

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF PIERCE MANUFACTURING

HON. REID J. RIBBLE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 2013

Mr. RIBBLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th anniversary of Pierce Manufacturing, located in Appleton, Wisconsin. Pierce Manufacturing is a subsidiary of Oshkosh Corporation, and builds fire and rescue apparatuses. Over the past 100 years, this company has grown from its modest beginnings as Pierce Auto Body Works, Inc. focused on building truck bodies for the Ford Model T to become a world-class manufacturer of quality fire and rescue vehicles.

In the aftermath of 9/11, Pierce Manufacturing donated one of its rescue vehicles to the Fire Department of New York City. According to reports, no ceremony was held to mark the occasion. The workers and leadership at Pierce Manufacturing simply "felt compelled to help." As Congressman, I am incredibly proud of the highly skilled workers in Appleton and Weyauwega that play a vital role in designing, building and maintaining these custom fire and rescue vehicles.

Again, I congratulate Pierce Manufacturing on its 100th anniversary, and encourage all residents in Northeast Wisconsin to celebrate this company's wonderful history on Saturday, July 13th, 2013.

RECOGNIZING THE TACOMA HOUSING AUTHORITY FOR THE RENOVATION OF THE HILLSIDE TERRACE COMMUNITY IN TACOMA'S HILLTOP COMMUNITY

HON. DEREK KILMER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 2013

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Tacoma Housing Authority for breaking ground on the redevelopment of Hillside Terrace in the Hilltop community. This development will provide comfortable, affordable, and environmentally sound units for families in need.

The Tacoma Housing Authority was formed in 1940 in response to the growing need for safe, affordable housing for low-income families in Tacoma. Since then, Tacoma Housing Authority has grown to become the city's largest landlord. They currently serve thousands of families across Tacoma.

Phase I of the redevelopment project will take place at the 2500 block of Hillside Terrace. This phase will include a mid-rise building with 54 units, five townhouse style buildings with 16 units, and a large community education facility.

Mr. Speaker, The Tacoma Housing Authority has been a national leader in the devel-

opment of public housing. In the first part of the twenty-first century, Tacoma Housing Authority gained public attention for the redevelopment of Salishan. Salishan, originally built during World War II, fell into disrepair. Through a multi-phase project, Tacoma Housing Authority rebuilt the entire neighborhood, creating safer, more livable homes for the close, multi-cultural community on the city's east side.

Now, Tacoma Housing Authority is engaging in a similar project with Hillside Terrace. Residents will be able to enjoy a sense of community that comes with new, safe homes and a brand new community center.

As I close, Mr. Speaker, I can say with confidence that Hillside Terrace will add to the rich diversity of the Hilltop neighborhood, and will continue Tacoma Housing Authority's strong tradition of providing high-quality affordable housing in the City of Destiny.

MONTROSE, COLORADO TRIBUTE

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 2013

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Montrose, Colorado, Montrose has received the 2013 All-American City Award from the National Civic League.

Each year, the National Civic League hosts an expo in Denver where citizens from all over the nation attend to display their community achievements. This year, the conference focused specifically on communities dedicated to providing support for veterans and their families. Ten outstanding proposals are chosen to receive the award, including Montrose.

Montrose is a model of American values, with an outstanding commitment to supporting troops, veterans, and their families, through community efforts including Welcome Home Colorado. In the heart of Colorado, Montrose has a diverse landscape with access to abundant outdoor activities including hiking, skiing, and water sports. The community strives to make these recreational activities available to veterans and returning troops, improving their quality of life.

The spirit of the community in Montrose is an inspiration to other cities across America to support our troops and veterans, and provide returning troops with the opportunity to thrive.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Montrose, Colorado, for its outstanding achievement as a 2013 All-American City, and recognize its residents for their dedication to their community and to our brave men and women who have served our country.

HONORING DOMINGO "PAPO" RODRIGUEZ

HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 2013

Mr. PASTOR of Arizona. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Domingo "Papo" Rodriguez, a resident of Phoenix, Arizona, a constituent and a friend. He has left us too soon, but well after establishing a rich and long legacy that will live on.

Papo devoted over 35 years working with non-profit community based organizations. The last 19 years of his career he served as Vice President of Community Health & Human Services with Chicanos Por La Causa. He managed over 75 different funding contracts and sources that represented over 100 categorical programs and services with 30 facilities serving individuals in 25 cities throughout Arizona. He oversaw programs that impacted the community including the Early Childhood Development program for Migrant & Seasonal and Early Head Start Programs, Community Behavioral Health Services/Managed Care HIV/AIDS, Youth Prevention and Intervention Programs, Pregnant & Parenting Teen Programs, Parenting Arizona, and Rural Social & Immigration Services.

While his career was very demanding, Papo found time to devote himself to other causes and issues in service to his community. Domingo Rodriguez was instrumental in the establishment of a statewide Latino Policy Institute and served as a consultant to federal agencies on many of our communities' pressing issues. Moreover, he was actively recruited to and generously gave of his time to serve on boards and commissions where his input contributed to the creation of many policies and programs, again, to serve the community for which he greatly cared.

Papo's passing is a loss for the State of Arizona. He will be missed by us all, but he will also be long remembered for his generous spirit and his commitment to service.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF PLYMOUTH, NEW HAMPSHIRE

HON. ANN M. KUSTER

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 2013

Ms. KUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of the 250th anniversary of a proud community in my district: the Town of Plymouth, New Hampshire. Nestled between the crystal waters of the Lakes Region and the majestic peaks of the White Mountains, Plymouth serves as the gateway to some of the Granite State's greatest natural treasures. The pristine rivers that meet in this distinguished community symbolize the convergence of education, tourism, and industry that have defined Plymouth since its incorporation in 1763.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

People travel from far and wide seeking the town's beautiful mountain vistas, fine hotels and inns, rustic covered bridges, campgrounds, and lakes. Many years ago, snow trains would stop in Plymouth, providing skiers and adventurers headed for the White Mountains with a place to stay at the inns found throughout the town. While enjoying the sights, guests could visit the Draper and Maynard sporting goods store, where Babe Ruth himself would travel to purchase baseball equipment. They could pick up a pair of buck gloves, courtesy of the prestigious glove industry that defined Plymouth's early years. Or, they could visit Plymouth State University to enjoy a collection of letters and works written by a frequent visitor to the White Mountains, Robert Frost.

During the academic year, the population of Plymouth doubles as bustling students fill the historic streets. These students return to experience one of New England's finest universities, where a campus-wide focus on environmental issues and sustainable initiatives has become an integral part of the student experience.

While 250 years have come and gone in Plymouth, the town's focus on education and innovation has set a course of prosperity for countless years to come. On July 20th, the town will officially mark its two and a half centuries with a community-wide celebration. As local citizens enjoy fireworks, dances, concerts, and other festivities to mark this auspicious occasion, I urge all Granite Staters and all Americans to join them in honoring this special town.

IN HONOR OF THE COMMUNITY
BAPTIST CHURCH ON THEIR 50TH
ANNIVERSARY

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 2013

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Community Baptist Church on their 50th year anniversary. The church was started on March 3, 1963 by Reverend Wilmer Wright when they began holding services in a corner barbershop in Bristol, PA. After twenty-four years of service, Reverend Wilmer Wright retired and his son, Joseph Wright, took over as their Pastor in 1987. The year 2013 marks the church's 50th anniversary, and they celebrated their year of jubilee from March 4, 2012 to March 3, 2013. Since 1963, services have been held in a number of locations where they have provided numerous opportunities for their community. They have Sunday school for all ages, Bible study groups, and various charity events, such as their Fashion Show and Silent Auction. The church is also very good at hosting events that include youth with their movie nights and a pep rally event. Throughout its fifty years, the church has been the heart of the community and has provided endless support for its members and the community as well.

IN HONOR OF DEPUTY CHIEF
CASSIE MCSORLEY

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 2013

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise today to honor the career of Deputy Chief Cassie McSorley, who is retiring after 30 years of service to the citizens of Salinas. Since joining the Salinas Police Department in 1983, Deputy Chief McSorley has worked at all levels of the department, including uniformed patrol, DUI enforcement, field training, Narcotics, and Special Operations.

Deputy Chief McSorley was raised in Salinas and attended North Salinas High School before going on to earn a bachelor's degree in Administration of Justice from San Jose State University. She completed graduate studies at the University of San Francisco in Organizational Development. She joined the Salinas Police Department as a patrol officer and a member of the DUI enforcement team before being promoted to Corporal, where she served as a Field Training Officer and a detective in the Vice/Narcotic Unit. She quickly advanced from Corporal to Sergeant, and then to Lieutenant. In 2003, she became Deputy Police Chief taking on various additional law enforcement responsibilities and ran a successful police department securing the streets of Salinas that are plagued by gangs. On many occasions when required, Deputy Chief McSorley has assumed the position of Acting Salinas Police Chief without hesitation.

