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No. 124

House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. YARMUTH).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
September 15, 2010.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JOHN A. YARMUTH to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

Reverend Roderick Pearson, St. Mark Remnant Ministries, Central Islip, New York, offered the following prayer:

Our Heavenly Father, we acknowledge You as the sovereign ruler of the universe and the divine guide for all of our lives. You said ask and it shall be given, seek and you shall find, knock and the door shall be open.

To Solomon, one of the world's richest and most powerful leaders of ancient times, You offered to him, "What shall I give to you?" We offer this prayer in the same spirit of Solomon:

O God, You have shown great mercy to our Nation because our forefathers walked in Your truth, in Your righteousness, and in uprightness of heart with You. You continue to be kind towards us. You have given these, Your servants, the ability to govern and serve. Therefore, now give to them an understanding heart, wisdom to judge Your people, that they might discern between good and evil. Let Your will be done on Earth as it is in Heaven.

In the name of our Lord and Savior we pray. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from New York (Mr. TONKO) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. TONKO led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

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

WELCOMING REVEREND RODERICK PEARSON

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman from New York, Congressman ISRAEL, is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to welcome Reverend Roderick Pearson as guest chaplain. He is the founder and organizer of the St. Mark Remnant Ministries in Central Islip, Long Island.

On September 26, Reverend Pearson will celebrate 14 years of pastoral leadership. He is the President of the Islip branch of the NAACP. He received the NAACP National Thalheimer Award.

Reverend Pearson has devoted himself to fighting bigotry, to building bridges, and to lifting up communities. His presence, I hope, will inspire all of us on both sides of the aisle to do the same. It is with great pride that I welcome Reverend Roderick Pearson to the House this morning.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. JACKSON of Illinois). The Chair will entertain up to 15 further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

ACCEPT AMENDMENT TO MAKE TAX CUTS PERMANENT

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, in 108 days, liberals will impose the largest tax increase in U.S. history. This \$3.9 trillion increase will impact every taxpayer, hurting small businesses and hardworking families by killing jobs, and a death tax devastating to family businesses such as auto dealers and farmers. I am offering an amendment to tomorrow's legislation that will prevent this job-killing tax increase by making the tax cuts permanent. I urge support for the amendment for an immediate up-or-down vote on tax cuts that are crucial to promoting jobs.

Freezing tax rates for 2 years is the first part of the two-part plan that Republicans have to create jobs in America. The second step is cutting spending by 20 percent to stop Washington's reckless spending. The time is now to act, and I urge the Rules Committee to allow an up-or-down vote on the amendment to offer tax relief to all hardworking Americans.

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

SAFENET'S 35TH ANNIVERSARY

(Mrs. DAHLKEMPER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

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



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Mrs. DAHLKEMPER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an exceptional organization in Erie, Pennsylvania on their 35th anniversary of service to our community.

SafeNet is an agency of dedicated professionals and volunteers working to end domestic violence against women, men, children and the elderly by providing shelter, counseling, legal advocacy and education. SafeNet helps victims find support through a wide range of programs, working closely with hospitals, schools, law enforcement and the courts to increase awareness and understanding of domestic violence.

For 35 years, SafeNet has brought hope and help to so many people in my region. Through their public education campaign, Unmasking the Faces, SafeNet is showing us all that victims of domestic violence can overcome their experiences and become strong survivors and active members of our community.

On behalf of all the families in my region, I extend my thanks and congratulations to SafeNet on their 35th anniversary and offer my support in their mission to put an end to domestic violence.

CARTEL EXTORTION

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, violence continues to seep across the Mexican border. Narco-terrorists continue to take shots at our Border Patrol from across the Rio Grande River. Drugs and human trafficking continue as our outmanned, out-financed and outgunned law enforcement agents continue to struggle against this violence.

But how is this for a new wrinkle in the drug cartel threat? Law enforcement officials in Texas indicate that the drug cartels may have opened up a protection racket on the American side of the border. Reports show that Hispanics living on the American side are now paying protection money to the drug cartels. These Mexican cartels are threatening harm to their relatives on the Mexican side of the border. If they have relatives in Mexico, pay up or they will be hurt, or worse.

The narco-terrorist extortion racket is just another example of crime coming into America from across the border. People who say that organized crime threats crippling Mexico don't affect Americans are living in Neverland.

And that's just the way it is.

DEMOCRATIC PRO-GROWTH AGENDA

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

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, while Democrats work to help our country

return from the Republican recession, our top priority is to create jobs and restore responsible fiscal policies that support the middle class.

The key part of our pro-growth agenda is helping small businesses. Small businesses are indeed the economic engine, creating two-thirds of the new jobs over the past 15 years. The role of small businesses is especially important as we strive to create jobs and move this economy forward. With the right resources and the right opportunities, small businesses can respond quickly with opportunities that create jobs.

Democrats have already enacted eight tax cuts for small businesses, including tax credits, payroll tax holidays, incentives for capital investments, and other measures to help small business thrive. We passed these measures despite strong opposition from House Republicans and will continue our fight for small businesses despite their votes against the small business community.

SMALL BUSINESSES

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

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, I was reminded again last night why our effort to help small businesses makes sense. I was at the Alliance to Save Energy and I gave an award called the Andromeda Award to a company called O-Power. It is a small company that has developed a way to help Americans save energy, and they have been spectacularly successful. They found a way, if you share information about what your neighbors are doing, you can reduce your energy costs dramatically.

This company is growing rapidly and doing well, but these small companies need access to capital, and we are proposing plans to make sure that they can get access to capital in our efforts to increase small business lending. If we do that, these small businesses are going to thrive. We've got to get out of the gate to compete with China when it comes to clean energy and efficiency. If we pass these bills, we will. Let's keep going with small business lending.

□ 1010

SMALL BUSINESS JOBS AND CREDIT ACT

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

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, small businesses are the backbone of America's economy. More than half of American workers are employed by small businesses. In fact, 99.7 percent of businesses in the United States employ fewer than 500 people.

When I talk to small business owners in south Florida, I'm always inspired by their entrepreneurial spirit and

their tireless work ethic. It's for that reason, and it's no surprise, that 97 percent of American exports to other nations comes from products made by small businesses.

I've been a Member of Congress for exactly 5 months this morning, and the one fact in common for each of these 150 days has been that Republicans have inexplicably blocked tax cuts and better credit for America's small businesses. Every day that goes by without the Small Business Jobs and Credit Act is another day during which small business owners put off investing in new equipment, avoid hiring new workers, and see opportunities to expand pass them by.

It's time to pass this critical legislation so that small businesses can get back to doing what they do best—growing America's economy.

MAKING PRODUCTS IN AMERICA

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

Mr. KAGEN. Mr. Speaker, I have the high honor and responsibility of representing the Swanningson family from Kaukauna, Wisconsin. Here you see Tony and his wife, Sherry; his son, Corey; and daughter, Kayla.

Tony wrote me this note recently when his company, Appleton Coated Paper, was having problems selling paper because of illegal paper being dumped into our country by China.

"Congressman Kagen, I've been a paper maker for 18 years, and I am grateful for the opportunity to provide for my family that the industry has given me. In 2009 I lost my job, through no fault of my own and through no fault of my company, Appleton Coated. My job was stolen because somebody broke the law, and that's not right. The dumping of foreign paper into the United States from companies that are subsidized by their own governments creates a marketplace that seriously threatens my family and countless other families throughout the United States."

We're going to make it in America when we begin making things here in America as well. We need to balance our trade deals and push back against illegal paper being dumped into our domestic market by China.

DON'T CUT TAXES FOR MILLIONAIRES

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

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, our Republican colleagues are constantly reminding us that the administration last year said that unemployment would not get to 8 percent if we passed our Recovery Act. Well, that remains to be seen. But let's talk about a projection that they made some years ago that they don't want to talk about, and

that's that we were going to have endless surpluses. They used that prediction of endless surpluses to justify cutting taxes for the wealthiest people in the United States.

Well, those people had a great decade. On average, \$100,000 savings on taxes during that time. Did they create more jobs because they cut their taxes? No. In fact, we had actually the most stagnant period of private sector job growth in modern history.

So now, when we don't have an endless surplus, in fact, a very large deficit, and we need job creation, they say, Oh, let's cut their taxes again. It wasn't good enough that the average millionaire had his or her net worth increased by 16 percent in 2009 while every other American stagnated. No. They want to make it a little bit better for the wealthiest people in America.

We want to cut taxes for middle class America and not millionaires.

DEMOCRATS CONTINUE FIGHT FOR MIDDLE CLASS TAX CUTS AND DEFICIT REDUCTION; REPUBLICANS CONTINUE TO HOLD MIDDLE CLASS HOSTAGE TO TAX CUTS FOR THE WEALTHY

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

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, in this time of debate around taxes and taxation, it's hard to figure out what's really true. Republicans say this; Democrats say that. Let me tell you what's actually the fact.

The fact is that the Republicans want to give the top 2 percent of the wealthiest Americans tax breaks that would add \$700 billion to the deficit over the next 10 years. They're saying they're going to stop tax cuts for middle class people unless the top 2 percent get their tax cut that would add \$700 billion to the deficit. Now, that's not fair given that middle class people have faced foreclosure, have faced a drop in home value, have faced unemployment, have faced so many difficult economic hurdles.

Why do they insist on giving the top 2 percent a huge tax break that they don't need, only giving the top 2 percent that tax break? Middle class people need relief. Middle class people need it now.

SUBMINIMUM WAGE FOR DISABLED

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

Mr. CLEAVER. There are a number of issues that fail to make it to the floor, but there's one issue that I absolutely feel strongly about and believe that the people of this Congress and the people of the Nation need to know, and that is the subminimum wage for people with disabilities.

Inclusion is a birthright. This is a civil right. And there is a rule in the

Department of Labor called 14(c). It's a certificate from the United States Department of Labor which says that people with disabilities can get paid less than subminimum wage. But it is not subminimum wage for all of them—it is hardly a wage at all. Some of these people who are on disability are making 45 cents an hour or less in sheltered workshops.

So I am suggesting that this issue is so important that it needs to be brought to the floor of the United States Congress. This is a civil right, and we need to make it something that is a priority of this Congress as soon as possible.

AMERICAN HELLENIC EDUCATIONAL PROGRESSIVE ASSOCIATION

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

Mr. VISCLOSKEY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure and admiration that I stand before you today to honor the American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association, AHEPA, Chapter 78, of Merrillville, Indiana, for being named Chapter of the Year during the association's national convention that was held in July of this year.

AHEPA Chapter 78 is to be commended for its outstanding service. AHEPA Chapter 78 was established on July 25, 1925. It currently consists of 130 members, with 13 being life members of over 50 years. In accordance with the AHEPA mission of community service, the members of Chapter 78 represent the best in all of us through their selfless giving, kindness, and generosity.

Most recently, the chapter has distinguished itself by donating significant funds to organizations throughout northwest Indiana, including Christian Haven House and Saints Monica and Luke Soup Kitchen.

For nearly two decades, the chapter has also worked tirelessly to provide safe, exceptionally well-maintained, and affordable housing for senior citizens who otherwise might today find themselves in very abject circumstances.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and the other distinguished colleagues join me in again congratulating the AHEPA Chapter 78 of Merrillville, Indiana.

JEFFERSON THOMAS OF THE LITTLE ROCK NINE

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

Mr. SNYDER. Mr. Speaker, sophomores in high school are not often called on to lead a nation. Under the leadership of nine black students in Little Rock in 1957, including high school sophomore Jefferson Thomas, the Federal Government enforced the rights of all students to have equality of education.

Losing one of the Little Rock Nine is an event no one looked forward to. Losing one of the Little Rock Nine, sadly, is what happened on September 5, 2010, when Jefferson Allison Thomas passed away in Columbus, Ohio.

Yesterday's heroes, with death, become legends and such is the case with Jefferson Thomas. Perhaps no group of young people is as well known as Jefferson Thomas and the others we know as the Little Rock Nine. Every American, for all time, must honor and remember the heroism of these youngsters in 1957, as we have done in 1999 with the Congressional Gold Medal and also with a commemorative coin and a postage stamp.

None of us can imagine the daily torment and fear these students faced. No young person today can imagine what segregation meant for teens like Jefferson Thomas in 1957. But Jefferson Thomas knew; Jefferson Thomas acted. And Jefferson Thomas is an American hero who will be missed and honored.

□ 1020

THE HIGH HOLIDAYS

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

Mr. KLEIN of Florida. We are currently in the midst of the Jewish High Holidays, a holy time when we reflect on the past year and welcome a new one. To everyone who celebrated Rosh Hashanah last week, I wish you and your family a healthy and happy 5771.

During the Rosh Hashanah service at my synagogue, I was honored to offer the Jewish prayer for the United States. This prayer hopes for the day when "Peace and security, happiness and prosperity, justice and freedom may forever abide in our midst." And I can think of no more laudable and important goal than to work towards that day with all of our heart and energy.

As we pray for and work towards peace and security for the United States, we also extend those prayers to the State of Israel. The threats against the Jewish homeland are real, and we cannot allow them to go unchecked. The American people stand with our brothers and sisters in Israel, and the alliance and friendship between our two Nations remains unbreakable.

I hope that all who celebrate these meaningful High Holidays have the opportunity to do so amongst loved ones. Reflection with our friends and family is the hallmark of this time of year. From my family to yours, warmest wishes during this special season.

MIDDLE CLASS TAX CUTS

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

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. Speaker, if we don't act soon, middle class income families across the country will see

their taxes go up. I have spent the past 6 weeks crisscrossing the Hawaiian island chain, meeting with small business owners, workers, educators, and farmers. I've asked them how they feel about extending the Bush tax cuts for the wealthiest Americans. And we agreed that the most important thing we can do now is extend the tax cuts for the middle class.

I will oppose those who hold the middle class tax cuts hostage so that people earning more than \$1 million will receive average tax cuts of \$100,000 annually. The top 2 percent of these income earners in our country can afford to pay their fair share. Extending the Bush tax cuts for this group will pile on a whopping \$700 billion to our deficit over the next 10 years.

We must pass legislation now that ensures that 98 percent of Americans and 97 percent of small businesses do not pay higher taxes next year. And let's remember that the 111th Congress and the Obama administration have already enacted eight tax cuts for small businesses. We can no longer afford to continue the tax cuts for the wealthiest among us.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

CONGRESSIONAL MADE IN AMERICA PROMISE ACT

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2039) to clarify the applicability of the Buy American Act to products purchased for the use of the legislative branch, to prohibit the application of any of the exceptions to the requirements of such act to products bearing a Congressional seal, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2039

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Congressional Made in America Promise Act of 2010".

SEC. 2. APPLICABILITY OF BUY AMERICAN ACT TO LEGISLATIVE BRANCH; NO EXCEPTIONS FOR PRODUCTS BEARING OFFICIAL CONGRESSIONAL INSIGNIA.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 2 of the Buy American Act (41 U.S.C. 10a) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (b) as subsection (c); and

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

“(b) CLARIFICATION OF APPLICABILITY TO ARTICLES, MATERIALS, AND SUPPLIES FOR USE OF LEGISLATIVE BRANCH.—

“(1) APPLICABILITY TO LEGISLATIVE BRANCH.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), subsection (a) applies with respect to articles, materials, and supplies acquired for the use of any office in the legislative branch, including the House of Representatives and the Senate, in the same manner as such subsection applies with respect to articles, materials, and supplies acquired for the use of a department or independent establishment.

“(2) SPECIAL RULE FOR PRODUCTS BEARING OFFICIAL CONGRESSIONAL INSIGNIA.—In the case of any product which bears an official insignia (including a mark resembling an official seal) of the United States House of Representatives, the United States Senate, or the United States Congress and which is acquired for the use of an office of the legislative branch, the following shall apply:

“(A) The head of the office may not make a determination under subsection (a) that it is inconsistent with the public interest to enter into a contract in accordance with this Act.

“(B) The head of the office may not make a determination under subsection (a) that an article, material, or supply is not mined, produced, or manufactured, as the case may be, in the United States in sufficient and reasonably available commercial quantities and of satisfactory quality.

“(C) The last sentence of subsection (a) shall not apply.”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 69 of the Revised Statutes of the United States (2 U.S.C. 109) is repealed.

SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.

The amendments made by this Act shall take effect upon the expiration of the 180-day period which begins on the date of the enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRADY) and a Member opposed each may control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous matters on the measure now under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

On behalf of my committee, I am pleased to bring this bill to the House. This is a very important bill designed to help create more jobs in America. Offered by our colleague, the gentleman from Ohio, H.R. 2039 extends the requirements of the Buy American Act to the legislative branch of government, including the House of Representatives and the Senate.

Several legislative branch agencies already abide by the Buy American Act, including the Government Printing Office, the Library of Congress, and the Architect of the Capitol. But the

House and Senate are exempt from the Buy American Act, and it's time for that to change.

The House and the Senate buy things, many things: Pencils, pens, paper, envelopes, furniture, furnishings, office machines, and equipment of every kind. You name it. There are no reasons that Buy American requirements should not apply to the Congress as to any other Federal agency. That's what the gentlelady's legislation will accomplish.

From my perspective as chairman of the House Administration Committee, H.R. 2039 will provide us with one more tool we can use to prevent the purchase of foreign-made goods when suitable American-made goods are available.

Mr. Speaker, this is a good bill. I commend the gentlelady for introducing it, and I urge the House to pass it.

Mr. Speaker, I now yield 5 minutes to the sponsor of the bill, the distinguished gentlelady from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR).

□ 1030

Ms. KAPTUR. I want to thank Chairman BRADY for his leadership and the expeditious manner in which his committee dealt with this bill. I thank him for his leadership on jobs in America all the time.

I ask my colleagues to support H.R. 2039 when it comes to a vote later today, the Made in America Promise Act, which applies the provisions of the Buy America Act that already apply to the executive branch to the legislative branch, the Congress. It is apparent to all America that we are facing a daunting job deficit.

Over 14.9 million people still are out of work. Moreover, in 2009, our Nation racked up a trade deficit of \$375 billion, and this year it's likely to be double that, with more imports coming into our Nation than exports going out. For every billion dollars of trade deficit, we lose a minimum of 10,000 more jobs.

Without this mammoth trade deficit, our economy this year would have grown 5 percent. Instead, growth was readjusted downward to 1.5 percent, a huge 3-point drop, and the worst growth rate since 1947, because trade deficits matter.

For America to address this job gap, our unconscious Nation must develop a consciousness to make it in America again, because production here equals jobs in America. That consciousness must begin here in Congress in the highest law-making branch of our Nation.

This bill applies the Buy America provisions to the legislative branch. To illustrate, just in perusing the gift shops that tourists come through in the House and Senate—and even the new congressional visitors center—look what we found, Chinese calculators, it says here on the lower United States Senate, but then look where it's made—China. There are umbrellas from China, a children's briefcase, even

with a symbolic seal from the Philippines, and an elephant piggy bank from Indonesia. We couldn't buy everything they displayed, but let me tell you, there was no consciousness that Congress should be supporting goods made in America, here at the highest lawmaking branch of our country.

How can Congress expect to strengthen American industry and create American jobs if it itself is not buying American-made goods? If there is one place in our country that should showcase items made in the U.S.A., it is right here in the Congress. How can the American people trust Congress to be responsible if it is selling goods that create jobs in other places, not here in America?

That is why H.R. 2039 was introduced in the first place, because we must employ at this time of high unemployment every opportunity to help turn our economic ship of state in a positive direction. This bill creates a clear standard. It says we must change our practices. It says we must restore manufacturing in America.

It begins to do this by raising the consciousness of our Nation that the legislative branch of our Federal Government steps forward to say it is time to make goods in America again. That is where new jobs will come from.

Under the Buy America Act, current law states that the Federal Government, but not the legislative branch, must buy American-made products. But when this bill passes, the Congressional Made in America Promise Act will apply the Buy America Act to Congress.

In addition, when dealing with any product bearing an official insignia of the House, the Senate and the Congress, H.R. 2039 will prohibit the exceptions of not purchasing American goods if they are inconsistent with the public interest, not made in sufficiently available commercial quantities, or under the price of \$2,500. This means the only exceptions will be if the goods produced here are unreasonable in cost or not used in the United States.

This Congress has taken steps to close tax loopholes that reward large corporations that outsource business and jobs overseas. We are providing tax credits to help small businesses hire new employees and sell their products and innovation overseas, but we need to do more. Congress must lead by example.

I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of H.R. 2039, help create jobs in America, help rebuild American industry by building in America once again. Vote for the Made in America Promise Act.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to my colleague on the Committee of House Administration, the gentlewoman from California, SUSAN DAVIS.

Mrs. DAVIS of California. I want to thank my colleague from Pennsylvania for bringing H.R. 2039 forward today.

Mr. Speaker, the forefathers and mothers of our Nation included Con-

gress in section 1 of the Constitution for a reason. Congress is for the people by the people.

But for too long, Congress has encouraged Buy America throughout this country without setting a strong enough example here in the Halls of Congress. My colleague has just referenced a number of the pieces of goods that people purchased that were certainly not made in America.

I suspect that our forefathers would be pleased with this piece of legislation before us. As our Nation works to bolster our manufacturing sector for the 21st century and beyond, we can start with making sure that goods sold in the Capitol and Congress are made right here in the U.S.

The congressional Made in America Promise Act does just that by requiring that the rules of the Buy America Act apply to the legislative branch. By passing it, Congress is setting an example for our Nation. Goods sold in Congress should say "Made in the U.S.A."

For the people, by the people. Right now, we are seeing that getting back to the basics of making it in America is what works for our economy. In fact, in August, U.S. manufacturing expanded for the 13th straight month. Our manufacturing sector has always been a source of pride for our country, and it is still the best in the world. Now more than ever, we need to encourage the production of goods that are made in America because the more we make at home the more Americans will be able to go back to work.

I strongly support the congressional Made in America Promise Act.

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2039, the Congressional Made in America Promise Act. I commend Representative MARCY KAPTUR for her leadership on this issue and working to get the bill passed.

Today, we are considering legislation that will help improve the Buy American Act, which requires the United States government to purchase goods produced and manufactured in the United States, when it is in the best interest of the United States to do so. Specifically, H.R. 2039 would amend the Buy American Act so that "Buy American" statutory requirements are applied to articles, materials and supplies used by Congressional offices. Further, the Made in America Promise Act requires that any article containing the Congressional seal be purchased from American vendors, without exception.

Mr. Speaker, this Act is an important part of the Democratic plan to assist Main Street Americans—hard-working, talented, dedicated workers. Citizens of Michigan's 15th Congressional District, unfortunately, have long been victims of outsourcing and unfair trade agreements, even before the Great Recession began. They have seen their jobs shipped overseas in large part because of corporate tax breaks encouraging outsourcing and trade policies that lower labor standards and do nothing to open up new markets for U.S. goods.

This legislation is part of an ongoing effort to save and create American jobs and continue our country on the path to economic recovery. What we have here is a choice be-

tween protecting the wealth of some versus creating opportunity for all. I ask my colleagues to join me in voting for opportunity.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 2039.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I stand in support of H.R. 2039, the Congressional Made in America Promise Act of 2009.

This bipartisan legislation ensures that the rules of the Buy American Act that apply to all states and federal agencies also apply to Congress. Under current law, states and the federal government must buy only American made products. Though exemptions exist for cases where public interest, cost or unavailability make purchasing the good prohibitive, all goods purchased by state and federal governments must be produced in the United States. Congress, however, is not subjected to this requirement.

Promoting American job growth is a priority for this Congress. This common sense legislation is example of our commitment. If passed, this legislation will apply a standard for procurement that exceeds that enforced by states and federal agencies. Any product bearing the official congressional insignias, including goods bearing a mark resembling the official seals of the U.S. Senate, U.S. House of Representatives, and the U.S. Congress, will have to be made in America.

Mr. Speaker, the president has set an ambitious goal to significantly increase this country's exports over the next two years. This legislation contributes to that effort by ensuring that goods procured by states, federal agencies and Congress are made in the U.S.A. I encourage my colleagues to join me in support of the bill.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I urge an "aye" vote, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRADY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2039, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

BERRY AMENDMENT EXTENSION ACT

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3116) to prohibit the Department of Homeland Security from procuring certain items directly related to the national security unless the items are grown, reprocessed, reused, or produced in the United States, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3116

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Berry Amendment Extension Act”.

SEC. 2. BUY AMERICAN REQUIREMENT IMPOSED ON DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY; EXCEPTIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle H of title VIII of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 451 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“SEC. 890. BUY AMERICAN REQUIREMENT; EXCEPTIONS.

“(a) REQUIREMENT.—Except as provided in subsections (c) through (e), the Secretary may not procure an item described in subsection (b) if the item is not grown, reprocessed, reused, or produced in the United States.

“(b) COVERED ITEMS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—An item referred to in subsection (a) is any item described in paragraph (2), if the item is directly related to the national security interests of the United States.

“(2) ITEMS DESCRIBED.—An item described in this paragraph is any article or item of—

“(A) clothing and the materials and components thereof, other than sensors, electronics, or other items added to, and not normally associated with, clothing (and the materials and components thereof);

“(B) tents, tarpaulins, or covers;

“(C) cotton and other natural fiber products, woven silk or woven silk blends, spun silk yarn for cartridge cloth, synthetic fabric or coated synthetic fabric (including all textile fibers and yarns that are for use in such fabrics), canvas products, or wool (whether in the form of fiber or yarn or contained in fabrics, materials, or manufactured articles); or

“(D) any item of individual equipment manufactured from or containing such fibers, yarns, fabrics, or materials.

“(c) AVAILABILITY EXCEPTION.—Subsection (a) does not apply to the extent that the Secretary determines that satisfactory quality and sufficient quantity of any such article or item described in subsection (b)(2) grown, reprocessed, reused, or produced in the United States cannot be procured as and when needed.

“(d) EXCEPTION FOR CERTAIN PROCUREMENTS OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES.—Subsection (a) does not apply to the following:

“(1) Procurements by vessels in foreign waters.

“(2) Emergency procurements.

“(e) EXCEPTION FOR SMALL PURCHASES.—Subsection (a) does not apply to purchases for amounts not greater than the simplified acquisition threshold referred to in section 2304(g) of title 10, United States Code.

“(f) APPLICABILITY TO CONTRACTS AND SUBCONTRACTS FOR PROCUREMENT OF COMMERCIAL ITEMS.—This section is applicable to contracts and subcontracts for the procurement of commercial items notwithstanding section 34 of the Office of Federal Procurement Policy Act (41 U.S.C. 430).

“(g) GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE.—In this section, the term ‘United States’ includes the possessions of the United States.

“(h) NOTIFICATION REQUIRED WITHIN 7 DAYS AFTER CONTRACT AWARD IF CERTAIN EXCEPTIONS APPLIED.—In the case of any contract for the procurement of an item described in subsection (b)(2), if the Secretary applies an exception set forth in subsection (c) with respect to that contract, the Secretary shall, not later than 7 days after the award of the contract, post a notification that the exception has been applied.

“(i) TRAINING.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall ensure that each member of the acquisition workforce who participates personally and substantially in the acquisition of textiles

on a regular basis receives training on the requirements of this section and the regulations implementing this section.

“(2) INCLUSION OF INFORMATION IN NEW TRAINING PROGRAMS.—The Secretary shall ensure that any training program for the acquisition workforce developed or implemented after the date of the enactment of this section includes comprehensive information on the requirements described in paragraph (1).

“(j) CONSISTENCY WITH INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS.—This section shall be applied in a manner consistent with United States obligations under international agreements.”

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Section 890 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as added by subsection (a), shall apply with respect to contracts entered into by the Department of Homeland Security on and after the date occurring 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. RICHARDSON) and the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. ROGERS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

□ 1040

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Berry Amendment Extension Act, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

H.R. 3116, the Berry Amendment Extension Act, was introduced by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. KISSELL). This legislation would apply procurement requirements that have been in place since 1941 at the Department of Defense to the Department of Homeland Security.

As approved in 1941, the purpose of the Berry Amendment was to protect the United States from our enemies by requiring that the military maintain rules and regulations regarding the uniforms worn by our soldiers.

Extension of the Berry Amendment to the Department of Homeland Security is the necessary thing to do from a security standpoint. Currently, there are not any requirements on where uniforms worn by enforcing agencies such as the Transportation Security Administration and Customs and Border Protection are manufactured.

In light of ongoing threats which require the utmost protection of our safety resources and personnel, the extension of the Berry Amendment is appropriate. Further, the failure to utilize American invested workers to produce military resources is not only detrimental to American manufacturing jobs, but it is also detrimental to our Nation's security.

A beneficial side effect of the Berry Amendment is its impact on jobs. Data shows that the Berry Amendment has allowed for the sustenance of over 450,000 textile and manufacturing jobs here in the United States. Further, using data from the U.S. Department of Commerce, it is estimated that for every \$1 billion in manufacturing output, 12,500 jobs are created in the United States.

During these trying economic times, H.R. 3116 provides us with a unique opportunity to create new jobs here in America, thereby giving U.S. workers any opportunity to “Make it in America.” This is where we all should stand.

As a strong supporter of U.S. manufacturing, I believe that it is our duty as a Congress to protect American jobs through our support of those small businesses that manufacture high quality textile products here in the United States.

Lastly, let us not forget most importantly that H.R. 3116 takes away a vulnerability in the procurement system. The law enforcement officials who work to protect our southern border—and northern border, for that matter as well—have witnessed drug couriers using phony uniforms to avoid detection in the smuggling of illegal drugs into the United States.

Considering the loose regulations on the location and types of facilities that manufacture uniforms worn by those who protect our Nation, we must take necessary steps to prevent smugglers from using our own uniforms to assist in their illegal activities and, worse, highlight vulnerabilities in the U.S. Homeland Security environment.

I fully support this legislation, H.R. 3116, under consideration and urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to vote for its passage.

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

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3116, the Berry Amendment Extension Act.

This bill amends the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to prohibit the Secretary of Homeland Security from procuring certain items—including textiles such as clothing, tents, canvas and cotton—unless they are grown, reprocessed, reused, or produced in the United States. By requiring the Secretary to procure certain items from within the U.S., this bill takes an important step in promoting U.S. job growth and supporting large and small businesses alike.

The Department of Homeland Security employs over 150,000 uniformed men and women who are dedicated to the Department's vital mission of protecting the homeland against a range of threats. The U.S. Customs and Border Protection, for example, employs over 21,000 officers and 20,000 Border

Patrol agents, and these numbers continue to grow. The Transportation Security Administration has 48,000 officers. The U.S. Coast Guard has over 50,000 uniformed personnel. These growing numbers represent an opportunity to produce uniforms and other materials in the U.S. to support their mission, rather than overseas. This, in turn, will help create American jobs in this troubled economy.

The bill provides for exceptions in certain situations, including procurements by vessels in foreign waters, emergency procurements, low-cost procurements, and if items of sufficient quantity or quality are not available when needed.

The bill also includes language requiring its provisions to be applied in a manner consistent with U.S. obligations under international agreements.

H.R. 3116 is a commonsense piece of legislation.

I urge my colleagues to support the bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. KISSELL).

Mr. KISSELL. I would like to thank my colleague from California for yielding the time and also for her strong support for made in America and U.S. manufacturing.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 3116, the Berry Amendment Extension Act. For over 60 years, the Berry Amendment has served as the law by which the Department of Defense has had to purchase uniforms for our military. It has served its purpose well in protecting the men and women of our services with having the best uniforms and also protecting Americans that make these uniforms in providing for the jobs thereof.

In January of 2009, shortly after I was sworn in as a freshman Congressman, folks came to me and asked me if I would help extend the Berry Act in homeland security to just the TSA part. Now, I could not understand why this had not been done before, but I was assured it had been tried and had been unsuccessful because there was apparently a lot of special interest that was in opposition to this.

Having worked 27 years in textiles myself, I gladly took on this initiative, and with a lot of help, we were able to overcome the special interest, and we were able to get the extension of the Berry Act to the amendment to the Recovery Act applying just to TSA. We immediately went to work to introduce a bill of legislation that would complete this process by making all of Homeland Security very compliant.

I'm glad to say with a lot of support, and a lot of bipartisan support, today we are successful in bringing that bill to the floor. It makes sense. It's only logical for all of the reasons that have been given that we extend to Homeland Security and all the people that work there, whether it be Border Patrol,

TSA, ICE, Coast Guard, and Secret Service, in whatever function that they have, the uniforms that are the best, and the best is always made in the United States.

Textiles have suffered a lot through the years. It's estimated that, since December of 2000, the United States has suffered a \$575 billion deficit in textiles and apparel, a loss of over 587,000 jobs. In the most recent economic downturn, textiles has lost 60,000 jobs with the closing of over 44 textiles plants.

But textiles has not gone away. Textiles is energetic. It's creative. It represents the American entrepreneurial spirit, and it is surviving. This bill is a logical step to not only protect our Nation's security by having American uniforms on those that protect us in Homeland Security, but also protects American security by protecting American jobs.

Mr. Speaker, just two examples of the good that came out of just the TSA amendment. We received a letter shortly after we passed this act that was from Arkansas. Twenty people wrote to thank us for passing that act because it saved their jobs. Now, that's just 20 people, but that's 20 families in an economic downturn that didn't have to worry about jobs. Richmond Yarns, located in a small town near my hometown, credits the TSA amendment for not only their survival but creating 80 additional jobs. We have seen this and heard this time and time again from just the amendment that we passed with TSA. We will see this expand even further when we pass this legislation.

I urge all my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this commonsense H.R. 3116, the Berry Amendment Extension Act.

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, as a Member of Congress who grew up in a family that depended on a textile plant check to put food on the table, I am proud to yield 3 minutes to a real champion of the textile industry, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. COBLE).

□ 1050

Mr. COBLE. I thank my colleague from Alabama. You indicate your involvement and exposure to textile employment, as did my friend from North Carolina. My late mom was a textile worker, so I, too, appreciate the significance of textile employment.

The Berry amendment requires the U.S. Defense Department to buy American for certain products that are judged to be essential to our military readiness. Buy American means that 100 percent of the product is produced and manufactured in the United States.

