingers on one hand. Close to death, he somehow summoned the will to live. His life and his experiences are an inspiring lesson to us all about the selfless sacrifice and courage of the men and women serving in the military today. As Corporal Howell meets his latest challenge to rebuild his life, we know that this Marine will climb the next mountain and, with his courage and can-do attitude, will serve as an example to us all. I ask that this poem, written by Albert Carey Caswell, in the honor of Corporal Howell's extraordinary courage, be placed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

HOWELL?

Howell does one go off to war?
Howell do you walk though the valley of death, and yourself ignore?
Howell do you come back from the dead, and rebuild your life again once more?
Howell do you wake up and see your fine legs, and part of your strong hands so gone?
Howell do you find the courage, the strength to somehow move on?
Howell, do you raise your fine head up so high, and want to live, with tears in eye?
For only such things in a magnificent heart of courage so lie!
For only such things our Lord God up in Heaven, the courage so gives!
That against all odds, tells you I still have so much more to this our world to give!
For only such beauty, but comes and so emanates . . . from a heart where faith and courage live!
Yea, you Marine . . . who upon battlefield of honor were so bravely and so heroically seen!
As with your Brothers In Arms, who but did so such many most magnificent things . . .
Living and dying for each other, all in that most heroic hue of green . . .
All in that great glory and high honor, of being a United States Marine . . .
And when on that morning you awoke, all in your tears as you began to choke . . .
As it was when your fine heart so spoke!
Don't give in, don't give up . . . finding hope!
Just Howell, did you find the strength to cope!
Bringing the Angel's up in Heaven to tears, emote!
Just Howell, do you wake on each new morn . . . as oh Howell, you inspire us all with your life so worn!
As you Teach Us . . . as You So Beseech Us . . . as upon our souls your faith adorns!
For you are but the kind of Son, every Father on earth would wish for one!
As you make us understand just Howell Heaven is won!
And Howell against all odds, Thy Will Be Done!
Now, I know Howell!

IMPROVING ACCESS TO CLINICAL TRIALS ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 23, 2010

Mr. MARKEY of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, many years ago, I had the good fortune to meet Joey O'Donnell. Joey was the son of my close friend from Malden, Massachusetts, Joe O'Donnell. Joey was a brave and resilient child despite suffering from Cystic Fibrosis, CF, a cruel disorder that robs the body of the ability to breathe normally and leads to other debilitating health problems. As a result, CF typically cuts lives tragically short.

In 1986, Joey passed away when he was only 12-years-old. Because of Joey and the tireless work of his father Joe and mother Kathy, who encouraged me to intensify Government efforts to combat CF, I decided to found the Bi-Partisan Cystic Fibrosis Caucus in Congress. Our goal has been to raise awareness and build momentum towards a cure for CF, ALS, Parkinson's, Huntington's and other rare disorders.

I was pleased to partner with my colleague, Representative CLIFF STEARNS (R–FL), in passing the Improving Access to Clinical Trials Act and sending it to the White House to be signed into law. This bill will open up participation in clinical trials for diseases like CF to low-income and other patients. The bill excludes from the income caps set for the Supplemental Security Income and Medicaid programs the compensation that these patients receive for their participation in clinical trials for rare diseases The legislation will ensure that this modest compensation will not affect eligibility for these programs.

Patients will no longer have to choose between their health benefits and the promise of a clinical trial. If we want to increase the chances of finding cures to diseases like Cystic Fibrosis, we also need to increase participation in these trials. The Improving Access to Clinical Trials Act gives low-income individuals a higher probability to help advance medical science, and helps save lives in the process, hopefully including their own.

The bill we passed yesterday and the law that President Obama will enact with his signature is really ''Joey O'Donnell's Law''. He inspired it, and his name will forever be associated with it. Joey died before his time, but his impact will be timeless. I salute my friend Joe O'Donnell and his wife Kathy and send my best wishes to the entire O'Donnell family. I also want to recognize my friend Bob Coughlin, President and CEO of the Massachusetts Biotechnology Council, for his tireless work to help find cures to CF and other rare disorders. This new law will offer hope to families around the country and bring us closer to the day when we consign these devastating diseases to the history books.

TRIBUTE TO SHERIFF LARRY WILLIAMS

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a tremendous public servant, whose heart was bigger than his six-foot-seven-inch frame. Sheriff Larry Williams served the citizens of Orangeburg County as a law enforcement officer for 33 years. We have lost this beloved lawman, but his influence and compassion for the people he served will live on.

Larry Williams was born in Bamberg County in 1956, to the late George Williams and Willie Mae Carson Williams. He was educated in the public schools of Branchville, and went on to attend South Carolina State University. He later earned his bachelor's degree from Claflin University in Criminal Justice with a minor in Sociology. Sheriff Williams gave back to his alma mater, joining the faculty as an adjunct professor of criminology and forensic science.

His career in law enforcement began as a police officer in the City of Orangeburg Police Department in 1977. After two years, he became a residential deputy with the Orangeburg Sheriff's Department. He quickly rose through the ranks to become a supervisor, and in 2000, he was elected Sheriff.

He received numerous recognitions for his dedicated service. In 2003, the South Carolina Sheriff's Association selected him as Sheriff of the Year, an outstanding accomplishment for a first term Sheriff. That same year he was recognized as an innovative Sheriff of Homeland Security. He also received recognition from the U.S. Marshals Service for his commitment to Operation Intercept.

Sheriff Williams established himself as a formidable lawman, who was well respected for his efforts to reduce the crime rate in Orangeburg County. His effectiveness won him the prestigious Strom Thurmond Award for Excellence in Law Enforcement and the Regional Organized Crime Institute's 2007 Gold Medallion Award for Excellence in Law Enforcement. That same year, he was selected as the Orangeburg County Community of Character Award winner for the character trait of ''Citizenship.''

In 2008 Sheriff Williams received the Criminal Justice Award from the South Carolina Victim Assistance Network. In 2010, the Orangeburg County Sheriff's Department under his leadership was a finalist in the Crime Victims Services Award from the National Sheriffs' Association. He was also recognized with the Law Enforcement Commendation Medal by the Battle of Eutaw Springs Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution in 2010.

Sheriff Williams always worked to improve his service as a law enforcement official. In 2002, he graduated from the 82nd session of the South Carolina Sheriff's Institute of Longmont, Colorado. Then in 2009, he completed the 62nd session of the Law Enforcement Executive Development Seminar.

He served 3 years as a Crime Victim Services committee member for the National Sheriffs' Association. He was also a member of the South Carolina Association of Countywide Elected Executives, the executive board for the Salvation Army, the South Carolina Law Enforcement Officers Association, the Palmetto State Law Enforcement Officers' Association, and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. He volunteered his time with the United States Youth Games of South Carolina.

A man of faith, Sheriff Williams was a member of Canaan Baptist Church in Branchville and an honorary member of First Nazareth Baptist Church in Columbia.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues join me in recognizing this giant in the law enforcement community. Sheriff Williams was an extraordinary advocate of his beloved Orangeburg County and a wonderful role model for young people. He made a lasting mark on his community, our state and our nation. We all owe him a tremendous debt of gratitude, and we can best honor his memory by immolating his commitment to public service.

TRIBUTE TO RETIRING COLONEL ERIC N. SINGLE

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, it has come to my attention that Colonel Eric N. Single is retiring from the United States Air Force after 29 years of distinguished service.

Colonel Single received his commission in 1981 through the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps program at Auburn University, AL. He graduated from pilot training at Williams Air Force Base, AZ in 1983, and has extensive experience in the B–52G, B–52H and B2 bombers as an aircraft commander, instructor and evaluator. In 1991, Colonel Single deployed in support of Operation Desert Storm, flying 26 combat sorties in the B–52 over Iraq and Kuwait. He graduated from the U. S. Air Force Weapons School in 1992 and was selected as initial cadre for the B–2 program.

In 1998 Colonel Single took command of the 393d Bomb Squadron at Whiteman Air Force Base, MO, where he led the B–2 through its combat debut in the skies over Kosovo. Colonel Single not only led his Squadron to success in Operation Allied Force, he acted as flight lead and Mission Commander on the very first B–2 combat mission earning him a Distinguished Flying Cross and a place in aviation history. His courageous flight proved once and for all the true value of stealth and long range strike.

After his historic flight Colonel Single served on the Joint Staff in the Force Integration Branch. He went on to command the 5th Operations Group at Minot Air Force Base, ND and the 40th Air Expeditionary Operations Group on Diego Garcia, BIOT. Prior to his current assignment in Air Force Global Power Acquisition, Col Single served as the Vice Commander, 509th Bomb Wing, Whiteman Air force Base, MO.

Colonel Single is a Command Pilot with over 5200 hours. He has been awarded the Legion of Merit with oak leaf cluster; Distinguished Flying Cross with oak leaf cluster; Defense Meritorious Service Medal; Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters; Air Medal with three oak leaf clusters; Aerial

Achievement Medal; Air Force Commendation Medal; Air Force Achievement Medal; Combat Readiness Medal with four oak leaf clusters; National Defense Service Medal with bronze star; Southwest Asia Service Medal; Global War on Terrorism Service Medal; and Kuwait Liberation Medal, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Madam Speaker, I know the Members of the House will join me in paying tribute to Colonel Eric N. Single for his exceptional commitment to the United States Air Force and the United States of America.

MEDIA OUTLET FIRES JOURNALIST WHO CRITICIZED DEMOCRATS

HON. LAMAR SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Madam Speaker, for journalists who criticize Democrats, the punishment can be severe.

ABC's Washington, DC affiliate recently fired veteran anchorman Doug McKelway after he broadcast a negative report about President Obama and congressional Democrats, according to the Washington Post.

During the Gulf oil spill, McKelway reported that an anti-oil demonstration attracted protesters from ''far-left environmental groups.''

He also mentioned that President Obama accepted over $77,000 in campaign contributions from BP.

And he said that the Senate was unlikely to pass cap-and-trade legislation this year because Democrats don't want to ''propose a huge escalation in your electric bill'' before Election Day.

Although McKelway's comments were true, he was subsequently fired.

This is yet another example of the media protecting President Obama.

The media should give Americans the facts, not fire journalists who tell the truth.

COMMENDING JOEL WERNICK

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a man who has greatly improved the medical community of Georgia, Joel Wernick.

For over 20 years, Mr. Wernick has served as president and CEO of Phoebe Putney Health System in Albany, Georgia. Through his stewardship, Phoebe Putney has thrived. The number of physicians has doubled. The facility has grown by several million square feet, and state-of-the-art technologies are now available to the patients.

Phoebe Putney Health System is the region's largest employer, and is comprised of Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital, a 450–bed tertiary care teaching hospital and Phoebe Worth Medical Center, a critical access rural hospital. Phoebe Putney Health System also manages the Southwest Georgia Regional Medical Center, Georgia's first critical access hospital, in Cuthbert, Georgia. Phoebe Putney oversees the Southwest Georgia Family Medicine Residency and is the site for the Medical College of Georgia's first satellite clinical campus.

In 2008, Phoebe Putney Health System helped to rebuild and expand the Sumter hospital in Americus, Georgia, after it was destroyed by a tornado; Sumter Regional Hospital is now Phoebe Sumter Medical Center and is a diversified health care system, complete with Inpatient and Outpatient Diagnostic and Therapeutic Services, Outpatient Surgery Services, Hospice, Rural Health Care Centers, Migrant Health, School Nurse Program and numerous physician specialties and office practices.

Through Mr. Wernick's excellent guidance, Phoebe has been recognized nationally for excellence in clinical quality, operations and community health. In 2004, Phoebe was presented the prestigious American Hospital Association's Foster G. McGaw Prize. Additionally, the health system became the first hospital recipient of a Discovery Health Channel Medical Honor. Phoebe also has won three Voluntary Hospitals of America, VHA Leadership Awards and the American Hospital Association's Nova Award for an innovative teen pregnancy prevention program.

Mr. Wernick is a native of Arkansas and a proud Razorback, receiving his bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Arkansas, and earned his master's degree in hospital administration from Xavier University in Cincinnati, Ohio.

He is married to Stacy Wernick, née Paul. They have one daughter, Lilly Katherine. Besides his involvement with multiple local, state and national organizations, he takes time to teach as a member of the Georgia Southwestern MBA faculty. He has been a Rotarian since 1982, and is a Paul Harris Fellow.

Mr. Wernick is a Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives and is director of the VHA. He is also on the board of VHA-Georgia, the Georgia Alliance of Community Hospitals, and he is Chairman of the Medical Resource Network, a statewide managed care network. Mr. Wernick is actively involved in many local civic and economic development initiatives. He currently chairs the Southwest Georgia Alliance for Progress, a regional coalition to strengthen economic, educational and cultural infrastructures.

Madam Speaker, Joel Wernick has greatly contributed to the lives of those in his community and across the State of Georgia through his leadership of Phoebe Putney. This year, he has been recognized by Georgia Trend magazine for his significant contributions, having been named one of the State's top 25 leaders. According to Georgia Trend, he ''has guided the hospital to a period of historic growth in staff, revenues and new services, and has expanded the facility's presence in vastly underserved areas in Southwest Georgia.'' For his dedication to our region, I wish to commend and congratulate an outstanding leader and my friend, Mr. Joel Wernick, on this significant accomplishment.

MARKING ''TED HOGAN DAY''

HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. CONAWAY. Madam Speaker, on September 18, 2010, the city of Crane, Texas honored one of her own by proclaiming ''Ted Hogan Day.'' Today, it is my distinct pleasure to mark that day here in the United States House of Representatives.

Ted Hogan, Sr. was honored for his outstanding citizenship and his loyalty to the people of Crane, but his true worth to his community goes far beyond that.

As an active member of the Crane Lions Club, the Chamber of Commerce, the American Legion, the Masons, and several local churches, Mr. Hogan was a fixture in Crane, constantly devoting his time to make his hometown a safe, friendlier, and more prosperous city. I am particularly proud to brag on Mr. Hogan's work on behalf of the children and young adults in Crane.

Through the Boy Scouts, the Masons, his church, and more, Mr. Hogan has devoted his life to lifting and building up the next generation of Americans. His work has helped sick children receive medical care, turn boys into men, and give a moral foundation to the young people in his church. Every citizen in Crane, young and old, has benefitted from Mr. Hogan's generosity with his time and wisdom. It is a fitting tribute that they chose to honor him and the work he has done.

It is one of my great pleasures as a Member of Congress to share brief sketches of the life's work of my constituents with the Members of this House, and Mr. Hogan is no different. He is part of a generation of Americans who understood that our country can only be great if we give more than we take and we invest in the institutions that serve future generations of Americans. Our nation would be a better place if more Americans walked in his footsteps.

On behalf of the citizens of the 11th district of Texas, I would like to echo our neighbors in Crane and thank Mr. Hogan for his service to God, his family, and his community. I am humbled to be able to represent him in the halls of Congress.

CONGRATULATING ALTOONA CURVE

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to congratulate the Altoona Curve on winning the 2010 championship of Minor League Baseball's Eastern League.

The Altoona Curve is a Double-A affiliate of the Pittsburgh Pirates that began play in Altoona in 1999. This is the Curve's first title after four previous trips to the league playoffs.

The Curve are a hit in Central Pennsylvania. The franchise was named minor league baseball's best in 2006, and the team continues to provide great entertainment during the summer months for hundreds of thousands of loyal fans.

I would especially like to recognize Curve owner and Altoona native Bob Lozinak, his front office staff, manager Matt Walbeck, and the many Curve players this year who helped make 2010 a championship season in Altoona.

An entire region says thank you, congratulations on this accomplishment, and best wishes for continued success on and off the field.

CONGRATULATING BRIGADIER GENERAL DAVID J. ELICERIO

HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mrs. BACHMANN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Brigadier General David J. Elicerio of Ham Lake, Minnesota, upon being named the 34th Red Bull Infantry Division Commander. The Red Bulls hold a special place in the hearts of all Minnesotans, and I'm so pleased to congratulate Brigadier General Elicerio on his new role with the Minnesota National Guard.

Brigadier General Elicerio has served in the Minnesota National Guard for 30 years including a peacekeeping mission to Bosnia and two tours in Iraq. His leadership capabilities have led to a decorated career and a distinguished reputation in the Guard. From his experience as a senior staff member and having commanded troops at the company, battalion and brigade levels, Brigadier General Elicerio will bring a wealth of experience that I know will maintain the enormous confidence we have in our troops.

Madam Speaker, I ask this body to join me in recognizing Brigadier General Elicerio on this special occasion and to express our gratitude for his service and the sacrifices his family has made in dedication to preserving freedom in America.

TRIBUTE TO HONOR FLIGHT OF EASTERN OREGON

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. WALDEN. Madam Speaker, I rise on the occasion of Honor Flight of Eastern Oregon's inaugural journey of 10 of Oregon's World War II veterans to visit their memorial here in Washington, DC. On behalf of a grateful delegation, state, and country, we welcome these heroes.

The veterans on this initial flight from Eastern Oregon are World War II veterans: Bob L. Hemstreet, U.S. Army; Raymond ''Ray'' J. Kuhn, U.S. Navy; Lavonne ''Vonnie'' I. Kuhn, U.S. Navy; Arthur ''Art'' C. Krantz, U.S. Army; Walter ''Walt'' D. Goodman, U.S. Navy; Gifford S. Hulse, U.S. Army; Leonard ''Lenny'' V. Morse, U.S. Army Air Force; Minnie ''Marie'' M. Colombari, U.S. Navy; David A. House, U.S. Army Air Force; and Henry ''Milt'' M. Prowell, U.S. Army.

Madam Speaker, these 10 veterans from Oregon are joining over 35,000 veterans from across the country who, since 2005, have been transported from their home states to our Nation's capital at absolutely no cost to them or their families, to visit and reflect at memorials built here in their honor.

The fact that these soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines, and Coast Guardsmen would uproot themselves from their homes and families and put themselves in harm's way for our country is very humbling. The sacrifices they—and the families they left behind—made are truly incredible. The debt of gratitude we owe them can never be repaid, for without their honor, courage, commitment, and above all—sacrifice we would not be able to enjoy the freedoms we have today.

Please join me in thanking these Oregon veterans and the volunteers of Honor Flight of Eastern Oregon for their dedication, commitment, and service to this great Nation.

IN COMMEMORATION OF THE 99TH NATIONAL DAY OF TAIWAN

HON. DAVID WU

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. WU. Madam Speaker, October 10, 2010, heralds 99 years of the Republic of China (Taiwan). I would like to offer my congratulations and best wishes to the people of Taiwan in commemoration of this 99th National Day.

Taiwan is one of the United States' strongest allies and is dedicated to the principles of democracy, human rights, and the rule of law. I was deeply honored to meet with Taiwan's President Ma Ying-jeou at the beginning of this year, and I hope to someday welcome him and Taiwan's other high-level elected and appointed officials to our Nation's capital.

Moreover, in May I introduced H. Res. 1352, a resolution supporting the goals and ideals of Taiwanese American Heritage Week and recognizing the close relationship between the United States and Taiwan. Taiwanese Americans have played a critical role in strengthening the fabric of American society and in deepening the friendship and understanding between the peoples of the United States and Taiwan.

In celebration of the 2010 Double Tenth National Day, it is my hope that the United States, Taiwan, and the People's Republic of China can continue to work together to promote enduring peace and prosperity across the Taiwan Strait.

IN SUPPORT OF NATIONAL TRADEMARK EXPO

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my support for the United States Patent and Trademark Office's (USPTO) National Trademark Expo. In a time of ongoing challenges for the American and global economy, I want to join the USPTO in its efforts to recognize the vital role trademarks play in the economy. The 2008 and 2009 National Trademark Expos were very successful and well-attended by the trademark community and public at large. This year's two-day event will be held on Friday, October 15th, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturday, October 16th, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the USPTO headquarters in Alexandria, Virginia. The purpose of the Expo is to educate the public about the value and important role trademarks play in our society and the global marketplace.

Trademarks are words, names, symbols, sounds, or colors that identify and distinguish the goods and services of one party from those of others. The National Trademark Expo will display different types of trademarks such as sound marks and trademarks that identify shapes and configurations of products and will feature company booths, themed displays, costumed characters, and inflatables. Banners will feature information on century-old registered trademarks, the historical evolution and transformation of trademarks, and the history of people behind certain trademarks. The Expo will also feature children's workshops, story time and guided tours. Educational lectures for adults will include lectures on Intellectual Property for Small Businesses, ''Why Buy 'Legit': About Counterfeit Goods,'' ''How to File a Trademark,'' ''Top Mistakes in Trademark Applications and How to Best Avoid Them,'' and ''Trademarks 101.'' A video made to instruct pro se applicants will play in the National Inventors Hall of Fame Museum throughout the Expo. Also, the Museum's current exhibit highlights important food trademarks throughout the years.

During the Trademark Expo, costumed trademarked characters will introduce themselves during the opening ceremony and make appearances throughout the Expo, joining the USPTO's own Trademark character, T. Markey. A new cast of characters, including Clifford the Big Red Dog®, Lorax®, GEICO's Gecko®, Chick-Fil-A's® cow, The Berenstain Bears®, Dippin' Dots®, and a 5-Hour Energy® bottle character will join veteran Expo characters Pillsbury's Doughboy®, Hershey's Kisses®, Hershey's® milk chocolate bar, Reese's Peanut Butter Cups®, Crayola® crayons' mascot Tip, Betty Boop®, Dennis the Menace®, Popeye®, Olive Oyl®, Curious George®, and Sprout®. Large inflatable characters, including the Michelin® man, The Cat in the Hat®, Green Giant®, NFL® football players, collegiate mascots, and Chick-Fil-A's® cow will once again transform the USPTO's campus into a ''Trademark Theme Park''. Caterpillar® equipment and a NASCAR® show car for 5-Hour Energy® will also decorate the grounds. A story time featuring literary trademarked characters sponsored by Hooray for Books!, a local children's bookstore, will help tell the story of the prevalence of trademarks in our daily lives.

On average, people are exposed to 1,500 trademarks each day and more than 30,000 if they make a trip to the grocery store. In a time of globalization, counterfeit goods pose an increasing threat to American businesses. A display of counterfeit goods alongside authentic goods, as well as an anti-counterfeiting lecture, will highlight the damaging effects of counterfeit goods on the economy as well as the USPTO's anti-counterfeiting efforts. Counterfeit goods cost the United States billions of dollars and hundreds of thousands of jobs annually as well as undermining consumer confidence in brand integrity when purchasers encounter knock-off goods of inferior quality.

Some of America's leading large corporations, small businesses, governmental agencies, and non-profits will highlight the various types of trademarks and the benefits of Federal trademark registration. The exhibitors include CMG Worldwide Corporation; International Trademark Association, Inc. (INTA); U.S. Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration (ITA); National IPR Coordination Center, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE); U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP); Wells Fargo & Company; Innovation Ventures, LLC; American Intellectual Property Law Association, Inc. (AIPLA); Elevation Burger (Elevation Franchise Ventures, LLC); Idaho Potato Commission; Pepsom Group, Inc.; Dippin' Dots, Inc.; Caterpillar, Inc.; CFA Properties, Inc.; The Travelers Companies, Inc.; Hillerich & Bradsby Co. (Louisville Slugger); The Hershey Company; GED Testing Service; and GEICO.

The Trademark Expo will emphasize USPTO's role in reviewing trademark applications and issuing Federal trademark registrations. American innovation and its associated intellectual property are critical to job creation and economic recovery. Through the registration of trademarks, the USPTO assists businesses in protecting their investments, promoting goods and services in the U.S. and around the world, and safeguarding consumers against confusion and deception in the marketplace. I applaud the USPTO for its continued efforts to educate the public on the role of trademarks through the National Trademark Expo. I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the USPTO at this time when trademark protection and intellectual property rights play an increasingly important role in our global economy. And, I encourage the public and my fellow Members and their staff to bring their family and friends to this family-friendly and free event.

HONORING THE 100-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF SAINT MICHAEL'S UKRAINIAN GREEK CATHOLIC CHURCH IN HAZLETON, PENNSYLVANIA

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. KANJORSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to the 100th anniversary of Saint Michael's Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church in Hazleton, Pennsylvania.

The foundations of St. Michael's Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church began in the late 19th Century when Eastern European immigrants came to Northeastern Pennsylvania to work in its mining industries.

The first group of western Ukrainian immigrants settled in Hazleton in the 1880s.

In 1910 a small group of Ukrainian immigrants purchased a church in Hazleton from the local Lithuanian community for $5,700, and established St. Michael's Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church. Despite limited resources and through hard labor, the founders paid back the debt they owed in one year.

The Church initially had 70 member families in 1910, and by 1912 that number had doubled.

The Church, however, was in great need of repairs. Over the next 100 years, the members of the Church and its leadership would undertake extensive renovations to upgrade and maintain their place of worship.

The first renovations began in the 1920s, when Rev. Joseph Boyarchuk led the congregation to paint the interior of the Church. In 1926, despite continued hard economic times, Rev. Lawrence Zakrevsky led a renovation of the exterior of the Church.

After a fire damaged the Church in 1935, the exterior was again replaced in the 1940s under the guidance of Rev. Andrew Ulicky, and in 1949, a new tile floor was added.

During the 1950s, the interior was redecorated under Father Shymansky, and a $4,000 iconostasis was installed.

After St. Michael's Church was rededicated in 1954, further renovations continued. In 1957 the roof was replaced, and during the 1970s new doors were added and renovations were made to the property's sidewalks.

In honor of the Church's 75th anniversary in 1985, the windows were replaced and the Church's interior was again repainted.

Under the current leadership of Monsignor James Melnic, upgrades and renovations have continued to the building and its grounds.

On Sunday, October 31, 2010 the Church will celebrate its centennial anniversary with a Pontifical Divine Liturgy.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing this milestone. Over the past 100 years, the dedicated members of St. Michael's Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church have demonstrated great pride in preserving the religious community that their ancestors worked so hard to create.

HONORING HAROLD SHAW

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. MICHAUD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of Harold Shaw. Harold, a retired U.S. Coast Guard chief warrant officer and special education teacher at Lawrence Junior High School in Fairfield, Maine, has recently received recognition from the Troops to Teachers program. The Troops to Teachers program recruits quality teachers for schools that serve low-income families throughout America and assists military personnel as they transition to careers in teaching. Since its authorization in 1993, nearly ten thousand troops have participated in the Troops to Teachers program and brought unique expertise and insight to our classrooms nationwide.

Our veterans are called upon to learn extensive skills which they then need to teach to junior military comrades. They develop incredible patience, perseverance and leadership skills throughout their honorable service, and I cannot think of any group of individuals in our society that would be better equipped to handle the responsibility and honor of shaping the minds of the future in our Nation's classrooms.

Since starting at Lawrence Junior High School, Harold has used those skills everyday, and his classroom has become a safe haven for students. As his students and colleagues can attest, Harold is an exemplary teacher and has successfully helped reluctant students to read and write with confidence. Moreover, as someone who knows the meaning of hard work, Harold has continued to challenge himself and has worked to find innovative ways to use technology as a teaching tool in his special education classroom.

By choosing to teach after serving in the military, Harold has continued his public service and made a lasting difference in his community.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring Harold Shaw for his dedication and service to his country and community.

THE REAUTHORIZATION OF JOHANNA'S LAW

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of an important bill that enjoys strong and consistent bipartisan support—the reauthorization of Johanna's Law through 2014. This is an important vote. It will help to raise awareness of the warning signs for ovarian cancer. And it will, put simply, save lives.

Better awareness might have helped Johanna Silver Gordon—in whose honor the bill is named. Johanna lost her life to ovarian cancer despite being a health conscious woman who visited the gynecologist regularly. Like many women, Johanna had symptoms and clinical signs of ovarian cancer that were missed by both her and her healthcare provider. And her sister, Sheryl Silver, was determined never to let another sister, mother, daughter or friend go through the same thing.

This bill will help to make that happen. It reauthorizes the existing CDC program that educates women and their health care providers about the symptoms of ovarian cancer. And it includes new support for other organizations to carry out complementary education and awareness campaigns in order to get the word out about this terrible disease.

I want to thank Congressmen DARRELL ISSA, DAN BURTON, and SANDY LEVIN for their committed leadership on this issue. And I urge my colleagues to vote for this legislation. As Johanna's family can tell you, it really will make a difference.

H.R. 6193, THE FOSTER YOUTH FINANCIAL SECURITY ACT

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. LANGEVIN. Madam Speaker, last week I introduced H.R. 6193, the Foster Youth Financial Security Act. This legislation will prepare foster youth who are transitioning to adulthood to properly manage their finances and provide greater protections of their financial information while they are under the care of the state.

Foster children are disproportionately victims of identity theft because their personal information passes through many hands, increasing the chances that someone will open

an account in their name or use their Social Security Number (SSN). This bill would require that all foster children have their credit reports reviewed, and cleared if there is an inaccuracy, prior to leaving care. It would also end the use of a child's SSN as an identifier. Currently, there is no available data on how many children have been affected by identity theft; this legislation will track the number of stolen identities by state. The bill allows the states to obtain assistance from both the Department of Health and Human Services and the Federal Trade Commission on how best to protect their foster youth.

This legislation will also strengthen the financial security of foster youth and empower them to make responsible financial decisions as adults. Research shows that current and for former foster youth are more likely to forego higher education, be in poor health, become homeless, and rely on public supports as adults. This legislation would provide resources for a successful transition to adulthood by helping foster youth obtain a driver's license or state identification card, obtain auto insurance, open a bank account, and apply for student loans. This bill would also help foster youth determine if they are eligible for federal or state benefits and provide them with information on accessing health care and safe and affordable housing. Financial literacy classes would be available for foster children and their foster parents.

The Foster Youth Financial Security Act also provides seed money for each state to set up Individual Development Accounts for foster youth so they leave care with a nest egg to pay for housing, education, and job training. This bill would provide $45 million for the states to carry out the above initiatives and an additional $5 million for technical assistance.

I would like to thank my colleague, Congressman STARK, for joining me on this bill, as well as introducing H.R. 6192, the Foster Children Self Support Act, of which I'm a proud original cosponsor. These bills will provide foster youth with the tools they need and deserve to become successful adults.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize National Breast Cancer Awareness Month beginning Friday, October 1, 2010. This month also marks the 20th anniversary of the CDC's National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program (NBCCEDP), which provides breast health services to underserved women.

Breast cancer will strike 1.3 million women this year and kill almost 500,000 in the U.S. African American, Native American and Hispanic women are more likely to be diagnosed with advanced stages of cancer than white women, and the death rates for African American women are about 17% higher than those of white women. Even with the increase of breast cancer among minorities, there are 2.5 million breast cancer survivors living in the U.S. today—a testament to the power of education, early detection and advances in treatment.

Because early detection is the key to surviving breast cancer, NBCCEDP has provided breast and cervical cancer screening, diagnostics and case management services to low-income, uninsured women for the past two decades.

In 2009, NBCCEDP screened almost 325,000 women for breast cancer and detected 4,600 breast cancers. If those 4,600 women diagnosed with cancer last year did not use the NBCCEDP, they would have likely been diagnosed at later stages with larger tumors, when cancer is harder to treat and more deadly.

Despite efforts to eliminate disparities in breast cancer related care, substantial disparities remain, which is why I am proud to be the sponsor of H.R. 2279, the Eliminating Disparities of Breast Cancer Treatment Act, along with Representative DONNA CHRISTENSEN. This act ensures that every breast cancer patient, regardless of health insurance status, race, income, or educational background, receives adequate care through the development of standard best practices for breast cancer treatment.

Madam Speaker, I ask that we support the health and wellness of all women and continue to close the gaps in treatment among minorities by recognizing the month of October as National Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

HONORING THE BENZINGER FAMILY

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today with my colleague, Representative MIKE THOMPSON, to honor the Benzinger family, whose economic, environmental, and philanthropic contributions in the Sonoma Valley have earned its businesses due recognition as 2010 Sonoma Valley Business of the Year. Both Benzinger Family Winery and Imagery Estate Winery have pioneered a sustainable approach to agriculture and a humanitarian approach to business. Their active presence continues to strengthen and enrich Sonoma Valley communities.

Starting in the mid-1990s, Benzinger Family Winery began its transition into biodynamic agriculture. They eliminated chemicals and other artificial elements in favor of a more holistic and organic method that capitalizes on the vitality of a vineyard that is allowed to thrive in a natural state. Benzinger Family Winery has even been recognized by the National Resources Defense Council for its water conservation strategies. Imagery Estate Winery was founded in the same tradition, and the result is not only a greener footprint, but richer and more distinctive products that embody their unique places of origin. Indeed, Benzinger Family Winery and Imagery Estate Winery have earned reputations as producers of exceptional quality not only in California, but worldwide.

The Benzinger family has brought the same care and commitment to its active role in Sonoma Valley communities, supporting local charities and volunteerism. It has been particularly instrumental in supporting Becoming Independent, a North Bay nonprofit dedicated to empowering people with developmental disabilities, and its wineries are a regular presence at the Sonoma Valley Harvest Wine Auction. Earlier this year, Benzinger Family Winery also joined with the local Red Cross to support earthquake relief efforts in Haiti and in Chile.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join us in thanking the Benzinger family for its contributions to Sonoma Valley and in congratulating its wineries on their success and well deserved recognition. Benzinger Family Winery and Imagery Estate Winery are powerful examples of the value of community-minded business, and Sonoma Valley is stronger because of them.

HONORING PLANNED PARENTHOOD OF WISCONSIN

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Ms. BALDWIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 75th anniversary of Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin.

Since 1935, Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin has provided access to quality reproductive healthcare for women and men across the state. Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin plays an essential role in providing both reproductive healthcare for all and comprehensive sexual education. Additionally, they advocate tirelessly for women's reproductive rights statewide.

In 1935, the first birth control health center in Milwaukee and the state of Wisconsin, the Maternal Health Center, opened its doors. For the first time, women, men and families statewide had access to comprehensive sexual and reproductive healthcare. Nearly 15 years later, the Maternal Health Center affiliated with the Planned Parenthood Federation of America, defining their role as one of the lead reproductive healthcare providers in the state of Wisconsin. In 1964, Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin opened its first of many new neighborhood health centers, and in 1971 the organization officially became a statewide affiliate with 17 clinics opening throughout Wisconsin in the 1970s. By the mid-1980s, Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin had 30 health centers open statewide. Presently, there are 27 health centers, which provide care to over 70,000 patients, and education staff, which provide educational programming to over 14,000 patrons.

Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin's mission is to empower all individuals to manage their sexual and reproductive health through patient services, education and advocacy. For 75 years, Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin staff, donors and volunteers have helped to provide reproductive healthcare for all who need it, including those who cannot afford care. Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin continues to be at the forefront of sexual education and equips women, men and teens across the state with the knowledge they need to promote healthier, safer lifestyles.

For exceptional service to communities across the state, I would like to thank and honor Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin and congratulate them on celebrating their 75th anniversary.

CELEBRATING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE OPENING OF CARROLLTON CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 30th anniversary of the founding of Carrollton Christian Academy (CCA) in Carrollton, Texas. Since 1980, CCA has provided a first-class education to hundreds of students. Its expansions since opening include serving students across the world with its international program, begun in 2002. The school, which truly lives its mandate to provide a quality secular and theological education, has become a staple in the area and a boon to all who benefit from its creation and growth.

Under the leadership of director Constance Waddell, then-Sonshine Christian Preschool added a kindergarten program two years after inception. In 1985, it officially incorporated, and was re-named under its current designation. By 1994, only 14 years after opening its doors, CCA graduated its first class and was forced to expand due to increased interest. A new building—complete with classrooms, a gymnasium, and science and computer labs—was built, and opened in the fall of 1994. The school re-located in 2002 to its current location in Carrollton. Today, the school has an athletic field for football and soccer, and in June graduated 49 students.

There are many people to note for their contributions to CCA. In 1985, senior pastor Dr. Paul Morrell helped lead CCA to its renaming and incorporating. That fall, Dr. Morrell, Jeff Dixon, Carla Vaughn, and Marilyn Headley helped lead the school, and incorporators included Dr. Morrell, Ann Morrell, George Etier, Lamont Scarbrough, Carla Vaughn, John Collier, Cindy Shirley, and Doug Giffen. I thank these entrepreneurs for their efforts to improve the communities in which they lived.

I have experienced the high quality of CCA's education through my own childrens' attendance. Three of my four children went to CCA, and as a parent I could not be prouder of the experiences they received. In both formal education and theological growth, the benefits of CCA are seen every day in the hundreds of graduates and the positive influences those graduates have on their world. It is with great pleasure and pride that I ask all of my esteemed colleagues to join me in congratulating CCA for over a generation full of successful work for education in both the secular and religious traditions.

HONORING KIA SHAW, LAND O'LAKES, FL

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize Ms. Kia Shaw of Land O'Lakes, Florida. Kia recently received the distinguished title of National American Miss Florida and is the founder of Tampa Bay Teens on a Mission. TBTOAM is a community service organization which seeks volunteer opportunities for children. This organization currently has a total of 115 members. Ms. Shaw has proven to be a leader in youth involvement and has created a gateway for children to be actively involved in our community.

She has devoted her time and talents in the last ten months with more than 200 hours of community service; including service to such organizations as the Boys and Girls Club of America, YMCA, Metropolitan Ministries, Pinellas County African-American History Museum, Mount Calvary Deliverance Church, Lake Myrtle Baptist Church, "Dress for Success", Junior achievement, "Soles4Soles" and the St. Joseph's Children's Hospital where she donated $152.00 from her birthday money and over 100 stuffed animals, coloring books and crayons.

Kia Shaw is an incredible example that the leaders of tomorrow are already making a lasting impact in our community today. Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing Kia Shaw for her accomplishments, thanking her for her dedication and wishing her all the very best in the very bright future that lies ahead.

RECOGNITION OF CPL. LARRY A. DRAUGHN, JR. OF DAYTON, OHIO

HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. TURNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a real American hero, United States Marine Cpl. Larry A. Draughn Jr. of Dayton, Ohio. On May 30th, 2009, while out on patrol in Afghanistan, Cpl. Draught lost both legs and nearly lost his life during an IED explosion. I would like to thank him for his service to his country and place this poem, penned in honor of him by Albert Carey Caswell, in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

O . . . HI . . . O

O . . . HI . . . O
Are, all of those men who into the face of hell must go!
Marines, like Larry . . . whose courage upon battlefields of honor shows!
Shows us all, how high . . . to what new heights a soul can grow!
Who stand, so very high as do all of those!
For from this great Buckeye State, have but come such Marines with names so great!
Like the Right Stuff, John Glenn . . . Lima Company . . . all of those magnificent men who await!
Men, who go where Angels so fear to tread . . . who all for our nation have so died
And bled . . .
As upon battlefields of honor, their brilliant blood ran red!
Strength In Honor, Uhraaah Jar Head!
For Cpl. Draughn, for us you went into that valley of death. . . .
All for God and Country, as was your fine life was so pledged!
And on that morning when you awoke, and found your loss . . . as to you it spoke!
With your two fine legs gone, all that you had left was but your faith and hope!
As on the edge of death, your fine life lie barely left. . . .
As once again, you began a new most heroic quest!
To rebuild somehow, where none lies left!
Day by Day . . . Step by Step . . . as defeat you Marine, would not accept!
For you've got a life to lead and live . . . as you got up. . . . As gained speed!
For Marines Do . . . For Marines Succeed!
And for each other, they will so sacredly live, die and bleed!
As to new heights on this day Larry, all of us you so lead!
Teaching Us . . . Beseeching Us So . . . O . . . Hi . . . O, Larry high are you so!
As all in one short year, your strength . . . your courage, has so appeared!
For you are the kind of Son, any father would endear!
Showing us all how high, and far a heart can go . . .
Yes, Maximus . . . you are O . . . HI . . . O!

HONORING THE CITY OF BURKESVILLE, KENTUCKY

HON. ED WHITFIELD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. WHITFIELD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the bicentennial celebration of the town of Burkesville, Kentucky. I wish to recognize the town of Burkesville's history and its cultural contribution to our country.

Founded by Samuel Burkes, an early settler from Virginia, Burkesville has embodied small town virtues, patriotism, hard work, and the spirit of helping one's neighbor for just over 200 years. As a city on the border of Kentucky, Burkesville played an integral part in the American Civil War and the Cumberland River on the city's southern border served as a major natural barrier between opposing forces during the war.

In the present day, the Cumberland River has provided the City of Burkesville an economic engine due to its excellent recreation and the tourism it provides. Also known for its tourism and bass fishing is the Dale Hollow Lake located just south of Burkesville. Within the great state of Kentucky Burkesville is seen as a place that shows the pure heart and true character of the United States. Everyone who has had the pleasure to set foot within the City's old fashioned town square, myself included, has been able to appreciate the history that this unique town represents.

Madam Speaker, the City of Burkesville is an integral part of Kentucky's history and it is an honor for me to bring this great town to the attention of this House.

RECOGNIZING THE 99TH ANNIVERSARY OF TAIWAN

HON. JERRY MORAN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Madam Speaker, on October 10th, the Republic of China and Taiwanese Americans will celebrate National Day. The holiday, also known as Double Ten Day, marks the start of an uprising that led to the establishment of the Republic of China. Similar to Independence Day here, National Day is celebrated with parades and firework displays.

As the Republic of China, or as most Americans know it—Taiwan, celebrates its 99th anniversary, the people of Taiwan have much to be proud of. Taiwan is a modern democracy with a strong, advanced economy, and a proud culture.

But, like most any other country, Taiwan must remain vigilant in defending its 23 million citizens. Since passage of the Taiwan Relations Act in 1979, the United States has been an ally of Taiwan, helping it meet its defensive needs. Working in partnership, we can continue to meet the security challenges in East Asia to ensure peace and stability.

I therefore, urge all my colleagues to join me in congratulating Taiwan on its proud 99-year history.

FREEDOM TEMPLE OF ROCK HILL, SOUTH CAROLINA

HON. JOHN M. SPRATT, JR.

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. SPRATT. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the tenth anniversary of Freedom Temple Ministries in Rock Hill, South Carolina. The Church was founded on October 8, 2000, as a group of 38 people began ''Preparing for the Promise'' on the campus of Winthrop University. Freedom Temple Ministries now calls 215 Main Street in Rock Hill its home. The structure, called The Freedom Center, includes a sanctuary which seats 700, a gymnasium with a walking track, and 65 classrooms. Various youth and community outreach programs are housed here and the congregation looks forward to making the facility an intricate part of the Rock Hill community. Today, Pastor Herbert C. Crump, Jr. leads the congregation. Freedom Temple Ministries has made a significant impact on the spiritual wellbeing of its followers and will continue to serve God and country for years to come.

HONORING DR. VENKAT RAO

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Venkat Rao. On Saturday, October 30th, the Genesee County Medical Society will honor its outgoing president, Dr. Venkat Rao, at their annual Presidents' Ball to be held in Grand Blanc, Michigan.

Dr. Rao graduated from Guntar Medical School College and completed his residency and pulmonology fellowship in Chicago. After serving on the faculties of Loyola University School of Medicine and at the University of Illinois College of Medicine, Dr. Rao practiced medicine in Peoria, Illinois from 1986 to 1992. He relocated to the Flint area and now specializes in pulmonology-critical care and sleep medicine.

Active with the Genesee County Medical Society for many years, Dr. Rao is a member of the Board of Directors, represents Genesee and Shiawassee Counties on the Michigan State Medical Society Board of Directors, serves as a delegate to the Michigan State Medical Society House of Delegates and has served on several American Medical Association committees. Deeply committed to enhancing the overall health of people, Dr. Rao works to end the morbidity triangle of obesity, diabetes and smoking.

Married to Dr. Rama Devi Rao, the couple has two children. Daughter, Hima, and son, Bharat, are both pursuing careers as physicians.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in applauding the work, dedication and enthusiasm of Dr. Venkat Rao as he steps down as president of the Genesee County Medical Society. I admire his commitment to improving the lives of physicians and his compassion for his patients. I wish him the best in his future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO THE BROADCOM MASTERS PROGRAM

HON. JOHN CAMPBELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. CAMPBELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend Broadcom, one of the world's leading chip makers with headquarters in my congressional district, on their announcement of the Broadcom MASTERS (Math, Applied Science, Technology and Engineering for Rising Stars), a science fair program designed for students in the sixth, seventh and eighth grades.

The Broadcom Foundation has partnered with the Society for Science and the Public, SSP, to sponsor and run science fairs, which will involve over 100,000 students from over 350 SSP science fairs around the nation.

Of all those participating, judges will nominate 7,500 contestants to compete and, from that group, they will select 300 semi-finalists. Once the semi-finalists compete, 30 students will be chosen for the finals, which will occur in Washington, DC, in the fall of 2011.

The winner will receive a $25,000 scholarship from the Henry Samueli Foundation—Mr. Samueli is the founder of Broadcom.

I commend Broadcom for its efforts to provide this exciting opportunity for middle school students to showcase their interest in science, technology, engineering and math—what is commonly referred to as STEM education.

STEM education is an area in which the United States led the world for many years, but lately, has been consistently outperformed by several countries. This must not continue. America literally cannot afford to lag behind our competitors in math and science education. There are serious consequences for this failure and they impact the future of this country. We must be proactive in addressing the crisis of a shrinking next generation of American engineers, scientists, mathematicians, and chip makers, like those that propel a company such as Broadcom to success.

Programs like the Broadcom MASTERS will help to both ignite the imaginations of American students and show that math and science have fascinating applications in the real world.

Madam Speaker, I want to express my thanks to the Broadcom Foundation and the Society for Science and the Public for their continued good works, and I look forward to these exciting and inspiring science fairs.

TRIBUTE TO THE POINT BREEZE FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. ANTHONY D. WEINER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. WEINER. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the Point Breeze Fire Department in honor of its centennial anniversary. The Point Breeze Fire Department has provided a hundred years of service to the beachside communities of Breezy Point, Roxbury, and Rockaway Point, which are located on the Rockaway Peninsula in Queens, New York, the most populous barrier island in the country.

The Point Breeze Fire Department was established in 1910 and is one of the ten remaining volunteer fire departments in the city of New York. The original department had an operating charter for fifteen years, and in 1976 the Point Breeze Volunteer Fire Department was officially incorporated and recognized as a fire department by Mayor Abraham Beam.

The first fire house was located on Hillcrest Walk near Point Breeze Avenue, facing the bay. It was a wooden structure built above the sand that contained two hose reels and a large, mounted CO_2 extinguisher, all of which had to be pulled manually by the members to a scene of a fire. In 1938 another firehouse was built at 32 Point Breeze Avenue. It would remain the department's headquarters until 1975. The current home of the Point Breeze Volunteer Fire Department, constructed that same year is a modern facility that facilitates the needs of an effective fire department.