Her long history of service to the department has included her role in establishing the first in-house training programs and specialized training teams; her work on Salinas' first hostage negotiation team; and her help in establishing the curriculum for the first Crisis Intervention Team training and policy development for Monterey County enforcement agencies.

Deputy Chief McSorley has always been deeply involved in the Salinas community, from the early community policing initiatives in the 10/20 Block and Acosta Plaza to more recent endeavors. She volunteers for many local causes and has served on a number of non-profit board of directors, including the Salinas Rotary Club, Sun Street Centers, Partners for Peace, Salinas Police Activities League, and others. One of her other noteworthy accomplishments was founding the Salinas Police Department Relay for Life team, serving as team captain in 2001 and 2002.

Mr. Speaker, I know I speak for the whole House and the entire law enforcement community in California as I commend Deputy Chief McSorley for all she has done for this community. I extend my most sincere thanks and warmest wishes for her success and much success and happiness in her retirement.

30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY
OF MOORPARK

HON. JULIA BROWNLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 2013

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to represent the City of Moor-

park in the United States House of Representatives. Moorpark was recently named by the Kosmont-Rose Institute as one of the top ten most business friendly cities in California, which serves to attract new and innovative companies, creating high paying, high-skilled local jobs, that significantly contribute to Ventura County's diverse and vibrant economy.

From its start as a pastoral community built on hard work and rugged individualism, to a thriving community that celebrates its historical roots, Moorpark is the product of determined citizens coming together to establish a better way of life. The city's unique cultural fusion of arts, agriculture, community, family, education, and outdoor recreation make Moorpark an exceptionally desirable place to live. As the city's representative in Congress, I share Moorpark's commitment to protecting local open spaces and preserving the natural beauty of our region for future generations to cherish and enjoy.

I also share with Moorpark a steadfast dedication to education, and I will continue to work on behalf of the teachers and students of this outstanding school district. I believe that investing in our children's future is vital to perpetuating the growth and development of every community in Ventura County and across the nation. I would also like to commend Moorpark for fostering the success of Moorpark College, as I believe community colleges are critical to equipping the next generation with the skills required to excel.

Additionally, I commend the City of Moorpark for its dedication to assisting and memorializing our veterans, who have given immeasurably to our communities. The two memorials in the city are a testament to the important role that the men and women of our Armed Forces play in ensuring communities like Moorpark can thrive.

Once again, congratulations on Moorpark's 30th Anniversary! This is a fantastic accomplishment, and I could not be more proud and driven to work hard to represent the values of our community in Congress.

A TRIBUTE TO JAMIE BOERSMA

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 2013

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Girl Scouts of Greater Iowa CEO Jamie Boersma of Clive for being named a 2013 "Characters Unite" award recipient by USA Network.

The Characters Unite program is a national public service initiative that aims to bridge cultural gaps and confront social injustices through the promotion of understanding and acceptance. Each year, this program honors individuals who go above and beyond by contributing "significant efforts to champion civil and human rights in their communities." Awardees are provided a \$5,000 grant for their individual projects and are featured on nationwide public service announcements to raise awareness for their cause and the program as a whole.

As CEO of Girl Scouts of Greater Iowa, Mrs. Boersma changes the lives of more than 15,000 girls and 4,000 adults in 70 counties that mostly comprise central and western

Iowa. Additionally, Jamie serves on the Board of Directors for the Rotary Club of Des Moines, is an active member of her church, and a wife and mother to her husband, Dale, and their son, Andrew. In all that she does, Jamie is truly an example that our state can be proud of.

Mr. Speaker, Mrs. Boersma's tireless efforts to make the world a better place have deservedly been recognized through her selection as a 2013 Characters Unite winner. Jamie is a testament to the humble, hardworking and helpful people who make up the great state of Iowa, and it is a great honor to represent her and her family in the United States Congress. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Mrs. Boersma on receiving this prestigious distinction, thanking USA Network and the Girl Scouts of Greater Iowa for their efforts, and wishing all of those involved in these wonderful programs continued success for years to come.

THE STATE DEPARTMENT 2013
TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS RE-
PORT

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 2013

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, earlier today, the Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations held the second in a series of hearings on the Trafficking in Persons report and U.S. efforts to combat human trafficking. In April, the subcommittee took a close look at the records of 6 countries which had exhausted all of their allotted time on the Tier 2 Watch list and must, by law, be moved to Tier 2 or Tier 3 in this year's Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Report.

As discussed by experts in the April 18 hearing, the trafficking records of China, Russia, and Uzbekistan were particularly worrisome. An upgrade to Tier 2 would have been completely unmerited and would have damaged the credibility of the TIP Report.

The TIP report was released late last month, and I was pleased to see that it is one of the best yet—and that it faithfully reported and graded the records of China, Russia, and Uzbekistan, which had been skirting accountability for far too long. Now, the Administration is faced with next steps including what sanctions might be imposed to press these nations to reform.

When I wrote the law—the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000—that created not only this report, but also the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons in the U.S. Department of State, and several other provisions to prevent both sex and labor trafficking, protect victims, and prosecute traffickers, it was hoped this report would become the international gold standard and primary means of anti-trafficking accountability around the world. It has. From the halls of parliaments globally to police stations in remote corners of the world, this report is today being used to focus anti-trafficking work in 186 countries.

But with the power of this report to improve situations came the risk that it could also be used to whitewash the truth about a country's trafficking record—it could fail to report accu-

rately and inadvertently give cover to negligent or complicit governments.

I am happy to say that the 2013 report is one of the best ever produced. Special thanks are especially in order for Ambassador Luis CdeBaca and his dedicated staff for faithfully highlighting the good, while exposing the bad and the ugly. The TIP report is faithful in and reflects the hard, meticulous work and leadership of the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons. This office not only analyzes whether a country is complying with the minimum standards for the elimination of human trafficking, but also sets specific recommendations for how a country can move forward.

With this report, countries should have no question about where they rank, or how they can improve. Many countries have publically or privately credited the report as the impetus for real improvement in their trafficking laws and policies. Since the TIP report's inception, more than 130 countries have enacted anti-trafficking laws, and many countries have taken other steps required to significantly raise their tier rankings.

This year, China, Russia, and Uzbekistan finally have to confront their records. The report tells it like it is. For instance, the TIP report states that: "The Chinese government's birth limitation policy and a cultural preference for sons, create a skewed sex ratio of 118 boys to 100 girls in China, which served as a key source of demand for the trafficking of foreign women as brides for Chinese men and forced prostitution. Women from Burma, Malaysia, Vietnam, and Mongolia are transported to China after being recruited through marriage brokers or fraudulent employment offers, where they are subsequently subjected to forced prostitution or forced labor . . . Traffickers recruited girls and young women, often rural areas of China, using a combination of fraudulent job offers, imposition of large travel fees, and threats of physical or financial harm to obtain and maintain their service in prostitution."

Because tens of millions of girls have been systematically killed by sex selection abortion over the past three decades—resulting in an unprecedented number of "missing" women and girls—demand for prostitutes and so-called "brides" is exploding in China.

As a direct consequence of the barbaric one child per couple policy in effect since 1979, China has become the global magnet for sex traffickers. Women and young girls have been and are today still being reduced to commodities and coerced into prostitution. Without serious and sustained action by Beijing, it is only going to get worse.

The TIP Report also makes clear that "Chinese law remains inadequate to combat all forms of trafficking . . . and the Government of China's efforts to protect trafficking victims remained inadequate . . ." In addition, China's "government continued to perpetuate human trafficking in at least 320 state-run institutions."

I, along with Congressman FRANK WOLF, visited one of those state-run institutions in the early 1990's—Beijing Prison #1. We were shocked to observe the horrific conditions imposed on inmates including more than 40 Tiananmen Square human rights activists. The report makes clear that state-sponsored forced labor is part of a systemic form of repression known as "re-education through labor. The

government reportedly profits from this forced labor, and many prisoners and detainees . . ."

With this report, we have done right by the millions of trafficking victims in China. With this report, we are holding China to account for its complicity in profits off of modern-day slavery. It is my sincere hope that the truth will turn the tide in China.

However, I was disappointed to see that Vietnam was not downgraded to the Tier 2 Watch List or Tier 3. Vietnam's labor export companies—most of which are owned by or affiliated with the Government of Vietnam—have been engaged in practices that lead to debt bondage and forced labor. The Government of Vietnam has yet to pay millions of dollars in damages to Vietnamese labor trafficking victims found in the United States and its territories, as ordered by U.S. courts.