The Berry amendment helps ensure that we have a reliable domestic source for certain vital goods during time of war, and that our troops are equipped with the highest quality equipment. The Berry amendment has worked well. I am not aware of any situation,

Mr. Speaker, where it has limited the ability of our military to procure items, and it has ensured that our troops receive the highest quality essential equipment. Finally, it helps contain costs in the long term.

H.R. 3116 will expand this requirement to the Department of Homeland Security. DHS, as we all know, has grown. And while the Berry amendment has been successful for our military, I see no reason why it would not be equally successful for DHS. The requirement is not unlimited because government procurement policies are also covered by the World Trade Organization rules. Berry-type requirements are only permissible for agencies that are critical to national security. As a result, Mr. Speaker, it is my understanding that H.R. 3116 would only apply to the Transportation Security Administration because of its national security role in securing our various and sundry airports.

I am pleased that President Obama supported the Berry amendment while he was serving in the Senate and hope that his views on this matter have not changed, and I think they probably have not.

The Berry amendment, furthermore, has been endorsed by AMTAC, the American Manufacturing Trade Action Coalition, and NCTO, the National Council for Textile Organizations. Economically, this requirement makes a lot of sense. Currently the Berry amendment is responsible for approximately 70,000 jobs, half of which are in the domestic textile industry. Conservative estimates from textile industry associations indicate another 21,000 jobs could be created by extending the Berry amendment to the Department of Homeland Security.

I urge my colleagues to support this Berry amendment, a very worthwhile proposal.

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. I urge Members to support the bill.

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

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3116, the Berry amendment, extends the wisdom of our forefathers to properly secure our military uniforms to the 21st century of our extended protectors in homeland security such as the airport TSA workers and Customs and Border Protection workers. H.R. 3116 is putting American workers and the American economy first by making it in America.

I thank Mr. KISSELL and Chairman THOMPSON for their leadership, and I encourage my colleagues to support this important legislation.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to speak in support of H.R. 3116, the Berry Amendment Extension Act.

As introduced by the gentleman from North Carolina, Mr. KISSELL, H.R. 3116 would require the Department of Homeland Security to purchase uniforms and textiles that are Made-

in-America under the Berry Amendment, just as the Department of Defense has done since 1941.

I am pleased to support this legislation which will serve as a means to support hard-working farmers and small textile manufacturers that are, unfortunately, becoming more and more uncommon in the United States.

Moreover, as Chairman of the House Committee on Homeland Security, I am always looking for ways to provide greater security for the United States. Representative KISSELL's legislation does just that.

At present, the uniforms worn by Department of Homeland Security personnel such as Customs and Border Protection Officers and Transportation Security Administration Officers are made in locations outside our Nation's borders.

On August 31, 2010, the Washington Post reported that drug couriers often move illegal drugs across the United States-Mexico border through the use of disguises.

Often times these "cloners" as they are referred to by law enforcement officials, wear false law enforcement uniforms made outside of the United States.

Under current policy, there is nothing to prevent these "cloners" from obtaining uniforms from foreign factories and using them to transport illegal drugs and other contraband across our borders.

By restricting the manufacturing of Department of Homeland Security uniforms to the United States, we will be taking a smart step forward to prevent foreign access to the badges, patches, and uniforms that identify our homeland security personnel.

This legislation has the support of the American Manufacturing Trade Action Coalition, the National Council of Textile Organizations and the American Apparel and Footwear Association.

Considering our Nation's current economic situation and the need to take every effort to secure our borders, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation, which will take sensible steps to create opportunities for domestic manufacturing, promote job creation in the United States, and make our country safer.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. RICHARDSON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3116, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

FIRST RESPONDER ANTI-TERRORISM TRAINING RESOURCES ACT

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendments to the bill (H.R. 3978) to amend the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007 to authorize the Secretary of Homeland Security to accept and use gifts for otherwise authorized

activities of the Center for Domestic Preparedness that are related to preparedness for and response to terrorism, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the Senate amendments is as follows:

Senate amendments:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "First Responder Anti-Terrorism Training Resources Act".

SEC. 2. ACCEPTANCE OF GIFTS FOR FIRST RESPONDER TERRORISM PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE TRAINING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 101 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in title V (6 U.S.C. 311 et seq.), by adding at the end the following:

"SEC. 525. ACCEPTANCE OF GIFTS.

"(a) AUTHORITY.—The Secretary may accept and use gifts of property, both real and personal, and may accept gifts of services, including from guest lecturers, for otherwise authorized activities of the Center for Domestic Preparedness that are related to efforts to prevent, prepare for, protect against, or respond to a natural disaster, act of terrorism, or other man-made disaster, including the use of a weapon of mass destruction.

"(b) PROHIBITION.—The Secretary may not accept a gift under this section if the Secretary determines that the use of the property or services would compromise the integrity or appearance of integrity of—

"(1) a program of the Department; or

"(2) an individual involved in a program of the Department.

"(c) REPORT.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate an annual report disclosing—

"(A) any gifts that were accepted under this section during the year covered by the report;

"(B) how the gifts contribute to the mission of the Center for Domestic Preparedness; and

"(C) the amount of Federal savings that were generated from the acceptance of the gifts.

"(2) PUBLICATION.—Each report required under paragraph (1) shall be made publically available.;"

(2) in section 873(b) (6 U.S.C. 453(b)), by striking "and by section 93" and all that follows through "or donations" and inserting "by section 93 of title 14, United States Code, or by section 525 or 884 of this Act, gifts or donations"; and

(3) in section 884 (6 U.S.C. 464), by adding at the end the following:

"(c) ACCEPTANCE AND USE OF GIFTS.—The Federal Law Enforcement Training Center may accept and use gifts of property, both real and personal, and accept services, for authorized purposes.;"

(b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) THE HOMELAND SECURITY ACT OF 2002.—The Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 101 et seq.) is amended in the table of contents by inserting after the item relating to section 524 the following:

"Sec. 525. Acceptance of gifts.;"

(2) REPEAL.—The matter under the heading "SALARIES AND EXPENSES" under the heading "FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING CENTER" under title IV of the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2004 (6 U.S.C. 464a) is amended by striking "Provided, That in fiscal year 2004 and thereafter, the Center is authorized to accept and use gifts of property, both real and personal, and to accept services, for authorized purposes: Provided further," and inserting "Provided,;"

Amend the title so as to read: "An Act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to authorize the Secretary of Homeland Security to accept and use gifts for otherwise authorized activities of the Center for Domestic Preparedness that are related to preparedness for a response to terrorism, and for other purposes.".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. RICHARDSON) and the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. ROGERS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of concurring in the Senate amendments to H.R. 3978, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

As chairwoman of the Emergency Communications, Preparedness, and Response Subcommittee, I am pleased to join the original sponsor of this legislation, the ranking member of that very subcommittee, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, in strong support of the First Responder Anti-Terrorism Training Resources Act.

Mr. ROGERS' district is home to the Center for Domestic Preparedness, also known as the Center throughout my comments, and one of the Nation's premier training sites. At the Center, thousands of first responders from all 50 States receive hands-on training for real world incidents involving chemical, biological, explosive, radiological and other hazardous materials.

As we saw last week on nationwide TV when a ruptured pipeline sent a ball of fire into the neighborhoods of San Bruno, California, completely blowing to pieces four homes, killing four people, in addition to four people who are still missing, this training is vital, and we must continue to find creative ways to strengthen it.

I am pleased that the legislation before us today will enhance the training of our first responders. Given the Center's leading role in all-hazards training, the facility often receives offers of resources and donations, including training displays, emergency response equipment, and guest lectures.

The ability to accept, process, and utilize these donations and gifts would strengthen the Center's ability to offer high-quality emergency response training, as well as in difficult times reduce costs for the Center itself.

Pursuant to current rules and law, the Center for Domestic Preparedness currently lacks the legal authority to accept these types of resources, gifts, and services. The enactment of H.R.

3978 would permit the Secretary of Homeland Security to accept and use gifted items for authorized activities of the Center for Domestic Preparedness that are related to preventing, preparing for, protecting against, or responding to all-hazards.

The legislation further directs the Department of Homeland Security, DHS, to report annually to Congress on any gifts that were accepted and how they might contribute to the Center's mission. The report must also describe the amount of federally funded savings that were generated from the acceptance of these gifts, which is very important as we look for ways to trim costs. The bill also amends the Homeland Security Act to authorize the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center to accept and use gifts, donations, and services. For these reasons, I urge all of my colleagues to support the Senate amendments to H.R. 3978.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE,

Washington, DC, September 14, 2010.

Hon. BENNIE G. THOMPSON,
Chairman, Committee on Homeland Security,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: I write to you regarding the Senate amendment to H.R. 3978, the "First Responder Anti-Terrorism Training Resources Act".

We note that the Senate amendment to H.R. 3978 contains provisions that fall within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. Given that the House is scheduled to call up the measure without formal referral of the bills to committees of jurisdiction, I request an acknowledgement that nothing waives, reduces, or otherwise affects the jurisdiction of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure over H.R. 3978.

Please place a copy of this letter and your response acknowledging the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure's jurisdictional interest in the Congressional Record during consideration of the measure in the House.

I look forward to working with you as we prepare to pass this important legislation.

Sincerely,

JAMES L. OBERSTAR, M.C.
Chairman.

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY,
Washington, DC, September 14, 2010.

Hon. JAMES L. OBERSTAR,
Chairman, Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, U.S. House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN OBERSTAR: Thank you for your letter regarding the Senate amendments to H.R. 3978, the "First Responder Anti-Terrorism Training Resources Act."

I acknowledge that the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure has a jurisdictional interest in provisions contained within the Senate amendments to H.R. 3978. I further acknowledge that the lack of a formal referral of the Senate amendments to H.R. 3978 does not waive, reduce, or otherwise affect the jurisdiction of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

I will ensure that this exchange of letters is included in the Congressional Record during floor consideration of the Senate amendments to H.R. 3978.

Sincerely,

BENNIE G. THOMPSON,
Chairman.

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

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of final passage of H.R. 3978, the First Responder Anti-Terrorism Training Resources Act.

Thanks to strong bipartisan support in both the House and Senate, we are here today with legislation that provides the CDP with authority to accept donations of items such as railcars, subway cars, emergency response equipment, and other property and services that would help bolster training.

I introduced this bill last November to ensure that first responders who train at East Alabama's Center For Domestic Preparedness have access to all available resources that will strengthen their training activities.

This bill was passed by the House on December 15, 2009 by a vote of 413-1. On August 5, the bill passed the Senate with an amendment by unanimous consent.

I would like to thank Chairman THOMPSON and Ranking Member KING as well as Senators LIEBERMAN and COLLINS for their support of the bill in moving it forward in both chambers.

The CDP, located in my district in Anniston, Alabama, delivers one-of-a-kind, hands-on training to America's emergency responders. Training at the CDP is fully funded by the Department of Homeland Security. State and local responders from all 50 States, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. territories have trained at this center.

Like other training centers, the CDP often receives offers of donations to assist their training courses. However, the CDP does not have the legal authority to accept those donations, and has been forced to turn them down in the past. My bill fixes this problem.

As amended by the Senate, the bill ensures that CDP may accept donations in support of its entire all-hazards missions. The bill also includes language to ensure that no gifts are accepted if they are determined to compromise the integrity or the appearance of integrity of a program of the department or an individual associated with the department, and the annual report to Congress on donations accepted must be made available to the public.

The bill would also authorize the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center to accept gifts under the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as it has been doing under the 2004 Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act.

□ 1100

Simply put, this legislation is a win-win for our first responders, the American taxpayer and the Center for Domestic Preparedness; and I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, the CDP—the Center for Domestic Preparedness—and the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center are law enforcement training organizations for numerous Federal, State and local agencies, and they provide vital preparation to our law enforcement community. In fact, it could definitely benefit from the use of these additional resources. By allowing DHS-supported training centers to accept these gifts, this legislation will help tap into the generosity of the American people and the companies to enhance the training for thousands of first responders. In turn, I expect it will save a significant amount of taxpayer dollars.

I encourage my colleagues to support this important homeland security legislation, and I commend Mr. ROGERS for his efforts.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Senate Amendment to H.R. 3978, a bill that would permit the Center for Domestic Preparedness and the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center to accept gifts and donations in order to better train our nation's first responders. As Chairman of the Committee on Homeland Security, I was pleased that H.R. 3978 received broad bipartisan support in the House and passed the Senate unanimously. I urge my colleagues to support the Senate Amendment to H.R. 3978.

Madam Speaker, the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Center for Domestic Preparedness (Center) is the nation's leading all-hazards first-responder training center. The Center trains thousands of first responders and is especially well-known for its weapons of mass destruction training facility. It is of significant interest to the Committee and many of us have visited the campus to see the important training that takes place.

The Center often receives offers of donated goods and services, such as training displays, response equipment, and trailers. These donations would allow the Center to offer stronger training opportunities at a lower cost to the Department of Homeland Security and the American taxpayer. The Center, however, does not have the legal authority to accept gifts that would enhance its ability to deliver superior training.

The Senate Amendment to H.R. 3978 would amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to permit the Center to receive donated gifts and services that are related to preventing, preparing for, protecting against, or responding to all-hazards, including natural disasters, acts of terrorism and other man-made disasters. The legislation further calls on the Secretary of Homeland Security to annually report to Congress on the gifts accepted, how the gifts contribute to the mission of the Center and the amount of Federal savings that were generated from the acceptance of the gifts.

The bill also amends the Homeland Security Act to authorize the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center to accept and use gifts, donations, and services.

Mr. Speaker, the Senate Amendment to H.R. 3978 will pay immediate dividends for our first responder community by enhancing their training with more resources. The Committee will continue to support these important training centers and the brave work of our first responders. I support the passage of the Senate

Amendment to H.R. 3978 and encourage my colleagues to support it as well.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. RICHARDSON) that the House suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendments to the bill, H.R. 3978.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECOGNIZING ANNIVERSARY OF LAW CREATING REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT TRUSTS (REITS)

Mr. TANNER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1595) recognizing the 50th anniversary of the passage of legislation that created real estate investment trusts (REITs) and gave millions of Americans new investment opportunities that helped them build a solid foundation for retirement security and has contributed to the overall strength of our economy.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1595

Whereas, on September 14, 1960, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed into law tax legislation enabling real estate investment trusts (hereinafter referred to as "REITs") to be established throughout the United States under regulations set by the Federal Government;

Whereas the passage of this legislation enabled REITs to provide all investors with the same opportunity to invest in large-scale commercial real estate that previously was open only to large financial institutions and wealthy individuals through direct investment in such real estate;

Whereas REITs have placed within the reach of the average American investor large-scale commercial real estate investment through publicly traded, regulated securities, which provide investors with transparency and liquidity;

Whereas REITs, by expanding the opportunity to invest in commercial real estate, a separate and distinct asset class important to the creation of balanced investment portfolios, have enabled millions of Americans to gain the benefits of dividend-based income, portfolio diversification and improved overall investment performance;

Whereas REITs have helped millions of Americans successfully invest for their retirement security over the past half-century; and

Whereas September 14, 2010, will mark the 50th anniversary of the legislation that created this REIT investment opportunity: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the United States House of Representatives recognizes the 50th anniversary of the passage of the legislation that created real estate investment trusts (REITs) and the enhanced opportunities for investment and retirement security that have been afforded to Americans from all walks of life as a result of this landmark legislation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. TANNER) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TIBERI) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TANNER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks on the resolution under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, on September 14, 1960, President Eisenhower signed legislation into law, creating real estate investment trusts.

House Resolution 1595 celebrates the 50th anniversary of REITs, as they are called, and the enhanced opportunities they provide for investments in real estate by Americans from all walks of life. REITs allow individual investors to purchase interests in portfolios of real estate assets. In many instances, REITs also operate the properties that they own.

To qualify as a REIT, these companies must distribute 90 percent of their income back to their shareholders in the form of dividends. As noted in the resolution, REITs have given average American investors access to large-scale commercial real estate investment opportunities through publicly traded, regulated securities, which provide investors with transparency and liquidity.

Four REITs are headquartered in my home State of Tennessee, and nearly 800 Tennessee properties are owned by REITs. Across the country, REITs own approximately \$500 billion commercial real estate properties, approximately 10 to 15 percent of institutionally owned commercial real estate.

In 2009, REITs paid over \$13.5 billion in dividends. More than 30 countries around the world have passed legislation enabling REITs. Again, they have helped millions of average American investors to participate in the real estate markets of this country as well as others.

So, Mr. Speaker, I would urge the passage of House Resolution 1595, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

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

Mr. TIBERI. I thank the gentleman from Tennessee as well for being here on the floor to recognize that 50 years ago, in fact, this week, President Eisenhower signed into law legislation that created real estate investment trusts, or REITs, as the gentleman said, which are investment vehicles that have allowed millions and millions of Americans expanded opportuni-

ties to invest in commercial real estate.

Mr. Speaker, while we take for granted that middle class investors and middle class Americans across our country have the opportunity to invest in commercial real estate, it is important to note that prior to 1960 it was only large financial institutions and wealthy Americans who had the means to do so. Over the last 50 years, REITs have greatly expanded that opportunity by allowing investors of all income levels to buy publicly traded, regulated shares of these commercial real estate investment vehicles.

REITs haven't just allowed middle class Americans to diversify their investment portfolios. They have also helped build our local communities—a true win-win situation. Indeed, over the last five decades, these investment vehicles have helped finance important commercial real estate projects in every one of our congressional districts across our country—from hotels to shopping malls, to hospitals, to office parks. In fact, in my congressional district, I am honored to have a number of important entities that are REITs, that truly people in our district don't even realize are real estate investment trusts, which, collectively, employ thousands of central Ohioans. Fifty years after enactment, REITs remain an important part of our Tax Code.

I am pleased to be a cosponsor of this bill with Congressman LEVIN and Congressman CAMP, the lead sponsors; and I am pleased to be part of this resolution of recognizing their 50-year anniversary.

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

Mr. TANNER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased at this time to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS).

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Let me thank the manager for the time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution recognizing the 50th anniversary of the passage of legislation that created real estate investment trusts.

I happen to come from the City of Chicago. I represent downtown Chicago, and of course it is an investment opportunity, not only in Chicago but all over America, for individuals to make use of this opportunity. So, for the last 50 years, they have had that opportunity, and I look forward to seeing it continue to grow and to develop. I appreciate the opportunity to say that I think real estate investment trusts are very important to the economy of our country, and I strongly support this resolution.

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. TANNER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER).

Mr. BLUMENAUER. I appreciate the gentleman from Tennessee's agreeing for me to speak on this.

Mr. Speaker, I rise as a cosponsor of H. Res. 1595 to recognize the 50th anniversary of real estate investment trusts.

For the last 50 years, we have seen how these publicly traded REITs have provided American investors with an affordable way to invest in real estate. I do a lot of work with livable communities. I want to congratulate the REIT industry for their efforts to pursue practices that will reduce the carbon footprints of their properties.

□ 1110

We are dealing with serious problems of energy efficiency and carbon pollution. Buildings account for almost 40 percent of our country's total energy consumption and 72 percent of our electricity consumption. This is one area where the industry has had a footprint that extends from coast to coast.

I commend the REIT industry for joining with Energy Star to find ways to improve the energy efficiency of the industry. I am pleased to see honorees of this program include the Simon Property Group, AMB Property Corporation, and ProLogis—which owns property in my congressional district.

I have enjoyed working with the REIT industry to introduce H.R. 4599, the Renewable Energy Expansion Act, which extends and improves the Recovery Act's grant program for renewable energy production and involves the real estate investment trusts in this arena. I have worked with my colleague, LINDA SÁNCHEZ, to resolve a technical barrier which will dramatically enhance the ability of REITs to access these grants. It is just one example of where, working with the industry, we have been able to deal with long-term benefits to our communities, stabilizing investments, strengthening neighborhoods, working on ways to make sure we are productive, and that families are safer, healthier and more economically secure. I congratulate them on 50 years of progress and look forward in the future to having them as valuable allies in this effort.

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 1595, Recognizing the 50th Anniversary of Real Estate Investment Trusts.

Fifty years ago, Congress passed tax legislation to enable real estate investment trusts to be created. Before REITs, only financial institutions and the wealthy could afford to invest in commercial real estate. REITs allow all investors to have these same opportunities to invest directly in real estate. REITs opened the market to individual investors of all income levels, providing the chance to invest in real estate the way they invest in other industries, to diversify their portfolios, and generate income for their families for a secure future.

REITs in the U.S. have grown into a market worth over \$300 billion. The tax reforms passed by Congress in 1986 permit REITs to operate and manage property themselves and REIT subsidiaries now manage everything from residential housing to health care facilities. Over 100 REITs are now publicly traded. These developments allow even more growth opportunities for individuals who include REITs in their retirement financial planning.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating the 50th anniversary of Real Estate Investment Trusts.

Mr. PASCARELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the 50th anniversary of the legislation that enabled the formation of Real Estate Investment Trusts, or REITs.

Today's REITs provide investors with an open and liquid option to invest in high-quality commercial real estate.

Throughout the country, REITs owned companies provide management and leasing services to tenants ranging from health care to retail, and multifamily housing to lodging and self-storage sectors. Thanks to the liquidity and capital raising advantages enjoyed by publicly held REITs, many of these tenants have found an effective and efficient way to improve or expand their facilities while remaining focused on their core business.

REITs are pursuing forward looking policies that seek to reduce their carbon footprints with energy consumption reduction and by minimizing the energy requirements of their new buildings. In New Jersey, REITs own over twenty buildings that qualify for the Energy Star label.

On the 50th anniversary of the enactment of the first REIT law, I look forward to supporting Chairman LEVIN's resolution commemorating this occasion as it comes to the floor, and I encourage the industry to continue its commitment to sustainability and providing its investors with a vehicle to advance both their investments and the surrounding communities.

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 1595, and I am pleased to be the lead Republican cosponsor of the resolution along with the distinguished Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, Mr. LEVIN.

This important and timely resolution celebrates the 50th anniversary of legislation authorizing real estate investment trusts, or REITs. President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed this legislation into law one-half century ago, September 14, 1960.

Over that half century, REITs have helped finance the very projects that have built the main streets and downtowns of each and every one of our communities, from shopping malls and health care facilities, to business parks, high-rises and waterfronts. Today, REITs provide Americans from all income levels the opportunity to pool their resources and invest in large scale commercial real estate ventures.

That has not always been the case. Prior to the 1960 legislation, only the very wealthiest individuals and corporations had the accumulated capital required to invest in commercial real estate. Thanks to REITs and the unique financial incentives they offer to their shareholders, more middle class Americans can save and invest, whether it is for a college education, a new home, or a secure retirement.

I am proud to support this commemorative resolution, and I urge my House colleagues to do the same.

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 1595, a resolution introduced by my colleagues Representatives LEVIN and CAMP, to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the establishment of real estate investment trusts, or REITs.

Prior to 1960, access to the returns for investments in high-quality commercial real estate assets was limited to institutions and indi-

viduals with significant financial resources. To remedy this, Congress adopted legislation establishing REITs to make it easier for small investors to invest in commercial properties, similar to mutual funds, by pooling their resources. President Eisenhower signed the legislation into law on September 14, 1960, fifty years ago today.

As my colleagues know, REITs are companies dedicated to owning and operating income-producing real estate, such as apartments, shopping centers, regional malls, office buildings, industrial warehouses, hotels and lodging, health care facilities, and self-storage buildings. Federal tax law requires that REITs meet specific tests regarding the composition of their gross income and assets, but the key feature of a REIT is the requirement that at least 95 percent of a REIT's taxable income be returned to its shareholders every year. For example, in 2008, REITs returned approximately \$17.8 billion to shareholders in the form of dividends. These income returns have been one of the primary reasons why the industry has performed so well over the years. In addition, REITs have been recognized for the diversification benefits they bring to individual portfolios, the efficiency of their liquidity attributes, and the professional management practices they bring to the table.

Congress created the path for REITs to exist 50 years ago today, and Congress has continued to preserve and perfect the REIT method of real estate investing through the adoption of targeted legislation that has mirrored the changing investment marketplace.

I want to congratulate the REIT industry on this important milestone and I hope that the REIT method of investing continues to be strong, efficient and effective in today's economy.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BRIGHT). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. TANNER) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1595.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CAPTAIN RHETT W. SCHILLER
POST OFFICE

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5873) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 218 North Milwaukee Street in Waterford, Wisconsin, as the "Captain Rhett W. Schiller Post Office".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5873

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

SECTION 1. CAPTAIN RHETT W. SCHILLER POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 218

North Milwaukee Street in Waterford, Wisconsin, shall be known and designated as the "Captain Rhett W. Schiller Post Office".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Captain Rhett W. Schiller Post Office".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY) and the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. CAO) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Missouri.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

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

On behalf of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, it is my honor to rise in support of H.R. 5873. This measure designates the facility of the U.S. Postal Service located at 218 North Milwaukee Street in Waterford, Wisconsin, as the Captain Rhett W. Schiller Post Office.

H.R. 5873 was introduced by our colleague, the gentleman from Wisconsin, Representative PAUL RYAN, on July 27, 2010. The measure was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, which ordered it reported favorably by unanimous consent on July 28, 2010. The measure enjoys the support of the entire Wisconsin delegation to the House, and I thank the gentleman from Wisconsin for introducing this measure. I would also like to thank Chairman TOWNS and Ranking Member ISSA for their support for the bill.

Captain Rhett W. Schiller was born on November 7, 1980 in Racine, Wisconsin. His family later moved to Waterford, Wisconsin. In 2003, Schiller graduated from West Point and was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant of Infantry. He was assigned to the 82nd Airborne at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, first as a platoon leader in Company B, and later Executive Officer for Company A of the 3rd Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment.

Schiller's brigade was deployed to New Orleans in September, 2005 to assist with relief efforts after Hurricane Katrina. His unit was deployed and conducting relief operations only 7 hours after the assignment was announced. The standard deployment time is 18 hours after notification.

In 2006, Captain Schiller was assigned to 5th Squadron, 73rd Cavalry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division. On his 100th day in country, while leading a squad of six paratroopers and six Iraqi Army soldiers on a canal clearing operation near Balad Ruz, Diyala Province, Captain Schiller's unit came under small

arms fire. Captain Schiller was killed in action on November 16, 2006.

Mr. Speaker, Captain Schiller is remembered as a hard-charging leader who did everything he could to take care of his soldiers, raising the spirits and motivation of everyone around him. His life and achievements over the course of his service speak volumes about all of our brave servicemen and women who have made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of our Nation. Let us now pay tribute to the life of Captain Rhett Schiller through the passage of this legislation. I urge all of our colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 5873.

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

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

It is my honor today to rise in support of H.R. 5873 to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 218 North Milwaukee Street in Waterford, Wisconsin, as the Captain Rhett W. Schiller Post Office. Mr. Speaker, it is altogether fitting and proper that we name this post office in Waterford for Captain Schiller to honor a true American hero and his service to our country.

Captain Rhett W. Schiller was born on November 7, 1980 in Racine, Wisconsin. Upon graduation from high school in 1999, Captain Schiller was appointed to the United States Military Academy at West Point by my distinguished colleague from Wisconsin (Mr. RYAN). Captain Schiller graduated from West Point in 2003 with a major in Chinese and was then commissioned as an infantry officer. He was assigned to the 82nd Airborne Division in Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

In September of 2005, after Hurricane Katrina devastated the gulf coast, Captain Schiller and his unit were deployed to New Orleans to come to the aid of millions along the gulf coast, including the citizens of the district that I represent. It took only 7 hours for Captain Schiller's unit to gear up and deploy to New Orleans. According to Major Tom Earnhardt, Army spokesperson for Captain Schiller's division, the typical deployment time is 18 hours. He described Captain Schiller's work to get his unit deployed to New Orleans in only 7 hours as extraordinary and a truly remarkable achievement. On behalf of the constituents whom I represent and the millions of people who were impacted by Hurricane Katrina, I want to thank Captain Schiller and the other brave men and women who came to our aid in a time of need.

In 2006, Captain Schiller was made a company executive officer and was deployed to serve in Iraq as part of a reconnaissance, surveillance and target acquisition team. Sadly, on November 16, 2006, his 100th day serving in Iraq, Captain Schiller was killed in action when his unit came under attack and encountered small arms fire.

Captain Schiller was awarded the Bronze Star, Purple Heart, Meritorious

Service Medal and Army Commendation Medal, among others, for his service to our country. Described by his troop commander as the "epitome of the Army officer and an Airborne Ranger," Captain Schiller's love for the Army and his country was always apparent.

□ 1120

He was known as an officer who led by example, and according to his squadron commander, "raised the spirits and the motivation of all those that knew him."

Mr. Speaker, it is proper that we pass this legislation to honor the memory of a true American hero, U.S. Army Captain Rhett W. Schiller, who made the ultimate sacrifice promoting freedom and protecting our country. I urge all Members to support this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to yield such time as he may consume to the author of this legislation, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. RYAN).

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. I thank my colleagues on a bipartisan basis for doing this.

As the chief sponsor of this, I rise in support of H.R. 5873, which would designate the United States Postal facility at 218 North Milwaukee Street in Waterford, Wisconsin, as the "Captain Rhett W. Schiller Post Office."

In 1999 I had the pleasure of appointing Rhett, Captain Schiller, to the United States Military Academy at West Point, an institution from which he subsequently graduated with a major in Chinese. Following his graduation, Captain Schiller was assigned to the 82nd Airborne at Fort Bragg, first as a platoon leader in Company B and later as an executive officer for Company A of the 3rd Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment.

In 2006 he was assigned to the 5th Squadron, 73rd Cavalry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division. Very cool. It was in this capacity that he was deployed to Iraq as part of a Reconnaissance, Surveillance, and Target Acquisition Team.

On his 100th day in the country, while leading a squad of six paratroopers and six Iraqi Army soldiers, Captain Schiller's unit came under small arms fire during a canal cleaning operation. Captain Schiller was killed in action on November 16, 2006.

He has earned the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Iraqi Campaign Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Army Service Ribbon, the Army Ranger Tab, the Expert Infantryman Badge, the Combat Infantryman Badge, the Master Parachutist Badge, and he graduated as the honor graduate from his Reconnaissance and Surveillance Leadership course. Captain Schiller also qualified for the Army Commendation Medal.

I knew Rhett Schiller. He was a young man coming out of Waterford,

Wisconsin, in Racine County, idealistic, energetic, extraordinarily gifted, and patriotic. He became a leader in our military in the Army. He served under the command of a very personal close friend of mine, Colonel Andy Poppas from Janesville, Wisconsin, who I grew up with, who also went to West Point, and was his commanding officer.

When we heard that he was killed in action, Andy and I had emailed each other at that time about this. Colonel Poppas emailed Rhett's dad, who had put long years over at S.C. Johnson Wax.

From his own commanding officer, who, like I said, is a good friend of mine, this is a story of a man who was brave. This is a story of a man who cared about his country and who cared about the men and women he served with and who put himself in harm's fire so that he could protect those around him, those he was serving with.

And this is the stuff that makes our country great. It is this kind of dedication, this kind of sacrifice that the best and brightest within our communities come to the military to serve our country and all that it stands for. This is why we do these bills, why we do this dedication, and why it is so wholly proper and fitting to dedicate this post office in Waterford, Wisconsin, the "Captain Rhett W. Schiller Post Office."

I'm so proud to do this. I am pleased that my entire Wisconsin delegation are cosponsors of this legislation so that we can have this proper and fitting memorial so that when young people go through the post office, they will know that one among their ranks in their community stood up, offered bravery, service to country. And that is the kind of example that makes this country the freest, greatest, most exceptional, and prosperous country in the world. And I'm just so proud to have known Rhett Schiller and so proud to actually sponsor this legislation.

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I continue to reserve.

Mr. CAO. Mr. Speaker, I urge that all Members support this very meaningful legislation to name the post office after a true American hero.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, again, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this measure, and I want to thank our colleague from Wisconsin for bringing to the attention of this body the service of Captain Rhett Schiller to this country.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5873.

The question was taken.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

FEDERAL SUPPLY SCHEDULES USAGE ACT OF 2010

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 2868) to provide increased access to the General Services Administration's Schedules Program by the American Red Cross and State and local governments, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the amendments is as follows:

Amendments:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Federal Supply Schedules Usage Act of 2010".

SEC. 2. AUTHORITY OF THE AMERICAN RED CROSS AND OTHER QUALIFIED ORGANIZATIONS TO USE FEDERAL SUPPLY SCHEDULES FOR CERTAIN GOODS AND SERVICES.

Section 502 of title 40, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(e) USE OF SUPPLY SCHEDULES BY THE RED CROSS AND OTHER QUALIFIED ORGANIZATIONS.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator may provide for the use by the American National Red Cross and other qualified organizations of Federal supply schedules. Purchases under this authority by the American National Red Cross shall be used in furtherance of the purposes of the American National Red Cross set forth in section 300102 of title 36, United States Code. Purchases under this authority by other qualified organizations shall be used in furtherance of purposes determined to be appropriate to facilitate emergency preparedness and disaster relief and set forth in guidance by the Administrator of General Services, in consultation with the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

"(2) LIMITATION.—The authority under this subsection may not be used to purchase supplies for resale.

"(3) QUALIFIED ORGANIZATION.—In this subsection, the term 'qualified organization' means a relief or disaster assistance organization as described in section 309 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5152)."

SEC. 3. DUTY OF USERS REGARDING USE OF FEDERAL SUPPLY SCHEDULES.

Section 502 of title 40, United States Code, as amended by section 2, is further amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(f) DUTY OF USERS REGARDING USE OF SUPPLY SCHEDULES.—All users of Federal supply schedules, including non-Federal users, shall use the schedules in accordance with the ordering guidance provided by the Administrator of General Services."

SEC. 4. AUTHORITY OF STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO USE SUPPLY SCHEDULES FOR CERTAIN GOODS AND SERVICES.

Subsection (d)(1) of section 502 of title 40, United States Code, is amended by inserting " to facilitate disaster preparedness or response," after "Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.)".