The neighborhoods protected by the Point Breeze Fire Department are geographically challenging. The Breezy Point Cooperative is surrounded on two sides by the Atlantic Ocean and on one side by Jamaica Bay. The residential homes are mostly located in the sand and require four wheel drive vehicles to reach them.

The Point Breeze Fire Department has assisted in several marine rescue operations, including the rescue of stranded fisherman and over 300 passengers from a ship named *The Golden Venture* in 1993. The department bravely responded to the World Trade Center attacks on September 11, 2001 and continued to assist the FDNY and NYPD in its rescue efforts at Ground Zero. Only a few months later the department was one of the first companies at the scene of the crash of American Airlines Flight 587 in Belle Harbor.

Today Chief Martin J. Ingram and seventy-five members of the department are responsible for protecting and serving the Breezy Point community. The Point Breeze Fire Department responds to over 125 calls a year which are a emergencies such as brush, car, and structure fires; car accidents; floods; storm-related accidents; downed power lines; boats in distress; and blackouts.

Point Breeze Fire Department and all of its members have faithfully served the many communities of the Rockaway peninsula. They have provided necessary services to an isolated part of New York City that rarely receives the attention it deserves. I am pleased to congratulate the department on the occasion of its centennial anniversary.

IN TRIBUTE TO BILL NIX

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. BERRY. Madam Speaker, I rise here today to pay tribute to my dear friend, and great Arkansan, Bill Nix. Bill spent his whole life in Arkansas as a cattleman, and was a friend to everyone he met. Regretfully, he passed away earlier this year and leaves behind a wonderful family, great memories, and a great many friends who will miss him forever. I ask my colleagues to stand with me and honor a man whom everyone was lucky to have known.

From the start, Bill was committed to Arkansas. He grew up in Ash Flat in Sharp County, Arkansas, which he would continue to call home for the rest of his life. After graduating from Ash Flat public school, Bill bought the Ash Flat Livestock Auction in 1958. To this day, the business continues to flourish.

Bill was always very involved in county and district fair boards, as well as the Cattlemen's Association. He always participated in Future Farmers of America livestock sales, where children would play the part of the cattle and hog sellers. Bill had a loving habit of always over-compensating the children for their cattle and hogs—he loved the livestock business and was always trying to encourage others to come into the business.

Above all else, family was the most important thing in the world to Bill. They stood by each other even in business. He and his wife, Alice, and their children worked side by side in the Sale Barn, which Alice continues to own and operate today. Through this labor of love, it is no wonder that this is the most successful business in the history of the city of Ash Flat.

IN HONOR OF JOSEPH C. ''PAPA JOE'' SMIDDY

HON. RICK BOUCHER

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. BOUCHER. Madam Speaker, Joseph C. ''Papa Joe'' Smiddy is truly a legend in southwest Virginia and beyond. Known for his folksy humor, Dr. Smiddy is widely revered for his endeavors on behalf of the University of Virginia's College at Wise (formerly known as Clinch Valley College), the college that he guided through its infancy and through years of growth as it became the outstanding institution of higher learning that it is today.

Before Clinch Valley College was established in 1954, there were no public colleges in Virginia west of Radford, which made higher education out of reach for most residents of southwest Virginia. The only 4-year, state-supported college in far southwest Virginia, the University of Virginia's College at Wise is also the only branch of the University of Virginia in southwest Virginia. Under Dr. Smiddy's tutelage, the college became a 4-year institution in 1970 with the awarding of Bachelor of Arts degrees. Bachelor of Science degrees were awarded in 1973, and Bachelor of Science degrees in Nursing were first awarded in 1996. U.S. News & World Report ranks the college as one of the south's top public liberal arts colleges. Dr. Smiddy's name and efforts will forever be linked to the success of the University of Virginia's College at Wise.

A native of Jellico, Tennessee, Dr. Joseph C. Smiddy began his career as an educator as a biology and chemistry teacher and band director. Later, he became a high school principal in Lee County, Virginia, after honorably serving his country as a member of the United States Army during World War II in New Caledonia and the Philippines. Dr. Smiddy was the first biology instructor at Clinch Valley College in 1954, continuing to teach there until 1984. He served as dean and director of the college before being named chancellor in 1968. Dr. Smiddy was forward-thinking in admitting African-American students to the college at a time when not many others were, and Clinch Valley College was co-educational a decade before the University of Virginia admitted women.

Since his retirement in 1985, Dr. Smiddy has continued to serve as ambassador for the University of Virginia's College at Wise and to work tirelessly on its behalf. Because of his efforts, innumerable students who would otherwise not have been able to do so have acquired a college education.

The numerous awards which Dr. Smiddy has received include the University of Virginia's College at Wise Alumni Association's Meritorious Achievement Award, the Wise County Outstanding Citizen Award, the Wise County Outstanding Educator Award, and the Kanto Award. He has been included in the Virginia Hall of Fame, and in 1981, he was named a laureate of the Virginia Cultural Laureate Center. Dr. Smiddy has received honorary doctorates from Lincoln Memorial University, his alma mater (1970); the University of Richmond (1975); and The College of William and Mary (1985).

Dr. Smiddy recently achieved an important milestone by celebrating his ninetieth birthday. He remains a vibrant member of the community of Wise where he lives with his wife, Reba. His daughter, the Honorable Elizabeth Smiddy Wills, is a juvenile and domestic relations court judge for the 30th judicial district of Virginia. His son, Dr. Joe Frank Smiddy, M.D., is a pulmonologist in Kingsport, Tennessee. An active Kiwanian for decades, Dr. Smiddy is also a lifetime deacon of Wise Baptist Church. He uses his gifts as musician and storyteller to share the music and history of the Appalachian Mountains with others not only in Virginia but across the United States and in several foreign countries. His renown as an educator will forever endear Joseph C. Smiddy to the citizens of far southwest Virginia and to all those whose lives have been touched by the institution to which he has dedicated himself, the University of Virginia's College at Wise.

HONORING MR. JOHN WERNER KLUGE

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the accomplishments of Mr. John Werner Kluge, who recently passed away on September 7, 2010, in Charlottesville, Virginia. Mr. Kluge's lifetime of achievements included being a world-renowned businessman and philanthropist, as well as a key contributor to our national security during the Second World War.

Mr. Kluge created Metromedia in 1960, which was the Nation's first major independent broadcasting entity, a conglomerate that grew to include seven television stations, 14 radio stations, the Harlem Globetrotters, the Ice Capades, radio paging and mobile telephones. Although his success as a businessman supplied him with vast wealth, acknowledged as the wealthiest man in America in 1989 by Forbes Magazine, he believed some of his greatest achievements came from the benefits society gained from his wide-ranging donations.

Mr. Kluge gave a total of more than $63 million to the University of Virginia throughout his lifetime, which has allowed one of our Nation's most prestigious Universities to maintain itself in the top-tier of colleges nationwide. His donations to medical programs provided crucial aid to disabled and chronically ill children, while his involvement in prostate cancer research has led to groundbreaking advancements towards containing the disease once being detected. He also believed in the need for better end-of-life care, which led him and his wife, Tussi, to provide funding to establish professorships in the field at the University of Virginia. In 2000, his generosity even reached the Capitol through his $73 million donation to the Library of Congress, of which he will always be remembered by the Kluge Prize for the Study of Humanities.

But perhaps his most important contribution was one that he is least known for. Mr. Kluge enlisted in the United States Army in 1940. In 1942, during World War II, he was promoted to Captain and appointed as the senior officer at the top secret military intelligence post located in Fort Hunt Park, along the George Washington Memorial Parkway. The top secret post was known only by its mailing address, P.O. Box 1142. While there, Captain Kluge led the men and women at the post in reviewing top secret documents and performing interrogations of more than 4,000 important German prisoners of war. Through the efforts of his unit, our military was provided with crucial information that helped end World War II and give the United States an early advantage in the Cold War. Even more impressive were the tactics he used to obtain such information. Rather than physical torture, Captain Kluge honored the Geneva Convention by obtaining information from prisoners through earning their trust. It was a clear contrast from the approach we initially pursued with captured terrorists and suspected terrorists at Guantanamo and Abu Ghraib prisons. Through casual conversation, card games, and taking walks, he and his unit were able to extract vital information that led to the discovery of most of Germany's secret weapons programs that included research to develop the atomic bomb, the jet engine, and the V–2 rocket.

Madam Speaker, I wish to commend Mr. John W. Kluge on his lifelong accomplishments and contributions to society, as well as for the crucial service he provided our country with at a time of war. While he was a man of numerous successes, he was also a man of endless generosity. He refused to ask for recognition or acknowledgement for his numerous charitable donations, but instead preferred the

grins and smiles from those who knew him well. Mr. Kluge was not only an outstanding soldier and American, but most importantly an outstanding human being.

HONORING CAPTAIN RON SMITH

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Captain Ron Smith, United States Navy, upon his retirement. His remarkable Navy medical career will end on October 8, 2010 but the fine innovations and the legacy of his work in the areas of psychiatry and addiction treatment will continue.

In short, his contributions to the field of political psychology, specifically Psychoanalysis and Alcoholism, are unmatched.

Upon graduation from Amarillo High School, Dr. Smith enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. He was soon after appointed to the United States Naval Academy, graduating with the class of 1966. He attended the University of Texas Medical School and completed an Internal Medicine residency at the Mayo Graduate School of Medicine and Naval Hospital San Diego. Dr. Smith was the first physician trained in critical care medicine by the U.S. Navy, completing his fellowship at the University of Southern California Center for the Critically Ill in Los Angeles in 1976. He soon became one of the first physicians involved in Navy Alcohol treatment and with Captain Joe Pursch was instrumental in the founding of the Betty Ford Center.

He left the Navy in 1978 and as a civilian Dr. Smith founded the emergency medicine residency program at Loma Linda University Medical School. During this time, he and his brother Richard Smith worked together to start the Winners Foundation which offered free substance abuse treatment at Santa Anita and other race tracks in the Thoroughbred Racing industry throughout the world. His interest in addiction and recovery led to an interest in the psychological growth during the middle and mature years of life, which led him to complete his psychiatry training at Loma Linda, where he also taught emergency and critical care medicine.

He returned to active duty in 1992 as a psychoanalyst and contributed as medical consultant for the Honorable Jim Ramstad for the Ramstad-Wellstone bill which was eventually passed in 2008 as the Parity Act. I was fortunate to have the opportunity to accompany Dr. Smith in his capacity as an Emergency Physician on one of Senator ARLEN SPECTER's world-wide congressional delegations. Senator SPECTER enabled Dr. Smith to meet many world leaders and contribute significantly as a political psychologist.

Dr. Ronald Smith is Board Certified in Internal Medicine, Emergency Medicine, Psychiatry, and Addiction Medicine. He completed his psychoanalytic training at the Southern California Psychoanalytic Institute in Beverly Hills, California and has a Doctorate in Philosophy of Psychoanalysis. Since 2002, lie has been annually recognized by the Consumer's Research Council as one of America's Top Psychiatrists in Psychoanalysis and Alcoholism.

Ron is married to Dr. Anita Alexandra Gadhia Smith, an accomplished author and practicing psychologist in Washington, D.C. They have three children and six grandchildren.

I wish Dr. Smith all the best as he continues his work in private practice and in his lobbying efforts for the treatment of our homeless and mentally ill in hospitals instead of jails, and for the decriminalization of addiction. He will continue to carry my own admiration, and that of all who have had the privilege to serve with him.

HONORING CHRISTINE M. WISEMAN AND HER APPOINTMENT AS THE 19TH PRESIDENT OF SAINT XAVIER UNIVERSITY IN CHICAGO

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. LIPINSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Christine M. Wiseman, who began serving as the 19th president of Saint Xavier University in Chicago on June 1, 2010. Her commitment to Catholic education and her strong credentials ensure that she will lead Saint Xavier University to new heights during her tenure.

President Wiseman has a long record of excellence in academia. Prior to her appointment at Saint Xavier, she was Provost and Professor of Law at Loyola University of Chicago. She directed the academic division at Loyola, which is the largest Catholic research institution in the United States. Before leaving for Loyola University in 2007, she served as the Vice President for Academic Affairs at Creighton University, where she led strategic planning and reaccreditation efforts. She was also Associate Dean for Academic Affairs at the Marquette University Law School and Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs at the University, making her the first woman to reach senior administration at Marquette. Her experience as a high-level administrator at Creighton University, Loyola University in Chicago and Marquette University will certainly benefit her as the leader of Saint Xavier.

The basis for a good education is quality instruction, and President Wiseman has a strong record in teaching as well. In 1991, she received the Marquette University Faculty Award for Teaching Excellence. Her decades of teaching experience at Loyola, Marquette, and Creighton will help her make instruction a top priority at Saint Xavier University.

President Wiseman has also been honored multiple times for her public service. She was named the Wisconsin Civil Liberties Union Volunteer Attorney of the Year in 1989 and the Spirit of the Law School recipient in 2003 at Marquette for being a role model to the school's students. Her commitment to public service and the disadvantaged will have a strong impact on the students of Saint Xavier University.

Saint Xavier University is a Catholic university with over 5,000 students and was founded in 1846 by the Sisters of Mercy. Its main campus is located in the Mt. Greenwood neighborhood of Chicago. The school was rated as one of the top 40 comprehensive master's universities in the Midwest by U.S. News and World Report in 2009 and will only improve its academic and service standards under the guidance of their new President Christine Wiseman.

I ask you to join me in honoring President Christine Wiseman on her appointment as president of Saint Xavier University, and may she and the university enjoy many continuing years of prosperity and academic excellence.

CONGRATULATING TAIWAN ON THEIR 99TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. CONYERS. Madam Speaker, congratulations to Taiwan as they celebrate their 99th anniversary on October 10, 2010. We are happy to see such a vibrant democracy blossoming in East Asia.

Due to the ubiquitous tension between Taiwan and China (neighbors across the Taiwan Straits) Taiwan's President Ma is in a very difficult position. Every day he must walk the tightrope between improving the relationship with mainland China and making sure that Taiwan does not lose its unique identity that makes their county so special.

To this end, President Ma is handling the challenge masterfully. Many areas of the relationship between the Republic of China (Taiwan) and the People's Republic of China (mainland China) have improved dramatically since President Ma took office.

Without question, the most significant evidence of the improved relations between China and Taiwan is The Economic Cooperation Framework Agreement (ECFA). This is a formal agreement between the two sides that aims to reduce commercial barriers and increase trade between the two countries. Three years ago this would not have been even thought of as possible, yet today this agreement is in effect as of September of this year.

Additionally, the following are further evidences the improving relationship between Taiwan and China:

Daily flights between the two countries are not only now occurring, but due to high demand, the number of flights and destinations have had to be increased.

China, who blocked Taiwan's access to participate in any part of the World Health Organization (WHO) for the last 38 years, has granted Taiwan the honor of observer status at the World Health Assembly (WHA) arm of the WHO.

Both China and Taiwan have agreed to share crime data and law enforcement services with one another to help reduce illegal activity in the area.

All of this has been done while still allowing Taiwan to operate as an independent nation with its own government, military and currency.

I ask my friends in Congress to congratulate Taiwan on their 99th anniversary as we hope to continue our friendship with them for their next 99 years.

INTRODUCING A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEAS OF THE DECADE OF ACTION FOR ROAD SAFETY

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution supporting the goals and ideas of the Decade of Action for Road Safety. This is a critically important issue, as millions of people in every corner of the globe are affected by traffic accidents, inadequate public policies, and underdeveloped or neglected transportation infrastructure. The United States can take the lead in furthering the goals of the Decade of Action declared by the United Nations General Assembly, saving millions of lives and billions of dollars.

The leading cause of death for people ages 5 to 29 is not disease or war but road crashes. Nearly 1.3 million people are killed in road crashes every year and another twenty to fifty million are injured in traffic accidents. On average, over 1,000 people under the age of 25 die every single day on the world's roads. And these numbers are going up dramatically.

Madam Speaker, the world cannot afford such needless, heartbreaking losses. In addition to the catastrophic human costs—not only the lives lost but amongst their friends and families as well—road crashes cost the global community over $518 billion a year, an enormous sum when you consider that many of the countries most plagued by road crashes are underdeveloped or developing nations.

The global community must build on the initial, important steps already taken to enhance international cooperation to improve road safety. In November 2009, the Moscow Declaration, signed by 150 countries, encouraged the establishment of a Decade of Action for Road Safety from 2011 to 2020, and laid the foundation for United Nations General Assembly Resolution 64/255 adopted in March 2010. This U.N. resolution recognizes that the devastation caused by road crashes negatively impacts the social, economic, and health targets of the Millennium Development Goals, and reaffirms the importance of international collaboration during the Decade of Action.

It is critical that the nations of the world work together to stabilize and reduce traffic fatalities by taking advantage of opportunities at the global, national, regional, and local level. The United States can set an example for the rest of the world by improving transportation management, infrastructure, vehicle safety, education, and post-crash care and rehabilitation here at home. We must continue to support public policies designed to reduce key risk factors like speeding, drunk driving, distracted driving, and the failure of many Americans to use seat belts, child restraints, and other safety devices.

Madam Speaker, this Decade of Action for Road Safety has not been declared to merely raise awareness, but also to take action. We all use roads, cars, buses, and bicycles every day. It is easy to take our safety for granted. But too many tragedies remind us that road fatalities and injuries have an enormous impact on our lives. This resolution expresses the House of Representatives' support for the Decade of Action and encourages the federal government to support efforts to reduce road fatalities, preventing needless deaths and injuries both here at home and around the world. I appreciate the support of my good friends Congressman CHRIS VAN HOLLEN and Congressman DAN BURTON on this matter, and urge my colleagues to support this important resolution.

HONORING REV. ADOLPH NOBLE, SR.

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Rev. Adolph Noble, Sr., of Bainbridge, Georgia, a man I am proud to call my friend and constituent. He is an accomplished public servant who has devoted his life to his family and his community.

Rev. Noble was born August 22, 1955, in Thomasville, Georgia, to Smiley Noble and Betty Jean Noble née Melvins. He grew up in Southwest Georgia, and graduated from Bainbridge High School in 1973. After completing his studies in Mortuary Science at the John A. Gupton College in Atlanta, Georgia, he then went on to study at the Meadows College of Business in Albany, Georgia.

Upon successfully completing these academic endeavors, Rev. Noble began his lifelong call of ministering to others. He went on to study at the Southern Baptist Seminary in Tallahassee, Florida. From there, he has served his community as a pastor, ministering for over forty years.

Thirty of these years have been spent at Pilgrim Rest Missionary Baptist Church in Bainbridge, with several years spent preaching at Patterson Street Free Will Baptist Church in Dothan, Alabama. Rev. Noble continues to minister to both of these parishes today.

Rev. Noble is deeply involved in the many civic and religious affairs in his community. He served as the Past Moderator of the First Flint River Baptist Association, as the President of the Bainbridge/Decatur County Civic and Progressive League, and as a member of the Decatur County Chamber of Commerce, the Fourth District Funeral Service Association, and the Georgia State Funeral Service Association.

In addition to his ministry and community outreach, Rev. Noble is also Owner and Funeral Director of Guyton Brothers Funeral Home in Bainbridge.

Rev. Noble has been, and continues to be, very blessed in his family life. He is married to Sonja Noble née Tyler, and he is the proud father of four children and the proud grandfather of five grandchildren. His kind demeanor and unyielding compassion has endeared him to many.

Madam Speaker, the State of Georgia, especially the Second Congressional District, is truly blessed to have benefited from the tremendous counsel, and ministry of Rev. Adolph Noble, Sr. We greatly appreciate his guidance, leadership, compassion, and intense desire to help others and better his community.

INTRODUCTION OF THE HEAVY TRUCK TAX FAIRNESS ACT

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Heavy Truck Tax Fairness Act. Nothing is more essential to restoring the economy, revitalizing our communities, and protecting our environment than the effort to rebuild and renew America. The U.S. faces steep infrastructure challenges. Our infrastructure inventory is in poor repair and much of it is outdated—not just decades, but often centuries old. Our effort to rebuild and renew that infrastructure is stalled because of a funding impasse. The Highway Trust Fund nearly exhausted its funding several times recently and it is clear that our existing funding mechanisms are insufficient to meet our current, much less future, needs. Congress must consider new revenue sources to meet our infrastructure challenges and must work with transportation users to find the most efficient means of raising this revenue.

The funding sources for the Highway Trust Fund can be volatile, depending on the health of the economy. Current law places a 12 percent tax on the sale of new heavy trucks, trailers, and certain tractors. This tax is an important source of Highway Trust Fund revenues. In times of economic stress, these sales fall dramatically, badly limiting Trust Fund resources. These lost sales have several important effects. By reducing revenue to the Trust Fund, the decline hinders economic productivity by imposing costs from poor infrastructure. It also reflects an increase in the average age of the trucking fleet. New trucks have significant environmental and safety advantages, and Congress should reduce the barriers to new truck acquisition. To meet the demand for new trucks, most truck manufacturers will add employees, as most have significant engine and final assembly operations in the U.S.

The Heavy Truck Tax Fairness Act would replace the 12 percent excise tax currently levied on new truck, trailer, and certain tractor sales with a revenue neutral increase in the diesel fuel excise tax of $0.073 per gallon. This modest change will be revenue neutral over 10 years and will have the effect of smoothing resources available to the Highway Trust Fund and will ensure the U.S. can continue investing in our vital transportation infrastructure.

I also note that this legislation does not affect all transportation stakeholders equally. In particular, smaller companies and owner-operators could see fewer benefits. I pledge to work with affected groups as this legislation advances to ensure that the legislation, as enacted, is as carefully tailored and broadly beneficial as possible.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN ED REGENOLD

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. BERRY. Madam Speaker, I rise here today to pay tribute to John Ed Regenold, a

passionate public servant, a devoted family man, and my friend. In February of 2005, John Ed was appointed State Highway Commissioner by Governor Mike Huckabee, where he has continued to be an important force in Arkansas.

Outside of his work as Commissioner, John Ed has made a point to be an active voice in the public discourse for improving the State of Arkansas. He has served on numerous commissions and boards such as the Arkansas Economic Development Commission. He is also a member of the St. Francis Levee Board and is a commissioner for the District 17 Drainage District.

Whenever and wherever he found a place he could help others, John Ed put his energy wholeheartedly and humbly into the job. He found a home as the Chairman of the Mississippi County Hospital System Board and as a member of the Arkansas Northeast College Foundation. Among all these accomplishments he also found the time to serve as a member of the board of the First National Bank of Blytheville.

John Ed is one of the smartest minds Arkansas has ever seen, and without people like him guiding the way, the State would be a much different place. His career is a reflection of his compassion, intellect, and commitment to improving Arkansas. I ask all my fellow colleagues to rise and honor with me the great work of John Ed Regenold.

IN HONOR OF THE RETIREMENT OF HEINZ K. SIMON FROM THE LAS COLINAS ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Heinz K. Simon, the retiring Vice Chairman and former President and Chairman of the Las Colinas Association Board of Directors. Heinz is a valued member of the Irving, Texas community and has dedicated decades of service, economic planning, and community improvements to the association and its surrounding communities. Since 1973, Heinz and his wife, Allison, have resided in Las Colinas, and in 1996 Heinz moved the corporate office of Industrial Properties Corporation to Las Colinas. As the former CEO and Chairman of Industrial, Heinz understood the dynamic business environment Las Colinas possesses. Heinz also raised his two children in this community.

Since moving to Las Colinas, Heinz's contributions to the community have been tremendous. In addition to being on the Association Board for over 10 years, he has served as the Chairman for Irving's Tax Increment Finance District. This position allowed him to push for a development project within the Tax Increment Finance District boundaries in Las Colinas. Furthermore, Heinz was the primary force behind The Las Colinas Park Foundation, a 501-(c)(3) organization that works to beautify parks and open spaces across Irving. In addition to other projects, the Foundation has replanted numerous trees and put both a statue and a sculpture in two parks within the community.

It was at Heinz's urging that the Urban Center Task Force Committee was organized in April 2006 to encourage the city of Irving to look at the needs of Las Colinas. As Chairman since its inception, Heinz has gotten involvement on the Committee from the mayor of Irving; two city managers and their staffs; and numerous city organizations. The group has encouraged the burying of overhead utilities, the construction of the Lake Carolyn promenade, and kept the interests of Las Colinas at the forefront of discussions among city leaders.

Though he retires from the Las Colinas Association Board of Directors with many accomplishments, Heinz is not done improving his community. He currently serves as the director/trustee of the Stemmons Foundation, a charitable trust established in 1963 to benefit Dallas-area cultural, educational, and scientific communities. It is for this continuous dedication to the Las Colinas area and its surrounding communities that I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Heinz K. Simon's retirement from the Las Colinas Board of Directors.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF MR. DAVID NEWBY

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Ms. BALDWIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the career and achievements of Mr. David Newby, President of the Wisconsin State AFL–CIO, as he retires from his esteemed position.

David served as president for sixteen years, but his roots in fighting for social equality run much deeper. He began his dedicated fight against injustice during his time as a teacher at the Tuskegee Institute in Alabama. From 1965 to 1968, he faced off with racial discrimination in the South, organizing and participating in protests and sit-ins to counter the actions of the local chapter of the Ku Klux Klan. In 1968, David began work on a Ph.D. at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He quickly became involved in the union movement. As Steward of the Teaching Assistants Association, David was able to gain recognition from the administration through union strikes and other actions.

In 1982, David first stepped into a labor leadership role when he was elected President of the Madison Labor Council. He possessed the ability to motivate local members to come together on issues and express their views as one voice to the national AFL–CIO. A supremely principled man, David had no qualms about speaking out against union-backed candidates or policies. In 1986, he won a tough election for Secretary-Treasurer. He continued to ruffle feathers as he expressed his distaste for America's military actions abroad, never backed down from striking against plant closings, and continually pushed to attract new and more committed union members. Finally, in 1994, David easily won the presidency of the Wisconsin State AFL–CIO.

Over the past sixteen years as president, David has only increased his effort to fight for what he believes is right. As the representative of the Midwest on the national AFL–CIO Executive Council, he helped lead the federation's opposition to the Iraq War. He continued to work tirelessly to build stronger connections between local labor leaders, community leaders, workers, and organizations to support students' rights, civil rights, women's rights, and countless other causes. In a time when so many are suffering because of the economy, David has fought to keep jobs from going abroad and to ensure competitive wages and benefits for union workers.

In a piece reflecting on the election of President Obama, David wrote, ''But no gains are freely given. We have to seize the moment, focus our energies, and assure that the victory will indeed be ours.'' These bold words embody the essence of the American spirit, and it is clear that over the past fifty years, David has come to epitomize this spirit. Although colleagues may disagree with his beliefs or fiery spirit, they always come away with nothing but the utmost respect for David.

May his stalwart dedication, vision, and lifelong commitment to the highest ethical standards continue to serve as an inspiration for us. I join the greater Madison community, the entire state of Wisconsin, and those who continue to fight for their beliefs throughout our great nation in honoring Mr. David Newby's achievements and thanking him for his lifetime of service.

MEDIA USE ''CONSERVATIVE'' LABEL MORE OFTEN THAN ''LIBERAL''

HON. LAMAR SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Madam Speaker, the national media label political candidates and organizations ''conservative'' far more often than ''liberal.''

For example, during the last year, the New York Times, the Washington Post, and the Los Angeles Times used the word ''conservative'' almost twice as often as ''liberal'' in political news stories, according to an internet search.

Furthermore, by margins of 3 to 1, the newspapers used the term ''far right'' more often than ''far left'' and ''right wing'' more frequently than ''left wing.''

And the term ''extreme right'' appeared five times more often than ''extreme left.''

This disparity shows the media's liberal perspective. To them, ''liberal'' is actually ''mainstream,'' and therefore not worth mentioning.

But Americans describe themselves as conservative rather than liberal by a margin of 2 to 1.

The national media should give Americans the facts, not use biased language.

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR GENERAL ROBIN RAND

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, let me take this means to pay tribute to Major General Robin ''Baba'' Rand, the Director of the

Legislative Liaison for the Office of the Secretary of the Air Force. After serving in this capacity for over a year, General Rand has been selected to become the Special Assistant to the Vice Chief of Staff of the Air Force. I am honored to commend General Rand for his many years of service to the United States Air Force.

A 1979 graduate of the United States Air Force Academy, General Rand distinguished himself early on as an exceptional pilot. First tapped to be an Instructor Pilot and Flight Examiner, he went on to serve as an F–16 Weapons Officer and later served as the Commander of the 36th Fighter Squadron at Osan Air Force Base in the Republic of Korea.

After attending the Naval War College in Newport, Rhode Island, General Rand took an assignment as a policy planner in the Directorate for Strategic Plans and Policy on the Joint Staff at the Pentagon. He then returned to the Republic of Korea, taking command of the 8th Fighter Wing, ''The Wolfpack'', at Kunsan Air Base with follow-on wing command tours at the 56th Fighter Wing at Luke Air Force Base and the 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing at Balad Air Base in Iraq. Based on his experiences in Iraq, General Rand was chosen to be the Principal Director for Middle East Policy in the Office of the Secretary of Defense at the Pentagon. In his most recent assignment as Director of Legislative Liaison, General Rand has been a steadfast advocate of the mission of the Air Force and of the 689,000 Total Force Airmen and their families.

Madam Speaker, Major General Robin ''Baba'' Rand has served his country well, and he will no doubt continue to do so. I wish General Rand; his wife, Kim; and their children, Brooke and Bryson; the best of luck in the days to come.

CONGRATULATING CHARLES J. GRAZIANO ON BEING NAMED PERSON OF THE YEAR BY THE ITALIAN AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF LUZERNE COUNTY

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. KANJORSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Charles J. Graziano on being honored as this year's ''Person of the Year'' by the Italian American Association of Luzerne County.

The Italian American Association of Luzerne County will hold its 33rd annual Columbus Day Dinner Dance in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania on October 10, 2010.

The Association currently has over 200 members.

Each year, the Italian American Association of Luzerne County recognizes an individual who has shown distinguished service to the organization and the community as its ''Person of the Year.''

This award honors an individual who has displayed dedication and leadership in the Association. It also recognizes an individual who has volunteered their time throughout the community, and an individual who over the past year has promoted Italian American culture, preserved Italian American traditions, and worked to instill family values.

This year's recipient is Charles J. Graziano of Pittston, Pennsylvania.

Mr. Graziano was born in Pittston on September 6, 1950. He is the son of Joseph and Mary Leo Graziano.

Mr. Graziano graduated from Pittston Area High School in 1968 before attending Wilkes College where he studied Commerce and Finance.

After graduation from Wilkes College in 1972, Mr. Graziano attended The American Academy and McAllister Institute of Funeral Service in New York City. He graduated from the Academy in 1973.

For the past 37 years, Mr. Graziano has worked as Funeral Director at the Graziano Funeral Home in Pittston Township. He is the third generation of the Graziano family to operate the funeral service over the past 110 years.

A lifelong resident of Northeastern Pennsylvania, Mr. Graziano is a member at St. Rocco's Roman Catholic Church.

Mr. Graziano currently resides in Pittston with his wife, Mary Lou. They have two children, Joseph and Silvana.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating Mr. Charles Graziano on this auspicious occasion. His lifelong commitment to the Northeastern Pennsylvania community illustrates he is most deserving of this achievement.

RECOGNIZING THE CAREER OF MR. SAM WOLF

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. COSTELLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the distinguished career and significant regional contributions of Mr. Sam Wolf.

Sam Wolf, a resident of Granite City, Illinois, served 18 years in the Illinois House of Representatives from 1974 until he retired in 1992. Among his more notable accomplishments during his time in the General Assembly was legislation establishing community college voting sub-districts. This was important to ensure equitable representation of the different geographic areas covered by a community college district.

Sam Wolf has been a strong proponent of Southwestern Illinois College and was a driving force in the establishment of the college's Granite City Campus in 1984. Sam worked to secure funding for the Industrial Technology Center at the Granite City Campus and the development of the Automotive Collision Repair Technology program there. Sam has been a member of the Southwestern Illinois College Board of Trustees since October 1995.

In recognition of Sam's tireless efforts to expand and improve Southwestern Illinois College, the Granite City Campus is named the Sam Wolf Granite City Campus. This is a fitting tribute for a man who has done so much to provide quality educational opportunities for current and future generations.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in an expression of appreciation to Mr. Sam Wolf for his many contributions to the Southwestern Illinois region and to wish him the very best in the future.

TRIBUTE TO CHIEF MASTER SERGEANT STEVEN J. PERRAULT

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual from the 44th Congressional District of California who has dedicated his life to defending the people of this country and preserving the basic freedoms and liberties that we hold dear. I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Chief Master Sergeant Steven J. Perrault for his 23-plus years of dedicated service in the United States Air Force.

Chief Perrault enlisted in the Air Force on January 15, 1988, as an Administrative Specialist assigned to Westover Air Force Base, Massachusetts. He served for two years in this role prior to transitioning to Vehicle Operations. After three years, Chief Perrault then moved to his first duty station and worked as a recruiter at Hanscom Air Force Base, Massachusetts.

During his career, Chief Perrault was assigned as a Line Recruiter, which is primarily responsible for new enlistees, and an in-service recruiter which helps Regular Air Force members transfer into the Reserve Component. Due to his knowledge and skills he was selected for a Headquarters assignment helping oversee both the Operations and Training Branches of Recruiting Service at Robins Air Force Base, Georgia in 2000. Chief Perrault took on the tough assignment as a Senior Recruiter and was responsible for a new operating location in Denver, Colorado that managed all in-service recruiters assigned to the Midwest portion of the United States. In August 2005, after laying the ground work for success in Denver, Chief Perrault was assigned to Wright Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio as a Senior Recruiter.

In August 2007, he was chosen as the Superintendent for the Western Recruiting Squadron. Since that time, Chief Perrault has been instrumental in meeting their annual recruiting goals for the ninth straight year. During his career, Chief Perrault has been directly responsible for helping to recruit more than 8,500 airmen into the Air Force Reserve and has contributed to the continued success of the Air Force Reserve Command Recruiting Service.

Most recently, Chief Perrault has served as Superintendent, Western Recruiting Squadron, March Air Reserve Base, California, Air Force Reserve Command. In this role, he has been responsible for coaching and mentoring the 96 enlisted personnel assigned to the squadron as well as ensuring congressionally mandated end-strength manning for reserve units across 17 states, one U.S. territory, and in three countries.

Chief Perrault could not have been such a tremendous leader without the love and unfailing support of his wife Senior Master Sergeant (retired) Cheryl Perrault and their four children: Technical Sergeant Cassandra Casul, Senior Airman Shane Perrault, Kyle Perrault, and Ms. Ashlie Wendt. Helping to build his foundation for success early in life were his father Robert Perrault, his step-mother Carol; his mother Karen Gardiner and his step-father Sergeant Major (retired) Dennis Gardiner.

Madam Speaker, I join my colleagues in expressing our sincere appreciation to Chief Master Sergeant Steven J. Perrault for his outstanding service to both the United States Air Force and our great nation. Chief Perrault will retire from the United States Air Force service with more than just his experience, decorated career and remarkable accomplishments. He will also have served as a shining example and constant reminder of what it means to be an American patriot and leader. I am grateful for his service and salute him as he retires from the United States Air Force.

INTRODUCING THE SAVE THE BAY HOME OWNER ACT OF 2010

HON. JOHN P. SARBANES

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. SARBANES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Save the Bay Homeowner Act of 2010. This legislation would allow the 17 million citizens of the Chesapeake Bay watershed to become citizen stewards of the Bay and give them an active role in restoring it.

The bill directs the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to develop a ''Save the Chesapeake Bay Home'' designation program that identifies various steps homeowners could voluntarily take around their property to reduce nutrient and sediment runoff and improve water quality in local streams and rivers that feed into the Bay. If a participating home meets certain standards, such as installing rain barrels or reducing fertilizer on their lawns, that home could be designated a ''Save the Chesapeake Bay Home.'' The legislation further directs the EPA to give credit to states and local jurisdictions for nutrient and sediment level reduction based upon the number of homeowners that achieve the ''Save the Chesapeake Bay Home'' designation.

Under the Clean Water Act, the EPA must develop a Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) because the Bay has failed to meet water quality goals and segments of the Bay are classified as ''impaired'' water ways. The TMDL will limit the amount of nitrogen, phosphorous and sediment that may enter the Chesapeake Bay and its tidal tributaries based on what is required to restore the Bay. Each state within the watershed will be required to meet pollution limits and water quality goals under this new framework. There are different ways that state and local governments can meet these standards but many require relatively expensive infrastructure upgrades or storm water runoff retrofits. This bill gives those state and local jurisdictions a voluntary tool to meet TMDL standards while engaging the 17 million citizens of the Chesapeake Bay watershed. Furthermore, if states and local jurisdictions receive credit towards their TMDL limit for ''Save the Chesapeake Bay Homes,'' they can pass along those saving to homeowners who choose to participate in the program through reductions in their water and sewer bills or their property taxes—a meaningful incentive for citizens who do right by the Bay.

Madam Speaker, to truly Save the Chesapeake Bay, we need the 17 million people who live in the Bay's watershed to become citizen stewards of the streams and rivers in their community. If each individual within the watershed were to contribute to clean-up efforts, even in small ways, the aggregate would yield significant results in moving Bay restoration forward. I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting this legislation.

HONORING GENESEE COUNTY COMMITTEE FOR COMMUNITY PEACE

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, on Saturday, October 2nd, the Genesee County Committee for Community Peace will dedicate a statue of Mahatma Gandhi on the campus of the University of Michigan-Flint. The statue, the first of its kind in Michigan, will be installed in the Peace Park in celebration of Peace Day.

The Genesee County Committee for Community Peace has been celebrating Peace Day in Flint Michigan for over 15 years. The Committee is part of the Chinmaya Seva Samiti of Flint. Over the years they have sponsored several events including essay writing competitions, building of a sports field for the underprivileged, painting a peace mural, honoring a Peace Maker annually, and the creation of the Peace Park. Their goals are promoting peace, teaching ways of harmonious co-existence, and educating future generations on the principles of peace and nonviolence. The University of Michigan-Flint, the Community Foundation of Greater Flint, Dr. and Mrs. M. Nagaraju, the Genesee Intermediate School District and the Genesee County Medical Society Alliance are represented on the Committee.

Mahatma Gandhi said, ''I offer you peace. I offer you love. I offer you friendship. I see your beauty. I hear your need. I feel your feelings. My wisdom flows from the Highest Source. I salute that Source in you. Let us work together for unity and love.'' In keeping with his sentiments, the Committee believes in embracing the unifying features of all different beliefs and ethnicities and strives to pass on this wisdom to the next generation.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the dedication, efforts and enthusiasm of the Genesee County Committee for Community Peace to promote unity, and enhance peace in Flint and Genesee County. I pray that their work to create a more harmonious world is successful.

A TRIBUTE TO MR. BRAD MORAN

HON. RANDY NEUGEBAUER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize Mr. Brad Moran for being inducted into the Tech University Mass Communications Hall of Fame.

Brad received a Bachelor's Degree in Business from Texas Tech in 1982, making him the first college graduate in his family. While attending Texas Tech, Brad worked as an afternoon disk jockey. After graduation, he went to work for his father at KJTV–34 as a national sales manager. In 1985, Brad and his father decided to make their station a FOX affiliate. The father-son team also launched a Spanish-language station, Telemundo 46. Since then, Brad has launched several successful news and interactive talk radio shows under the name of Ramar Communications. Most recently, the Ramar radio group launched TT 104.3, the Texas Tech University athletics station.

Not only is Brad Moran a successful broadcaster, but he is also very active in the community. He has served on, and chaired, numerous fundraising committees for Lubbock. A few of these include the Lubbock Area United Way, American Cancer Society, South Plains Area Food Bank, and Lubbock Rotary Club. Brad continues to support Texas Tech from academics to athletics. He is a member of the Chief Executives Roundtable for the Rawls College of Business and has committed to begin a scholarship endowment for the Texas Tech College of Mass Communications. Additionally, Brad has served on numerous committees of the Lubbock Chamber of Commerce, and he is currently serving on the Chamber's Board of Directors.

A few noted accolades and awards Brad has received include the 1999 LAF Silver Medalist; 2003 Alexis de Tocqueville Society Award for his community dedication through philanthropic and human service; and the Lubbock Chamber's 2006 Businessperson of the Year Award.

I am enormously appreciative to Mr. Brad Moran for his contributions to Texas Tech and the Lubbock community. Those in District 19, including myself, congratulate him on being named to the Hall of Fame and extend to him our best wishes for his future endeavors.

TEJANOS OF WORLD WAR II

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, America honors Hispanic Heritage this month. I would like to recognize some of Texas' heroes who served their country in body and deed, held up the torch of bravery and, in turn, were awarded Medals of Honor for their actions.

Born in San Marcos, Texas, Cleto Rodriguez enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1944, where he served as a Private in Company B, 148th Infantry, 37th Infantry Division. On February 9, 1945 in Manila, while crossing a railroad station, Cleto's platoon was stopped by intense Japanese gunfire. Without being ordered to do so, Rodriguez and a fellow soldier, Private First Class John N. Reese, Jr., left the platoon and marched straight into the enemy volley. For two and a half hours, charged on conquest, Rodriguez and Reese killed over 82 Japanese soldiers and paved the way for an American victory at the railroad station that day. Sadly, Reese was killed in action defending his friends and country. For his ''determination to destroy the enemy and courage in the face of tremendous odds,'' Rodriguez was awarded the Medal of Honor. He became the first Mexican American GI to be given this award in the South Pacific.

Private First Class Silvestre Herrera, drafted to the U.S. Army in 1944, was a seasoned

veteran. He had been stationed on the front lines in Germany for several months. A part of the 36th ''Texas'' Division, Herrera had experienced the most violent fighting in the Central Europe campaign when the Allies closed in to deliver the finishing blow on Nazi Germany. As Americans advanced toward the border, German resistance mounted. That day, Herrera's division, the 142nd Regiment, neared the French-German border town of Mertzwiller. When orders were given to advance the town, Herrera, being a scout, was 400 yards ahead of his company. The regiment was suddenly overwhelmed by machine gun nest fire from the enemy. Armed with only a bayonet and an M1 hand rifle, Herrera single-handedly captured eight German soldiers and sent them to American lines. However, upon gearing up for a second attempt to end the gunfire, he stepped on an anti-personnel mine that blew off both his feet. Despite the intense pain and loss of blood, Herrera continued to fight and kill two more German soldiers. His presence enabled his comrades to lead a full frontal attack on the enemy position. For his heroism that day Silvestre Herrera was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor.

And last, but certainly not least—a hero from Congressional District 2. One of twelve children from a large Mexican American family, Lucian Adams was born in Port Arthur, Texas in 1922. The summer of 1944, Adams was stationed near the town of Saint-Die in the Mortagne forest of France. With supply lines cut off by the Germans, Adams was sent out as a scout for his company and alerted the commander of three enemy machine gun nests. He was given orders to ''go on out there and make a breakthrough to get those GIs.'' Armed with a borrowed Browning automatic rifle, Adams and his men started walking in a heavily wooded area of the forest. Having only walked 10 yards, enemy machine guns killed three men and wounded six others almost instantaneously. The company ran to take cover. However, Adams charged forward. He killed nine Germans, shot lobbying grenades, eliminated three enemy machine guns and forced two German infantrymen to surrender. In a matter of 10 minutes, Adams had successfully cleared the woods of enemy soldiers and reopened the severed supply line. Adams was dubbed ''The Texas Tornado'' by his company men and received the Medal of Honor in 1945.

The Medal of Honor is the nation's highest award for gallantry in action and is only given to the bravest of the brave. It is the American symbol of knighthood. Men like Rodriguez, Herrera and Adams deserve only the utmost respect from their countrymen. They are statues of strength—true visions of valor. With a thankful heart, I tip my hat to the Texas heroes who fought and are fighting for liberty. America salutes you.

And, that's just the way it is.

HONORING APPLETON FIREFIGHTERS CAPT. RICK JAMES, CAPT. MIKE WOODZICKA, DOUG VRECHEK AND MIKE BECKER

HON. STEVE KAGEN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. KAGEN. Madam Speaker, I rise here today to pay tribute to Appleton firefighters Capt. Rick James, Capt. Mike Woodzicka, Doug Vrechek and Mike Becker, as they are inducted into the Wisconsin Fire and Police Hall of Fame for saving the lives of four young children. As friends, family and colleagues gather to pay tribute to their courage and bravery, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring these outstanding individuals.

On December 29, 2007, Capt. Rick James, Capt. Mike Woodzicka, Doug Vrechek and Mike Becker valiantly rescued four children from a burning house in my hometown of Appleton, WI. The children, who were all under the age of seven and included 15-month-old twins, were trapped in the house, unable to escape. The firefighters acted swiftly and heroically, rescuing the children within four minutes of arriving at the scene.

In recognition of this courageous act, the firefighters were inducted into the State of Wisconsin Fire and Police Hall of Fame on September 10, 2010. The Hall of Fame recognizes firefighters and police officers in Wisconsin who have performed a heroic act, been an innovator in advancing the productivity or safety of services, or who have provided exceptional community service.

Madam Speaker, without questions, the service of Capt. Rick James, Capt. Mike Woodzicka, Doug Vrechek and Mike Becker has been selfless and exemplary, and their induction into the Wisconsin Fire and Police Hall of Fame is very well-deserved. I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting these truly heroic members of our community.

HONORING MICHELLE STAUFFER

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Michelle Stauffer upon her retirement from Wawona School.

Mrs. Michelle Stauffer has spent the past 29 years serving as a teaching principal at Wawona School; a kindergarten through sixth grade, one-room elementary school in Yosemite National Park. Wawona School has been serving the children that live in the park since the late 1800's. Park rangers, firefighters and other National Park Service employees rely on this community school, and Mrs. Stauffer, to educate and nurture their children. During its existence, the school has educated the children of many Yosemite pioneer families, including the Washburn, Bruce and Gordon families.

Mrs. Stauffer is dedicated to providing a solid education for the students. Field trips to Washington DC, museums, live theater and the San Francisco Opera are part of the curriculum at Wawona School. Mrs. Stauffer believes these field trips are an important part of exposing her students to life outside of the park.

Mrs. Stauffer is an extraordinary person and educator. She is dedicated to the Yosemite community and especially to her students. She is committed to providing her students with the very best education in the most nurturing environment possible.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Michelle Stauffer for her dedicated service to the students of Wawona School. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Mrs. Stauffer many years of continued success.

HONORING MARIA RODRIGUEZ FOR A LIFETIME OF PUBLIC SERVICE

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, I rise to commemorate decades of service to the community by a longtime and dear friend, both to me and my husband and to the children and families of New Haven, Connecticut: Maria Rodriguez.