Vietnamese trafficking victims in other countries report that the Government of Vietnam sides with the traffickers to keep them in bondage when the victims seek help. Other reports indicate that the Vietnamese embassy in Russia is actively working with organized crime to enslave Vietnamese nationals in sweatshops and brothels, and the TIP report itself notes reports that officials at border crossings and checkpoints accept bribes from traffickers. Some notable trends in the 2013 include: Tier 1: 30 countries (as compared with 33 in 2012); Tier 2: 92 countries (as compared with 93 in 2012) Tier 2 Watch List: 44 countries (as compared with 42 in 2012); Tier 3: 20 countries (as compared with 17 in 2012).

The Africa region increased its prosecutions by 45% (labor prosecutions by 500%), its convictions by 16%, and its victim identification by 13%. Africa is the region with the greatest number of Tier 3 countries, and does not contain any Tier 1 countries.

The East Asia and Pacific region saw a 23% decrease in prosecutions, but a 28% increase in convictions and a slight increase in the number of victims identified. The number of victims identified remains alarmingly low (8,521) in a region where the International Labor Organization believes there are nearly 12 million enslaved individuals. The number of labor convictions (103) also remains extremely low in the region of the world most plagued by labor trafficking.

The Europe region saw a slight drop in prosecutions, but a 13% increase in convictions and a 17% increase in victims identified. The European region identified the most victims out of all regions in 2013.

The Near East region saw a 19% increase in prosecutions in 2012, and more than doubled its conviction rate (largely due to efforts in the United Arab Emirates). The Near East region also more than doubled its number of victims identified. This region has the greatest relative proportion of Tier 3 countries.

The South and Central Asia region saw slight, but appreciable increases in its prosecutions (7%), convictions (5%), and number of victims identified (13%). India, one of the first countries to be moved off of the Tier 2 Watch List under the TVPRA of 2008 two-year rule, maintained a questionable Tier 2 ranking for a second year. Out of nearly 2 billion people, only 4,415 victims were identified.

The Western Hemisphere region, in which the United States is included, prosecutions increased by 72%, and convictions increased by

44% (including a 650% increase in labor trafficking convictions). However, victim identification decreased by 15% (although there was a significant increase in the number of labor trafficking victims identified). Eight countries in this region improved their anti-trafficking laws in 2012. Cuba is the only country in the region to be Tier 3. Colombia and Nicaragua share Tier 1 status with the United States and Canada.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2014

SPEECH OF

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 9, 2013

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2609) making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes:

Mr. WAXMAN. Madam Chair, I rise today on behalf of the Safe Climate Caucus to continue our effort to end the conspiracy of silence in this body surrounding the issue of our time: the growing threat posed by climate change.

We have a moral obligation to be responsible stewards of the environment for our children and future generations. History will not judge the House of Representatives kindly if we continue to ignore the mounting danger and act like the last refuge of the Flat Earth Society.

Yet that is what we are doing. The Republican strategy amounts to a conspiracy of silence. Despite our repeated requests for hearings and debate, the Republican majority refuses to hold hearings, continues to deny the science, and passes legislation that recklessly endangers our atmosphere.

In the last Congress, the Republican-led House voted 53 times to block any action on climate change. The Energy and Water Appropriations bill on the floor this week guts funding for research and development for energy efficiency and renewable energy.

It is still not too late to stop the rising CO₂ levels in our atmosphere. The United States can still be the world leader in the clean energy technologies of the future. But we must act now.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2014

SPEECH OF

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 9, 2013

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2609) making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes:

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Madam Chair, I represent areas of North and East Harris

County and Houston, including a large portion of the Port of Houston and the Houston Ship Channel. Water development projects at the Army Corps of Engineers are critical to our economy and to our safety. We rely on flood control and dredging projects in the Houston/Harris County, Texas area. Flood control projects protect lives and property every year in our district. However, without adequate Army Corps money, necessary maintenance and new projects will be neglected putting our area at risk.

The Energy and Water Appropriations bill is important to us. This bill needs to provide more funding for the Army Corps.

The Port of Houston is the largest foreign tonnage port and the largest petrochemical port in the country. In fact, it moves the second largest amount of cargo in the country, as 8.5% of our nation's cargo moves through the Port of Houston. The commerce that occurs at our port is critical to our nation's energy and chemical sectors and to our country's ability to trade and move goods throughout our country. It is a port of national significance, but has not received the attention that is necessary to answer the challenges we face in the near future.

Despite the national importance of our port, it is facing a dredging crisis.

The President's budget request funded dredging at the Port at around half the actual need. The Energy and Water Appropriations bill doesn't even get us to the President's request level. Infrastructure is a key component of commerce and it is time the House of Representatives starts passing legislation recognizing this important fact.

Additionally, by cutting New Starts completely, this bill prevents funding for a vital project in Houston that will explore widening and deepening the shipping channel to the Turning Basin. This funding is critical to preparing our Port for the years ahead.

In 1998, the Federal Government and the Port of Houston invested \$700 million over the course of years, to deepen and widen the Ship Channel. An investment we have benefited from tremendously.

As the years have passed silt has settled and reduced the draft in the channel significantly. Today, only a small portion of the channel is dredged to its proper depth across the entire width of the channel. That is astounding. Our nation's investment is rapidly deteriorating. Currently, the Houston Ship Channel is dredged to a depth of 43 feet, but it should be 45 feet. The Panama Canal is expanding and when it is completed, the Port of Houston should be at a minimum of 45 feet and we could take advantage of additional depth.

As we confront the dual challenges of adopting policies that create jobs and reduce the debt, funding for dredging projects is an item that, while costly, will have more of a positive impact on our economy than a negative impact on our deficit. The Texas Transportation Institute performed a study and determined that a direct economic impact of the loss of 1 foot of draft is \$373 million. The majority of this impact is lost business opportunities due to light loading of non-containerized vessels. As the dredging crisis at the port continues to worsen, the opportunity cost will quickly increase.

The time to increase our investment in our infrastructure is now. We can't wait until the

economy improves because strengthening our infrastructure is integral to growing our economy.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2014

SPEECH OF

HON. JANICE HAHN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 10, 2013

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2609) making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes:

Ms. HAHN. Madam Chair, I rise to express my concern about the amendment accepted into the Energy & Water Appropriations bill last night that prevents the Army Corps of Engineers from using any of the funds appropriated in that act for even suggesting expanded uses of the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund.

I represent the Port of Los Angeles, a Port which, combined with the adjacent Port of Long Beach, constitutes the busiest port complex in the United States. Forty percent of the cargo that comes into this country flows through the Ports of LA and Long Beach.

The Ports of LA and Long Beach contribute more to the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund than any other port—over \$263 million last year. That's money that comes out of the pockets of American businesses, an added cost borne by American consumers who rely on the Ports of LA and Long Beach being efficient and strong.

But because this port complex—arguably the most important port in the Nation—is blessed by geology, we have little need for dredging to remain deep and wide. And so my port sees less than a penny return for every dollar it contributes to the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund. And that means that all those American businesses and consumers who are forking over \$263 million every year are seeing practically no benefit.

The port they rely on is cut out of the narrow uses set for the HMTF. I don't think that's fair, and I don't think that's smart. Why have we structured the use of the HMTF in such a way that 40 percent of the Nation's imports are not seeing any benefit?

Every port, big and small, deserves to be completely and promptly dredged. That's why achieving full utilization of the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund is so critical. But we also need to address the donor equity issue faced by deep draft commercial ports like mine, who handle so much cargo and see so little investment in return. And so yes, I think we need to examine some expanded uses—including maintenance berth dredging and some landside uses closely tied to the port—so that the HMTF does in fact contribute to the strength of all ports in this great country.

CELEBRATING BILL GRAY

SPEECH OF

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 8, 2013

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor my friend and Congressman, Bill Gray. Reverend Gray was an historic figure in Philadelphia and in this country. His contributions to this Nation are well known to all of us. So, I'd like to take a moment and just focus on his impact in my own life.

Bill represented my community in the House for many years. He was one of my most important mentors and supporters as I rose through the ranks in Philadelphia politics. I was a ward leader in his district and was proud to return his support every two years. I leaned on Bill for his wise counsel on how to serve my constituents. He helped me to be a better ward leader, a better party chair, and a better congressman. But the best counsel I got from Bill was not professional advice. His best advice was about how to be a better father and a better husband while doing this job. He demonstrated that philosophy by his close business relationship with his son, who was by his side at almost every meeting.

During our frequent dinners, Bill would make sure I understood that I had to get back to Philadelphia as much as I can. He told me to put my family and my neighborhood first and to make sure that I didn't ever forget why I came to Washington in the first place.

Bill never lost his love for Philadelphia. He and I were working together until the last weeks of his life. He was doing all he could to help our Free Libraries, to build jobs at Comcast and to protect the people of his beloved North Philadelphia.

Mr. Speaker, Philadelphia, this country and this House will be much poorer for Bill Gray's passing. I urge my colleagues to join the entire Pennsylvania delegation in honoring him today.