SEC. 5. PAYGO COMPLIANCE.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled "Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation" for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

Amend the title so as to read: "An Act to provide increased access to the Federal supply schedules of the General Services Administration to the American Red Cross, other qualified organizations, and State and local governments."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY) and the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. CAO) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CLAY. I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, from Hurricane Katrina to the wildfires in California to the 9/11 attacks, our country faces disasters that try our people and our ability to help them. S. 2868, the Federal Supply Schedules Usage Act of 2009, provides the necessary tools to the organizations that respond to such disasters in a more efficient and effective manner. This bill will help our country's citizens during the times when they need it most.

S. 2868 was introduced by Senator JOSEPH I. LIEBERMAN on December 12, 2009, and was reported by the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs without amendment on May 17, 2010. The Senate passed S. 2868 by unanimous consent on May 24, 2010. The bill was then referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, where we worked in a bipartisan manner to get this important legislation to the House floor.

S. 2868 authorizes the Administrator of the GSA to provide for the use of the Federal supply schedules by the American National Red Cross, qualified disaster relief organizations, and State and local governments for disaster preparedness and response.

□ 1130

This bill seeks to enhance the ability of the American National Red Cross, all qualified disaster relief organizations, and State and local governments to effectively prepare for and respond to disasters by giving them the ability to purchase specific goods and services through the pre-negotiated contracts of the Federal Supply Schedules. This will save them the administrative costs of negotiating individual agreements,

and allow them to leverage the economies of scale of the Federal Government's buying power. By saving these important organizations money, more money can be put directly towards helping people.

All the disaster relief groups would be barred from the resale of any products purchased off the Schedules, and all of their purchases would be required to be in accordance with the ordering guidance of GSA.

At the end of the day, S. 2868 provides the necessary tools to organizations that help people in their most desperate times. This bill allows these essential organizations to focus their finances and resources to directly help people, instead of spending time, energy, and money negotiating for products and services at costs that are higher than the government would pay for them.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of S. 2868, the Federal Supply Schedules Usage Act of 2010. Mr. Speaker, the Federal Supply Schedules Usage Act of 2010 will allow the American Red Cross and other qualified nonprofits that engage in disaster relief and preparedness to leverage the purchasing power of the Federal Government. More specifically, this bill grants the General Services Administration the authority to allow the American Red Cross and other organizations, such as the Salvation Army and Catholic Relief Services, the ability to purchase goods from the Federal Supply Schedules. There is precedence for allowing government entities, quasi-government entities, and certain private entities to buy goods and services from the Federal Supply Schedules. Over the years, Congress has given GSA statutory authority to broaden access to the Supply Schedules.

Currently, all executive agencies, the legislative branch, the District of Columbia, tribes and tribal organizations, certain foreign governments, and quasi-governmental and government chartered agencies such as the Christopher Columbus Fellowship Foundation, the Bonneville Power Administration, and the Civil Air Patrol are eligible to use the Schedules for certain purposes or under certain circumstances.

When this bill came over from the Senate, it was limited to the American Red Cross. But during our committee markup, I offered an amendment expanding S. 2868 to make all qualified nonprofit organizations, nationwide and local, eligible to purchase from the Federal Supply Schedules.

My district, Louisiana's Second Congressional District, located in New Orleans, was devastated by Hurricane Katrina in 2005. In the wake of the hurricane, I observed the multitude of nonprofit organizations beyond the

American Red Cross that provided disaster relief to the city.

In addition to widely recognized national organizations, local relief organizations are also invaluable. They have on-the-ground knowledge of the greatest local needs and how to fulfill those needs. Under the Stafford Act, contracts for disaster relief are to be awarded to local contractors to the extent possible. That is why I introduced my amendment to extend access to the Federal Supply Schedules to these local organizations.

After the tragic earthquake in Haiti, The New York Times listed at least 41 large-scale disaster relief organizations to which Americans could contribute. These organizations were filling a multitude of roles in Haiti and supporting the U.S. Government's presence there. They also should be eligible to purchase goods and services from the Schedules. My amendment and the bill in its entirety received unanimous support in committee.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support S. 2868.

I yield back the balance of my time.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 2868, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SUPPORTING DESIGNATION OF NATIONAL HEREDITARY BREAST AND OVARIAN CANCER WEEK AND NATIONAL PREVIVOR DAY

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1522) expressing support for designation of the last week of September as National Hereditary Breast and Ovarian Cancer Week and the last Wednesday of September as National Previvor Day.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1522

Whereas it is estimated that 750,000 people in the United States carry a gene mutation that causes a predisposition to breast and ovarian cancer;

Whereas approximately 5 to 7 percent of breast cancer and 10 to 14 percent of ovarian cancers are hereditary;

Whereas women with these mutations have up to an 84 percent chance of developing breast cancer in their lifetime;

Whereas women with a BRCA genetic mutation have up to a 50 percent lifetime risk of developing ovarian cancer;

Whereas the single greatest ovarian cancer risk factor is a family history of the disease;

Whereas hereditary cancers are often more aggressive than other cancers and occur at a

younger age, when people are less likely to undergo cancer screening;

Whereas breast cancer is the leading cause of cancer death in women under the age of 54;

Whereas ovarian cancer is the leading cause of gynecologic cancer death;

Whereas individuals with a hereditary risk for cancer require different cancer screening and risk management recommendations than the general population;

Whereas inherited BRCA genetic mutations are found in approximately 1 in 40 Ashkenazi Jews and mutations have been found in people of every ethnic group;

Whereas more than one-third of Jewish women diagnosed with ovarian cancer or primary peritoneal cancer at any age, or breast cancer before age 40, carry an inherited BRCA mutation;

Whereas African-Americans and Hispanic Americans are less likely to have access to hereditary cancer information and appropriate health care;

Whereas children of parents with an inherited predisposition to breast and ovarian cancer have a 50 percent chance of inheriting the predisposition;

Whereas among many in the cancer community, a "previvor" is a survivor of a predisposition (or increased risk) to cancer;

Whereas genetic counseling and genetic testing can determine if an individual is at high risk for breast or ovarian cancer;

Whereas raising awareness of hereditary cancer and knowledge of a genetic predisposition can directly lead to preventive strategies that can reduce the chance of dying from cancer;

Whereas the last week of September would be an appropriate week to designate as National Hereditary Breast and Ovarian Cancer Week; and

Whereas the last Wednesday in September would be an appropriate date to designate as National Previvor Day; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) supports the designation of National Hereditary Breast and Ovarian Cancer Week; and

(2) supports the designation of National Previvor Day.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY) and the gentleman from Utah (Mr. CHAFFETZ) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Missouri.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

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

I rise in support of H. Res. 1522, expressing support for National Hereditary Breast and Ovarian Cancer Week and National Previvor Day. This resolution will help to raise awareness of the risk of these aggressive cancers.

Many Americans are at risk of developing these cancers over the course of their lifetimes, and the risk is even greater for those who are genetically predisposed to contract them. As the resolution notes, hereditary cancers

can be more aggressive than other forms of cancer, and people may develop them at younger ages, when they are less likely to undergo cancer screening. If cancer is diagnosed early, chances of surviving it can increase. I am pleased to join my colleagues to encourage early screening.

House Resolution 1522 was introduced by our colleague, the gentlewoman from Florida, Representative DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, on July 15, 2010, and was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. It comes to the floor today with the support of over 80 cosponsors. I thank the gentlewoman, and would like to note that her tenacity in battling and surviving breast cancer should inspire all of us to work as hard as she did to preserve our health.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting House Resolution 1522.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, this one hits close to home. I lost my mother to cancer at a very young age, to breast cancer. My father a few months ago was diagnosed with colon cancer. Difficult to watch and to see. But I rise today in strong support of this House Resolution 1522, expressing support for the designation of the last week of September as National Hereditary Breast and Ovarian Cancer Week and the last Wednesday of September as the National Previvor Day.

Mr. Speaker, I would first like to commend my colleague from Florida who introduced this resolution not only as a Member of Congress, but as a cancer survivor and a previvor herself. For her courage and example, we appreciate it. I also thank Chairman CLAY for his leadership and the ability to work together and to bring this resolution to the floor.

□ 1140

This resolution gives this body an opportunity to raise awareness of hereditary cancers of all kinds, informing as many people as we can of the possibility that they or a loved one may have a genetic predisposition for cancer that can lead to preventive strategies that may significantly reduce the chance of an individual dying from cancer.

Even though it was before my allotted age of 50 when I was supposed to do some screening, I recently went and got a colonoscopy. I will spare you the details of that procedure, but I can tell you that it is well worth it to not only have the peace of mind but to do the responsible thing for our families and get checked for these types of cancers that can go undetected with, really, no symptoms. I am glad I did it, and I am grateful for the medical practices that we have in this country to be able to do that.

Mr. Speaker, an astounding number of women in this country, approxi-

mately one in eight, will suffer from breast cancer at some point during their lives. This year alone, an estimated 209,000 women will be diagnosed with the potentially deadly ailment. While the number of deaths attributed to breast cancer has declined since 1990, roughly 40,000 women are still expected to die this year from the disease. Breast cancer is the leading cause of death in women under the age of 54. When my mother passed away, she was only 52 years old.

Mr. Speaker, while not as common as it is in women, let us not forget about the men who also will suffer from breast cancer. While less than 1 percent of new breast cancer cases are found in men, this number was still almost 2,000 in the year 2008.

Along with breast cancer, ovarian cancer poses another major medical threat to women in this country. Each year in the United States, over 21,000 women are diagnosed with ovarian cancer and approximately 15,000 die from the disease. Ovarian cancer accounts for roughly 3 percent of cancer diagnoses in women in the United States. It is the ninth most common cancer among women. The greatest risk factor is family history of the disease.

Mr. Speaker, approximately three-quarters of a million people in this country are carriers for a gene mutation that causes a predisposition to breast and ovarian cancer. Women that have one of these mutations face nearly an 84 percent chance of suffering from breast cancer at some point during their lives.

Furthermore, women who have the BRCA genetic mutation have up to a 50 percent chance of developing ovarian cancer. Roughly 5 to 7 percent of breast cancer and 10 to 14 percent of ovarian cancer cases are hereditary. More than one-third of Jewish women diagnosed with ovarian or primary cancer at any age or diagnosed with breast cancer before age 40 have been found to be the carriers of the inherited BRCA mutation.

Mr. Speaker, the other purposes of this resolution is to recognize those known as previvors. According to the nonprofit organization FORCE, cancer previvors are "individuals who are survivors of a predisposition to cancer but who haven't had the disease." These individuals have a known predisposition for cancer such as a family history or hereditary genetic mutation and must live with a unique set of emotional and medical issues. Previvors are forced to make extraordinarily difficult medical management decisions throughout their lives, the likes most of us will never know.

Mr. Speaker, I again commend my colleague from Florida for introducing this resolution. I applaud her brave fight against breast cancer and for her continued campaign to increase cancer awareness and to combat this horrific disease.

I urge all Members to join me in strong support of House Resolution

1522, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CLAY. I want to thank my colleague from Utah for promoting an awareness of cancer screening.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the chief sponsor of this legislation, and one of the most courageous colleagues we have because she is a survivor, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ).

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Thank you, Chairman CLAY, for your very kind remarks.

Congressman CHAFFETZ, thank you very much for taking the lead on your side of the aisle. Let me just express the grief that I know you felt for the loss of your mother. I have shared that grief with so many women since I shared my own personal story, and hopefully the resolution that we have today will raise awareness so that we can continue to catch more cancer earlier so that we can have more survivors in the United States.

Let me also commiserate with you on the pre-50 experience that I had for a colonoscopy, which wasn't any fun, but is absolutely necessary. Thank you for mentioning that too, although we all will spare the gory details for everyone. Suffice it to say that it's not a fun experience, but one that is very necessary.

But I rise today to offer H. Res. 1522, expressing support for designation of the last week of September, this year being the week of September 26, as National Hereditary Breast and Ovarian Cancer Week and the last Wednesday of September as National Previvor Day.

Of all the cancers that affect women, roughly 10 percent of cases are caused by genetic factors. Though this percentage is relatively small, the risk for this group, as you have just heard, is huge.

Women with hereditary risk factors for breast cancer carry an 85 percent lifetime risk of developing the disease. For ovarian cancer, most women have about a 1.5 percent lifetime chance of developing the disease. But for those with hereditary risk factors, that chance can be as high as 50 percent, and as I learned almost 3 years ago, I am one of those women.

Together with my colleagues and inspirational organizations, including Facing Our Risk of Cancer Empowered, or FORCE; Bright Pink; and the Young Survival Coalition, this resolution gives a voice to these women and brings awareness to the risks of hereditary cancer and, as I have said many times and as so many of my colleagues have said on the floor many times, knowledge is power.

Hereditary cancer syndrome describes an inherited gene mutation that increases the risk for one or more types of cancer. The main hereditary breast and ovarian syndromes are caused by mutations in one of two genes, BRCA1 or BRCA2—I am a BRCA2 carrier—which substantially increase the risk for breast and ovarian

cancer and slightly increase the risk for other kinds of cancers.

For women with a hereditary risk of cancer, it often strikes at an earlier age when they are less likely to expect it, but when the cancer is often more aggressive and more deadly. These young women with a heightened genetic risk are known as previvors, individuals who are survivors of a predisposition to cancer, but who haven't yet had the disease.

I was 41 when I discovered that I had breast cancer. Because my cancer was discovered so early, I may have only needed minimal treatment. However, as an Ashkenazi Jewish woman, as a woman of Eastern European Jewish descent, I was at a higher risk of carrying a BRCA mutation, and my early cancer set off warning bells for my doctors.

At the time, I did not know of my increased risk for carrying the BRCA gene mutation, but I was fortunate that once diagnosed with breast cancer, I had access to experts that helped me learn more about what the BRCA gene mutation meant for me. Genetic testing confirmed the worst. Unfortunately, I had hereditary cancer which dramatically increased my chances of a recurrence of breast cancer and getting ovarian cancer as well. Facing my disease, I have become both a survivor and a previvor.

As a mother of three beautiful children, Mr. Speaker, I wanted to make sure that I would be around to see them grow up. I faced tough choices, but seven major surgeries later, I have dramatically reduced the chances that my own cancer will come back.

Fortunately, there are organizations like FORCE, Bright Pink and the Young Survival Coalition that support young women as previvors and as survivors of cancer. These organizations bring essential awareness to these issues and help women at risk by providing the information, support and the voice they need to help survive their hereditary risk. As I said before, knowledge is power.

It is also why, with the help of 377 cosponsors in the House, I filed the Breast Cancer Education and Awareness Requires Learning Young Act, known as the EARLY Act, to bring this message of knowledge and awareness to the forefront of the story about cancer. I am proud that the EARLY Act is now the law of the land.

With the odds stacked against them, young previvors need to know their risks. It is our responsibility to empower these women to know their bodies, speak up about their health, and work together to wipe out these deadly diseases.

I believe this resolution will help in that effort. National Previvor Day and Hereditary Breast and Ovarian Cancer Week, which bridges September's Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month and October's Breast Cancer Awareness Month, will bring added public awareness to the risks for genetic cancers. I encourage all of my colleagues to join me in support of H. Res. 1522.

Mr. Speaker, let me just add, before I close, that I am thrilled to see that our colleague from Connecticut, Congresswoman ROSA DELAURO, who is an ovarian cancer survivor, has joined us on the floor in support of this resolution.

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Mr. Speaker, I don't believe we have any additional speakers.

I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, at this time I would like to yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KILROY).

□ 1150

Ms. KILROY. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 1522, which expresses support for the designation of National Hereditary Breast and Ovarian Cancer Week and National Previvor Day. I'm proud to be a cosponsor of this resolution which will raise critical awareness about hereditary cancers and increase knowledge about genetic predispositions which may put some individuals at particular risk.

And just as an aside, I just want to take note that when we passed our health care bill, we made it much more likely that people will get the information to find out about whether they have a genetic predisposition. Without that health care bill which would prohibit discrimination on the basis of an existing condition, many women and men would be afraid to learn more about their genetic histories. But this is critically important information about how you would be able to address certain signs and symptoms and heighten awareness about your particular situation.

We all know someone who has been diagnosed with cancer, and we understand the devastating impact that the diagnosis can have on patients and loved ones. I have been through it with my family, with a very close person in my family with respect to ovarian cancer, and my husband's young cousin is struggling with breast cancer right now. One in two men and one in three women will develop cancer in their lifetime, and in 2010 alone, nearly 1.5 million Americans will be diagnosed with cancer.

Although we have made great strides in recent years in finding new treatments, we must support efforts to find the genetic mutations that increase the likelihood that some people will develop cancer in their lifetimes. We need to work on cures. We need to work on treatments. But finding causes is critically important as well.

We also must encourage everyone to know as much as they can about their own family histories so they can work with their physicians and get the necessary and timely screenings as early as possible. Hereditary cancer can strike at a younger age.

I appreciate this opportunity, and thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I now yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Connecticut.

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of declaring the last week of September to be National Hereditary Breast and Ovarian Cancer Week and the last Wednesday of September to be National Previvor Day.

I want to thank my colleagues who have spoken this morning and all of whom have dealt in some way with the issue of breast cancer, ovarian cancer, or maybe some other form of cancer. It is probably the worst day of your life when you are given a cancer diagnosis. You are not listening to what any doctor says. You are only consumed with understanding whether or not you are going to live or die or what is going to happen to your family if such a death should occur.

After heart disease, cancer is still the second-leading cause of death in America, and breast cancer the most common cancer diagnosis. In 2006, over 40,000 women died from this disease. Ovarian cancer, meanwhile, is the fifth most common cancer among women. Close to 14,000 of our friends and family are expected to perish from ovarian cancer this year.

Perhaps the saddest thing about these grim numbers is that some of these deaths are readily preventable. Thanks to modern science, we now know much more about the genetic and hereditary precursors of these cancers and can identify the women most at risk, the previvors that are predisposed to develop them. We also know that women who catch their ovarian cancer at an earlier stage are over three times more likely to survive the disease than those who do not. Sadly, over 60 percent of the women diagnosed with ovarian cancer between 1999 and 2006 fell into this latter category.

Similarly, women diagnosed with breast cancer early are more than four times more likely to survive the disease than women diagnosed at a later stage. And yet one in five women over age 50 have not had a mammogram in the past 2 years.

We have worked to address these troubling statistics with the preventive care reforms in the Affordable Care Act. But there is no substitute for awareness, and that is why I strongly support this resolution and encourage all women, and particularly previvors with a genetic predisposition for those cancers, to get tested early and get tested often.

Twenty-four years ago, it was an early diagnosis of ovarian cancer that saved my life. It was accidental. It should not be accidental. People should not survive by accident.

It is so critically important that this resolution pass. We can save. We can save women, and we save women and we save their families. And I urge my colleagues. I was lucky. My life was given back to me and gave me a second chance. Let's give our families, the women in this country, a first chance and a second chance to survive. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Mr. Speaker, I urge us all to support and pass this important resolution. This is something that should truly unite us in this fight. We continue to build awareness and encourage people to get checked. And our hearts and prayers go out to those loved ones who are suffering from this, but there is great hope.

I urge my colleagues to get behind this resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, in closing, I want to thank my colleagues—the gentlewomen from Florida, Ohio, and Connecticut—for lending their voice to this issue and raising the level of awareness throughout this country as far as the dreaded disease of cancer is concerned.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this measure.

I yield back the balance of my time. The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1522.

The question was taken.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

OVERSEAS CONTRACTOR REFORM ACT

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5366) to require the proposal for debarment from contracting with the Federal Government of persons violating the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act of 1977.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5366

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Overseas Contractor Reform Act".

SEC. 2. REQUIREMENT TO PROPOSE FOR DEBARMENT PERSONS VIOLATING THE FOREIGN CORRUPT PRACTICES ACT.

(a) REQUIREMENT TO PROPOSE FOR DEBARMENT.—Unless waived by the head of a Federal agency under subsection (b), any person found to be in violation of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act of 1977 shall be proposed for debarment from any contract or grant awarded by the Federal Government within 30 days after a final judgment of such violation.

(b) WAIVER.—The head of a Federal agency may waive this section for a Federal contract or grant. Any such waiver shall be reported to Congress by the head of the agency concerned within 30 days from the date of the waiver, along with an accompanying justification.

(c) FINAL JUDGMENT.—For purposes of this section, a judgment becomes final when all appeals of the judgment have been finally determined, or all time for filing such appeals has expired.

(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) CONTRACT.—The term "contract" means a binding agreement entered into by a Federal agency for the purpose of obtaining property or services.

(2) PERSON.—The term "person" includes—
(A) an individual;
(B) a partnership; and
(C) a corporation.

(3) FOREIGN CORRUPT PRACTICES ACT OF 1977.—The term "Foreign Corrupt Practices Act of 1977" means—

(A) section 30A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78dd-1); and

(B) sections 104 and 104A of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (15 U.S.C. 78dd-2).

SEC. 3. GOVERNMENTAL POLICY.

It is the policy of the United States Government that no Government contracts or grants should be awarded to individuals or companies who violate the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act of 1977.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY) and the gentleman from Utah (Mr. CHAFFETZ) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Missouri.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, contractors have been tarnishing the name of our good country by bribing foreign officials with the very tax dollars our country pays them. In our effort to win the hearts and minds of the people of foreign countries, we must show that we take integrity and honesty seriously. As such, we must take action against those contractors who hinder our efforts and inappropriately utilize the money we pay them. H.R. 5366, the Overseas Contractor Reform Act, will provide the government with the means to appropriately respond to those contractors.

H.R. 5366 was introduced by my colleague, Representative PETER WELCH, on May 20, 2010, and referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, where we worked hard to get this important legislation to the House floor.

This bill requires that any person convicted of violating the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act of 1977 be proposed for debarment from any further contracts or grants with the Federal Government within 30 days after final judgment of the violation. The bill defines "final judgment" as occurring when all appeals of the judgment have been determined or all the time for filing such appeals has expired, so there is no question regarding the person's guilt.

Additionally, this bill authorizes the head of a Federal agency to issue a waiver, allowing contracts or grants to be awarded to the contractors, but the agency head must justify the decision and report the waiver and accompanying justification to Congress within 30 days.

□ 1200

This bill also makes it Federal policy that no more contracts or grants should be awarded to any individuals or companies who violate the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act. This policy statement sends a strong message to all that such waste, fraud, and abuse will not be tolerated.

This bill helps fight waste of tax dollars, protects the image of the country, and helps ensure fair play in competition for contracts. H.R. 5366 is a common sense, good government bill, and I encourage my colleagues to join me in supporting it.

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

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

I rise today in support of H.R. 5366, the Overseas Contractor Reform Act. The Committee on Oversight and Government Reform over the years has uncovered numerous instances in which government continued doing business with bad actors. This legislation will augment the U.S. government's efforts to combat waste, fraud, and abuse in contracting. It will ensure that we are awarding contracts and grants only to parties with integrity.

The bill requires a Federal agency to propose for debarment from receiving any new grants or contracts a person or entity found in violation of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act of 1977.

The Foreign Corrupt Practices Act makes it a crime to offer a bribe to a foreign official for the purpose of obtaining or retaining business from a foreign government.

Since the passage of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, the fraud section of the Department of Justice has prosecuted individuals and entities accused of bribing foreign officials. These parties are now subject to fines, and although proposed debarment was already a possible consequence, this bill sends the message that Congress, without question, desires agencies to take administrative action against parties convicted of violating the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act.

This bill also provides agencies with a modicum of flexibility. If the agency head finds it is in the best interest of the government to waive the requirement for proposed debarment, a waiver is permissible. However, the agency head must report the waiver to Congress and provide a justification.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 5366.

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5366, the Overseas Contracting Reform Act, which provides an important and necessary recourse for our government when

contractors violate federal law. Specifically, the legislation requires the automatic proposal for debarment of any contractor found to be in violation of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, FCPA, which prohibits American companies and individuals from unlawfully influencing foreign officials.

I commend the sponsor of this legislation, Representative PETER WELCH of Vermont, for his work on this matter. Since the brutal shooting incident at Baghdad's Nisour Square in which guards employed by the private security contractor Blackwater Worldwide, now Xe Services, allegedly shot and killed 17 innocent and unarmed Iraqi civilians, I have worked to bring such contractors within the purview of U.S. law and to hold them accountable for their actions. Unfortunately, even after the Blackwater shooting gained considerable public attention, reports indicated that not only did contractors remain a significant part of the U.S. presence in Iraq and Afghanistan, but they also continued to serve in inappropriate roles such as conducting interrogations of suspected terrorists. All the while, the laws which govern them remain vague.

As many of my colleagues and I have noted for several years, there is an egregious lack of both accountability and transparency for such firms and their employees. Although the Federal Acquisition Regulation, FAR, enables government officials to initiate suspension and debarment proceedings where the contractor has committed an offense "that seriously and directly affects the present responsibility of a government contractor or subcontractor," among other things, no official used this authority to initiate such proceedings with Blackwater. Moreover, as a recent Senate Armed Services Committee investigation underscores, Blackwater was able to secure new contracts by creating several dozen subsidiaries for the sole purpose of concealing its parent companies' identity. Contracting officers claim they weren't even aware that they were awarding contracts to a company under Blackwater's control.

It is clear that the existence of authority to debar under the FAR is, in itself, insufficient to trigger debarment proceedings, perhaps because agency officials are unwilling to initiate debarment proceedings even when just cause is shown. That is why H.R. 5366 is an important piece of legislation. It will provide that companies automatically be proposed for debarment if they are found to be in violation of the FCPA. The Department of Justice is investigating whether Blackwater employees bribed Iraqi officials to allow them to continue doing business in Iraq, an obvious violation of the FCPA. Under H.R. 5366, if Blackwater is found guilty, the firm will automatically be proposed for debarment.

Mr. Speaker, all loopholes for private security contractors working overseas should have been closed long ago. Contractors and their employees must be held accountable for their actions overseas, especially during war time. This is not just important for the America's reputation for upholding justice and the rule of law, but for the safety and security of our troops and civilians serving overseas. Failing to do so undermines American national security interests. I urge my colleagues to join me in voting for H.R. 5366.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, in today's wars, military contractors play a larger role than ever before. As we have seen over the

past decade, our laws have been inadequate to curb what became a free-for-all for contractors overseas. That is why I support efforts like this one, to define and reign in unacceptable and damaging contractor abuses.

In my own state of Oregon, 26 Oregon National Guardsmen have filed suit against war contractor KBR, formerly a subsidiary of Halliburton, alleging that KBR personnel knew a highly toxic chemical was present at Iraqi facilities in 2003, but that they waited months before bringing it to the attention of the U.S. military. By that time, unsuspecting members of the Oregon, Indiana, and West Virginia National Guard had already been exposed.

Even more troubling, if KBR is found to be at fault the company may never have to pay for its actions. A still-classified clause in KBR's contract may result in the U.S. Army—and U.S. taxpayers—paying for the harm done by contractors.

This is just one instance of past contractor actions having continued repercussions today. I will continue to work for swift congressional action that will hold contractors accountable, strengthen oversight and protect both our troops and the taxpayers.

I strongly support Mr. WELCH's efforts here today, and those who help tackle this problem on behalf of our brave men and women in uniform.

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

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this measure, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5366.

The question was taken.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

SUPPORTING CONSTITUTION DAY

Mr. CLAY. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1612) expressing the support for and honoring September 17, 2010 as "Constitution Day".

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1612

Whereas the Constitution of the United States was signed on September 17, 1787, by 39 delegates from 12 States;

Whereas the Constitution was subsequently ratified by each of the original 13 States;

Whereas the Constitution was drafted in order to form a more perfect Union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty for the citizens of the United States;

Whereas the Constitution has provided the means and structure for this Nation and its citizens that is unparalleled by any other country;

Whereas the Constitution's contributions to the welfare of the human race reach far beyond the borders of the United States;

Whereas the House of Representatives continues to strive to preserve and strengthen the values and rights bestowed by the Constitution upon the United States and its citizens;

Whereas the Constitution is recognized by many to be the most significant and important document in history for establishing freedom and justice through democracy;

Whereas the Constitution deserves the recognition, respect, and reverence of all people in the United States;

Whereas every person in the United States should celebrate the freedom and responsibilities of the Constitution;

Whereas the preservation of such values and rights in the hearts and minds of United States citizens would be advanced by official recognition of the signing of the Constitution; and

Whereas September 17, 2010, is designated as "Constitution Day": Now, therefore, be it *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

(1) supports "Constitution Day"; and

(2) calls upon the people of the United States to observe the day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. MCCOLLUM). Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY) and the gentleman from Utah (Mr. CHAFFETZ) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Missouri.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CLAY. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

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

It is no exaggeration to say that the United States Constitution is one of the most important documents in history. Its framework for our representative and democratic system of government has served the American people well for over two centuries, making it the oldest federal constitution still in use in the world. Its separation of powers, checks and balances, and preservation of rights has been an example to burgeoning democracies everywhere. I think that all Americans should take time to read and study the Constitution. The values and principles it enshrines are central to our Nation's identity.

House Resolution 1612 was introduced on September 14, 2010, by my colleague, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTI). It enjoys the bipartisan support of 50 cosponsors. And I am sure that my colleagues will agree that it is a privilege for us to serve in this Chamber, serving, protecting, and defending the United States Constitution. I am glad that we are taking the opportunity

today to honor that most treasured document.

In closing, let us all be sure to keep the principles of the Constitution in our hearts and on our minds every day as we continue to work for a more perfect union.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I rise today in support of House Resolution 1612, expressing support for and honoring September 17, 2010 as "Constitution Day."

Madam Speaker, I would first like to commend my distinguished colleague, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTA), for introducing this bipartisan resolution for the second year in a row. It serves as an important reminder of the ideals and principles contained within a document that we have all sworn to uphold and protect.

Madam Speaker, Friday marks the 223rd anniversary of the signing of the Constitution of the United States of America. On September 17, 1787, 12 State delegations, comprising a total of 39 delegates to the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, signed a historic document that has guided our Nation for centuries. While this concluded the Constitutional Convention, the Constitution didn't truly take effect until New Hampshire became the ninth State to ratify it on June 21, 1788.

At some 4,400 words, the Constitution is not only the shortest charter of government for any major country in the world, but also the oldest. Madam Speaker, it is truly remarkable that a document authored over two centuries ago has been able to stand the test of time and continues to provide a foundation for our Nation even to this day.

I encourage every American to take time this Friday to celebrate and remember the freedoms and values contained within this document that sadly we have all too often taken for granted.

Madam Speaker, it is truly an honor and privilege to be able to speak on the floor of the House of Representatives about the Constitution, and I urge all Members to join me in strong support of this resolution.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CLAY. Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time on this side, and I continue to reserve.

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Madam Speaker, we have two additional speakers, but at this time I would like to yield such time as he may consume to the prime sponsor of the resolution, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTA).

Mr. LATTA. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding. I appreciate his kind words. I am honored to rise today in support of House Resolution 1612, which honors our United States Constitution on September 17 as Constitution Day.

You know, in the not-too-recent past, too few people in this country knew what was in this document. As the gentleman has previously said, it is about 4,400 words. That is all there is, 4,400 words. But I think over the last couple of years, more and more people are turning to it to find out exactly what is in here and how this place operates and how this country operates. And I think it is important. I have always been a student of history, and I think it is important to know where we came from in order to know where we are going. I think it is important that folks recognize September 17, that they should sit down and just start leafing through the Constitution.

□ 1210

I know this coming Friday, when we are all back in our districts again, I'm going to be back in my district talking at a school. From there, I'm going to go to a university in my district and talk about the Constitution and what it means to us. I think it's important that people know what it is because, again, as I said, people have got to understand how we are and why we are the way we are.

As the gentleman has said, this document has been in existence for 223 years from September 17. As just a little bit of background on how we got here, James Madison, when he was still in Virginia, really understood that the Articles of Confederation weren't working in this country. There was a dispute that was going on, and they wanted to really get something worked out with Maryland, so they kind of sat down and came up with an idea of having some kind of a get-together, a meeting, in Philadelphia.

The question really was at that time: Were they going to, A, just look at the Articles of Confederation and try to amend those, which is what a lot of the delegates who attended thought they were doing, or, as Madison thought, were they really going to sit down and bring forth a great new document that would get us past that trying time in our country's history and move us forward?

There was great debate, because as they assembled in 1787, in May of that year, and as the delegates were coming in from around the country from 13 States, in the debate, they were saying, Well, we should be doing this or we shouldn't be doing that because we're only supposed to be here for the Articles of Confederation; but folks really started sitting down and looking at the issue.

As they were looking at this, more and more people came to the conclusion which Madison had, and he had gone there prepared. It's amazing what he had done if you look at his background and what Madison was, but he went there. He had gone through the ancient charters, going back to Greece, to Rome, going across the world; and he looked at the best that was there at that time that they could examine. He

brought those things with him, and then the debates began.

The great thing about it was there were debates, and there was open discussion, but the open discussion was only amongst the members because, during that time, they said, you know, We do not want this to get out, so they actually closed the doors and shut the windows. Now, you've got to remember that this was one of the hottest years that they had had on record for a summer in Philadelphia. They closed the windows. They posted a guard at the door, and they didn't want anybody to know what the discussions were. Everybody was under pretty much an oath of secrecy that they would not go out and discuss what was being said in there at that time. We would know it today as a complete press blackout.

Though some of the members got disgruntled, they went home. Some of them came back, but some of them just said, You know what? I'm fed up with this. We shouldn't be doing what we're doing, and they left. Yet the ones who stuck it out are the ones to whom we owe our being where we are today.

You start looking at this document and the people that presided over that Constitutional Convention—you know, George Washington being the presiding officer, and then there also was a deputy from Virginia. You look at some other individuals—Alexander Hamilton from New York, Benjamin Franklin, Robert Morris, Governor Morris of Pennsylvania, of course James Madison, who we all know is the Father of our Constitution. These individuals made sure that they put forth a document that we would have and hold so dear to us today.