Elected to New Haven's Board of Aldermen in 1976, Maria has the distinction of being the first Hispanic alderperson in the history of our city. But that service was only the beginning of her contributions to our city and state. For as long as I have known her, Maria has given of herself to the people around her, and has worked to make New Haven a richer, more vibrant, and more compassionate community.

Indeed, Maria has spent a lifetime doing so. She began her career in the early 1970s as a trained mental health therapist at the Connecticut Mental Health Center, where she worked day in and day out to improve the experience and the quality of life of Hispanic families in the Greater New Haven area. As my husband Stan, Maria, and I worked on so many local political campaigns then, we became great friends. She helped us to forge many wonderful friendships in New Haven's Hispanic community. She is a tireless worker and a strong ally.

After receiving her Masters from Southern Connecticut State University in 1983, and spending a year as a key and valuable aide to my predecessor, Bruce Morrison, Maria soon moved into full-time social work. For over 25 years, through organizations such as the Connecticut Board of Education, Family Counseling of Greater New Haven, and Latino Youth Development, Inc., she provided therapy to families and students in need of mental health care.

In her off-hours, Maria kept on giving. From serving on the Board of the YMCA to tutoring students in her free time, she has always looked for more ways to help those in need and to improve our city. And, now that she has decided to retire from the Connecticut Board of Education, I can only expect she is already thinking of new ways to volunteer her time and her effort.

For that is who Maria is. For decades now, she has continued to infuse our community with her warmth and energy, her caring and compassion. I thank her deeply for her service to the families of New Haven, and for her years of friendship to me. And I congratulate her and her family—her husband Alquilino, her son Paul, and daughter-in-law Bunny—on reaching this milestone. Congratulations, Maria, you have earned it.

HONORING THE EDMUND S. MUSKIE ARCHIVES AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS LIBRARY

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. MICHAUD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Edmund S. Muskie Archives and Special Collections Library at Bates College in Lewiston, Maine as it celebrates its twenty-fifth anniversary.

As a U.S. Senator from 1959 to 1980, Edmund Muskie established a legacy of environmentalism, fiscal responsibility and budgetary reform. Senator Muskie chaired the Environmental Pollution Subcommittee, the Intergovernmental Relations Subcommittee, and the Senate Committee on Budget. In 1963, Senator Muskie served as the chief sponsor of the Clean Air Act, the first major federal law aimed at air pollution control. Senator Muskie also served as the chief sponsor of the Clean Water Restoration Act in 1966.

Since its founding in 1985, the Muskie Archives has preserved and promoted the legacy of U.S. Senator, Secretary of State and Bates College alumnus Edmund S. Muskie. The Muskie Archives have served Bates students and researchers from across the United States and around the world. For the past ten years, the Edmund Muskie Archives and Special Collections Library has also been the repository of the Archives of the College. In this capacity, the library has preserved a collection of records that document that history of Bates College from its inception through its development into one of the country's premier liberal arts colleges.

The Edmund S. Muskie Archives and Special Collections Library at Bates College is a valuable asset to both the State of Maine and the country. Through exhibits, public outreach and educational programs, the institution ensures that the lasting work of Edmund Muskie is not forgotten.

I am pleased to share in the celebration as the Edmund S. Muskie Archives and Special Collections Library looks back on its twenty five years of history.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Edmund S. Muskie Archives and Special Collections Library.

IN HONOR OF SGT. RAYMOND JOSEPH DRENNAN

HON. JOHN H. ADLER

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. ADLER of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Sgt. Raymond Joseph Drennan, who is being honored with the Purple Heart that he earned while fighting the enemy at Okinawa on May 18, 1945. This honor is long overdue and serves as a reminder of the great sacrifices given by our military personnel from all generations.

Mr. Drennan served as a Sergeant in the 29th Battalion of the Marines 6th Division. He was under heavy duress while pinned in a foxhole, and he was injured in the line of fire. Mr. Drennan suffered an exit wound, but kept fighting with his battalion. The battle fought at Okinawa saw 62,000 American casualties: the bloodiest battle experienced in the Pacific war.

The men and women of our Armed Forces serve with an incomparable sense of duty. Mr. Drennan, like many men and women that wear the military uniform, served selflessly and with only his country's interest in mind. The Adler family, and families all across New Jersey, are eternally grateful for Mr. Drennan's service.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this great American hero. Without his sacrifice, and the sacrifice of those like him, we would not share the freedoms that we have today. It is important to remember the duty laid upon our men and women in the military from past generations and those who will serve in the future.

HONORING THE BEAGLE FAMILY

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating the Beagle family as they are honored by the Genesee County Bar Foundation on October 7 in Flint, Michigan.

The Beagle family's contributions to the Flint community span the past century. Charles D. Beagle graduated from Minnesota Law School in 1904. After practicing law in the State of Washington, he moved to Genesee County in 1920. He was elected Genesee County Prosecutor in 1928. He served as president of the Genesee County Bar Association in 1937–1938. When he passed away in 1958, Charles Beagle had practiced law for 54 years.

His son, John S. Beagle, received his law degree from Washington and Lee University in 1936. He served as a Genesee County Assistant Prosecuting Attorney and a Michigan Assistant Attorney General. He enlisted in the Army at the beginning of World War II and served in the Navy Air Corps until his discharge. He joined his father and Van H. Stewart and formed the law firm, Beagle, Stewart and Beagle. He served on the governing body of the local bar. He retired in 1986 after 50 years of practicing law and passed away in 2000. The John S. Beagle Scholarship was established through his bequest to help Genesee County law students defray the cost of their schooling.

Duncan M. Beagle has carried on the tradition started by his grandfather and father. He received his Juris Doctor degree from the University of Detroit Mercy in 1975. He served as the youngest president of the Genesee County Bar Association in 1983–1984. He has served as the court administrator for 67th District Court, assistant prosecutor for Genesee County, Friend of the Court referee, and as a private practitioner. Appointed to the 7th Judicial Circuit Court in 1991, he continues to serve in this capacity.

Madam Speaker, I would like to extend my congratulations to Judge Beagle and the Beagle family as they are honored by the Genesee County Bar Foundation. The Beagle family represents the best traditions of service to community, their clients and the legal profession and I wish them the best in their future endeavors.

HONORING THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY OF MILAN

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the City of Milan and to commemorate its 125th anniversary, as it gathers to honor this occasion on Sunday, September 26, 2010. In 1885, only 48 years after Michigan became a state, the Village of Milan was chartered by the Michigan State Legislature. Soon after, the first elections were held and the Village of Milan had its first governing Board of Trustees. Milan was a village for over 80 years until November 6, 1967, when voters overwhelmingly approved the charter that established the City of Milan.

The City of Milan brings a rich history to the 15th Congressional District and it offers a unique blend of rural farms and modern industrialization. Milan is located partially in Washtenaw County and partially in Monroe County, surrounded by corn and soybean farms. In 1937, Henry Ford finished his creation of Ford Lake and officially opened a new power house which operated using coal and hydro power. The power house is now the current Milan City Hall, and Ford Lake was officially acquired by Milan in 1949. Even the wonderful park where the 125th anniversary celebration took place was used by Henry Ford to run a coil manufacturing plant and a paint creation facility for the Model T.

I am proud of the City of Milan's many contributions to Michigan's 15th Congressional District and I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the city on its 125 wonderful years of service to its citizens and the State of Michigan.

HONORING FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF MADISON

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the First Baptist Church of Madison, located in Morris County, New Jersey as they celebrate their 115th anniversary year.

In the spring of 1895, a small group of individuals began to organize in what was known as Odd Fellows Hall in Madison, New Jersey in an effort to create a Baptist Mission so they would have a place to gather and worship. Two years later, the Baptist Mission became the First Baptist Church of Madison, and members selected Reverend R.L. Harris to be its first pastor. As membership grew, land was purchased to build a larger place of worship. On the first Sunday of June 1901, a ground breaking service was held, and by February 1902 the church was completed at its current site.

In 2003, the Arthur D. Brown Enrichment Center was opened to provide a place for

meetings, offices, the Smith Library and personal meditation. The church is continuously renovating and improving their 105-year-old building. They plan to further expand their church by creating education facilities.

An important aspect of the First Baptist Church of Madison is their service to others. The church participates in a wide variety of missions to help those in need. They provide books to poor areas of Africa, visit residents in nursing homes, provide hygiene kits to the poor, assist in paying bills for those in need or aid and provide Thanksgiving meals. The First Baptist Church of Madison has always provided a warm welcome to new parishioners and visitors, and has done a commendable job serving the community.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the First Baptist Church of Madison as they celebrate their 115th anniversary.

HONORING MARY ANN SCHILLER

HON. RUSS CARNAHAN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. CARNAHAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the career of Mary Ann Schiller with the Affirm School District. She began working in the Affton School District as a high school senior in 1950 as an assistant to the superintendent's secretary. She attended Miss Hickey's Secretarial School in the evening while working as secretary to the principal at Reavis School during the day.

In 1960 she moved to the administration center to serve the assistant superintendent of elementary education. In 1970, Mrs. Schiller became the secretary to the superintendent (later administrative assistant) as well as secretary to the Board of Education, positions she held for 40 years. She has been the indispensable ''right hand'' to eight superintendents and a patient mentor to nearly 70 Board of Education members.

On June 15, 2010, the Affton School District's Board of Education unanimously voted to dedicate and rename the Affton School District Administration Center in her honor. On October 2, 2010 the administration center will be renamed the Mary Ann Schiller Administration Center.

Other honors for Mary Ann include: the recipient of the Service and Outstanding Achievement Recognition (SOAR) Award for 1996–97; named Affton Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year in 1999; and one of ten distinguished alumni inducted into the Affton Hall of Fame in 2005.

Mary Ann was also named by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education as a Pioneer in Education—an honor never before bestowed upon a classified school district employee.

Mary Ann Schiller retired on June 30, 2010 after 60 years of service to the Affton School District. I honor Mary Ann today for her outstanding public service; performing one of the most important tasks necessary for a successful and healthy nation: educating the young and preparing them to be productive and responsible citizens.

INTRODUCTION OF PILOT PROJECT FOR TOOLS NEEDED FOR FUNDING CHALLENGES

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, I rise to introduce legislation authorizing a pilot project to develop the tools needed by private industry, the IRS, and the Department of Transportation to meet our infrastructure funding challenges for the next century.

Nothing is more essential to restoring the economy, revitalizing our communities, and protecting our environment than the effort to rebuild and renew America. The U.S. faces steep infrastructure challenges. Our infrastructure inventory is in poor repair and much of it is outdated—not just decades, but often centuries old. Our effort to rebuild and renew that infrastructure is stalled because of a funding impasse. The Highway Trust Fund nearly exhausted its funding several times recently and it is clear that our existing funding mechanisms are insufficient to meet our current, much less future, needs. Congress must consider new revenue sources to meet our infrastructure challenges and must work with transportation users to find the most efficient means of raising this revenue.

Most of America's transportation investment ability is premised on the gas tax. This source is becoming obsolete as vehicles are increasingly efficient, making increased demands on our infrastructure while contributing fewer resources. The current revenue system generates only two-thirds of the revenue needed to maintain current levels of investment.

While Congress waits, others are seeking innovative solutions to this challenging problem: the Oregon Department of Transportation conducted successful tests of mileage-based revenue systems that seamlessly protected privacy while applying a user fee; two blue ribbon panels called for further exploration of such a system; and I have introduced prior legislation that would fund tests of such systems in each state. Under the Transportation Finance Innovation Demonstration Act, the concrete pumping industry has stepped forward to create a pilot project exploring how a mileage system would work in practice.

In an unintended consequence of the JOBS Act of 2004, concrete pumping trucks pay gasoline tax on 100 percent of their fuel consumption, even though 50 percent of their fuel is consumed at construction sites in stationary operation. Concrete pumping trucks already collect much of the necessary information about distance traveled and fuel consumption necessary for the function of a mileage-based fee. With a few minor hardware and software additions, concrete pumps nationwide could collect and transmit data to the IRS in a highly accurate and secure manner.

The legislation directs the Department of the Treasury to work with the Department of Transportation to establish a demonstration project providing a refund of gasoline taxes to concrete pumping trucks and the imposition of an off-setting mileage fee reflecting the distance the concrete pumping truck traveled on U.S. roadways.

ACKNOWLEDGING TAIWAN'S 99TH NATIONAL DAY ON OCTOBER 10, 2010

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise to acknowledge Taiwan's 99th National Day on October 10, 2010. Also known as Double Ten Day, this event marks the anniversary of the 1911 uprising that soon led to the establishment of the Republic of China.

I congratulate Taiwan, our good friend in Asia, on numerous successes in recent years. An economic powerhouse, millions of Americans have come to depend on Taiwanese products like notebook computers, and Taiwan serves as a major export market for a huge range of American products, from agriculture to raw materials to technology.

This past year has seen highly positive political progress between China and Taiwan, benefitting not only the entire East Asian arena but U.S. interests, as well. Taiwan's President Ma Yingjeou has established conciliatory and cooperative cross-strait relations, producing agreements in a variety of areas including transportation, tourism, agriculture, and trade and financial matters. For the first time in decades, the two great nations are pursuing productive, peaceful negotiations to ensure a better future for their citizens. I am pleased that these efforts have enabled Taiwan to play a greater role in international organizations, such as with Taiwan's participation as an official observer to the World Health Assembly. Such progress should not go unnoticed or unremarked upon.

Madam Speaker, each time I have visited Taiwan I have come away with a deep appreciation for the Taiwanese people's commitment to hard work, democratic traditions, environmental protection, and productive and peaceful international relations. I offer my sincere congratulations on their 99th National Day and look forward to celebrating the 100th next year.

HONORING THE STUDENTS AND FACULTY OF McCLURE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL FOR RECEIVING THE BLUE RIBBON AWARD FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. LIPINSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the faculty, students, and parents of McClure Junior High School, a school of 541 students in Western Springs, Illinois. The school was awarded the prestigious Blue Ribbon Award by the U.S. Department of Education on September 9, 2010.

The Blue Ribbon Award program was founded in 1982 by the Department of Education to reward the most outstanding schools in the country. Out of the more than 132,000 eligible schools in the United States, only 304 earned the Blue Ribbon distinction in 2010.

McClure Junior High School has been identified as a ''High Performing'' school, meaning

the students scored significantly higher on standardized state assessments than their peer schools. McClure was one of only 84 middle schools in the country, and one of 19 Illinois schools to be distinguished with this award.

Thanks to the dedication of McClure Junior High School faculty, the hard work of the students, and the encouragement of their parents, the school has been identified as one of the very best in the United States.

I ask you to join me in congratulating the faculty, students, and parents of McClure Junior High School for their receipt of a U.S. Department of Education Blue Ribbon Award, one of the highest honors a middle school can earn.

IN MEMORY OF U.S. NAVY SENIOR CHIEF PETTY OFFICER DAVID BLAKE McLENDON

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a brave sailor, dedicated citizen, and a great American, U.S. Navy Senior Chief Petty Officer David Blake McLendon, who gave his life for his country.

Senior Chief Petty Officer (SCPO) McLendon was raised in Thomasville, Georgia. After graduating from Thomas County Central High School in 1998, he answered the call to service by enlisting in the U.S. Navy, following in the footsteps of his father and grandfather.

He was a successful and dedicated naval non-commissioned officer, quickly rising through the ranks. His awards include the Joint Service Commendation Medal; Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal; Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal; Navy Battle ''E'' Ribbon (two awards); Navy Good Conduct Medal (three awards); and the Sea Service Deployment Ribbon.

In 2009, McLendon was promoted to Senior Chief Petty Officer and served as a Navy cryptologic technician. He was also a Navy SEAL. During his twelve-year Naval career, he served at Norfolk, Virginia and Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, and the Joint Expeditionary Base at Little Creek, Virginia.

While deployed to Afghanistan, he was one of nine servicemembers tragically killed when their Army Blackhawk helicopter went down in the southern Afghanistan province of Zabul on Sept. 21, 2010.

SCPO McLendon's death is a great loss to this country, as he was a man of great promise and honor. He was described as a consummate Navy professional by his fellow servicemembers, and was known for his dedication, quick wit, and engaging sense of humor.

His death is also a great loss to his loving family. He is survived by his wife and parents, his brother and sister, his nieces and nephews, and his paternal grandmother.

Madam Speaker, U.S. Navy Senior Chief Petty Officer David Blake McLendon made the ultimate sacrifice for his country. His time on this earth was too short. He was a proud American, a brave sailor, and a true family man. In life he was loved and honored, and in death he will be remembered by a grateful nation.

RECOGNIZING THE SEATTLE STORM FOR THEIR VICTORY IN THE WOMEN'S NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Seattle Storm for their incredible season and their victory in the Women's National Basketball Association Championship.

The Seattle Storm joined the WNBA in 2000 and has since been a remarkable team, a source of immense pride for the State of Washington. Their 2010 championship was their second, and the first under Coach Brian Agler. They were consistently the WNBA's best team, ending the regular season with a 28–6 record. The team's success continued into the post-season, where they went undefeated and became the first team in WNBA history to go 7–0 in the playoffs. By the end of their impressive run, the Storm had not been defeated at home.

The women of Seattle Storm play the game with great dedication and sportsmanship, and act as role models for our community's girls and boys. The team is also one of three WNBA teams that is not owned as a companion or ''sister team'' to an NBA team. Rather, they are independent and reflect the value of local-owned organizations.

Their championship was earned with hard work and commitment. Team members include Svetlana Abrosimova, Sue Bird, Abby Bishop, Swin Cash, Lauren Jackson, Allison Lacey, Camille Little, Ashley Robinson, Jana Vesela, Le'coe Willingham, and Tanisha Right. The enthusiastic and loyal Washington fans have also aided to the team's success and over 5,000 fans came to celebrate the championship at the Key Arena.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues in the House of Representatives please join me in congratulating the Seattle Storm for their undefeated playoff run and their 2nd WNBA Championship.

RECOGNIZING SCOTT HECHT FOR HIS BRAVERY AND HEROISM

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge Scott Hecht, a resident of Hauppauge, New York, for being awarded the Carnegie Medal by the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission. This prestigious award is given to civilians who risk their lives to save the lives of others. Scott Hecht saved a girl from drowning on July 30, 2009, in Mastic Beach, New York.

According to the Commission, ''A teenage girl struggled to stay afloat in the Atlantic Ocean after being swept away from the beach by a strong current. Beachgoers shouted for help, attracting the attention of Hecht, 45, a social worker, who was in a camping area nearby. Although he decided earlier not to swim that day because of rough surf conditions, Hecht entered the water with a short surfboard and, holding onto the board, swam out to the girl, reaching her at a point about 200 feet from shore. He grasped her by the wrists and held them over the board and then started toward shore. Waves overtook them as they proceeded, and a lateral current swept them along the shoreline. Others aided the girl when they reached wadable water, and Hecht also reached the beach safely. Hecht was very tired and sustained scratches to his legs, but he did not need medical treatment.''

I am proud to recognize Mr. Hecht for his bravery and selflessness and I thank him for helping make the 2nd District of New York a place in which citizens take care of their fellow citizens.

CONGRATULATING ST. PAUL COLLEGE'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Ms. McCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the faculty, students and staff of Saint Paul College on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the school. Founded in 1910, Saint Paul College is an outstanding community and technical college that is a part of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system (MnSCU). Saint Paul College has further distinguished itself by earning the nation's top ranking among community colleges according to the 2010 September/October edition of Washington Monthly Magazine.

Located on Cathedral Hill near downtown and overlooking at the State Capitol, Saint Paul College is a model two-year higher education institution, providing academic excellence and trade and technical skills to prepare students for success in the workplace.

Saint Paul College offers thirty-eight associate degree programs and sixty-one occupational certificate and diploma programs, including transfer and articulation agreements with 4-year colleges and universities that provide pathways for students to transfer and continue their higher education.

The first-place ranking and national recognition conveyed by Washington Monthly Magazine is a testament to the school's long-standing commitment to academic excellence and to the students and families in the community it serves. Generations of crafts and trades people in Minnesota have earned their education at Saint Paul College, and the school is poised to help more generations develop the skills they need for successful careers.

In honor of the 100th Anniversary of Saint Paul College, I am pleased to recognize the many achievements of the faculty, staff and students through this statement in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

INTRODUCING LEGISLATION TO EXPAND THE DISCRETIONARY AUTHORITY OF THE U.S. TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to expand the discretionary authority of the United States Trade Representative (USTR) to take action under section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974. Specifically, the legislation would allow USTR to investigate and impose sanctions on countries whose trade practices are found to be unfair to U.S. interests by failing to enforce foreign country environmental laws. Specifically, USTR will have discretionary authority to take action if it finds a persistent pattern of conduct that indicates a trading partner:

(I) Fails to effectively enforce the environmental laws of a foreign country;

(II) Waives or otherwise derogates from the environmental laws of a foreign country or weakens the protections afforded by such laws;

(III) Fails to provide for judicial or administrative proceedings giving access to remedies for violations of the environmental laws of a foreign country; or

(IV) Fails to provide appropriate and effective sanctions or remedies for violations of the environmental laws of a foreign country.

This authority is very similar to existing authority held by USTR to enforce labor rights around the world.

My support for international trade agreements has always been predicated on the notion that agreements establish a fair, rules-based trading regime. The economy of my state is heavily trade-dependent. Oregon's iconic brands would not exist without strong international trading relationships. Oregon's largest private employer, Intel, is a product of the international market for high-tech products. The Port of Portland's distribution centers alone create 17,000 jobs, $810 million in wages and other personal income, and $2.8 billion in business revenues. Ensuring a level playing field in U.S. trading relationships is vital to protecting these jobs and to ensuring public support for a forward-looking, optimistic approach to trade policy.

Allowing our trading partners to derogate from their environmental laws provides an unfair advantage to their businesses and allows those businesses to unfairly undercut U.S. companies, which operate under strong environmental protections. I look forward to working with my colleagues to ensure that trade remains free and open, but, in incorporating environmental and labor protections, also meets basic expectations of fairness.

TRIBUTE TO JUDGE VICTOR MICELI

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the life of my friend, Judge Victor Miceli, who served as Superior Court Judge for Riverside County, California for 15 years and dedicated his life to bettering the community around him. On Thursday, September 16, 2010, Vic passed away at the age of 82 with his wife of 49 years, Bernice, by his side. Though Vic has passed on from this life, he leaves a lasting legacy in Riverside, the community he loved so dearly.

Vic graduated from the University of Pittsburgh Law School in 1952 and went on to serve in the Army as a judge advocate general and later practiced civil law in a private practice. Although he originally hailed from Meadville, Pennsylvania, Vic came to Riverside after having been appointed to the Superior Court bench in 1986 by former California Governor George Deukmejian.

When he retired from the bench in 2001, Vic's work in the community was far from over. Vic turned his focus and efforts to the restoration of downtown Riverside, including the $24.7 million renovation of the 1903 beaux-arts Riverside Historic Courthouse, which was rededicated in 1998 and complied with new earthquake standards. Vic himself has attributed this as his proudest professional accomplishment. He also advocated for a new federal courthouse in Riverside, and the transfer of the 4th District Court of Appeal, Division Two headquarters from San Bernardino to Riverside. Additionally, he was a dedicated partner in the preservation and continued care of the historic Evergreen Cemetery.

Vic did so much for the community, the term the ''Micelian Footprint'' was coined, affectionately referring to Vic's ability to positively influence whatever he touched. In fact, 101–year-old retired Appellate Justice John Gabbert called Vic the person who has done more for the community in his lifetime, and said his contributions were ''beyond measure.''

Despite his passion and gusto, Vic always had a way of charming those around him—and perhaps that is what helped him get so much done. He will be remembered for his great sense of humor and optimistic outlook on life just as much as his drive to accomplish projects and lead others.

Although his career flourished, Vic always put his family first, and set aside time every summer to take his two sons on road trips around the country. His wife remembers him as the kindest and most generous husband.

Vic is survived by his wife and their two sons, Victor Miceli II and John Michael Miceli.

On behalf of all those who knew him, it is an honor to offer these remarks as a tribute to the life and legacy of my friend Victor Miceli. His life and presence will be sorely missed and I extend my condolences to his dear family and friends.

RECOGNIZING THE INDEPENDENCE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ON THEIR 90TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. CLEAVER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 90th Anniversary of the Independence, Missouri Chamber of Commerce, located in my District. History reveals how Independence, the county seat, grew from a village, to a town, to the fourth largest city in Missouri. Civic leaders joined together to create a forum for the maintenance, growth and economic stability of the city. The Chamber has played a vital role in providing vision which helped to tackle the hard economic problems of the day. Today's Chamber is comprised of a ". . . partnership of more than 1,200 business and professional people committed to making a difference in the community.''

Following its founding in 1920, the Chamber constitution encouraged its members ''to promote the civic, economic, and social welfare of the people of Independence and vicinity'' with membership open to all interested people. Colonel William Southern, Jr., who began publishing the Jackson Examiner in 1898, served on the original Board of Directors and holds the honor of being the first Board President of the Chamber. Due to the continued quality of leadership, the Chamber's involvement is respected on every issue from legislative initiatives to promoting pride in the city.

Throughout its 90 year history, the Chamber has initiated and supported local programs for economic development, public education, and general community quality of life. Working as a cohesive body with its Board, staff and members, the Chamber strives to provide a better quality of life for its citizens. Historically, they have campaigned to improve infrastructure, stimulate economic growth, annexation, transportation, parks, education and tourism. Through a variety of methods, they have achieved their objectives through bonds, fundraisers or by launching programs to benefit the citizens of Independence. ''Put Us to Work'' was one program initiated during the depression to coordinate all civic relief efforts and employment assistance for its citizens. We should recognize organizations like the Chamber of Independence as they help our communities find solutions to our current economic challenges.

When Harry S. Truman came home from serving in World War I, he came home to Independence, Missouri. When he was contemplating a run for Eastern District Judge, he went to Col. Southern for support. After serving as President, he once again returned to Independence. The Chamber honored him as a lifetime member of the Independence Chamber in 1945. Later, out of respect and admiration, the Chamber proudly supported fundraising efforts for the Harry S. Truman Presidential Library.

Madam Speaker, please join me in extending my warmest congratulations to Dr. Patty Schumacher, Chair of the Board, and Rick Hemmingsen, Chamber President, for the many accomplishments of the Independence Chamber of Commerce on this, their 90th Anniversary. The Chamber's work and dedication on behalf of the City of Independence has truly bettered our community. I urge my colleagues to join me in showing our appreciation to all its members, past and present.

HONORING THE 5TH STRYKER BRIGADE

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 5th Stryker Brigade,

2nd Infantry Division for their service and recognize their achievements after returning home from a 12-month deployment in Afghanistan. I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring the men and women of this Stryker Brigade and thank them for their service.

After 2 years of training in preparation to deploy to Iraq, the 5th Stryker Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division received a change in orders and was directed to deploy as the first Stryker brigade in Afghanistan. The brigade began its operations in Kandahar Province, where they quickly encountered a determined enemy. Over the course of their year in Afghanistan, the brigade went on to lead the assault on Marjah, fight against the Taliban in Arghandab River Valley, help secure President Karzai in Daykundi, and secure highways and lines of communications, all while fighting enemy combatants. Under the leadership of Colonel Harry D. Tunnell, the soldiers performed their duty with honor and courage.

While the brigade performed admirably in challenging circumstances, the deployment did not come without sacrifice. Thirty-seven members of the brigade died in combat operations with another 239 wounded over the course of the deployment. Their sacrifice in defense of our nation, and in an effort to establish a more stable Afghanistan, should be acknowledged and their sacrifice will not be forgotten.

After 12 months in Afghanistan, the brigade began redeploying in June 2010 and held their homecoming ceremony on July 22, 2010 at Joint Base Lewis-McChord. During the ceremony, the brigade was also formally reflagged as the 2nd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division. Though the brigade may have a new designation, the service and sacrifice during their deployment as the 5th Stryker Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division will not be forgotten.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring the men and women of this brigade, who have displayed venerable service to their country.

COMMENDING THE MARCH OF DIMES MICHIGAN CHAPTER

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the March of Dimes Michigan Chapter for their dedicated and tireless service to families across our state. Since its founding in 1939 by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, the March of Dimes has been devoted to improving the health and wellness of infants and children across the country.

Last year, in my home State of Michigan, the March of Dimes awarded over $1.1 million to local researchers to support research to save babies; awarded more than $255,000 in chapter community grants to local programs that support innovative ways to promote and protect maternal and child health; advocated for funding to maintain the Michigan Birth Defects Registry; worked to expand Michigan's newborn screening panel to include over 40 disorders; among many other achievements.

Volunteers like Michael and Suzy Fezzey, the recipients of this year's "John Dingell Hero for Babies Award," are the reason why the Michigan Chapter of March of Dimes is so successful.

Both Michael and Suzy have gone above and beyond to improve the health and well-being of all children. Together they have worked with Sweet Dreamzzz, to provide sleep education and bedtime needs for at-risk school children, as well as working with Yatooma's Foundation for the Kids to help children and families who have lost one or both of their parents.

Suzy also serves as a board member for The Arc of Oakland County, which works with children and adults with intellectual and development disabilities, while Mike has served as the Michigan State Chapter and Metro Detroit Board Chairs for March of Dimes.

Michael and Suzy serve as role models to those around them, giving of themselves to improve the lives of children and families in their community.

Together I have worked with the March of Dimes to pass the Affordable Care Act, to establish and expand the Children's Health Insurance Program, and to advocate furiously for increased funding for research at the National Institutes of Health that will prevent birth defects, prematurity and infant mortality.

These are just a few reasons why I am proud to be an active member of my local March of Dimes chapter in Michigan, and why I am proud to call them my friends. The staff and volunteers at the Michigan Chapter are loyal advocates to improving this world for the next generation, and for more than four decades, we have worked hand-in-hand to fight for America's children, to ensure that every baby born in this country has a fighting chance.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the March of Dimes Michigan Chapter for their support for lifesaving research and quality family support programs that help ensure Michigan's families can bring their children into this world healthy and happy. I look forward to working with them for many years to come.

RAY BELL

HON. JIM COOPER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. COOPER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor C. Ray Bell, a master builder who passed away on September 4, 2010. He was an outstanding member of the Nashville community, a lifelong activist, a leader in the construction industry, and my friend.

Mr. Bell was born in Scottsboro, AL and raised in Shelbyville, TN. He graduated from the University of the South in 1963 with an honors degree in English and throughout his life remained a very well-read man. He worked in construction in Shelbyville for 6 years before he came to Nashville and started Ray Bell Construction Company, Inc. in 1970. His company became the State's largest construction firm and led the most significant projects in Tennessee and the South for over 30 years. Mr. Bell was a self-made man who had the enthusiasm and drive to make his business a great success.

Ray Bell's company built everything: skyscrapers, interstate highways, bridges, prisons, stadiums, arenas and more. Many—including the Bicentennial Mall and Train Trestle, the Tennessee Performing Arts Center, the Shelby Street Bridge Rehabilitation and renovations to the Nashville Court House and Criminal Justice Center, Neyland Stadium and Thompson Boling Arena—quickly became renowned landmarks in Nashville's cityscape and throughout Tennessee. Mr. Bell knew how to bid projects, pinch pennies, cut costs and complete the job ahead of schedule without sacrificing quality. He was a perfectionist for his clients, making men and construction materials come together, even salvaging the work of other firms.

Ray Bell was often called a Renaissance Man because of his love for the arts, history and music. Mr. Bell's other passions included his family, politics and charitable organizations. When it came to politics, Mr. Bell firmly believed in bipartisanship and working together to accomplish common goals. He gave generously to various charities and was active with the Tennessee State Museum Foundation, Easter Seals and the Arthritis Foundation.

And so, Madam Speaker, it is my privilege to ask my colleagues to join me in saluting Ray Bell's life and accomplishments. We are grateful for his passion for construction and politics and the decades of service and contributions he provided to Nashville and the people of Tennessee.

RECOGNIZING MARC HERBST FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO LONG ISLAND'S INFRASTRUCTURE

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge Marc Herbst, Executive Director of the Long Island Contractors' Association, who has been named the 2010 Construction Executive of the Year by the Long Island Chapter of the Construction Financial Management Association. No one deserves this recognition more than Marc.

Mr. Herbst is active in Long Island's business and labor organizations. He serves as Vice President of the New York Roadway Improvement Coalition and is a member of the Council of State Executives for the American Road and Transportation Builders Association. The Suffolk County Executive appointed him as vice-chair of the Suffolk County Wastewater Treatment Task Force, and he is an employer trustee for labor benefit funds. Previously, Mr. Herbst was a five-term member of the New York State Assembly, where he was ranking member of the Transportation Committee.

As you can tell, Marc has dedicated his life's work to making Long Island a better place for generations to come. We all know that infrastructure is essential for our safety and economic livelihood. Even throughout the economic downturn, Marc continued this fight and I am proud to have worked with him to move important infrastructure projects forward on Long Island.

Long Island is a better place because of people like Marc Herbst and for that I am grateful.

I am proud to recognize Marc Herbst for this honor and for the work he has done to strengthen Long Island's infrastructure and economy.

ACQUIRED BONE MARROW FAILURE DISEASE RESEARCH AND TREATMENT ACT of 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2010

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 1230, the Acquired Bone Marrow Failure Disease Research and Treatment Act.

Every year, it is estimated that between 20,000 and 30,000 Americans are diagnosed with some form of acquired bone marrow failure disease.

This classification of diseases, which include myelodysplastic syndromes (commonly known as MDS), aplastic anemia, paroxysmal nocturnal hemoglobinuria (known as PNH), and others, take a debilitating and deadly toll on those diagnosed, forcing patients and families to deal with significant health, social, and economic hardships.

In some cases, MDS can even progress over time to become leukemia, which affects hundreds of thousands of Americans in its own right.

And while individuals stricken with these conditions can take some action to prolong their lives, this diagnosis offers little hope that affected patients will ever fully recover.

In light of this, I introduced the Acquired Bone Marrow Failure Disease Research and Treatment Act to enhance and intensify current and future efforts in the fight against bone marrow failure diseases.

This legislation would support increased research on these still relatively unstudied diseases, including what genetic and environmental factors may be associated with the condition and best practices for the diagnosis and treatment of these diseases.

In addition, the bill would authorize coordinated outreach and informational programs targeted to minority populations affected by these diseases, including information on treatment options and clinical trials research.

These provisions are critical to the individuals affected by bone marrow failure diseases and their families, as it would bring both tangible progress to fighting these diseases, and provide hope to those who have suffered their effects.

This bill has bipartisan support, 62 cosponsors, and has incorporated suggestions from both sides of the aisle.

Mr. Speaker, I commend our Leadership and thank Chairman WAXMAN and Chairman PALLONE and their staff for bringing H.R. 1230 to the floor, and for their commitment to protecting the health of all Americans.

I urge my colleagues to support passage of this important legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

TAIWAN

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, on October 10, 2010, the Republic of China will celebrate its 99th anniversary.

The government now in Taiwan was founded in mainland China before it was pushed out by a brutal, communist regime. The differences between the two governments today is stark. While Taiwan flourishes as a democracy marked by passionate elections, China suppresses all political opposition, torturing and imprisoning anyone who dares to disagree. And yet we let China into regional and world bodies but keep the ROC out.

For example, Taiwan is not a member of the International Civil Aviation Organization. That means that when world leaders get together to talk about aviation regulation, Taiwan and the 35 million people that fly in and out of it each year are completely unrepresented.

So I urge my colleagues, on this 99th anniversary of the Republic of China, to call on the leaders in Beijing to allow Taiwan to participate in ICAO and other key international organizations like it.

And that's just the way it is.

RECOGNIZING THE 99TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN)

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to offer my congratulations to the Republic of China on Taiwan on the occasion of the celebration of their 99th anniversary. Although it is commonly known as "Double Ten Day," this year, the anniversary can be called "Triple Ten Day," as it falls on the tenth day of the tenth month of the tenth year of this millennium.

This important date commemorates the Wuchang Uprising of October 10, 1911, which was the impetus for the fall of the Qing Dynasty in China, leading to the creation a few months later of the Republic of China, commonly known as Taiwan.

October 10 is the National Celebration Day in Taiwan. It is as important to the Taiwanese people as the Fourth of July is to Americans, and many American cities, including Chicago and San Francisco, have large celebrations to mark the occasion.

Sadly, the destruction and devastation caused by Typhoon Morakot last year caused Taiwanese President a to cancel the national festivities to pay respect to those who had lost their lives. Additionally, funds normally used for celebration were instead used to aid victims of the disaster.

Today, Taiwan is a valued partner of the United States and I extend my best wishes to Taiwan for a wonderful 99th anniversary this year, and I look forward to celebrating their 100th anniversary with them next year.

RECOGNIZING THE COMMUNITY OF NORTH PLAINS CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY

HON. DAVID WU

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. WU. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the centennial anniversary of the community of North Plains, Oregon. The celebration being held on Saturday October 2, 2010, is a tribute to the residents of North Plains, both past and present, whose years of hard work, persistence, and endurance is a reflection of the values embodied by their community.

North Plains is situated at the base of Oregon's Coastal Range, which houses one of Oregon's finest watersheds. North Plains is home to Pumpkin Ridge golf course and Bob Horning's hideout, whose music festivals and frisbee golf course attract visitors from across the country, along with numerous other locally owned businesses. At the heart of the North Plains community are picturesque farms, nurseries, and wineries which produce everything from Christmas trees and Halloween pumpkins to small fruits and world class wines. Each August, North Plains celebrates its agricultural heritage by hosting the world's largest elephant garlic festival—an event my kids and I look forward to participating in on our way to camping at nearby Stub Stewart State park, our most recently dedicated state park.

Former Oregon Governor Tom McCall once said: "Heroes are not giant statues framed against a red sky. They are people who say, This is my community, and it is my responsibility to make it better." The residents of North Plains are American heroes who have devoted their lives to making our country and their community better.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating North Plains on this remarkable achievement. North Plains' history of land stewardship has been an asset to our state and region, and it serves as a model to be emulated. I am proud to serve a community with such a strong commitment to the livelihoods of its families, and I look forward to hearing of North Plains' ongoing successes in the years to come.

MARGARET-LEE THOMPSON

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. REICHERT. Madam Speaker, today I rise in recognition of a constituent whose lifetime of passionate and intensive work on behalf of developmentally disabled children and adults has been recognized at a national level.

Margaret-Lee Thompson, a resident of Redmond, Washington, and the coordinator of the King County Parent Coalition for Development Disabilities, was awarded the "Advocacy Matters!" honor by the Arc of the United States because of her efforts and courageous advocacy.

Ms. Thompson's adult son, Dan, has lived with disabilities his entire life. While focusing wholly on the daily needs of her son, Madam Speaker, Ms. Thompson identified a variety of inconsistent and wrong-headed policies and practices at different levels of government and local organizations. In 1990, seizing on a six-month grant opportunity to bring parents of the developmentally disabled and policy makers together, Margaret founded the Parent Coalition. Twenty years later, Ms. Thompson is nationally recognized as a committed, veteran leader of an incredibly worthy movement. Her work and advocacy have changed hearts and minds, Madam Speaker.

The Parent Coalition—with Ms. Thompson as its leader—has three overarching goals: to work for a better future for people with developmental disabilities and their families through systems advocacy, to organize parent training workshops, and to inform families in King County, Washington about the developmental disabilities system at all levels. Under Ms. Thompson's leadership, the Coalition has accomplished its goals—and much more.

Madam Speaker, Margaret-Lee Thompson is a leader, an advocate, and a social entrepreneur. She's helped thousands of developmentally disabled individuals in King County and influenced thousands more policy makers, community leaders, and residents. After 20 years of leadership and advocacy, Ms. Thompson has finally received the type of recognition she so richly deserves. She's a selfless humanitarian, Madam Speaker, and I'm honored to call her a constituent, thank you.

OVERBROOK SCHOOL

HON. JIM COOPER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. COOPER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize Overbrook School in Nashville, Tennessee. This year, Overbrook was named a National Blue Ribbon School, a tremendous honor from the U.S. Secretary of Education acknowledging Overbrook's outstanding scholastic achievement.

The Blue Ribbon Schools Program recognizes public and private elementary, middle, and high schools for excellence in academic achievement. Overbrook is one of only 304 schools nationwide to receive 2010 Blue Ribbon designation and is the only Nashville area school to be honored this year. Overbook is also the first Catholic elementary school in Nashville to receive the coveted award.

Since it opened in 1936 as a co-educational, Catholic school, Overbrook students have pursued academic, cultural, and spiritual growth. Situated on the Dominican Campus in the heart of Nashville, students from kindergarten through eighth grade thrive in an environment that promotes academic excellence and a life of faith. Overbrook School is an institution that values a well-rounded education in a nurturing setting.

And so, Madam Speaker, it is my privilege to honor Overbrook School for being named a 2010 National Blue Ribbon School. I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting the students, teachers, parents and staff who have helped Overbrook School set a standard of excellence for elementary schools across middle Tennessee.

RECOGNIZING THE 140TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH OF FALLS CHURCH

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the Second Baptist Church of Falls Church for its 140th anniversary, themed "celebrating 140 years of service to God through prayer, worship and praise."

Founded shortly after the Civil War, the Second Baptist Church has grown from a small two-room cabin to a two-story church on "Baptist Hill." Not only has the Church served as a symbol and source of faith for the congregation, but it has also acted as a community center, opening its doors to various groups such as Girl and Boy Scout troops, nursery school classes, and other community organizations. The Second Baptist Church also has served the Falls Church community by founding the Food Bank and the S.H.A.R.E. Food Network.

This past week the Church hosted a series of worship services and community events to honor this momentous occasion. It will host a celebratory dinner on October 3 with a concert to conclude the week's events.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating the 140th Anniversary of the Second Baptist Church of Falls Church. For 140 years the Second Baptist Church has served the community through prayer, worship and praise. I would like to extend my congratulations and thank the Church for its commitment to faith and to the community.

ON THE 130TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIFTH STREET BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a storied institution of faith in the Third Congressional District. This year, the Fifth Street Baptist Church is celebrating its 130th anniversary, and I would like to highlight some moments from the history of the church and its contribution to our community.

Fifth Street was organized in 1880 and first worshiped in the old Odd Fellows Hall on East Franklin Street. The church acquired land for a sanctuary on Fifth Street in 1882, and became known as Fifth Street Baptist. The first pastor, Rev. Henry Haywood Mitchell, served for 2 years. Under the pastorate of Rev. A.P. Dunbar, the new house of worship was completed and dedicated in 1886.

Fifth Street grew rapidly under the leadership of its third pastor, Rev. Wesley Paul Graham. At the end of one revival, Rev. Graham singlehandedly baptized 285 people in one afternoon. It was under his direction that the first Baptist Young Peoples Union in Virginia was established at Fifth Baptist. This Union was influential in the plans to consolidate Richmond Theological Seminary and Wayland Seminary of Washington, DC into one institution—Virginia Union University. Rev. Graham served Fifth Baptist for 17 years, with the highlight of his pastorate being the 1900 Session of the National Baptist Convention hosted at Fifth Street Baptist.

Fifth Street flourished in Richmond during the turn of the century. Under the leadership of its fourth pastor, Rev. Thomas J. King, the first Deaconess board in the city was organized, and hundreds of new members were added to the church. It was also during Rev. King's ministry, on July 4, 1926, that a new sanctuary was dedicated at 705 North Fifth Street.

The Great Depression brought with it a share of challenges for Fifth Baptist. In response, the church called a pastor who had already built a church in Philadelphia and was proven as a skilled leader. On the first Sunday in February, 1930, Rev. Christopher Columbus Scott became the fifth pastor of Fifth Street Baptist Church, and he served the church for 36 years. During his years of service, the church celebrated the burning of its mortgage in 1946, installed a new 22 rank pipe organ in 1955, and led the city-wide celebration of Emancipation Day for many years, bringing nationally known speakers and rallies for civil rights to the church.

Changes in the city of Richmond brought changes to Fifth Baptist under the leadership of its sixth pastor, Rev. Henry Clayton Gregory III, who assumed leadership of the church in August 1967. New expressway construction and other municipal developments had geographically split the Jackson Ward/Navy Hill community. In response, the church rededicated its efforts to the community, serving as a command post for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Poor People's March and establishing a Federal Credit Union for members. Fifth Baptist also looked to serve the world at large, building a medical clinic in Karnal, India.

In January 1974, Rev. Roscoe Dennis Cooper, Jr. was installed as the seventh pastor of Fifth Baptist. It was under his leadership that the church undertook the biggest change in its history. Citing growing problems with the location in Downtown Richmond, the church took the bold step to move 37 blocks away to a new property on Third Avenue. On Sunday, October 5, 1975, the church members marched these blocks to the church's new home in the Highland Park Community.

The church's eleventh and current pastor is Rev. F. Todd Gray. At the church's new location and under his leadership, Fifth Street has continued to minister to the needs of the community. Coming together with community neighbors, the church helped found the North District Community Development Corporation. Under this organization, the church, in conjunction with the Southern Tip Civic Association, The United Way, St. Elizabeth's Catholic Church, and other community groups, has provided numerous programs to the community including: computer training, test prep, job training, summer jobs for youth, and medical services. In 2005, the church dedicated a new Community Empowerment Center known as the G.R.A.C.E., God's Redemptive And Community Empowerment, Center.

As Fifth Street gathers to celebrate this historic milestone, the church can truly remember its past, celebrate its present, and focus on the future continuing to "bring the Kingdom to the Community!" I would like to congratulate current pastor Rev. Gray and all of the members of the Fifth Street Baptist Church on the occasion of their 130th anniversary.

RECOGNIZING REVEREND DOCTOR SAM E. MANN ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE SAINT MARK UNION CHURCH AND UNITED INNER CITY SERVICES

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. CLEAVER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the achievements of Rev. Doctor Samuel E. Mann, an individual who has dedicated his life to helping the underserved in the Fifth Congressional District of Missouri, the District that I am honored to represent. This weekend, Reverend Mann is retiring, after 40 years as Pastor Administrator of St. Mark Union Church and executive director of United Inner City Services. In that capacity, he oversaw a budget of $1.5 million annually, a sixty-two member staff and programs that included: child and family development, social services, and community development and street organizations and violence prevention.

He is a native of Eufaula, Alabama and a graduate of Birmingham Southern College, BA; Duke Divinity School, M. Div., and St. Paul School of Theology, D. Min. He is married to Dr. Beverlye J. Brown, and is the father of three children and grandfather of seven.

Remarkably, Rev. Mann was a local preacher at the age of 15 years old at the First Methodist Church of Eufaula, Alabama; he was later the Associate Pastor of St. John United Methodist Church of Kansas City, Missouri, and sometime later, the Pastor of the First Methodist Church of Peculiar, MO, and Director of the Young Adult Projects, Inc. Rev. Mann was dismissed from both churches because of his views on race and peace.