CELEBRATING BILL GRAY

SPEECH OF

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 8, 2013

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to honor the memory of a noble public servant and trailblazer, Congressman William Herbert Gray, III. Congressman Gray served in Congress, representing Pennsylvania's Second Congressional District, with exceptional distinction and preeminence. He eventually became the first African American to be both the Chairman of the House Committee on the Budget and Majority Whip of the House of Representatives.

As a leader in Congress and proud member of the Congressional Black Caucus, Congressman Gray used his compassion and experience to boldly fight for those considered the least the world over. Congressman Gray's impassioned fight against Apartheid in South Africa and for assistance to the poor were the hallmarks of his time in the House of Representatives.

Mr. Speaker, I am fortunate enough to say that I figuratively stand on the shoulders of pioneers like Congressman Gray. I would not be where I am today without the work and sacrifice of individuals like him. I believe that when history records the legacy of Congressman Gray, it will honor his role as a trailblazer and passionate advocate for the least.

HONORING COLONEL JAMES O. FLY, COMMANDER, ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL JOINT MANUFACTURING AND TECHNOLOGY CENTER

HON. DAVID LOESACK

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 2013

Mr. LOESACK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank and pay tribute to Colonel James Fly, the outgoing Commander of Rock Island Arsenal Joint Manufacturing and Technology Center. As the 46th commander of RIA-JMTC, Colonel Fly has served with honor and distinction and he deserves our thanks and recognition.

Since taking command in September 2010, Colonel Fly has led RIA-JMTC and its dedicated workforce in building upon the capabilities as the Department of Defense's only multi-purpose and vertically integrated metal manufacturer while manufacturing high-quality equipment for our troops. In addition, Colonel Fly took forward thinking actions to ensure that the equipment manufactured at Rock Island Arsenal is not only of the highest quality, but also the best deal for the Department of Defense and the taxpayer.

During his tenure, Colonel Fly saw RIA-JMTC designated as a Center of Industrial and Technical Excellence in Add-on-Armor development and Foundry Operations. These designations made Rock Island Arsenal the first arsenal to be designated with three CITES, recognition of the depth of its capabilities, forward-thinking management, and highly-skilled workforce.

In 2011, enemies on the battlefield found and began to exploit vulnerabilities in the armor on Caiman MRAPs, endangering our soldiers and requiring immediate action. Under Colonel Fly's leadership, the dedicated Rock Island Arsenal workforce redesigned the armor kit, produced 504 kits, and installed 22 of those kits in theater within 30 days. When our soldiers needed them, RIA-JMTC was there.

On a personal note, I have greatly enjoyed working with Colonel Fly and would like to personally thank him for his leadership at Rock Island Arsenal. Throughout his time as Commander, Colonel Fly has demonstrated a unique passion for his job. He truly cares about the details of every process in the factory, taking the time to walk the floor and speak personally with the workforce to hear their perspective.

Colonel Fly, his wife, Ella, and their two sons are valued members of the Quad Cities community, participating in many community events and ensuring a close bond between RIA-JMTC and the Quad Cities. Colonel Fly has actively engaged the youth in the community, visiting local schools on Veteran's Day to discuss the importance of honoring those who serve. Mrs. Fly has served as the chair of the

Rock Island Arsenal Welcome Club Scholarship and Grant Committee, organizing multiple events to help military children attend college. They are integral members of the community, appreciated by the entire Quad Cities for their engagement.

On behalf of all of my constituents, I thank Colonel Fly for his dedicated service as Commander of Rock Island Arsenal Joint Manufacturing and Technology Center and wish him and his family the very best.

PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECOND AMENDMENT RIGHTS PROTECTION ACT OF 2013

HON. RUSH HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 2013

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I have recently co-sponsored H.R. 1565. I understand and laud the very good intentions of the bill's sponsors. However, the reality is that as written this legislation would, if enacted, have the effect of making it impossible for the federal government to do what New Jersey has done: require handgun licensing and registration. In New Jersey we have lived comfortably and safely for many years with such laws, and I believe New Jersey's approach should be extended to the federal level. It is my hope that should H.R. 1565 be considered that I and other Members will have the chance to amend it so as to not preclude a national licensing & registration regime.

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CHATHAM BOROUGH POLICE DEPARTMENT

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 2013

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Chatham Borough Police Department, located in Chatham, New Jersey, which is celebrating its 100th anniversary.

On September 2, 1913, an ordinance used to regulate the Chatham Borough Police Department of Morris County was approved. The Department came from humble beginnings, with only one fulltime police officer in its inaugural year and, today, has 18 fulltime officers. Despite the passage of a century, the Police Department's excellent service and core values have remained unchanged.

The Chatham Borough Police Department prides itself in upholding values of integrity, respect, service, and fairness. The Department strives to promote a safe and secure environment and maintain order and provide safe flow of traffic while demonstrating the core ideals. It has continually responded to the changing needs of Chatham Borough and has looked to help the community in the best possible way. By demonstrating strong leadership qualities, the Chatham Borough Police Department has remained a reliable and strong influence in Chatham Borough.

Throughout the past century, the Chatham Borough Police Department has dedicated itself to the surrounding community, yet, it is

always looking for ways to give back. It influences the youth in Chatham through the D.A.R.E. program, which helps to illustrate the harmful effects of drugs and alcohol. Additionally, it continues to promote internet safety through a program that aims to educate both parents and children on the subject matter.

Overall, the Chatham Borough Police Department has continued to exemplify extraordinary citizenship and values while putting its officers in harm's way to ensure the safety and the betterment of its residents. Officers respond to every call without fear, and their efforts are commended.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Chatham Borough Police Department as it celebrates its 100th anniversary.

HONORING THE LIFE OF AARON
JASON

HON. PATRICK MURPHY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 2013

Mr. MURPHY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of an outstanding young man. Aaron Jason, a rising junior at South Fork High School, passed away on June 26, 2013 at the age of 16. Aaron is survived by his mother Roylyn, his father Nigel and his two sisters, Ayanna and Amina.

Aaron was born on May 5, 1997 and attended South Fork High School in Martin County, Florida and was scheduled to graduate in 2015.

Aaron was a member of the Youth in Government program at the YMCA for 3 years, and cared deeply about his country and community. His interest in government and politics lead him to become involved in my race for Congress, in which he was active as an intern and volunteer. It was through this volunteer work that I had the fortune of meeting Aaron and the privilege of getting to know him.

In addition to his community involvement outside of school, Aaron was an active member of South Fork's Key Club and was a member of the track team. Always pushing himself to excel, he was enrolled in the International Baccalaureate program, as well as in Advanced Placement courses. He was a smart young man with an incredibly bright future ahead of him. He always had a smile on his face and was articulate, easy to get along with, and very quick with a joke or kind word. He had an incredible work ethic and was a true pleasure to be around.

Aaron was planning to go to law school and become an attorney or enter public service as an elected official. Having known him personally, I know he would have been successful at anything he put his mind to, and we are all saddened that he was taken from us well before his time. Given Aaron's love for American government and politics, I hope he would have appreciated having his life memorialized in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD here today.

Mr. Speaker, Aaron Jason was a truly special young man with a good heart, a strong will, and a deep commitment to his community. He will be missed by his family and friends, by me, and by everyone whose lives he touched in the Treasure Coast community.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF MIGUEL TIMOSHENKOV

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 2013

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the contributions of Miguel Timoshenkov, for 42 years in the field of journalism. He began his career in Mexico; after 12 years and various publications, he joined The Laredo Morning Times. After 30 years he ended his tenure with the Morning Times.

Mr. Timoshenkov received his degree in Communications from the Valle de Mexico University. Additionally, he has obtained various degrees from other prestigious institutions such as the Autonomous University of Tamaulipas and Texas A&M International University.

After publishing an article in the '80s about the Mexican government and its role in media censorship during the elections, he was penalized and forced to leave his job, after which he was recruited by The Laredo Morning Times. Mr. Timoshenkov, by means of investigative journalism, has enlightened not only our southern neighbors but Americans alike.

Mr. Timoshenkov's fearlessness and sense of commitment to his craft have garnered him many obstacles, security risks and multiple court appearances for his words. However, each and every time the charges lacked merit and one by one they were dropped. To many that would suffice as a deterrent, but he continued to delve and search for the facts.

His extensive resume includes El Diario and El Mañana and Grupo Radio Mil and Radiorama where he served as their news director.

Mr. Timoshenkov's work has been recognized not only by the cities of Laredo, Nuevo Laredo but also by government agencies such as the Department of Homeland Security, the Chamber of Commerce, and United States Border Patrol.

Over the years he has received many awards and accolades from various institutions, including a first, second and third place awarded by The Hearst Corporation.

Mr. Timoshenkov has demonstrated a dedication to excellence for over 40 years, and should take great pride in the work he has accomplished.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize the commitment to service to our communities exhibited by the journalist Miguel Timoshenkov.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 2013

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, on July 8, 2013, I mistakenly voted "nay" on rollcall vote 306. I meant to vote "aye" on the Audit Integrity and Job Protection Act (H.R. 1564).