There were a lot of people at that time from around the world who were still looking at this fledgling country and asking, Can it really exist? Can it survive? But this little document, these 4,400 words, showed the world who we were as Americans and what we stood for.

Now, there was a lot of conflict, and there were a lot of things on which they could not come to a resolution during that time—slavery was one of them—but they hoped at some point in time that Americans would come to a resolution on that. As we saw this document progress during that time. On September 17, 1787, they finally came to a resolution, and they signed the document.

It's interesting because it's reported that, when Benjamin Franklin left Constitution Hall, a woman met him outside. She asked—and I'm paraphrasing—Mr. Franklin, what have you given us? He said to her in reply, A republic if you can keep it.

So, for these past 223 years in this country, it has been important that every generation read this document to understand who we are and why we want to preserve it. It is so important, in my opinion, that on September 17, this coming week, that we honor the Constitution with Constitution Day. I

would urge everyone to sit down, to pick up their little pocket Constitutions, to just read them, and to thank those individuals. In my opinion, the good Lord gave us such a small window of time, and He put so many great minds in one room to give this great document.

Mr. CLAY. Madam Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Missouri has 18½ minutes remaining. The gentleman from Utah has 12 minutes remaining.

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to my distinguished colleague, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. GARRETT).

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate this 223rd anniversary of the Constitution.

Over two centuries ago, 39 Founding Fathers signed a document that established a framework for the free and brave society that we have in this United States of America. It was in the late 18th century when the 13 colonies were suffering from heavy trade regulations and increasing taxes, with revenues being sent back to war-ravaged England. American colonists were exasperated by what could only be explained today as taxation without representation.

It was John Adams who then described the months that followed as the greatest single effort of national deliberation the world had ever seen, for our Founding Fathers made the first modern attempt at a republican democracy in human history. These brave visionaries succeeded in designing a government that would be the model of the free world right up until the current day.

See, our newly ratified Constitution posed a challenge to the age-old political belief, and that was equally distributed powers between three branches of government to create a limited form of government with checks and balances and to facilitate that the States and the people would retain all other power and authority not specifically delegated to those in Washington. It was James Madison, the author of the Constitution, who considered it the tools necessary to enable a government to control the governed but, in the same breath and the next place, to oblige it to control itself.

You know, unfortunately, the intrinsic values which made our country the prosperous Nation that it is today have been threatened since the Constitution's signing. Our Supreme Court, across the street, once called the guardians of the Constitution by Alexander Hamilton, have removed broad constitutional protections, which have vastly expanded the powers of the Federal Government. Big Government politicians in this legislative and executive branch have created so many new government bureaucracies that our annual

Federal spending right now has surpassed 37 percent of GDP. With these and more, the strict constitutional guidelines that our Founding Fathers put in place are now severely in jeopardy.

As a United States Congressman and founder also as I am of the Constitution Caucus here in Washington, my goal always has been to keep the Constitution in the forefront in modern-day politics, though, without its influence, we do not possess the groundwork needed to keep our country strong and free as we all desire.

It was Abraham Lincoln who famously said, Don't interfere with any of the Constitution. It is the only safeguard for our liberties. Well, I promise to keep that essential document integrated into our power policy decisions—any one that I make—and I look forward to keeping that shining city on the hill as our Founding Fathers created on this day 223 years ago.

I thank you all, and may God bless America.

Mr. CLAY. Madam Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Madam Speaker, we have no additional speakers. I would just urge my colleagues to please get behind us in support. This is something that, again, should unite us. The beauty and the profound nature of the Constitution, the very first three words of "we the people," this is something that is so profound and inspired within this Nation. I just urge all of my colleagues to get behind us and to support this resolution.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CLAY. Madam Speaker, in closing, I thank my colleague from Ohio for bringing this legislation to the attention of the body, and I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this measure.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1612.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. CLAY. Madam Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

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

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

□ 1220

MANDATORY PRICE REPORTING ACT OF 2010

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules

and pass the bill (S. 3656) to amend the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 to improve the reporting on sales of livestock and dairy products, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 3656

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Mandatory Price Reporting Act of 2010".

SEC. 2. LIVESTOCK MANDATORY REPORTING.

(a) EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 260 of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1636i) is amended by striking "September 30, 2010" and inserting "September 30, 2015".

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT AND EXTENSION.—Section 942 of the Livestock Mandatory Reporting Act of 1999 (7 U.S.C. 1635 note; Public Law 106-78) is amended by striking "September 30, 2010" and inserting "September 30, 2015".

(b) WHOLESALE PORK CUTS.—

(1) REPORTING.—Chapter 3 of subtitle B of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1635i et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

"SEC. 233. MANDATORY REPORTING OF WHOLESALE PORK CUTS.

"(a) REPORTING.—The corporate officers or officially designated representatives of each packer shall report to the Secretary information concerning the price and volume of wholesale pork cuts, as the Secretary determines is necessary and appropriate.

"(b) PUBLICATION.—The Secretary shall publish information reported under subsection (a) as the Secretary determines necessary and appropriate."

(2) NEGOTIATED RULEMAKING.—The Secretary of Agriculture shall establish a negotiated rulemaking process pursuant to subchapter III of chapter 5 of title 5, United States Code, to negotiate and develop a proposed rule to implement the amendment made by paragraph (1).

(3) NEGOTIATED RULEMAKING COMMITTEE.—

(A) REPRESENTATION.—Any negotiated rulemaking committee established by the Secretary of Agriculture pursuant to paragraph (2) shall include representatives from—

- (i) organizations representing swine producers;
- (ii) organizations representing packers of pork, processors of pork, retailers of pork, and buyers of wholesale pork;
- (iii) the Department of Agriculture; and
- (iv) among interested parties that participate in swine or pork production.

(B) INAPPLICABILITY OF FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ACT.—Any negotiated rulemaking committee established by the Secretary of Agriculture pursuant to paragraph (2) shall not be subject to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.).

(4) TIMING OF PROPOSED AND FINAL RULES.—In carrying out the negotiated rulemaking process under paragraph (2), the Secretary of Agriculture shall ensure that—

(A) any recommendation for a proposed rule or report is provided to the Secretary of Agriculture not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act; and

(B) a final rule is promulgated not later than one and a half years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(c) PORK EXPORT REPORTING.—Section 602(a)(1) of the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978 (7 U.S.C. 5712(a)(1)) is amended by striking "cotton," and inserting "cotton, pork,".

SEC. 3. DAIRY MANDATORY REPORTING.

(a) **ELECTRONIC REPORTING REQUIRED.**—Subsection (d) of section 273 of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1637b) is amended to read as follows:

“(d) **ELECTRONIC REPORTING.**—

“(1) **ELECTRONIC REPORTING SYSTEM REQUIRED.**—The Secretary shall establish an electronic reporting system to carry out this section.

“(2) **PUBLICATION.**—Not later than 3:00 p.m. Eastern Time on the Wednesday of each week, the Secretary shall publish a report containing the information obtained under this section for the preceding week.”

(b) **IMPLEMENTATION.**—Not later than one year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture shall implement the electronic reporting system required by subsection (d) of section 273 of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1637b), as amended by subsection (a). Until the electronic reporting system is implemented, the Secretary shall continue to conduct mandatory dairy product information reporting under the authority of such section, as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act.

The **SPEAKER pro tempore**, Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. SCOTT) and the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. LUCAS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on the bill, S. 3656.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

The Mandatory Price Reporting Act of 2010 will authorize for 5 years the mandatory price reporting programs run by the United States Department of Agriculture. This act requires sales information to be reported and published in a timely fashion, allowing livestock buyers and sellers to make more informed decisions.

The Mandatory Price Reporting Act of 2010 adds mandatory reporting for wholesale pork cuts and pork exports. It also requires USDA to establish an electronic reporting system for dairy products so that price information is made available more quickly.

Madam Speaker, reauthorizing mandatory price reporting programs provides producers with the transparent, accurate and timely market information they need. I urge passage of the Mandatory Price Reporting Act of 2010.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, S. 3656, the Mandatory Price Reporting Act of 2010, is a straightforward, 5-year reauthorization of a program that began with passage of the original legislation in 1999. The original act came as a result of many months of negotiations between a

broad array of industry participants and required packers to report livestock purchase prices to USDA's Agriculture Marketing Service. Both producers and packers agree that mandatory price reporting plays an important role in transparent, accurate and timely decision-making for participants in today's livestock markets.

This program was last reauthorized during the 109th Congress. As with that original legislation and subsequent reauthorizations or amendments, S. 3656 represents a consensus view of many producer and packer interests with a direct stake in the reporting program. Anyone familiar with animal agriculture knows how challenging it can be to have this many competing interests—from producers to processors—achieve an agreement.

S. 3656 will make some small changes to the existing reporting program. First, reporting of wholesale pork cuts will be required for the first time. The details of this new rule will be worked out in the rulemaking process. Second, there will now be reporting on a weekly basis of pork exports. Finally, the legislation directs the Secretary to implement an electronic system of dairy price reporting in the absence of an appropriation for this purpose.

Companion legislation, H.R. 5852, passed the House Agriculture Committee on July 28. Since mandatory price reporting expires on September 30, it is timely that we are acting today. I advocate passage of the legislation.

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

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to pass this very timely and needed bill to modernize our marketing system and to bring transparency to our buyers and purchasers within our livestock industry and within the animal agriculture industry. It is important for our Nation.

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

The **SPEAKER pro tempore**. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. SCOTT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 3656.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

VETERINARIAN SERVICES
INVESTMENT ACT

Mr. BOSWELL. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3519) to amend the National Agricultural Research, Extension and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 to establish a grant program to promote efforts to develop, implement, and sustain veterinary services, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3519

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Veterinarian Services Investment Act”.

SEC. 2. VETERINARY SERVICES GRANT PROGRAM.

The National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 is amended by inserting after section 1415A (7 U.S.C. 3151a) the following new section:

“SEC. 1415B. VETERINARY SERVICES GRANT PROGRAM.

“(a) **ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.**—

“(1) **COMPETITIVE GRANTS.**—The Secretary shall carry out a program to make competitive grants to qualified entities that engage in activities described in paragraph (2) for the purpose of developing, implementing, and sustaining veterinary services.

“(2) **ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS.**—To be eligible for a grant under this subsection, a qualified entity must carry out programs or activities that the Secretary determines will—

“(A) substantially relieve veterinarian shortage situations;

“(B) support or facilitate private veterinary practices engaged in public health activities; or

“(C) support or facilitate practices of veterinarians who are participating in or have successfully completed a service requirement under section 1415A(a)(2).

“(b) **AWARD PROCESSES AND PREFERENCES.**—

“(1) **APPLICATION, EVALUATION, AND INPUT PROCESSES.**—In administering the grant program under this section, the Secretary shall use an appropriate application and evaluation process and seek the input of interested persons.

“(2) **GRANT PREFERENCES.**—In the case of grants to be used for any of the purposes described in paragraphs (2) through (6) of subsection (c), the Secretary shall give a preference to the selection of qualified entities that document coordination between or with other qualified entities regarding the applicable purpose.

“(3) **ADDITIONAL PREFERENCES.**—When awarding grants under this section, the Secretary may develop additional preferences by taking into account the amount of funds available for grants as well as the purposes for which the grant funds will be used.

“(4) **APPLICABILITY OF OTHER PROVISIONS.**—Sections 1413B, 1462(a), 1469(a)(3), 1469(c), and 1470 shall apply to the administration of the grant program under this section.

“(c) **USE OF GRANTS TO RELIEVE VETERINARIAN SHORTAGE SITUATIONS AND SUPPORT VETERINARY SERVICES.**—Funds provided by grants under this section may be used for the following purposes to relieve veterinarian shortage situations and support veterinary services:

“(1) Grants to assist veterinarians with establishing or expanding practices for the purpose of equipping veterinary offices, sharing in the reasonable overhead costs of such practices (as determined by the Secretary), or establishing mobile veterinary facilities where at least a portion of such facilities will address education or extension needs.

“(2) Grants to promote recruitment (including programs in secondary schools), placement, and retention of veterinarians, veterinary technicians, students of veterinary medicine, and students of veterinary technology.

“(3) Grants for veterinary students, veterinary interns, externs, fellows, and residents, and veterinary technician students to cover

expenses (other than the types of expenses listed in 1415A(c)(5)) to attend training programs in food safety or food animal medicine.

“(4) Grants establishing or expanding accredited veterinary education programs (including faculty recruitment and retention), veterinary residency and fellowship programs, or veterinary internship and externship programs in coordination with accredited colleges of veterinary medicine.

“(5) Grants for the assessment of veterinarian shortage situations and preparation of applications for designation as a shortage situation.

“(6) Grants in continuing education and extension, including tele-veterinary medicine and other distance-based education, for veterinarians, veterinary technicians, and other health professionals needed to strengthen veterinary programs and enhance food safety.

“(d) SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTAIN GRANTS.—

“(1) TERMS OF SERVICE REQUIREMENTS.—Grants provided under this section for the purpose specified in subsection (c)(1) shall be subject to an agreement between the Secretary and the grant recipient that includes a required term of service for the recipient, as established by the Secretary. In establishing such terms, the Secretary shall consider only—

“(A) the amount of the grant awarded; and
“(B) the specific purpose of the grant.

“(2) BREACH REMEDIES.—An agreement under paragraph (1) shall provide remedies for any breach of the agreement by the grant recipient, including repayment or partial repayment of the grant funds, with interest. The Secretary may waive the repayment obligation in the event of extreme hardship or extreme need, as determined by the Secretary.

“(3) TREATMENT OF AMOUNTS RECOVERED.—Funds recovered under paragraph (2) shall be credited to the account available to carry out this section and shall remain available until expended.

“(e) COST-SHARING REQUIREMENTS.—

“(1) RECIPIENT SHARE.—A grant recipient shall provide matching non-Federal funds, either in cash or in-kind support, in an amount equal to not less than 50 percent of the Federal funds provided in a grant under this section.

“(2) WAIVER.—The Secretary may establish, by regulation, conditions under which the cost-sharing requirements of paragraph (1) may be reduced or waived.

“(f) PROHIBITION ON USE OF GRANT FUNDS FOR CONSTRUCTION.—Funds made available for grants under this section shall not be used for the construction of a new building or facility or the acquisition, expansion, remodeling, or alteration of an existing building of facility, including site grading and improvement and architect fees.

“(g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

“(1) VETERINARIAN SHORTAGE SITUATION.—The term ‘veterinarian shortage situation’ means a veterinarian shortage situation determined by the Secretary under section 1415A(b).

“(2) QUALIFIED ENTITY.—The term ‘qualified entity’ means the following:

“(A) A for-profit or nonprofit entity located in the United States that operates a veterinary clinic providing veterinary services—

“(i) in a rural area, as defined in section 1393(a)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986; and

“(ii) in response to a veterinarian shortage situation.

“(B) A State, national, allied, or regional veterinary organization or specialty board

recognized by the American Veterinary Medical Association.

“(C) A college or school of veterinary medicine accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association.

“(D) A university research foundation or veterinary medical foundation.

“(E) A department of veterinary science or department of comparative medicine accredited by the Department of Education.

“(F) A State agricultural experiment station.

“(G) A State, local, or tribal government agency.

“(h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary such sums as are necessary to carry out this section for fiscal year 2012 and each fiscal year thereafter. Amounts appropriated pursuant to this authorization of appropriations shall remain available to the Secretary for the purposes of this section until expended.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. BOSWELL) and the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. LUCAS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Iowa.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BOSWELL. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on the bill, H.R. 3519.

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

There was no objection.

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

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

Mr. BOSWELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 3519, the Veterinarian Services Investment Act, which was introduced by my good friend and colleague from Nebraska (Mr. SMITH). I had the privilege to be the lead Democrat on this legislation which is vital to growing our rural communities across America and securing our Nation's food supply.

Our veterinary workforce is responsible for ensuring that the food we eat is safe, but they are facing a critical shortage in the public, private, industrial and academic sectors, and the problem is growing. Our Nation's large-animal vets are truly on the front lines of food safety, public health, animal health and national security. The demand for large-animal veterinarians is increasing, and lack of these specialists in many areas of the country will continue to put our agricultural economy and the safety of our food supply at risk.

I know firsthand how important large-animal veterinarians are to farmers and ranchers. When I left the Army, I returned to my family farm and realized that much had changed in agriculture during the 20-plus years I had served. I decided to sit down with my local veterinarian and have a discussion on the new animal health prac-

tices that science and research had given agriculture. I was lucky because in the small town of Lamoni in Decatur County we had a food animal veterinarian who I could turn to; however, many are not so lucky today. We are experiencing a shortage in large-food animal veterinarians across the country.

I have worked over the years to try and correct the shortage of livestock and large-animal veterinarians. Research has shown that the demand for large-animal veterinarians will increase by 13 percent a year, with four in every 100 positions remaining vacant.

□ 1230

With just over 250 graduates from veterinary schools going into livestock-related fields, this crisis is a problem that not only affects rural America but also our major cities. These large animal veterinarians are the first line of defense against animal disease, outbreaks that can occur and cause serious health problems. Food and animal veterinarians not only identify, treat, and prevent naturally occurring diseases but are also on the front line of agroterrorism.

For all of the reasons above, I urge my colleagues to join me in passing the Veterinarian Services Investment Act today. This legislation will authorize grants to address workforce shortages based on the needs of underserved areas. For example, grants could be used to recruit veterinarians and veterinary technicians in shortage areas and communities. It could add veterinarians expanding and establishing practices in high-need areas. It could establish mobile portable clinics and televet services and establish education programs, including continuing education, distance education, and factor recruitment in veterinary science.

Our Nation faces major challenges to relieve veterinary shortages, and the Veterinarian Services Investment Act is a step in the right direction.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 3519, the Veterinarian Services Investment Act.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LUCAS. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3519, the Veterinarian Services Investment Act, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Since the fall of 2000, the Committee on Agriculture has worked on ways of resolving the serious veterinary shortage problem confronting many rural communities. With the passage of the National Veterinary Medical Service Act in December of 2003, a program was finally authorized to incentivize large animal veterinarians to practice in communities that USDA designated as veterinarian shortage areas. With this program in place, large animal veterinarians are able to apply on a competitive basis for educational loan repayment assistance in exchange for their commitment to practice in shortage

areas for the length of time as established by the regulations.

While it's unfortunate that it took almost 6 years for USDA to establish a final rule implementing this first step, I'm optimistic that when the first awards are issued in the coming weeks, we'll begin a slowdown and hopefully reverse this problem.

To the extent that the loan program is successful, it's important to consider that this was just the first step. While this assistance will be very helpful in attracting veterinarians to these communities, there remain gaps in veterinarian recruitment, attracting and training technical support staff, and simply meeting the long-term costs of operating veterinarian practices in these communities.

The Veterinarian Services Investment Act is meant to address these secondary needs and is designed to complement the loan repayment program to help large animal veterinarians become established in these communities.

This bill recognizes and addresses a real problem in rural America, and I'm proud to be an original cosponsor. I support this legislation, and I encourage all of my colleagues to do the same.

Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to my colleague from Nebraska (Mr. SMITH), who has done an outstanding job of shepherding this bill through, understands the challenges in his State and in rural communities across America, and he's trying to do something.

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. I sincerely appreciate today's consideration of H.R. 3519, the Veterinarian Services Investment Act. The need for skilled veterinarians has already been stated. It may not be at the forefront of debate here in Washington, but it is an issue which impacts many areas of our country and many aspects of our lives.

Our food animal veterinary workforce is on the front lines of food safety, public health, and animal health. This vital profession, however, is facing a critical shortage in the public, private, industrial, and academic sectors. To make matters worse, the problem is certainly on the rise.

Large animal veterinarians in particular are integral to small rural communities, but in many of these communities—communities with few people but with large numbers of animals—we are seeing a very distressing trend. According to the USDA, Nebraska's Cherry County, one of the top three beef production counties in the United States, has 145,000 food animals per one veterinarian.

To this end, I've introduced H.R. 3519, the Veterinarian Services Investment Act, with Mr. BOSWELL. The legislation authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to award competitive grants to help develop, implement, and sustain veterinarian services especially in identified and underserved areas.

Though we may not realize it, veterinarians make a difference every day.

They understand animals and are integral parts of our rural communities. Unfortunately, too many rural communities don't have this necessary support. This investment act will make a difference, and I urge its passage.

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

Mr. BOSWELL. Madam Speaker, just a couple of things before we close.

There are an estimated 283 million pets and 2.3 billion farm animals in our country. That's a lot of animals, FRANK, don't you think? It is. There are nearly 86,000 veterinarians in the U.S.; however, the majority of them focus on pets—cats and dogs. Twenty-eight veterinary schools in the country, and something that's very important to this legislation, veterinary graduates have an average debt of \$120,000. So I think this is something that we ought to be aware of when we think of food safety and so on. So the demand for large animal veterinarians is increasing, and the lack of these faceless in many areas of the country will continue to put our agricultural economy and the safety of our food supply at risk.

H.R. 3519, the Veterinarian Services Investment Act, will help address this shortage and continue to ensure Americans have access to the safest, most plentiful, and most available food supply in the world. So I urge all of my colleagues to support this important legislation.

I yield back the balance of my time. The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. BOSWELL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3519, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES TO PAKISTANI PEOPLE AFTER FLOODS

Mr. BARROW. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1613) expressing condolences to and solidarity with the people of Pakistan in the aftermath of the devastating floods that began on July 22, 2010, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1613

Whereas heavy rainfall that began on July 22, 2010, and subsequent flooding throughout Pakistan have caused a humanitarian crisis of unprecedented proportions that has affected over 20,000,000 people, killing more than 1,750, injuring over 2,700, damaging or destroying upwards of 1,800,000 houses, and displacing millions of men, women, and children;

Whereas the devastation wrought by the floods has been catastrophic, submerging

one-fifth of the country and destroying critical infrastructure, farms, schools, homes, and businesses, leaving an estimated 800,000 Pakistanis stranded and cut off from all help;

Whereas according to the Government of Pakistan, the floods have affected 30 percent of all agricultural land and could lower by one-half Pakistan's economic growth rate for the current fiscal year, further destabilizing a nation already beset by multiple daunting challenges;

Whereas the emergency continues to unfold in Sindh Province, where just under 7,000,000 people have already been affected, of whom 1,300,000 are in government relief camps, with new evacuation orders recently having been issued;

Whereas the danger of the floods extends beyond the current humanitarian crisis, with the potential to create significant instability in Pakistan;

Whereas the Pakistani Army, Navy, and Frontier Corps have sent humanitarian supplies and medical teams to flood-hit areas, while the National and Provincial Disaster Management Authorities have coordinated international relief activities;

Whereas the United States has responded to the crisis with relief and recovery funds, food and medical supplies, and logistical support that account for more than 20 percent of total international humanitarian contributions and commitments;

Whereas the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), through its Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA), has supported 26 mobile medical teams, delivered more than 8,000 rolls of plastic sheeting to provide temporary shelter for approximately 247,000 people, and dispatched 13 mobile water treatment units to support the Government of Pakistan's flood relief effort, which have produced more than 12,000,000 liters of clean water;

Whereas USAID's Office of Food for Peace (FFP) has provided direct support for the United Nations World Food Program's food ration distributions, helping to reach approximately 3,000,000 Pakistanis with more than 48,000 metric tons of food;

Whereas the United States Department of Defense has dispatched 23 military helicopters and four C-130 aircraft to deliver more than 5,000,000 pounds of relief supplies and has rescued more than 13,000 flood-affected individuals;

Whereas the United States has provided civilian and military in-kind assistance in the form of halal meals, prefabricated steel bridges, and other infrastructure support;

Whereas the United States is working in close partnership with United Nations-affiliated and international humanitarian organizations to support relief, recovery, and reconstruction;

Whereas the Pakistani-American community has demonstrated strong leadership in rallying support for flood victims, directing public attention to the crisis, and disseminating information about the response;

Whereas scores of United States private and voluntary organizations have mobilized quickly to respond to the crisis in Pakistan with both emergency relief and longer term development assistance, raising over \$11,000,000 in private donations for assessing emergency needs, distributing water, food, and relief items, and providing medical care and temporary shelter;

Whereas the success of United States Government humanitarian efforts depends heavily on the skills, expertise, and field presence of international and nongovernmental organizations;

Whereas United States businesses have contributed more than \$8,000,000 in humanitarian assistance for Pakistani flood victims;

Whereas the immediate and swift reaction of United States military personnel, diplomats, and development experts has saved countless lives and encouraged a generous international response;

Whereas the people of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and the United States share a long history of friendship, economic cooperation, and enduring family ties, and the interests of both nations are well served by strengthening and deepening the bilateral relationship;

Whereas the United States Congress adopted, and the President signed into law, the Enhanced Partnership with Pakistan Act of 2009, which authorizes democratic, economic, development, and security assistance over 5 years to help the Pakistani people achieve their aspirations for a democratic, stable, and prosperous society; and

Whereas the United States remains committed to helping the resilient and resourceful people of Pakistan surmount and recover from this natural disaster: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) mourns the significant loss of life, as well as the physical damage, caused by the flooding in Pakistan;

(2) expresses its deepest condolences and sympathy to the families of the victims of the floods, and its solidarity with the millions of affected Pakistanis;

(3) recognizes that Pakistan is and remains a close ally and friend of the United States;

(4) recognizes that an effective and accountable government in Pakistan is essential for the country's long-term recovery and stability;

(5) urges the United States Administration and the international community, including private citizens and foreign governments, to continue providing assistance to help the people of Pakistan and to help strengthen and support the capacity of the Government of Pakistan to meet the needs of its people;

(6) supports the use of funds authorized by the Enhanced Partnership with Pakistan Act of 2009 for the purposes of providing long-term recovery and rehabilitation for flood-affected areas and populations;

(7) urges a reexamination of priorities for spending the funds authorized by the Enhanced Partnership with Pakistan Act of 2009, with a view toward ensuring that the needs of the Pakistani people are appropriately addressed in the aftermath of the disaster;

(8) commends the relief and recovery actions, still underway, by the United States military, the Department of State, and USAID to assist the people of Pakistan during this critical period;

(9) commends the extraordinary humanitarian efforts and sustained commitment to helping the people of Pakistan by international and nongovernmental organizations;

(10) recognizes the contributions of the Pakistani-American community and United States businesses to relief and recovery efforts in Pakistan; and

(11) reaffirms the commitment of the people of the United States to partner with the people of Pakistan to respond to the immediate crisis and build the foundations for a successful and lasting recovery.

□ 1240

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BARROW) and the gen-

tleman from Utah (Mr. CHAFFETZ) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Mr. BARROW. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

On July 22, 2010, Pakistan began to experience devastating flooding, which in the subsequent days and weeks has led to a severe humanitarian crisis. Thus far, over 20 million Pakistanis have been affected. The flooding has resulted in the deaths of over 1,750 people, injured another 2,700, and left 800,000 cut off from assistance. The floods have submerged one-fifth of the country and damaged or destroyed more than 1.8 million homes, along with countless schools, farms, and businesses.

The Government of Pakistan says that the flooding has affected 30 percent of all agricultural land and could reduce by up to one-half Pakistan's economic growth rate for the current fiscal year, further destabilizing a nation already beset by daunting economic challenges.

The United States has responded to the crisis with over \$250 million in relief and recovery funds, more than 20 percent of the total international humanitarian contribution, in the form of relief and recovery funds, food and medical supplies, and logistical support. Governments and humanitarian aid agencies from around the world have mobilized to provide much needed assistance to the relief and recovery efforts. We hope that all of the committed friends of Pakistan are able to galvanize additional support and funding for the recovery and subsequent reconstruction efforts.

In addition to recognizing the devastating impact of the floods, this resolution emphasizes the importance of a robust and long-term strategic partnership between the United States and Pakistan, the enduring people-to-people and governmental ties between our two countries, and our long-standing support for a democratic, stable, and prosperous Pakistan.

Madam Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to support this bipartisan resolution.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of this timely resolution, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, the raging floodwaters that have battered much of Pakistan since late July are at long

last finally beginning to recede. But the challenges are no less today than they were earlier this summer. Indeed, if anything, they may be even greater as Pakistan and its friends abroad begin to assess the full magnitude of the economic and human costs of this devastating calamity. The heavy monsoon floods that struck the Indus River and its tributaries have caused enormous damage to the economy and the people of Pakistan.

The numbers are staggering. Nearly 20 million people have been affected by the floods, including millions of men, women, and children who have been physically displaced from their homes destroyed by the ravages of the ram-paging waters. As one Pakistani commentator has noted, "In the mounting humanitarian disaster, survivors have been engaged in a desperate daily struggle for food and shelter as well as a battle against deadly disease."

Pakistan's already shaky economy has been dealt a body blow. Growth is now expected to fall by half, with widespread losses to agriculture and livestock. Meanwhile, the floods have also wreaked havoc on Pakistan's public infrastructure, with bridges and roads cut off, power stations shut down, and gas and petroleum supplies suspended. In this dire circumstance, the United States has responded generously and with great dispatch to assist the people of Pakistan in their hour of need. The executive branch has mobilized expertise and resources at the Departments of State, Defense, and USAID, while the private sector, including Pakistani-Americans, religious communities, and nongovernment organizations have provided impressive financial and on-the-ground assistance.

Meanwhile, new and formidable challenges will present themselves to Islamabad and its friends abroad once the full extent of Pakistan's rehabilitation and reconstruction needs become known.

Madam Speaker, the enormity of this tragedy for the Pakistani people is grounds enough to merit a robust and compassionate response by the United States of America and the people. Our hearts go out to the millions of victims whose lives have been literally uprooted by the havoc that accompanied this unprecedented flooding.

At the same time, we need to be mindful that Pakistan is also a close friend and ally. It plays a large role in the United States' strategic policy towards Afghanistan and the broader reaches of South and Central Asia. It is a country that remains engaged in a deadly struggle against violent extremists seeking to destabilize its already fractured society. It is a nuclear weapons state in which the maintenance of domestic stability and the success of democratic governance bear directly on our own homeland security. To be sure, this is an enormously complex relationship.

Madam Speaker, in this context it is clear that the United States needs to

remain deeply engaged with Pakistan and the Pakistani people as they recover from the ravages of this crisis, including through continued humanitarian aid and related forms of effective, transparent, and targeted assistance. I therefore support the passage of this resolution, and I urge my colleagues to get behind this resolution.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BARROW. Madam Speaker, I yield the balance of my time to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE), and I ask unanimous consent that she be allowed to control that time.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Let me thank the distinguished gentleman from Georgia, and let me thank him very much for his very important statement on this important resolution. And as well I would like to thank the chairman of our full committee, Mr. BERMAN, and the ranking member of our full committee, Ms. ROSLEHTINEN, and the manager of this legislation for the minority for the words that I believe are enormously important.

Let me indicate to my colleagues that this may be the most important, or one of the most important, and devastating humanitarian crises that we have faced over the time frame that we have been in Congress. And let me say this. We have gone through Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. As I stand here today, there are a number of hurricanes that are in the gulf region. We add our sympathy to the people in California experiencing an enormous and terrible explosion. To my friend from Utah, he knows that those dear friends have experienced their own share of concerns certainly with natural disasters. So we don't take anything away from the suffering of the American people or others. Many of us remember the tsunami, for all of our communities were engaged in trying to get our hands around that natural disaster and to be of help.

But as many have expressed as they have come back to the United States from Pakistan, Madam Speaker, I can assure you that this looms so large that it is without description. The reason is because we know that there was rain, we know that there was a flood, or flooding, but we probably are not aware that the water has remained in place in so much and so many areas of Pakistan that it equals the size of States like Rhode Island. So we have people who cannot return even to see what remains or what losses they have experienced, or to even begin to recover and to rebuild.

I would encourage my colleagues to see the extent of that damage by way of a presentation that is being made today, the Pakistan Flood Disaster Photo Exhibit, from which I will just share one picture. And you can go to

the Rayburn Foyer all day today and see the depth of the devastation.

So I want to thank you, Madam Speaker, as I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 1613, expressing condolences to, and solidarity with, the people of Pakistan in the aftermath of the devastating floods that began on July 22, 2010. I would like to thank my colleague, Chairman BERMAN, for introducing this important and timely resolution, which I offer and know that many have cosponsored, including myself.

On July 22, Pakistan experienced one of the heaviest monsoon rains in at least 80 years in the region. For those who have been to Islamabad, Karachi, Lahore, Peshawar, we understand the terrain of that Nation and realize that it is again unspeakable in its description. The massive amount of rain triggered both flash floods and river flooding throughout Pakistan, leading to widespread displacement, infrastructure damage, and contamination of water sources.

Madam Speaker, I have spoken about the value of clean water for many years as a member of the Foreign Affairs Committee, but as well in general in this Congress. And I will tell you that as Pakistani Americans have come to my office, they have said the most deadly aspect of this flood is for mothers and babies and children and families not to be able to have clean water. And therefore disease being spread through lack of clean water, seeing malnourished children, but children who are likewise devastated by not having water suffering from infection and disease.

The flooding has caused a humanitarian crisis of unprecedented proportions that has affected over 20 million people, which aid agencies assert has a greater human impact than Pakistan's earthquake in 2005, the Indian Ocean tsunami in 2004, and the recent earthquake in Haiti combined.

□ 1250

More than 1,750 people have been killed; 2,700 have been injured; and millions of men and women and children are displaced. Let me be very clear: we do not do one-upmanship in disasters. We do not diminish Haiti; we do not diminish the tsunami or the earthquake. What we are saying is that the disaster we speak of today is ongoing, as there are in other places around the world, but ongoing to the extent that people who want to help, to come in and help and be part of recovery, cannot get to where they need to be.

Moreover, flooding is expected to intensify as rains continue. In the Sindh and Punjab provinces, for example, earlier rainfall in the north has led to rising levels in the Indus River and is expected to coincide with increased rainfall.

The flood disaster, which started 2 months ago as a result of heavy monsoon rain, has left more than 20 million people suffering in the ravaged condi-

tions. One-fifth of Pakistan is submerged in water, destroying critical infrastructure, schools, homes, hospitals, business and farms.