As a long-time civil rights activist, Rev. Mann marched in numerous demonstrations, including the march for the garbage workers in Memphis, Tennessee, the march against the war in Vietnam, led by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and was part of the U.S. delegation that visited with South Africa ANC leader Dr. Nelson Mandela shortly after his release from prison. Dr. Mann has also been jailed on several occasions for his participation in these activities. He served as a key participant in the national effort to respond to the burning of black churches in America. He has traveled to Nicaragua and China for various humanitarian efforts.

Rev. Mann was instrumental in the formation of Operation Break and Build, a street outreach organization that evolved out of the Urban Peace and Justice Summit in 1994. Its purpose was to assist street organizations, gangs, with transforming their lives via crisis intervention, education, economic development, addressing women's issues, and criminal justice.

He has been the recipient of many awards, including the NAACP Harold Holiday Award; the John M. Swomley Human Rights Award, the Elder Statesmen of Kansas City award, the MO Jazz award, the Sam Eason Award presented by Niles Home; the Black Archives of Mid-America award; the Beta Omega PSI PHI Fraternity Inc.'s Citizen of the Year Award; and many, many more. He is co-founder of the project "Reframing the Dialogue on Race in America." Through this national project, he attempts to address the problem of race by focusing on the issues of white supremacy and white privilege. Through training, he seeks to inspire ministries to address racism in their congregations.

His most recent project was the building of the $4 million child care center, the St. Mark Child & Family Development Center, located at 2008 E. 12th Street in Kansas City, Missouri. St. Mark's is a state of the art child care facility that annually serves approximately 225 low-income families through its early childhood education program, before- and after-school program, and summer camp. Nearly 100 percent of the children are African American, with many living in single parent households in one of Kansas City, Missouri's poorest neighborhoods.

Rev. Mann is presently a leader working in concert with other agencies in making Kansas City a Zone Seven site to provide additional services in the urban core for the education of children. I am proud of the federal funding I helped secure for St. Mark.

Madam Speaker, it is an honor and privilege for me to recognize my friend, and colleague, the Reverend Doctor Sam Mann for his efforts to improve the education and quality of life in the Kansas City Metropolitan Area. It is with great pride that we honor Reverend Doctor Mann today for his commitment to the residents of Missouri. On behalf of the people of Missouri's Fifth Congressional District, I wish this thunderous preacher and fearless prophet a well-deserved retirement.

HONORING HIGHLAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN INGLEWOOD, CA

HON. MAXINE WATERS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Highland Elementary School in Inglewood, California, located in my district. Highland was recently named a Blue Ribbon School by the Department of Education, a coveted award recognizing high-performing and improving schools across our country. This year, Highland shares this distinction with 304 other schools among the thousands of schools in the United States.

Highland and its teachers, administrators, staff, students, parents and community members have really been on a roll. In addition to the Blue Ribbon award, the school was also named a California Distinguished School, and Highland is a two-time Title One Academic Achievement School and California Business School of Excellence.

I am very appreciative of the efforts by this Congress and this Administration to focus on education and the future of our young students. We must remain committed to improving schools and providing opportunity for all Americans to learn.

In my district, like many communities in urban America, test scores are below average, buildings are in disrepair, and graduation rates are too low.

I was so encouraged to hear about Highland's honor because one of the two ways to qualify for the Blue Ribbon award is by having schools with at least 40 percent of their students from disadvantaged backgrounds improve student performance to high levels.

Improving test scores early on is crucial to getting kids on the right path to a solid education and key to securing critical resources that will help our schools turn around.

I want to particularly honor Highland principal Susan Ippongi and Inglewood Unified School District superintendent Gary McHenry for their leadership and their dedication to schoolchildren in Inglewood.

I am looking forward to meeting them in November when representatives from the Blue Ribbon schools come to Washington to be formally recognized for their achievements.

I am very proud of Highland's ability to excel over adversity, and particularly proud of the young boys and girls who are studying hard for a bright future. They are giving Highland Elementary School, our community, our city and our country a good name.

HONORING ZOILA A. QUIÑONES

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, as we celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month, I rise to honor one of south Florida's finest community leaders, Zoila A. Quiñones.

Zoila was born in the city of Cabana, Peru and completed her studies at the prestigious Colegio Nacional Mercedes Cabello in Lima, Peru and graduated as a Commercial Accountant. She then went on to work at one of Peru's finest engineering and architecture firms, Graña y Montero, S.A., for 26 years.

In 1986, Zoila came to the United States from her native Peru to join her mother and brother in Miami, Florida. She started a career in the cargo industry and eventually founded her own company, Cabana International Corporation. She also began her activism within the Peruvian American community of south Florida and is today one of its most influential leaders. She is involved with various civic and business groups including the Peruvian American Coalition, the Chamber of Commerce of Florida, the Ancashina Association and the Peruvian Civic Unity.

For nearly 23 years, Zoila has also taken an active role in the democratic process by educating policymakers at all levels of government about issues important in the Peruvian American community, working to ensure that the United States and Peru strengthen diplomatic ties, and helping shape legislation and policy towards Latin America. She has also been instrumental in fighting for small businesses, advancing economic growth in the United States and working towards free trade with Peru.

Zoila has earned the respect and trust of many in our community, dedicating herself to advancing the needs of the Hispanic community in the United States. I ask that you join me in honoring and thanking my good friend Zoila A. Quiñones, a true leader who loves and values freedom and works so that others may enjoy it.

THANKING TAEKWONDO GRAND MASTER JHOON RHEE FOR HIS 45 YEARS OF SERVICE TO MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Madam Speaker, Grand Master Jhoon Rhee is a man of rare character. An immigrant from South Korea who came to the United States in the 1950s, later to be known as the ''Father of American Taekwondo,'' he has become an American symbol of patriotism, service, and excellence.

Today, we celebrate Grand Master Rhee's 45 years of service sharing his wisdom, experience, and knowledge as a Taekwondo instructor with over 350 members of Congress. Yet beyond the contributions he has made to members of Congress for almost half a century, Grand Master Rhee has served this country through countless acts of service. Thought time does not permit me to share them all, please allow me to share some of the highlights today and give due honor to a man who truly makes me proud to be an American.

Born on January 7, 1932 in South Korea during the period of Japanese occupation, Mr. Rhee began training in the martial arts at the age of 13. Serving as an officer in the Korean War, Rhee fought alongside American soldiers, where he gained a deep appreciation for the country that he now calls home.

Rhee immigrated to the United States in 1956, introducing Taekwondo to the Nation. A World-renowned 10th Degree Black Belt, he has instructed and inspired students around the world. In addition to the over 350 members of Congress he has instructed over the past 45 years, Grand Master Rhee has also shared his wisdom and knowledge with the likes of Muhammad Ali, Jack Anderson, George Allen Sr., Bob Livingston, Tony Robbins, and Jack Valenti.

Yet his service does not end here. In 1983, Mr. Rhee—a symbol of patriotism—served as National Chairman of the July 4th, 1983 Nation's Birthday Celebration. In 1984, President Ronald Reagan appointed him to the National Council on Vocational Education, where he created National Teacher Appreciation Day—a day of honor for our Nation's educators which was signed by President Ronald Reagan on October 16, 1986, and continues today.

From 1988 to1991, he served as President George H.W. Bush's appointment as Special Advisor to the President's Council on Physical Fitness & Sports, and on March 17, 1992 he was selected as the President's 721st ''Daily Point of Light''—an award that honors individuals and volunteer groups around the country who are helping to meet critical needs in their communities.

In 1999, Rhee received the American Immigrants Achievement Award and the National Association of Professional Martial Arts, NAPMA, Life Time Achievement Award, and in 2000, he became the only Korean-American named by the National Immigrant Forum and the Immigration and Naturalization Services as one of the 203 most recognized immigrants in the country, along with Albert Einstein, Alexander Graham Bell and 200 others. Rhee was also inducted into the Taekwondo Hall of Fame in 2007 as both the ''Pioneer of American Taekwondo'' and the ''Pioneer of Taekwon-Do in Russia.'' He currently has over 60 affiliated Tae Kwon Do studios in the U.S. and 65 in the former Soviet Union.

It takes but a moment in Grand Master Rhee's presence to sense his honor for this country and to see that he truly exemplifies the American spirit. He is a living reminder of the goodness of this nation to the U.S. and the world. I must echo my dear friend, Congressman Ike Skelton, who once said, ''I might say Master Jhoon Rhee has become a national treasure.''

But what better way to gain a deeper sense of this man's rare patriotism and love for America, than in his own words. In a recent statement shared with my office, Grand Master Rhee wrote, ''I fought the Korean War side by side with American soldiers, who came to defend a country they never heard of, people they never knew. This is why I wanted to do something for what America had done for my motherland, Korea, with what I can do the best, TKD [Taekwondo]. The sense of my gratitude for America gave me the energy to get up 5 AM, 3 mornings a week for the last 45 years to teach over 350 members of U.S. Congress, as my volunteer service; I will give 5 more years to make it five decades of my service.''

Reflecting on the strength of this nation, Grand Master Rhee stated, ''I became curious what made America so great. In my sincere search for the roots of America's strength, I found the noblest mission statement ever written by any country in history. American Founding Fathers wrote the 'Mission Statement of America' to place upon America the responsibility of serving as the vanguard nation for the moral and political Freedom of all mankind, not just for American people. No wonder, why Alexis De Tocqueville, a French Juror in 1831, wrote: 'America is great because She is good; if America ever ceases to be good, America will cease to be great.' ''

Today I ask my fellow members of Congress to honor a man whose character, patriotism, and heart of service calls for our sincere respect and gratitude. Grand Master Rhee, today I celebrate and thank you for your 45 years of service to the members of this Chamber and the Senate. More importantly, I thank you for your example to the citizens of this Nation—for increasing the hope within each of us, for reminding us of the beauty and strength of our nation, and for inspiring individuals and groups of every walk of life to continually press towards the call to take it higher and make it better.

TRIBUTE TO GENE YEAGER

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the life of Ernest Eugene ''Gene'' Yeager, a successful businessman, philanthropist, outstanding community member and close personal friend of mine. On Sunday, September 5, 2010, Gene passed away at the age of 85. Although Gene has passed on from this life, he leaves a lasting legacy of generosity and accomplishment that will never be forgotten.

More than 700 people gathered to pay tribute to Gene at the California Baptist University quad, just behind the center that bears his name. The two-hour service brought together people throughout the community that Gene touched during his life, including industry leaders, former employees, friends and family members. Gene's life tells the tale of a man who turned his business empire into a conduit for blessing the lives of people around him.

Gene Yeager was born in Riverside in 1924. He graduated from Poly High School in 1942 and studied engineering at the University of California at Berkeley. In 1943, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy and was appointed to the U.S. Naval Academy. After World War II ended, he returned to Berkeley, where he received his bachelor's degree in civil engineering. Together with his two brothers, Richard and Jacques, they went to work for their father, Ernest Louis Yeager, who founded E.L. Yeager Construction Company in Riverside in 1919. Gene ran the public works side of the operations business which worked on projects to improve major freeways, dams and bridges. The brothers turned the business into one of the largest public works and private construction companies in the United States, and one that changed the landscape of Southern California.

With Gene at the head, the Yeager Company rebuilt two bridges that collapsed in the 1994 Northridge earthquake, built the Highway 91/Interstate 15 interchange in Corona, built the dam at Lake Perris and helped erect the Auto Club Speedway in Fontana.

After Richard was killed in a traffic accident in 1979, Gene and Jacques continued to run the company until 1995, when they sold it to a group of senior managers. In 2002, the business was sold to Skanska, the Swedish construction giant.

Through the years, Gene had become a leader and an industry icon. He is remembered just as fondly by his construction workers as he is with the people at Skanska, because of his intense work ethic and generous heart.

After retiring in 1995, Gene set about traveling the world with his wife, spending time with his family and generously making donations to worthy causes in the Riverside area, including a $1 million endowment to fund environmental research and scholarships at the University of California at Riverside.

In fact, his charitable work earned him ''guardian angel'' status in Riverside. Everyone that knew Gene, knew that he gave from the heart, and did so without any desire for recognition.

In addition to his wife, Billie, Mr. Yeager is survived by sons Ken, of San Jose, and Tom, of Riverside; daughters Beth, of Norco, and Louise, of Newport Beach; stepchildren Terri, of Riverside, and Doug Moore, of Rancho Cucamonga; brother Jacques, of Riverside; nephew Jacques Jr., of Riverside; and 13 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

On behalf of all those who knew him, it is an honor to offer these remarks as a tribute to the life and legacy of my friend Gene Yeager. His life and presence will be sorely missed and I extend my condolences to his dear family and friends.

ON THE 110TH ANNIVERSARY OF SIXTH MOUNT ZION BAPTIST TEMPLE

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a historic institution of faith in the Third Congressional District. This November, Sixth Mount Zion Baptist Temple will celebrate its 110th anniversary, and I would like to highlight some moments from the history of the church and its contributions to our community.

The seeds of Sixth Mount Zion were originally planted in 1900, when transplanted citizens from Charles City County and Richmond, working in the Newport News Shipyard, sought to establish a Missionary Baptist Church in the area. The first services, officiated by Rev. N.E. Nelson, were held in a private home on 22nd Street in Newport News. Rev. Chase Patterson assumed control of the church for a brief period, and started to organize Sixth Mount Zion as a Missionary Baptist Church.

Third Pastor Rev. W.M. Greene continued to organize the church, founding a Recognition Council to establish the congregation as an independent body, and in November 1901, that recognition was granted. After this initial establishment, Sixth Mount Zion Baptist Church went through 19 pastors until the church installed Rev. W.J. Brown as pastor in 1912. During this era the church worshipped in a borrowed building on 24th Street.

Rev. Brown served Sixth Mount Zion faithfully for 45 years until his death in 1957. He was succeeded by Rev. James Melvin Owens, who was installed as pastor in 1959. That same year, a fire destroyed the church building, but through the faithfulness of the congregation, a new building was built in the footprint of the old one at 643 24th Street.

Rev. Owens passed away in 1964 after 6 years of service to Sixth Mount Zion. The search for the next pastor took over a year, but on June 19, 1966, Rev. M. Ivory Jefferson was installed as the official pastor. One of his first actions, the establishment of a building fund, proved to be essential, when the redevelopment plans of the city of Newport News forced the church to relocate. Sixth Mount Zion met in several different locations from 1973 to 1976. In June of that year, the church purchased a site at 2003 Kecoughtan Road in Hampton, and the church was renamed Sixth Mount Zion Baptist Temple. The building was finally completed in 1978.

The move to Hampton was not the only change under Rev. Jefferson. During his tenure, the church also began a radio ministry, arranged annual interstate worship trips, and trained and ordained two Associate Ministers. Rev. Jefferson retired in 1996, and Sixth Mount Zion elected Assistant Pastor Rev. Jerome A. Barber to serve as head pastor in 1997.

The church has grown significantly from 300 to over 4,000 members since Rev. Barber's installation. The church has also been involved in outreach ministries in both Virginia and abroad. Sixth Mount Zion has mobilized action in Kenya, Uganda, and most recently Brazil, providing medical clinics, teacher workshops, and conferences for women and youth.

With its rapid, recent growth, the church outgrew its Kecoughtan Road location. In January 2001 the church moved to its present location at 3100 Butternut Drive in Hampton. In 2002, Rev. Barber established the Six House at the Temple's old Kecoughtan Road location, where the church holds education programs for children, young adults, and lifelong learners.

As Sixth Mount Zion Baptist Temple gathers to celebrate its 110th anniversary, the church can truly remember its past, celebrate its present, and focus on the future with great expectations. I would like to congratulate Rev. Barber and all of the members of Sixth Mount Zion Baptist Temple on the occasion of their 110th anniversary. I wish them many more years of dedicated service to the community.

STEM CELL THERAPEUTIC AND RESEARCH REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2010

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of S. 3751, the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Reauthorization Act of 2010.

This legislation is identical to H.R. 6081, a bill that I introduced with Mr. YOUNG of Florida to reauthorize critical bone marrow and cord blood transplant programs that save thousands of lives each year.

Each year, nearly 40,000 people under the age of 55 are diagnosed with fatal bone marrow illnesses, and about 16,000 of those individuals can only be treated via blood stem cell transplant.

These patient's lives depend on finding an acceptable adult stem cell donor match—quickly and easily.

The Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Reauthorization Act of 2010 would reauthorize the key programs responsible for helping these individuals by recruiting bone marrow, adult stem cell, and cord blood donations; matching donors and potential recipients; and linking these patients to care.

S. 3751 includes two main parts to achieve this spectrum of donation, connection, and care.

The first is the C.W. Bill Young Cell Transplantation Program, which houses the National Registry, the Office of Patient Advocacy, and the Stem Cell Therapeutic Outcomes Database.

The second is the National Cord Blood Inventory (NCBI), a program that provides grants to public cord blood banks to assist them in collecting a diverse population of donated cord blood units. These units are then listed on the National Registry, where patients and doctors can find them.

The reauthorization represents legislation that is truly bipartisan and bicameral, which is evident in the fact that it passed the Senate by unanimous consent on September 28, 2010.

Mr. Speaker, I commend our Leadership and thank Chairman WAXMAN, Chairman PALLONE and their staffs for bringing the reauthorization to the floor in time to vote before these programs expire on Thursday, September 30, 2010.

This is meaningful legislation with strong bipartisan support and a proven track record.

I urge my colleagues to support passage of this important legislation.

RECOGNIZING THE BIRTHDAY OF THE LATE MARY CHURCH TERRELL

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the birthday of the late Mary Church Terrell, a scholar, political activist and woman of compassion. Mary Church was born in Memphis, Tennessee to Robert and Louisa Church on September 23, 1863, the same year President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation.

Knowing the importance of an education, Ms. Church attended Oberlin College in Ohio, the first institution to admit women and one of the first to admit minorities. Upon her graduation in 1884, Ms. Church became one of the first African American women to graduate from college. She then went on to receive her Master's degree from Oberlin in 1888.

After graduation, Ms. Church moved back to Memphis and traveled to Europe before moving to Washington, DC where she married attorney Robert Herbert Terrell in 1891. During this time Mrs. Terrell took an active role in social reform and volunteer work. She befriended Susan B. Anthony and was active with the suffragist movement, working at the National American Woman Suffrage Association and several other black women's suffragist organizations.

Mary Church Terrell broke barriers by becoming the first African American woman to be appointed to the District of Columbia Board of Education from 1895–1906. She was also active in multiple black women's organizations, all of which strove to terminate both gender and racial discrimination. She was the architect of the merger of these clubs, forming the National Association of Colored Women (NACW) in 1896, becoming the organization's first president. She served as president until 1901 when she was named the honorary president for life.

In 1909, Mary Church Terrell, along with Ida B. Wells, befriended W.E.B. DuBois and later became a charter member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. In 1910, Mrs. Terrell founded the National Association of College Women in 1910 and in 1913 assisted in the formation of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Incorporated where she wrote the sorority's creed. In 1933, Oberlin College recognized her as one of its one hundred outstanding alumni during their centennial celebration. Oberlin conferred upon Mrs. Terrell the honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters in 1948.

Mary Church Terrell passed away at age 90 on July 24, 1954, two months after the monumental Brown vs. Board of Education decision. From the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation to the Brown vs. Board of Education decision, Mary Church Terrell was here to witness great social reforms for African Americans. Hers was a life well lived.

HONORING CHIEF RON REEVES OF THE CHANDLER POLICE DEPARTMENT

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. HENSARLING. Madam Speaker, today I honor Chief Ron Reeves, who is celebrating 30 years as the Chief of Police of Chandler, Texas.

Chief Reeves was appointed Chief of Police for the Chandler Police Department in 1980, after joining the department in 1979 as a reserve officer. Ronnie, as most people affectionately know him, has served the citizens of Chandler well over the past 30-plus years. Not only has he served the community, but he and his wife, Barbara, chose to raise their three children, Stephanie, Jessica and Matthew in this East Texas town and make it their home.

Chief Reeves is licensed as a Master Peace Officer for the State of Texas. Throughout his years of service, Chief Reeves has given countless individuals their initial start in law enforcement. Those he mentored have gone on to serve our communities and the State of Texas in the Texas Attorney General's Office, the Henderson County Sheriff's Office, as an elected constable, and countless chiefs of police.

Chief Reeves even took the initiative to form the Chandler Police Explorers program that gives young people the opportunity to see firsthand how law enforcement protects and serves their community. His desire to serve his community continues at his local church where he serves as the children's ministry leader.

It has been said that Ronnie's lifelong desire has been to help people in need, to make a lasting difference in his community and to leave a legacy of service, compassion, fairness and honor. As the representative for the Fifth District of Texas, I would like to say job well done, Chief. I thank you for your service, sacrifice and commitment for over 30 years to the Chandler community.

200TH BIRTHDAY OF ELIZA McCARDLE JOHNSON

HON. DAVID P. ROE

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, today I recognize the birthplace of Mrs. Eliza McCardle Johnson, born October 4, 1810 in Washington County in Tennessee. October 4, 2010 will mark her 200th birthday.

Eliza's birthplace is the present day site of McCarty Cemetery, Telford, TN on Highway 11–E, just four miles west of Jonesborough, Tennessee.

In May of 1827, Eliza McCardle married Andrew Johnson, who went on to become the Governor of Tennessee, the Vice-President of the United States, and eventually, the 17th President of the United States.

Ms. Eliza became the First Lady of Tennessee and the First Lady of the United States. She stood by her husband and served as his faithful advisor until her death.

Even today, the Andrew Johnson Historical Museum is located in Greeneville, TN, where the Johnsons established their home.

Madam Speaker, I recognize and honor the First Lady of Tennessee, Mrs. Eliza McCardle Johnson, born in Washington County. I am proud to reside in east Tennessee, the same dwelling place as her and her husband.

CELEBRATING FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH 175TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize the First Baptist Church of Cedartown, Georgia for their 175th anniversary. First Baptist was built in 1835 and has been a landmark in my district for many years.

The church gives back to the community through different programs which include scholarships for aspiring ministry students, financial assistance to the disadvantaged, providing volunteers and food for the local food pantry, and sponsoring a support group for those who have lost a spouse—just to name a few. First Baptist and its members provide immeasurable aid to those most in need in Cedartown, and for that I know the community is most grateful.

First Baptist's charity work also reaches far outside of Georgia—the church has maintained its leadership in missions by sponsoring individual missionaries in Germany and the Middle East.

Madam Speaker, I am extremely proud of First Baptist's accomplishments, and I would like to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating them on their 175th anniversary.

GEMSTONE FOUNDATION

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. BERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Gemstone Foundation, a not-for-profit organization in my home state of California working to improve reading skills of low-performing students.

The Gemstone Foundation's work is based on the theory that many students with poor or below grade level reading skills suffer from low "eye-brain coordination". Their research shows that children who read below grade level often have problems with coordinating the two eyes, tracking and scanning, or re-focusing their eyes rapidly. Most students' eyes glide across a page as they read without difficulty; however, up to 50 percent of poor readers experience one of the problems Gemstone identified. This may prevent those readers from being able to finish reading a line without stopping or skipping, significantly impairing their reading and comprehension.

Through an innovative, computer- and Internet-based course, Gemstone helps people who demonstrate ocular discrepancies to train their eye muscles, improving their reading abilities. In 2009, the foundation used ARRA grant funding from the National Institutes of Health to complete a pilot project of their technique at a Los Angeles Unified School District campus. Low performing elementary school students who participated in the project, called "The Eyes Have It!", demonstrated an average 25 percent improvement in reading fluency in just two months.

I applaud the Gemstone Foundation for their special focus on helping people who otherwise would not have access to visual skill development programs: children in low-income or low-performing schools; juvenile offenders; and people in adult literacy programs. I commend the foundation and its board members for their work and encourage my colleagues to learn more about it.

A TRIBUTE TO WAYNE WILTSHIRE

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Wayne Wiltshire for his achievements in the healthcare field.

Mr. Wiltshire is a graduate of Canarsie High School, and received a Bachelor's Degree in Urban Politics Island from Shaw University. He went on to earn a Master's Degree in Community Health from Long Island University and a Law Degree from Concord University.

Wayne Wiltshire began his career in health care as Administrator for Emergency Ambulatory Care Services at Cumberland Hospital. He then became the Associate Executive Director at Woodhull Hospital, which he helped open in 1982. During his time at Woodhull, he opened In-Patient, Emergency, and Psychiatric services. He then returned to renovate the new Cumberland Diagnostic and Treatment Center, and served as Cumberland's Executive Director for eight years. Following his time at Cumberland, he was transferred to Bellevue Hospital, where he served for five years as the hospital's first African-American Associate Executive Director for Psychiatry and Emergency Services. Mr. Wiltshire also worked as an Adjunct Professor at St. Joseph's College in Brooklyn and owned his own ambulette service, Health Link Incorporated, with his family.

Mr. Wiltshire is currently the Chief Executive Officer of Paul J. Cooper Center for Human Services, formerly the Brownsville-Ocean Hill Mental Health Service. While at Paul J. Cooper Center for Human Services, he relocated the Administrative, Mental Health, and Chemical Dependency Services to new state of the art facilities.

Mr. Wiltshire and his wife Donna, a 30 year health professional, celebrated their 24th wedding anniversary in July. Together, they have four children and five grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the contributions of Wayne Wiltshire.

RECOGNIZING THE DALE CITY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT FOR WINNING THE 2010 GREEN BUSINESS REGION AWARD FROM THE WASHINGTON BUSINESS JOURNAL

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the Dale City Volunteer Fire Department for winning the 2010 Green Business Region Award from the Washington Business Journal. The fire department joined the effort toward building a more sustainable environment with the opening of its new green station.

The new station includes environmentally sustainable amenities such as energy-efficient heating and cooling systems, motion-sensor lights, two balconies featuring green roofs, and a new fitness room with a scenic view providing an area for the firefighters to exercise and relax. The new station also includes an 11,000-gallon tank under the front yard, which collects rainwater that is used for irrigation. In addition, the new station's design helps to protect more than an acre of land that will be preserved as a natural habitat.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing the Dale City Volunteer Fire Department for its contributions to the community. As protectors of the community, the firefighters of Dale City also serve as leaders in the growing initiative to protect and preserve the environment.

TASTE WASHINGTON DAY

HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. INSLEE. Madam Speaker, today is Taste Washington Day, when more than sixty local schools and fifty local farms in my home state team up to celebrate Washington-grown produce and teach kids about healthy eating habits by featuring locally-sourced meals in the school cafeterias.

The Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) Farm-to-School Program and the Washington School Nutrition Association (WSNA) have partnered with local schools to feature Washington-grown foods in their school meals. From fresh-dug potatoes in potato salad to just-picked lettuces in fresh salads, this state-wide event is a great opportunity for students, teachers, and parents to consider where their food comes from, how it is produced and the benefits of a healthy diet.

Washington state is one of the most productive growing regions in the world. Our $38 billion agricultural industry is one of the cornerstones of our state's economy and supports over 160,000 jobs. If the Midwest is our nation's breadbasket and California our salad bowl, then I submit that Washington is our nation's fruit stand. We may be famous for our apples, which constitute 59 percent of U.S. production, but we also rank first in our nation's production of sweet cherries, red raspberries, hops, and pears. Our rich soils, unique climate and hard-working growers produce a wide array of agricultural products like wheat, potatoes and wine grapes for local, regional, national and global markets. Our geographic location and deep-water ports make us well positioned for global trade. Nearly $14.8 billion in food and agricultural products were exported through Washington ports in 2008, the third largest total in the U.S.

Our agricultural bounty supports a $13 billion food processing industry that employs thousands of Washingtonians. Washington is the leading U.S. producer of apple juice and a leading producer of grape and berry juices. It also has a vibrant and growing wine industry and is the second largest wine producer in the nation with over 600 wineries. We have a strong and productive food and agriculture industry that feeds and employs people in every single county in Washington. Agriculture has been and will continue to be a strong part of our state's economic and cultural identity.

Taste Washington Day offers our kids a chance to establish a deeper connection and develop a better understanding of our state's food system, from farm to fork and each step in between. The more opportunities our children have to learn about the people, time, effort and resources necessary to turn a seed into a crop, the more they will appreciate the food on their plates. As the next generation, it will be up to them to continue our state's agricultural heritage and history.

The valuable and delicious lessons learned through events such as Taste Washington Day will help them carry on our state's proud traditions.

Nutrition is another key element of Taste Washington Day. Right now, Americans are not eating enough fruits and vegetables. For the sake of our nation's health, we need to find ways to instill healthy eating habits in our children, including eating more fruits and vegetables. The more exposure kids get to fresh, healthy foods, the more they will choose them. Pilot programs in Washington state schools that promote salad bars and healthy choices have shown us that given options, kids will choose fruits and vegetables over prepackaged, processed items. The Washington School Nutrition Association helped school districts put together the menus for today's event, showcasing local produce in healthy menu items, a win for local farms and local kids. Taste Washington Day shows kids that the healthy choice can also be a tasty choice.

I encourage my colleagues to take a look at the relationships Washington schools and farms are building and lessons they are teaching on Taste Washington Day and explore ways they can support such efforts in their own districts.

ON THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SERVICE OF BISHOP SAMUEL L. GREEN, JR. AT ST. JOHNS CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST, NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Bishop Samuel Green, Jr., Pastor of St. Johns Church in Newport News, Virginia. This is the 50th anniversary of Bishop Green's service to St. Johns and the people of Newport News, and I would like to take this moment to recognize some of his numerous accomplishments during that time.

A native of Norfolk, Virginia, Bishop Green is a graduate of Booker T. Washington High School. He studied at both Norfolk State University and Old Dominion University, and received his Master's in Divinity and Doctorate of Ministry from Norfolk Seminary and College. Bishop Green married his childhood sweetheart, Vivian Frazier Green in 1946. They were married for 61 years and had nine children. A true partner in his ministry, Mrs. Green passed away in 2007.

Bishop Green became pastor of St. Johns in 1960. In this position, Bishop Green has been an extraordinary shepherd over a vibrant and growing flock. He has served on countless church and community boards and commissions, and his exceptional service has earned him honors and citations from the Clergy Economic Education Foundation, the Southeastern Tidewater Opportunity Project, and the cities of Norfolk and Roanoke. Bishop Green has received an Honorary Doctorate of Divinity from Trinity Hall College and Seminary and an Honorary Bachelor of Arts in Biblical Studies.

In 1973, Bishop Green was appointed Prelate of the Second Jurisdiction, State of Virginia, by the Presidium Board of the Churches of God in Christ, Inc. He was named successor to his mentor, the late Bishop D. Lawrence Williams. Under Bishop Green's leadership, the 52 church jurisdiction has grown to 72 churches. In 1984, Bishop Green was elected to the General Board of the Churches of God in Christ, Inc. He is currently serving his sixth term in office.

In 1978, Bishop Green announced to his congregation that he had been called to establish the Faith for Living Television Outreach Ministry. Starting with a group of 120 supporters, the ministry has grown to the point where Rev. Green now owns WJCB TV–49. The ministry, honored by the National Religious Broadcasters Association, sponsors a television program that airs nationally on the Inspirational Cable Network (INSP) on Sunday mornings.

On the occasion of his 50th anniversary, it gives me great pleasure to recognize and commend Bishop Samuel L. Green, Jr. for his service and dedication to the parishioners of St. Johns Church of God in Christ, the people of Newport News, and the Commonwealth of Virginia.

HONORING COLBY MARSHALL

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. WALDEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and express gratitude to Colby Marshall, a very special individual who recently traded in his public service in the Congress for public service in his community and dedication to his family's half-century old ranching business in eastern Oregon.

Colby was born and raised in the rural high desert area of Burns, Oregon, near Riley, where his parents Gary and Georgia still operate the Broken Circle Ranch. Colby recently

returned "home on the range" after 8 years of selfless service to the people of Oregon's Second District. His transition to the ranching business continues a proud family tradition five generations in the making.

In 1993, Colby graduated from Burns High School and went on to attend college at Ambassador University in east Texas, where he met his beautiful bride of 15 years, Shelley, whose family has ranched in and around Pendleton and been involved with the world-famous Pendleton Round Up Rodeo and Happy Canyon Pageantry Show for 100 years. Together, Colby and Shelley have two wonderfully charming children: seven-year-old daughter Hadley and nearly-four-year-old son Wyatt.

Colby graduated Magna Cum Laude with a bachelor of science in agriculture business management in 1999 from Eastern Oregon University. He worked several jobs to put himself and Shelley through school: he drove a mail carrier truck, tutored his peers, worked at the local grain co-op, and fought wildfires with the elite La Grande Hotshots. He still found time to rise to president of the student body. Little wonder he was honored with the Outstanding Agriculture Graduating Senior Award and Outstanding Student Leadership Award.

Colby got his first taste of Congress as an intern for Chairman Bob Smith, my predecessor in the Second District, on the Committee on Agriculture. Post-college, he worked for Pendleton Grain Growers before serving as Eastern Oregon University's alumni and government relations director. While there, he oversaw the formation of an alumni board of directors and helped lobby successfully for $32 million to construct the EOU Science Center, a state-federal-private shared enterprise.

In 2002, I made the very wise decision to hire Colby. He remained in my office for the next 8 years. Colby spent 2 years managing my central Oregon office in Bend before moving with Shelley to Washington, DC to manage natural resources and energy policy.

Colby helped shepherd key bipartisan bills through the legislative process, including the Forest Emergency Recovery and Research Act, the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self Determination Reauthorization, and the Mount Hood Stewardship Legacy Act. Colby managed a package of bills aimed at improving watersheds and water supply—an exceedingly important and delicate issue in the arid lands of eastern Oregon. The Oregon Water Resources Management Act contained four different acts—all became law with overwhelming bipartisan support.

The last major act Colby handled was the Healthy Forests Restoration Amendments Act, which would give federal foresters the tools they need to bring our sick national forests back to health and put people back to work in the forests again. This bipartisan legislation is vital to the rural West. I am hopeful we will carry across the finish line the good work that Colby started.

Colby returned to eastern Oregon in January 2008 to open my office in La Grande—the first ever congressional office on the east side of the State. In July 2009, Colby moved to Bend to once more manage the central Oregon office while continuing to oversee the operation in La Grande.

In March 2010, Colby transitioned out of my office and returned to the family land and livestock business. He is now a manager of the Broken Circle Company, the holding company for Broken Circle Ranch. He and his family live on the ranch 27 miles outside of Burns. His daughter, Hadley, attends the same one-room school that Colby and his mother both attended.

My colleagues, please join me today in paying tribute to Colby and his family as they turn to their new form of service. His unfailing dedication and faithful service will not soon be forgotten by myself or the many people whose lives he enriched through his outstanding work. While I will miss his counsel, I look forward to his close friendship for many years to come.

TRIBUTE TO DERRILL YAEGER

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the life of Derrill Yaeger, a close personal friend and prominent attorney in the Inland Empire. On Sunday, September 5, 2010, Derrill passed away at the age of 83. He will be deeply missed.

Derrill was born on April 2, 1927, in Lincoln, Nebraska. He attended La Sierra Academy and served as a surgeon's assistant in the Army Medical Corps in World War II. He went on to receive a business degree from La Sierra College and became the founding manager of the Alumni Association of the Loma Linda University School of Medicine. Derrill eventually resigned from the Alumni Association to pursue a law degree, and while attending law school at night at the University of Southern California, Derrill worked as an investigator for the Office of the Los Angeles City Attorney. Upon graduation, he joined the Corona firm established by Walter Clayson in 1910, where he practiced business and real estate law for 45 years. He became a principal shareholder with the firm which is now known as Clayson, Mann, Yaeger and Hansen.

Known for being in his office by 4:00 a.m. many mornings, Derrill built a legacy of well-planned residential and commercial development in Corona, Riverside and Beaumont, and became a leading expert in real estate law and development. His clientele ranged from La Sierra and Loma Linda Universities, to 3M Corporation and the Bren Company. He even served as personal attorney to musician and television star Desi Arnaz for many years.

Through one of his projects, Derrill worked to lift a moratorium on major land development in Corona and worked with the city to create a thriving community south of Ontario Avenue. He also helped Loma Linda University market 300 acres of sheep pasture for development that included homes and a medical plaza, and also provided support for the University's endowment.

Outside of his law career, Derrill remained very active in his community. He was a member of the Loma Linda University Board for 16 years, served on the Board of Directors and as legal counsel to Corona Community Hospital and the Versacare Corporation and later the Versacare Foundation. He also served as the President of the La Sierra University Alumni Association where he was awarded alumnus of the year. La Sierra University even renamed its new entrance road "Yaeger Way" in Derrill's honor. He was also a member of the Corona Lion's Club for many years. In May 2000, Derrill was given the "Humanitarian of the Year" award at Loma Linda University in recognition of his generous donations and tireless efforts on behalf of the University.

As a longtime member of the Victoria Club in Riverside, Derrill served as Club President from 1994–1995. A decade later, Derrill had the proud honor of witnessing his son, Kurt Yaeger, serve as president from 2005–2006, which was a rare honor.

Though his professional accomplishments were many, Derrill will be remembered for his kindness, integrity, and generosity, which was felt by those around him. Undoubtedly a busy man, Derrill tried to balance his professional life with his personal life, and often acknowledged that spending time with his family was what gave him the most joy. His children fondly remember the cherished time they spent as a family over the dinner table on Sunday nights, a tradition kept through the years.

Derrill is survived by his wife of 59 years, Frances; daughter, Nedra Yaeger; daughter-in-law, Andrea; and grandchildren Jacqueline, Elizabeth, Emily and Adam. Sadly, Derrill's son Kurt recently preceded him in death.

On behalf of all those who knew him, it is my honor to offer these remarks as a tribute to the life and legacy of my friend Derrill Yaeger. His life and presence will be sorely missed and I extend my condolences to his dear family and friends.

ARTHRITIS PREVENTION, CONTROL, AND CURE ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Arthritis Prevention, Control, and Cure Act. It is estimated that approximately 46 million Americans suffer from arthritis or chronic joint symptoms. Of those, 19 million suffer enough to limit their activities. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), by the year 2030, 25 percent of the population in the United States will have physician-diagnosed arthritis. Those projections are likely to be low since they do now account for an expected increase attributable to rising obesity rates.

Arthritis affects the daily lives of its victims in powerful ways. The pain is often chronic and relief can be rare. The inability to kneel or even walk more than a few hundred yards requires profound changes in almost every aspect of lifestyle. Those stricken might risk losing their job, and their ability to provide for loved ones. It is a devastating disease with no known cure.

The Arthritis Prevention, Control, and Cure Act, would establish the National Arthritis Action Program. This program will help in the research and identification of ailments, possible treatments, and preventative methods of Arthritis and other rheumatic diseases. It will also allow the CDC to access more grant money, permitting them to further their research. Those already suffering from arthritis will be assisted with control and prevention programs along with opportunities for patients

to learn self-management. It would also provide education of the public and education and training for physicians.

I am proud to support this bill as an important first step toward a day when we can prevent, treat, and cure Arthritis.

ALGAE-BASED RENEWABLE FUEL PROMOTION ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. JERRY McNERNEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2010

Mr. MCNERNEY. Madam Speaker, yesterday the House of Representatives passed H.R. 4168, the Algae-based Renewable Fuel Promotion Act of 2009, a bill I am pleased to support. I would like to thank Mr. TEAGUE for his efforts to incentivize the production of environmentally-friendly biofuels. Mr. TEAGUE worked across party lines to advance bipartisan legislation, and he deserves recognition for his leadership.

H.R. 4168 is a significant step forward, but I believe that additional refinements could help incentivize a broader array of environmentally friendly, economically viable biofuels. As we continue working to fine tune this legislation and related proposals, we should seek to ensure that federal tax policy treats all viable technologies fairly and equitably. I look forward to working with Mr. TEAGUE, Mr. BILBRAY, and other interested members to make sure that algal biofuels produced in Northern California fully benefit from this bill.

Developing new sources of cellulosic biofuels is beneficial to the environment, the economy, and national security. I thank the authors of H.R. 4168 for their efforts.

INTRODUCTION OF FEDERAL EMPLOYEE DISABILITY INSURANCE ACT OF 2010

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise to introduce a bill to offer Federal employees supplemental disability insurance at no cost to the Federal Government. My bill will allow Federal employees to collect disability benefits to replace a portion of their income if they become unable to work because of a non-work related injury or illness. While the Federal Government does offer non-work related disability benefits to Federal employees, they do not protect the lost income of employees who become disabled but who have not been employed by the Federal Government for at least 18 months, or 5 years as the case may be, and are disabled for less than 1 year. Under current law, Federal employees hired before 1984 who become disabled for more than 1 year are eligible to collect their Federal employee retirement pension if they have 5 years of creditable civilian service, while Federal employees hired after 1984 who become disabled for 1 year or more cannot collect such benefits unless they have been employed by the Federal Government for 18 months or more. Without the disability insurance option that my bill will offer, a Federal employee who becomes disabled, even for a short time, is at risk of financial ruin.

My bill is also significant because, although it will require Federal employees to pay 100% of premiums, the purchasing power of the Federal Government will allow Federal employees to pay lower insurance premiums and will not exclude those with preexisting conditions. A Federal employee can still elect to purchase disability insurance in the private marketplace, but they may face higher premiums or even be denied coverage altogether because of a pre-existing condition. This bill is a much needed supplement to the insurance benefits currently available to Federal employees.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

THE STEM TO STEAM RESOLUTION

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. LANGEVIN. Madam Speaker, today I introduced the STEM to STEAM resolution, which recognizes the importance of art and design in the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) fields.

Art and design advance the understanding of STEM learning and collaboration. In classrooms and laboratories across the country, the innovative practices of art and design play an essential role in improving STEM education and advancing STEM research. In order to strengthen the pipeline of future artists and designers, we must add STEAM to legislation that shapes the future of our education system, especially the Elementary and Secondary Education Act and the America Competes Act. Congress must also encourage institutions of higher education to incorporate art and design into their STEM curricula.

Art and design contribute real solutions to our everyday lives, distinguish America's products in a global marketplace, and create opportunity for economic growth in the United States. Artists and designers can effectively communicate complex data and scientific information to multiple stakeholders and broad audiences. The tools and methods they use also offer new models for creative problem-solving and interdisciplinary partnerships in our growing 21st Century economy. For instance, they are integral in planning sustainable neighborhoods, renewable energy initiatives, and health information technologies. They also play a critical role in the development of modern technology to support new American manufacturing opportunities.

It is also important to seek collaboration among the different federal agencies that oversee STEM programs. That is why I recommend the creation of a STEM to STEAM Council, which would bring together artists, designers, education and business leaders, and Federal agencies to facilitate a comprehensive approach to incorporate art and design into Federal STEM programs.

I encourage all my colleagues to support this resolution to change STEM to STEAM to expand innovation and opportunity in our country's education and research fields.

INTRODUCING THE CLEAN, RENEWABLE JET FUEL ACT OF 2010

HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. INSLEE. Madam Speaker, currently, the aviation industry does not have a commercially available low-carbon fuel option nor is there a statutory requirement (like the Renewable Fuel Standard for transportation fuels or tax incentives to help bring one to market. However, low-carbon, renewable aviation biofuels have been successfully tested in flights of both military as well as civilian aircraft.

Unfortunately, the volatility of jet fuel prices makes it difficult for renewable jet fuel to compete with lower-cost petroleum-based fuel and attract the investment necessary to build commercial-scale refineries.

I rise today to introduce the Clean, Renewable Jet Fuel Act of 2010. This bill will establish a responsible loan program that will allow biofuel producers to climb over the economic hurdles associated with commercializing their product. The commercialization of these products will not only create jobs at these facilities it will also create jobs throughout the aviation and agriculture industry. Additionally, the fuels that will be produced will also enhance our Nation's energy security as all of the feedstocks used to make these biofuels can be grown on U.S. soil. Recently, the Secretary of the Navy, Ray Mabus, made the research development, and increased use of alternative fuels a priority for the Department of the Navy.

These biofuels also offer a range of attractive technological and environmental aspects that will introduce efficiencies into our aviation sector that cannot be realized with current petroleum-based fuel sources.

In the great state of Washington, interests from the private sector, universities, and major airports are already working to bring the first generation of aviation biofuels to the market, and their efforts can be greatly enhanced by this legislation. These fuels are based on plants such as camelina, jatropha, and even algae; plants that can be grown right in the Pacific Northwest. In addition to being able to grow these feedstocks in our own backyard, research on the next generation of biofuels is also creating jobs at our highly regarded research institutions. These efforts will make sure that the U.S. secures its competitive edge in this field.

In closing, I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this bill, and hope that we can work together to move it towards passage as soon as possible.

HONORING FILIPINO AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. FILNER. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I acknowledge this month as Filipino American History Month. With passage of House Resolution 780 last year, the House of Representatives officially recognizes

October as Filipino American History Month and I am proud to note its observance again this year.

Filipino Americans have a longstanding history in the United States. In 1988, the Filipino American National Historical Society established this celebration to mark October 18, 1587, as the date when Filipinos first immigrated to the continental United States in Morro Bay, California.

Filipino Americans are the second largest Asian American ethnic group in the United States and continue to play a prominent role in our country in all facets of public life. One of the largest Filipino American communities in the U.S. resides in my district and I am committed to such a vibrant community. Filipino Americans have long served in the U.S. Armed Forces, and as chairman of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee I continue to honor the military service of Filipino American World War II veterans.

The United States is a nation of immigrants and we celebrate the accomplishments of Americans of all backgrounds. From the military to health care, education, arts, business, sports, government, the sciences and countless other areas of endeavor, Filipino Americans have made and continue to make invaluable contributions to the United States.

I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing this important celebration of Filipino American History Month.

RECOGNIZING COMMISSIONER CLARENCE BROWN

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Bartow County Commissioner, Clarence Brown. His dedication to Bartow County and to the 11th District of Georgia has earned him the well-deserved honor of having a new conference center in Bartow County named after him.

Commissioner Brown has earned this great honor for a number of reasons—mostly because he has spent much of his life as a selfless servant to Bartow County. He has developed sustainable growth management plans while perpetuating Bartow's commitment to environmental stewardship. He has also brought a new college campus to Bartow County, and he has established local partnerships with national non-profit organizations while expanding recreation facilities throughout the county.

Madam Speaker, Commissioner Brown has touched and enriched the Bartow community in a number of lasting ways. I would like to congratulate Commissioner Brown on his accomplishments.

WESTERN WATER SUPPLY ENHANCEMENT ACT

HON. DOC HASTINGS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Madam Speaker, today, I am introducing a bill that would expand water supplies, help resolve aging infrastructure in the West and protect irrigated farming acreage—all without increasing federal funding.