HONORING ROBERT JAMES GOW

HON. JANICE HAHN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 2013

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of a remarkable and hard-working man from my district Robert James Gow. He passed away peacefully on Sunday, July 7, 2013 in his home in Carson, California.

Born on April 16, 1931 to Peter and Regina Gow in Gary, Indiana, Robert, known to many as Bob, was the youngest of seven siblings. An adventurous and fearless spirit, Bob's greatest legacy lives on through his dedication to family and service to others in his community.

As a young man, Bob courageously served in the United States Air Force during the Korean War. After the war, Bob expanded his interest in airplanes, flying, and space exploration while working at McDonnell Douglas, Northrop, North American Aviation, Rockwell, Aero-Jet, Autonetics and Boeing. In addition to being a hard worker, Bob was known as a family man. He married the love of his life, Judith Vanderpool Gow, with whom he had three sons, James, Kenneth, and William. Bob was also the grandfather of five girls, Lauren, Bryahn, Gina, Alice and Michaela, as well as a loving uncle to many nieces and nephews.

Bob loved his community and was deeply involved in the St. Philomena Catholic Church for over 54 years. He was active with the Parent Teacher Association, Little League Baseball, and Boy Scout Troop 950 in Carson. Helping others and improving his community were his life passions.

He will be remembered as a man of dedication and a pillar of our community. I was honored to have met such a remarkable man. He will be missed dearly by his family, friends and loved ones.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all Members of the House to join me in a moment of silence to commemorate the memory of the late Robert James Gow.

TRIBUTE TO THE CITY OF
COLTON, CALIFORNIA

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 2013

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute today to the city of Colton, California, as their community celebrates their 126th birthday this week.

Colton is a growing center for new business, residential and employment opportunities in the County of San Bernardino. Colton also offers a well-balanced community with affordable housing and many family support and public safety programs. Settled in the 1770's by explorers from Mexico, Colton was formed when the Southern Pacific Railway pushed the final transcontinental leg though on its way to Los Angeles in 1875. The city derived its name from Civil War General David Colton, also the Vice President of the Southern Pacific Railroad Company.

Since incorporation in 1887, Colton's population has grown to 52,940. The city's motto of

“The Hub City” truly fits. Activity associated with the railroad and the citrus orchards made Colton a busy place, with many business and residents working to support railroad operations. In South Colton, where many railroad workers lived, residents built their own homes often using the disassembled wooden crates from railroad shipments as building materials. Established in 1882, the Colton Railroad Crossing is one of the busiest railroad intersections in the Nation. A \$270 million project is in process to replace this crossing with a fly-over to raise the east-west Union Pacific tracks over the north-south Burlington Northern Santa Fe tracks.

The residents of Colton have worked hard to make their city one of the best places in Southern California to work, live, and enjoy life. Colton is a diverse community where residents can pursue their dreams in an environment abundant with opportunities for educational and economic advancement. It is indeed my pleasure to represent the residents of this beautiful city, who have contributed much of their time towards making Colton a destination for visitors and a home for those seeking a sense of community and a high quality of life.

Mr. Speaker, on this very special year for the City of Colton, please join me in commemorating their one hundred and twenty sixth anniversary.

HONORING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF MORRISTOWN

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 2013

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Junior League of Morristown, located in Morristown, New Jersey, which is celebrating its 75th anniversary.

As a non-profit, charitable organization of women, the Junior League of Morristown aims to “bring people and needs” together through the promotion of voluntarism, the development of potential in women, and the improvement of communities through adept leadership and action. Since its founding in 1936, the Junior League of Morristown has been completely nondiscriminatory in its acceptance of women, as demonstrated by the members’ diverse backgrounds. There are over 390 active members that compose the Junior League of Morristown, an organization that is 1 of the 292 total Junior Leagues that make up the Association of Junior Leagues International, which draws from the United States, Canada, Great Britain, and Mexico.

Since its creation in 1936, the Junior League of Morristown has played a significant role in the development of Morristown and the surrounding area. The League has dedicated both time and effort to a plethora of charitable and non-charitable organizations, such as The Neighborhood House, Morristown Hospital, the Girl Scouts, the Red Cross during World War II emergencies, the Children’s Theatre, and the Arts Council of the Morris Area, just to name a few. The League has received a number of grants and donations in order to continue its charitable work in the surrounding community. The Junior League is also proud

to operate The Nearly New Shop resale and consignment shop located in Morristown.

In most recent news, the Junior League of Morristown made headlines when it finished a project with the Jersey Battered Women’s Service that transformed a common room into a multi-purpose room for victims healing from violent acts. The Morristown Patch and The Daily Record, area newspapers, both cover the tremendous effort by the League. The JBWS director, Patty Sly commented: “We are so appreciative of the JLM for sharing their time and talents to create a relaxing and healing environment for our clients. Their efforts offer hope and dignity to those seeking protection from abuse. This is just one of many projects that the JLM has assisted us with over the years and we are grateful for our ongoing partnership.” The project is only one of many that the League has pursued over its 75 year existence, yet it symbolizes the values that every community should strive to uphold. While it did receive a little bit of press coverage for a seemingly “small” project, a newspaper cannot do justice in describing what the Junior League of Morristown means to its community.

Charitable organizations, such as the Junior League of Morristown, provide an invaluable and meaningful service to towns such as Morristown. The Junior League of Morristown has always been available and willing to lend a helping hand when it was needed, and with the support of the local residents, its staff and volunteers, it will continue to do so for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Junior League of Morristown as they celebrate their 75th Anniversary.

OBAMA’S ABDICATION OF LEADERSHIP IN SUDAN

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 2013

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, Friday marks three years since the International Criminal Court (ICC) released an arrest warrant for Sudanese President Omar Bashir on charges of genocide in Darfur including overseeing acts of torture, the rape of thousands of women, and forced displacement of hundreds of thousands.

And yet, almost inexplicably, Bashir continues to travel the globe with virtual impunity thanks in no small part to the Obama administration’s morally bankrupt posture when it comes to the regime in Khartoum.

For four months now the position of Sudan Special Envoy has been vacant. This vacancy is symptomatic of a president that has all but forsaken the people of Sudan.

Last December a group of prominent Sudan activists and advocates wrote a letter to the administration, which I submit for the Record, expressing their “grave concerns that the current U.S. policy is ineffective at stopping mass atrocities in Sudan.” They urged President Obama, in his second term, to embrace “an urgent shift in the U.S. policy to finally end the humanitarian crises and bring about a just and lasting peace in Sudan.”

The letter cited the president’s own words from 2007 when he rightly called the genocide

in Darfur a “stain on our souls” and said that “as a president of the United States I don’t intend to abandon people or turn a blind eye to slaughter.”

And yet, I can’t help but wonder if the people of Darfur, who have been displaced from their homes and brutalized by violence for ten years now, do in fact feel abandoned by this president and this administration.

The United Nations Humanitarian Coordinator in Sudan, Ali Al-Za’ari, released a statement on July 7, prompted by the recent tragic death of two World Vision humanitarian workers caught in a shootout between government forces and rebels in Darfur, in which he commented on the “continuing unstable security” in the region which threatens to disrupt the flow of vital aid to an already desperate populace.

Not only is Darfur’s nightmare ongoing, but Khartoum’s brutality has only spread, consistent with its decades’ long effort to systematically and ruthlessly consolidate power resulting in the death and displacement of untold thousands. More recently the Nuban people have been driven from their homes, targeted for killing and terrorized because of the color of their skin. Khartoum has indiscriminately bombed civilian populations—disrupting an entire way of life for this largely farming population. Starvation, death and despair have followed.

According to the UN Humanitarian Affairs office approximately half a million people have been displaced because of the conflict in Nuba. Last week a Sudanese jet reportedly attacked the routes typically taken by refugees from the Nuba region to the Yida refugee camp in South Sudan killing an unknown number of civilians.

I have visited Yida and talked with the people personally. I have heard their pleas for help and I have conveyed their message to this administration—a message which fell on largely deaf ears.

On March 19, USA Today featured a joint op-ed by actor and co-founder of the anti-genocide organization Not On Our Watch, Don Cheadle, and John Prendergast the co-founder of the Enough Project, in the op-ed wrote, “By excluding all but a narrow clique of Sudanese from access to the power and wealth of the country, marginalized groups from the west (Darfur), south (Blue Nile and the Nuba Mountains) and east have all taken up arms against that regime. . . . Any peace effort should deal comprehensively with all the rebel movements, the unarmed opposition, and civil society, in search of a solution for the whole of Sudan. Until the abusive governing system in Sudan is radically reformed, there will be blood.”