My heartfelt condolences go out to the families in Pakistan and those individuals here in the United States who have loved ones in the affected areas. I am urging our government to offer resources and expertise, including assistance and recovery efforts, to help our friends in Pakistan make it through this tragic episode.

We are now discussing how we provide new technology to decontaminate the water, and I hope that the State Department will receive the information that my office has to work on this new technology and literally carry it over to be able to decontaminate this water and to provide clean water to the refugee camps but also to those who may have been able to make it close to where their home was.

I have been working with the State Department to increase humanitarian relief funds for Pakistan and have asked for additional funds that have already been authorized for Pakistan to be reprogrammed in order to bolster relief and reconstruction efforts.

I again want to mention the Foreign Affairs Committee. I want to again mention our chairman and ranking member who have never stepped away from the international devastation that so many of our friends experience. The Foreign Affairs Committee has stood front and center to work with the Senate and work with the administration to ensure that the faith and the friendship of the United States is front and center on these terrible disasters. I thank the committee again.

I also wrote a letter to President Obama with Representative DAN BURTON, my fellow cochair of the Congressional Pakistan Caucus, expressing our deep concern for the humanitarian tragedy in Pakistan and asking them to expedite the flow of U.S. aid, supplies and workers in the region.

I would like to take this opportunity to encourage the President to aid Pakistan and to add Pakistan to his trip to South Asia, which is planned for the fall, and hope that we could join with him.

Madam Speaker, the key is how do we find solutions, and I would ask that we as Americans not be defined, as small news posts suggest, that we are not contributing to the aid of the Pakistani people. First of all, we are moving emergency dollars, but I also hope that we can draw upon Americans' individual caring and humanitarian commitment so that we can send a mercy plane stocked with medicine and baby formula and clothing for children and school supplies in short order to this devastated region.

In Houston, a number of my constituents met as a part of the Pakistan Caucus to commit themselves to this great humanitarian effort, and we would call upon all who can hear my voice to participate in helping us pursue that. This

resolution is a very important statement that says to the American people and to our colleagues that we are supporting the people of Pakistan who need our help.

I do again want to acknowledge the partnership of the Congressional Pakistan Caucus and the Pakistani American Leadership Center that is bringing these Pakistan relief workers here to discuss the devastating conditions in Pakistan.

I also want to mention Ambassador Anne Patterson, who is still in Pakistan, who has been a stalwart of representation of the United States, who has been through the earthquake, who has been through the tragedy of the loss of Benazir Bhutto and now this unspeakable tragedy of flooding and has maintained the leadership of the United States.

I am very glad that we have this resolution on the floor of the House. I want to thank my friend and colleague who likewise has given a very important statement, as well as the gentleman from Georgia, to acknowledge this resolution to express our commitment to the people of Pakistan.

I look forward to visiting Pakistan to see firsthand the extent of the devastation and to assess and assist in the relief efforts. With the need for reconstruction and recovery efforts growing, I believe it is vital that we lead a congressional humanitarian mission to Pakistan, which will signal to those people that the friendship between the United States and Pakistan remains unbroken as we fight the war on terror and continue to hope to improve the lives of the men, women and children of this great nation.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 1613, "Expressing condolences to and solidarity with the people of Pakistan in the aftermath of the devastating floods that began on July 22, 2010." I would like to thank my colleague, Chairman BERMAN, for introducing this important and timely resolution.

On July 22, 2010, Pakistan experienced one of the heaviest monsoon rains in at least 80 years in the region. The massive amount of rain triggered both flash floods and river flooding throughout Pakistan, leading to widespread displacement, infrastructure damage and contamination of water sources. The flooding has caused a humanitarian crisis of unprecedented proportions that has affected over 20 million people, which aid agencies assert is a greater human impact than Pakistan's earthquake in 2005, the Indian Ocean tsunami of 2004, and the recent earthquake in Haiti combined. More than 1,750 people have been killed, 2,700 have been injured, and millions of men, women, and children are displaced. Moreover, the flooding is expected to intensify as rains continue. In Sindh and Punjab provinces, for example, earlier rainfall in the north has led to rising water levels in the Indus River and is expected to coincide with increased rainfall.

The flood disaster, which started two months ago as a result of heavy monsoon rain, has left more than 20 million people suffering in ravaged conditions. One fifth of Paki-

stan is submerged in water, destroying critical infrastructure, schools, homes, hospitals, businesses, and farms. My heartfelt condolences go out to the families in Pakistan and those individuals here in the United States who have loved ones in the affected areas. I am urging our government to offer any resources and expertise, including assistance with recovery efforts, to help our friends in Pakistan make it through this tragic episode. I have been working with the State Department to increase humanitarian relief funds for Pakistan and have asked for additional funds that have already been authorized for Pakistan to be reprogrammed in order to bolster relief and reconstruction efforts. I also wrote a letter to President Obama with Rep. DAN BURTON, my fellow Co-Chair of the Congressional Pakistan Caucus, expressing our deep concern for the humanitarian tragedy in Pakistan and asking him to expedite the flow of U.S. aid, supplies, and workers into the region.

I would also like to take this opportunity to encourage President Obama to add Pakistan to his trip to South Asia, which is planned for this fall. In light of the recent devastation affecting Pakistan and our important alliance with Pakistan in our anti-terrorism efforts in both Pakistan and Afghanistan, I think President Obama's visit would communicate to both the people and government of Pakistan the extent of our national commitment to their welfare.

Madam Speaker, the scale of the devastation is so large that it will take months before we know the actual death toll and be able to assess the damage of the flood. Hospitals are overwhelmed with the injured and thousands of people are stuck on their rooftops and in higher areas as they try to escape rushing floodwaters. Thousands of victims require additional shelter with the cold weather approaching; falling temperatures, food shortages, and water-borne diseases are making it necessary for Pakistan to shelter, cloth, and feed the millions of displaced and homeless before freezing temperatures arrive.

As Co-Chair of the Congressional Pakistan Caucus, I am extremely concerned with the security of the region. It is critical that the United States offer the economic and humanitarian assistance necessary for Pakistan in its recovery efforts. In a region of political and religious turmoil, the United States must do all it can in order for Pakistan's fragile democracy to survive and thrive.

Furthermore, as Co-Chair of the Pakistani Caucus, I have taken the initiative to work with several Pakistani organizations and members of the Pakistan community in Houston and throughout the United States to increase awareness and coordinate relief efforts in Pakistan. I have organized meetings and briefings in both Houston and Washington, D.C. as well. This includes a photo exhibit that is occurring in the Rayburn House Office Building foyer today that is being hosted by the Congressional Pakistan Caucus and the Pakistani American Leadership Center (PAL-C) illustrating the extent of the damage caused by the floods in Pakistan. My commitment to the people of Pakistan is unwavering, and I look forward to visiting Pakistan soon to see firsthand the extent of the devastation and to assess and assist in the relief efforts. With the need for reconstruction and recovery efforts growing, I believe it is vital to lead a Congressional humanitarian mission to Pakistan, which

will signal to the people and the nation of Pakistan the extent of our commitment to addressing the challenges they face in the recovery efforts.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
Washington, DC, September 8, 2010.

Hon. BARACK OBAMA,
President of the United States of America, The White House, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: As co-chairs of the Congressional Pakistan Caucus we remain deeply concerned about the humanitarian tragedy unfolding in Pakistan due to the recent historic floods. We respectfully ask you to do everything possible within your authority to help expedite the flow of U.S. and international aid supplies and workers into the region.

By all accounts, the flooding in Pakistan has now affected more than 20 million people, which aid agencies say is a greater human impact than Pakistan's earthquake in 2005, the Indian Ocean tsunami of 2004, and the recent earthquake in Haiti combined. Sadly, despite the commendable generosity of the American people and the international community to date, the situation appears to remain perilous. Reports indicate that waterborne disease is rapidly spreading among tens of thousands of flood victims. In addition, food shortages are becoming a major concern as the market prices of essential foods have skyrocketed after billions of dollars worth of crops were destroyed by the flood waters.

We commend the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) for immediately undertaking an aid mission to the region; however, we concur with John Holmes, the UN Undersecretary General for Humanitarian Affairs' opinion that "these unprecedented floods pose unprecedented logistical challenges, and this requires an extraordinary effort by the international community." The United States has an historic opportunity to reshape America's image in Pakistan by taking the lead in aggressively addressing Pakistan's immediate relief needs as well as forging international consensus to address Pakistan's longer-term reconstruction needs. For example, last year Congress authorized \$7.5 billion in civilian aid to Pakistan; of which approximately \$1 billion was set aside for democracy building. While we strongly support efforts to strengthen Pakistan's democratic institutions, relief and rehabilitation of the floods victims is a more pressing need. Reprogramming those funds for humanitarian relief would immediately quadruple U.S. aid funds—hopefully spurring other nations to follow suit—and it would do so at no additional cost to the U.S. taxpayer.

We also respectfully urge you to give all due consideration to using the power of the Presidency's bully pulpit to highlight the plight of Pakistanis to the U.S. media and encourage Americans to consider donating to the relief effort. The American people are extremely generous. Time and time again, whenever they have been asked, the American people have rallied to help people around the world. We are confident that the American people will once again demonstrate their generosity by donating to the Pakistani relief efforts if they are made more aware of the tragedy; and a statement from the White House is certain to garner such media attention. To that end, we respectfully ask you to consider making a public appeal to the American public on behalf of the people of Pakistan.

Mr. President, the global fight against extremists who exploit the religion of Islam is not only a military struggle but a struggle to win the hearts and minds of the Muslim world; particularly the young people. We

know that the U.S. response to the 2005 earthquake in Pakistan led to a short-term positive increase in public opinion of the United States in Pakistan. A significant and long-term commitment by the United States to help Pakistan recover from these devastating floods could have an even more profound affect. If we do not seize this opportunity we significantly increase the chances that Pakistan may fall under the influence of extremist elements; that would be disastrous for our future security. We must address the human tragedy unfolding in Pakistan now before it is too late. So once again, we respectfully ask you to everything possible within your authority to help expedite the flow of U.S. and international aide supplies and workers into the region.

We thank you for giving your personal time and attention to this critically important matter.

Sincerely,

DAN BURTON,
Member of Congress.
SHEILA JACKSON LEE,
Member of Congress.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Madam Speaker, we support the passage of this resolution. Our hearts and prayers go out to the people of Pakistan who are dealing with untold tragedies and difficult situations. I urge passage of this resolution.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, seeing that we have no other speakers, let me simply conclude by thanking my distinguished friend from Utah. We worked together on other issues.

If I might take a point of personal privilege, I have never doubted his commitment when we speak of these humanitarian issues, and I want to thank you for that. As well, I want to thank Mr. BARROW for his leadership on the issue and hope that he will join us as we work on these devastating conditions in Pakistan.

I ask my colleagues to support this very important legislation.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BARROW) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1613, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

ESTABLISHING ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS VETERANS' CURATION PROGRAM

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R.

5282) to provide funds to the Army Corps of Engineers to hire veterans and members of the Armed Forces to assist the Corps with curation and historic preservation activities, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5282

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

SECTION 1. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) *The Corps of Engineers and other Federal agencies are required to preserve and catalogue artifacts and other items of national historical significance that are uncovered during the course of their work.*

(2) *Uncatalogued artifacts within the care of Federal agencies are stored in hundreds of repositories and museums across the Nation.*

(3) *In October 2009, the Corps of Engineers, Center of Expertise for Curation and Management of Archeological Collections, used \$3,500,000 in temporary funds made available in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-5) to begin the Veterans' Curation Program to employ and train Iraq and Afghanistan veterans in archaeological processing.*

(4) *The Veterans' Curation Program employs veterans and members of the Armed Forces in the sorting, cleaning, and cataloguing of artifacts managed by the Corps of Engineers.*

(5) *Employees of the Veterans' Curation Program gain valuable work skills, including computer database management, records management, photographic and scanning techniques, computer software proficiency, vocabulary and writing skills, and interpersonal communication skills, as well as knowledge and training in archaeology and history.*

(6) *Experience in archaeological curation gained through the Veterans' Curation Program is valuable training and experience for the museum, forensics, administrative, records management, and other fields.*

(7) *Veterans' Curation Program participants may assist the Corps of Engineers in developing a more efficient and comprehensive collections management program and also may provide the workforce to meet the records management needs at other agencies and departments, including the Department of Veterans Affairs.*

SEC. 2. TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT FOR VETERANS AND MEMBERS OF ARMED FORCES IN CURATION AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION.

(a) *TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT.—The Secretary of the Army, acting through the Chief of Engineers, shall develop a Veterans' Curation Program to hire veterans and members of the Armed Forces to assist the Secretary in carrying out curation and historic preservation activities.*

(b) *AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATION.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section—*

- (1) \$5,000,000 for fiscal year 2011;
- (2) \$6,000,000 for fiscal year 2012;
- (3) \$7,000,000 for fiscal year 2013;
- (4) \$8,000,000 for fiscal year 2014; and
- (5) \$9,000,000 for fiscal year 2015.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I ask unani-

mous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous materials on H.R. 5282.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in strong support of H.R. 5282, a bill introduced by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BARROW) to provide a 5-year authorization for the Corps of Engineers' Veterans' Curation Program.

□ 1300

H.R. 5282 is a worthy piece of legislation. It provides job training to our veterans. It helps to record and protect our Nation's cultural resources, and it assists the Corps in fulfilling its obligations to protect our Nation's cultural and historical legacy.

Thousands upon thousands of artifacts rest uncataloged in hundreds of museums and Federal repositories across the country. These objects represent our past and help describe who we are today. It is, therefore, a cultural imperative that we preserve and understand these pieces. It is also a matter of law and policy that we do so.

The Veterans' Curation Program, located at labs in Georgia, the District of Columbia, and Missouri, provides veterans with a skill set to preserve the many cultural and historical artifacts encountered by the Corps of Engineers.

These employees gain valuable work skills in a host of areas, including computer database management, photographic and scanning techniques, and software proficiency. The development of these skills provides valuable training and experience for future work at museums, forensics labs, records management entities, and at government agencies.

This legislation authorizes the program for 5 years, through fiscal year 2015. It also provides a realistic step increase of authorized funding from \$5 million in 2011 through \$9 million in 2015. This will allow the Corps to incrementally expand the program in a rational and deliberate manner.

The Corps has had success with this program using Recovery Act dollars, so I ask all of the Members to join me in supporting this bill. It will ensure the continuation of a worthwhile program that respects the Nation's cultural heritage at the same time as providing valuable training to the men and women who have valiantly served our Nation.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Serving our country in uniform is, frankly, probably the most noble thing that any human being can do, and it is such incredible sacrifice that our

troops do, and their families as well. And they are the ones who allow everything that we take for granted on a daily basis—to live in freedom, to live in democracy. They are the ones who allow us to do that. So today we have the opportunity to help transition our soldiers and our veterans into civilian life much more easily.

H.R. 5282 will help to make opportunities available to the brave men and women who are returning from the fight on the global war on terror. And so this legislation will continue our commitment to our veterans through education and employment opportunities.

As part of the civil works mission, the Corps of Engineers uncovers countless historic artifacts continuously. However, a lot of these historic artifacts which are very important items are, frankly, just uncataloged and just semi-abandoned, and they need curation.

This is such a commonsense bill. It helps preserve our history and preserve our past, while also making sure that we give opportunities to the most noble, to the best and the brightest of our country, to our troops and to our veterans.

I urge all Members to support our veterans and support this real commonsense, noble legislation.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BARROW).

Mr. BARROW. I thank the gentle lady for yielding her leadership on this issue.

Madam Speaker, in October of 2009, the Army Corps of Engineers used temporary funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to begin the Veterans' Curation project to employ and train wounded Iraq and Afghanistan veterans in archeological processing. The project gives these veterans an opportunity to learn transferable job skills and earn a fair wage while cataloging artifacts that the Corps has discovered and is required to preserve. The project now employs about 50 veterans in Augusta, Georgia; St. Louis, Missouri; and Washington, D.C.

Unfortunately, temporary funding for the Veterans' Curation project is set to run out just when our returning veterans and our economy need it the most. H.R. 5282 provides long-term authorization for the program and will preserve the program and allow it to grow.

The Veterans' Curation project not only helps educate, train, and employ veterans, but it allows them to heal through the power of meaningful work. Since the Army Corps of Engineers has to catalog these artifacts anyway, there can be no better qualified or more deserving group than our own veterans to help get the job done. We owe no debt as citizens that is greater than the debt we owe to the veterans

who fought for our freedoms. We literally owe them everything.

That is why I urge my colleagues to support this worthy program to help our wounded veterans heal and get good job skills at the same time. It's not only the right thing to do; it is the smart thing to do.

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, I think the issue has been adequately explained. This is something that has to be done. Who better to do it? Who is more qualified and who is more deserving? Who is better to do it than our veterans, than our troops and our soldiers?

Mr. OBERSTAR. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5282, as amended, introduced by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BARROW). This legislation makes permanent an innovative U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' program begun under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, Recovery Act, P.L. 111-5. Under the Recovery Act, the Corps allocated \$3.5 million to open three Veterans Curation Project, VCP, laboratories throughout the nation. This legislation is important because it provides funding for hiring and training our veterans, while helping the Corps meet its cultural responsibilities. At a time when Americans need jobs more than ever, we should do all we can to increase training and employment, especially for returning veterans.

One of the Army Corps' responsibilities is its role in providing curation support for its projects. Accordingly, the Corps identifies, evaluates, and manages cultural resources that are eligible for listing in, or are listed in, the National Register of Historic Places. The Corps is responsible for ensuring that cultural resource management activities are consistent with Federal laws and regulations pertaining to Native American rights, curation and collections management, and the protection of resources from looting and vandalism.

To that end, the Corps used Recovery Act dollars to open three VCP laboratories in Augusta, Georgia; Washington, DC; and St. Louis, Missouri. These laboratories are tasked with carrying out the Corps' curation responsibilities, including cataloging, scanning, and photographing records and artifacts. At the same time, these laboratories use and train a workforce of disabled, wounded veterans, as well as veterans who have recently returned from overseas.

The VCP program is a very important program for our veterans because it teaches them skills in computer databases, digital scanning, digital image capture, and writing. Veterans who participate in this program can use these technical skills in jobs outside the VCP laboratories, including as forensic technicians and records managers.

This bill provides a statutory, five-year authorization of the Corps' Veterans Curation Project. The bill allows the Corps to meet its dual mission of hiring and training the Nation's veterans, while also carrying out its responsibilities to preserve and protect the Nation's cultural heritage.

We owe our veterans all the training and support we can provide them when they return home from serving our country. I would also like to point out that the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure received letters of support for this legislation from the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States and the Society for American Archaeology.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 5282.

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5282, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ANDREW W. BOGUE FEDERAL BUILDING AND UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5651) to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 515 9th Street in Rapid City, South Dakota, as the "Andrew W. Bogue Federal Building and United States Courthouse".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5651

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

SECTION 1. ANDREW W. BOGUE FEDERAL BUILDING AND UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The Federal building and United States courthouse located at 515 9th Street in Rapid City, South Dakota, shall be known and designated as the "Andrew W. Bogue Federal Building and United States Courthouse".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the Federal building and United States courthouse referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Andrew W. Bogue Federal Building and United States Courthouse".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 5651.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in strong support of H.R. 5651, which designates the federally occupied building located at 515 9th Street in Rapid City, South Dakota, as the “Andrew W. Bogue Federal Building and United States Courthouse.”

Judge Andrew W. Bogue was a World War II veteran who served in the U.S. Army Signal Corps during the war. After serving with the U.S. Army, Judge Bogue graduated from the University of North Dakota School of Law and went into private practice for several years before another stint in the U.S. Army with the JAG Corps.

Judge Andrew Bogue was nominated to the Federal bench by President Richard Nixon in 1970 and served for 15 years as an active district Federal judge before taking senior status in 1985. Even after taking senior status, Judge Bogue continued to hear cases up until a few months before his death on June 10, 2009.

□ 1310

Given Judge Andrew Bogue’s contribution to public service to his country and the great State of South Dakota, it is fitting to designate the Federal building and the United States Courthouse located at 515 Ninth Street in Rapid City, South Dakota, as the Andrew W. Bogue Federal Building and United States Courthouse.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, I think the gentlelady from Texas explained this bill very well. Obviously Judge Bogue had a very distinguished career, and I want to highlight the fact that he also served in the U.S. Army Signal Corps during World War II and later in the JAG Corps. I think it is important when somebody does that, when they have done so much, to highlight that.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from South Dakota (Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN).

Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN. Madam Speaker, I thank Chairwoman JOHNSON for yielding me this time and for her support of the bill. This legislation enjoys bipartisan support of the South Dakota congressional delegation.

Judge Andrew Bogue served this country honorably throughout his lifetime. A native of Parker, South Dakota, he served in the Army Signal Corps during World War II, and later in the Judge Advocate General Corps. He served as a State’s attorney for his home Turner County and was elected as a judge in the Second Judicial Circuit Court.

In 1970, both South Dakota Senators at that time, Karl Mundt, a Republican, and George McGovern, a Democrat, recommended that President Nixon appoint Judge Bogue to the U.S. District Court for the State of South Dakota. Judge Bogue served in that po-

sition until his passing just last year. He was trying cases and working hard all of the way up to his 90th birthday.

When Judge Bogue was confirmed, there was no Federal courthouse in Rapid City. As the first judge to be based in the western part of South Dakota, he served his first year in Deadwood. He moved his courtroom to Rapid City and worked the next few years in the First Federal Savings and Loan Building. Judge Bogue was present at the very beginning when the General Services Administration began planning the Federal building and courthouse that we are renaming after him today, and he participated in that planning. Put simply, Judge Bogue is a major reason the Rapid City Courthouse exists as it does today.

Judge Bogue was an impressive figure on the bench, and lawyers who practiced before him knew him as someone who listened and who was committed to justice. Because of his role and his contributions to the administration of justice throughout his career on the bench, the group tasked with renaming the Rapid City Courthouse unanimously agreed on Judge Bogue, and I can think of no better tribute to his legacy.

Mr. OBERSTAR. Madam Speaker, I rise in support H.R. 5651, to name the Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse in Rapid City, South Dakota, after Judge Andrew W. Bogue.

Judge Bogue, appointed by President Nixon in 1970, with a strong recommendation from Senator George McGovern, was the first sitting Federal judge in Rapid City. He had been a distinguished State circuit court judge before his appointment to the Federal bench, and was also a veteran of World War II and the Korean conflict. Judge Bogue also oversaw the construction of the building proposed to be named for him by this legislation.

In light of Judge Bogue’s life-long dedication to public service, I find it fitting and appropriate that we designate this building the “Andrew W. Bogue Federal Building and United States Courthouse”.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 5651.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I urge passage of this resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5651.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

FRANK EVANS GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE BUILDING

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5706) to designate the facility of the Government Printing Office located at

31451 East United Avenue in Pueblo, Colorado, as the “Frank Evans Government Printing Office Building”, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5706

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

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION.

The building occupied by the Government Printing Office located at 31451 East United Avenue in Pueblo, Colorado, shall be known and designated as the “Frank Evans Government Printing Office Building” during the period in which the building is occupied by the Government Printing Office.

SEC. 2. REFERENCES.

With respect to the period in which the building referred to in section 1 is occupied by the Government Printing Office, any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, record, or other paper of the United States to that building shall be deemed to be a reference to the “Frank Evans Government Printing Office Building”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 5706, as amended.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 5706, as amended, which designates the facility of the Government Printing Office located at 31451 East United Avenue in Pueblo, Colorado, as the Frank Evans Government Printing Office Building.

Congressman Evans is a distinguished former Member of the House of Representatives, born September 6, 1923, in Pueblo, Colorado. After serving as a U.S. Navy pilot during World War II, Congressman Evans attended the University of Denver, graduating with a bachelor’s degree, and then received his law degree in 1950. Congressman Evans went on to be elected to the Colorado State House of Representatives in 1960. After serving in the Colorado House of Representatives, Congressman Evans would go on to win seven terms representing Colorado’s Third Congressional District in 1964 before retiring in 1978. He is often credited with helping to bring the Federal Citizen’s Information Center to Pueblo, Colorado, in 1970. Unfortunately, Congressman Frank Edwards Evans died this past summer on June 8, 2010.

Given Representative Evans’ exceptional service to the Federal Government and to the Third Congressional

District of Colorado, it is fitting to honor him by naming the Government Printing Office located at 31451 East United Avenue in Pueblo, Colorado, as the Frank Evans Government Printing Office Building. I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I just want to highlight what the gentlelady from Texas already said. I think it is worth repeating. We know about his career, but I want to highlight the fact that he did serve in the United States Navy as a patrol pilot during World War II. I think that we all need to thank our veterans for their patriotism. I thank the gentleman from Colorado for bringing this up. He is someone I have great admiration and respect for.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. SALAZAR).

Mr. SALAZAR. I want to thank the gentlelady from Texas and also the gentleman from Florida, who are my wonderful friends.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of my bill, H.R. 5706, to name the Government Printing Office Public Document Distribution Center in Pueblo, Colorado, after former Congressman Frank Evans. From 1964 until 1978, Congressman Evans represented Colorado's Third Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives. That is the seat I now currently serve.

The tremendous impact of his leadership on our district can still be felt to this day. Congressman Evans was responsible for bringing the Government Printing Office to Pueblo, and I cannot think of a more appropriate way to recognize his hard work and commitment to western Colorado than to name this building in his honor.

From the time Congressman Evans gained congressional approval for the building in 1970, it has employed anywhere from 25 to 176 Colorado workers. This year is the 40th anniversary of Congressman Evans' work to bring this building to Pueblo, and the GPO and its employees are more dedicated to serving the public than ever.

Unfortunately, Congressman Evans passed away in June of this year, and my condolences go out to his family during this difficult time. I was honored to attend his funeral. He will be missed, but his memory lives on through the lives he touched and the legacy he left in western Colorado. In honor of Congressman Evans, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mr. OBERSTAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the bill, H.R. 5706, as amended, which designates the building occupied by Government Printing Office in Pueblo, Colorado, as the "Frank Evans Government Printing Office Building".

Frank Evans, who passed away on June 8, 2010, was a seven-term congressman from

the third district of Colorado, serving in the House from 1965 through 1979. He attended Pomona College in Claremont, California, interrupting his education to serve in the United States Navy as a patrol pilot during World War II. He returned to formal schooling to earn both a bachelor of arts and a law degree from the University of Denver. He was a member of the Colorado State House of Representatives from 1961–1964.

Among his achievements while serving in the U.S. House of Representatives, Congressman Evans is credited with bringing the Federal Citizen Information Center to Pueblo in 1970. The information center is operated by the Government Printing Office, GPO, and prints and mails free consumer publications. The GPO has been in continuous occupancy of the building to be named by this bill for 40 years. It is a leased building, but the ownership entity has expressed its full assent to naming the building for Congressman Evans for as long as the GPO occupies the premises.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 5706.

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5706, as amended.

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

The title was amended so as to read: "A bill to designate the building occupied by the Government Printing Office located at 31451 East United Avenue in Pueblo, Colorado, as the 'Frank Evans Government Printing Office Building'."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the Table.

□ 1320

JAMES CHANEY, ANDREW GOODMAN, MICHAEL SCHWERNER, AND ROY K. MOORE FEDERAL BUILDING

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendments to the bill (H.R. 3562) to designate the federally occupied building located at 1220 Echelon Parkway in Jackson, Mississippi, as the "James Chaney, Andrew Goodman, and Michael Schwerner Federal Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the Senate amendments is as follows:

Senate amendments:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

SECTION 1. BUILDING DESIGNATION.

The Administrator of General Services shall ensure that the federally occupied building located at 1220 Echelon Parkway in Jackson, Mississippi, is known and designated as the "James

Chaney, Andrew Goodman, Michael Schwerner, and Roy K. Moore Federal Building".

SEC. 2. REFERENCES.

With respect to the period in which the building referred to in section 1 is federally occupied, any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to that building shall be deemed to be a reference to the "James Chaney, Andrew Goodman, Michael Schwerner, and Roy K. Moore Federal Building".

Amend the title so as to read: "An Act to designate the federally occupied building located at 1220 Echelon Parkway in Jackson, Mississippi, as the 'James Chaney, Andrew Goodman, Michael Schwerner, and Roy K. Moore Federal Building'."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous materials on the Senate amendments to H.R. 3562.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the Senate amendment to H.R. 3562, which designates the federally occupied building located at 1220 Echelon Parkway in Jackson, Mississippi, as the James Chaney, Andrew Goodman, Michael Schwerner, and Roy K. Moore Federal Building.

The Senate amendment to H.R. 3562 adds FBI agent Roy K. Moore to the naming designation of the federally occupied building that will house the Jackson, Mississippi, FBI field office. Agent Roy Moore was personally picked by FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover to lead the investigation into the deaths of Civil Rights activists James Chaney, Andrew Goodman and Michael Schwerner.

The events surrounding these three young men have a special place in civil rights history. They were civil rights activists who were training in Ohio to organize African Americans in Mississippi during the Freedom Summer of 1964. These three men represented a wave of young Americans who took time off from other parts of their lives to wade into certain adversity and to fight for equal rights for all Americans.

All of the activists were murdered in the Freedom Summer of 1964, and their bodies were buried in an earthen dam outside of Philadelphia, Mississippi. FBI agent Roy Moore was tasked with leading the investigation of their disappearances and of bringing their attackers to justice. The events of that summer were later widely lauded as an

important milestone in bringing law and order to Mississippi with respect to African American civil rights. Agent Moore's efforts resulted in 19 people being indicted in 1967 for violating the civil rights of these three gentlemen. Ultimately, seven men were tried and convicted. Roy Moore served 34 years with the Federal Bureau of Investigation and died on October 12, 2008, at the age of 94.

It is fitting that we honor the memories of these young men and the memory of the FBI agent responsible for leading the investigation of their disappearances by designating the federally occupied building located at 1220 Echelon Parkway in Jackson, Mississippi, as the James Chaney, Andrew Goodman, Michael Schwerner, and Roy K. Moore Federal Building.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, we are a very young Nation, but it is so crucial that we remember our history and that we honor our martyrs. This is one of those examples when we have a great opportunity to do both.

These individuals gave their lives for the rights that we, frankly, take for granted now and that we hold so dear. Special Agent Moore ensured that the rule of law was enforced and that those murderers were brought to justice, so I think that it is fitting and appropriate to honor these men by naming the FBI building in Jackson, Mississippi, after them. I also support the Senate amendment, and I urge my colleagues to do the same.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. THOMPSON).

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Thank you very much.

Madam Speaker, I rise to support H.R. 3562, an act to designate the federally occupied building located at 1220 Echelon Parkway in Jackson, Mississippi, as the James Chaney, Andrew Goodman, Michael Schwerner, and Roy K. Moore Federal Building.

Madam Speaker, 45 years ago, three young men lost their lives while attempting to organize and register voters during that time known as Freedom Summer. These men were James Chaney, a 21-year-old man from Meridian, Mississippi; Andrew Goodman, a 20-year-old college student from New York; and Michael Schwerner, a 24-year-old CORE organizer and social worker who was also from New York.

On July 21, 1964, the three men were driving from Meridian, Mississippi, to Longdale, Mississippi, to investigate the burning of Mount Zion United Methodist Church, which had been the meeting place for numerous civil rights

groups. Along their journey, the trio was stopped by a Neshoba County deputy who was also a known member of the Ku Klux Klan. Subsequently, the three young men were arrested for speeding and were held without the use of a telephone at the Neshoba County jail. Hours later, they were fined and released.

Shortly after the trio continued their journey, they were again pulled over by the sheriff's deputy, who likely unbeknownst to them, was followed by a mob of Klansmen who had assembled to abduct and kill the men. The three individuals were taken to a remote area of the county and were beaten and killed. Their car was burned, and their bodies were buried in an earthen dam.

Days after their disappearances, FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover personally selected Agent Roy K. Moore to lead the investigation effort. Agent Moore had become renowned for his investigation of the 1963 bombing of the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, Alabama, which killed four young girls. As the investigation's lead agent, Moore was charged with commanding hundreds of agents who temporarily flooded the State—many of them reluctant to do their work.

After significant investigation by Agent Moore and the FBI, the three individuals' bodies were found on August 4, 1964. Due to Mississippi's officials' refusal to prosecute the individuals for murder, the Justice Department brought charges against 17 individuals for conspiracy to deprive the three workers of their civil rights. Seven of the 17 individuals were found guilty, but none of them served terms longer than 6 years in jail.

Finally, on June 21, 2005, a Neshoba County jury convicted Edgar Ray Killen on three counts of manslaughter and sentenced him to three consecutive terms of 20 years in prison in connection with the deaths of these young men.

The murder of James Chaney, who was black, and the murders of Andrew Goodman and Michael Schwerner, who were both Jewish, attracted national attention to the reality of the State's racial problems. As a result of their deaths, there was more pressure on the Federal Government to pass the Voting Rights Act.

Madam Speaker, I would like to thank the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the House for quickly moving this legislation after it was returned from the Senate.

The struggle for justice and equality has eternally bonded James Chaney, Andrew Goodman, Michael Schwerner, and Roy K. Moore. Today, Congress will act to link their legacy to Mississippi's newest symbol of justice and equality.

Mr. OBERSTAR. Madam Speaker, I rise to concur in the Senate amendment to H.R. 3562, which designates the federally occupied building located at 1220 Echelon Parkway in Jackson, Mississippi, as the "James Chaney,

Andrew Goodman, Michael Schwerner, and Roy K. Moore Federal Building".

This bill, as originally passed by the House, named this Federal Bureau of Investigations, FBI, facility in Jackson after James Chaney, Andrew Goodman, and Michael Schwerner, civil rights activists who were lynched in the summer of 1964 while attempting to organize African Americans to vote and pursue other civil rights in Mississippi. On June 21, 1964, the three men drove to Longdale, Mississippi, to investigate the site of a burned church in Neshoba County. They were arrested by the Neshoba County police as they were leaving the site and held by the police for several hours. They were later released only to be re-arrested shortly thereafter. After the second arrest, the Neshoba County police officer turned the three civil rights activists over to local Klansmen. On August 4, 1964, 44 days later, their bodies were found buried in an earthen dam near Philadelphia, Mississippi. The Senate amendment to H.R. 3562 adds FBI Agent Roy K. Moore to the building name.