This bill, titled the ''Western Water Supply Enhancement Act,'' recognizes the benefits of long-term regional water conservation planning at the local level by authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to provide up to $15 million of already-authorized federal funding to irrigation districts and municipal entities engaged in multi-year, regional, integrated and coordinated water planning. This legislation amends what is commonly known as the ''Secure Water Act'' provision of Public Law 111–11 to ensure that large conservation efforts are eligible. As opposed to the current small-project-by-small-project approach to conservation, this legislation incentivizes more comprehensive, regional approaches throughout the western United States.

These regional approaches are a result of the Endangered Species Act, which places additional demands on already limited water supplies originally devoted to agriculture or municipalities. The Endangered Species Act is national in scope, but many of its requirements impact local water districts that bear much of the financial burden. Investing limited federal dollars in regional conservation projects that are the result of federal regulations can relieve this pressure and protect and promote existing water uses.

I have always been and will continue to be a strong proponent of new and expanded water storage. Legendary projects, such as the Grand Coulee, Hoover and Glen Canyon dams, are the flagship federal projects that have transformed the American West from the desert to some of the most productive agricultural land in the world. Some in the environmental movement believe that conservation of existing resources is the only way to solve our growing water and power scarcity problems. I beg to differ. Everything, including new storage, regulatory reform and new conservation, has to be on the table for us to resolve our supply problems.

The Western Water Supply Enhancement Act would be one tool in that toolbox. It is not the solution, but it is part of the overall solution to help water utilities with limited, already authorized funding in their efforts to provide water to farm families and help promote a safe and affordable food supply for our nation and the world.

HONORING HAWTHORNE MATH AND SCIENCE ACADEMY, HAWTHORNE, CA

HON. MAXINE WATERS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Hawthorne Math and Science Academy, HMSA, in Hawthorne, CA. HMSA, a dependent charter high school of the Hawthorne School District located in my congressional district, was recently honored with a Blue Ribbon Award by the U.S. Department of Education, a coveted award recognizing high-performing and improving schools across our country. This year, HMSA shares this distinction with 304 other schools among the thousands of schools in the United States.

I am very proud of the students, faculty, staff, parents, and community members of HMSA. In addition to receiving this prestigious award—the first school within the Hawthorne School District to do so—HMSA was also named a California Distinguished School and was listed—again—as one of the nation's top 100 high schools by U.S. News & World Report.

I want to especially honor Principal Esau Beruman, who is only in his first year as principal of HMSA. I suspect we will continue to see great things from HMSA under his leadership, and I look forward to meeting him and one of HMSA's teachers when they come to Washington, DC in November to be officially honored by the Department of Education.

HMSA has made great strides to create a rigorous and comprehensive academic regimen that prepares its students for college and helps them become well-rounded young adults. It boasts an impressive 97 percent graduation rate.

As its own mission statement reads, ''HMSA is committed to creating a challenging, rigorous, standards-based curriculum for all students, regardless of gender, ethnicity, primary language, or special needs status, within a safe and cooperative learning community.'' I believe the school is not only living up to that standard, but superseding it.

The students of HMSA should be particularly proud of their strong work. They are giving their school, our community, our state, and our country a good name through their dedication, their drive, and their excellence.

Congratulations to HMSA on this latest, but surely not the last, accolade.

THE INSTALLATION OF DR. CLAUDE G. PERKINS AS VIRGINIA UNION UNIVERSITY'S 12TH PRESIDENT

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Claude G. Perkins as Virginia Union University's 12th president. I am proud to represent Virginia Union University (VUU), which is located in Richmond, Virginia, and is one of the nation's oldest Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

Established in 1865 on the site of Lumpkin's Jail in order to educate the newly freed slaves, VUU was formed by the merger of Richmond Theological Institute and Wayland Seminary. Hartshorn Memorial College and Storer College were later merged into the University forming a true ''union.'' Today, VUU continues to be nourished by its African American heritage and energized by its commitment to excellence and diversity.

VUU's student body currently numbers 1,500 students—including 1,200 undergraduate and 300 graduate students—consisting primarily of first generation college students. VUU is proud to offer 24 majors at the baccalaureate level, as well as Master of Divinity, Master of Arts in Christian Education, and Doctor of Ministry degrees at the Samuel Dewitt Proctor School of Theology. VUU's Criminal Justice and Mathematics programs are renowned, and many teachers in the City

of Richmond are graduates of VUU's Education program. In addition to excelling in academics, VUU boasts strong extracurricular activities and programs. In particular, VUU has won four NCAA Division II National Basketball Championships—three for the men's team in 1980, 1992, and 2005 and one for the women's team in 1983.

This month, VUU formally installed Dr. Perkins as its 12th president. Dr. Perkins is a veteran educator with ties to Richmond, and I am pleased that he has returned to Richmond to lead this excellent academic institution.

Dr. Perkins has spent over 35 years in education leadership roles at various levels of K–12 and higher education. In Richmond, Virginia, he held the positions of Deputy Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent in the Richmond Public School System for several years in the 1980s and early 1990s. Dr. Perkins also served as Superintendent of Schools in Kansas City, Missouri, and Clark County, Nevada. In 2005, the Clark County, Nevada, School Board approved the naming of the new Claude Grandford Perkins Elementary School in recognition of Dr. Perkins' service to the Clark County, Nevada, education community.

In 2009, Dr. Perkins retired from Albany State University, where he spent 10 years in several posts, including Professor of Educational Leadership, Graduate Dean and Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs. School officials credited him with expanding the graduate program and increasing the University's international partnerships. He also taught graduate education courses.

Dr. Perkins is the recipient of many awards, including: The Ohio University Medal of Merit Award (1982); City of Richmond (Virginia) Resolution in Recognition of Educational Leadership (1997); The James Herbert White Preeminence Award for Education and Academics (2002); and the Nevada Senate Resolution of Educational Achievement (2005).

VUU has already seen significant change in the few short months of Dr. Perkins' leadership. Dr. Perkins led VUU through a successful reaccreditation process, increased enrollment, and began a significant campaign to upgrade classrooms and campus housing.

Madam Speaker, I am pleased that Dr. Perkins is the newest president of VUU. I congratulate him on this outstanding achievement and wish him much success as he continues the efforts to take VUU into the next century as a leader in higher education.

RECOGNIZING HARRY COGHLAN

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Mr. Harry Coghlan, a New Yorker who has earned special recognition and praise from the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) for his steadfast commitment to advancing public safety.

On September 15, 2010, Mr. Coghlan was presented with the Director's Award for Excellence by FBI Director Robert S. Mueller. Citing Mr. Coghlan's continuing efforts to assist the mission of law enforcement officials through his donation of digital billboard space in Times Square, Director Mueller recognized Mr. Coghlan in a special ceremony held in Washington, DC.

Times Square is known around the world for its energy, color, and signature advertising billboards. In January 2010, the FBI announced an agreement with Mr. Coghlan for his company, Spectacolor, to provide 40-foot by 40-foot digital billboard space at the corner of 47th Street and Broadway to display wanted fugitives, missing persons, and high-priority security alerts.

By entering into this agreement, the FBI hoped to follow the trend set by Newark, New Jersey, and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, by empowering the public in high traffic areas to help law enforcement by providing tips. Given the success of the digital billboard program in those cities, the immediate success of the program in Times Square was a surprise to no one.

On September 12, 2010, the FBI announced the arrest of an alleged mobster who had been displayed on a Times Square billboard in Yonkers, New York. Since the inception of the program in 2007, more than 35 arrests have been made by the FBI in connection with tips prompted by digital billboards.

Madam Speaker, I applaud the FBI for its effective partnerships, and I commend Mr. Harry Coghlan and Clear Channel Spectacolor for their pioneering work to use advanced technology to benefit law enforcement and public safety.

COMMEMORATING THE TRICENTENNIAL OF THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH IN WATERFORD

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate a very special occasion for the First Baptist Church of Waterford. Next month the Church will be celebrating its tricentennial—300 years in Connecticut and a rich history that predates our nation.

In 1710, the First Baptist Church of Waterford was founded by members who withdrew from the First Baptist Church of Groton to create a new church on the western side of the Thames River. They built a meeting house on Pepperbox Hill, which they shared with another congregation. Some services in these early years were held at the homes of the church's members. The third and current sanctuary, the Jordan Meetinghouse, was built on Rope Ferry Road in 1848. Today, the First Baptist Church of Waterford is the second oldest Baptist church in the State of Connecticut.

It shares a spectacular history with the town—having even served as the seat of its government. It was once a recruiting station for the Civil War. More than anything else, however, the church's 300 hundred years are defined by its deep involvement and generous contributions to the community around it. Today, the church serves people in the Waterford area by providing assistance from food to medicine to heating oil.

The First Baptist Church of Waterford is an historic and treasured institution that has persevered, survived attacks by English forces during the Revolutionary War, given our nation statesman, soldiers and helped those in need. Three hundred years is a truly remarkable achievement. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the First Baptist Church of Waterford on this milestone and wishing the church well for many years to come.

RECOGNIZING MEGAN JOHNSON AS THE WINNER OF THE 2010 PRUDENTIAL SPIRIT OF COMMUNITY AWARD

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Megan Johnson of Federal Way, Washington for winning the 2010 Prudential Spirit of Community Award.

Every year, Prudential Financial, Inc. chooses two people from each State and the District of Columbia as winners of the Spirit of Community Award. Megan Johnson was chosen for her outstanding community service. As a state honoree, Megan will receive a $1,000 cash award and a trip to Washington, DC. A senior at Highline CHOICE Academy in Burien, Megan was Washington State's top high school volunteer and one of ten national honorees. She initiated philanthropic programs for hospitalized children, the homeless, and substance-addicted babies. Her goal is to provide the underserved with the necessary resources to improve their situations.

At the age of 10, Megan Johnson established a non-profit organization named "Megan's Mission," making blankets for the homeless and soliciting donations to buy the homeless scarves, hats, and other warm clothing during the winter. In the following years, Megan joined ranks with community groups, schools, churches, and prisoners from Monroe Correctional Complex to make blankets for infants born of addicted mothers and collect DVDs for children's hospitals. Megan has aided four homeless families in finding a home; a remarkable feat for such a young woman. Currently, Megan raises money for Shriners Hospital for Children by writing and illustrating children's books, selling hot cider during Christmas, selling jewelry, and soliciting donations from corporations.

In addition to being invited to speak at the Prudential Spirit of Community Service Awards in South Korea, Megan has also been asked to be a National Patient Ambassador for Shriners Children Hospital.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Megan Johnson for her selfless commitment to others and her dedication to help her community.

CALLING ON TURKISH-OCCUPIED CYPRUS TO PROTECT RELIGIOUS ARTIFACTS

SPEECH OF

HON. VIRGINIA FOXX

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2010

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, I have serious concerns regarding H. Res. 1631 which was considered on the House Floor on Tuesday, September 28.

While the resolution proports to raise awareness regarding the smuggling of Cypriot religious and cultural artifacts, it only addresses cases related to Northern Cyprus and ignores the fact that it is a problem on both sides of the island, and should be addressed by both sides in addition to the international community.

H. Res. 1631 overlooks the destruction of over 100 mosques, shrines, mausoleums and other valuable Ottoman and other cultural treasures in the 103 towns and villages which the Turkish Cypriots were forced to abandon in the southern part of the island.

There is also no mention of the vast sums spent by Turkish Cypriots to restore 15 Orthodox Churches over the last three years—each of which has been completed.

In order to address this problem, Greek and Turkish Cypriot leaders established a Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage in May 2008 in conjunction with talks to settle the Cyprus issue. This Committee was given an important mandate for the protection of the rich cultural heritage of the island. It aims at preserving secular and religious cultural heritage monuments, which is an integral part of the ongoing process of improving relations between Turkish Cypriots and Greek Cypriots.

Had Greek Cypriots accepted the UN peace plan in the simultaneous referenda in April 2004, these issues would have been well on the way to being resolved, rather than discussed in third country legislatures.

Despite the rejection of the so called Annan Plan in 2004, direct negotiations between the two leaders on the island have continued in pursuit of a comprehensive solution to the conflict. As the party that has supported the UN peace plan along with the international community in 2004, the Turkish Cypriots continue to demonstrate their commitment to a comprehensive settlement based on the political equality of the two sides. Both sides need the support and encouragement of the United States and other members of the international community in order to bridge their differences and reach a mutually agreed upon settlement. The Congress should engage in activities that aim to bring the two sides together, not inflame passions. That is why I believe it was ill advised for the Congress to adopt this resolution.

HONORING SERGIO MASSA

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, as we celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month, I rise to honor one of South Florida's finest community leaders, Sergio Massa.

Sergio was born in the historic Port of Callao, Peru and completed his studies at the Colegio Militar Leoncio Prado. At an early age, his family instilled in him the value and importance of service and activism, and it is one that he has carried with him throughout his life. He came to the United States when he was 18 years old and first lived in San Francisco. He later moved to New York and in 1979 received a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration & Accounting from the New York Institute of Technology. Sergio then began his community involvement as a board member of Club Peru New York, the oldest Peruvian organization in the United States. He later moved to Miami, became the president of Club Peru Miami, and established his own company, Business Authority Corporation, which provides accounting services and development for small and midsized businesses.

In 1994, Sergio established the Peruvian American Coalition (PAC), which has brought together Peruvians from across the country and serves as a venue for its members to engage in politics and the legislative process, while promoting issues important to the Peruvian American community. Today, PAC has chapters in Los Angeles, Washington, DC, West Palm Beach, Atlanta, Utah, Idaho and New York City.

For years, Sergio has also been involved in an issue critical to our nation and that is immigration reform. Through the establishment of the Latin American Foundation, he has helped and guided countless immigrants as they transition and settle in the United States, enter the workforce and tackle language and cultural barriers. Sergio continues to advocate for comprehensive immigration reform, coordinating with other community groups and elected officials at all levels of government and working for the passage of that legislation.

Aside from the PAC and the Latin American Foundation, Sergio is the founder of the Peruvian American Political Organization USA (PAPO USA), the Peruvian American Coalition Foundation, the Tumi USA Award, the Latin American Voters League, Inc., the Convention of Peruvian Institutions in the USA, and AIPEUC-the Association of Peruvian Institutions in the USA and Canada.

Throughout his impressive career as a successful businessman and a selfless leader in our community, he has counted on the unconditional support of his wife Flor and his children, who have understood the value and importance of his service and have joined him in putting the needs of their community first. Sergio has earned the respect and admiration of many in our community and has been honored and recognized by local governments and organizations. Today I join all of them in thanking my good friend Sergio Massa for his undying commitment to seeing the success of the Peruvian American community and all Hispanics in South Florida and across the United States. He values the principles of democracy and works each day to ensure that they are preserved for all to enjoy.

LOÏS MAILOU JONES—HONORING AN INNOVATIVE TRAILBLAZER FROM THE HARLEM RENAISSANCE

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I stand before you today to recognize the late Loïs Mailou Jones, a renowned American artist and educator who died in 1993 at the age of 93. One of the longest living painters of the Harlem Renaissance, she influenced many emerging African-American artists during and since that historic period.

Her work will be on exhibit at the National Museum of Women in the Arts, in Washington, D.C., October 9, 2010 to January 9, 2011.

Loïs Mailou Jones (1905–1998) explored multiple themes and styles, poetically portraying African-American struggles in her work which included paintings, drawings and textile designs. For over fifty years, she consistently experimented with new techniques and inspired others to innovate. This led to many collaborations with her Harlem Renaissance contemporaries, from drawing illustrations for Langston Hughes to working alongside Carter G. Woodson, her significance during this period has been acknowledged.

As a long-time professor at Howard University, she shaped generations of students and upcoming artists. She enhanced their learning experience with painting tours outside of the classroom, convinced the exposure would help them become better artists. This included travels as near as the local park to as far away as Paris and Africa.

Born in Boston, MA, but traveling frequently throughout her career, her artwork consistently captured what was relevant in her life. After marrying Haitian artist Louis Vergniaud Pierre-Noel in 1953, Jones traveled and lived in Haiti and in those pieces one can see the influence of the Haitian culture, with its African influences and more colorful creations.

Her race and gender contributed to a long and challenging path before receiving recognition for her work, but eventually the accolades came. President Jimmy Carter honored Jones for her outstanding achievements in the arts in 1980, and in the last ten years of her life both President Bill Clinton and French President Jacques Chirac met the artist and collected her work. Loïs Mailou Jones continued to create her vibrant paintings until her death in 1998.

A unique synthesis of African, Haitian, Parisian, and American iconography, Jones' work remains a remarkable contribution to the world of art. Her paintings grace the permanent collections of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, National Museum of American Art, Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, National Portrait Gallery, Boston Museum of Fine Arts, the National Palace in Haiti, the National Museum of Afro-American Artists and private collections around the world.

At this time, I would like to also honor the current Trustees of the Loïs Mailou Jones Pierre Noel Trust: Robert W. Jones, Chris Chapman, MD, and Larry Frazier, Esq.

Madam Speaker, we recognize this distinguished artist and offer recognition of her contributions made to this genre.

CELEBRATION OF LIFE: THE LATE JASON EDWARD JUSTICE, JR.

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, George S. Patton, Jr. said "It is foolish and wrong to mourn the men who died. Rather we should thank God that such men lived." For that reason, on September 29, 2010 we did not mourn Jason Edward Justice Jr's death; rather we celebrated his life.

Jason was born on March 20, 1955, in Galveston, Texas. He was inspired to study hard

and prepare himself for college. He attended La Marque Independent School District. He was a great athlete which enabled him to receive full college scholarship. He graduated in 1977 from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln with a Bachelor of Arts Degree.

He parlayed this degree into a career of public service as Chief of Staff to Texas State Senator Royce West and me when I served in the Texas Senate. In addition, his more than three decades of state service included working for Ann Richards when she was the Texas Comptroller and with the Texas Employment Commission.

Jason was involved with many organizations such as the Coalition of Black Trade Unions, the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employee Union, the AFL–CIO and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. His integrity and excellent service earned him various awards.

Jason was devoted to his wife, Janis DeGrate Justice, and to his family. In addition to Janis, he is survived by his children, Jason Justice, III, Christopher Justice, Derek D. Smith and Barbie Smith.

Many of us in Texas knew and admired Jason Justice. I valued his friendship and advice, as did so many others, and we will greatly miss him. It is impossible to fully grasp the breadth and depth of a life of someone like Jason, who gave every project or responsibility his very best effort and who lived his life with boundless enthusiasm and compassion. He was a role model and mentor to so many, and he leaves a powerful legacy that will last for generations to come.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in memory and in honor of this great American, dedicated public servant, and truly great man—Jason Justice. We will not mourn that he has left us behind; rather we will rejoice what he has left behind.

HONORING THE MASSAPEQUA FIRE DEPARTMENT'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. KING of New York. Madam Speaker, this weekend I had the privilege of joining in celebration of the 100th Anniversary of the Massapequa Fire Department. Founded on September 25, 1910, the Massapequa Fire Department has a long history of dedicated volunteerism and service to the Long Island community including Massapequa, Massapequa Park, and East Massapequa.

The Massapequa Fire Department provides around-the-clock fire protection and emergency medical services to approximately 19,000 homes located within its district, responding to an average of 2,400 alarms annually.

As Ranking Member of the Committee on Homeland Security and Chair of the Congressional Fire Services Caucus, I am proud to support our nation's firefighters in Congress. These brave men and women risk their lives day after day to protect our communities and save the lives of others. Through Federal programs such as the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program and the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response Program, we can do our part in ensuring that these heroes get the equipment, vehicles, training, staffing and other resources they need.

I hope that this milestone in the Massapequa Fire Department's history reminds us of not only the traditional role that firefighters have always played in protecting our communities, but also how their role has changed since September 11, 2001, because now they are also faced with an increasingly complex and dangerous job of preparing for and responding to acts of terrorism. We must do all that we can to support them in their mission.

I want to thank Massapequa Fire Chief Peter Anglim for his leadership and service, and all of the firefighters, both active and retired, who have proudly served the Massapequa community. Congratulations on 100 years of dedicated service.

VETERANS BENEFITS AND ECONOMIC WELFARE IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN J. HALL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2010

Mr. HALL of New York. Mr. Speaker, thank you for the opportunity to speak this morning. I rise in support of several pieces of legislation before us this week that aim to improve the lives of our Nation's veterans.

As Chairman of the House Veterans' Affairs Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs, it was my honor and privilege to help move some of these bills forward. I also thank the sponsors of these bills for their commitment to our veterans.

These bills make substantial improvements to the VA's job training programs, making veterans more attractive to small businesses to hire and train, and to ensure that veterans suffering from PTSD and other mental conditions are able to appeal their claims decisions if they miss an arbitrary deadline, set by a bureaucrat.

I strongly support the provision in H.R. 6132 which will allow veterans receiving a pension from the VA to keep receiving their pension in the event they are awarded a settlement for loss or injury. This will correct an extremely unfair part of current law that includes these payments as income when determining a veteran's eligibility for a means-based pension.

I am also glad that the House is addressing the issue of Retained Asset Accounts. We have heard a great deal about these accounts for recipients of Service Group Life Insurance Policies. H.R. 5993 will ensure that the families of veterans understand their rights and are fully informed of their options when their loved one passes.

Thank you again Mr. Speaker, and thank you to Chairman FILNER for his assistance in bringing these bills forward. I encourage all of my colleagues to vote in favor of these important bills.

ARTHRITIS PREVENTION, CONTROL, AND CURE ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2010

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of my legislation, H.R. 1210, the Arthritis Prevention, Control, and Cure Act. I have fought long and hard for this bill alongside the Arthritis Foundation, the American College of Rheumatology, and the thousands of advocates across the country who understand how important this is. The legislation enjoys the bipartisan support of 181 Members of the House, and passed out of the Energy and Commerce Committee unanimously.

One out of every five adults suffers from arthritis, making it the most common cause of disability in the United States. More than 300,000 children suffer from juvenile arthritis. Early diagnosis for this disease is critical to ensure children get access to the right doctor and the care they need.

My bill will authorize the "National Arthritis Action Plan," giving legislative direction and leadership to a program which has proven successful since 1998. The Plan distributes important grants to states and nonprofits to carry out arthritis outreach and education activities. The bill expands the Secretary of Health and Human Services' authority to increase juvenile arthritis research at NIH, and authorizes important institutional training grants to increase the number of pediatric rheumatologists in the U.S.

I'm proud of the work I've done to raise awareness about the devastating effects of arthritis but I'm far prouder of the tireless work of the arthritis advocates who have walked these halls, called their Representatives, and shared their stories. Their grassroots efforts are at the heart of this bill and I'm so pleased we could work on this together.

Passage of the Arthritis Prevention, Control, and Cure Act is also a tribute to my friend, Senator Edward Kennedy, as we introduced this legislation together in the 110th Congress. His commitment to public health, improving care for children, and ending suffering are the principles which guided everything he did and I know he's looking down on us today and smiling.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF THOSE WHO LOST THEIR LIVES IN THE SEPTEMBER 29, 2009 TSUNAMI THAT STRUCK AMERICAN SAMOA, SAMOA AND TONGA

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember those who lost their lives last year on September 29 when American Samoa was hit by the most powerful earthquake of 2009 which struck below the ocean about 140 miles southwest of Pago Pago, American Samoa, and 125 miles south of Samoa.

The earthquake, which registered 8.3 on the Richter scale, set off a massive tsunami that

crashed into American Samoa, Samoa and Tonga, sweeping cars and people out to sea as survivors fled to high ground. In American Samoa, many children running for home unknowingly ran in the direction of the tsunami.

Entire villages in American Samoa and the neighboring islands of Samoa and Tonga were devastated by the disaster. In response, the United States answered with a generous and heartfelt outpouring of aid.

As we pause to remember the lives lost and the families impacted, I want to once more publicly thank President Obama for his leadership during this tragedy. The Obama Administration continues to stand with us and, on behalf of all Samoans, I thank the Administration for its swift response.

I also want to thank U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton for her unwavering support. At my request and the request of Congresswoman Laura Richardson, Secretary Clinton authorized the immediate airlift of 92,000 pounds of emergency supplies collected by Samoan and non-Samoan communities in the Los Angeles, California area as well as by our Samoan and Tongan communities in Salt Lake City and St. George, Utah under the direction of Reverend Elder Liki Tiatia, Reverend Dr. John Mailo, Reverend Dr. Misipouena Tagaloa, High Chief Loa Pele Faletogo, and HC Papali'i Misiona Patane.

In American Samoa, a team of more than 300 responders from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the American Red Cross, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and other Federal agencies coordinated relief and recovery operations.

The United States Navy, the United States Coast Guard, the Hawaii Air National Guard and the U.S. Army Reserve American Samoa provided critical transport of the life-saving and life-sustaining supplies and equipment to meet the immediate needs of the survivors, including more than 26,000 meals, 14,000 liters of water, 1,800 blankets, 800 tents, more than 800 cots, and 9 pallets of medical supplies and medical equipment in support of American Samoa's mass care operations.

The U.S. Department of Labor released over $24 million in National Emergency Grant (NEG) funds to assist clean-up and recovery efforts in American Samoa, although an average disaster NEG is only about $5 million.

FEMA has projected, or set aside, over $155 million for recovery efforts. So far, about $65 million has been obligated and about $45 million has been disbursed pending action from the applicant to define scopes of work or provide information necessary to clear environmental compliance.

Of this $155 million set-aside, FEMA has projected that about $77 million will be used for infrastructure. Of this $77 million, $15 million has been obligated, but only $7 million has been disbursed. According to FEMA, the program is based on reimbursement so FEMA cannot disburse until the American Samoa Government (ASG) requests a manual drawdown based on receipts submitted.

Regarding housing, FEMA initiated a pilot program and planned two phases of construction. Phase 1 required the construction of 8 homes and 10 additional site preparations. All of this work is completed and the 8 homes are occupied. Costs for Phase 1 are still being finalized.

A contract award for Phase 2 is expected to occur in early October with ground-breaking expected to take place in mid-to-late October. A local business is expected to be issued the contract award for Phase 2. 33 homes are expected to be constructed in Phase 2. Overall, the entire pilot program currently stands at 41 homes.

The U.S. Congress also set aside an additional $1.2 million to provide direct assistance to ASG for the disaster through the U.S. Department of the Interior.

In addition to more than $200 million federal dollars described above, Samoan students at the Wentworth Military Academy collected $32,000. They donated $15,000 in cash to the American Samoa Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (ASVOAD) and the remaining amount was given to their families in American Samoa, and also used to provide airfare for the students to visit their families during the time of the disaster. I am so proud of these students who showed true leadership and courage in the face of adversity.

Some of my dearest friends and acquaintances also came to our aid. Without being asked, they contacted my office immediately after the tragedy wanting to make donations and help in whatever way they could.

For historical purposes, I am listing their names below because no act of kindness should ever pass by without sincere acknowledgment to the persons, governments and organizations who gave so generously. They are:

Chairman Li Ka Shing (Li Ka Shing Foundation) (Presented to PM Tuilaepa on behalf of the people of American Samoa)—$100,000.

Chairman Li Ka Shing (Li Ka Shing Foundation) (Presented to Am. Samoa Disaster Relief and Recovery Program)—$150,000.

Chairman Seung-Youn Kim (Hanwha Group) (presented to American Samoa Red Cross: $62,985 for caskets of deceased in Am. Samoa; $37,015 remainder to Am. Samoa Red Cross)—$100,000.

President Nursultan Nazarbayev, Republic of Kazakhstan (Presented to Am. Samoa Disaster Relief and Recovery)—$50,000.

Government of Thailand (Presented to Am. Samoa Disaster Relief and Recovery Program)—$15,000.

Government of Taiwan (Presented to Am. Samoa Red Cross)—$10,000.

Mr. Raymond Calamaro, Esq. (D.C. Attorney) (Presented to Am. Samoa Red Cross)—$1,000.

Mr. Steven Kirchof (Florida Businessman) (Presented to Am. Samoa Red Cross)—$1,000.

Also, I again want to make special mention of Secretary of State Hillary Clinton who really fought to make an airlift possible.

DC10 Charter flight (authorized by U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton for shipment of 92,000 pounds of aid to Apia, Samoa)—$300,000.

Total—$727,000.

While American Samoa is now on the road to recovery, there is still much work to be done. But with the faith and support and prayers of our people and with the additional funds ASG is receiving from the federal government as a result of the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA), we have every opportunity to forge ahead and become stronger than before, and I thank my colleagues for standing with American Samoa.

DEMANDING JUSTICE FOR RUSSIAN WHISTLEBLOWER SERGEI MAGNITSKY AND REFORM OF RUSSIAN PRISON SYSTEM

HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. McGOVERN. Madam Speaker, today I introduced the ''Justice for Sergei Magnitsky Act of 2010'' in the House. This bill is the result of a recent hearing I chaired as Co-Chairman of the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission on the human rights situation in the Russian Federation. During this important hearing, the Commission heard extraordinary testimony regarding an extraordinary senior Russian lawyer and tax advisor, Sergei Leonidovich Magnitsky, who vigorously represented his client, the Hermitage Capital Ltd/HSBC, before the relevant Russian authorities regarding the fraudulent take-over of Hermitage subsidiaries and an elaborate tax fraud scheme which was designed to defraud the Russian Treasury of an estimated of 5.4 billion rubles (USD $230 million).

Mr. Magnitsky testified before the Investigative Committee of the Russian Prosecutor Office on June 5, 2008 and October 7, 2008, and specifically implicated Lt. Colonel Artem Kuznetsov and Major Pavel Karpov of the Interior Ministry in the fraud scheme, among other officials. In a Kafkaesque turn of events, instead of investigating those officials, the Ministry of Interior charged Mr. Magnitsky with tax fraud and arrested him on November 24, 2008 and placed him in Moscow's pre-trial detention facility of the Moscow Branch of the Interior Ministry on the orders of Major Oleg Silchenko. Despite the fact that Lt. Colonel Kuznetsov's was implicated in the fraud scheme, he served as a senior member of the investigation team responsible for Mr. Magnitsky during the nearly one year pre-trial detention.

While Mr. Magnitsky was in good health before he was arrested, only five months into his detention, his health deteriorated significantly. On July 1, 2009, Mr. Magnitsky was given an ultrasound to identify the cause of his medical symptoms and a surgeon diagnosed him with ''calculous cholecystitis'' and ordered another ultrasound, which was to be followed by surgery within a month. One week before his scheduled treatment, on July 25, 2009, and fully aware of Mr. Magnitsky's medical condition, Ivan Pavlovich Prokopenko, head of the pre-trial detention facility Matrosskaya Tishina, approved the transfer of Mr. Magnitsky to Butyrka Prison (Detention Center 77/2). Detention Center 77/2 did not have the appropriate medical facilities to allow Mr. Magnitsky the prescribed medical treatment and necessary surgery. Despite his medical condition, Mr. Magnitsky was not examined by a doctor upon his arrival at the Detention Center 77/2. He was subsequently transferred to eight different cells, with each transfer a marked health deterioration as a result. Undeterred, Mr. Magnitsky testified again on October 13, 2009 concerning the complicity of Interior Ministry officials in the theft of 5.4 billion rubles from the Treasury and accused them of investigating him in retaliation for his testimonies. On November 11, 2009, Mr. Magnitsky filed a petition with the interior Ministry and the court

stating his determination to bring to trial officials who falsified the case against him. On November 13, 2009, he wrote petitions in which he stated that he had been transferred again to a new cell during the night, and that he was intentionally deprived of sleep and hot food. As a result he developed acute pain and vomiting and insisted on seeing a doctor and an ultrasound examination that was prescribed to him in July 2009. This examination was never carried out. After having been denied medical treatment for four months, Mr. Magnitsky's condition became critical and he died on November 16, 2009.

Madam Speaker, this injustice cannot stand. And while no words will comfort the painful loss of the Magnitsky family—Sergei is survived by his wife and two children—his case at least got international exposure because of the wherewithal and connections of his employer, Hermitage Capital Management of London. In that aspect, Sergei's case is similar to that of Mikhail Khodorkovsky and the Yukos case. But how many unknown Sergei Magnitskys and Mikhail Khodorkovskys languish unjustly in Russian prisons because of corruption? How many voices critical of the Russian government have been silenced this way?

Madam Speaker, the Russian Federation remains a crucial world power of critical importance to the United States in vital policy areas, including, but not limited to, nuclear proliferation issues such as in Iran and North Korea, disarmament agreements, global warming, the war on terror, and the international economic crisis. I therefore applaud our Secretary of State Hillary Clinton for working hard to strengthen and deepen our ties with Russia and the Russian people, which reflect the important role Russia continues to play today.

I believe that my bill directly contributes to those deepening ties by establishing human rights accountability. Under my bill, the individuals who have—in the determination of our Secretary of State—directly contributed to the death of Sergei Magnitsky will be put on a visa ban list until they have been thoroughly investigated. It further requires the Russian government to undertake significant reform steps to bring the Russian prison system into compliance with international standards. We must ensure that these perpetrators do not get rewarded with shopping trips on New York's Fifth Avenue or elsewhere in the U.S.—that is the least we can do for Sergei. Furthermore, my bill will ensure that no U.S. bank accounts can be used to transfer the ill-gotten spoils of this fraud, and any such assets are frozen, so they can be returned to their rightful owner, the Russian people.

TEMPORARY EXTENSION OF SMALL BUSINESS PROGRAMS

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 23, 2010

Ms. McCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of the Small Business Lending Fund Act of 2010 (H.R. 5297). This legislation will extend much needed credit and reduce taxes for small businesses all across the country.

Small businesses are the engine of job creation in our economy and are playing a crucial role in helping America recover from the worst recession in 75 years. Still, small main street businesses are struggling to expand due to a lack of credit. The Small Business Lending Fund Act of 2010 (H.R. 5297) helps small businesses expand by creating a new $30 billion fund for small and medium-sized community banks. This fund is expected to leverage up to $300 billion in small business lending.

The economic impact of this legislation would be significant. It will create up to 500,000 jobs and provide loan guarantees to approximately 8,000 community banks. H.R. 5297 provides $12 billion in tax breaks for small businesses, including write-offs on capital investments and credits for new hires. More importantly, his bill will not add a dime to the deficit because it is fully paid for by closing tax loopholes.

Congressional Republicans repeatedly say they support small businesses while at the same time deliberately delaying and obstructing this legislation, which cuts taxes and expands access to credit for small businesses. When our economy is recovering and small businesses need access to credit, new American jobs should not fall victim to the gridlock caused by Republicans in Congress.

There is no question in my mind that we will get America's economy back. Until credit is flowing and houses are selling, until customers are confident and job creation is back on track, I will continue to take actions that place our country on a sustained path of broad-based economic growth.

I urge my colleagues to join me in voting for the Small Business Lending Fund Act of 2010.

HONORING UNITED STATES NAVY RESERVE CAPTAIN STEVEN M. CARLEY

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor United States Navy Reserve Captain Steven M. Carley, who retired after 39 years of service in August 2010. I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring Captain Carley for his commitment to our Nation.

Captain Carley enlisted in the Navy Reserve in 1968 and began his career at Sand Point Naval Air Station in Seattle, WA. After 13 years of enlisted service working in intelligence, Captain Carley was commissioned in November 1984 and became an Intelligence Officer in the Navy Reserve. Over the course of his career, he was assigned to multiple units where he served in a range of roles from Intelligence Analyst to Executive Officer. Additionally, Captain Carley participated in five major joint exercises in Korea as well as annual overseas training in Germany and Japan.

Captain Carley's achievements are remarkable and plenty. His military awards include the Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Reserve Meritorious Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, and the Marine Corps Commendation Medal.

Captain Carley currently resides in Olympia, WA where he serves his community through various community service projects and his position with the Washington State Department of Ecology, where he manages the water pollution control grant program.

Madam Speaker, I congratulate Captain Steven M. Carley on his many remarkable achievements, his venerable service to his country, and his retirement after 39 years with the United States Navy Reserve.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 847, JAMES ZADROGA 9/11 HEALTH AND COMPENSATION ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. EARL POMEROY

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the Motion to Recommit H.R. 847, the James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act.

I believe that our current medical malpractice system is in need of reform. Rising medical liability premiums are threatening trauma centers, emergency rooms and obstetrician-gynecological practices and the patients they serve, causing some to shut their doors because they cannot afford the cost or risk of treating patients. To help address this issue, I have repeatedly voted for legislation that would reform our medical malpractice system by, among other things, placing a cap of $250,000 on noneconomic and punitive damages as well as limiting lawyers' contingent fees.

While the flawed Motion to Recommit H.R. 847, the James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act includes important provisions to help avoid frivolous medical malpractice lawsuits, it would also eliminate important delivery system reforms recently enacted in the health care reform law. This includes eliminating the Independent Payment Advisory Board which is charged with developing recommendations about innovative ways to better control costs both in public and private health programs while also ensuring that care is improved. In addition, I believe that comparative effectiveness research holds the potential to improve quality by helping doctors and patients determine the most effective treatment approaches. Repealing this important program would be an unacceptable step backwards. Furthermore, I have deep concerns with reducing funding aimed at improving public health.

For these reasons, I urge my colleagues to oppose the flawed Motion to Recommit H.R. 847, the James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2378, CURRENCY REFORM FOR FAIR TRADE ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 2378, the Currency Reform for

Fair Trade Act. I am a proud cosponsor of this bill, and am pleased that this measure has been brought up for a vote.

American manufacturers are facing numerous challenges during this recession, but China's manipulation of its currency is undoubtedly the most insidious. These unfair practices put U.S. firms at a distinct disadvantage in their efforts to remain competitive and to export goods to a growing global market. By fixing the value of the renminbi to the American dollar, China effectively undervalues its currency by at least 25 percent and affords its manufacturers an unfair advantage, making their exports artificially cheap. As a result of this manipulation, American-made products are unable to compete in the marketplace and American manufacturers and other exporters are forced to lay off workers.

H.R. 2378 will begin to address this market exploitation by allowing the United States to assess countervailing and anti-dumping duties on products exported from any nation that benefits from the export subsidy of manipulated currency. It has been estimated that by implementing these duties as many as 500,000 U.S. manufacturing jobs will be created. And by making American manufacturers more competitive, we can begin to overcome the estimated 1.4 percent annual GDP reduction caused by China's currency manipulation.

While both Presidents Bush and Obama have sought to address China's currency manipulation diplomatically through both bilateral and multilateral channels, China has provided only empty pledges to allow its currency to float freely with the market—pledges that have never truly been realized. When one looks at the value of the Chinese renminbi against the U.S. dollar, it is remarkable how unnaturally flat the rate has remained for the last 2 years. Though the renminbi has appreciated by a tiny amount in recent months, this is an obvious attempt by the Chinese to leave the impression that it is acting responsibly with respect to its currency, when in fact we all know that is not the case. This legislation is crucial to overcoming China's failed promises to operate in the global economy under fair rules and standards.

This is not some esoteric exercise. China's currency manipulation has a direct effect on a wide range of U.S. manufacturers, from steel to paper, machinery to textiles. It has driven firms out of business and cost us millions of jobs, especially in the Midwest. It serves to decrease exports and widen our trade deficit with China at a time when we need to be expanding our exports and growing our economy. As my constituent Zach Mottl, of Atlas Tool and Die and the Tool and Manufacturing Association, said, "a few percentage point difference [in currency value] can make that difference in terms of whether a company buys here or buys overseas."

It is the government's duty to defend the American people. American workers and families have been under assault for years from China's unfair currency policy which steals American jobs. While we've been playing by the rules, China has enriched itself by deliberately ignoring them. Our policy has been all carrot and no stick, with unfortunate but predictable consequences. We cannot continue to allow American businesses and workers to be put out of work by China's currency manipulation. I am pleased to support this much needed, bipartisan legislation, and I urge the Senate to quickly act on this important measure in order to bring fairness and balance to international trade.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2378, CURRENCY REFORM FOR FAIR TRADE ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, the imbalances in international trade, and in particular trade between China and the United States, have prompted many to demand a realignment of the Chinese yuan and the American dollar. Since we are running a huge trade deficit with China the call now is for a stronger yuan and a weaker dollar. This trade imbalance problem will not be solved so easily.

I would urge my colleagues to consider the benefits we receive from our relationship with China, one of which is that American consumers benefit from lower-priced goods. Adopting the policy urged by supporters of this bill would cause consumer prices to increase, thus reducing consumers' wealth. Other producers would suffer as a result of the consumers' decreased purchasing power. I doubt that many of our constituents want us to increase the prices they pay for goods and services.

Congress should also consider how the Chinese benefit the United States government by holding our debt. The dollars the Chinese acquire by selling us goods and services must be returned to the United States. Since the Chinese are not buying an equivalent amount of American goods and services, they are using the dollars to finance Congress' extravagant spending.

This deep and legitimate concern for the trade imbalance between China and the U.S. will fall short if the issue of fluctuating, worldwide fiat currencies is not addressed. The fact that the U.S. dollar is the principal reserve currency of the world gives us a benefit that others do not enjoy. It allows us to export paper dollars and import goods manufactured in countries with cheap labor. It also allows us to finance the welfare/warfare state with cheap loans from China and Japan. It's a good deal for the government but according to economic law must come to an end, and the end will be messy for the U.S. consumer and for world trade.

Our current account deficit and huge foreign indebtedness is a reflection of the world monetary system of fiat money. The longer the trade imbalances last, the more difficult the adjustment will be. The market will eventually force these adjustments on us.

Instead of having fluctuating currency exchange rates and the inevitable instability that accompanies them, we should be working to establish a commodity-backed currency whose value is determined by the market. This would provide an objective measurement of the value of economic goods and services and thus strengthen the economy by freeing it from the negative effects of our unstable monetary policy.

Instead of promoting global economic government, the United States Congress should reform those policies that reduce our manufacturers' competitiveness. The taxes and regulations imposed on American businesses are damaging economic growth and killing jobs. If we were serious about creating jobs, we would be working on an aggressive agenda of cutting taxes and repealing needless regulations.

Congress can also improve America's competitive position by ending the practice of forcing American workers to subsidize their foreign competitors through organizations such as the Export-Import Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I remind my colleagues that stability in currencies is something we should seek, not something we should condemn. The bill before us today will not solve our problems. In fact, by refusing to address the economic stability created by fiat currency and instead embracing protectionism, it will further weaken the American economy.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2378, CURRENCY REFORM FOR FAIR TRADE ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I believe in free and fair trade among free peoples conducted under a rule of law. Our nation boasts the most open markets in the world. But not all the world's markets are open house; consequently, since 1975 our nation has amassed an enormous trade deficit that will top ½ billion dollars this year.

This trade gap has resulted in:

35 years of outsourced jobs by the millions to penny wage environments.

35 years of imports dwarfing our exports.

35 years of buying from countries who will not buy as much from us.

35 years of trying to penetrate the markets of countries who contort the trade and currency rules in their favor, not ours.

As our nation climbs out of its deepest recession since the 1930s, we must rebalance our trade policies and take action to dig us out of this deep hole.

Take the case of China. The massive hemorrhage of U.S. jobs and wealth to China is staggering—in 1990 America's trade deficit with China was $10.4 billion, and by 2000 it was up to $83.8 billion. As of July of this year we are already $145.4 billion in the red to Communist China. These deficits mean lost jobs in America, a shrinking middle class as production and wealth get shifted offshore.

The evidence is all around us: Americans working harder each year, plants closing down despite increasing worker productivity. Now people's health and retirement benefits are cut, or they face unemployment, as their jobs are outsourced or destroyed

This is not a recipe for a healthy economy nor a strong nation.

How did this happen?

The Chinese are gaining a mercantilist advantage in their economic practices, which some experts call "market Leninism." They manipulate trade through several devices, the most potent of which is currency manipulation.

We must take the necessary steps to create a level playing field for American workers and companies by holding China accountable for unfair devaluation by 40 percent or more of its currency.

By making the Yuan cheaper than it should be, their goods are 40 percent cheaper here and in global markets than American-made products, simply because of that government's actions.

China manipulates its currency by making massive purchases of dollars, Euros, and Yen in the global exchange markets, intervening with tens of billions of purchases of other currencies weekly.

The result: the U.S. GDP drops by 1.4 percentage points annually just because of China's currency manipulation.

Jobs are lost, factories closed, and America's competitiveness weakens.

The U.S. has the following four options:

1. Negotiate with the Chinese to end their currency manipulation. The U.S. has been in such negotiations for 6 years. The talks have failed. That is why the Currency Reform for Fair Trade Act is so important.

2. Intervene in the global currency market by selling massive amounts of dollars. Intervention would result in massive inflation and if the Chinese countered, it would not work.

3. Seek WTO approval of global sanctions. This would take 3–5 years and there is no certainty that Europe or Japan would be supportive.

4. Impose an Adjustable Currency Tariff (ACT). An ACT would be set at exactly the amount that the Yuan is undervalued. Under this proposal, the amount of the undervaluation would be set by some neutral international financial organization such as the IMF. The value of the ACT would be adjusted quarterly. As China changed the value of the Yuan, the value of the ACT tariff would be altered correspondingly. When China ended their manipulation, the ACT would be zero. This is not old-fashioned protectionism, but rather a remedy against such protectionism directed towards American-based production and jobs. The crisis is huge and we must act now.

These corrections, including passage of H.R. 2378, if taken immediately, could create an estimated 500,000 manufacturing jobs here in the United States, helping to put Americans back to work and strengthening our economy.

The Chinese government's currency policy is an impediment to this great Republic of ours. It kills American jobs and weakens our nation in the global markets. It is time that we take action to fix this broken policy and stand up for our nation.

I urge my colleagues to join me in voting yes for this bill.

TRIBUTE TO THE CITY OF TAFT

HON. KEVIN McCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. McCARTHY of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the city of Taft, California, which is celebrating its 100th year of incorporation on Thursday, October 14, 2010.

The city of Taft is located in the southwestern part of the San Joaquin Valley, and has quite a unique history. Named after our 27th President, William Howard Taft, starting in the late 1800s oil was discovered in the western San Joaquin Valley and overnight an oil town was born. The oil that was discovered was in the now-famous Midway-Sunset region and Buena Vista Hills, and by 1910 Taft had officially become a fixture within Kern County. Standard Oil was one of Taft's primary employers and helped lay Taft's foundations by building numerous construction businesses, a machine shop, numerous supply shops, bunkhouses for workers, and dozens of company homes for employees. As one of the only towns remaining in the United States which exists solely because of nearby oil reserves, Taft has a rich historical connection to our County and the history of our Nation's domestic natural energy production.

The operational activities within the oil fields surrounding Taft have been the economic lifeblood of the city for over 100 years. From the remnants of old wooden oil derricks, to the historic Taft Fort, Taft has become a hallmark of the prosperity and endurance that has distinguished our County's industries and progress. State Highway 33 is now called the Petroleum Highway because of legislation that I initiated when I was a State Assemblyman representing the 32nd district of California to recognize the national resource that has put Taft on the map. In celebration of its oil heritage, Taft holds an event every 5 years called "Oildorado." This year will be the first Oildorado celebration that will consist of 2 weekends and will include many traditions and activities such as the grand parade, Maids of Petroleum Oildorado Queen Pageant, barbecues, dances, a World War II aircraft exhibit, arts and crafts fair, and oilfield skills contests. Also included in this year's Oildorado celebration will be the unveiling and dedication of the Oil Worker Monument, built to honor all the men and women who have worked in the oilfields over the years.