Indeed, much blood has been shed, and yet inexplicably this administration has embraced a policy of engagement marked by conciliatory outreach to Khartoum, including the prospect of debt relief for a genocidal government.

While there has been criticism of two successive special envoys, ultimately they were merely the implementers of a policy that is inherently flawed and ultimately ineffective.

In a February 12 letter to Secretary of State Kerry I wrote, “Our approach to Sudan and South Sudan needs reinventing. It demands a renewed sense of moral clarity about who we are dealing with in Khartoum—namely genocidaires. It necessitates someone who can speak candidly with our friends in South

Sudan about their own internal challenges, including corruption, and shortcomings as a new nation. While an envoy alone does not a policy make, a high-profile special envoy, from outside the department, with the knowledge and mandate to aggressively pursue peace, security and justice for the people of Sudan and South Sudan, is an important step in the right direction.”

The model of an effective special envoy that I often refer to is that of Senator John Danforth. In 2001, I was at the Rose Garden ceremony when Senator Danforth, standing between President Bush and Secretary of State Powell, was appointed as Sudan Special Envoy. President Bush’s leadership in appointing Danforth and giving him this charge was instrumental in securing, after two and a half years of negotiations, the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA), thereby bringing about an end to the war and ultimately paving the way for South Sudan’s independence. Danforth was a high-profile envoy. He had the ear of the president and the secretary and didn’t get bogged down in the department’s bureaucracy. He was uniquely positioned to negotiate and his stature, prior to taking the job, communicated a clear sense of urgency and priority on the part of the U.S. He didn’t require a sizeable staff, or even a full-time State Department post, but the diplomatic feat he accomplished, with President Bush’s blessing and support, was nothing short of remarkable.

Meanwhile, not only has the Obama administration failed to fill the Sudan Special Envoy post, it has actively sought to block efforts in Congress, which I initiated, to isolate Bashir. Last year I offered an amendment to the State and Foreign Operations appropriations bill which would have cut non-humanitarian foreign assistance to any nation that allowed him into their country without arresting him. The amendment was adopted with bipartisan support by voice vote despite the department’s opposition.

This approach of using our increasingly scarce aid dollars to effectuate change and further our foreign policy objectives is a tried and true method. When Malawi allowed Bashir to enter the country to attend a regional trade summit I pressed the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) to end Malawi’s compact. The MCC was initially opposed to this course of action but ultimately, in the face of a deteriorating human rights situation internally, reversed course and suspended Malawi’s compact, citing Bashir’s visit as one of the reasons.

Fortunately Malawi’s new president, Joyce Banda, hoping to reinvigorate her country’s relationship with donor countries, last year took a firm stand in refusing to allow Bashir to visit her country for the African Union (AU) summit. President Banda went so far as to decline to host the summit lest her country and her government be placed in the position of being forced to host a war criminal. Given her principled stand I made clear to the MCC Board that I supported Malawi’s compact being reinstated which it ultimately was.

However, other countries, including large recipients of U.S. foreign assistance, have not followed suit and the administration has failed to embrace this approach to spur such action.

As recently as yesterday, reports surfaced that Bashir would soon travel to Nigeria—yet another country which has signed up to the Rome Statute—the founding treaty of the ICC.

The amendment I proposed would effectively isolate Bashir and make him an international pariah as is befitting a man with blood on his hands. It is noteworthy that the amendment garnered the support of 70 prominent Holocaust and genocide scholars. Dr. Rafael Medoff, director of the Wyman Institute, which initiated a letter of support to the administration from these scholars, said: “Halting aid to those who host Bashir would be the first concrete step the U.S. has taken to isolate the Butcher of Darfur and pave the way for his arrest. If the Obama administration is serious about punishing perpetrators of genocide, it should support the Wolf Amendment.”

Sadly that support never materialized.

When it wasn’t busy opposing Congressional efforts to isolate Bashir the administration was cozying up to elements of the regime in Khartoum and granting them an air of legitimacy. On April 23 the Associated Press reported that “The Obama administration is preparing to welcome a senior Sudanese delegation to the United States for some rare highest-level diplomacy between the countries.” The delegation was to include Sudanese presidential adviser Nafie Ali Nafie.

Upon learning of this invitation I immediately wrote the president and expressed my strong opposition citing an October 2008 Los Angeles Times profile piece on Nafie which opened with the following, “He’s accused of torturing enemies, cozying up to Osama bin Laden in the 1990s and plotting to assassinate Egypt’s president.” The Times piece continued, describing him as, “the leader of the hardline faction in the ruling National Congress Party,” and the one who “opposed allowing U.N. peacekeepers into Darfur and believed that the ruling party gave up too much power in signing a 2005 U.S.-brokered peace treaty that ended a 21-year civil war with southern rebels.”

The article quoted a former University of Khartoum science professor and critic of the Khartoum government who was arrested in 1989 as saying that Nafie was his interrogator. Specifically he said, “I was tortured, beaten and flogged in his presence . . . He was administering the whole thing. He did it all in such a cool manner, as if he were sipping coffee.”

I am not opposed to diplomacy. But there are plenty of locations, including through our embassy in Khartoum, to engage in these talks. Why the administration would choose now to reward Khartoum, specifically the likes of Nafie Ali Nafie, with an invitation to Washington is beyond me. It is further worth noting that the invitation is utterly at odds with Obama’s own 2011 Presidential Proclamation refusing entry into the United States of anyone who has “planned, ordered, assisted, aided and abetted, committed or otherwise participated in, including through command responsibility, war crimes, crimes against humanity or other serious violations of human rights, or who attempted or conspired to do so.”

The administration’s misstep in inviting Nafie was met with grave expressions of concern from many in the Sudan advocacy community.

Eventually, at a Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission hearing focused on Sudan just last month the administration indicated the invitation was now off the table—although they did not rule out another change of course in the future.

Candidate Obama purported to be deeply concerned by the crisis in Sudan and committed to bold actions.

Have we seen a fraction of that concern or anything close to bold action since he became president?

Candidate Obama was sharp in his criticism of President Bush’s handling of Sudan.

Have we seen President Obama take even fleeting interest, beyond the occasional talking point, in the deteriorating situation in Sudan marked in part by a growing humanitarian crisis in the Nuba Mountains?

In a piece in the August 4, 2011 Christian Science Monitor noted Sudan researcher and activist Eric Reeves, wrote, “If the world refuses to see what is occurring in South Kordofan, and refuses to respond to evidence that the destruction of the Nuba people, as such, is a primary goal of present military and security actions by Sudan, then this moment will represent definitive failure of the ‘responsibility to protect.’”

Meanwhile in an April 23, 2012 speech at the U.S. Holocaust Museum President Obama lauded his commitment in the realm of genocide and mass-atrocities prevention, saying, without a hint of irony, “We’re making sure that the United States government has the structures, the mechanisms to better prevent and respond to mass atrocities. So I created the first-ever White House position dedicated to this task. It’s why I created a new Atrocities Prevention Board, to bring together senior officials from across our government to focus on this critical mission. This is not an afterthought.”

He continued, “. . . we need to be doing everything we can to prevent and respond to these kinds of atrocities—because national sovereignty is never a license to slaughter your people.”

I couldn’t agree more. And yet, I think most in the Sudan watchers would hardly be able to claim that this administration has done everything it can to prevent and respond to Khartoum’s assault on its own people.

Arguably, the Obama administration’s moral equivalency and silence in the face of atrocities in Sudan has only, in the words of famed Holocaust survivor Elie Wiesel, helped the oppressor and encouraged the tormentor.

With tensions between Sudan and South Sudan on the rise and nearing a tipping point, thousands starving in the Nuba Mountains, refugees fleeing aerial bombardment and pouring over the border into South Sudan, violence persisting in Darfur and an internationally indicted war criminal at the helm in Khartoum who travels the globe with seeming impunity, it is time for a fresh policy and a renewed commitment to peace and justice in Sudan.

To date, this president has offered nothing more than an abdication of leadership and a failure of vision, which has culminated in human suffering and misery.

Obama has failed the people of Sudan who yearn for peace, justice and basic human rights.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TOM COLE

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 2013

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, on July 10, 2013, I was unavoidably detained and was not present for rollcall vote No. 330 and rollcall vote No. 331. Had I been present, I would have voted no on vote No. 330 and no on vote No. 331.

IN SUPPORT OF MOLDOVAN PARLIAMENT DECLARATION ON THE CURRENT SITUATION OF THE TRANSNISTRIAN CONFLICT SETTLEMENT PROCESS

HON. JOSEPH R. PITTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 2013

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the peaceful reintegration of the young and aspiring Republic of Moldova. I also want to acknowledge my colleagues Reps. DAVID PRICE, Rep. ELIOT ENGEL, Rep. WILLIAM KEATING, Rep. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN, Rep. MARK MEADOWS, Rep. DIAZ-BALART, Rep. ALCEE HASTINGS, Rep. PATRICK MCHENRY, who have agreed to associate themselves with this statement.