Agent Roy Moore was personally picked by FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover to lead the investigation into the deaths of these young men. Nineteen men were later indicted; seven were tried and convicted. Agent Moore said the FBI would be there until it broke the back of the Ku Klux Klan, reestablished the rule of law at the local level, and enforced the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the Senate amendment to H.R. 3562.

□ 1330

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, again, this is an important piece of legislation, and I would urge its support.

With that, I would yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time, I support this legislation, move that it pass, and yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON) that the House suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendments to the bill, H.R. 3562.

The question was taken.

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

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

ROBERT M. BALL FEDERAL BUILDING

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5773) to designate the Federal building located at 6401 Security Boulevard in Baltimore, Maryland, as the "Robert M. Ball Federal Building," as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.
The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5773

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

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION.

The Federal building located at 6401 Security Boulevard in Baltimore, Maryland, commonly known as the Social Security Administration Operations Building, shall be known and designated as the "Robert M. Ball Federal Building".

SEC. 2. REFERENCES.

Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the Federal building referred to in section 1 shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Robert M. Ball Federal Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 5773.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 5773, as amended, which designates the Social Security Operations Building located at 6401 Security Boulevard in Baltimore, Maryland, as the Robert M. Ball Federal Building.

Commissioner Ball was often described in press accounts as not only the longest serving Social Security Commissioner, but also as chief advocate and defender through the years. Commissioner Ball started with the Social Security Administration as a field assistant in 1939 in New Jersey for the Social Security Administration, eventually becoming the Social Security Administrator from 1962 to 1973.

After Commissioner Ball left the Social Security Administration, he continued to have an outsized role in shaping the program. In 1981, he served as a member of the National Commission on Social Security Reform, arguing for a mix of tax increases and benefit cuts to maintain the viability of Social Security. Commissioner Ball was an outspoken opponent of any attempts to dismantle Social Security or to privatize Social Security. Commissioner Robert M. Ball died January 29, 2008.

Given Commissioner Ball's exceptional public service and dedication to the Social Security Administration, it is fitting to honor him by naming the Operations Facility of the Social Security Administration located at 6401 Security Boulevard in Baltimore, Mary-

land, as the Robert M. Ball Federal Building. I urge support of my colleagues.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, Mr. Ball served as Commissioner of Social Security during the Kennedy, Johnson and Nixon administrations, and even in 1981, he served on the Greenspan Commission that was created by President Reagan to examine the Social Security system. So I think it speaks obviously very well for him; his expertise was tapped by both Republicans and Democratic administrations. It seems fitting, Madam Speaker, that we name a Social Security building after him in recognition for his dedication to that agency.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from North Dakota (Mr. POMEROY).

Mr. POMEROY. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Madam Speaker, normally I don't come to the floor to add to a building naming that's flying through, but I want to put into the RECORD my thoughts about Bob Ball, one of the most remarkable people I have ever met. And there is no one I have met whose public sector contribution I admire more. Naming this building on the campus of Social Security, a building that has so much of the daily delivery of the Social Security benefit to the American people, having this building carry his name is just so utterly appropriate.

Bob Ball, through his entire service, had a clear vision of Social Security. It comes down to simply this: If all of us protected each of us, the lives of tens of millions would be improved and our country would be stronger as a result.

He was the most influential proponent of social insurance our country has ever had. He was a leading thinker, a gifted administrator, a skilled political operative, an irresistible advocate, an exceptional teacher, and I can tell you personally he was a very wise mentor.

Of all of his remarkable abilities and traits, perhaps the one we will remember most was his dogged persistence. He stayed on task and made valuable contributions to Social Security through six decades of service. Bob knew what his mission was and he never wavered in pursuit of it. By the time he resigned as Administrator of Social Security, he had literally worked at the agency for 37 years. He was the longest tenured administrator serving under three different Presidents of two political parties.

Now, when he retired after 37 years, you might think, well, there he goes riding off into the sunset, job well done. Well, Bob indicated another inclination. In fact, he wrote in his letter

of resignation to President Nixon, "I will continue to be available for whatever help I can give promoting the sound development and sound administration of this important program."

As the preceding speaker said already, he served on the committee that ultimately worked the long-term solvency package for Social Security out in 1983, and he continued to work right until his final days—at the ripe age of 93—on advancing this notion of Social Security for the American people.

There is nobody I can think of more deserving of the perpetuating honor memorializing his life and his work than Bob Ball, and I am just delighted with this resolution and urge Members' support.

Mr. OBERSTAR. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5773, as amended, which names the operations building on the Social Security Woodlawn campus in Baltimore, Maryland, as the "Robert M. Ball Federal Building", after former Social Security Administrator, Robert M. Ball.

Robert M. Ball dedicated his professional life to Social Security and its beneficiaries, serving as Commissioner of Social Security from 1962 to 1973, spanning the Kennedy, Johnson, and Nixon administrations. During his tenure in a variety of senior executive positions at the Social Security Administration, both the disability program and Medicare were enacted into law, and Commissioner Ball played a significant role in creating, securing enactment of, and implementing both of these landmark pieces of legislation.

Commissioner Ball, after retiring from public service in 1972, remained active and engaged in social security issues and policy. In 1981–83, he served on the Commission on Social Security Reform. Mr. Ball was instrumental in working out a compromise among Commission members, that led to the Social Security Act Amendments of 1983, which restored solvency to the Social Security Trust Fund. These amendments remain the most substantive changes to the social security system in the last 30 years.

Recognizing the contributions of Robert M. Ball to the Social Security system by naming the Operations Building at the Social Security Woodlawn campus is a fitting and apt tribute to this public servant who one historian describes as "the major non-Congressional player in the history of Social Security in the period between 1950 and the present."

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 5773.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Madam Speaker, I introduced H.R. 5773 to name the Social Security Operations Building in Baltimore in honor of Robert "Bob" Ball, a man who dedicated his career to defending and strengthening Social Security and who helped to expand the safety net for our Nation's seniors by supporting the creation of Medicare.

Mr. Ball's legacy of service makes it truly fitting that we designate the Social Security Operations Building located at 6401 Security Boulevard in Baltimore, Maryland, as the "Robert M. Ball Federal Building."

Mr. Ball helped build Social Security from the ground up.

In 1939, he started working for the newly formed Social Security Board as a field assistant in Newark, New Jersey.

His experiences in the field demonstrated to him that Social Security was meant to be a contract between the generations enacted to ensure that retired seniors could avoid poverty in their later years. Mr. Ball's dedication to this basic principle guided all of his future work.

In 1949, Mr. Ball was appointed assistant director of the Bureau of Old Age and Survivors Insurance. He was subsequently promoted to deputy director and then acting director.

Through these positions, he developed a deep technical expertise in Social Security, learned how Congress works, and developed the relationships with Members of Congress that would enable him to serve as a valued technical resource for decades.

During his tenure, Mr. Ball assisted Congress members in developing the policies that have been essential to ensuring Social Security programs are run responsibly and effectively.

For example, Bob Ball was the architect of the 1950 amendments raising Social Security benefits and expanding coverage to more Americans, including such groups as the self-employed, and making it easier for these groups to begin to qualify for benefits.

Ball helped draft the legislation establishing Social Security disability benefits in 1956 and helped Members secure its passage even though the Eisenhower administration opposed this change.

In 1957, Ball helped Representative Aime Forand draft a bill that was essentially the forerunner of the legislation that created Medicare. Ball continued to advocate for health insurance for seniors from that time until Medicare's eventual passage in 1965.

For this and his subsequent work supporting the implementation of the Medicare program, he is also known as the father of Medicare.

President John F. Kennedy appointed Robert M. Ball as commissioner of Social Security in 1962. Mr. Ball served in this post until 1973—longer than anyone else prior or since.

During his service as commissioner, Mr. Ball helped develop the 1972 amendments that linked benefits to inflation, ensuring that Social Security would never fail to meet basic needs.

Robert M. Ball continued to serve Social Security beneficiaries even after leaving government employment through his service on several federal commissions, including the Greenspan Commission in 1983, where he helped broker a compromise that averted a financial crisis and brought decades of financial stability to the Social Security trust fund.

Robert Ball was described by American Scholar magazine in 2005 as Social Security's "biggest thinker, longest-serving commissioner and undisputed spiritual leader" and as "Social Security's chief advocate and defender."

I cannot imagine a better tribute to a man who dedicated his life to the health and welfare of others than that his name be permanently attached to the building where Social Security operates.

As I close, I thank my colleagues from Maryland who have co-sponsored this legislation as well as Chairman OBERSTAR, Ranking Member MICA, and my colleagues in the Transportation and Infrastructure committee for working with me to move this legislation.

I encourage all of my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill.

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time, I simply ask for support of the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5773, as amended.

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

The title was amended so as to read: "A bill to designate the Federal building located at 6401 Security Boulevard in Baltimore, Maryland, commonly known Social Security Administration Operations Building, as the 'Robert M. Ball Federal Building'."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1340

OBSERVING FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF HURRICANE RITA

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1583) observing the fifth anniversary of the date on which Hurricane Rita devastated the coasts of Louisiana and Texas, remembering those lost in the storm and in the process of evacuation, recovery, and rebuilding; saluting the dedication of the volunteers who offered assistance in support of those affected by the storm, recognizing the progress of efforts to rebuild the affected Gulf Coast region, commending the persistence of the people of the States of Louisiana and Texas following the second major hurricane to hit Louisiana that season, and reaffirming Congress' commitment to restore and renew the Gulf Coast region, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1583

Whereas on September 24, 2005, Hurricane Rita made landfall as a Category 3 hurricane just east of the Texas-Louisiana border, between Sabine Pass and Johnson's Bayou, with wind speeds of 120 miles per hour, and further devastated the Gulf Coast;

Whereas Hurricane Rita caused 7 deaths, forced 3,000,000 residents to evacuate their homes, left 1,000,000 people without electricity (according to the National Climatic Data Center), and caused flooding and tornadoes in the States of Louisiana, Arkansas, Mississippi, and Alabama;

Whereas damages from Hurricane Rita are estimated at \$11,300,000,000;

Whereas in 2005, Hurricane Rita was the second hurricane to reach Category 5 status in the Gulf of Mexico, making it only the third time that more than one Category 5 storm had formed in the Atlantic in the same year (according to the National Climatic Data Center);

Whereas the storm surge from Hurricane Rita was as high as 15 feet near the landfall site and according to the United States Geo-

logical Survey traveled as far as 50 miles inland, causing disastrous flooding and massive loss of property;

Whereas tens of thousands of homes and businesses in Louisiana and Texas were destroyed by the flooding; and

Whereas the United States Geological Survey's National Wetlands Center indicates that 217 square miles of Louisiana's coastal lands were transformed to water after Hurricanes Katrina and Rita: Now, therefore, be it Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) observes the fifth anniversary of the date on which Hurricane Rita devastated the coasts of Louisiana and Texas;

(2) expresses its support to the survivors of Hurricane Rita and condolences to the families of its victims;

(3) commends the courageous efforts of those who assisted in the response to the storm and the recovery process;

(4) recognizes the contributions of the communities in Louisiana and Texas to the United States; and

(5) reaffirms its commitment to rebuild, renew, and restore the Gulf Coast region.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and add any extraneous material on H. Res. 1583.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 1583, observing the fifth anniversary of Hurricane Rita.

Hurricane Rita made landfall as a category 3 hurricane just east of the Texas and Louisiana border with wind speeds of 120 miles per hour unleashing devastating destruction.

Hurricane Rita directly led to the deaths of at least seven people, left over 1 million people without electricity, and damaged or destroyed hundreds of thousands of homes. In addition to this devastation the storm caused in Texas and Louisiana, it also caused flooding and tornadoes in the States of Arkansas, Mississippi, and Louisiana. Total damages from the storm are estimated to be over \$11 billion.

Hurricane Rita also led to one of the largest evacuations in United States history. Prior to making landfall, Hurricane Rita set a record as the most intense hurricane ever in the Gulf of Mexico. The storm also set a record for the most rapid intensification for any tropical cyclone, as it strengthened from a category 2 hurricane to a category 5 hurricane in less than a day.

All of these factors, coming less than a month after Hurricane Katrina, prompted 3 million residents to evacuate their homes. In many instances,

those who were evacuating from Hurricane Rita were displaced, having evacuated from Hurricane Katrina.

The good news today is the gulf coast is coming back.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H. Res. 1583.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

This resolution recognizes the fifth anniversary of the devastation caused by Rita.

Madam Speaker, as a Floridian, I understand the impact that storms like Rita have on individuals and families and on communities. It's so important that we do remember, that we do not forget.

This resolution was introduced by Representative BOUSTANY of Louisiana and is cosponsored by the entire Louisiana delegation. I want to thank the gentleman from Louisiana for his work on this resolution and, frankly, on all issues related to Louisiana's recovery from this disaster. He has been a great leader on issues for his State, and this is one more example of that.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, at this time I would like to yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. BOUSTANY), the sponsor of this resolution and a leader on these issues.

Mr. BOUSTANY. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend and colleague from Florida for his kind words, and we share the same sentiments with regard to hurricanes, and we've both dealt with them. I appreciate his work as well and his leadership for the State of Florida.

Madam Speaker, September 24 marks the fifth anniversary of Hurricane Rita's landfall in my southwest Louisiana district. This category 3 storm came ashore with wind speeds of more than 120 miles per hour and 115 feet of storm surge, causing an estimated \$11.3 billion in damages, making it the third most expensive natural disaster in U.S. history.

Hurricane Rita caused widespread destruction to our communities, fragile working wetlands, and critical energy infrastructure in Vermilion, Cameron, and Calcasieu Parishes.

On a personal note, I'd like to thank all of my colleagues who traveled to southwest Louisiana in the months after the storm to witness firsthand the devastation and to offer assistance. I also want to thank Chairman OBERSTAR, Ranking Member MICA, and the committee staff, as well as the entire Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, who all worked with our delegation to help address some of the problems we faced in this storm's aftermath.

In the past 5 years, I've worked hard to ensure that Rita is not the forgotten

storm and to further assist in the region's recovery and building. I'm proud we have initiated the first-ever hurricane protection plan for southwest Louisiana and included provisions in the 2007 WRDA bill to help expedite the Corps of Engineers' work to ensure projects are not delayed.

Rita exposed the critical state of our coastal wetlands and the role they play in supporting the U.S. energy industry. These wetlands serve as a critical buffer against hurricanes and protect industries and cities located further inland. Before the 2005 storms, the projected land loss in Louisiana was 24 square miles per year. After Katrina and Rita, the national wetland center reported 217 square miles of Louisiana coastal lands were transformed to water.

Protecting and strengthening our coasts is not only a Louisiana problem—it's an American problem. Families and businesses rely on the energy we produce in Louisiana and transport throughout the country each day. We were just starting to regain our way of life along the gulf coast, and Louisianans now face new challenges.

The current moratorium on deepwater drilling in the Gulf of Mexico threatens good-paying jobs and our economic livelihood. This moratorium has idled 33 rigs and the workers on these platforms, and it's hampering south Louisiana's recovery. There are also thousands more support workers affected by this, including welders, electricians, mariners, caterers, and engineers, that aren't directly employed by the drilling operator.

The ramifications of the deepwater moratorium and the de facto shallow water moratorium are being felt as layoffs have begun along the gulf coast. The same hardworking citizens who stayed in south Louisiana to rebuild their homes with their own hands after Hurricanes Katrina and Rita are now experiencing economic devastation.

American energy production in the gulf can be done safely, and we need to work together to quickly implement improved safety standards to put gulf coast residents back to work delivering the energy that this Nation relies upon.

Louisianans are resilient, and I'm proud to work with my community as we continue the long recovery process.

Madam Speaker, I want to salute the dedicated first responders, volunteers, and professionals who offered assistance to those affected by the storm and recognize the progress southwest Louisiana has made in 5 years of restoring and rebuilding our coastal communities.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, in the subcommittee that I am ranking member of, I've had the privilege of working with this next gentleman from Louisiana. He is, frankly, almost single-

handedly responsible for releasing billions of dollars that were stuck in the Federal bureaucracy that should have gone, and now are moving because of his efforts, to rebuild parts of Louisiana.

And so at this moment, it is a privilege to yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. CAO).

Mr. CAO. First of all, I want to thank my colleague and mentor from Florida for his tremendous support of me in the last 2 years, and I hope to continue working with him in the future.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 1583 offered by my good friend and colleague from Louisiana, Dr. BOUSTANY.

□ 1350

House Resolution 1583 observes the fifth anniversary of the devastation and destruction caused by Hurricane Rita. On September 24, 2005, Hurricane Rita made landfall along the Louisiana and Texas border as a category 3 hurricane. Rita's landfall was less than 1 month after Hurricane Katrina had ravaged multiple areas along the Gulf Coast, including in Louisiana's Orleans and Jefferson Parishes, which I represent.

Following the heroic work of first responders, our Armed Forces, and countless volunteers in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, New Orleans was unbelievably scheduled to reopen on September 19. Hurricane Rita's approach, however, made that impossible, and instead the city once again was vulnerable. Levees surrounding New Orleans were damaged extensively by Hurricane Katrina, and were far from repaired. Thousands of blue FEMA tarps remained atop roofs throughout the city, offering only provisional or temporary protection.

On Friday, September 23, the day before Rita made landfall, her outer bands began raising water levels around New Orleans, and the patches on the Industrial Canal and the London Avenue Canal were unable to hold back the rising water. Once again, we were faced with the same flooding which had wreaked so much havoc less than a month before.

New Orleans' Gentilly and Ninth Ward neighborhoods, two of the hardest hit by Katrina, were again flooded, and in some locations the waters rose to a depth of 8 feet. For many, this was a worst nightmare situation happening all over again.

Hurricane Rita resulted in the death of seven individuals and forced the evacuation of 3 million Gulf Coast residents. It also cost an estimated \$11.3 billion in damages. Madam Speaker, as the gulf coast continues its recovery from the recent devastating oil spill, I wish to remind us that only a city, State, and a region of great character and determination can rise from devastation to persevere and recover. And that is what we will do.

On this anniversary, I offer my heartfelt sympathy to the families of the

victims of Hurricane Rita, and I offer my deepest thanks to those who assisted in the recovery process. I urge my colleagues to support House Resolution 1583, as a reconfirmation of this body's commitment to rebuild, renew, and restore the gulf coast region not only from Hurricane Rita, but also Hurricane Katrina.

Mr. OBERSTAR. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 1583, as amended, observing the fifth anniversary of Hurricane Rita. Hurricane Rita made landfall just east of the Texas-Louisiana Boarder as a category three hurricane on September 24, 2005. Hurricane Rita directly caused the deaths of at least seven people, damaged or destroyed hundreds of thousands of homes, and left over one million people without electricity. In addition to the devastation the storm caused in Louisiana and Texas, it also caused flooding and tornadoes in the States of Arkansas, Mississippi, and Louisiana.

Before making landfall, Hurricane Rita was the second hurricane in 2005 to become a category 5 hurricane in the Gulf of Mexico. Hurricane Rita broke Hurricane Katrina's record as the most intense hurricane ever in the Gulf of Mexico. The storm also climbed from a category 2 to a category 5 storm in less than 24 hours with the fastest intensification of any tropical cyclone in history.

Coming less than a month after Hurricane Katrina, this storm forced 3,000,000 million residents to evacuate their homes. In many instances, those who were evacuating from Hurricane Rita were already evacuees displaced by Hurricane Katrina. We also witnessed the unfortunate deaths of 23 nursing home residents who perished when the bus evacuating them caught fire.

As I have mentioned previously, since Hurricane Rita and the other storms of the 2005 hurricane season, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure has passed legislation and held numerous hearings to improve not only the recovery from these storms, but also our nation's preparation for, response to, recovery from and mitigation of disasters from all hazards. These efforts continue on September 22, 2010, when the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management will hold a hearing entitled: "Five Years after Katrina: Where We Are and What We Have Learned for Future Disasters."

Prior to the 2005 hurricane season, when our nation faced large or unusual disasters, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) was quick to adapt and provide solutions to unique problems that would arise, often working with Congress on those solutions.

However, by 2005, things were very different. FEMA was an agency within the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), and not an independent agency that reported directly to the President and Congress. As I have said previously, FEMA's performance as an agency has suffered since its inclusion in the Department of Homeland Security in 2003.

Even long after the response to the 2005 hurricane season, the agency's placement in DHS had a detrimental effect on the residents of the Gulf Coast. There were delays in decision making, which delayed delivery of critical assistance to citizens. While things appear to be improving with the recovery in the Gulf

Coast, this improvement was far too long in coming. I am still deeply concerned that, even with the new leadership at FEMA, if FEMA remains in DHS it will not be able to respond to future disasters in the manner the nation needs and expects.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H. Res. 1583.

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. I have no further requests for time, I simply ask for support, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1583, as amended.

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

The title was amended so as to read: "Resolution observing the fifth anniversary of the date on which Hurricane Rita devastated the coasts of Louisiana and Texas, and for other purposes."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

Votes will be taken in the following order:

H.R. 2039; H.R. 5873; House Resolution 1522; H.R. 5366; and House Resolution 1610, in each case by the yeas and nays.

Proceedings on remaining postponed questions will resume later in the week.

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

CONGRESSIONAL MADE IN AMERICA PROMISE ACT OF 2010

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2039) to clarify the applicability of the Buy American Act to products purchased for the use of the legislative branch, to prohibit the application of any of the exceptions to the requirements of such Act to products bearing a Congressional seal, and for other purposes, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRADY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 371, nays 36, not voting 25, as follows:

[Roll No. 521]

YEAS—371

Aderholt	Diaz-Balart, M.	Latta
Adler (NJ)	Dicks	Lee (NY)
Akin	Dingell	Levin
Alexander	Djou	Lewis (CA)
Altmire	Doggett	Lewis (GA)
Andrews	Donnelly (IN)	Lipinski
Arcuri	Doyle	LoBiondo
Austria	Driehaus	Loebsack
Baca	Duncan	Lofgren, Zoe
Bachmann	Edwards (MD)	Lowe
Bachus	Edwards (TX)	Lucas
Baird	Ehlers	Luetkemeyer
Baldwin	Ellison	Luján
Barrow	Emerson	Lungren, Daniel
Barton (TX)	Engel	E.
Bean	Etheridge	Lynch
Becerra	Farr	Mack
Berkley	Fattah	Maffei
Berman	Filner	Maloney
Berry	Forbes	Manzullo
Biggert	Fortenberry	Markey (CO)
Bilbray	Foster	Markey (MA)
Bilirakis	Fox	Marshall
Bishop (GA)	Frank (MA)	Matheson
Bishop (NY)	Frelinghuysen	Matsui
Bishop (UT)	Fudge	McCarthy (CA)
Blumenauber	Gallely	McCarthy (NY)
Bocieri	Garamendi	McCaul
Boehner	Garrett (NJ)	McCollum
Bonner	Gerlach	McCotter
Bono Mack	Giffords	McDermott
Boozman	Gingrey (GA)	McGovern
Boren	Gonzalez	McHenry
Boswell	Goodlatte	McIntyre
Boustany	Gordon (TN)	McKeon
Boyd	Granger	McMahon
Brady (PA)	Graves (MO)	McMorris
Braley (IA)	Grayson	Rodgers
Bright	Green, Al	McNerney
Brown (SC)	Green, Gene	Meeks (NY)
Brown, Corrine	Griffith	Melancon
Brown-Waite,	Guthrie	Mica
Ginny	Gutierrez	Michaud
Buchanan	Hall (NY)	Miller (MI)
Burgess	Hall (TX)	Miller (NC)
Burton (IN)	Halvorson	Miller, Gary
Butterfield	Hare	Miller, George
Buyer	Harman	Minnick
Calvert	Hastings (WA)	Mitchell
Camp	Heinrich	Moore (KS)
Cantor	Heller	Moran (KS)
Cao	Herseth Sandlin	Moran (VA)
Capito	Higgins	Murphy (CT)
Capps	Hill	Murphy (NY)
Capuano	Himes	Murphy, Patrick
Cardoza	Hinche	Murphy, Tim
Carnahan	Hirono	Myrick
Carney	Holden	Nadler (NY)
Carson (IN)	Holt	Napolitano
Cassidy	Honda	Neal (MA)
Castle	Hoyer	Nunes
Castor (FL)	Hunter	Nye
Chaffetz	Inglis	Oberstar
Chandler	Inslie	Obey
Childers	Israel	Olson
Chu	Issa	Olver
Clay	Jackson (IL)	Ortiz
Cleaver	Jackson Lee	Owens
Clyburn	(TX)	Pallone
Coble	Jenkins	Pascarell
Coffman (CO)	Johnson (GA)	Pastor (AZ)
Cohen	Johnson (IL)	Paulsen
Cole	Johnson, E. B.	Perlmutter
Connolly (VA)	Jones	Perriello
Conyers	Jordan (OH)	Peters
Cooper	Kagen	Peterson
Costa	Kanjorski	Petri
Costello	Kaptur	Pingree (ME)
Courtney	Kildee	Pitts
Crenshaw	Kilpatrick (MI)	Platts
Critz	Kilroy	Poe (TX)
Crowley	Kind	Pomeroy
Cuellar	King (NY)	Posey
Culberson	Kirk	Price (NC)
Dahlkemper	Kirkpatrick (AZ)	Quigley
Davis (AL)	Kissell	Radanovich
Davis (CA)	Klein (FL)	Rahall
Davis (IL)	Kline (MN)	Rangel
Davis (KY)	Kosmas	Rehberg
Davis (TN)	Kratovil	Reichert
DeFazio	Kucinich	Reyes
DeGette	Lance	Richardson
DeLauro	Larsen (WA)	Rodriguez
Dent	Larson (CT)	Roe (TN)
Deutch	Latham	Rogers (AL)
Diaz-Balart, L.	LaTourette	Rogers (KY)

Rogers (MI) Sestak
Rohrabacher Shear-Porter
Rooney Sherman
Ros-Lehtinen Shimkus
Roskam Shuler
Ross Shuster
Rothman (NJ) Simpson
Roybal-Allard Sires
Royce Skelton
Ruppersberger Slaughter
Rush Smith (NJ)
Ryan (OH) Smith (NJ)
Ryan (WI) Smith (TX)
Salazar Smith (WA)
Sánchez, Linda Snyder
T. Space
Sanchez, Loretta Speier
Sarbanes Spratt
Scalise Stark
Schakowsky Stearns
Schauer Sullivan
Schiff Sutton
Schmidt Tanner
Schock Taylor
Schrader Teague
Schwartz Terry
Scott (GA) Thompson (CA)
Scott (VA) Thompson (MS)
Sensenbrenner Thompson (PA)
Serrano Tiahrt

NAYS—36

Barrett (SC) Gohmert
Bartlett Graves (GA)
Blackburn Harper
Brady (TX) Hensarling
Broun (GA) Herger
Campbell Hoekstra
Carter Johnson, Sam
Conaway King (IA)
Dreier Kingston
Flake Lamborn
Fleming Linder
Franks (AZ) Lummis

NOT VOTING—25

Ackerman Grijalva
Blunt Hastings (FL)
Boucher Hinojosa
Clarke Hodes
Cummings Kennedy
Delahunt Langevin
Ellsworth Lee (CA)
Eshoo Meek (FL)
Fallin Mollohan

□ 1424

Messrs. FLAKE, CONAWAY, HERGER, PENCE, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Messrs. CARTER, BRADY of Texas, BARTLETT, LINDER, DREIER and HOEKSTRA changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

Mr. POE of Texas changed his vote from “nay” to “yea.”

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated against:

Mr. CUELLAR, Madam Speaker, during roll-call vote No. 521 on H.R. 2039, I mistakenly recorded my vote as “yes” when I should have voted “no.”

CAPTAIN RHETT W. SCHILLER
POST OFFICE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. EDWARDS of Maryland). The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5873) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 218 North Milwaukee Street in Waterford, Wisconsin, as the “Captain Rhett W. Schiller Post Office,” on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 411, nays 0, not voting 21, as follows:

[Roll No. 522]

YEAS—411

Aderholt Connelly (VA)
Adler (NJ) Conyers
Akin Cooper
Alexander Costa
Altmire Costello
Andrews Courtney
Arcuri Crenshaw
Austria Critz
Baca Crowley
Bachmann Cuellar
Bachus Curberson
Baird Dahlkemper
Baldwin Davis (AL)
Barrett (SC) Davis (CA)
Barrow Davis (IL)
Bartlett Davis (KY)
Barton (TX) Davis (TN)
Bean DeFazio
Beceerra DeGette
Berkley DeLauro
Berman Dent
Berry Deutch
Biggert Diaz-Balart, L.
Bilbray Diaz-Balart, M.
Bilirakis Dicks
Bishop (GA) Dingell
Bishop (NY) Djou
Bishop (UT) Doggett
Blackburn Donnelly (IN)
Blumenauer Doyle
Bocieri Dreier
Boehner Driehaus
Bonner Duncan
Bono Mack Edwards (MD)
Boozman Edwards (TX)
Boren Ehlers
Boswell Ellison
Boucher Emerson
Boustany Engel
Boyd Etheridge
Brady (PA) Farr
Brady (TX) Fattah
Braley (IA) Filner
Bright Flake
Broun (GA) Fleming
Brown (SC) Forbes
Brown, Corrine Fortenberry
Brown-Waite, Foster
Ginny Fox
Buchanan Frank (MA)
Burgess Franks (AZ)
Burton (IN) Frelinghuysen
Butterfield Fudge
Buyer Gallegly
Calvert Garamendi
Camp Garrett (NJ)
Campbell Gerlach
Cantor Giffords
Cao Gingrey (GA)
Capito Gohmert
Capps Gonzalez
Capuano Goodlatte
Cardoza Gordon (TN)
Carnahan Granger
Carney Graves (GA)
Carson (IN) Graves (MO)
Carter Grayson
Cassidy Green, Al
Castle Green, Gene
Castor (FL) Griffith
Chaffetz Grijalva
Chandler Guthrie
Childers Gutierrez
Chu Hall (NY)
Clarke Hall (TX)
Clay Halvorson
Cleaver Hare
Clyburn Harman
Coble Harper
Coffman (CO) Hastings (WA)
Cohen Heinrich
Cole Heller
Conaway Hensarling

McClintock
McCollum
McCotter
McDermott
McGovern
McHenry
McIntyre
McKeon
McMahon
McMorris
Rodgers
McNerney
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Mica
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Minnick
Mitchell
Moore (KS)
Hirono
Moore (KS)
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy (NY)
Murphy, Patrick
Murphy, Tim
Myrick
Nadler (NY)
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Neugebauer
Nunes
Nye
Oberstar
Obey
Olson
Olver
Ortiz
Owens
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Paul
Paulsen
Pence
Perlmutter
Perriello
Peters
Peterson
Petri
Pingree (ME)
Pitts

NOT VOTING—21

Ackerman
Blunt
Cummings
Delahunt
Ellsworth
Eshoo
Fallin
Hastings (FL)
Hodes
Kennedy
Langevin
Lee (CA)
Meek (FL)
Mollohan

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

□ 1434

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SUPPORTING DESIGNATION OF NATIONAL HEREDITARY BREAST AND OVARIAN CANCER WEEK AND NATIONAL PREVIVOR DAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1522) expressing support for designation of the last week of September as National Hereditary Breast and Ovarian Cancer Week and the last Wednesday of September

as National Previvor Day, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 408, nays 0, not voting 24, as follows:

[Roll No. 523]

YEAS—408

Aderholt	Coffman (CO)	Hare
Adler (NJ)	Cohen	Harman
Akin	Cole	Harper
Alexander	Conaway	Hastings (WA)
Altmire	Connolly (VA)	Higgin
Andrews	Conyers	Heller
Arcuri	Cooper	Hensarling
Austria	Costa	Herger
Baca	Costello	Herseth Sandlin
Bachmann	Courtney	Higgins
Bachus	Crenshaw	Hill
Baird	Critz	Himes
Baldwin	Crowley	Hinche
Barrett (SC)	Cuellar	Hinojosa
Barrow	Culberson	Hirono
Bartlett	Dahlkemper	Hoekstra
Barton (TX)	Davis (AL)	Holden
Bean	Davis (CA)	Holt
Becerra	Davis (IL)	Honda
Berkley	Davis (KY)	Hoyer
Berman	Davis (TN)	Hunter
Berry	DeFazio	Inglis
Biggert	DeGette	Inslee
Bilbray	DeLauro	Israel
Bilirakis	Dent	Issa
Bishop (GA)	Deuth	Jackson (IL)
Bishop (NY)	Diaz-Balart, L.	Jackson Lee
Bishop (UT)	Diaz-Balart, M.	(TX)
Blackburn	Dicks	Jenkins
Blumenauer	Dingell	Johnson (GA)
Bocieri	Djou	Johnson (IL)
Boehner	Doggett	Johnson, E. B.
Bonner	Donnelly (IN)	Johnson, Sam
Bono Mack	Doyle	Jones
Boozman	Dreier	Jordan (OH)
Boren	Driehaus	Kagen
Boswell	Duncan	Kanjorski
Boucher	Edwards (MD)	Kaptur
Boustany	Edwards (TX)	Kildee
Boyd	Ehlers	Kilpatrick (MI)
Brady (PA)	Ellison	Kiroy
Brady (TX)	Emerson	Kind
Braley (IA)	Engel	King (IA)
Bright	Etheridge	King (NY)
Broun (GA)	Farr	Kingston
Brown (SC)	Fattah	Kirk
Brown, Corrine	Filner	Kirkpatrick (AZ)
Brown-Waite,	Flake	Kissell
Ginny	Fleming	Klein (FL)
Buchanan	Forbes	Kline (MN)
Burgess	Fortenberry	Kosmas
Burton (IN)	Foster	Kratovil
Butterfield	Fox	Kucinich
Buyer	Franks (AZ)	Lamborn
Calvert	Frelinghuysen	Lance
Camp	Fudge	Larsen (WA)
Campbell	Gallely	Larson (CT)
Cantor	Garamendi	Latham
Cao	Garrett (NJ)	LaTourette
Capito	Gerlach	Latta
Capps	Giffords	Lee (NY)
Capuano	Gingrey (GA)	Levin
Cardoza	Gohmert	Lewis (CA)
Carnahan	Gonzalez	Lewis (GA)
Carney	Goodlatte	Linder
Carson (IN)	Gordon (TN)	Lipinski
Carter	Granger	LoBiondo
Cassidy	Graves (GA)	Loeb
Castle	Graves (MO)	Lofgren, Zoe
Castor (FL)	Grayson	Lowe
Chaffetz	Green, Al	Lucas
Chandler	Green, Gene	Luetkemeyer
Childers	Griffith	Lujan
Chu	Grijalva	Lummis
Clarke	Guthrie	Lungren, Daniel
Clay	Gutierrez	E.
Cleaver	Hall (NY)	Lynch
Clyburn	Hall (TX)	Mack
Coble	Halvorson	Maffei