Taft has truly developed into a wonderful city of progress and yet through the years has still maintained a familiar, rural atmosphere making Taft a unique and enjoyable community to visit. The city of Taft is a vital component of California's 22nd District, and will continue to remain a place of economic importance and growth for the State of California. I recognize Taft and the members of its community in celebration of the city's 100th year of incorporation.

RECOGNIZING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PENSACOLA GULF COAST REGIONAL AIRPORT

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the 75th Anniversary of the Pensacola Gulf Coast Regional Airport and its service to northwest Florida and visitors worldwide.

Established during the Great Depression, the grounds for the new municipal airport for Pensacola, Florida, were purchased for the sum of $50,000 from Mr. and Mrs. Francis W. Taylor on November 1, 1935. Shortly after, the Works Project Administration authorized several hundred men to clear and grade the heavily-forested property, laying out the strong foundation, which 75 years later supports today's modern airport.

The Works Project Administration approved the construction of three paved runways and the airport's first administration building. In 1937, a Stinson Trimotor airplane of Atlantic and Gulf Coast Airlines landed the first scheduled commercial airline passenger service. During the following year, the runways welcomed the first air mail service upon arrival of a Lockheed Electra from National Airlines.

Throughout World War II, the airport played a supporting role and was leased to the United States Navy. During this time, the military invested more than $1 million into airport improvements, including paving the way for a fourth runway. The Pensacola Municipal Airport was returned to the city's control in 1945 and transitioned to commercial operations in the 1950s. In 1952, a new administration building at Pensacola Municipal Airport was built and named Hagler Field, honoring Pensacola's beloved mayor, the late Conner L. Hagler.

During the next decade, the Pensacola airport embraced the commercial jet age supporting the landing of an Eastern Air Lines Boeing 727 in 1965, which called for lengthening the airport's runways. As its services continued to grow, the airport was renamed Pensacola Regional Airport in 1972, and in 1978, the increased commercial air traffic led to making arrangements for the airport's first regional airlines. To accommodate the expansion of their operations, the airport further enhanced its physical structure. In the 1990s, a two-story air terminal was built that included the airport's first enclosed jetways, and entering into the new millennium, plans were launched for a multi-million dollar modernization.

In 2008, the Pensacola Regional Airport was renamed the Pensacola Gulf Coast Regional Airport. While over the course of its history, the airport has undergone several name and structural changes, one thing has remained constant—the professionalism and hospitality of all those who have dedicated their time and hard work to maintain the airport's daily operations and who make it all possible.

Madam Speaker, over the last 75 years, the airport has grown and transitioned into one of the largest commercial airports in the Gulf Coast. Whether dropping by for a visit or calling Pensacola or its surrounding areas home, the Pensacola Gulf Coast Regional Airport and its staff provides all those who pass through it a warm welcome to the Emerald Coast. On behalf of the hundreds of thousands of passengers it serves annually and the communities of northwest Florida, my wife Vicki and I would like to congratulate the Pensacola Gulf Coast Regional Airport on their 75th Anniversary and wish its employees all the best for continued success.

HONORING DR. SUSAN REES, RECIPIENT OF THE U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS 2010 CIVILIAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, it is a real pleasure to rise today to pay tribute to the outstanding achievements of Dr. Susan Ivester Rees, who was recently recognized for her efforts to protect our Gulf Coast from the devastating impact of future hurricanes.

In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina—a storm which dealt an unprecedented amount of destruction and loss of life to the Gulf Coast—Congress authorized the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to undertake comprehensive planning to help strengthen the region's ability to withstand the assault of future natural disasters.

One of the studies authorized by Congress was the Mississippi Coastal Improvement Program (MsCIP), undertaken by the Army Corps of Engineers' Mobile District.

Dr. Susan Rees' leadership and active involvement in the project as Program Manager—working with coastal residents and marshalling the best ideas from across government agencies—was instrumental in shaping the final plan which won her praise from the Corps of Engineers, as well as other Federal, State and local leaders for its comprehensive nature.

Dr. Rees' extensive public involvement was pivotal in the formation—and approval—of 15 major construction projects, including the opening of canals to improve water flow, beach reconstruction, and rebuilding the Bay St. Louis seawall.

In recognition of her tremendous efforts and considerable leadership in the Mississippi Coastal Improvement Program, Dr. Rees was presented with the Lt. Gen. John W. Morris 2010 Civilian of the Year Award at the 2010 USACE Summer Leaders Conference in Seattle, Washington on August 2, 2010.

Dr. Rees is also a member of the scientific advisory board of the Alabama Center for Estuarine Studies at the University of South Alabama; a member of the executive committee of the Mobile Bay Estuary Program; and a member of the advisory council for the Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium.

I wish to congratulate Dr. Rees—as well as her husband, Fred, who, himself, has dedicated many years in government service, for their exemplary efforts to protect and enhance the quality of life along America's Gulf Coast. Susan is to be commended for her dedication to preserving our environment and making our coastal communities safer.

Madam Speaker, I join my colleagues in wishing Dr. Rees much success in her future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE EL PASO SERVICE CHALLENGE

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. REYES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize those students in my district who participated in the El Paso Service Challenge. The response was inspiring and impressive. Students performed various forms of community service ranging from painting their schools to volunteering at local police and firefighter stations. I initiated the El Paso Service Challenge this year as a way to encourage middle and high school students to give back to our community during the month of September in remembrance of 9/11. The idea for the El Paso Service Challenge arose from President Obama's call to service after the passage of the "Service America Act."

The Edward M. Kennedy "Serve America Act" is the most sweeping expansion of national service in a generation. Signed by President Obama on April 21, 2009, it established a nationwide "Call to Service Campaign" and designated September 11 as the National Day of Service and Remembrance. The swift bipartisan passage of the legislation reflected a national consensus that service is a powerful response to the economic and social challenges facing America today.

In addition to these students, I would also like to congratulate the members of the El Paso Senior Campaign Program at Centro de Salud Familiar La Fe for their volunteer work. La Fe has operated El Paso's Senior Campaign Program branch since 1988. More than 80 El Paso seniors are currently signed up to volunteer their time and energy to help seniors much like themselves by providing caring home visits and companionship. These seniors were honored last week for performing 73,000 hours of service in 2009, serving as a great example of a lifelong commitment to helping others.

According to the Corporation for National & Community Service, since the "Serve America Act" was passed in 2009, volunteering has increased, momentum is strong, and a new vision for service is taking effect. This is certainly true in my district as evident from both the students who participated in the El Paso Service Challenge and the seniors who participated in the Senior Campaign Program at Centro de Salud Familiar La Fe. Indeed across our nation, Americans have joined with friends and neighbors to replenish food banks, provide health services, support veterans and military families, restore public lands, and more.

At a time of great need, Americans are answering President Obama's call to serve.

Giving back to the community is an important lifelong lesson. I am very proud to recognize the volunteering efforts of all of my constituents, and I hope their work will inspire others to do the same.

IRA BRADFORD MILLER, SR.

HON. JIM COOPER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. COOPER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to Ira Bradford "Brad" Miller, Sr. who passed away on September 4, 2010. He was an outstanding member of the Middle Tennessee community, a leader in the construction industry, and a great friend.

Mr. Miller was a lifelong resident of Rutherford County, where he attended Central High School and received a scholarship to play football at Middle Tennessee State University. He answered his country's call to serve in the United States Navy during World War II and returned to MTSU to earn his degree after the war ended.

Brad Miller began working as a high school teacher and coach before pursuing his career in the construction industry. He started a water and sewer firm that eventually became Brad Miller Construction Company, Inc. After many successful years of business, Mr. Miller sold his construction company and became president of Tennessee Paving Company, an asphalt paving firm he founded with his brother-in-law.

Mr. Miller served as executive director of the Tennessee Crushed Stone Association until it merged with the Tennessee Asphalt Pavement Association to form The Tennessee Road Builders Association. Mr. Miller was a member and served on the board of directors for all three associations at the same time, and during the merger he acted as the liaison between the three firms. When the associations merged in 1982, he was chosen to be the executive vice president of The Road Builders Association, a position he held until his retirement. Brad transformed The Road Builders into one of the most powerful and respected associations in Tennessee. Later, he was elected chairman of the A-R-T-B-A Council of State Executives.

Brad Miller believed in the importance of having good representation in our Nation's Capitol. Over the course of his career he used his formidable lobbying skills to help influence important legislation. Mr. Miller's success in the construction industry was widely recognized. He received a certificate of special recognition from the National Stone Association, The Tennessee Road Builders Association Lifetime Achievement Award, and the A-R-T-B-A Award, the association's highest honor.

Mr. Miller was married to Betty June Carter Miller for fifty-nine years. The couple met in college and married in 1951. Brad Miller was the proud father of Ira Bradford Miller, Jr., Michael L. Miller, Cindy Miller Smith and Molly Miller Alspaugh. He enjoyed spending time with his children and seven grandchildren.

And so, Madam Speaker, it is my privilege to ask my colleagues to join me in saluting Mr. Miller's life and accomplishments. We are grateful for the contributions he provided to his community and the people of Tennessee.

LANCE CORPORAL CHRISTOPHER BLAKE RODGERS

HON. LYNN A. WESTMORELAND

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Madam Speaker, Lance Corporal Christopher Blake Rodgers answered his nation's call of duty by joining the Marines in 2008 after graduating from Spalding County High School; on September 1, 2010 he made the ultimate sacrifice while serving his country and fellow servicemen abroad. He was killed while conducting combat operations in the Helmand Province of Afghanistan.

Lovingly known as Blake to his family and friends. Lance Corporal Rodgers was a man ready to serve his country since the tender

age of eleven years old. Like many Americans, Blake watched in horror on September 11th as our nation faced one of the most tragic days in its history. It was on that day that he told his parents that he wanted to help those people who tragically lost their lives; that he wanted to serve his country, that that he wanted to become a Marine.

Blake always impressed his superiors in all of his endeavors. In high school he was a member of the JROTC program, rising to the rank of First Lieutenant. Under his leadership his company won the year's Best Marching Company award. His JROTC service in high school only furthered his resolve to join the Marines upon graduation.

After Marine boot camp and advanced infantry training Blake was assigned to Camp Lejeune, North Carolina where he was assigned as a rifleman and member of First Platoon, Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division. His unit was away from North Carolina for the bulk of late 2009 and early 2010, on training missions and pre-deployment work-ups designed to prepare them for the war they would soon be fighting. He deployed to Afghanistan in March 2010 in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. His first and only combat tour ended September 1, 2010.

Two weeks ago Lance Corporal Rodgers came home to Georgia for the final time. There he was met in the small community of Griffin, Georgia with a procession of people who had come to welcome their local hero home. He was laid to rest on September 11th, a somberly fitting tribute to a man for whom the date had overwhelming significance.

Lance Corporal Rodgers was a true hero and I ask that you join me today in saluting one of America's bravest. I honor Lance Corporal Rodger's life and mourn deeply for his family's loss.

TRIBUTE TO GEORGIE O'CONNOR

HON. KEVIN McCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. McCARTHY of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a community leader, Mrs. Georgie O'Connor, on her retirement after 49 years of service on the Lucia Mar Unified School District Board in Arroyo Grande, California.

Georgie O'Connor's family moved to Arroyo Grande in 1928 and she attended Orchard Avenue School. O'Connor and her husband Bill have been married for 67 years and have lived directly across the street from Orchard Avenue School, which is now Arroyo Grande High School, for the past 55 years, where they have raised four sons—Bill, Mike, Pat, and Casey—all of whom attended Arroyo Grande schools.

Mrs. O'Connor has the distinction of holding tenure as the longest continually-serving school board member in the State of California. Mrs. O'Connor was first elected to the Arroyo Grande Elementary School District in 1961. In 1965 the district joined other small districts in the southern portion of San Luis Obispo County in unification and became the Lucia Mar Unified School District. During her first 15 years of board service, she was the only female on the board. During her tenure, O'Connor has seen the number of Lucia Mar Unified School District schools grow from 4 to 17; expand to serve grades K–12, and an overall student population grow to 10,500 students.

Dedicated to serving her community, Mrs. O'Connor's stewardship and selflessness to the students of Lucia Mar Unified School District will be sorely missed and difficult to replace, but her well-deserved retirement will give her the ability to spend more time with her family. I thank Mrs. O'Connor for her lifetime of board service and dedication to the children of Arroyo Grande and San Luis Obispo County. I wish her the very best in her future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL ALCOHOL AND DRUG ADDICTION MONTH

HON. JUDY BIGGERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mrs. BIGGERT. Madam Speaker, recognizing National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Month, 2010 drug and alcohol abuse is a growing problem across America, and especially in Illinois. According to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, drug and alcohol abuse was found among 9.5 percent of our citizens ages 12 and older in 2008.

Established in 1989, National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month is observed annually every September and recognizes the treatment and celebration of recovery for those struggling with addiction diseases. This year's theme, ''Join the Voices for Recovery: Now More Than Ever!'' calls us to unite and encourage drug and alcohol-free living. Treatment programs, family members and neighbors can all help assist those who experience addiction. It is with this precedent that facilities in my district, like Timberline Knolls Residential Treatment Center in Lemont, IL, are serving those who suffer from addiction, and are dedicating efforts in support of this proclamation.

By recognizing September as National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month, we reaffirm the importance of education and awareness of addiction problems and the important role treatment centers across America play in addiction recovery.

BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor October as Breast Cancer Awarness Month.

Each year, Breast Cancer Awareness Month is a special time to celebrate how far we have come on the path to eliminating breast cancer, reflect on all we have accomplished, and redouble our efforts for the future.

This year is special because it marks the 20th Anniversary of the National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program, which provides breast health services to underserved women. This life-saving program has served more than 3.7 million women over the past two decades.

We have made so much progress in the past year for breast cancer treatment and awareness. The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act enacts meaningful reforms for so many Americans, but it will prove especially beneficial for those facing cancer.

Through health care reform, we guaranteed that no longer will cancer patients face losing their health care at the moment treatment is needed most. No longer will those battling disease face the atrocious burden of lifetime or annual caps on their treatment. And, a provision that is not only life-changing but life-saving for all cancer survivors: no longer will anyone be denied coverage due to a pre-existing condition!

If our health care system does not work for cancer patients, it simply does not work at all; so I am so thrilled to have been able to support these vital reforms for previvors, survivors, and all American families.

Early detection of breast cancer is a key to surviving the disease. We must ensure all women have access to affordable breast health services, and we must maintain our investment in innovative research to develop better screening tools and treatments for breast cancer.

When I was diagnosed with breast cancer shortly after my 41st birthday, I was shocked to have to deal with the disease—especially as a relatively young woman.

So often, young women are not aware of their risks, but young women can and do get breast cancer.

That's why, as soon as I was cancer-free, I introduced H.R. 1740—the Breast Health Education and Awareness Requires Learning Young Act, or the EARLY Act, to educate young women about their risks, empower them to know their bodies and speak up about their health, and work together to wipe out this deadly disease. And, with the passage of Health Reform we turned the EARLY Act from legislation into the law of the land!

Going forward, there is so much more work to be done. Every 69 seconds, somewhere in the world a woman dies of breast cancer—nearly half a million women this year alone, making it the leading cancer killer of women worldwide. Breast cancer will strike 1.3 million women this year alone and one in eight women will be diagnosed during her lifetime. This is simply not acceptable.

There are 2.5 million breast cancer survivors living in the U.S. today. I am one of those women—living proof of the power of education, early detection, and the incredible advances in treatment of the disease.

Today, we honor and recognize all those women who have won their fight against breast cancer, are still fighting the disease, those mothers, sisters, friends and wives we have lost, and those who work tirelessly every day to ensure that one day no one else will die from breast cancer.

I am so grateful to all of the wonderful and inspiring advocacy groups who have stood strong as my partners in the fight against this cancer.

During this special time we stand together in solidarity, wholly committed to increasing early diagnoses, saving more lives, and ultimately, finding a cure to wipe out this deadly disease.

IN RECOGNITION OF CHIEF EDWARD ''EDDIE'' JAGGERS

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a true hero from my district, Chief Duncan Edward ''Eddie'' Jaggers of Coats, North Carolina. Chief Jaggers has shown outstanding courage, selflessness and bravery by risking his life to protect the citizens of Coats and get lawbreakers off the street.

Although Chief Jaggers is a hero every day, one particular incident stands out. On November 17, 2009, Chief Jaggers went to work at a routine license checkpoint on North Carolina Highway 27 in Coats that turned out to be anything but routine. While checking the licenses of other drivers, a vehicle sped past the officers and through the checkpoint, leading Chief Jaggers on a high-speed car chase at speeds of up to 120 miles per hour. The suspect eventually stopped, grabbed an unknown object from his vehicle, and headed deep into the woods, leading Chief Jaggers on a foot race to detain the suspect. Chief Jaggers did not hesitate to follow the suspect, but a tussle ensued and Chief Jaggers was knocked unconscious. Lieutenant Kelly Fields found Chief Jaggers in the woods more than twenty minutes later, and he was immediately rushed to the hospital. The suspect was later apprehended by the Harnett County Sherriff's Office, none which would have been possible without the tireless pursuit and valiant actions of Chief Eddie Jaggers.

I had the honor of presenting Chief Jaggers with the Law Enforcement Purple Heart award earlier this month for his actions on that fateful day. A combination of Chief Jagger's exceptional courage and lifelong experience in law enforcement made it possible for him to react with lightning speed to protect the citizens of the Coats community.

Chief Jaggers has been employed with North Carolina law enforcement for more than 20 years, including tenures at the North Carolina DMV, North Carolina Secretary of State, and currently as the Police Chief of the Town of Coats. He serves as an example for his fellow law enforcement officers and shows us all the meaning of true courage and bravery. Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me today in recognizing the heroism of Chief Edward ''Eddie'' Jaggers. We in North Carolina are proud to call him our hometown hero.

ON THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE VIRGINIA STATE CONFERENCE NAACP

HON. ROBERT C. ''BOBBY'' SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Virginia State Conference NAACP (the Conference). During its state conference on October 29–31, the Conference will celebrate its 75th Anniversary, and I would like to highlight some moments from the history of the organization and its contributions to the Commonwealth of Virginia.

The Conference is celebrating its 75th Anniversary in the hometown of one of its founders, the late Attorney Oliver W. Hill, near the site of the first planning meeting of the Virginia State Conference. The Virginia State Conference NAACP was formed in 1935 at a time when racial inequality was permitted under the law. This injustice is what caused eight individuals to get together to form the Virginia State Conference of Branches of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Those eight people were: Sadie Wyche, Suffolk; Atty. Oliver W. Hill, Richmond; Jesse M. Tinsley, Richmond; Jewel S. Carrington, Halifax; Zenobia Gilpin, Richmond; J. Byron Hopkins, Richmond; Dr. Leon Ransome, NAACP National Office, and Mrs. Spencer, Roanoke. The group held their first planned meeting in Roanoke in 1935.

Many presidents have faithfully served the Conference since the organization's inception: J. M. Tinsley, 1935–1954; E. B. Henderson, 1955–1956; Philip Y. Wyatt, 1957–1960; Robert D. Robertson, 1961–1962; L. Francis Griffin, 1963–1967; Charles Brown, 1968–1970; Melford Walker, 1971–1974; Isaac Ridley, 1975–1978; Roger Ford, 1979–1980; James Hicks, 1981–1982; James E. Ghee, 1983–1985; Charles Mangum, 1986–1988; Jack W. Gravely, 1988–1991; Erenest Miller from 1991–1995; Paul C. Gillis, 1995–1997; Emmitt Carlton, 1997–1999; Rovenia Vaughan, 1999–2003; Linda Thomas, 2003–2007. Currently, the organization is fortunate to have as its president Rev. Dr. Rayfield Vines, Jr., who has served since 2007.

In the Conference's early years, J. Byron Hopkins, Jr., Wendell Walker and J. Thomas Hewing, Jr. provided legal services for the organization. In later years, an organized legal staff included Oliver W. Hill, Martin A. Martin, Samuel W. Tucker, Edwin C. Brown, Sr., Spotswood W. Robinson III, Robert H Cooley, Jr., Roland Ealey, Philip S. Walker, Rueben E. Lawson, W. Hale Thompson, Victor Ashe, J. Hugo Madison, James A. Overton, Jerry L. Williams, Otto L. Tucker, Ruth Harvey, Henry L. Marsh, III, John W. Scott, Jr., James E. Ghee, Dennis Montgomery, James Hume, Stephanie Valentine, S. Delacy Stith, Gwendolyn Jones Jackson and presently, Richard Patrick.

Over the years, the conference has taken up several initiatives to help better the lives of Black Americans. In conjunction with the Virginia Teachers Association, the Conference's first major policy campaign was the elimination of the difference between the salaries paid to the white and Negro public school teachers, a difference which was later determined to be unlawful in *Alston* v. *School Board of Norfolk*, 112 F.2d 992 (4th Cir. 1940).

Starting in 1947, the Conference took up the cause of eliminating segregation in public schools by requiring school boards to face the expense of equalizing schools for Negro children with schools for white children. Later, the Commonwealth of Virginia resolved to maintain racial segregation even after the United States Supreme Court struck down the premise of ''separate but equal.'' The Conference was determined to help desegregate Virginia's public schools. The Conference filed suits against school boards in 37 counties and 15 cities or towns.

It also fought to reopen schools in Prince Edward County after they avoided desegregation by closing their public schools for 5 years, starting in 1959. In May 1964, the Supreme Court ruled that the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment did not permit closing schools in Prince Edward County while public schools were being maintained in all other school districts in Virginia.

The Conference supported defendants in criminal cases where the case highlighted racially discriminatory practices in the justice system, such as racial discrimination in the jury selection process.

In 1981, after several organizations challenged the redrawing of the Virginia General Assembly districts, the Conference supported the lawsuit filed in the Federal Court in Richmond. The Conference helped negotiate the settlement which created one hundred single member districts.

Madam Speaker, the Virginia State Conference NAACP has been instrumental in the fight to eliminate of racial inequality and discrimination in Virginia. However, its work is not yet done. Racial disparities still exist in our education system, our criminal justice system, and elsewhere in our society. As long as these exist, I know that the Virginia State Conference NAACP will remain vigilant in its fight for civil rights, equality and liberty.

As the Virginia State Conference NAACP gathers to celebrate 75 years, the organization can truly remember its past, celebrate its present, and focus on the future with great expectations. I would like to congratulate Rev. Dr. J. Rayfield Vines, Jr., President of the organization, Executive Director King Salim Khalfani, and all of the members of the Virginia State Conference NAACP. I wish them many more years of dedicated service to the people of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

TRIBUTE TO THE MOBILE INFIRMARY MEDICAL CENTER

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the upcoming birthday of an important institution in my Congressional district that has provided a virtual lifeline for generations of Mobilians and others from throughout Southwest Alabama. On October 21, the Mobile Infirmary Medical Center will celebrate its 100th Birthday.

When the Mobile Infirmary first opened its doors in 1910, it served the public with 32 hospital beds and four operating rooms. Its facilities have evolved with time, relocating and growing to 258 beds in the early 1950s.

Today, the Mobile Infirmary Medical Center is the largest non-governmental, not-for-profit hospital in Alabama.

With more than 700 beds and 30 operating rooms, the Mobile Infirmary Medical Center is the region's health care leader, respected statewide for its specialty care and ''patient-first'' approach.

The Mobile Infirmary Medical Center enjoys an expert reputation for the diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation of patients with cardiovascular disease. The facility performs more than 4,000 procedures in its heart catheterization lab and more than 700 open heart surgeries a year, making it one of Alabama's busiest cardiac care hospitals.

The Mobile Infirmary Medical Center also offers the latest cancer therapies and treatments available and its research program provides treatment options not found anywhere else on the Gulf Coast.

In celebration of its 100th birthday, the facility plans several events next month, including a public viewing of its remodeled atrium and a reunion of everyone born at the Mobile Infirmary Medical Center.

One hundred years ago, the Mobile Infirmary was a vital part of our community—delivering babies, saving lives and comforting the suffering. Today, it continues to fulfill that important role for Mobile and all of Southwest Alabama and, indeed, the central Gulf Coast.

Madam Speaker, on this 100th anniversary, I offer my heartfelt congratulations for its exemplary service to our community and I am confident that the legacy of the Infirmary as a leading health care center will long endure. Happy Birthday, Mobile Infirmary. And special thanks to the thousands of men and women who, over the years, have helped fulfill your core mission of health care excellence.

CONGRATULATING FRANCINE FARKAS SEARS OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my good friend Francine Farkas Sears of Branford, a pioneering small businesswoman from my district whose company, Fabrique, has been named one of America's fastest-growing 5000 companies by Inc. Magazine. This acknowledgment is a testament to her entrepreneurial skills and spirit of innovation.

Francine is president and owner of Fabrique, a certified woman-owned business that provides cases and accessories for a host of consumer electronic products. Francine has led this company since the early 1980s driven by the vision of what women needed to compete and succeed in the business arena.

And its success is only the latest feather in the cap of a true trailblazer, one with 40 years of experience in the business world. As a stockbroker in the 1960s, Francine was recognized by Newsweek and the New York Times. And in 1972, she was the first businesswoman invited to visit Communist China, after President Nixon had normalized relations.

These achievements, like her inclusion on the Inc. list this year, speak to Francine's creativity, resilience, tenacity, and business savvy—all as plain as day to anyone who meets her. Perhaps most importantly, she has used her success to serve her community, by helping other women to join the business world and succeed in their own right.

I applaud Francine for achieving this recognition, and I congratulate her on both her thriving professional career and the continued success of Fabrique. She is a credit to the Branford community and an excellent reminder that small businesses can and do continue to thrive in our home state of Connecticut.

THE 99TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN)

HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Speaker, on October 10th, the Republic of China will celebrate National Day, this year marking their 99th anniversary. The United States of American and Taiwan enjoy a close and strong relationship based on shared democratic values and free market economies.

I salute the people of Taiwan for their recent achievements, including the completion on June 29 of the Economic Cooperation Framework Agreement (ECFA) with China. Improving relations between Taiwan and mainland China have greatly reduced tension across the Taiwan Strait.

While welcome, the improved relations between the two sides does not eliminate the need for the United States to continue to help Taiwan's defense capabilities under the Taiwan Relations Act. We should continue to aid Taiwan in replacing its aging air force. According to the most recent Department of Defense report on Taiwan's military power, China continues to enjoy air superiority over Taiwan.

It is also my view that we must support Taiwan's participation in global affairs by supporting Taiwan and its 23,000,000 people in becoming a member of the United Nations. An internationally visible Taiwan is a strong Taiwan.

Today, Taiwan is a major trading partner and friend. Our strong economic and cultural ties go back nearly a hundred years. We hope that this strong bond will continue for another 100 years and more.

TRIBUTE TO BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Breast Cancer Awareness Month, which begins on October 1. This month should serve as a time to reflect on the struggles faced by women fighting this deadly disease and to celebrate how far we have come and all we have accomplished in the fight for a cure.

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program, which has provided health services to more than 3.7 million underserved women. It focuses on one of the key factors in surviving breast cancer—early detection. Due to the sobering fact that breast cancer will afflict 1.3 million women this year, it is vital that we ensure access to affordable breast health services. Last year alone, the early detection program screened almost 325,000 women for breast cancer—and detected 4,600 instances of cancer.

In addition to maintaining this progress, we must also maintain our investment in innovative research to develop better screening tools and treatments. Numerous provisions in the health reform law will improve breast cancer screening, including annual mammograms for women age 40 and older.

A number of non-profit organizations are dedicated to saving lives and ensuring quality care for those suffering from this terrible disease. This is the 30th anniversary of Nancy G. Brinker's promise to her sister, Susan Komen, that she would do everything in her power to end breast cancer forever.

I encourage everyone to join me in recognizing Breast Cancer Awareness Month. I would like to acknowledge this month as a time of hope for those fighting this disease and to honor the 2.5 million survivors living in the U.S. today who serve as a testament to the power of education, early detection, and advances in treatment.

INTRODUCTION OF THE HOMELAND DEFENSE OPERATIONS PAY EQUITY ACT

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, today I introduced a bill, the Homeland Defense Operations Pay Equity Act, which aims to address an oversight in statute that does treat members of the National Guard or Reserves, who are also federal civil servants, with pay parity during periods of activation in support of domestic operations.

The Omnibus Appropriations Act of 2009 (Public Law 111–8) established Section 5538 of Title 5. The intent of this provision was to ensure that any member of the National Guard or Reserves who was called to active duty and who works as a federal civil servant does not incur a significant loss of income as a result of their activation to active duty service under Title 10. This was in direct response to the major activations for Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. Numbers of Guardsmen and Reservists who work for the federal government were suffering significant losses of income as a result of the activations to support Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. To address this disparity, Congress passed Section 5538 to ensure that the federal government, under specific regulations, pays the difference between their active duty pay and their federal salary.

However, Section 5538 does not cover a Coast Guard Reservist or National Guardsmen who was called to service in support of homeland defense operations under Title 32 or Title 14.

Since 9/11, our National Guardsmen and Reservists have answered the call to duty on numbers of domestic operations including Operation Noble Eagle, security at our airports, Hurricane Katrina operations, Operation Jump Start on the southwest border and most recently for BP oil spill clean-up. We should encourage, not penalize, our federal civil servants who perform domestic operations in the National Guard or Reserves. The Homeland Defense Operations Pay Equity Act would correct this oversight and ensure that Reservists and Guardsmen do not incur a significant loss of income in their service to our country.

I urge that this bill be passed, so that our dedicated Guardsmen, Reservists, and their families, do not face financial hardship while answering the call to service.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CIVIL SERVICE EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

HON. PAUL TONKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. TONKO. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to honor the 100th anniversary of the Civil Service Employees Association.

I want to publicly acknowledge this organization whose endeavors have served the best interests of the workforce in the State of New York. Labor unions have played an essential role in ensuring the prosperity, safety and liberty of workers in my home state, as well as our Nation, and around the world.

This great group of civil servants was first organized on October 24, 1910. The Civil Service Employees Association's founding was the first known instance of state employees organizing. One hundred years later, the Civil Service Employees Association is one of the largest, most influential unions in the United States.

It is New York's largest public employee union, representing 300,000 active and retired, public and private employees. Its members are an integral part of every locality and provide essential services throughout the state.

Today the association's members are the backbone of their communities, supporting every kind of charitable cause, service organization and community activity. With a membership of dedicated employees, the record of the Civil Service Employees Association in public service is one to be celebrated.

STATEMENT IN HONOR OF SOPHIE HAYFORD'S RETIREMENT

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, I want to take a moment to recognize the extraordinary work of the Rules Committee's Chief Counsel, who will be retiring this November.

For more than three decades, Sophie Hayford has served this chamber with grace and humility.

Beginning her tenure as a legislative aide to Representative Joseph Moakley, Sophie then went to work for the Rules Committee.

Over the past 24 years, Sophie has guided the Rules Committee and the House as a procedural specialist. She has been a constant resource to me and my staff and has helped guide the passage of several important initiatives.

My good friend—Chairwoman (LOUISE) SLAUGHTER—has been privileged to have Sophie on her staff. And I know I speak for my colleagues when I say that Sophie will be sorely missed on the Committee. But we all wish her the very best in the future.

Sophie: thank you so much for your hard work, dedication and the many late nights. It really has been a pleasure working with you.

Please enjoy your retirement, you certainly deserve it.

RECOGNIZING THE NICK MARSHALL FAMILY AS THE 2010 OKALOOSA COUNTY OUTSTANDING FARM FAMILY OF THE YEAR

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it is an honor for me to rise today to commend the Marshall family on being selected as the 2010 Okaloosa County Outstanding Farm Family of the Year.

Dating back several generations, the hard work and dedication of Nick Marshall and his father James, along with Nick's wife Maryann and his mother Helen, have helped keep their family's farming tradition alive. They, along with their ancestors, have helped provide food and goods not only throughout their community, but throughout the Nation.

The Marshall family's current operation of growing cotton and peanuts was started by Nick's father in 1973. It was during his early years that Nick learned from his father, James, the importance of a strong work ethic and producing quality goods. The bond between father and son working on the farm is a special one and should be cherished; Nick hopes to one day share some of the same memories and life lessons with his son, Landen.

Madam Speaker, our great Nation was built by farmers and their families. The Marshall family serves as an excellent model to all our Nation's family farmers. On behalf of Northwest Florida, I wish the Marshall family continued success and hope that their family tradition will continue to prosper for many future generations to come.

TRIBUTE TO NEAL WADE, ALABAMA'S TOP INDUSTRIAL RECRUITER

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the incredible contributions of one of America's top economic development recruiters, Mr. Neal Wade, who will soon leave his home State of Alabama after accumulating a most impressive record of accomplishments.

Faced with many of the same economic challenges as other states, including the rapid decline of the textile industry, Alabama has spent much of the last decade recreating its image and reaching out to new industries.

And even when you include the impact of the global recession, which has spared few, the results have been nothing less than impressive.

Our State has made significant gains in landing a variety of top tier projects, including German steel manufacturer ThyssenKrupp Steel and Austal USA in my congressional district, as well as expansions in Alabama's automakers—Mercedes, Honda, Hyundai, and Toyota. We have also been at the forefront of developing our aerospace presence in ways once thought impossible with the commitment by EADS and Airbus to grow their U.S. footprint in the State of Alabama. Without question, the man at the helm of Alabama's economic development efforts during this productive period has been Neal Wade.

Mr. Wade, a Sanford University graduate, spent the 1990's leading the Economic Development Partnership of Alabama. As president and CEO of the partnership of the State's leading businesses aligned to promote economic development, he demonstrated his unrivaled leadership capabilities and caught the eye of Governor Bob Riley who appointed him director of the Alabama Development Office in 2003.

In this new capacity, Mr. Wade wasted little time courting major new industry, including ThyssenKrupp, National Railcar, and more recently, Hyundai Heavy Industries. His efforts did not go unnoticed outside of the State. Twice during his stewardship, the Alabama Development Office was named the top economic development agency in the United States.

Mr. Wade recently announced that he is leaving his post at the ADO to become the senior vice president for economic development at the St. Joe Company. It is an understatement to say that Alabama will greatly miss the steady hand and wise counsel of Neal Wade. However, we wish him and his wife, Mary Ann, the very best in their future endeavors.

Madam Speaker, Alabama is a different State—and a much better place to call home—because of the tremendous team of Governor Bob Riley and ADO Director Neal Wade. While we will miss this dynamic duo next year, the seeds of the new investment that Neal has helped plant over the past several years will no doubt bear fruit for generations to come.

TRIBUTE TO THE CINCINNATI REDS

HON. JEAN SCHMIDT

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mrs. SCHMIDT. Madam Speaker, I rise today along with all of Cincinnati to congratulate and celebrate the Cincinnati Reds becoming the 2010 National League Central Division Champions.

Cincinnati has a rich and proud tradition of great baseball teams. Cincinnati is the home of the first professional ball club beginning in 1879. The Reds have won World Series Titles in 1919, 1940, 1975, 1976, and most recently, 1990. The Reds also won National League Pennants in 1939, 1961, 1970 and 1972 and have numerous Reds players and coaches inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame.

Madam Speaker, this year's Reds ball club has had an astonishing number of come-from-behind wins and walk-off wins in the final at-bat. Last night was no different when, in the bottom of the ninth, Jay Bruce hit a home run to break a 2–2 tie and send Cincinnati into the post season.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating Manager Dusty Baker for, leading this diverse team full of young players, seasoned

veterans, gold glovers, and an MVP candidate to the division title. I congratulate their owner, Mr. Bob Castellini, and his ownership group for bringing winning baseball back to my hometown in Cincinnati.

Go Reds.

FORECLOSURE FRAUD! BANK RATES VERSUS RULES FOR EVERYONE ELSE

HON. ALAN GRAYSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. GRAYSON. Madam Speaker, foreclosure fraud can affect anyone, whether you have a mortgage, are paying on time, have income, or not. The average foreclosure hearing in a Florida court is 90 seconds. Mistakes are common, and fraud is rampant. Everyone is familiar with dealing with a big bureaucratic institution. What is happening is that these big bureaucratic loan servicers are charging fees inappropriately, refusing to talk to homeowners by putting calls through to call centers in India, and then foreclosing with forged documents once the homeowner has been drained of all assets and the will to fight.

There is one set of rules for banks, and another set of laws for everyone else. A servicer can ask for fees, it can demand payment, it can send you to call centers in India, and it doesn't have to negotiate. And you now have virtually no rights as a homeowner.

Here are four bizarre examples:

(1) Last summer, Fort Lauderdale resident Jason Grodensky experienced what has tragically become an increasingly familiar process all across America: his house was sold at a foreclosure sale after a bank notified the Florida courts that Grodensky had defaulted on his mortgage. The foreclosure came as a surprise to Grodensky, according to reports from the Sun-Sentinel. Not only did Grodensky not have a mortgage with the bank that sued to foreclose against his house, he had never had a mortgage at all. Grodensky had paid cash for his home.

(2) One house in Pinellas County, Florida saw two foreclosure suits brought against it because the banks didn't know who had title to the mortgage.

(3) One victim with a perfect payment record of all interest and principal was foreclosed on because of a $75 contested late fee.

(4) Tim and Nicole West were victims of a predatory loan. In 2005, a bank threatened to sue the couple if they didn't sign a refinancing offer. Their loan servicer subsequently raised their payments from $1900 to $5300 a month, with regular forebearance fees required in the tens of thousands of dollars. Finally, the servicer refused to accept payments from the family in the name of negotiating for a mortgage modification. Instead of modifying the loan, their servicer began foreclosure proceedings. The servicer used fraudulent documents to prove that it had the right to foreclose.

Here's how it happened.

Securitizating mortgages was originally a way to take the cost of a mortgage of a bank's books. From 2005 onward, the securitization chain went out of control, and Wall Street wanted as many mortgages as it could get, as quickly as possible, and as cheaply as possible. In order to allow it to pull out more fees at every link in the chain, subprime lenders, trusts, and banks decided to cut as many costs as possible, including record-keeping. They didn't keep good records, and violated the laws mandating that they had to file records with county clerks on who owned what mortgage title.

Instead, banks simply digitized mortgage titles into a privatized system called the Mortgage Electronic Registry System (MERS) and did the transfers by trading Excel spreadsheets among banks and trusts rather than by endorsing the notes as required by their own contracts, state real estate law, and IRS rules. Today, MERS is the registered owner of a security interest in 60 million properties or about 60% of the mortgages in the United States. 97% of the loans originated between 2005–2008 are in MERS.

It appears that on a widespread, probably pervasive basis, they did not take the steps necessary for them to own the note (a borrower IOU), which means that in 45 of 50 states, they lack the legal right to foreclose. Thus, every trust now has questionable legal standing in foreclosures in the overwhelming majority of states. In addition, the records were poorly kept, so servicers are basically guessing that they have the right to foreclose when they foreclose.

Obviously, the banks do not want to grapple with the consequence of trillions of dollars of securitized mortgages having no legal standing to foreclose. So, they have simply created a system whereby servicers hire 'foreclosure mill' law firms whose business is to forge documents showing that they have a legal right to foreclose. Some of these mills have been featured in the New York Times, and so-called 'robo-signers', people whose names show up on thousands of affidavits, despite obvious forgeries and overt admissions that these people had no knowledge of what they were signing.

The system is so organized that there is a company, Lender Processing Services, who allegedly has created the means to systemize fraud. Lawyers use the LPS system to request which affidavits and documents they need. LPS then has 'document mills' where they can magically make an authorized Vice President of Whoever You Need, and send you backdated signed documents saying you have the right to foreclose. Courts at first refused to believe that this level of rampant fraud exists, but more recently, they have started to sanction fraud against loan servicers.

Servicers don't make money through routine servicing; it's a break-even business. They make it at foreclosure, with a $6,000 foreclosure fee. When you combine the incentive to foreclose with systemized fraud, it's lawlessness.

Fraud is now big business. And it's sanctioned in part through the government, as both Fannie and Freddie are shareholders in MERS.

We're approaching the point where the easiest way to make a buck is to steal it. The only way to end this plague of foreclosure fraud is to make sure that crime does pay.

CHILDHOOD CANCER SUMMIT

HON. MICHAEL T. McCAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. MCCAUL. Madam Speaker, I am honored to take this opportunity to discuss a recent event in DC on an issue that has always been of particular significance to me. On September 16, 2010, I hosted a Childhood Cancer Summit with Congressman JOE SESTAK on behalf of the Pediatric Cancer Caucus. We held the Summit in September to honor Childhood Cancer Awareness Month. Our goal was to raise awareness among Members of Congress and to advance policies to better treat and prevent this disease.

Pediatric cancer is the leading killer by disease of our nation's children. Thirty-five children, or the equivalent of an entire school classroom, are diagnosed every day.

However, pediatric cancer research remains woefully underfunded. To compound this problem, the small patient population creates no market incentive for pharmaceutical companies to develop pediatric cancer drugs. Therefore, there exists a lack of available treatments and drugs tailored specifically to childhood cancer. Only one drug has been manufactured particularly for pediatric cancer since the 1980s. In addition, three out of every five survivors face devastating long-term effects from their disease or their treatments. Pediatric cancer is a chronic disease, and we have much to learn before diagnosed children are guaranteed to lead full and normal lives.

It is the goal of the Pediatric Cancer Caucus to raise awareness for these issues, as well as to advocate in support of measure which will improve the lives of patients, and work toward eliminating this disease as a threat to all children. The Caucus now has about 80 members, and is steadily growing.

The Childhood Cancer Summit included a panel discussion between childhood cancer experts from around the nation. Participants came from many of the premier pediatric cancer centers, including MD Anders Cancer Center, Texas Children's Hospital, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, Memorial Sloan-Kettering, and St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. The panelists discussed the unique challenges facing childhood cancer patients and their families compared with adult cancers, including the development of better treatments for kids with cancer and initiatives to improve the quality of survivorship.

It is my goal to use the recommendations from these panelists to shape an effective legislative agenda, and gamer the support of my fellow policymakers. As policymakers, we have a responsibility to the many children and families suffering from this devastating disease.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE PASSING OF GEORGE IRELAND, JR.

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it is an

honor for me to rise today to recognize the life of northwest Florida's beloved George Ireland.

Mr. Ireland is survived by Jacqueline, his wife of 57 years; his three sons, George, Timothy and Bruce; as well as two grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. To his family and friends, I would like to offer my deep and sincere condolences. George Ireland was not only a compassionate man, but also had a sharp wit and an immense love for his community. Northwest Florida has truly suffered a great loss with his passing.

Mr. Ireland served his country with honor and distinction in both the Korean and Vietnam Wars and retired after more than 27 years of service in the United States Air Force with the rank of Chief Master Sergeant. Following his retirement, Mr. Ireland moved to Niceville, Florida, where he served his local community as City Clerk for over 32 years and also served as President of the Florida Association of Clerks. Mr. Ireland was described by his colleagues as a "financial whiz"; his remarkable aptitude for managing budgets and records helped the city of Niceville continually run a budget surplus.

In 1978, he was the catalyst for the purchase of a cutting-edge computer system Niceville. He convinced the Niceville City Council to approve the purchase of computers to help facilitate a sophisticated internal system that allowed the city to save countless dollars. He was also responsible for founding an institute for the education and training of city clerks in northwest Florida; this service, provided at no cost to the cities of northwest Florida, was especially crucial as it allowed each city to cut the cost of sending their clerks to train in south Florida.

Mr. Ireland's excellence in financial management was recognized by the Government Finance Officers Association, which bestowed upon his office more than 20 annual awards for excellence in financial reporting. He was also the recipient of the prestigious Robert N. Clark Award from the Florida Association of City Clerks.

Mr. Ireland's dedication to his community was beyond reproach. After his retirement as City Clerk, he continued to give his time, even though he was off the payroll. He was also deeply involved in a myriad of fraternal organizations. Mr. Ireland was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of Florida, where he served as District 1 Commander. He was a Master Mason of the Okaloosa Masonic Lodge 312 in Niceville, and was a 32nd Degree Knights Commander of the Court of Honor for the Hadji Shrine in Pensacola, Florida. He also served multiple times as President of the local Lions Club, but his real love was in serving as secretary and treasurer of the Lions Club—a position he held since the early 1960s. Mr. Ireland's service to his community was recognized in 2005 when he was awarded the Melvin Jones Fellowship Award—the highest award given by Lions Clubs International for humanitarian service.

To some George Ireland will be remembered as a courageous member of our armed services where he fought to protect the liberties and freedoms we all hold so dear; to others he will forever be a sharp, intelligent, and exceptionally compassionate public servant. He will long be remembered by his family and friends as a loving husband and father; and we will all remember his wit, energy, motivation and commitment to serving his community. His impact he had on northwest Florida can never be forgotten.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it gives me great pride to honor the life of George Ireland, and his living legacy.

MONROE JOURNAL EDITORIAL CALLING FOR RENEWAL OF BUSH TAX CUTS

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, I wish to submit for the RECORD an editorial published in the September 16th edition of the Monroe Journal in my congressional district, calling for the renewal of the Bush tax cuts of 2001 and 2003.

CONGRESS MUST RENEW BUSH'S TAX BREAKS

In this economic environment it would be ludicrous to even consider not renewing the "Bush tax breaks" for everyone, especially so for middle class Americans.

President Barack Obama has said he supports renewing the federal income tax breaks for middle class workers, but he does not support renewing the tax breaks for persons making $250,000 or more annually.

Unfortunately, the problem with not renewing the tax breaks for those who make $250,000 or more is that many of those individuals are small business owners.

We all know that the majority of jobs in America are created by small businesses.

If the tax breaks are not continued for middle class workers, they would see an average increase of $1,500 per individual in their annual federal income tax. And, if the tax breaks are not continued for small business owners, many of those middle class workers could find themselves on the unemployment lines in 2011.

Why not amend the tax law to continue the tax breaks for everyone, who makes less than $250,000 annually and for small business owners, who make no more than $500,000 annually? This would help middle class workers continue to make ends meet and help small businesses with minimum operating capital stay afloat in this shaky economy that is still in a rebound stage.

Madam Speaker, oftentimes the best ideas come from real America, not just those generated here inside the Washington Beltway. I hope my colleagues will take to heart this urgent plea from the editors and publisher of the Monroe Journal.