Most importantly, we support the recent conclusion of negotiations between the Republic of Moldova and the European Union on Moldova's Association Agreement, held in Luxembourg on June 25, 2013. We welcome the progress instituted by Prime Minister Iurie Leanca and the Moldovan government in strengthening democratic institutions and the rule of law, as well as in preparing for economic and political association with the European Union.

As the goals and promotion of values of the Eastern Partnership are of utmost importance to U.S. strategic policy, we encourage Moldova to remain united in its continued focus on the domestic reforms integral to eventual European Union accession. We hope that the forthcoming EU Summit in Vilnius in November will result in an opportunity to reaffirm Moldova's EU aspirations, and call on the U.S. State Department to assist in every aspect of this challenging transition. Doing so affirms the United States' commitment to our allies in this region.

While encouraged by Moldova's increasing harmonization with EU norms and standards—as evidenced by its recent agreement on the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Agreement as part of the European Union's Association Agreement—Moldova is being forced to fight for its own internationally recognized sovereign, independent and territorial integrity.

We are concerned with the unilateral set of actions undertaken by the self-proclaimed

leaders of the breakaway region of Transnistria, who recently launched provocative actions by adopting the so-called "legal act on the border." These unilateral actions violate Moldova's sovereignty, as the leadership of Transnistria has claimed territories that are fully in the control of the Republic of Moldova. We are also concerned by recent entreaties by the leadership in Transnistria—entreaties that threaten Moldova's territorial integrity and European Union accession prospects. These actions undermine the July 1992 ceasefire as well as the "5+2" conflict settlement process. We call on the U.S. State Department to secure a fair and democratic settlement process while maintaining Moldova's independence and sovereignty.

Today, we stand in support of the Moldovan Parliament's Declaration on the Current Situation of the Transnistrian Conflict Settlement Process, adopted consensually on June 21, 2013, and urge leaders of the self-proclaimed Transnistria, as well as all parties involved in 5+2 negotiation process, to conclude negotiations on the legal status of the Transnistrian region and its rightful role in the Republic of Moldova. Only a legal status agreed upon through the 5+2 framework will prevent further escalation of conflict. At the same time, we firmly recognize the need to finalize the withdrawal of Russian troops and munitions from the region, according to its internationally recognized obligations assumed at the 1999 summit of the Organization for Security Cooperation in Europe.

We call on the United States and the international community to take all the diplomatic steps possible to prevent further escalation of conflict, protect Moldova's European Union accession aspirations, resume talks on the political status of Transnistria and ensure the reintegration of a sovereign and independent Moldova.

TRIBUTE TO BETH GROVES

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 2013

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication and contributions to the community of Norco, California are exceptional. Norco 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. Beth Groves is one of these individuals. This year, Beth will end her tenure as the City Manager for the city of Norco after four years of service.

Beth's passion and commitment for providing for the community began early. After graduating from Central Michigan University with a Bachelor of Arts in Applied arts, she went on to hone her talent, receiving a Masters in Public Administration from California State University Long Beach, and a Doctorate in Public Administration from the University of Laverne. Beth began her career as Community Relations Coordinator for Mission Hospital, in Mission Viejo, California, and eventually landed a position in the City Manager's Office of Corona, where she served from 1996 to 2008, ultimately becoming the City Manager

of Corona. It is the expertise and knowledge gained through these experiences that have allowed to Beth lead Norco for the past four years in such a dynamic manner.

Under Beth's leadership, the city administration has actively promoted and supported the community. Beth is credited with many accomplishments during her time, including negotiating the Silverlakes agreements, establishing a new animal shelter despite many budget restraints, and maintaining the Preservation and Development Zone (PAD) program by working closely with both the planning director and historic commission. She has also encouraged economic development and a family-centered entertainment atmosphere by increasing filming and events that have taken place within the city.

In 2002, Beth received the "Woman of Distinction" Award in the category of International Good Will and Understanding from Soroptimist International of Corona, and the title of "2007 Distinguished Citizen of the Year" from the Temescal District of the Boy Scouts of America. She has also served as a Community Council Member for the Corona-Norco Chapter of the American Cancer society. The highlights of her extensive volunteer experience include The Foundation for Community and Family Health, Alternatives to Domestic Violence (ADV), Inspire Life Skills, and Peppermint Ridge.

Beth is no stranger to Southern California, having been a Corona resident for many years, where she is a mother to two adult sons and is a member of the Crossroads Christian Church. At the conclusion of her time as City Manager, Beth will remain a fixture in our community, serving as a full time professor at Cal Baptist University in Riverside, CA.

In light of all Beth has done for the city of Norco and the greater community, it is only fitting that she be honored for her many years of dedicated service. Beth's tireless passion for public service has contributed immensely to the betterment of Corona and Norco and I am proud to call her a fellow community member, American and friend. I know that many community members are grateful for her service and salute her as she moves forward.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 2013

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 316, had I been present, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall No. 317, had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

On rollcall No. 318, had I been present, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall No. 319, had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

On rollcall No. 320, had I been present, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall No. 321, had I been present, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall No. 322, had I been present, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall No. 323, had I been present, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall No. 324, had I been present, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall No. 325, had I been present, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall No. 326, had I been present, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall No. 327, had I been present, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall No. 328, had I been present, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall No. 329, had I been present, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall No. 330, had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

CELEBRATING THE CENTENNIAL
OF DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY,
INC.

HON. JOYCE BEATTY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 2013

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the founding of my sorority, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

I am a proud member of this sisterhood—a sisterhood of more than 200,000 predominantly Black-college educated women with some 900 chapters across the United States.

This week, tens of thousands of my sorors will travel to Washington, DC, to honor our sisterhood, which was founded at Howard University on January 13, 1913.

We will trace our journey from the halls of Howard where twenty-two visionary undergraduate students created an organization committed to fostering a spirit of sisterhood, scholarship, and service among women.

We come together to honor the memory of all our sorors who came before us and contributed to our great Delta Sigma Theta, Inc. legacy.

We stand on the shoulders of greatness and in the midst of greatness.

And, I am certain our legacy of leadership, service, and friendship will endure for another one hundred years and beyond.

HONORING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY
OF SAINT CLARE'S
HEALTH SYSTEM

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 2013

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Saint Clare's Health System, located in the Township of Denville, Morris County, New Jersey, which is celebrating its 60th anniversary.

The history of Saint Clare's Health System dates back to 1895, when the Sisters of the Sorrowful Mother, the founders of Saint Clare's, came to Denville. After building a health resort that saw tremendous success, the Sisters decided it was time to go forth with another project in 1940. However, World War II intervened, and the project did not take root until 1949. With the post-war housing boom and migration to the suburbs, the Sisters saw a growing need for a hospital in Denville and

the surrounding area. Finally, after building a 157-bed hospital at a cost of \$3.25 million and hiring a staff of 35 nurses and medical technicians, the Sisters opened Saint Clare's Hospital Auxiliary on September 24, 1953.

Saint Clare's commitments and expectations in the community have grown, as it continues to explore new ways to enhance its medical care. Saint Clare's now encompasses hospitals in Denville, Dover, and Boonton Township, with other facilities scattered throughout both Morris and Sussex Counties, featuring the most up-to-date technology and offering the most compassionate care in the community. Denville and the surrounding area have come to rely on Saint Clare's in its times of need, and Saint Clare's has always responded with open arms.

The Saint Clare's Health System tradition is built on values such as reverence, integrity, compassion, and excellence. In exhibiting those core values, Saint Clare's has become one of the most prestigious health services in northern New Jersey. Saint Clare's aims to nurture those in need of medical help by offering a wide range of medical services, like women's health, maternal-child care, emergency services, pediatrics, behavioral therapy, cardiovascular care, weight loss surgery, and a world-class cancer center. Through those medical services, Saint Clare's has been able to provide the most personal and most advanced health care to Denville and the surrounding municipalities, while emphasizing human dignity and social justice by helping create healthier communities.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating Saint Clare's Health System as it celebrates its 60th anniversary.

TIME WARNER CABLE DATA
CENTER IN COLORADO

HON. CORY GARDNER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 2013

Mr. GARDNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a valuable, job creating project that broke ground in the great State of Colorado.

On June 25, Time Warner Cable unveiled an \$85 million data center in Centennial, Colorado.

This center will support the equipment needed to deliver digital video and IP based services to many Time Warner Cable customers and will complement the company's data center in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Construction of this project will last through much of 2014 and the center will go online in January of the following year.

Upgrades at the facility have been ongoing since 2011 and when the new development is complete, Time Warner Cable will have invested more than \$141 million in my home State.

That's a big project for any municipality, but in a town with a population of 102,603, it is an economic game changer. The jobs created by the construction and staffing of the finished facility will have an immediate impact on the town and surrounding area.