Maloney	Pence	Shadegg
Manzullo	Perlmutter	Shea-Porter
Marchant	Perriello	Sherman
Markey (CO)	Peters	Shimkus
Markey (MA)	Peterson	Shuler
Marshall	Petri	Shuster
Matheson	Pingree (ME)	Simpson
Matsui	Pitts	Sires
McCarthy (CA)	Platts	Skelton
McCarthy (NY)	Poe (TX)	Slaughter
McCaul	Polis (CO)	Smith (NE)
McClintock	Pomeroy	Smith (TX)
McCollum	Posey	Smith (WA)
McCotter	Price (GA)	Snyder
McDermott	Price (NC)	Speier
McGovern	Quigley	Spratt
McHenry	Radanovich	Stark
McIntyre	Rahall	Stearns
McKeon	Rangel	Sullivan
McMahon	Rehberg	Sutton
McMorris	Reichert	Tanner
	Reyes	Taylor
	Rodgers	Teague
	McNerney	Terry
	Richardson	Thompson (CA)
	Meeks (NY)	Thompson (MS)
	Melancon	Thompson (PA)
	Mica	Thornberry
	Michaud	Tiahrt
	Miller (FL)	Tiberi
	Miller (MI)	Titus
	Miller (NC)	Tonko
	Miller, Gary	Towns
	Miller, George	Tsongas
	Minnick	Rothman (NJ)
	Mitchell	Royal-Allard
	Moore (KS)	Royce
	Moran (KS)	Ruppersberger
	Moran (VA)	Rush
	Moran (VA)	Ryan (OH)
	Murphy (CT)	Ryan (WI)
	Murphy (NY)	Salazar
	Murphy, Patrick	Sanchez, Linda
	Murphy, Tim	T.
	Myrick	Sanchez, Loretta
	Nadler (NY)	Sarbanes
	Napolitano	Sarbanes
	Napoli	Scalise
	Neal (MA)	Schakowsky
	Neugebauer	Schauer
	Nunes	Schiff
	Nye	Schmidt
	Oberstar	Schock
	Obey	Schrader
	Olson	Schwartz
	Oliver	Scott (GA)
	Ortiz	Scott (VA)
	Owens	Scott (VA)
	Pallone	Wolf
	Pascrell	Woolsey
	Pascrell	Woolsey
	Pastor (AZ)	Wu
	Paul	Yarmuth
	Paulsen	Young (AK)
	Sestak	Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—24

Ackerman	Hastings (FL)	Payne
Blunt	Hodes	Putnam
Cummings	Kennedy	Smith (NJ)
Delahunt	Langevin	Space
Elsworth	Lee (CA)	Stupak
Kirk	Meek (FL)	Tierney
Fallin	Mollohan	Velázquez
Frank (MA)	Moore (WI)	Young (FL)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

□ 1441

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

OVERSEAS CONTRACTOR REFORM ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5366) to require the proposal for debarment from contracting with the Federal Government of persons violating the Foreign Corrupt Practices

Act of 1977, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 409, nays 0, not voting 23, as follows:

[Roll No. 524]

YEAS—409

Aderholt	Cole	Hastings (WA)
Adler (NJ)	Conaway	Heinrich
Akin	Connolly (VA)	Heller
Alexander	Conyers	Hensarling
Altmire	Cooper	Herger
Andrews	Costa	Herseth Sandlin
Arcuri	Arcuri	Higgins
Austria	Courtney	Hill
Baca	Crenshaw	Himes
Bachmann	Critz	Hinche
Bachus	Crowley	Hirono
Baird	Cuellar	Hoekstra
Baldwin	Culberson	Holden
Barrett (SC)	Dahlkemper	Holt
Barrow	Davis (AL)	Honda
Bartlett	Davis (CA)	Hoyer
Barton (TX)	Davis (IL)	Hunter
Bean	Davis (KY)	Inglis
Becerra	Davis (TN)	Inslee
Berkley	DeFazio	Israel
Berman	DeGette	Issa
Berry	DeLauro	Jackson (IL)
Biggert	Dent	Jackson Lee
Bilbray	Deuth	(TX)
Bilirakis	Diaz-Balart, L.	Jenkins
Bishop (GA)	Diaz-Balart, M.	Johnson (GA)
Bishop (NY)	Dicks	Johnson (IL)
Bishop (UT)	Dingell	Johnson, E. B.
Blackburn	Djou	Johnson, Sam
Blumenauer	Doggett	Jones
Bocieri	Donnelly (IN)	Jordan (OH)
Boehner	Doyle	Kagen
Bonner	Dreier	Kanjorski
Bono Mack	Driehaus	Kaptur
Boozman	Duncan	Kildee
Boren	Edwards (MD)	Kilpatrick (MI)
Boswell	Edwards (TX)	Kilroy
Boucher	Ehlers	Kind
Boustany	Ellison	King (IA)
Boyd	Emerson	King (NY)
Brady (PA)	Engel	Kingston
Brady (TX)	Etheridge	Kirk
Braley (IA)	Farr	Kirkpatrick (AZ)
Bright	Fattah	Kissell
Broun (GA)	Filner	Klein (FL)
Brown (SC)	Flake	Kline (MN)
Brown, Corrine	Fleming	Kosmas
Brown-Waite,	Forbes	Kratovil
Ginny	Fortenberry	Kucinich
Buchanan	Foster	Lamborn
Burgess	Fox	Lance
Burton (IN)	Frank (MA)	Larsen (WA)
Butterfield	Franks (AZ)	Larson (CT)
Buyer	Frelinghuysen	Latham
Calvert	Fudge	LaTourette
Camp	Gallely	Latta
Campbell	Garamendi	Latta
Cantor	Garrett (NJ)	Lee (NY)
Cao	Gerlach	Levin
Capito	Giffords	Lewis (CA)
Capps	Gingrey (GA)	Lewis (GA)
Capuano	Gohmert	Linder
Cardoza	Gonzalez	Lipinski
Carnahan	Goodlatte	LoBiondo
Carney	Gordon (TN)	Loeb
Carson (IN)	Granger	Lofgren, Zoe
Carter	Graves (GA)	Lowe
Cassidy	Graves (MO)	Lucas
Castle	Grayson	Luetkemeyer
Castor (FL)	Green, Al	Lujan
Chaffetz	Green, Gene	Lummis
Chandler	Griffith	Lungren, Daniel
Childers	Grijalva	E.
Chu	Guthrie	Lynch
Clarke	Gutierrez	Mack
Clay	Hall (NY)	Maffei
Cleaver	Hall (TX)	Maloney
Clyburn	Halvorson	Manzullo
Coble	Hare	Marchant
Coffman (CO)	Harman	Markey (CO)
Cohen	Harper	Markey (MA)
		Marshall

Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCauley
McClintock
McCollum
McCotter
McDermott
McGovern
McHenry
McIntyre
McKeon
McMahon
McMorris
Rodgers
McNerney
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Mica
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Minnick
Mitchell
Moore (KS)
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy (NY)
Murphy, Patrick
Murphy, Tim
Myrick
Nadler (NY)
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Neugebauer
Nunes
Nye
Oberstar
Obey
Olson
Olver
Ortiz
Owens
Pallone
Pascarella
Pastor (AZ)
Paul
Paulsen
Pence
Perlmutter
Perrillo
Peters
Peterson

NOT VOTING—23

Ackerman
Blunt
Cummings
Delahunt
Ellsworth
Eshoo
Fallin
Hastings (FL)
Hinojosa
Hodes
Kennedy
Langevin
Lee (CA)
Meek (FL)
Mollohan
Moore (WI)
Payne
Putnam
Smith (NJ)
Stupak
Tierney
Velázquez
Young (FL)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

□ 1449

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MOMENT OF SILENCE IN MEMORY OF VICTIMS OF TERRORIST ATTACKS ON SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

The SPEAKER. The Chair would ask all present to rise for the purpose of a moment of silence.

The Chair asks that the House now observe a moment of silence in memory of the victims of the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001.

COMMEMORATING SEPTEMBER 11

The SPEAKER. Without objection, 5-minute voting will continue.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1610) expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the terrorist attacks launched against the United States on September 11, 2001, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 410, nays 0, not voting 23, as follows:

[Roll No. 525]

YEAS—410

Aderholt
Adler (NJ)
Akin
Alexander
Altmire
Andrews
Arcuri
Austria
Baca
Bachmann
Bachus
Baird
Baldwin
Barrett (SC)
Barrow
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Bean
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blumenauer
Boccheri
Boehner
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boozman
Boren
Boswell
Boucher
Boustany
Boyd
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Bralley (IA)
Bright
Broun (GA)
Brown (SC)
Brown, Corrine
Brown-Waite,
Ginny
Buchanan
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Butterfield
Buyer
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Cantor
Cao
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carson (IN)
Carter
Cassidy
Castle
Castor (FL)
Chaffetz
Chandler
Childers
Chu
Clarke
Clay
Clever
Clyburn
Coble
Coffman (CO)
Cohen
Cole
Conaway
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Crenshaw
Critz
Crowley
Cuellar
Culberson
Dahlkemper
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis (KY)
Davis (TN)
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
Dent
Deutch
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Dicks
Dingell
Djou
Doggett
Donnelly (IN)
Doyle
Dreier
Driehaus
Duncan
Edwards (MD)
Edwards (TX)
Ehlers
Ellison
Emerson
Engel
Etheridge
Farr
Fattah
Filner
Flake
Fleming
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foster
Foxy
Frank (MA)
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Gallegly
Garamendi
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Giffords
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Gonzalez
Goodlatte
Gordon (TN)
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Grayson
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffith
Grijalva
Guthrie
Gutiérrez
Hall (NY)
Hall (TX)
Halvorson
Hare
Harman
Harper
Hastings (WA)
Heinrich
Heller
Hensarling
Henger
Herseth Sandlin
Higgins
Hill
Himes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hoekstra
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Hunter
Inglis
Inslee
Israel
Issa
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee
(TX)
Jenkins
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan (OH)
Kagen

Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick (MI)
Kilroy
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kirk
Kirkpatrick (AZ)
Kissell
Klein (FL)
Kline (MN)
Kosmas
Kratovil
Kucinich
Lamborn
Lance
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Latta
Lee (NY)
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Linder
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loeback
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lujan
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel
E.
Lynch
Mack
Maffei
Maloney
Manzullo
Marchant
Markey (CO)
Markey (MA)
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCauley
McClintock
McCollum
McCotter
McDermott
McGovern
McHenry
McIntyre
McKeon
McMahon
McMorris
Rodgers
McNerney
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Mica
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Minnick
Mitchell
Moore (KS)
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy (NY)
Murphy, Patrick
Murphy, Tim
Myrick
Nadler (NY)
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Neugebauer
Nunes
Nye
Oberstar
Obey
Olson
Olver
Ortiz
Owens
Pallone
Pascarella
Pastor (AZ)
Paul
Paulsen
Pence
Perlmutter
Perrillo
Peters
Peterson
Petri
Pingree (ME)
Pitts
Platts
Poe (TX)
Polis (CO)
Pomeroy
Posey
Price (GA)
Price (NC)
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Titus
Tonko
Towns
Tsongas
Turner
Upton
Van Hollen
Visclosky
Walden
Walz
Wamp
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Wachus
Baird
Welch
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (OH)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Woolsey
Wu
Yarmuth
Young (AK)

NOT VOTING—23

Ackerman
Blunt
Cummings
Delahunt
Ellsworth
Eshoo
Fallin
Hastings (FL)
Hodes
Langevin
Lee (CA)
Meek (FL)
Mollohan
Moore (WI)
Payne
Putnam
Ruppersberger
Smith (NJ)
Stupak
Tierney
Velázquez
Wu
Young (FL)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. EDWARDS of Maryland). There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1459

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 59 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

□ 1603

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. HEINRICH) at 4 o'clock and 3 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

SUPPORTING BACKCOUNTRY AIRSTRIPS AND RECREATIONAL AVIATION

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1473) supporting backcountry airstrips and recreational aviation, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1473

Whereas recreational aviation represents a significant portion of the Nation's aviation activity;

Whereas recreational aviators utilize backcountry airstrips as access points for a variety of activities;

Whereas backcountry airstrips provide multiple benefits to the general public, including search and rescue, fire management, research, disaster relief, and wildlife management benefits;

Whereas recreational aviation helps State economies by providing efficient access to recreational activities for visitors;

Whereas backcountry airstrips serve as emergency landing sites for aircraft in the event of mechanical problems or inclement weather; and

Whereas backcountry airstrips provide for dispersed recreational activity and act as internal trailheads within backcountry areas: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives recognizes the value of recreational aviation and backcountry airstrips located on the Nation's public lands and commends aviators and the various private organizations that maintain these airstrips for public use.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from

Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) and the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. PETRI) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Hawaii.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H. Res. 1473.

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

There was no objection.

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

I rise in support of H. Res. 1473, as amended, introduced by the gentleman from Montana (Mr. REHBERG), which expresses support for backcountry airstrips and recreational aviation.

A backcountry airstrip is an unattended landing area in a location that provides access to remote, undeveloped rural areas by aircraft, usually airplanes. Backcountry airstrips provide benefits to the general public, including performing research and rescue operations, fire management, research and aerial mapping, and disaster relief. These airstrips allow tourists to access remote Federal lands that, in turn, helps to support local economies and small businesses. Also, in the event of mechanical problems or inclement weather, backcountry airstrips serve as emergency landing sites when airports are out of reach.

H. Res. 1473 recognizes the value of recreational aviation and backcountry airstrips located on our Nation's public lands. In addition, it commends aviators and the various private organizations that maintain these airstrips for public use. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this resolution.

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

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the author of the resolution currently before us, our colleague from the State of Montana, Representative DENNIS REHBERG.

Mr. REHBERG. Thank you, Mr. PETRI.

Mr. Speaker, I want to voice my support for House Resolution 1473, supporting recreational aviation and backcountry airstrips on America's public lands.

This resolution is the fruit of a bipartisan effort. I could not have drafted this legislation without the support of my colleagues from Idaho, Mr. SIMPSON and Mr. MINNICK, and the co-chairs of the House General Aviation Caucus, Mr. EHLERS and Mr. BOYD.

One hundred years ago, this resolution might have been about supporting horses. Aviation has become as important to the modern West as horses were to the early explorers, trappers and prospectors. That is because the vast majority of Montana's 147,000 square miles aren't easily reached by roads—we've got a lot of dirt between light

bulbs. And like the horse opened new lands in 1910, aviation is critical to access today. That is why backcountry airstrips are such an important part of our way of life.

There are too many benefits to list them all. They enable search and rescue, fire management, research, disaster relief and wildlife management. In the event of mechanical problems or inclement weather, they serve as emergency landing sites when larger airports are out of reach. They allow public access to some of the most beautiful, remote Federal lands in America, regardless of one's physical ability, and they serve as efficient access points for tourists, who in turn contribute to local economies and small businesses. That means jobs. Too often, however, these airstrips are targeted for closure by the Federal Government or well-funded special interest groups, or simply ignored by bureaucrats in Washington, D.C.

Please join the bipartisan support for this measure and vote for House Resolution 1473.

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

I support the resolution before us, H. Res. 1473, recognizing the value of recreational aviation in backcountry airstrips.

Aviation provides access, as we've heard, to the most remote and scenic areas of our national landscape, and not just for recreational users. Backcountry airstrips also provide access for those who do not have the physical ability to get to these areas any other way. The airstrips also serve an important safety function as emergency landing sites in the event of severe weather or another emergency. Sustaining these airstrips is critical to preserving safe flight and access to the American wilderness. It is important to promote and maintain the public use of backcountry airstrips for future generations. Additionally, we should be proud of the individuals and private organizations that donate their time and resources in order to sustain these airstrips for public use and benefit.

Mr. Speaker, I support this resolution and urge its passage by the House today.

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 1473, as amended, introduced by the gentleman from Montana (Mr. REHBERG), which expresses support for backcountry airstrips. Generally speaking, a backcountry airstrip is an unattended landing area in a location that provides access to remote, undeveloped rural areas by aircraft, usually airplanes.

Backcountry airstrips are a part of life for many Americans, especially in the West. They provide countless benefits to the general public, including search and rescue, fire management, research, disaster relief and wildlife management. They also allow public access to some of the most beautiful, remote federal lands in America, as well as providing a means of access to remote areas for physically disadvantaged individuals who might not otherwise be able to get to remote locations for leisure.

Backcountry airstrips serve as efficient access points for tourists, who in turn contribute to local economies and small businesses. More importantly, in the event of mechanical problems or inclement weather, they serve as emergency landing sites when larger airports are out of reach.

Many backcountry airstrips are privately owned. In addition, several state aviation offices own and operate backcountry airstrips, and many airstrips are owned by public agencies involved in land management, such as the Forest Service, National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, and the Bureau of Reclamation.

H. Res. 1473 recognizes the value of recreational aviation and backcountry airstrips located on the nation's public lands and commends aviators and the various organizations that maintain these airstrips for public use.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this resolution.

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to be an original cosponsor of H. Res. 1473, a resolution supporting recreational aviation and backcountry airstrips on America's public lands.

Backcountry airstrips are a part of life for many Americans, especially in the West. They provide countless benefits to the general public, including search and rescue, fire management, research, disaster relief and wildlife management. They also allow public access to some of the most beautiful, remote federal lands in America regardless of one's physical ability to otherwise enjoy the backcountry.

Backcountry airstrips serve as efficient access points for tourists, who in turn contribute to local economies and small businesses. More importantly, in the event of mechanical problems or inclement weather, they serve as emergency landing sites when larger airports are out of reach. Too often, however, these airstrips are targeted for closure by the federal government or well-funded special interest groups, or simply ignored by bureaucrats in Washington, DC.

During a time when our lands are under threat from drought, insect infestation and wildfire, and when our economy continues to struggle, backcountry airstrips serve a valuable role for land managers and visitors alike. Please join me in recognizing the value of recreational aviation and backcountry airstrips, in addition to commending aviators and the various private organizations that maintain these airstrips for public use.

□ 1610

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

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. Speaker, for all of the reasons articulated, I again encourage my colleagues to support this resolution.

I yield back the balance of my time. The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1473, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECOGNIZING 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF 19TH AMENDMENT

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1375) recognizing the 90th anniversary of the 19th Amendment, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1375

Whereas full participatory rights by women are vital to democracy in the United States;

Whereas the right to vote of all women in the United States was not guaranteed for 144 years after the Declaration of Independence was signed;

Whereas the Women's Rights Convention was held in Seneca Falls, New York, in July 1848, sparking a decades-long struggle by women's rights pioneers to gain the right to vote;

Whereas a constitutional amendment granting women's suffrage nationwide was first introduced in the United States Congress in January 1878;

Whereas in 1919, the 66th Congress of the United States passed a resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution extending the right of suffrage to women;

Whereas the aforesaid amendment was then ratified by the Legislatures of the States of Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Kansas, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, Texas, Iowa, Missouri, Arkansas, Montana, Nebraska, Minnesota, New Hampshire, Utah, California, Maine, North Dakota, South Dakota, Colorado, Kentucky, Rhode Island, Oregon, Indiana, Wyoming, Nevada, New Jersey, Idaho, Arizona, New Mexico, Oklahoma, West Virginia, Washington, and Tennessee; and

Whereas, on August 18, 1920, the Tennessee General Assembly voted for ratification by a one-vote margin, passing the amendment in Nashville, Tennessee, becoming the 36th and final of the three-fourths of States needed to ratify the aforesaid amendment, entering it into the Constitution: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) recognizes the 90th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution;

(2) honors the contributions and achievements of women in United States politics; and

(3) reaffirms its commitment to pursuing policies that achieve true political and social equality for women, commensurate with their role in life in the United States and society.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. COHEN) and the gentlewoman from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. COHEN. I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to add extraneous material on the resolution under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

House Resolution 1375, introduced by the Honorable JIM COOPER of Tennessee, recognizes the 90th anniversary of the 19th Amendment. The 19th Amendment, of course, is the Amendment that gave women the right to vote in this United States, and it was not until 1920 that women got that right to vote.

We didn't start off as a perfect Union. It's taken a lot of time, and we're still working toward becoming that perfect Union.

The 19th Amendment was ratified with the perfect 36th State, which happened to be Tennessee, the last State that could make it by three-quarters of the States needed. There were 48 at the time. Thirty-five had done it. The rest had said they wouldn't. Tennessee was on the spot, and it became the perfect 36th and gave women the right to vote.

It was an historic vote that took place in the Tennessee State capitol. Probably the most historic vote that's ever occurred in that capitol. One of which, a bas-relief on the wall, which I worked on getting placed there, commemorates that event when that vote took place.

One of my relatives, Mr. Joe Hanover, managed the bill in the House. And the Senate, of which I was a member, and Lady BLACKBURN, the Congresswoman on the other side, was also a member of that esteemed body, the State Senate in Tennessee voted with overwhelming numbers to approve the resolution. It was in the House where sometimes they have problems—unlike what we experience here in Washington—where they had difficulty getting the votes together.

And it was about an even vote until the last minute. And a Republican from upper east Tennessee named Harry Burn got a missive from his mother that said, "Harry, do the right thing." And Harry did the right thing, and he cast that vote and it passed by one vote. So women have the right to vote because of the perfect 36th, the State of Tennessee in 1920, August of that year. And it was by one vote.

So it's an important story not only of how far this country has come, because our Constitution, as great as it was, didn't give women the right to vote. It permitted slavery, didn't give women the right to vote, and a lot of other problems. And it took a lot of efforts and civil rights and women's rights and human rights and all to bring us to where we're getting today. We still have a ways to go. But it also says how important one vote is, because one vote made that difference.

Prior to the ratification of the 19th Amendment, only a handful of States allowed women to vote at all, and that was in certain elections. But even those modest gains were the product of decades of struggle by women's suffrage supporters. There were early events, such as the Women's Rights Convention convened in Seneca Falls,

New York, in 1848, and it helped encourage women's suffrage supporters to organize for full participatory rights throughout the State. And during the late 19th century, thousands of women's suffrage supporters nationwide marched, lobbied, and engaged in peaceful civil disobedience in the name of equal voting rights.

A resolution proposing an amendment extending the right of suffrage to women was first introduced in Congress in 1878, but it was not until 1916 that almost all major women's suffrage groups united behind a constitutional amendment. Yes, it was 42 years—even longer than it took to amend the Tennessee Constitution to get a lottery—42 years it took to get this amendment to a vote.

When New York enacted full women's suffrage in 1917 and President Woodrow Wilson announced his support for an amendment in 1918, the political tide finally turned in favor of a nationwide effort. And on June 4, 1919, the 66th Congress of the United States proposed to the legislatures of the several States the 19th Amendment to the Constitution.

A year later on August 20, 1920, Tennessee became that perfect 36th State to pass and ratify that amendment, thus fulfilling the three-fourth requirements.

Today, House Resolution 1375 honors the generation of women's suffrage activists who persevered through adversity and doubt to secure the rightful place of women in our democracy. This resolution also serves to reaffirm this body's commitment nine decades later pursuing policies that achieve true political and social equality for women.

□ 1620

There is, of course, in the Rotunda a statuary of some of the great leaders in this movement. And I think it took years to get that placed in the Capitol on the second floor in the Rotunda to honor their work.

I urge my colleagues to support this important resolution.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I thank the gentleman from Tennessee for his kind remarks about the 19th Amendment. And as the only woman in our Tennessee delegation, and on behalf of the women from Tennessee who have preceded me in service to this body, Louise Reece, Irene Baker, and Marilyn Lloyd, I treasure the role that our State played in ratifying the 19th Amendment. I will note that we still in Tennessee have not had a woman from our State serve in the Senate, in that body, nor have we had a female take the office of governor in our State.

We have all heard the story about that wonderful day in August 1920. And indeed, as Mr. COHEN was saying, it was a thrilling day in our State's history. This Chamber knows well the story of

Tennessee Representative Harry Burn and how he received that message, how he changed the rose on his lapel to a yellow rose, and then how he changed his vote. And that was a swing vote that did indeed change history.

I want to tell you about another swing vote that helped to set the stage in the suffrage story. And it is one that is important to our State of Tennessee, and it is one that transpired right here in this Chamber 91 years ago. Representative Thetus Sims was born in Wayne County, Tennessee. He lived in Savannah, Tennessee, and he practiced law over in Perry County, Tennessee. He later represented all of those counties and some others that today are represented by Mr. DAVIS and Mr. TANNER and Mr. GORDON, as well as the portions of his district I represent.

Now, Mr. Sims was the first Member of this Chamber to occupy 217 Cannon, which is the office that I now occupy in the Cannon House Office Building. Ninety-one years ago, before the 19th Amendment could go to the States for ratification, it had to be discharged from this Chamber. The first attempt to do that was in 1915, and it failed. Thetus Sims voted against the 19th Amendment at that point in time.

Well, he had the opportunity to vote again on the 19th Amendment in 1918. And it was a very dramatic day right here in this Chamber. It was perhaps one of the most important days that had transpired in this Chamber. Supporters of the amendment were unsure they had the votes to discharge the amendment. The galleries around us were packed with suffragettes. They were packed with journalists. Everyone was watching. On that day, Thetus Sims surprised the Nation.

Between 1915 and 1918, the suffrage movement had heated up not only here in D.C., but all across the Nation. Riots had broken out here in D.C., and women were jailed for wanting the right to vote. The D.C. commissioner who put them behind bars was a gentleman named Louis Brownlow. Louis Brownlow was Thetus Sims' son-in-law. With such influences, it is hard to see how Thetus Sims could see his way to vote "yes" on this amendment.

But Louis Brownlow wasn't the only person talking to Thetus Sims at the family dinner table. Congressman Sims also had daughters. And in Washington, the Sims daughters were known as consummate hostesses. Back in Tennessee, everyone knew them for being crack shots with their rifles. Well, here in D.C. Elizabeth Sims was a suffragist leader. And her arguments evidently beat out those of her husband, Louis Brownlow.

So the day finally came in 1918. And on his way to the vote, Thetus Sims took a very bad fall, and he broke his collarbone. He refused to have it set or to take pain killers for fear he would miss the vote. So, he came to the floor and he flipped his vote. He voted "aye," and he became the hero of the day.

Well, needless to say I am very proud of Thetus Sims' vote that day. I am grateful for how he represented Tennessee. And I am so pleased that he listened to his iron-jawed angel daughter, and that he voted for women. I am honored to represent much of that district now, and I am honored to occupy his office, 217 Cannon.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. COHEN. Congresswoman BLACKBURN brings up some interesting history. And it reminds me Brownlow was probably related to Parson Brownlow, who was the somewhat reviled governor of Tennessee during the Civil War period. And Senator Henry said some very awful things about Governor Brownlow and the things he did to the women of Nashville and the jeopardy he placed them in. I am sure that was some kind of secondary reprisal as this relative of Brownlow jailed the women that wanted the vote. He had put the women in danger during the Civil War. And Senator Henry talked about that on many occasions on the floor, as I am sure you remember.

I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. KENNEDY).

Mr. KENNEDY. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I want to acknowledge the gentlelady from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) for her comments. You know, history is so important because it teaches us about the future. And we might think this is a 90-year-old piece of history dug up out of the past that we are just reflecting on. But we all know right now that it wasn't until this last three cycles that we had the election of the first woman Speaker of the House in the history of this great democracy, arguably one of the most powerful offices in the Constitution, leading the House of Representatives, Speaker NANCY PELOSI. And that one of the first items she had to take on as a Speaker was the passage of the Lilly Ledbetter Equal Pay Act. So you know, we are talking about 90 years ago, and yet up until this day we are still fighting about whether women ought to get equal pay for equal work. That was not something that was a *fait accompli* in terms of a bill that would have been passed.

But it just shows you we think we live in times where all of the great battles in the history of civil rights are behind us because they happened, oh, during the 1960s, or they happened back in the early 1920s, or they happened way back then. You know what? They're happening now.

We had an historic election in 2008, the election of the first African American President of the United States. When I go to my schools around my district, majority-minority, they finally say, "We belong in America." Because just as it was empowering for women to finally know they had a legal seat at the table, it wasn't just the legalese that mattered, it was the spirit of the law. And what matters is the

message that it sends to all of our people that this is a country that's in constant dynamic motion in terms of always trying to improve itself, expand the circle of opportunity for people who have been previously shunted aside in our country. And I think that it's a wonderful opportunity today to celebrate what makes us the greatest country on the face of the earth.

We might not always get it right, but we're going to get it right because we're a country that moves forward, that has progress, that's constantly striving to make it better. People put us down all over the world. They put us down here all over our own country. We're the greatest country in the world. We're the model where everywhere people want to come here because of things like we're celebrating today. Because you know what? For most people in the world the notion of a political right is a foreign notion. The notion of equal rights is a foreign notion. Human dignity, human rights are foreign notions.

We may not always get it right, but we ultimately will get it if we stick to it, and we remember things like this as guideposts as to how we need to continue the constant fight to move our country ever forward in the promise that Dr. King laid out in his "I Have a Dream" speech that we could all be treated as we ourselves would want to be treated someday. You know, because there but for the grace of God go each and every one of us. It's a human dignity issue.

□ 1630

One of the false things that keep us behind in life, perceptions, those are irrelevant when we talk about things like this because we finally recognize what makes our country great is we are not going to segregate, we are not going to discriminate. We are going to elevate every human being no matter their gender, their color, their creed, their disability or ability, for that matter.

This is a country that's about everybody. As this President said last week, it's not us versus them. In this country it's all us, Barack Obama, President of the United States, and, boy, is he right. Girl, is he right.

Thank God in America it doesn't matter if you are shut out because someday, because of our Constitution in this great country, we might be able to get a way in for everybody if they have something going against them. And the women fought the fight, African Americans, minorities, people with physical disabilities through the ADA. It's a constant fight. Everybody owes a debt of gratitude to everyone else for making our country a freer, more equal place for all people to live.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SMITH) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

(Mr. SMITH of Texas asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SMITH of Texas. I thank the gentlewoman from Tennessee, a former member of the Judiciary Committee, for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 1375, recognizing the 90th anniversary of the 19th Amendment.

Mr. Speaker, I support House Resolution 1375, which recognizes the 90th anniversary of the 19th Amendment and honors the contributions of women in United States politics.

The 19th Amendment prohibits the Federal Government and the States from denying a citizen's right to vote on account of sex. It was ratified on August 18, 1920.

For more than a century after our Nation's founding, women lacked the right to vote. However, throughout this time women participated in politics. Their many contributions paved the way for the eventual ratification of the 19th Amendment.

Many women played significant roles in the abolitionist movement, for example. It was after Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Lucretia Mott were denied admission to an anti-slavery conference that they organized the first women's rights convention in Seneca Falls, New York, in 1848.

The convention's Declaration of Sentiments stated that "all men and women are created equal." This served as a foundational document in the women's suffrage movement that followed.

After the 15th Amendment in 1870 outlawed the denial of a citizen's right to vote on account of race, women sought an amendment for women's suffrage.

Such an amendment would not come for another 50 years. During this period, women continued to remain active in politics. They voiced their concerns not only with regard to women's rights, but also on behalf of other causes such as the temperance movement.

In 1916, Jeannette Rankin, a Republican from Montana, was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives. She became the first female Member of Congress. While many women still did not have the right to vote throughout the country, Montana afforded women the right to vote at that time.

Finally, in 1918 President Woodrow Wilson announced his support for a women's suffrage amendment. Congress passed the proposed amendment in 1919. On August 18, 1920, the Tennessee General Assembly became the 36th State legislature to ratify it, making it the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

In the decades that followed, women not only voted, but they slowly began to enter politics as State and Federal legislators and holders of elective executive posts.

In 1931, Hattie Wyatt Caraway (Democrat, Arkansas) was appointed to the U.S. Senate, succeeding her late husband. She later became the first woman ever elected to the Senate, where she served two full terms.

The women's rights movement grew significantly in the 1960s and 1970s. But in 1979, women still only occupied 3 percent of the seats in Congress, 10 percent of the seats in State legislatures, and 11 percent of statewide elective executive offices, according to the Center for American Women and Politics.

Today, while there is still room for much progress, women hold nearly 17 percent of the seats in Congress and the number of women in State legislatures and statewide elective offices has more than doubled.

House Resolution 1375 recognizes that the full participatory rights of women are vital to democracy in the United States.

This resolution honors the historic impact of the 19th Amendment and the achievements of women in politics.

It also reaffirms the commitment of the House of Representatives to pursuing this equality for women.

I am pleased to support this resolution. I urge my colleagues to share their support as well.

Mr. COHEN. I yield such time as he may consume to the author of this resolution, the gentleman who represents the area where this historic Amendment was passed in Nashville, Davidson County, Tennessee, the Honorable JIM COOPER.

Mr. COOPER. I thank my colleagues. I appreciate their bipartisan effort on this important memorial resolution to honor Tennessee's historic role in making ratification of the Amendment possible.