ISSUES REGARDING LYME DISEASE

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, as chair of the congressional Lyme Disease Caucus and a person who has been closely involved in Lyme disease issues for over twenty years, I want to bring to your attention extremely troubling issues regarding Lyme disease.

Lyme disease is the most common of all vector-borne infections in the U.S., with approximately 290,000 new cases in 2008. With the increase in Lyme cases, problems due to poor diagnostics and ineffective treatments for Lyme disease have become almost overwhelming—affecting larger numbers of people over longer periods of time.

Many patients are angry because progress in addressing Lyme disease has been impeded by entrenched bias and a lack of accountability in the science of tick borne diseases. It is critical that we identify biases and impediments that are constraining the science on Lyme and to open up the dialogue to honest and transparent debate. The scientists who have long been marginalized, the treating physicians who have felt intimidated and threatened, and most importantly the sick patients and their families need our help.

My main purpose here today is to introduce for inclusion in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the following statement "The Patient Perspectives on the Research Gaps in Tick Borne Diseases," written by three of the Nation's largest Lyme disease advocacy organizations, who represent tens of thousands of patients. I believe that this statement provides important perspectives that need to be heard and taken to heart.

PATIENT PERSPECTIVES ON THE RESEARCH GAPS IN TICK BORNE DISEASES

(Submitted by Time for Lyme, the national Lyme Disease Association, and the California Lyme Disease Association on behalf of our patients across the United States)

In December 2009, Labor HHS 2010 appropriations language, signed into law by President Obama, encouraged the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to "sponsor a scientific conference on Lyme and tick-borne diseases . . . the conference should represent the broad spectrum of scientific views . . . and should provide a forum for public participation and input from individuals with Lyme disease." The language also requires NIH to identify research gaps to understand the "mechanisms of persistent infection." The passage of this language represents a significant opportunity to summarize and solidify the issues that prevent scientific progress for a disease recognized here for 35 years, if, and only if, this process occurs without bias. Progress can be accomplished if the stewards commit to the elimination of predisposition by key decision makers.

It is not clear why the NIH elected to subcontract this issue to the Institute of Medicine (IOM), given that the existing NIH conference structure contains the best process to address the appropriations language requirements. According to the NIH Consensus Development Program, which explains the two relevant types of conferences offered by NIH, "when the available evidence is weak or contradictory, or when a common practice is not supported by high-quality evidence, the State-of-the-Science label is chosen." This conference format would appropriately address the research gaps that exist for Lyme and tick-borne diseases as it provides a "snapshot in time" of the state of knowledge on the conference rather than a policy statement of the NIH or the Federal Government.

In Lyme disease, there are two distinct disease paradigms, each providing science to support its claims. One paradigm views the disease as "hard to catch and easy to cure" and denies the existence of chronic Lyme disease—persistent infection with Borrelia burgdorferi, the spirochete that causes the disease. Under this paradigm, the state of the science for patients with chronic Lyme disease is closed. Any treatment is considered too risky because practitioners are unable to determine the cause or extent of patient symptoms, or they view the symptoms

as insignificant and write off the patients' complaints as psychiatric in nature. This leaves seriously ill patients without any viable therapeutic avenues. It also shuts the door on future research necessary to get patients to a state of wellness.

The alternative paradigm says that the science is too unsettled to be definitive and there can be one or more causes of persistent symptoms after initial treatment in an individual who has been infected with the agent of Lyme disease. These causes include the possibility of persistent infection, or a post-infectious process, or a combination of both, with the Lyme bacterium itself driving the autoimmune process. This paradigm allows doctors the ability to exercise their clinical judgment and provide therapies that are helping their patients.

Patients with Lyme disease need a research agenda that reflects outcomes that matter to patients, namely effective diagnostic tools and effective treatments that restore them to health. The reason there are two disease paradigms in Lyme disease is because central pieces of the puzzle are missing or are inadequate. The first area of concern involves testing.

There are no reliable biomarkers of the disease.[1] Current diagnostic tests commonly used do not detect the spirochete that causes Lyme disease, rather, they detect only whether the patient has developed antibodies to the pathogen. Antibody production, if it registers on the tests at all, takes weeks to appear, thus rendering the current tests ineffective in the earlier and more easily addressed stage. Additionally, the Lyme antibody has been shown to form a ''complex'' with the bacterium itself—and tests cannot detect ''complex'' antibodies. Once triggered, antibody reactions may remain long after an infection has been treated, also clouding the diagnostic and treatment picture.

The two-tier testing system endorsed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is very specific for Lyme disease (99%), so it gives few false positives. But the tests have a uniformly low sensitivity (56%)—missing 88 of every 200 patients with Lyme disease. By comparison, AIDS tests have a sensitivity of 99.5%—missing only one of every 200 infected patients.[2] Sensitive AIDS tests were developed less than 10 years into the disease, while archaic Lyme tests remain unreliable 35 years later. There is a critical need for research exploring newer technologies such as polymerase chain reaction (PCR), which is used with many other diseases, and cutting-edge proteomics. Strain variations and co-infections with other organisms, often transmitted by the same tick bite, obscure the diagnostic picture further.

A vast number of strains of Borrelia burgdorferi have been identified. Variation in strain may cause differing symptoms or severity of symptoms as well as determine the appropriate antibiotics and duration of treatment needed to clear the infection.[3] Different strains may also express different proteins. Preliminary research shows that proteins need to be examined to find the ones most often expressed, then using microarray technology, doctors may be able to diagnose patients using a chip which contains the proteins.

Research is needed concerning the role of mutation on persistence. Some research indicates that bacteria can exchange genetic material, probably contributing to its ability to invade different systems in the body—some may have a proclivity for the heart muscle, others for the brain, and some for muscles and joints. By exchanging genetic material, bacteria may be able to form a symbiotic relationship to avoid detection by the immune response or to further invade the body.

To date, every NIH-funded treatment research study has been designed using the inaccurate diagnostic test results as part of the entry criteria. The entry criterion in these studies excluded the vast majority of Lyme patients and created sample sizes too small (less than 220 patients to date) to detect clinically important treatment effects or generalize to the clinical population. Moreover, Lyme has not attracted industry funding for treatment approaches, which places the disease at a considerable research disadvantage. To detect clinically relevant treatment effects requires much larger treatment trials with sample populations that reflect those seen in clinical practice.[4]

One thing that past research has demonstrated is that patients with Lyme are a heterogeneous population. Hence, the course of illness and responsiveness to treatment may vary depending on the duration of onset of the disease to its diagnosis and treatment, the presence of co-infections, comorbid factors, other genetic characteristics of the patients, and the virulence of the strain(s) with which the patient is infected. Research sample populations must reflect those seen in clinical practice to yield clinically relevant results.

As advised by the Appropriations language, research on the pathophysiology of Lyme disease is necessary. Research projects need to be designed which determine the course of the disease from inception, and which utilize treatments that effectively interfere with the mechanisms that allow the infection to persist. Little to no government sponsored science has been dedicated to the effects on persistence of the different forms of the Lyme bacterium (cyst vs. flagellar), the role, if any, of biofilms, sequestration of the organism from the immune system, the exchange and mutation of genetic material of the spirochete, and the role that components of the bacterial genome may play in protecting it from eradication by the immune system or antibiotics. Understanding the pathology of the organism can greatly enhance targeted diagnostics and treatment modalities.

Patients also need studies that explore a range of treatment options. The ideal antibiotics, route of administration, and duration of treatment for any stage of Lyme disease are not established. No single antibiotic or combination of antibiotics appears to be capable of completely eradicating the infection in all patients, and treatment failures or relapses are reported with all current regimens, although they are less common with early aggressive treatment.[5] Treatment failure rates suggest the need to re-examine the effectiveness of the currently recommended monotherapy as a treatment approach. Studies need to explore combination treatments and longer term treatment regimens, which have been critical to the successful treatment of AIDS and tuberculosis.

Patients need the type of outcomes research advocated by the IOM to examine how well treatments are working in actual clinical practice.[6] While not all patients with chronic Lyme disease have returned to a state of wellness, many have, and we need to find out how and why. This information can then be applied to other patients and used to establish a research agenda for treatment that has a likelihood of success, rather than abandoning patients based on limited treatment trials.

The IOM process does not allow these research ideas to be heard in an unbiased and transparent fashion with balanced divergent viewpoints. While the NIH process precludes bias on the part of panel members, the IOM does not. Four of the six members of the IOM panel that have been selected belong to IDSA, a medical society that has a known bias against chronic Lyme disease diagnosis and treatment. Rather than providing curative treatments that restore health, the IDSA would provide costly and long term palliative treatments, presumably for life. While the NIH requires participation by major stakeholders (including patients and treating physicians), the IOM does not.

The summary of the IOM proceedings will reflect this pervasive lack of objectivity, undermining its integrity and credibility. Additionally, much IOM deliberation is done behind closed doors and an anonymous panel will be permitted to comment on the written record. Because of such flaws in the IOM proceedings, the three largest patient interest groups who were offered a brief opportunity to speak (TFL) at the IOM October 2010 meeting and an opportunity to provide a commissioned paper—CALDA, the LDA and TFL—pulled out of the conference in protest.

From a research perspective, strongly held paradigms can create a closed loop, and experiments may be designed, implemented and interpreted to support a particular viewpoint.[7] The antidote to bias is to balance scientific perspectives and to ensure that all scientific viewpoints are being heard and explored. Given the extraordinary stream of federal funding granted to researchers who support the closed paradigm which was created and is supported by the Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA) and their vested interest in maintaining the status quo, it is not reasonable to expect this group of researchers to serve as neutral arbiters of scientific debates over competing scientific paradigms. For example, Lyme related panels dominated by IDSA have time and time again excluded opposing viewpoints from participating or controlled the review process to ensure outcomes that reinforce the IDSA paradigm. If past is prologue, it is obvious what the future holds for panels dominated by one group.

Worse, the small treatment trials that have been conducted have been given an undue amount of weight by IDSA researchers and in its guidelines and used to apply a degree of certainty on the science that far exceeds the limitations of the small sample sizes of the studies. Further, they claim that the state of the science is sufficient to determine with certainty that chronic Lyme disease does not exist, is not treatable with antibiotics, and that no further research on this topic is needed. Sample size affects the strength of the conclusions that may be drawn from them: ''Providing definitive answers in the face of low event rates and small-to-moderate treatment effects necessitates sample sizes in the thousands or tens of thousands. . . . Funding for such megatrials is very limited, and is often restricted to industry sources.''[8]

For that reason, the Connecticut Attorney General antitrust investigation into the development process of IDSA Lyme guidelines found exclusionary practices and suppression of divergent viewpoints on the part of IDSA panels that crafted IDSA 2000 and the 2006 Lyme disease guidelines. Although IDSA settled the investigation with the Attorney General by agreeing to review its guidelines with a panel without conflicts of interest, the control of the process was in the hands of IDSA, which again selected a panel consisting almost exclusively of IDSA members and excluding treating physicians who held divergent viewpoints.

It was patients who pressed for the language in the Appropriations bill that called for a review of the state of the science of Lyme disease. However, patients need that process to occur in a transparent manner, without bias, and with the participation of all stakeholders. Albert Einstein defined insanity as ''doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results.''

This process is a perfect example of that insanity.

Patients want research which will restore their health. Their voice and the voice of the clinicians must be given the necessary weight to legitimize the research agenda and the research process. Truth in science can be achieved through open debate in an independent process free from bias and conflicts of interest. The scientific process fails when one side of a debate controls the arena and sets the rules to ensure that its viewpoint prevails.

Lorraine Johnson, JD, MBA, Chief Executive Officer, California Lyme Disease Association.

Patricia V. Smith, President, Lyme Disease Association, Inc.

Diane Blanchard/Deb Siciliano, Co-Presidents, Time for Lyme, Inc.

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EXPLANATION REGARDING COSPONSORING A BILL

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. SHERMAN. Madam Speaker, I wish to clarify that when I cosponsor a bill, it does not necessarily mean that I agree with every part of it. At a minimum, my cosponsorship indicates that I support moving the bill forward through the legislative process, including being marked up in committee, and if sent to the floor by the relevant committee(s), then subject to consideration and amendment on the floor.

TRIBUTE TO CORDY WILLIAMSON

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a rare find these days—a man who has dedicated 50 years to the same employer. Cordy Williamson has worked for Progress Energy since 1960, and says about contemplating retirement, ''I love going to work and I love Progress Energy. Why should I retire when I have all this going for me?''

Mr. Williamson first joined Progress Energy when it was known as Carolina Power & Light, working on the line crew. Sometimes, that meant digging ditches with his bare hands and a shovel. It did not seem hard for him, having grown up on a farm in Aynor, South Carolina where manual labor was a part of his everyday life.

Even though he was comfortable with the physical aspects of the job, his supervisors saw promise in Mr. Williamson's leadership abilities. He moved up the ladder, assuming positions such as lineman, meter reader, and Line and Service Supervisor. These jobs took him to Laurinburg and Lumberton, North Carolina, and Kingstree and Florence, South Carolina.

In 1987, Mr. Williamson became a distribution inspector, inspecting work performed by Progress Energy crews as well as tree trimming crews.

I believe this letter by Mrs. L.B. White written to the District Manager's office in Florence in 1973 sums up Mr. Williamson's 50 years of dedication to his work:

''. . . Last Saturday I went in to fix lunch—no heat, no lights, and a complete power failure. I immediately called your service department . . . and in about twenty minutes Mr. Cordy Williamson was here. It was quite a job. He was so courteous and patient with me (an old woman). I wanted you to know what a wonderful fellow he is and how fortunate you are to have such a man with your company. I tried to pay him—no pay would he accept. Such an honest, upright man (sic). Hope everything good possible will come to him. I am a widow and live alone and he meant much to me.''

Mr. Williamson is the father of two daughters, Amanda and Margaret, and two sons, Jamie and Cordy. He enjoys fishing, motorcycle riding, and flying. He served the Civil Air Patrol in South Carolina and also flew assignments for the U.S. Customs Agency. He helped to start the ''MayFly'' Air Show in Florence in 1986 and continues to organize the show today.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues join me in congratulating Cordy Williamson on reaching this tremendous milestone in his employment with Progress Energy. His commitment to his work is admirable and a model for young people today to emulate. I wish him many more years of happiness on the job.

CONGRATULATING LUIGI'S DELICATESSEN ON ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. KEVIN McCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. McCARTHY of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a leading small business in our community, Luigi's Delicatessen, which is celebrating 100 years of operation in Bakersfield, California on October 3, 2010.

Originally founded in 1910 as Luigi's and Lemucchi's Grocery by Joe Lemucchi, Luigi's is one of Bakersfield's oldest family owned and operated businesses. The café and grocery store reflect the city's rich tradition and in its early days, one could always hear the constant chatter of the different languages that made up the original immigrant community. Joe's son, Louis, later inherited the family business and covered the walls with photos of local athletes that span more than seventy years. These photos have attracted multiple generations of Kern County patrons who return with friends and family to view favorite photos. The same recipes from the café, such as Emelia Lemucchi's Bolognese pasta sauce recipe that she brought from Italy, are being used by the current keepers of the legacy, Antonia Valpredo, daughters Monica and Lanette and son Gino—all of whom make up the third and fourth generations of the family.

Luigi's is more than just a restaurant in Bakersfield. It is a staple in our community and exemplifies our town's culture. A culture of pride in one's craft is embodied in the pasta and meats prepared. From the receptionist to the wait staff, the friendly atmosphere makes even first time visitors feel like regulars. Luigi's has had a long standing reputation of hospitality, dating back to the early twentieth century, when Joe Lemucchi would rent out small cottages he constructed himself to bachelor Italian immigrants who had just moved into the area. Luigi's is one of Bakersfield's iconic locations, bringing together a community of different backgrounds and perspectives to enjoy delicious cuisine.

I have been going to Luigi's my whole life. Growing up in Bakersfield, Luigi's is one of the best restaurants around. I always order a ½ & ½—it is a true taste of Bakersfield, as it is a humble combination of pasta and meat sauce with Luigi's Italian beans. My wife Judy loves Luigi's Monica's Salad. To top it off, everyone must have the Butterfinger Pie for dessert. It is an icy delight that perfectly blends candy bar, ice cream, and biscotti cookie crust to make one of my favorite desserts. Luigi's is a gathering place filled with friendly faces and great food.

Luigi's is one of the bedrocks of our small business community that measures success in its loyalty from generations of local customers. It is a family run institution in the Kern County community and I thank Luigi's for its 100 years of service to the people of Bakersfield, and wish them the very best in the next 100 years.

TRIBUTE TO JULIEN E. MARX

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the memory of a highly respected entrepreneur and philanthropist from my district who recently passed away at the age of 68.

On August 10, Mobile lost a dear friend with the death of Mr. Julien E. Marx. Mr, Marx was the epitome of a model citizen—a veteran, a successful businessman, a civic leader, a compassionate humanitarian and lover of animals, and a devoted benefactor of higher education.

Mr. Marx was a graduate of Murphy High School and the University of Alabama, where he was business manager of the Crimson White. Upon graduation, he joined the Army, serving as a second lieutenant during the Vietnam War.

Returning to Mobile, Mr. Marx became active in developing small businesses and joint venture projects. He was best known for his ownership of local real estate and his Julien E. Marx Realtors.

While many would be content with tending to their business interests, Mr. Marx used his passion and energy to better the lives of others. He was an active booster and board member of the Boy Scouts of America, as well as MARC, which improves the lives of intellectually and physically-challenged adults in the Mobile area.

Mr. Marx endowed a number of University of South Alabama scholarships, including the promotion of art education among minority students. He was a lover of photography, having donated his family's extensive collection of Mobile historical photographs to the University of South Alabama.

Mr. Marx also used his time and resources to back many inventions, from medical research to consumer products. Ironically, he will never be known for all the good that he did because he often chose to give to others anonymously.

Madam Speaker, there simply isn't space in this tribute to fully capture Julien Marx's contributions to our community. He was uniquely American—a dreamer, a doer, a giver, a lover of life. In short, he was a community treasure.

I join so many in South Alabama in mourning Julien Marx's passing and also in extending condolences to his wife of 18 years, Linda, and extended family and friends. You are all in our prayers.

RECOGNIZING GREG MITCHELL FOR HIS EXTRAORDINARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO HIGHER EDUCATION AND THE U.S. MILITARY

HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay respect to a great man in my hometown of Colorado Springs, Colorado. Greg Mitchell is a hands-on, results-oriented leader with a proven track record of achieving success. A longtime resident of Colorado Springs, Mitchell is retiring this year after serving six years as President of Colorado Technical University, CTU.

Greg, a former Naval officer, has championed our state's veterans and young people in both his professional and personal roles for nearly three decades.

As President of CTU, he played a key role in developing programs to serve soldiers, including the wounded warrior program that awards 50 scholarships annually to wounded veterans and their spouses. He once said, ''If you do the right thing, it's very rewarding. We can't do enough for the military today.'' In 2008, the school was named one of the most military friendly institutions in the country.

Under his leadership, Colorado Technical University partnered with the Freedom Alliance Scholarship Fund to provide a full four-year scholarship for a son or daughter of an American military hero who has served and sacrificed for our nation's freedom. CTU pledged $1 million in full tuition scholarships for Freedom Alliance scholarship recipients who wish to attend their University.

Prior to coming to Colorado Technical University, Mitchell worked in Colorado Springs for Plasmon LMS/Philips Laser Magnetic Storage, Media Security Incorporated, Brown Disc Manufacturing, and the NCR Corporation.

Outside of Mitchell's professional contributions to our community, he has served on numerous community boards. Some of his volunteer work includes serving on the following boards:

—Better Business Bureau

—Colorado Thirty Group

—The Home Front Cares

—Congressman Doug Lamborn's Defense Advisory Board

—Advisory Board for the Latino Chamber of Commerce

—Advisory Council on Military Education

—Colorado Springs Chamber of Commerce

—Vitality Group Advisory Board

Mitchell is a devoted husband and father. He has been married for twenty years to his wife, Cindy, and is the father of three grown children, Garth, Blake, and Paige.

I thank Greg for his tremendous contribution to our community and our men and women in uniform. He is a great American patriot.

INTRODUCING THE MARINE DEBRIS ACT REAUTHORIZATION AMENDMENTS OF 2010

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, marine debris is a global problem degrading the environmental health of the world's oceans. Near my home island of Guam is the Great Pacific Garbage Patch, a huge area hundreds of miles wide within the North Pacific gyre. The Garbage Patch contains virtually tons of plastics and other non-degradable litter, especially discarded fishing gear, that was tossed, intentionally or unintentionally, into the ocean and now drifts indefinitely, harming both ocean wildlife, such as sea turtles and marine mammals, and impacting sensitive marine habitats, such as coral reefs.

Unfortunately, the Great Pacific Garbage Patch—while emblematic of the problem of marine debris—is no longer unique. As we learned earlier this year, a new garbage patch has emerged in the Atlantic Ocean in the region between the Island of Bermuda and the Azores Islands located in the Mid-Atlantic Ocean east of Portugal. Both areas pose a troubling, pernicious threat to not only ocean ecosystems, but also to navigational safety and coastal aesthetics.

Today, in recognition that we must continue to take purposeful action to address this challenging environmental threat, I have introduced legislation to reauthorize and amend the Marine Debris Research, Prevention, and Reduction Act.

My legislation is straightforward and was developed in consultation with NOAA and numerous stakeholder organizations. The bill would clarify the scope and purposes of the program, maintain existing program activities initiated by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the U.S. Coast Guard, and also encourage greater and more effective cooperation, both domestically and abroad. Importantly, my legislation will help ensure that the program remains focused on delivering results without additional Federal spending.

Under this program NOAA has implemented a variety of projects in collaboration with state and local governments, NGOs, and industry to prevent and reduce marine debris from entering the marine environment and providing incentives for its removal once it appears. For example, Covanta Energy, a global innovator in ''energy from waste'' technologies, has worked collaboratively with NOAA to pioneer the use of marine debris to generate electric power.

In addition, the Northwest Straits Commission in the North Puget Sound region of Washington State, received funding made available under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and coordinated through the Marine Debris Program to remove derelict fishing gear from Puget Sound, vastly cutting down on ''ghost fishing'' and navigational hazards that negatively impact habitat as well as the local economy

Organizations that support my legislation, such as the Ocean Conservancy, the United Nations Environmental Program, and the Marine Conservation Biology Institute, remain hard at work to raise public awareness about this serious issue.

The 25th annual International Coastal Cleanup, first initiated in 1985 by the Center for Environmental Education, took place last Saturday. The Coastal Cleanup is the world's largest volunteer effort in support of ocean conservation; each year, the Coastal Cleanup mobilizes hundreds of thousands of people in over 100 countries to clean up our beaches, lakes, and rivers. In the past 25 years the Coastal Cleanup has engaged more than 8 million dedicated volunteers, who have removed more than 125 million pounds of trash around the world.

Last year, in Guam alone 3,006 volunteers picked up 17,776 pounds of trash along 22.5 miles of coastline. This trash included everything from 21,900 soda cans to 194 tires, and so much more debris in the form of plastic bottles, bags and nets. This effort is a great opportunity for citizens to make a hands-on difference in improving the ocean and coastal areas. I applaud the Ocean Conservancy for their efforts to coordinate this annual event for 25 years, and I urge my colleagues to do their part by supporting my legislation to reauthorize the Marine Debris Research, Prevention, and Reduction Act.

I look forward to working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to reauthorize this highly successful and effective legislation that addresses one of the most serious threats to our oceans today.

HONORING THE ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY OF CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH IN ALLENTOWN, FLORIDA

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it is an honor for me to rise today to recognize the centennial anniversary of Calvary Baptist Church located in Allentown, Florida.

Calvary Baptist Church was first organized on October 12, 1910 by a group of 33 members of a tightknit farming community. After a revival meeting, the charter members decided to establish a church to observe and uphold the Word and teachings of Jesus Christ. These founders provided a strong, moral framework which established the values that the church continues to uphold today; multiple generations of the Allentown community have grown worshipping and rejoicing in the Word of God at Calvary Baptist Church.

In 1919, after 9 years of worshipping in the ''Solid Block'' school, the congregation bound together to build a new house of worship. Through the strength of the Almighty, the church ministered through World War II, and in 1945, church members began work on a new Sanctuary that is still in use today and provides a sanctified space for the propagation of the Gospel of the Lord.

Membership has grown in the 100-year history of this Church, from the original 33 charter members to a congregation of 381 today. The impressive growth and outstanding achievements, however, do not tell the whole story of the people of Calvary Baptist Church. The true triumph of this Church lies in its congregation's faithful devotion to the Lord.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it gives me great pleasure to commemorate the centennial anniversary of Calvary Baptist Church in Allentown, Florida. May the Spirit of the Lord continue to bless the Church and its congregation. I am certain this anniversary is the first of many milestones to come.

TRIBUTE TO RALPH STACY, A TIRELESS ADVOCATE FOR ALABAMA BUSINESS

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, it is with profound sadness that I note the untimely passing of one of Alabama's most dedicated and talented boosters of economic development, not to mention a dear personal friend to me and countless others, Mr. Ralph Stacy.

At a much-too-young age of 53, Ralph Stacy passed away on September 14, 2010 in Montgomery, Alabama. At the time of his death, he was the Senior Vice President for Strategic Communications of the Business Council of Alabama (BCA) and Executive Director of The Partnership, a program which links the state's 120 local Chambers of Commerce with the BCA.

The founding President and CEO of the Chamber of Commerce Association of Alabama, Ralph Stacy was unequalled in his ability to promote local business by building coalitions and utilizing effective communication strategies.

A skilled communicator who possessed an extraordinary talent for salesmanship, Ralph Stacy received two national television and print marketing awards. He was an author, syndicated columnist and radio host.

Ralph Stacy was a member of the BCA Board of Directors, Class Sixteen of Leadership Alabama, the Board of Troy University's Center for International Business and Economic Development, a Governor's appointee to the Alabama Partnership for Children and was President of the Board of Directors of the Alabama Council of Association Executives. He was also a founding partner and executive committee member of the Alabama Community of Excellence (ACE) program.

A former director of the Greenville Chamber of Commerce, Ralph Stacy was a native of nearby Georgiana, in south Butler County. He was a leader his entire life, earning the rank of Eagle Scout as a young man and going on to graduate from Huntingdon College in Montgomery, where he was a member of the golf team.

Ralph Stacy was not only a skillful business leader, but a gifted story teller and even an ordained minister, shepherding the Beatrice Community Church in Monroe County, Alabama.

Madam Speaker, I know I speak for everyone across our state who had the good fortune to know and work with Ralph Stacy that his death leaves a giant void in the fabric of Alabama.

Ralph always put the interests of our people and our communities first. His friendship, warm personality and his tireless advocacy for Alabama jobs and prosperity will be deeply missed. There was but one Ralph Stacy and his leadership can never be replaced.

On behalf of our state, I wish to extend our heartfelt sympathy to his wonderful wife, Angel, and their lovely daughter, Savannah, as well as Ralph's extended family for their loss. You are all in our prayers.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIE JEFFRIES

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to South Carolina's newest inductee into the College Football Hall of Fame and one of our State's favorite native sons. Coach Willie Jeffries has distinguished himself as a trailblazing coach, a tremendous motivator, and wonderful ambassador for his community, his alma mater, and the State of South Carolina.

Willie Jeffries was born in Union, South Carolina in 1937, and is a graduate of South Carolina State College (now University) in Orangeburg, South Carolina, where he played football and baseball. He earned a bachelor's degree in civil engineering and a master's degree in guidance and counseling.

Jeffries' coaching career began in 1960 as assistant coach at Barr Street High School in Lancaster, South Carolina. A head coaching position followed in 1961 at Granard High School in nearby Gaffney, where he compiled a 6-year record of 65–7–2. He won three consecutive state AAA championships, 1964, 1965 and 1966.

In 1973 Jeffries' alma mater called him to serve as its head football coach. During the next six seasons at South Carolina State, his record was an impressive 50–13–4. In 1979, Division I-A football and history called. Jeffries was offered and accepted the head coaching position at Wichita State University, becoming the first African American to coach a Division I team.

Jeffries became the 32nd head coach for the Wichita State University Shockers in Wichita, Kansas. During his 6-year tenure he compiled a record of 21–32–2, which ranks him third in the school's history for total wins. In 1982, his team went 8–3, which holds the distinction as the last winning season in Wichita State history. Wichita's program was discontinued after the 1986 season.

In 1984, Jeffries left Wichita State to become head coach at Howard University in Washington, DC, where he led the Bisons to their first league victory and a national championship.

In 1989, Jeffries returned to his beloved South Carolina State for what was to be another 13 years as head coach. During those years, Jeffries earned a national title and made three Heritage Bowl appearances. He retired from coaching in 2001, and served as director of athletic fund-raising until 2005, when he accepted the athletic director position at Grambling State University. Earlier this year, Jeffries was named head coach emeritus at South Carolina State and serves as a liaison between the university, its alumni, and other constituents.

Over his outstanding career Jeffries has received several honors. He was inducted into the SCSU Athletic Hall of Fame in 1998. He is also a member of the South Carolina Athletic Hall of Fame, and the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) Hall of Fame. He has also received numerous honors for his community service including the Order of the Silver Crescent, South Carolina's highest award for outstanding community service, the Order of the Palmetto, South Carolina's highest civilian award. A scholarship fund and endowment have been established in his name at SCSU. During the 2002 school year, he was honored by the Black Coaches' Association with a lifetime achievement award and inducted into the South Carolina Black Hall of Fame.

The highest honor of his career came on July 17, 2010, when Jeffries was inducted in the College Football Hall of Fame. The requirements any coach must meet before being considered for this honor include coaching a minimum of 10 years and 100 games as a head coach, be retired for at least 3 years, and have won at least 60 percent of their games. Jeffries easily passed the first two tests, but he fell just short of the 60 percent winning record with a winning percentage of .565. Because of Jeffries remarkable career spanning 317 games over 29 years and his historic significance, the selection committee considered him a candidate who should qualify for an exception based on his unique record.

Jeffries is a three-time Black National Championship winner, and is credited with inventing the ''Freeze Option'' offense. He is the only person in history to coach against both College Football Hall of Famers Paul ''Bear'' Bryant and Eddie Robinson. Jeffries won the MEAC conference title seven times, six with SCSU and one with Howard. He coached College Football Hall of Famers Harry Carson and Donnie Shell.

In addition to his accomplishments on the field, it was also Jeffries work off the field that made him worthy of this extraordinary honor. He is a much sought after speaker and a tremendous ambassador for South Carolina State University. He is a member of several coaching, professional and civic organizations, including the American Football Coaches Association, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., and NCAA Football Rules Committee.

He and his wife, Mary, are the parents of three children and currently reside in Elloree, South Carolina.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you and our colleagues join me and South Carolina State University in congratulating Coach Willie Jeffries on his induction in the College Football Hall of Fame and having November 6, 2010 celebrated as his day on the campus of SCSU. He is a legendary coach, whose love of football made him an unexpected barrier breaker. While he seeks no recognition for his extraordinary contributions to the sport and to society, I can think of no one more deserving of these honors.

RECOGNIZING SICKLE CELL DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH

SPEECH OF

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2010

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I support H. Res. 1663, a bill supporting the goals and ideals of Sickle Cell Disease Awareness Month. In 1983, Congress first recognized September as the month to nationally commemorate sickle cell disease awareness. And it is in that same vein today that I ask for support of H. Res. 1663.

More than 2.5 million Americans have the sickle cell trait. The sickle cell trait is found in 1 of 12 African Americans. There is a 1 in 4 chance that a child born to parents who both have the Sickle Cell Trait will develop the sickle cell disease. The average life span for an adult with the sickle cell disease is 45 years.

Sickle cell disease is an inherited blood disorder characterized by affected red blood cells that mutate into the shape of a crescent or sickle, and as such are unable to pass through small blood vessels. It is a recessive genetic condition that occurs when a child inherits two sickle cell genes- or traits- from each parent. The horrific outcomes of this condition include considerable pain in one's arms, chest, legs and abdomen, anemia, gallstone, strokes, as well as damaging tissue in the liver, spleen, kidney, and death. The sickle cell disease primarily affects African-Americans and other ethnic groups.

Mr. Speaker, I would also just note that the devastation of this disease on those who are affected by it is, indeed, tremendous. I have had firsthand experience with it by virtue of having run a sickle cell community education project for the University of Illinois in Chicago and came in contact with many of the patients and their families; saw the pain and suffering firsthand.

I would urge all my colleagues to support the passage of this resolution.

STATE ETHICS LAW PROTECTION ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. BILL FOSTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2010

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 3427, the State Ethics Law Protection Act of 2009. This simple bill goes a long way in closing a loophole that discourages states from enacting tough pay-to-play reforms.

Under current policy, states like Illinois that take a stand against corrupt practices by prohibiting the awarding of highway contracts to campaign contributors may jeopardize a share of their highway funding. In 2008, when a tough pay-to-play law was being considered in Illinois, the Federal Highway Administration intervened and threatened to withhold Federal dollars if the law was enacted.

The shameful and unethical string of crimes perpetrated by public officials in the State of Illinois is by now well known, but the FHWA's intervention led the General Assembly to water down what would have been a tough and effective anti-corruption law. What's more, the FHWA's application of this policy has been occasional and uneven. Of the eight states that have enacted pay-to-play legislation, only New Jersey and Illinois have been singled out.

H.R. 3427 will untie the hands of state legislatures that seek to take bold action to combat pay-to-play practices and restore the public's faith in government. It will also help ensure that federal dollars will not be wasted on contracts doled out to political cronies.

I urge my colleagues to support this important bill, which will help state legislatures hold the line against corruption.

SUPPORTING IMPLEMENTATION OF PEACE AGREEMENT IN SUDAN

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL T. McCAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2010

Mr. McCAUL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res.1588, concerning the implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement in Sudan during and after the upcoming referenda. We are now less than 100 days away from one of the most crucial dates in Sudan's recent history. On January 9th, the Comprehensive Peace Agreement will expire and the citizens of Sudan will have the opportunity to vote both on the referendum on self-determination for Southern Sudan and the referendum on whether Abyei will remain in the north or join the south. This resolution highlights the importance of these votes and the many challenges currently facing Sudan, from continued violence in Darfur to questions about resource allocation.

We are concerned about the repeated lack of attention and focus placed on Sudan in the months leading up to the referenda. The Administration must engage further with the local groups and governments to ensure these votes are fair and free and that all citizens have the ability to determine their future. Many issues including borders, oil and revenue sharing, and right of return for refugees still need to be discussed in advance of the votes and resolved in a manner that satisfies the concerns of all of the groups involved. Even as the Comprehensive Peace Agreement expires, we must work to facilitate continued dialogue on these important issues.

This is a critical time for the future of Sudan, and we must not put ourselves in a position where we look back in January and regret not taking action sooner. No matter the outcome of the referenda, we need to encourage the people of Sudan to continue to take positive steps towards a peaceful future. This resolution lays out our specific recommendations for how the Administration can encourage this outcome, and I hope you all will support it.

CONCUSSION TREATMENT AND CARE TOOLS ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. TODD RUSSELL PLATTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2010

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House of Representatives Bill 1347 (H.R. 1347), the Concussion Treatment and Care Tools Act. I am honored to have joined with my fellow cochair of the Congressional Traumatic Brain Injury Taskforce, Representative BILL PASCRELL, in introducing this important legislation that aims to make significant progress in protecting student athletes from brain injuries.

It is estimated that as many as 41 percent of high school athletes who suffer from concussions return to play too soon. The consequences of this practice are extremely dangerous, as suffering a second concussion before an existing head injury has time to heal can lead to brain swelling, permanent brain damage and even death. However, when students, coaches and athletic trainers are provided the proper training in prevention, detection, and management, these instances can largely be prevented. As such, the bill we are considering today provides States with the tools needed to adopt and disseminate concussion management guidelines for school-sponsored sports. In addition, the bill would fund schools' implementation of computerized pre-season baseline and post-injury neuropsychological testing for student athletes to determine the severity of each injury. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 1347 and making significant gains in protecting high school student-athletes.

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate passed H.R. 3081, Continuing Appropriations, as amended.

Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 321, Adjournment Resolution.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S7381–S7842

Measures Introduced: Eighty-two bills and thirteen resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 12–20, 3865–3937, S. Res. 663–673, and S. Con. Res. 73–74. **Pages S7786–89**

Measures Reported:

Report to accompany S. 3243, To require U.S. Customs and Border Protection to administer polygraph examinations to all applicants for law enforcement positions with U.S. Customs and Border Protection, to require U.S. Customs and Border Protection to initiate all periodic background reinvestigations of certain law enforcement personnel. (S. Rept. No. 111–338)

Report to accompany H.R. 1345, to amend title 5, United States Code, to eliminate the discriminatory treatment of the District of Columbia under the provisions of law commonly referred to as the ''Hatch Act''. (S. Rept. No. 111–339)

Report to accompany S. 2847, to regulate the volume of audio on commercials. (S. Rept. No. 111–340)

S. 2862, to amend the Small Business Act to improve the Office of International Trade. (S. Rept. No. 111–341)

S. 2869, to increase loan limits for small business concerns, to provide for low interest refinancing for small business concerns, with an amendment. (S. Rept. No. 111–342)

S. 2989, to improve the Small Business Act, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 111–343)

H.R. 4543, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4285 Payne Avenue in San Jose, California, as the ''Anthony J. Cortese Post Office Building''.

H.R. 5341, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 100 Orndorf Drive in Brighton, Michigan, as the ''Joyce Rogers Post Office Building''.

H.R. 5390, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 13301 Smith Road in Cleveland, Ohio, as the ''David John Donafee Post Office Building''.

H.R. 5450, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3894 Crenshaw Boulevard in Los Angeles, California, as the ''Tom Bradley Post Office Building''.

S. 3794, to amend chapter 5 of title 40, United States Code, to include organizations whose membership comprises substantially veterans as recipient organizations for the donation of Federal surplus personal property through State agencies, with an amendment. **Page S7786**

Measures Passed:

Continuing Appropriations: By 69 yeas to 30 nays (Vote No. 247), Senate passed H.R. 3081, making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2011, after agreeing to the motion to proceed, and taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S7693–S7715**

Adopted:

Inouye Amendment No. 4674, in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S7705–06**

Inouye Amendment No. 4682, to amend the title. **Page S7715**

Withdrawn:

By 48 yeas to 51 nays (Vote No. 245), Thune Amendment No. 4676 (to Amendment No. 4674), to reduce spending other than national security spending by 5 percent. (A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the amendment, having failed to achieve 60 affirmative votes, be withdrawn). **Pages S7706–09 S7714**

By 39 yeas to 60 nays (Vote No. 246), DeMint Amendment No. 4677 (to Amendment No. 4674), to extend funding at the level provided until February 4, 2011. (A unanimous-consent agreement was

reached providing that the amendment, having failed to achieve 60 affirmative votes, be withdrawn).

Pages S7709–14 S7715

Adjournment Resolution: By 54 yeas to 39 nays (Vote No. 248), Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 321, providing for a conditional adjournment of the House of Representatives and a conditional recess or adjournment of the Senate. **Pages S7715–16**

Social Services Block Grant: Committee on Finance was discharged from further consideration of S. 3774, to extend the deadline for Social Services Block Grant expenditures of supplemental funds appropriated following disasters occurring in 2008, and the bill was then passed, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S7762–63**

Durbin (for Cornyn) Amendment No. 4685, to adjust the deadline for Social Services Block Grant expenditures of supplemental funds appropriated following disasters occuring in 2008. **Page S7762**

WIPA and PABSS Extension Act: Senate passed H.R. 6200, to amend part A of title XI of the Social Security Act to provide for a 1-year extension of the authorizations for the Work Incentives Planning and Assistance program and the Protection and Advocacy for Beneficiaries of Social Security program.

Page S7763

Hoh Indian Tribe Safe Homelands Act: Senate passed H.R. 1061, to transfer certain land to the United States to be held in trust for the Hoh Indian Tribe, to place land into trust for the Hoh Indian Tribe, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Page S7763**

Durbin (for Cantwell) Amendment No. 4686, to make a technical correction. **Page S7763**

CALM Act: Senate passed S. 2847, to regulate the volume of audio on commercials, after agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute, and the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S7763–64**

Durbin (for Whitehouse) Amendment No. 4687, to deem operators and distributors who maintain equipment and software in compliance with the FCC regulations to be in compliance with those regulations. **Page S7764**

Anthony J. Cortese Post Office Building: Senate passed H.R. 4543, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4285 Payne Avenue in San Jose, California, as the ''Anthony J. Cortese Post Office Building''. **Page S7764**

Joyce Rogers Post Office Building: Senate passed H.R. 5341, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 100 Orndorf Drive in Brighton, Michigan, as the ''Joyce Rogers Post Office Building''. **Page S7764**

David John Donafee Post Office Building: Senate passed H.R. 5390, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 13301 Smith Road in Cleveland, Ohio, as the ''David John Donafee Post Office Building''. **Page S7764**

Tom Bradley Post Office Building: Senate passed H.R. 5450, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3894 Crenshaw Boulevard in Los Angeles, California, as the ''Tom Bradley Post Office Building''. **Page S7764**

Oil Spill Prevention Act: Senate passed S. 685, to require new vessels for carrying oil fuel to have double hulls, after agreeing to the committee amendments, and the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S7764–69**

Durbin (for Lautenberg) Amendment No. 4688, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S7769**

FOR VETS Act: Senate passed S. 3794, to amend chapter 5 of title 40, United States Code, to include organizations whose membership comprises substantially veterans as recipient organizations for the donation of Federal surplus personal property through State agencies, after agreeing to the committee amendment. **Pages S7769–70**

Telework Improvements Act: Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 1722, to require the head of each executive agency to establish and implement a policy under which employees shall be authorized to telework, and the bill was then passed, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Page S7770**

Durbin (for Akaka/Voinovich) Amendment No. 4689, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S7770**

Hudson River School Painters: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 278, honoring the Hudson River School painters for their contributions to the United States Senate, and the resolution was then agreed to.

Pages S7770–01

Ensuring Stability in Somalia: Senate agreed to S. Res. 573, urging the development of a comprehensive strategy to ensure stability in Somalia, after agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Page S7770**

National Day of Recognition for Long-Term Care Physicians: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Con. Res. 52, expressing support for the designation of March 20 as a National Day of Recognition for Long-Term Care Physicians, and the resolution was then agreed to, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S7771–72**

Durbin (for Chambliss) Amendment No. 4690, to change the date. **Page S7771**

White House Fellows Program 45th Anniversary: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Con. Res. 72, recognizing the 45th anniversary of the White House Fellows Program, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S7772**

Fort Hood Shooting Anniversary: Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 319, recognizing the anniversary of the tragic shootings that occurred at Fort Hood, Texas, on November 5, 2009. **Page S7772**

28th Infantry Division: Senate agreed to S. Con. Res. 74, honoring the 28th Infantry Division for serving and protecting the United States. **Pages S7772–73**

Coastal States Organization: Senate agreed to S. Res. 667, recognizing the 40th anniversary of the Coastal States Organization. **Pages S7773–74**

National Day on Writing: Senate agreed to S. Res. 668, expressing support for the designation of October 20, 2010, as the "National Day on Writing". **Page S7773**

Filipino American History Month: Senate agreed to S. Res. 669, recognizing Filipino American History Month in October 2010. **Pages S7773–74**

National Veterans History Project Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 670, designating the week beginning on Monday, November 8, 2010, as "National Veterans History Project Week". **Page S7774**

Red Ribbon Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 671, supporting the goals and ideals of Red Ribbon Week, 2010. **Page S7774**

National Chess Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 672, designating October 9, 2010, as "National Chess Day" to enhance awareness and encourage students and adults to engage in a game known to enhance critical thinking and problem-solving skills. **Page S7774**

Measures Considered:

Centers for Medicaid & Medicare Services Joint Resolution: Senate began consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S.J. Res. 39, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule relating to status as a grandfathered health plan under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. **Pages S7673–93**

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

By 40 yeas to 59 nays (Vote No. 244), Senate rejected the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill. **Page S7693**

Promoting Natural Gas and Electric Vehicles Act—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 3815, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reduce oil consumption and improve energy security. **Pages S7729–30**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of 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 Wednesday, November 17, 2010. **Pages S7729–30**

Subsequently, the motion to proceed was withdrawn. **Page S7730**

Paycheck Fairness Act—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 3772, to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide more effective remedies to victims of discrimination in the payment of wages on the basis of sex. **Page S7730**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of S. 3815, Promoting Natural Gas and Electric Vehicles Act. **Page S7730**

Subsequently, the motion to proceed was withdrawn. **Page S7730**

FDA Food Safety Modernization Act—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 510, to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to the safety of the food supply. **Page S7730**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of S. 3772, Paycheck Fairness Act. **Page S7730**

Subsequently, the motion to proceed was withdrawn. **Page S7730**

House Messages:

Coast Guard Authorization Act: Senate concurred in the amendment of the House of Representatives to H.R. 3619, to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard for fiscal year 2010, with amendments. **Pages S7718–19, S7730–31**

Secure and Responsible Drug Disposal Act: Senate concurred in the amendment of the House to S. 3397, to amend the Controlled Substances Act to

provide for take-back disposal of controlled substances in certain instances. **Page S7770**

Signing Authority—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the Majority Leader be authorized to sign any duly enrolled bills and joint resolutions until Monday, October 4, 2010. **Page S7775**

Authorizing Leadership to Make Appointments—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that, notwithstanding the recess or adjournment of the Senate, the President of the Senate, the President of the Senate pro tempore, and the Majority and Minority Leaders be authorized to make appointments to commissions, committees, boards, conferences, or interparliamentary conferences authorized by law, by concurrent action of the two Houses, or by order of the Senate. **Page S7775**

Authority for Committees—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that, notwithstanding a recess or adjournment of the Senate, that Senate committees may file committee reported executive and legislative calendar business on Friday, October 1, 2010 from 12 noon to 2 p.m., and on Tuesday, October 26, 2010 from 12 noon to 2 p.m. **Page S7775**

Senator Stevens Tributes—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the tributes for the late Senator Stevens be printed as a Senate document and the deadline for statements to be submitted to the Congressional Record by Wednesday, November 17, 2010. **Page S7775**

Pro Forma Sessions—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at 11:30 a.m., on Friday, October 1, 2010, Senate meet in pro forma session only, with no business conducted; that at the close of the pro forma session, Senate then stand in recess and convene on the dates in this consent and on each date listed, conduct a pro forma session only with no business: Tuesday, October 5, 2010 at 11 a.m.; Friday, October 8, 2010 at 11:30 a.m.; Tuesday, October 12, 2010 at 10 a.m.; Friday, October 15, 2010 at 10 a.m.; Tuesday, October 19, 2010 at 12 noon; Friday, October 22, 2010 at 1 p.m.; Tuesday, October 26, 2010 at 12 noon; Friday, October 29, 2010 at 11:30 a.m.; Monday, November 1, 2010 at 9 a.m.; Thursday, November 4, 2010 at 9 a.m.; Monday, November 8, 2010 at 12 noon; Wednesday, November 10, 2010 at 9:30 a.m.; and Friday, November 12, 2010 at 9:30 a.m.; that at the close of the pro-forma session on Friday, November 12, 2010, Senate then stand adjourned until 2 p.m., Monday, November 15, 2010, under the authority of H. Con. Res. 321; that on Monday, November 15, 2010, Senate proceed to a period of morning business. **Page S7775**

Message from the President: Senate received the following message from the President of the United States:

Transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of an executive order that takes additional steps with respect to the national emergency with respect to Iran that was declared in Executive Order 12957; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (PM–67) **Pages S7781–82**

Treaties Approved: The following treaties, having passed through their various parliamentary stages, up to and including the presentation of the resolution of ratification, upon division, two-thirds of the Senators present having voted in the affirmative, the resolutions of ratification were agreed to:

Hague Convention on International Recovery of Child Support and Family Maintenance (Treaty Doc. 110–21) with two reservations and three declarations;

Treaty with United Kingdom Concerning Defense Trade Cooperation (Treaty Doc. 110–7) with 9 conditions, 7 understandings, and 3 declarations; and

Treaty with Australia Concerning Defense Trade Cooperation (Treaty Doc. 110–10) with 8 conditions, 6 understandings, and 3 declarations. **Pages S7719–24**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

Kevin W. Concannon, of Maine, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Commodity Credit Corporation.