Time Warner Cable's commitment to diversifying Colorado's economy and providing opportunities for Colorado's working families is to be commended.

IN HONOR OF ROY HARRIS

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 2013

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I stand today to honor my friend, Roy Harris of Cut and Shoot on his 80th birthday.

All across America, there are living legends every American should know about and Montgomery County, Texas has a special icon: Roy Harris.

To fully understand Roy's legendary status, we have to take a trip back in time. Roy's first brush with fame came during his early teen-aged years when he and his brother captured a 14 foot alligator and brought it to a pond on their family's property. At the time, that was the largest alligator ever captured in Texas.

In his early 20's, Roy stepped into the boxing ring with determination. He won his first 23 fights, beating some of the top boxers of his generation, earning Ring Magazines' progress of the year for 1957. He was featured on the coveted cover of Sports Illustrated which played up his East Texas roots having him stand on a cabin porch with a 19th century rifle and loyal canine companion at his side.

Roy's legend grew even larger when he stepped into the ring to battle reigning world champion and Olympic Gold Medalist Floyd Patterson for the world's heavyweight boxing title.

The referee stopped the fight after 12 rounds, but not before Roy became a national hero. It was Roy's fame, and a boost from his hit record "Cut'n Shoot, Texas USA", that literally put his hometown on the map and garnered it an official U.S. Post Office.

But Roy is so much more than an alligator wrangler, a top flight boxer or radio hit maker, Roy was also a college honor student and a reserve officer in our military. He taught elementary school before becoming a lawyer, real estate mogul and popular public servant serving several terms as our county treasurer. I can tell you from personal experience, no one campaigns harder, longer, and more for the people than Roy Harris.

He and his wonderful wife, Jeannie, raised six impressive children. He told his story much better than I could in his book "Roy Harris: Backwoods Battler." My only question was how is this autobiography not in multiple volumes?

With 30 wins in the ring and many, many more wins in life, it was fitting that our community came together last month for a public birthday bash for Roy's 80th.

Roy, thanks for being a great example for your children, my children, and millions of others. Your legend will only keep growing.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. YVETTE D. CLARKE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 2013

Ms. CLARKE. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained in my district and missed the votes on Monday, July 8, 2013.

Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on rollcall No. 305, H.R. 1341—Financial

Competitive Act of 2013, “no” on rollcall No. 306, H.R. 1564—Audit Integrity and Job Protection Act, as amended, and “yes” on rollcall No. 307, H.R. 1171—FOR VETS Act of 2013.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. JOE BISCEGLIA'S 16 YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE MASSACHUSETTS SECOND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 2013

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of a great friend and a true public servant, Mr. Joseph Bisceglia, for his years of dedicated service to the constituents of the Massachusetts Second Congressional District. After 16 years as District Representative in my Worcester Congressional office, Joe is moving on to another position.

Joe joined my Worcester office early in my first term in 1997. Since that time he has exhibited consistent excellence and shown a thoughtful and compassionate hand in all of his work. Joe has helped so many people—too many to count. I believe, and I know that many of my colleagues will agree with me, that constituent casework is one of the most important things we do as members of Congress. Whether it was helping a veteran get the benefits he rightfully earned or helping a family to find a decent place to live, Joe exemplified the true meaning of “public service.”

It will be difficult to say goodbye to such a loyal friend and colleague, but I am confident that Joe will continue to display his good humor and dedication in his new position. I know my colleagues will join me in recognizing Joe Bisceglia for his many years of faithful service to the people of Massachusetts and in wishing him and his family the very best in the years ahead.

DELTA SIGMA THETA 51ST
NATIONAL CONVENTION

HON. MARCIA L. FUDGE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 2013

Ms. FUDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to salute the women of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated as 100 years of sisterhood, scholarship and service is celebrated in our nation's capital—the home of the Sorority's founding. Tomorrow thousands of women will convene on the National Mall to kick off the sorority's 51st National Convention.

I pay tribute to 100 years of trailblazing in honor of the sorority's 22 courageous and visionary Founders, and its members who have also served in Congress, including Barbara Jordan, Shirley Chisholm, Carrie Meek and Stephanie Tubbs-Jones.

A sisterhood called to serve, Delta Sigma Theta has developed and implemented many programs to promote educational and economic development, improve physical and mental health, and increase international and political awareness and involvement.

I welcome my Sorors to the Nation's capital, and salute a century of distinguished serve here at home and around the globe.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL
DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 2013

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$16,738,227,772,946.05. We've added \$6,111,350,724,032.97 to our debt in 4 and a half years. This is \$6 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RUSH HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 2013

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, July 8, I was not present for Recorded Votes under a suspension of the rules. Had I been present I would have voted as follows:

“No” on rollcall vote 305 on motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 1341;

“No” on rollcall vote 306 on motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 1564;

“Yes” on rollcall vote 307, on motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 1171;

On Tuesday, July 9, following debate of H. Res. 288, the rule providing for consideration of the H.R. 2609 making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year 2014, I was not able to be present for Recorded Votes.

Had I been present during the vote series, I would have voted as follows:

“No” on rollcall vote 308, On Ordering the Previous Question;

“No” on rollcall vote 309, On Agreeing to the Resolution to provide for consideration of H.R. 2609;

“No” on rollcall vote 310, On Approving the Journal.

On Wednesday, July 10, during debate of amendments to and on passage of H.R. 2609 making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year 2014, I was unable to be present for Recorded Votes. Had I been present during these vote series, I would have voted as follows:

“Yes” on rollcall vote 328, on agreeing to the Hastings (FL) amendment;

“Yes” on rollcall vote 329, on agreeing to the Garamendi amendment;

“No” on rollcall vote 330, on agreeing to the Broun (GA) amendment;

“Yes” on rollcall vote 331, on agreeing to the Jackson Lee amendment;

“Yes” on rollcall vote 332, on agreeing to the Quigley amendment;

“No” on rollcall vote 333, on agreeing to the Heck (NV) amendment;

“Yes” on rollcall vote 334, on agreeing to the Polis amendment;

“Yes” on rollcall vote 335, on agreeing to the Burgess amendment;

“Yes” on rollcall vote 336, on agreeing to the Burgess amendment;

“Yes” on rollcall vote 337, on agreeing to the Titus amendment;

“Yes” on rollcall vote 338, on agreeing to the Lynch amendment;

“No” on rollcall vote 339, on agreeing to the Whitfield amendment;

“No” on rollcall vote 340, on agreeing to the Fleming amendment;

“Yes” on rollcall vote 341, on agreeing to the Garamendi amendment;

“Yes” on rollcall vote 342, on agreeing to the Speier amendment;

“No” on rollcall vote 343, on agreeing to the Chabot amendment;

“Yes” on rollcall vote 344, on motion to recommit with instructions;

“No” on rollcall vote 345, on passage of H.R. 2609.

RECOGNIZING THE SECOND ANNUAL NATIONAL TENNIS CAMP FOR WOUNDED, ILL, AND INJURED SERVICE MEMBERS AND VETERANS

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 2013

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the United States Tennis Association, San Diego District Tennis Association, Naval Medical Center San Diego, and Balboa Tennis Club for working together on the second annual National Tennis Camp for Wounded, Ill, and Injured Service Members and Veterans.

This remarkable event took place on June 12, 2013 through June 15, 2013 and brought military heroes together to play tennis while working to improve their well-being and overall quality of life.

I would like to also acknowledge the U.S. Olympic Committee, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and private donors for providing all funding for the costs for each participant.

Since 2009, the Balboa Tennis Club, in collaboration with Naval Medical Center San Diego and the San Diego District Tennis Association, has provided hundreds of free tennis clinics to more than 400 ill and injured service members and veterans from all the military services as part of Naval Medical Center San Diego's Balboa Warrior Athlete Program.

The Balboa Warrior Athlete Program's tennis program and tennis camp have been recognized nationally and are the model for similar tennis programs for ill and injured service members and veterans that have been established at other major military medical centers, Warrior Transition Units, and VA hospitals across the country.

The United States Tennis Association and its member organizations have a long and proud history of supporting veterans and wounded warriors. The USTA Military Outreach mission is to provide sustainable worldwide tennis support, training and programming options to America's service members, families and veterans. The USTA utilizes its existing initiatives and programs to reach, support and provide direct services to military families, service members and veterans. The USTA has introduced more than 300,000 deployed service members to the recreational, therapeutic and social benefits of tennis.

These efforts have made a positive impact in the lives of ill and injured service members and veterans. Tennis allows them to work on eye-hand coordination, balance, endurance,

and the ability to transfer weight. It also decreases stress and anxiety and helps with re-integration into the community.

All the above-mentioned parties who came together to put on a successful National Tennis Camp for Wounded, Ill, and Injured Service Members and Veterans deserve our thanks and gratitude.