

plugged in by 2030. The electric bill to power all household electronics will top \$200 billion a year, compared with last year's bill of \$80 billion. Most of this increase in consumer electronics will occur in developing countries, where economic growth is outpacing developed nations and ownership rates of gadgets are lowest.

If the devices are not made more energy efficient, their proliferation will undermine efforts to increase energy security and reduce the emission of greenhouse gases responsible for global warming. The answer to this problem will not be found in stemming the tide of electronic gadget envy, because there is no way we will be able to do that. Instead, we must encourage the development of better devices that are built more efficiently and run on less energy.

Programs like Energy Star have already started improving our electronically dependent world. Last year as a result of Energy Star, Americans saved \$6,000,000,000 while also saving enough energy to power over 10,000,000 homes. However, the Energy Star program as it is currently structured cannot solve the problem due to the limited number of devices it covers.

To address this, I am reintroducing the Smart Electronics Act. The bill would require the Department of Energy (DOE) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to report to Congress within a year on several key areas to ensure we achieve the clarity needed for industry to thrive. First, the DOE and EPA must assess the potential for energy efficient electronics to receive an Energy Star designation, and the potential savings accrued (e.g. cost, energy) through a specific program focused on smart electronics. Second, they must assess the global growth of electronics usage and utilization and the associated energy consumption. Lastly, the bill calls for the DOE and EPA to standardize a process for defining, categorizing, and ranking technologies as "smart." If it is deemed appropriate, a smart electronics emphasis and a Smart Electronics Registry would be incorporated into the Energy Star program.

The bill defines smart electronics as devices that cooperate with the electrical grid to cut down on energy consumption. This minimization can be achieved through power-factor correction, utilizing stand-by modes, communication and monitoring with the smart grid, taking advantage of off-peak charging and operation, on-demand and variable processing speed semiconductors, or switching to a lower power mode.

Importantly, this legislation will help us green the electronics industry by providing the private sector with reliable standards and incentives and by educating and empowering consumers to make smarter and more efficient choices—all of which help cool the planet.

I look forward to working with Energy and Commerce Committee Chairman UPTON and Ranking Member WAXMAN on moving this bill through their committee and the House.

RECOGNIZING VENANCIA R. COLET ON BEING NAMED A 2011 OUTSTANDING SENIOR VOLUNTEER BY THE NATIONAL SENIOR MEDICARE PATROL

### HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, August 1, 2011*

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Venancia R. Colet, for her exemplary volunteer work with the Guam Senior Medicare Patrol Project (Guam SMP), an outreach program which educates Medicare recipients about the complexities of the Medicare program. Mrs. Colet was recently named one of ten SMP volunteers, nationwide, to receive the Outstanding Senior Volunteer Award. This national award from the U.S. Administration on Aging recognizes the commitment of volunteers to fight against health care fraud and abuse.

Mrs. Colet worked as a counselor with the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse (DMHSA) from 1976 to 1997. After her retirement, she continued to serve the community of Guam by training and supervising DMHSA counselors in responding to crises, and she has worked with local programs that address the needs of emotionally disturbed children and youth in Guam.

In 2008, Mrs. Colet began volunteering for the Guam SMP program, and since then she has conducted numerous counseling sessions with homebound Medicare recipients. She was the first and is currently the only SMP volunteer with proficiency in both the Tagalog and Ilocano languages of the Philippines, a skill that has helped the program reach many Medicare beneficiaries on Guam.

Mrs. Colet was born in the province of Vigan, Ilocos, in the Philippines and moved to Guam in 1974. She currently resides in the northern village of Dededo, Guam. She has been married to Rodolfo Colet for the past 35 years, and they have two children. In addition to her contributions to Guam SMP, Mrs. Colet is an active volunteer for the American Red Cross and has provided voluntary services following the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on our Nation.

I congratulate Mrs. Colet on being named an Outstanding Senior Volunteer for the Senior Medical Patrol Project. On behalf of the people of Guam, I extend to her a sincere *un dangkulo nab Si Yu 'os Ma'ase* for dedication and commitment to our community.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF CAPTAIN JEFF BOWEN OF THE ASHEVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT

### HON. HEATH SHULER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, August 1, 2011*

Mr. SHULER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Captain Jeff Bowen for his distinguished service in the Asheville City Fire Department.

A husband and father of three, Captain Bowen passed away July 29th, 2011, at the age of 37, while serving the people of Ashe-

ville, North Carolina. Captain Bowen first joined the Asheville Fire Department 13 years ago and dedicated himself fully to protecting the city until his life was claimed during a fire at a Biltmore Avenue medical office building.

Firefighters serve as an integral part of our community. It is remarkable that men such as Captain Bowen commit themselves to a profession that engenders such risk and sacrifice. These stakes often fashion strong friendships and bonds that go beyond the walls of any fire department. Today, we all stand with the 240 firefighters in the Asheville Fire Department who lost a colleague, a friend, and a brother. We also pray for Captain Bowen's wife, Stacy, and his three children as they grieve for the loss of a remarkable husband and father.

Captain Bowen was often described as a "firefighter's firefighter," a selfless man who truly enjoyed coming to work every shift. He was respected by his fellow firefighters and appreciated by his officers. Through his commendable service, Captain Bowen has made Western North Carolina proud. It is my honor to commemorate him, and I urge my colleagues to join me today in honoring Captain Jeff Bowen for the sacrifice he has made for the city of Asheville, the citizens of North Carolina, and the people of the United States.

JOHN P. ERCUL TRIBUTE

### HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, August 1, 2011*

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, it is a great privilege to rise in recognition of Deputy Chief John P. Ercul, for his 42 years of service in the Pueblo Police Department, and for his service in the United States Army.

Mr. Ercul graduated from the Southern Colorado State College with a degree in English and Mass Communications, later attending many specialized law enforcement schools as he built his distinguished career of service to the people of Pueblo. Mr. Ercul's passionate dedication to his work over four decades has left an indelible mark on the community and on the legacy of the Pueblo Police Department.

Mr. Speaker, throughout the duration of his service in the Pueblo Police Department, Mr. Ercul has been devoted to his community. His years of service and commitment to the people of Pueblo deserve great recognition and admiration.

THE SERVICE OF ROD WEIGAND, GRAND LODGE REPRESENTATIVE, IAM

### HON. MARTIN HEINRICH

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, August 1, 2011*

Mr. HEINRICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a notable labor advocate in New Mexico's First Congressional District, Mr. Rod Weigand. Mr. Weigand has served for the past 7 years as Grand Lodge Representative for New Mexico, Colorado and Wyoming as part of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, or "IAM."