(Prior to this action, Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry was discharged from further consideration.)

Kathleen A. Merrigan, of Massachusetts, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Commodity Credit Corporation.

(Prior to this action, Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry was discharged from further consideration.)

James W. Miller, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Commodity Credit Corporation.

(Prior to this action, Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry was discharged from further consideration.)

Dallas P. Tonsager, of South Dakota, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Commodity Credit Corporation.

(Prior to this action, Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry was discharged from further consideration.)

Julie A. Reiskin, of Colorado, to be Member of the Board of Directors of the Legal Services Corporation for a term expiring July 13, 2010.

Gloria Valencia-Weber, of New Mexico, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Legal Services Corporation for a term expiring July 13, 2011.

Michael J. Moore, of Georgia, to be United States Attorney for the Middle District of Georgia for the term of four years.

Raul Yzaguirre, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Dominican Republic.

Michael C. Ormsby, of Washington, to be United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Washington for the term of four years.

(Prior to this action, Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration.)

Steve A. Linick, of Virginia, to be Inspector General of the Federal Housing Finance Agency.

Michael Robert Bladel, of Iowa, to be United States Marshal for the Southern District of Iowa for the term of four years.

Mary Minow, of California, to be a Member of the National Museum and Library Services Board for a term expiring December 6, 2014.

Sarah Bloom Raskin, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System for the unexpired term of fourteen years from February 1, 2002.

Janet L. Yellen, of California, to be a Member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System for a term of fourteen years from February 1, 2010.

Janet L. Yellen, of California, to be Vice Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System for a term of four years.

Osvaldo Luis Gratacos Munet, of Puerto Rico, to be Inspector General, Export-Import Bank.

William C. Killian, of Tennessee, to be United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Tennessee for the term of four years.

Subra Suresh, of Massachusetts, to be Director of the National Science Foundation for a term of six years.

Mimi E. Alemayehou, Executive Vice President of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the African Development Foundation for a term expiring September 22, 2015.

Johnnie Carson, an Assistant Secretary of State (African Affairs), to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the African Development Foundation for a term expiring September 27, 2015.

Edward W. Brehm, of Minnesota, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the African Development Foundation for a term expiring September 22, 2011.

Kenneth James Runde, of Iowa, to be United States Marshal for the Northern District of Iowa for the term of four years.

Robert E. O'Neill, of Florida, to be United States Attorney for the Middle District of Florida for the term of four years.

Anne M. Harrington, of Virginia, to be Deputy Administrator for Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation, National Nuclear Security Administration.

Harry James Franklyn Korrell III, of Washington, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Legal Services Corporation for a term expiring July 13, 2011.

Joseph Pius Pietrzyk, of Ohio, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Legal Services Corporation for a term expiring July 13, 2011.

Pamela Young-Holmes, of Wisconsin, to be a Member of the National Council on Disability for a term expiring September 17, 2013.

Alexander A. Arvizu, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Albania.

Duane E. Woerth, of Nebraska, for the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service as Representative of the United States of America on the Council of the International Civil Aviation Organization.

Robert P. Mikulak, of Virginia, for the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service as United States Representative to the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons.

(Prior to this action, Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration.)

James Edward Clark, of Kentucky, to be United States Marshal for the Western District of Kentucky for the term of four years.

Mark F. Green, of Oklahoma, to be United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Oklahoma for the term of four years.

(Prior to this action, Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration.)

Joseph H. Hogsett, of Indiana, to be United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana for the term of four years.

Kristie Anne Kenney, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Thailand.

(Prior to this action, Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration.)

Jo Ellen Powell, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Mauritania.

(Prior to this action, Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration.)

Mark M. Boulware, of Texas, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Chad.

(Prior to this action, Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration.)

Christopher J. McMullen, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Angola.

(Prior to this action, Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration.)

Joseph A. Mussomeli, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Slovenia.

Wanda L. Nesbitt, of Pennsylvania, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Namibia.

(Prior to this action, Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration.)

Karen Brevard Stewart, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

(Prior to this action, Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration.)

Albert Najera, of California, to be United States Marshal for the Eastern District of California for the term of four years.

William Claud Sibert, of Missouri, to be United States Marshal for the Eastern District of Missouri for the term of four years.

Myron Martin Sutton, of Indiana, to be United States Marshal for the Northern District of Indiana for the term of four years.

Julie A. Reiskin, of Colorado, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Legal Services Corporation for a term expiring July 13, 2013.

Maria Elizabeth Raffinan, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of fifteen years.

Beverly Joyce Harvard, of Georgia, to be United States Marshal for the Northern District of Georgia for the term of four years.

David Mark Singer, of California, to be United States Marshal for the Central District of California for the term of four years.

Jeffrey Thomas Holt, of Tennessee, to be United States Marshal for the Western District of Tennessee for the term of four years.

Steven Clayton Stafford, of California, to be United States Marshal for the Southern District of California for the term of four years.

Paul Charles Thielen, of South Dakota, to be United States Marshal for the District of South Dakota for the term of four years.

(Prior to this action, Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration.)

Nancy E. Lindborg, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development.

(Prior to this action, Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration.)

Donald Kenneth Steinberg, of California, to be Deputy Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development.

(Prior to this action, Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration.)

David B. Buckley, of Virginia, to be Inspector General, Central Intelligence Agency.

Cameron Munter, of California, to be Ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.

(Prior to this action, Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration.)

Pamela Ann White, of Maine, to be Ambassador to the Republic of The Gambia.

(Prior to this action, Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration.)

11 Air Force nominations in the rank of general.

12 Army nominations in the rank of general.

6 Marine Corps nominations in the rank of general.

3 Navy nominations in the rank of admiral.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, and Navy.

Pages S7724–29, S7776–80

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Caitlin Joan Halligan, of New York, to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit.

Jimmie V. Reyna, of Maryland, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Federal Circuit.

Richard Brooke Jackson, of Colorado, to be United States District Judge for the District of Colorado.

Mae A. D'Agostino, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of New York.

William Conner Eldridge, of Arkansas, to be United States Attorney for the Western District of Arkansas for the term of four years.

Kenneth F. Bohac, of Illinois, to be United States Marshal for the Central District of Illinois for a term of four years.

Isabel Framer, of Ohio, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the State Justice Institute for a term expiring September 17, 2012.

Paula Barker Duffy, of Illinois, to be a Member of the National Council on the Humanities for a term expiring January 26, 2016.

Susan H. Hildreth, of Washington, to be Director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

Martha Wagner Weinberg, of Massachusetts, to be a Member of the National Council on the Humanities for a term expiring January 26, 2016.

Mark Green, of Wisconsin, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Millennium Challenge Corporation for a term of three years.

Thomas R. Nides, of the District of Columbia, to be Deputy Secretary of State for Management and Resources.

Alan J. Patricof, of New York, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Millennium Challenge Corporation for a term of two years.

Jo Ann Rooney, of Massachusetts, to be Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness.

Michael Vickers, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence.

Routine lists in the Army, Coast Guard, Foreign Service, and Navy. **Pages S7775–76**

Nomination Withdrawn: Senate received notification of withdrawal of the following nomination:

Teresa Takai, of California, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense, which was sent to the Senate on April 12, 2010. **Page S7780**

Messages from the House: **Pages S7782–83**

Measures Referred: **Pages S7783–84**

Measures Placed on the Calendar: **Page S7784**

Measures Read the First Time: **Pages S7774–75, S7784**

Enrolled Bills Presented: **Page S7784**

Executive Communications: **Pages S7784–85**

Petitions and Memorials: **Pages S7785–86**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S7786**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S7789–91**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S7791–S7841**

Additional Statements: **Pages 7746–52S**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S7752–62**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Pages S7841–42**

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S7842**

Record Votes: Five record votes were taken today. (Total—248) **Pages S7693, S7714–15**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 11:54 p.m., until 11:30 a.m. on Friday, October 1, 2010. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S7775.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

PUBLIC HEALTH THREATS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine defending against public health threats, after receiving testimony from Kathleen Sebelius, Secretary of Health and Human Services; Colonel Randall J. Larsen, USAF (Ret.), Weapons of Mass Destruction Center, and Eric A. Rose, Alliance for Biosecurity, both of Washington, D.C.; and Andrew T. Pavia, University of Utah Division of Pediatric Infectious Diseases, Salt Lake City.

INTERNATIONAL HOUSING FINANCE SYSTEMS

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Subcommittee on Security and International Trade and Finance concluded a hearing to examine a comparison of international housing finance systems, after receiving testimony from Michael J. Lea, San Diego State University Corky McMillin Center for Real Estate, San Diego, California; Susan M. Wachter, University of Pennsylvania Wharton School, Philadelphia; and Alex J. Pollock, American Enterprise Institute, Washington, D.C.

PROPANE EDUCATION AND RESEARCH COUNCIL AND NATIONAL OILHEAT RESEARCH ALLIANCE OVERSIGHT

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Energy concluded an oversight hearing to examine the Propane Education and Research Council (PERC) and National Oilheat Research Alliance (NORA), after receiving testimony from Mark Gaffigan, Director, Natural Resources and Environment, Government Accountability Office; John Huber, National Oilheat Research Alliance (NORA), Alexandria, Virginia; and Roy W. Willis, Propane Education & Research Council, Inc, Washington, D.C.

NATIONAL PARKS AND PUBLIC LANDS BILLS

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Subcommittee on National Parks with the Subcommittee on Public Lands concluded a joint hearing to examine S. 3261, to establish the Buffalo Bayou National Heritage Area in the State of Texas, S. 3283, to designate Mt. Andrea Lawrence, S. 3291, to establish Coltsville National Historical Park in the State of Connecticut, S. 3524 and H.R. 4438, bills to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to expand the boundary of the Park, to conduct a study of potential land acquisitions, S. 3565, to provide for the conveyance of certain Bureau of Land Management land in Mohave County, Arizona, to the Arizona Game and Fish Commission, for use as a public shooting range, S. 3612, to amend the Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park Establishment Act to expand the boundary of the Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park in the State of Vermont, S. 3616, to withdraw certain land in the State of New Mexico, S. 3744, to establish

Pinnacles National Park in the State of California as a unit of the National Park System, S. 3778 and H.R. 4773, bills to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to lease certain lands within Fort Pulaski National Monument, S. 3820, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to issue permits for a microhydro project in nonwilderness areas within the boundaries of Denali National Park and Preserve, to acquire land for Denali National Park and Preserve from Doyon Tourism, Inc, S. 3822, to adjust the boundary of the Carson National Forest, New Mexico, and H.R. 1858, to provide for a boundary adjustment and land conveyances involving Roosevelt National Forest, Colorado, to correct the effects of an erroneous land survey that resulted in approximately 7 acres of the Crystal Lakes Subdivision, Ninth Filing, encroaching on National Forest System land, after receiving testimony from Senator Begich; Katharine H. Stevenson, Associate Director, Business Services, National Park Service, Department of the Interior; Gregory C. Smith, Director of Lands, Forest Service, Department of Agriculture; and Aaron Schutt, Doyon, Limited, Fairbanks, Alaska.

AL-MEGRAHI RELEASE

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the al-Megrahi release, focusing on one year later, after receiving testimony from Senator Lautenberg; Nancy McEldowney, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs; Bruce Swartz, Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice; James L. Mohler, Roswell Park Cancer Center, Buffalo, New York; Oliver Sartor, Tulane Cancer Center, New Orleans, Louisiana; and Geoff D. Porter, New York, New York.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 3806, to protect Federal employees and visitors, improve the security of Federal facilities and authorize and modernize the Federal Protective Service, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

H.R. 2142, to require quarterly performance assessments of Government programs for purposes of assessing agency performance and improvement, and to establish agency performance improvement officers and the Performance Improvement Council, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 3794, to amend chapter 5 of title 40, United States Code, to include organizations whose membership comprises substantially veterans as recipient organizations for the donation of Federal surplus personal property through State agencies, with an amendment;

H.R. 4543, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4285 Payne Avenue in San Jose, California, as the ''Anthony J. Cortese Post Office Building'';

H.R. 5341, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 100 Orndorf Drive in Brighton, Michigan, as the ''Joyce Rogers Post Office Building'';

H.R. 5390, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 13301 Smith Road in Cleveland, Ohio, as the ''David John Donafee Post Office Building'';

H.R. 5450, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3894 Crenshaw Boulevard in Los Angeles, California, as the ''Tom Bradley Post Office Building''; and

The nomination of Maria Elizabeth Raffinan, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia.

IMPROVING FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY AT THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management, Government Information, Federal Services, and International Security concluded a hearing to examine improving financial accountability at the Department of Defense, focusing on financial management improvement and how the audit readiness efforts continue to evolve, after receiving testimony from Robert F. Hale, Under Secretary, Comptroller, Elizabeth A. McGrath, Deputy Chief Management Officer, Eric Fanning, Deputy Under Secretary of the Navy, and Deputy Chief Management Officer, U.S. Navy, David Tillotson III, Deputy Chief Management Officer, U.S. Air Force, Office of the Under Secretary of the Air Force; Lieutenant General Robert E. Durbin, Acting Deputy Chief Management Officer, U.S. Army, all of the Department of Defense; and Asif A. Khan, Director, Financial Management and Assurance, Government Accountability Office.

CRIMES AGAINST AMERICA'S HOMELESS

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Crime and Drugs concluded a hearing to examine crimes against America's homeless, focusing on if the violence is growing, after receiving testimony from Representative Johnson (TX); Richard Wierzbicki, Broward County Florida Sheriff's Office, Ft. Lauderdale; Brian H. Levin, California State University Center for the Study of Hate and Extremism, San Bernardino; Erik Luna, Washington and Lee University School of Law, Lexington, Virginia; David B. Muhlhausen, The Heritage Foundation Center for Data Analysis, Washington, D.C.; and Simone Manning-Moon, Decatur, Georgia.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of James E. Graves, Jr., of Mississippi, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit, who was introduced by Senators Cochran and Wicker, Paul Kinloch Holmes, III, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Arkansas, who was introduced by Senators Lincoln and Pryor, Anthony J. Battaglia, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of California, Edward J. Davila, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of California, and Diana Saldana, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Texas, who was introduced by Senators Cornyn and Hutchison, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

FILIBUSTER

Committee on Rules and Administration: Committee resumed hearings to examine the filibuster, focusing on ideas to reduce delay and encourage debate in the Senate, after receiving testimony from Senator Gregg; and Martin Paone, former Senate Democratic Secretary, and Norman J. Ornstein, American Enterprise Institute, both of Washington, D.C.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 57 public bills, H.R. 6239–6395; and 44 resolutions, H.J. Res. 98; H. Con. Res. 321–327; and H. Res. 1675–1681, 1683–1711 were introduced.

Pages H7388–96

Additional Cosponsors: Pages H7396–98

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H. Res. 1674, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 847) to amend the Public Health Service Act to extend and improve protections and services to individuals directly impacted by the terrorist attack in New York City on September 11, 2001, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2378) to amend title VII of the Tariff Act of 1930 to clarify that fundamental exchange-rate misalignment by any foreign nation is actionable under United States countervailing and antidumping duty laws, and for other purposes; and providing for consideration of the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 2701) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2010 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 111–648);

H. Res. 1561, directing the Secretary of Health and Human Services to transmit to the House of Representatives copies of each portion of any document, record, or communication in her possession consisting of or relating to documents prepared by or for the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services regarding the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 111–649);

H.R. 4416, to reauthorize the Great Ape Conservation Act, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 111–650);

H.R. 5479, to amend the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 to provide for use of excess funds available under that Act to provide for certain benefits, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 111–651);

H.R. 5897, to reauthorize and improve programs and activities carried out under the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 111–652, Pt. 1);

H.R. 4645, to remove obstacles to legal sales of United States agricultural commodities to Cuba and to end travel restrictions on all Americans to Cuba (H. Rept. 111–653, Pt. 1);

H.R. 5892, to provide for the conservation and development of water and related resources, to authorize the Secretary of the Army to construct various projects for improvements to rivers and harbors of the United States, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 111–654); and

H. Res. 1682, providing for consideration of the Senate amendments to the bill (H.R. 3081) making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 111–655). Page H7388

Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the guest chaplain, Reverend Scott Moore, Erfurt, Germany. Page H7215

Motion to Adjourn: Rejected the Lincoln Diaz-Balart motion to adjourn by a yea-and-nay vote of 2 yeas to 409 nays with 1 voting ''present'', Roll No. 545. Page H7226

Adjournment Resolution: The House agreed to H. Con. Res. 321, providing for a conditional adjournment of the House of Representatives and a conditional recess or adjournment of the Senate, by a yea-and-nay vote of 210 yeas to 209 nays, Roll No. 546. **Page H7228**

James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act of 2010: The House passed H.R. 847, to amend the Public Health Service Act to extend and improve protections and services to individuals directly impacted by the terrorist attack in New York City on September 11, 2001, by a recorded vote of 268 ayes to 160 noes, Roll No. 550. **Pages H7215–16, H7219–57**

Rejected the Lee (NY) motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Energy and Commerce with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with an amendment, by a yea-and-nay vote of 185 yeas to 244 nays, Roll No. 549. **Page H7256**

Pursuant to the rule, the amendment in the nature of a substitute printed in H. Rept. 111–648 shall be considered as adopted, in lieu of the amendments recommended by the Committees on Energy and Commerce and the Judiciary now printed in the bill. **Page H7230**

H. Res. 1674, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 847 and H.R. 2378) and the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 2701), was agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 234 yeas to 183 nays, Roll No. 548, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 235 yeas to 183 nays, Roll No. 547. **Pages H7219, H7228–30**

Currency Reform for Fair Trade Act: The House passed H.R. 2378, to amend title VII of the Tariff Act of 1930 to clarify that fundamental exchange-rate misalignment by any foreign nation is actionable under United States countervailing and anti-dumping duty laws, by a recorded vote of 348 ayes to 79 noes, Roll No. 554. **Pages H7259–73**

Pursuant to the rule, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Ways and Means now printed in the bill shall be considered as adopted. **Page H7259**

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: ''To amend title VII of the Tariff Act of 1930 to clarify that countervailing duties may be imposed to address subsidies relating to a fundamentally undervalued currency of any foreign country.''. **Page H7273**

H. Res. 1674, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 847 and H.R. 2378) and the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 2701), was agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 234 yeas to 183 nays, Roll No. 548, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 235 yeas to 183 nays, Roll No. 547. **Pages H7228–30**

Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010: The House concurred in the Senate amendment to H.R. 2701, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2010 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, by a yea-and-nay vote of 244 yeas to 181 nays, Roll No. 558. **Pages H7276–H7312 H7368–69**

H. Res. 1674, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 847 and H.R. 2378) and the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 2701), was agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 234 yeas to 183 nays, Roll No. 548, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 235 yeas to 183 nays, Roll No. 547. **Pages H7228–30**

Coin Modernization, Oversight, and Continuity Act of 2010: The House agreed to discharge and pass H.R. 6162, amended, to provide research and development authority for alternative coinage materials to the Secretary of the Treasury, increase congressional oversight over coin production, and ensure the continuity of certain numismatic items. **Pages H7312–13**

American Eagle Palladium Bullion Coin Act of 2010: The House agreed to discharge and pass H.R. 6166, amended, to authorize the production of palladium bullion coins to provide affordable opportunities for investments in precious metals. **Pages H7313–14**

Withdrawal of Motion to Suspend the Rules: Agreed by unanimous consent to withdraw the Driehaus motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 6014 which was offered on September 28, 2010. **Page H7342**

Election Assistance Commission Board of Advisors—Reappointment: Read a letter from Representative Boehner, Minority Leader, in which he reappointed Mr. Thomas A. Fuentes of Lake Forest, CA to the Election Assistance Commission Board of Advisors. **Page H7364**

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Plain Writing Act of 2010: Concurred in the Senate amendments to H.R. 946, to enhance citizen access to Government information and services by establishing that Government documents issued to the public must be written clearly, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 341 yeas to 82 nays, Roll No. 562; **Pages H7314–16, H7371–72**

Secure and Responsible Drug Disposal Act of 2010: S. 3397, amended, to amend the Controlled Substances Act to provide for take-back disposal of controlled substances in certain instances; **Pages H7316–18**

Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act Improvements Act of 2010: S. 1132, to amend title 18, United States Code, to improve the provisions relating to the carrying of concealed weapons by law enforcement officers; **Pages H7319–21**

Veterans' Insurance and Health Care Improvements Act: Concurred in the Senate amendments to H.R. 3219, to amend title 38, United States Code,

to make certain improvements in the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs relating to insurance and health care; **Pages H7321–42**

National Aeronautics and Space Administration Authorization Act of 2010: S. 3729, to authorize the programs of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration for fiscal years 2011 through 2013, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 304 yeas to 118 nays, Roll No. 561; and **Pages H7342–61, H7370–71**

Authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to extend grants and other assistance to facilitate a political status public education program for the people of Guam: Concurred in the Senate amendments to H.R. 3940, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to extend grants and other assistance to facilitate a political status public education program for the people of Guam, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 386 yeas to 5 nays, Roll No. 565. **Pages H7361–64, H7377**

Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2010: The House concurred in the Senate amendments to H.R. 3081, making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, by a recorded vote of 228 ayes to 194 noes, Roll No. 564. **Pages H7364–68, H7369–70, H7372–77**

H. Res. 1682, the rule providing for consideration of the Senate amendments, was agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 233 yeas to 191 nays, Roll No. 560, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 240 yeas to 186 nays, Roll No. 559. **Pages H7364, H7368, H7369–70**

Suspensions—Proceedings Resumed: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures which were debated on Tuesday, September 28th:

Requiring the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to include on the main page of the Internet website of the Department of Veterans Affairs a hyperlink to the VetSuccess Internet website: H.R. 3685, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to include on the main page of the Internet website of the Department of Veterans Affairs a hyperlink to the VetSuccess Internet website and to publicize such Internet website, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 425 ayes with none voting "no", Roll No. 551; **Pages H7257–58**

Securing America's Veterans Insurance Needs and Goals Act of 2010: H.R. 5993, amended, to amend title 38, United States Code, to ensure that beneficiaries of Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance receive financial counseling and disclosure information regarding life insurance payments, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 358 yeas to 66 nays, Roll No. 552; **Page H7258**

Calling on the Government of Japan to immediately address the growing problem of abduction to and retention of United States citizen minor children in Japan: H. Res. 1326, to call on the Government of Japan to immediately address the growing problem of abduction to and retention of United States citizen minor children in Japan, to work closely with the Government of the United States to return these children to their custodial parent or to the original jurisdiction for a custody determination in the United States, to provide left-behind parents immediate access to their children, and to adopt without delay the 1980 Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 416 yeas to 1 nay, Roll No. 553; **Pages H7258–59**

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: "Calling on the Government of Japan to address the urgent problem of abduction to and retention of United States citizen children in Japan, to work closely with the Government of the United States to return these children to their custodial parent or to the original jurisdiction for a custody determination in the United States, to provide left-behind parents immediate access to their children, and to adopt without delay the 1980 Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction.". **Page H7259**

Rare Earths and Critical Materials Revitalization Act of 2010: H.R. 6160, amended, to develop a rare earth materials program and to amend the National Materials and Minerals Policy, Research and Development Act of 1980, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 325 yeas to 98 nays, Roll No. 555; **Page H7273**

AMERICA Works Act: H.R. 4072, amended, to require that certain Federal job training and career education programs give priority to programs that provide a national industry-recognized and portable credential, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 412 yeas to 10 nays, Roll No. 556; **Pages H7273–74**

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: "To require that certain Federal job training and career education programs give priority to programs that provide an industry-recognized and nationally portable credential.". **Page H7274**

Medical Debt Relief Act: H.R. 3421, amended, to exclude from consumer credit reports medical debt that has been in collection and has been fully paid or settled, by a ⅔ recorded vote of 336 ayes to 82 noes, Roll No. 557; **Pages H7274–75**

Federal Election Integrity Act: H.R. 512, amended, to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to prohibit certain State election administration officials from actively participating in electoral campaigns, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 296 yeas to 129 nays, Roll No. 563; **Page H7372**

All-American Flag Act: H.R. 2853, amended, to require the purchase of domestically made flags of the United States of America for use by the Federal Government; **Pages H7377–78**

Emil Bolas Post Office Designation Act: H.R. 4602, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1332 Sharon Copley Road

in Sharon Center, Ohio, as the ''Emil Bolas Post Office''; **Page H7378**

James M. "Jimmy" Stewart Post Office Building Designation Act: H.R. 5606, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 47 South 7th Street in Indiana, Pennsylvania, as the ''James M. 'Jimmy' Stewart Post Office Building''; **Page H7378**

George C. Marshall Post Office Designation Act: H.R. 5605, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 47 East Fayette Street in Uniontown, Pennsylvania, as the ''George C. Marshall Post Office''; **Page H7378**

Supporting the goals and ideals of United States Military History Month: H. Res. 1442, to support the goals and ideals of United States Military History Month; **Page H7378**

Congratulating the Washington Stealth for winning the National Lacrosse League Championship: H. Res. 1546, amended, to congratulate the Washington Stealth for winning the National Lacrosse League Championship; **Page H7378**

Supporting the United States Paralympics: H. Res. 1479, to support the United States Paralympics and to honor the Paralympic athletes; **Page H7378**

Dorothy I. Height Post Office Building Designation Act: H.R. 6118, amended, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2 Massachusetts Avenue, N.E., in Washington, D.C., as the ''Dorothy I. Height Post Office Building''; **Page H7378**

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: ''To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE, in Washington, D.C., as the 'Dorothy I. Height Post Office'. ''. **Page H7378**

Supporting the goals and purpose of Gold Star Mothers Day: H. Res. 1617, to support the goals and purpose of Gold Star Mothers Day, which is observed on the last Sunday in September of each year in remembrance of the supreme sacrifice made by mothers who lose a son or daughter serving in the Armed Forces; **Pages H7378–79**

Expressing support for designation of September 2010 as National Craniofacial Acceptance Month: H. Res. 1603, to express support for designation of September 2010 as National Craniofacial Acceptance Month; **Page H7379**

Amending section 5542 of title 5, United States Code, to provide that any hours worked by Federal firefighters under a qualified trade-of-time arrangement shall be excluded for purposes of determinations relating to overtime pay: H.R. 3243, to amend section 5542 of title 5, United States Code, to provide that any hours worked by Federal firefighters under a qualified trade-of-time arrangement shall be excluded for purposes of determinations relating to overtime pay; **Page H7379**

Pre-Election Presidential Transition Act of 2010: S. 3196, to amend the Presidential Transition Act of 1963 to provide that certain transition services shall be available to eligible candidates before the general election; **Page H7379**

Pediatric Research Consortia Establishment Act: H.R. 758, amended, to amend title IV of the Public Health Service Act to provide for the establishment of pediatric research consortia; **Page H7379**

Veterinary Public Health Workforce and Education Act: H.R. 2999, amended, to amend the Public Health Service Act to enhance and increase the number of veterinarians trained in veterinary public health; **Page H7379**

Gestational Diabetes Act: H.R. 5354, amended, to establish an Advisory Committee on Gestational Diabetes and to provide grants to better understand and reduce gestational diabetes; **Page H7379**

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: ''To provide grants to better understand and reduce gestational diabetes, and for other purposes.''. **Page H7379**

Methamphetamine Education, Treatment, and Hope Act: H.R. 2818, amended, to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the establishment of a drug-free workplace information clearinghouse, to support residential methamphetamine treatment programs for pregnant and parenting women, and to improve the prevention and treatment of methamphetamine addiction; **Page H7379**

Concussion Treatment and Care Tools Act: H.R. 1347, amended, to amend title III of the Public Health Service Act to provide for the establishment and implementation of concussion management guidelines with respect to school-aged children; **Pages H7379–80**

Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Reauthorization Act of 2010: S. 3751, to amend the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Act of 2005; **Page H7380**

HEART for Women Act: H.R. 1032, amended, to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act and the Public Health Service Act to improve the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of heart disease, stroke, and other cardiovascular diseases in women; **Page H7380**

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: ''To amend the Public Health Service Act to improve the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of heart disease, stroke, and other cardiovascular diseases in women.''. **Page H7380**

Scleroderma Research and Awareness Act: H.R. 2408, amended, to expand the research and awareness activities of the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention with respect to scleroderma; **Page H7380**

Bone Marrow Failure Disease Research and Treatment Act: H.R. 1230, amended, to amend the

Public Health Service Act to provide for the establishment of a National Acquired Bone Marrow Failure Disease Registry, to authorize research on acquired bone marrow failure diseases; **Page H7380**

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: ''To amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for research on acquired bone marrow failure diseases, minority-focused programs on such diseases, and the development of best practices for diagnosis of and care for individuals with such diseases.''. **Page H7380**

Reauthorizing and enhancing Johanna's Law: H.R. 2941, amended, to reauthorize and enhance Johanna's Law to increase public awareness and knowledge with respect to gynecologic cancers; **Page H7380**

Birth Defects Prevention, Risk Reduction, and Awareness Act of 2010: H.R. 5462, amended, to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, to establish and implement a birth defects prevention, risk reduction, and public awareness program; and **Page H7380**

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: ''To amend title III of the Public Health Service Act to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish and implement a birth defects prevention, risk reduction, and public awareness program.''. **Page H7380**

Arthritis Prevention, Control, and Cure Act: H.R. 1210, amended, to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for arthritis research and public health. **Page H7380**

United States Secret Service Uniformed Division Modernization Act: The House concurred in the Senate amendment to the House amendment to S. 1510, to transfer statutory entitlements to pay and hours of work authorized by the District of Columbia Code for current members of the United States Secret Service Uniformed Division from the District of Columbia Code to the United States Code. **Pages H7380–83**

Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2010: The House concurred in the Senate amendments to the House amendments to the Senate amendment to H.R. 3619, to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard for fiscal year 2010. **Pages H7383–84**

Mount Stevens and Ted Stevens Icefield Designation Act: The House agreed to discharge and pass S. 3802, to designate a mountain and icefield in the State of Alaska as the ''Mount Stevens'' and ''Ted Stevens Icefield'', respectively. **Page H7384–85**

Presidential Message: Read a message from the President wherein he transmitted a notification that an Executive Order was issued with respect to the national emergency declared in response to the actions and policies of the Government of Iran—referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed (H. Doc. 111–147). **Pages H7275–76**

Senate Messages: Messages received from the Senate today appear on pages H7342, H7372 and H7379.

Senate Referral: S. 3774 was held at the desk. **Page H7372**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Seventeen yea-and-nay votes and four recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H7226, H7228, H7228–29, H7229–30, H7256, H7256–57, H7257–58, H7258, H7259, H7272–73, H7273, H7274, H7274–75, H7368–69, H7369–70, H7370, H7370–71, H7371–72, H7372, H7376–77 and H7377. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and at 1:04 a.m. on September 30, 2010, pursuant to the provisions of H. Con. Res. 321, the House stands adjourned until 2 p.m. on Monday, November 15, 2010.

Committee Meetings

DEFENSE DEPARTMENT'S EFFICIENCY INITIATIVE

Committee on Armed Services: Held a hearing on the Department of Defense's efficiency initiative. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: William J. Lynn, III, Deputy Secretary; Ashton Carter, Under Secretary, Acquisition, Technology and Logistics; and GEN James E. Cartwright, USMC, Vice Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff.

MILITARY TREATMENT FACILITY MULTI-RESISTANT INFECTIONS

Committee on Armed Services; Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing on Fighting Superbugs: DOD's Response to Multidrug-Resistant Infections in Military Treatment Facilities. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: Jack Smith, M.D., Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary, Clinical and Program Policy, Office of the Assistant Secretary, Health Affairs; COL Jonathan Jaffin, M.D., USA, Director, Health Policy and Services, Office of the Surgeon General; COL Duane Hospenthal, M.D., USA. Infectious Diseases Consultant to the U.S. Army Surgeon General; COL James D. Collier, M.D., USAF, Assistant Surgeon General, Health Care Operations, Office of the Surgeon General; LTC Michael Forgione, M.D., USAF, Service Advisor, Infectious Disease Clinical Research Program; CAPT Gregory Martin, USN, Program Director, Infectious Disease Clinical Research Program; and Judith F. English, Infection Control Consultant.

SMALL BUSINESS DEFENSE CONTRACTING

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Terrorism, Unconventional Threats, and Capabilities held a hearing on small business' role and opportunities in restoring affordability to the Department of Defense. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: Zachary J.

Lemnios, Director, Defense Research and Engineering; and Linda B. Oliver, Acting Director, Office of Small Business Programs.

HOUSING FINANCE OUTLOOK

Committee on Financial Services: Held a hearing entitled ''The Future of Housing Finance—A Review of Proposals to Address Market Structure and Transition.'' Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

DISABLED INCLUSIVE HOME DESIGN

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Housing and Community Opportunity held a hearing entitled ''The Inclusive Home Design Act.'' Testimony was heard from Representative Schakowsky; and public witnesses.

TRADE FINANCING'S ROLE IN DOUBLING EXPORTS

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations and the Subcommittee on International Monetary Policy and Trade held a joint hearing entitled ''Ex-Im Bank Oversight: The Role of Trade Finance in Doubling Exports over Five Years.'' Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Export-Import Bank of the United States; Fred P. Hochberg, Chairman and President; and Osvaldo Luis Gratacos, Acting Inspector General; Loren Yager, Director, International Affairs and Trade, GAO; and a public witness.

ADVANCES AGAINST HIV/AIDS

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Held a hearing on PEPFAR: From Emergency to Sustainability and Advances Against HIV/AIDS. Testimony was heard from Eric Goosby, U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator, Department of State; the following officials of the Department of Health and Human Services: Anthony S. Fauci, M.D., Director, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), NIH, and Thomas R. Frieden, M.D., Director, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and Administrator, Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry; and public witnesses.

U.S. POLICY TOWARD PACIFIC ISLANDS NATIONS

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific, and the Global Environment held a hearing on Renewed Engagement: U.S. Policy Toward Pacific Island Nations. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of State: Kurt M. Campbell, Assistant Secretary, Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs; and Frank Young, Senior Deputy Assistant, Administrator, Bureau for Asia, U.S. Agency for International Development; and Derek J. Mitchell, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Asian and Pacific Security Affairs, Department of Defense.

COUNTERING JIHADIST WEBSITES:

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation and Trade held a hearing on U.S. Strategy for Countering Jihadist Websites. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

DISASTER RELIEF DELIVERY MANAGEMENT

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Emergency Communications, Preparedness and Response held a hearing entitled ''Emergency Logistics Management: Transforming the Delivery of Disaster Relief for the 21st Century. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Homeland Security: Matt Jadacki, Assistant Inspector General, Emergency Management Oversight, Office of Inspector General; and Eric Smith, Assistant Administrator, Logistics Management Directorate, FEMA; and a public witness.

HOMELAND SECURITY INTELLIGENCE ANALYSIS FOR BROADER COMMUNITIES

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Intelligence, Information Sharing and Terrorist Risk Assessment held a hearing entitled ''Is the Office of Intelligence and Analysis Adequately Connected to the Broader Homeland Communities?'' Testimony was heard from Caryn A. Wagner, Under Secretary, Intelligence and Analysis, Office of Intelligence and Analysis, Department of Homeland Security.

COMPREHENSIVE ALCOHOL REGULATORY EFFECTIVENESS ACT

Committee on the Judiciary: Held a hearing on H.R. 5034, Comprehensive Alcohol Regulatory Effectiveness (CARE) Act of 2010. Testimony was heard from Representatives Thompson of California, Braley of Iowa, Radanovich, DeFazio, Towns, and Gary G. Miller of California; Mark L. Shurtleff, Attorney General, State of Utah; and public witnesses.

COURTROOM ACCESS TO JUSTICE—ADMINISTRATION-SECURITY

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Courts and Competition Policy held a hearing on Courtroom Use: Access to Justice, Effective Judicial Administration, and Courtroom Security. Testimony was heard from Representative Cooper; Mark L. Goldstein, Director, Physical Infrastructure, GAO; Robert A. Peck, Commissioner of Public Buildings, GSA; Michael A. Ponsor, U.S. District Judge, District of Massachusetts; Robert J. Conrad, Jr., Chief Judge, Western District of North Carolina; and a public witness.

SECOND CHANCE ACT REAUTHORIZATION

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security held a hearing on Reauthorization of the Second Chance Act. Testimony was heard from Gladyse Taylor, Acting Director, Department of Correction, State of Illinois; and public witnesses.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORT REQUEST ON THE BENEFICIARY OF A PRIVATE BILL

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship, Refugees, Border Security, and International Law met and approved a request to the Department of Homeland Security for the Departmental Report on the Beneficiary of H.R. 5401, For the relief of Allan Bolor Kelley.

NEUROSCIENCE RESEARCH/DEVELOPMENT

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on Domestic Policy held a hearing entitled, ''From Molecules to Minds: The Future of Neuroscience Research and Development.'' Testimony was heard from the following officials of NIH, Department of Health and Human Services: Thomas R. Insel, M.D., Director, National Institute of Mental Health, and Walter J. Koroshetz, M.D., Deputy Director, National Institute for Neurological Disorders and Stroke; Joel Kupersmith, M.D., Chief Research and Development Officer, Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; Terry Rauch, Director, Defense Medical Research and Development Program, Office of the Assistant Secretary, Health Affairs, Department of Defense; and public witnesses.

JAMES ZADROGA 9/11 HEALTH AND COMPENSATION ACT OF 2010; CURRENCY REFORM FOR FAIR TRADE ACT; SENATE AMENDMENTS TO INTELLIGENCE AUTHORIZATION ACT FY 2010

Committee on Rules: Granted, by a non-record vote, a single rule providing for consideration of (1) H.R. 847, the ''James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act of 2010,'' (2) H.R. 2378, the ''Currency Reform for Fair Trade Act,'' and (3) the Senate amendment to H.R. 2701, the ''Intelligence Authorization Act of 2010.''

With respect to H.R. 847, the rule grants a closed rule providing one hour of debate in the House, with 30 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce, 20 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary, and 10 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means.

The rule waives all points of order against consideration of H.R. 847 except those arising under clause 9 or 10 of rule XXI. In lieu of the amendments recommended by the Committee on Energy and Commerce and the Committee on the Judiciary, the amendment in the nature of a substitute printed in the report of the Committee on Rules shall be considered as adopted. The rule provides that the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against the bill, as amended. The rule provides one motion to recommit H.R. 847 with or without instructions.

With respect to H.R. 2378, the rule grants a closed rule providing one hour of debate in the House equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill except for clauses 9 and 10 of Rule XXI. The amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Ways and Means shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions of the bill, as amended. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

With respect to the Senate amendment to H.R. 2701, the rule makes in order a motion offered by the chair of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence or his designee that the House concur in the Senate amendment. All points of order against the motion are waived except those arising under clause 10 of rule XXI. The motion is debatable for one hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Intelligence Committee. The rule provides that the Senate amendment and the motion shall be considered as read. Testimony was heard from Representatives Engel, Nadler, Maloney, and Chairmen Levin and Reyes.

CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2011

Committee on Rules: Granted, by a non-record vote, a rule providing for consideration of the Senate amendments to H.R. 3081, the ''Continuing Appropriations Act, 2011.'' The rule makes in order a motion offered by the chair of the Committee on Appropriations or his designee that the House concur in the Senate amendments to H.R. 3081. The rule provides one hour of debate on the motion equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the motion except those arising under clause 10 of rule XXI. Finally, the rule provides that the Senate amendments and the motion shall be considered as read. Testimony was heard from heard from Chairman Obey.

INVESTMENTS IN SCIENCE U.S. COMPETITIVENESS

Committee on Science and Technology: Held a hearing on Averting the Storm: How Investments in Science Will Secure the Competitiveness and Economic Future of the U.S. Testimony was heard from Norman R. Augustine, former under Secretary of the Army; and public witnesses.

RECOVERY ACT TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Held a hearing on Recovery Act Transportation and Infrastructure Projects: Impacts on Local Communities and Business. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

U.S FLAGGED VESSELS IN U.S. FOREIGN TRADE

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation held a hearing on Continuing Examination of U.S. Flagged Vessels in U.S. Foreign Trade. Testimony was heard from David Matsuda, Acting Administrator, Maritime Administration, Department of Transportation.

FEDERAL CONTRACTOR COMPLIANCE

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity held a hearing on Federal Contractor Compliance. Testimony was heard from Les Jin, Deputy Director, Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, Department of Labor; Jan R. Frye, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Acquisition and Logistics, Department of Veterans Affairs; representatives of veterans organizations; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Veterans Affairs: Subcommittee on Health held a hearing on the following bills: H.R. 3843, Transparency for America's Heroes Act; H.R. 4041, To authorize certain improvements in the Federal Recovery Coordinator Programs; H.R. 5428, To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to educate certain staff of the Department of Veterans Affairs and to inform veterans about the Injured and Amputee Veterans Bill of Rights; H.R. 5543, To amend title 38, United States Code, to repeal the prohibition on collective bargaining with respect to matters and questions regarding compensation of employees of the Department of Veterans Affairs other than rates of basic pay; H.R. 5516, Access to Appropriate Immunizations for Veterans Act of 2010; H.R. 5641, Heroes at Home Act; H.R. 5996, To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to improve the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of veterans with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease; H.R. 6123, Veterans' Traumatic Brain Injury Rehabilitative Services' Improvements Act of 2010; and H.R. 6127, Extension of Health Care Eligibility for Veterans Who Served at Qrmat Ali, and Draft Legislation. Testimony was heard from Representatives Filner, Sestak, Barrow, Pingree and Stearns; Robert L. Jesse, M.D., Principal Deputy Under Secretary, Health, Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; and representatives of veterans organizations.

BRIEFINGS—SUPPLY CHAIN THREATS; THREAT ASSESSMENTS UPDATE

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Meet in executive session to receive a briefing on Supply Chain Threats. The Committee was briefed by departmental witnesses.

The Committee also met in executive session to receive a briefing on Threat Assessments Update. The Committee was briefed by Michael Leiter, Director, National Counterterrorism Center, Office of the Director of National Intelligence.

Joint Meetings

YUKOS OIL COMPANY

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: Commission concluded a hearing to examine charges against Mikhail Khodorkovsky's Yukos Oil Company, after receiving testimony from Vadim Klyuvgant, Moscow, Russia.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, *p. D1027)*

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. Signed on September 27, 2010. (Public Law 111–240)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2010

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Business meeting to consider S. 118, to amend section 202 of the Housing Act of 1959, to improve the program under such section for supportive housing for the elderly, and S. 1481, to amend section 811 of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act to improve the program under such section for supportive housing for persons with disabilities; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine implementing the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, 10 a.m., SD–538.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Energy, to hold hearings to examine the role of strategic minerals in clean energy technologies and other applications, including S. 3521, to provide for the reestablishment of a domestic rare earths materials production and supply industry in the United States, 10 a.m., SD–366.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: to hold hearings to examine the Federal investment in for-profit education, focusing on if students are succeeding, 10 a.m., SD–124.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Ad Hoc Subcommittee on State, Local, and Private Sector Preparedness and Integration, to hold hearings to examine earthquake preparedness, focusing on what the United States can learn from the 2010 Chilean and Haitian earthquakes, 10:30 a.m., SD–342.

Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia, to hold hearings to examine implementation, improvement, sustainability, focusing on management matters at the Department of Homeland Security, 2:30 p.m., SD–342.

House

Committee on the Budget, hearing on Defense Department Budget initiatives, 2 p.m., 210 Cannon.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Health, hearing on the recently released discussion draft on drug safety legislation, 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, hearing on Out of the Shadows: The Global Fight Against Human Trafficking, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Asia, The Pacific and The Global Environment, hearing on Cambodia's Small Debt: When Will the U.S. Forgive? 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, Subcommittee on Emerging Threats, Cybersecurity, and Science and Technology, hearing entitled ''The Domestic Nuclear Detection Office: Can It Overcome Past Problems and Chart a New Direction?'' 2 p.m., 311 Cannon.

Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship, Refugees, Border Security, and International Law, hearing on the Role of Immigration in Strengthening America's Economy, 9:30 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, hearing to examine the circumstances surrounding the recall of over 135 million bottles of infant and children's medicines produced by Johnson & Johnson/McNeil Consumer Healthcare, 10 a.m., 210–HVC.

Subcommittee on Domestic Policy, hearing entitled, ''Are 'Superweeds' an Outgrowth of USDA Biotech Policy? (Part II),'' 2:00 p.m., 2203 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Governmental Management, Organization and Procurement, executive, briefing to discuss recently proposed efficiency and organizational initiatives within the Department of Defense, 2 p.m., 2218 Rayburn.

Committee on Science and Technology, Subcommittee on Technology and Innovation, hearing on Standards for Health IT: Meaningful Use and Beyond, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management, hearing on The Congressional Workplace; Safety Concerns and Future Plans, 2 p.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment, hearing on impact of Green Infrastructure and Low Impact Development on the Nation's Water Quality, Economy and Communities, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, hearing on the True Cost of the War, 10 a.m., 334 Cannon.

Next Meeting of the SENATE
11:30 a.m., Friday, October 1

Senate Chamber

Program for Friday: Senate will meet in a pro forma session.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
2 p.m., Monday, November 15

House Chamber

Program for Monday: To be announced.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE

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