I want to point out that the State of Tennessee played this pivotal role, and I think it's very appropriate that the House commemorate the 90th anniversary. I thank my colleagues for supporting this measure.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. I want to thank the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. COOPER) for his leadership on this issue and for bringing forward this memorializing resolution for us to remind—it's a great way for us to continue to remind our citizens of the importance that our State played in passing the 19th Amendment. I thank Mr. COHEN for his leadership in managing the time and the preparation for presenting this Amendment today.

With that, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I too would like to thank Mr. COOPER for bringing this resolution. It's important that it be recognized on this occasion. I thank Mr. SMITH, who was a distinguished leader. We like to think of Texas as southwest Tennessee, because we did so much to create it. So you are like a cousin and part of this great celebration. And Congresswoman BLACKBURN, who served with me in the Senate, she brought up the singular vote. She brought up the second one. I thought she was going to bring up the lottery, where she was one of my essential 22, and I continue to thank her for that.

With the memory of Lucretia Mott, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and Susan B. Anthony whose visages remain in the Rotunda, I would ask that we all vote positively in favor of this resolution and pass the resolution as presented here, H. Res. 1375. I ask for an "aye" vote.

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 1375, a resolution celebrating the 90th anniversary of the ratification of the Nineteenth Amendment and honoring the contributions and achievements of women in U.S. politics and reaffirming the commitment of the House of Representatives on its efforts to pursue policies that achieve true political and social equality for women.

As a strong supporter of equal rights, I am pleased to support this resolution commemorating the 90th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment, which extends suffrage to women. The ratification came 144 years after the signing of the Declaration of Independence thanks to support from President Woodrow Wilson, the 66th Congress, and most importantly women's rights pioneers, who fought for women's suffrage for many decades.

As a husband, father of two daughters, and grandfather to granddaughters, I am pleased to live in a country that values the founding principle of equality. The passage of this resolution can also serve as a reminder that discrimination and inequality still exist and that we can always strive for a more perfect union. I urge the passage of H. Res. 1375.

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to applaud the actions of the House of Representatives in recognizing the importance of the 90th anniversary of the 19th Amendment. I strongly support H. Res. 1375, which recognizes the significance of women fully participating in democracy in the United States, honors the contributions and achievements of women in United States politics, and reaffirms the House's commitment to political and social equality for all women.

On Election Day, in 1920, millions of American women had the chance to exercise their right to vote for the first time. Ninety years ago, on August 26, 1920, the 19th Amendment to our Constitution was ratified guaranteeing women the right to vote. As the House celebrates this special moment in history, it is important to remember the contributions of those leaders in the women's suffrage movement—Ida B. Wells, and Alice Paul.

Some women, like Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and Lucy Stone, were not alive in 1920 when women were granted the right to vote and participate in American politics. Nonetheless, they were women's rights activists who were at the heart of the women's suffrage movement. Their perseverance and persistence laid the ground work which led to the right of every American woman to vote.

While there is still work to be done, women have made tremendous strides toward equality in the United States. At this very moment, we have three women sitting on the Supreme Court of the United States, a female Secretary of State, and a strong woman serving as Speaker of the House. Women are in leadership positions all over the country. In my home State of Georgia, DeKalb District Attorney Gwen Keyes Fleming was recently appointed, by the President, to be the next Southeast Regional Administrator for the Environmental Protection Agency.

Ultimately, women's rights are not just women's rights, but human rights that benefit the entire human race. This chamber must continue to ensure that equal rights apply to all Americans regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, disability, or socioeconomic status.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly support H. Res. 1375 and urge my colleagues to do the same.

Mr. COHEN. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. COHEN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1375, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERMITTING MEMBERS OF CONGRESS TO ADMINISTER THE OATH OF ALLEGIANCE TO APPLICANTS FOR NATURALIZATION

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4862) to permit Members of Congress to administer the oath of allegiance to applicants for naturalization, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4862

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

SECTION 1. CONGRESSIONAL ADMINISTRATION OF THE OATH OF ALLEGIANCE.

(a) NATURALIZATION AUTHORITY.—Section 310(b) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1421(b)) is amended—

(1) in the subsection heading, by striking “COURT AUTHORITY” and inserting “AUTHORITY”;

(2) in paragraph (1)(A)—

(A) by inserting “, by a Member of, or Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, the Congress,” before “or by an eligible court”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following: “A Senator shall have the authority to administer such oath of allegiance only to individuals who reside in the State the Senator represents. In the case of a Member of the House of Representatives, including a Delegate or Resident Commissioner to the Congress, the Member shall have the authority to administer such oath of allegiance only to individuals who reside in the congressional district the Member represents.”;

(3) in paragraph (1), by adding at the end the following:

“(C) LIMITATIONS ON CONGRESSIONAL AUTHORITY.—

“(i) EXTENT OF AUTHORITY.—The authority under this section of a Member of, or Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, the Congress is limited solely to the administration of the oath of allegiance under section 337(a).

“(ii) PERIOD BEFORE ELECTIONS.—A Member of, or Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, the Congress may not administer the oath of allegiance under section 337(a) during the 90-day period which ends on the date of any election for Federal, State, or local office in which the Member, Delegate, or Resident Commissioner is a candidate.

“(iii) TIME AND PLACE OF CEREMONY.—A Member of, or Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, the Congress shall administer the oath of allegiance under section 337(a) only at such times and places as the Secretary of Homeland Security may designate.”;

(4) in paragraph (2)(A), in the matter preceding clause (i), by inserting “or a Member of, or Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, the Congress” after “a court”;

(5) in paragraph (2)(A)(i), by inserting “or subject to paragraph (1)(C)(ii), the Member of, or Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, the Congress” after “the court”;

(6) in paragraph (2)(A)(ii)(I), by inserting “or the Member of, or Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, the Congress” before “such information”;

(7) in paragraph (2)(A)(ii)(II), by inserting “or the Member of, or Delegate or Resident

Commissioner to, the Congress” after “the court”; and

(8) in paragraph (3)(B)—

(A) in the subparagraph heading, by striking “AUTHORITY OF ATTORNEY GENERAL” and inserting “TIMING OF EXCLUSIVE AUTHORITY”;

(B) by inserting “neither” after “Subject to subparagraph (C),”;

(C) by inserting “nor a Member of, or Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, the Congress” after “the Attorney General”; and

(D) by striking “shall not administer” and inserting “shall administer”.

(b) OATH OF RENUNCIATION AND ALLEGIANCE.—Section 337 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1448) is amended—

(1) in the first sentence of subsection (a), by inserting “, the Member of the House of Representatives, including a Delegate or Resident Commissioner to the Congress, who represents the congressional district in which the individual resides, a Senator who represents the State in which the individual resides,” before “or a court with jurisdiction”;

(2) in the first sentence of subsection (c)—

(A) by inserting “(except to the extent that such section limits the authority of a Member of, or Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, the Congress)” after “Notwithstanding section 310(b)”; and

(B) by inserting “, oath administration by the Member of the House of Representatives, including a Delegate or Resident Commissioner to the Congress, who represents the congressional district in which the individual resides or a Senator who represents the State in which the individual resides,” after “expedited judicial oath administration ceremony”;

(3) in the third sentence of subsection (c), by inserting “or oath administration by the Member of, or Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, the Congress” before the period; and

(4) in subsection (c), by adding at the end the following: “The authority under this section of a Member of, or Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, the Congress shall be subject to section 310(b).”

(c) CERTIFICATE OF NATURALIZATION; CONTENTS.—Section 338 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1449) is amended by inserting “, Member of, or Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, the Congress,” after “location of the official”.

(d) FUNCTIONS AND DUTIES OF CLERKS AND RECORDS OF DECLARATIONS OF INTENTION AND APPLICATIONS FOR NATURALIZATION.—Section 339 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1450) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(c) In the case of an oath administration by a Member of, or Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, the Congress, the functions and duties of clerks of courts described in this section shall be undertaken by the Secretary of Homeland Security.”.

SEC. 2. REGULATORY AUTHORITY.

Not later than the date that is 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall issue regulations implementing the amendments made by this Act.

SEC. 3. CLERICAL AMENDMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Each of sections 310, 337, 338, and 339 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1421, 1448, 1449, and 1450) is amended by striking “Attorney General” each place it appears and inserting “Secretary of Homeland Security”.

(b) EXCEPTION.—The amendment made by this section shall not affect the authority of any officer or employee of the Executive Office of Immigration Review (including immigration judges (as defined in section 101(b)(4) of the Immigration and Nationality Act)) to

administer the oath of allegiance under section 337(a).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. COHEN) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SMITH) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

H.R. 4862, introduced by Mr. SERRANO of New York, will allow Members of Congress to administer the oath of allegiance to naturalizing U.S. citizens.

The naturalization ceremony is a crucial landmark for immigrants. They have waited patiently to immigrate to the United States and have worked hard once they got here and have faithfully fulfilled all their obligations to this country that they have chosen to adopt as their home.

In applying to become U.S. citizens, they have made the choice to become full participating members of our community. Currently, only judges or certain officials in the Department of Justice, the Department of Homeland Security, are allowed to administer the oath of allegiance at naturalization ceremonies.

H.R. 4862 would allow Members of Congress to participate meaningfully in these solemn occasions by allowing them to administer the oath of allegiance at naturalization ceremonies. I have attended many. They are wonderful, heartfelt programs; and I think that the oath being given by a recognized public official such as a Member of Congress would mean much to the people that are becoming American citizens.

The bill, as amended, clarifies the role of a Member of Congress, the naturalization process that will be limited to administering the oath of allegiance. Furthermore, it prohibits a Member of Congress from administering the oath of allegiance within 90 days of any election in which he or she is a candidate to prevent even the appearance of any possible undue influence upon the election.

I commend our colleague, JOSÉ SERRANO, for his leadership in introducing this bill and thank Ranking Member LAMAR SMITH and Immigration Subcommittee Chair ZOE LOFGREN for their support of this measure. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, first of all, I want to compliment Congressman SERRANO for his creative idea to allow Members to administer the oath of allegiance to individuals being naturalized as citizens.

H.R. 4862 gives Members of Congress the ability to play a significant role in the naturalization ceremony, which can be and should be an inspiring experience for those becoming U.S. citizens.

Citizenship is the highest honor our Nation can bestow and naturalization ceremonies give us the opportunity to honor individuals who have come to contribute to America. Americans who take the oath of allegiance know the importance of swearing to “support and defend the Constitution and laws of the United States of America against all enemies, foreign and domestic.” It is a solemn, yet joyful and patriotic, experience.

I appreciate the majority leader and Congressman SERRANO making some improvements to the initial bill. The revised language clarifies that Members, whether Representatives or Senators, can only administer the oath to individuals from their own congressional district or, in the case of Senators, from their own State.

In order to prevent this privilege from being used for political purposes, no Member can administer the oath of allegiance during the 90 days prior to any election in which that Member is a candidate. The 90-day period parallels the House rules that prohibit House-funded mailings 90 days before an election.

And, finally, I requested that language be added to ensure that the Member can only administer the oath at a naturalization ceremony set up, conducted, and overseen by the Department of Homeland Security, which is the current practice.

The many redrafts of the language do show why legislation should be subjected to proper process where Members can participate in hearings and learn from experts in the issue area.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, which gives Members of Congress the ability to more fully participate in naturalization ceremonies. It is appropriate for Members of Congress, who wrote our naturalization laws, to play an expanded role in helping individuals become a part of the most free and most prosperous country in the world.

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

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the author of this legislation, Mr. SERRANO of the great State of New York and the home of the Yankees and Frank Sinatra across the river.

□ 1640

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

Mr. SERRANO. I thank the gentleman for the time, and I thank Mr. SMITH for his kind words and his sup-

port of the bill and his suggestions to change the bill.

Any Member of Congress, any American for that matter, who has ever been to one of these ceremonies knows that there is no greater joy seen anywhere than when folks dress up and come with their American flags to become American citizens. It is really a wonderful event. I have had the opportunity to attend a few and have seen the joy and the pride. Usually, one person is becoming a citizen, but he or she will bring 25 members of the family, whether they are citizens or not, because it is that kind of an occasion.

It is also an occasion where they, for the first time, really get to see government up close in that the people that are invited there are from the community, but they are government officials and so on. So up to now—if this bill becomes law—the only people allowed to administer the oath, as has been said, are judges or members of the administration. This bill would allow Members of Congress and Senators to administer that oath.

Now, while the bill does not speak directly to this issue, I will tell you how this idea came about. A member of my community came to me and said, Guess what? I'm going to become a citizen, and I want you to swear me in. I want you to administer the oath.

And I was touched. I said, My God, that you would want me to help you become an American, something that I and so many of us have by birth, since birth, it's a great honor for me.

Then it dawned on me. I said, I should check with staff to see if I'm allowed to do this. And I found out that I'm not allowed to do it.

Now, it won't be that it would take care of that situation of one individual asking for it, but as has been said here, we will not—and this is the change Mr. SMITH was so good at including. We will be invited to ceremonies, as we are now. The ceremonies will be set up by Homeland Security. We will not pick the date, the place, or who is going to get sworn in. But when we're invited now, the possibility is open for the administration officials to say, Why don't you join us in administering the oath, or, Why don't you administer the oath.

And I will tell you again that I don't know that there is a greater honor for someone to become a citizen and a greater honor for us on some occasions to be able to administer the oath. So the changes that are made, because there will be some questions about it, I think are strong changes. They comply with rules that say that none of these ceremonies should ever be politicized. But I really think that as people are being sworn in, to have present a Senator, a Member of Congress, and every so often to have them administer the oath only strengthens the bond between these new Americans and their government, a fuller understanding. After all, we are a question on the immigration test. A lot of people don't know that one of the questions on the

immigration test is: Who is your Congressman? Do you know who your Congressman is? Some don't pass that question; others do pass.

It is a great honor. There is not much more to say. It is a simple thought that should have been taken care of a long time ago, and I'm looking forward to the day when I'm invited to a ceremony and I can administer the oath to someone.

So I thank all the Members, and I hope that this bill can pass and become law.

Mr. KENNEDY. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. SERRANO. I yield to the gentleman from Rhode Island.

Mr. KENNEDY. I just want to take this opportunity to thank you for your work on making sure that those who are American citizens, over 4½ million Americans are Americans but don't enjoy the full rights of Americans because of where they live, on an island called Puerto Rico, where people think that you need a passport to get there. It is an American territory. And by virtue of being a territory, people on Puerto Rico do not have full voting rights power.

And your work not just on this, what may be considered a ceremonial thing, but your work to ensure this country fulfills its obligations to treat all Americans with full liberty and their enfranchisement granted under the Constitution is so much something I think needs to be acknowledged. It's great to swear people in, but let's make sure we also guarantee those rights that we already guaranteed Americans, like the 4 million Americans in Puerto Rico or those who live here in the District of Columbia or in any of the territories around the world that are of American domain.

Mr. SERRANO. Reclaiming my time, the gentleman brings up an interesting point that we have discussed at other times on this floor.

I must say that I neglected to mention that the bill also includes Delegates and the Resident Commissioner to be able to administer the oath of office. So, interestingly enough, in the territories, new Americans will become citizens on that day with the participation of the Resident Commissioner or the Delegates.

So, again, thank you. And all this is an extension of the celebration of, as you have said, Mr. SMITH, probably the greatest honor this country gives anyone, which is to become an American citizen. Thank you so much.

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 1 minute.

Mr. Speaker, I want to compliment Congressman SERRANO and Congressman KENNEDY as well. They so beautifully described why these naturalization ceremonies are so important and why they are so meaningful to our newest citizens.

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

Mr. COHEN. I yield back the balance of my time and ask that we pass the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. COHEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4862, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

HONORING LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICE DOGS

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1614) expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that law enforcement service dogs and their handlers perform a vital role in providing for our Nation's security and should be recognized for their service.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1614

Whereas everyday across the ranks of Federal, State, local, and military law enforcement agencies, service dogs perform a variety of functions to prevent and solve crimes and to ensure the public safety;

Whereas service dogs trained to detect bombs, accelerants, and other weapons can often discover these dangerous devices at airports, train stations, sporting events and many other locations before they are used, preventing mass casualties, and sometimes their mere presence at these locations can prevent dangerous situations;

Whereas service dogs trained to detect narcotics and other contraband are used at our Nation's borders and ports of entry to identify illegal drugs and smuggled goods;

Whereas service dogs and their handlers perform crucial functions in special operations, including crowd control, search and rescue missions, locating missing persons, and tactical building entries, and these service dogs often work in undesirable conditions for little more than food and the affection of their handler;

Whereas service dogs can detect the presence of human remains in operations to locate victims in disaster recovery operations;

Whereas service dogs are used to protect the House of Representatives and Senate chambers, the White House, the Supreme Court, and many other public buildings in Washington, DC, and throughout the country;

Whereas many dogs have given their lives in the performance of these duties; and

Whereas these dogs have become an integral component of modern law enforcement: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the House of Representatives that—

(1) these dogs perform extraordinary services using their special sensory and physical abilities. Their service is rendered with incredible efficiency and dedication and is an important contribution to the security and public safety of our Nation; and

(2) we all owe a debt of gratitude and our sincere appreciation to the loyal service performed by the law enforcement service dogs and their handlers.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. COHEN) and the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. COBLE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. COHEN. I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the resolution under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 1614 expresses the sense of the House of Representatives that police service dogs and their handlers perform a critical role in ensuring our national security and deserve to be recognized for their service.

Federal, State, local, and military law enforcement agencies work with service dogs to perform a variety of tasks to prevent and solve crimes and to keep the public safe. Search and rescue dogs often perform a number of functions, such as searching for victims in avalanches, collapsed buildings, and people missing in the wilderness.

□ 1650

Service dogs are also used to capture escaped offenders or suspects from crime scenes. These dogs are trained to search for items bearing human scent and are utilized in crime scenes to find evidence thrown away by a suspect.

In addition, dogs are trained to search through buildings, cars, and luggage, and can alert on more than one kind of drug despite the best efforts of smugglers.

Law enforcement service dogs can be trained to alert on guns and bomb-making materials. And often these dogs deter dangerous crimes at sporting events, train stations, airports, and other places by their mere presence.

Due to the dangerous situations these dogs and their handlers are frequently put in, many dogs have given their lives in the performance of their duties.

Today, this resolution recognizes the extraordinary efforts and dedication of these service dogs and their handlers.

Mr. Speaker, my first bill I had as a State senator in 1983 was one to make it a crime to shoot a police service dog, and to make it such because to shoot the dog was really to shoot at law enforcement personnel to try to stop that policeman from having that dog in the pursuit of its duty, and the next bullet would be for the officer. Of course they are valuable and important.

I commend Mr. COBLE for bringing this bill recognizing the contribution that these dogs make to our society and to police practices. I urge my colleagues to support the resolution.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Some recent years ago, Mr. Speaker, I rode with a K-9 handler and his dog in my district during a regular routine run, and he told me that his children regarded that dog as a sibling. The dog lived in the home of the Handler. Some days after I rode with him, I read where the dog had been struck by an automobile and killed. And I called my friend, and he made it clear to me that they had lost a family member, so I appreciate the gentleman's comments from Tennessee.

Mr. Speaker, law enforcement officers face extraordinary danger each and every day, as we all know, in their service to our country in their quest to keep us all safe. For that I am sure we are all eternally grateful.

We should also be reminded of the very special service, the tremendous work, and the dedication to duty rendered by a very special partner in the protection of our safety and freedoms, the law enforcement service dog. These K-9s and their handlers risk their lives to make our communities and our country safe, protecting us from crime and from terrorism.

Using their heightened sensory abilities, these dogs oftentimes are able to detect narcotics, bombs, and other contraband that are not visible to humans. Law enforcement dogs participate in dangerous operations, sparing their human partners the danger of entering a dark and unsearched or unsecured building. Others are trained for and have proven to be very successful at locating missing persons or detecting human remains. These very special K-9s are becoming more and more visible at major transportation hubs, and can be seen daily right here on the Capitol grounds examining vehicles as they enter secured parking areas.

The role of the K-9's handler should not go unmentioned as well. While a police officer may work a particular shift and then go home, the job of a K-9 handler is a 24 hour a day commitment. The handler often cares for his or her dog even when the dog has retired from active service.

Many K-9s have died while valiantly protecting their handlers in the performance of their duties, not unlike the case I mentioned at the outset. The bond between a dog and their handler is great, and the sense of loss when a dog expires is even greater.

There are least 80 organizations at the local, regional, national, and international level devoted to law enforcement service dogs. The Connecticut Police Work Dog Association lists over 1,500 police and military service dogs that have died while "in-service." Many of these were "in the line of duty" deaths. The individual stories of these dogs are inspiring and range from the very public event of the World Trade Center collapse of 9/11/01, where Sirius, a bomb-sniffing dog, perished when the building collapsed. The in-

scription on Sirius' steel bowl: "I gave my life so that you may save others," sums up the loyalty and the dedication that is typical of these dogs to their handlers.

I urge my colleagues to join me and the gentleman from Tennessee in supporting this resolution.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. KENNEDY) to speak on behalf of man's best friend.

Mr. KENNEDY. I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time, and I thank Mr. COBLE for his bill.

Service dogs, yes, they do a lot of really important functions, among which is to provide service and support for our veterans. We just expanded last year the definition of those eligible for service dogs to those suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder because these animals know when these veterans are in crisis and they can help get them out of the house, they can help them not only see when they can't see, as we commonly associate service dogs to be sight for the blind, but now these service dogs are doing a lot of things in addition to helping in our law enforcement.

I love the term "to detect," to search and rescue. I only wish our country had that attitude when it came to our Nation's heroes who are suffering from these neurological disorders of blindness, of TBI, of post-traumatic stress, because they need more than just service dogs. They need us to go in there and unlock the mysteries that are keeping them held hostage to the disability of their service to our country. The constant IED attacks and concussions on the brain that are going to cause a permanent, unless we step in and save them, permanent disability for these veterans.

We have an opportunity. We talked about civil rights, voting rights. This is the biggest civil rights fight for our day and generation, those with neurological disorders, for those suffering in their minds. We don't see it, and so we don't take it seriously. The fact is they need someone to come in and set them free from being prisoners of their war injuries. We need to be the first responders in the next couple of years, dedicate ourselves to saying while combat operations are over in Iraq, the war hasn't ended for these veterans. It is just beginning as they face the disabilities that they have incurred, suffering by their sacrifice to our country.

So we talk about how great service dogs are in so many respects. Let's put those service dogs out of business. Let's restore the eyesight of our veterans. The biggest TBI, traumatic brain injury, is lost eyesight. The biggest TBI confusion, loss of memory, loss of ability to go outside. These dogs are bringing them out into the real world. Let's not allow us to be having to rely on others to support these veterans. Let's restore their brain capac-

ities by investing in stem cell research. Let's restore their functions by making sure that we invest in all of the genetic trip wire identifications so they don't have to get Alzheimer's 20 years prior to the average American, which is what all neuroscientists say these veterans are going to be facing if we don't step in soon. They don't have to get Parkinson's disease because we are not doing anything.

Let's get in there, and in the words of my uncle, President Kennedy, when we talked about civil rights, he said, Who amongst us would be willing to abide by the counsels of patience and delay, and trade the color of their skin for someone else's, and abide by those laws back in the 1960s?

Well, now, who amongst us would trade places with these suffering TBI victims, these veterans, and say we can't do better to bring you home, not only in body when you get home from your war serving our country, but in mind? Because we know the suicide rates are off the charts, unacceptable. We know that what they are facing is unacceptable, and we need to be the ones who come in and shed some light on their lives so they don't have to rely on service dogs.

□ 1700

We don't have to rely on anything else but their potential to live their own independent lives free for themselves, without any dependence on anybody else, and we can do that if we put our commitment out there, professing like we did today that we care about our first responders. Hey, let's put it into action and invest in these things that will bring our veterans home, not only in body but in mind.

In the meantime, we can make sure they have service dogs, for which this Congress provided \$5 million to expand the definition of those who are suffering from other neurological disorders other than eyesight loss. That's a good thing, but let's not make it the answer, the Band-Aid. Let's get to the real solution and save these veterans from being held hostage to their terminal situations, which would not be terminal if we would dedicate ourselves to intervening and intervening soon on their behalf.

I thank my colleagues for letting me explain myself with respect to these service dogs, because they do a lot of good things, but we need to make sure our people are also given some support and independence by their not having to rely on dogs in the future.

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

Mr. COHEN. I just want to thank Mr. COBLE for bringing the bill.

As I said, I know from where he comes. That was my first bill. I started as a police attorney, and I know about police dogs and about the bonds between policemen and their K-9 companions. They do a tremendous service, and they ought to be protected and respected. I ask that we vote in unanimous support of this resolution.

I yield back the balance of my time. The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. COHEN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1614.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4785, RURAL ENERGY SAVINGS PROGRAM ACT

Mr. ARCURI, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 111-594) on the resolution (H. Res. 1620) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4785) to amend the miscellaneous rural development provisions of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to make loans to certain entities that will use the funds to make loans to consumers to implement energy efficiency measures involving structural improvements and investments in cost-effective, commercial off-the-shelf technologies to reduce home energy use, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

IN MEMORIAM: USMC STAFF SERGEANT MICHAEL A. BOCK

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

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Mr. Speaker, he was called "a young man of integrity and respect," "a great marine who loved the Marine Corps," "a loving husband and father." This is how the late Staff Sergeant Michael A. Bock was remembered by those who knew him.

Staff Sergeant Bock was conducting combat operations in the Helmand province in Afghanistan when his patrol came under fire. He died from those injuries on August 13. He had served four deployments in both Iraq and Afghanistan and was awarded the Purple Heart, the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals, and the Combat Action Ribbon.

He was raised in Springfield, Nebraska, and attended Elkhorn's Mount Michael High School, where he met his future wife, Tiffany. Tiffany and Michael also had a 3-year-old son, Zander. Zander's birth, Michael said, was the happiest moment of his life. While in Afghanistan, he watched online as his son blew out three birthday candles; and for Valentine's Day, he recorded a message and sent it to his young son. Now I'm certain that Zander will always carry his father's voice in his heart.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of a grateful Nation, I offer my condolences to the

Bock family. May God bless Staff Sergeant Bock and grant eternal life unto him.

FALLEN SOLDIER—ARMY SPECIALIST CHAD CLEMENTS

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

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, Army Specialist Chad Derek Clements, 26 years old, died on Monday, August 30, 2010, while serving his country in Afghanistan. He was one of my constituents.

He was born on March 16, 1984, in San Diego, California. After he graduated from Huntington North High School in Huntington, Indiana, he decided he wanted to proudly serve in the U.S. Army. Upon his graduation from basic training, Chad reported to the 1st Armored Battalion at Fort Carson, Colorado; and he was deployed shortly after to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

During Chad's distinguished career, he received multiple awards for his service: the Bronze Star Medal, the Purple Heart, the Army Good Conduct Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Afghanistan Campaign Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Medal, the NATO International Security Assistance Force Medal, the Army Service Ribbon, the Overseas Service Ribbon, and the Combat Action Badge.

He has also recently been posthumously promoted from private first class to Army specialist. His expertise and enthusiasm for his job in the United States Army was insurmountable.

To the citizens of the State of Indiana, to his fellow troops and to the countless people that he touched, Chad will forever be remembered as a hero.

He was preceded in death by his father, Daniel, and our thoughts, prayers and deepest condolences go out to his mother, Anne; to his stepfather, Eddie; to his sister, Danielle; to his stepbrother, Cory; and to his stepsister, Heather.

These are some of the things we hate to talk about on this floor, Mr. Speaker; but, unfortunately, war brings us to these kinds of conclusions. We just wish that all of those like Chad will never be forgotten for the service they gave to our country.

IN HONOR OF THE HEROIC EFFORTS OF RESOURCE OFFICER CAROLYN GUDGER

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

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the heroic efforts of Kingsport, Tennessee, Sullivan Central High School Resource Officer Carolyn Gudger and the efforts of all the officers and staff who acted quickly to keep all students and faculty safe from a gunman on August 30, 2010.

A gunman entered the school and immediately aimed a handgun at the school principal. Officer Gudger moved herself between the principal and the gunman and then managed to lure the gunman to a more isolated area of the school. Two deputies responding to the call shot the gunman after he refused to release his weapon.

These actions, thankfully, prevented the gunman from killing or injuring anyone. Too often we've seen situations exactly like this end in a tragic fashion. That is precisely why we should commend and honor Officer Gudger and everyone involved in responding to that incident.

Most especially, I would like to thank my good friend, Sheriff Wayne Anderson, who is in charge of these officers. All of these individuals make our community proud, and I salute them for their courage and good work that they do each and every day.

□ 1710

SPECIAL ORDERS

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. ETHERIDGE) is recognized for 5 minutes. (Mr. ETHERIDGE addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

CALLING FOR EXTENSION OF TAX CUTS

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

Mr. BRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, after traveling my district over the August work period, it is clear that my constituents' top concern are jobs and the economy. These are the same concerns they have raised for nearly 2 years since I have been in Congress, indicating that not enough has been done to get Americans back to work.

They also expressed deep worry that the tax relief passed in 2001 and 2003 will soon expire. In an economy still struggling to recover, allowing taxes to increase on nearly all Americans is unacceptable.

Though many in Washington seem to have just awakened to the idea that tax cuts are going to go up next year unless action is taken, I took the lead as far back as January in calling for the current tax rates to be extended for 2 years as a way to ensure economic stability.

Our economy is in trouble. We need to stabilize it and give it some opportunity to get back on its feet and move forward. There is widespread, bipartisan consensus for some of these tax

breaks to be temporarily extended. Instead of using the issue to score political points, let's come together and find a way to extend these tax breaks for 2 years and revisit the issue when the economy is on better footing. It is the least we can do to provide economic stability in an otherwise unstable time. We need to work for America for a change, not for party labels. You can't tell me that all Republicans are right and all Democrats are wrong. We need to come together as Americans and stabilize our economy for the long-term benefit of our country as a whole.

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

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

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

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

TRAGEDY IN SAN BRUNO, CALIFORNIA

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

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday September 9, 2010, at a few minutes before 6:30, life changed forever in San Bruno, California. The first view from my district office led one of my staffers to believe a plane had crashed in the hills. After all, San Francisco International is in my district and airline jets fly over nearby San Francisco International Airport routinely passing over San Bruno every day.

The flames shot up over 100 feet in the air. But after 15 minutes, the flames didn't subside. It was as if a giant torch had been placed on what is normally a verdant hillside.

This was a distant view of the PG&E natural gas pipeline explosion. Closer up, the scene was horrific. Four confirmed dead. Scores of people hospitalized with second- and third-degree burns, some over 50 percent of their bodies. And 6 days after this tragedy, three people are still missing. Thirty-seven homes were completely destroyed—nothing but concrete pads left, or a weeping chimney, indicating what once had been. Twelve homes were standing shells and another 10 were damaged.

We are at day six. The smoke has cleared. The ash has settled. And one thing is really very clear: the community of San Bruno rose together. Mayor Jim Ruane, City Manager Connie Jackson, Police Chief Neil Telford and Fire Chief Dennis Haag all showed extraordinary leadership and courage in bring-

ing this community together and securing the flames within a box so that more homes were not destroyed and more lives destroyed as a result.

But on other fronts, questions remain—in fact they are multiplying—about the causes of this immense pain and suffering that has been visited upon San Bruno and surrounding areas. But no question—I repeat no question—has been more penetrating to me than asked by Sue Bullis a day after the explosion. I walked into the center that was set up to establish relief and support for the families and sitting at a table by herself looking distant was this woman. She looked at me and said she couldn't locate her mother-in-law, she couldn't locate her husband, she couldn't locate her son. Six days later, they still have not been found.

The explosion was so hot that glass windshields on cars melted. Bones have been found. The blast epicenter functioned as a crematorium. And through it all, hour after hour, Sue Bullis, who lived at 1690 Claremont, is hoping and praying for an answer. She lost her house. All her documents. She has nothing but hope. And now that hope will have to be converted to inner strength if she is to go on.

I will help Sue get her documents, her insurance payments from PG&E, and I will try to ease her pain just as thousands of others are helping to ease the pain caused by this explosion. But nothing is going to relieve the pain that she has coping with the loss of three of her family members.

On Friday, we will bury Jacqueline and Janessa Grieg. Ironically, Jacqueline Grieg worked at the California Public Utilities Commission in the gas pipeline area. Her daughter Janessa was an eighth grader at St. Cecilia School in San Francisco. She was also the student body president of that grammar school. On Saturday, we will bury Jessica Morales, the fiancée of a young man who is now in intensive care with 50 percent of his body burned. Jessica was just coming into her own, finding her way, finding work and employment and opportunities at school. We have just found out that Elizabeth Torres, an 81-year-old mother who has two family members still in the burn unit, has passed away, and she too will be remembered as well.

People are anxious to return to their homes, to retrieve those belongings that remain. Some may want to rebuild. A few may not. We face months and months of hard work, but at this moment, this very moment, I bow my head in silence for the family of Sue Bullis, Jacqueline Grieg, Janessa Grieg, Jessica Morales, and Elizabeth Torres.

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

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

SHATAVIA ANDERSON—MURDER VICTIM

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

Mr. POE of Texas. In early August, August 7 to be exact, in Houston, Texas, right after the sun had gone down, about 9 o'clock p.m. on a hot summer night, a young girl was walking home. Shatavia Anderson. She went by Ta. And she was walking down the street not far from where she lived in a very modest community; 14-year-old, happy, spirited child.

She was confronted by two individuals who ambushed her, who taunted her, who robbed her, and as she tried to get away, one of them shot her in the back and murdered her not far from where she lived. This is who Ta was. This is her in the pink. She is next to her mother, Keisha Lambert. She's a real person, Mr. Speaker, a real victim of criminal conduct, died in the early teenage years. Ta's father, Leroy Anderson, said that his beautiful daughter loved life. And you can tell by looking at her that she is a happy, spirited child.

□ 1720

It could have been any of our children.

Over the years in my career as a judge in the courthouse in Houston, Texas—22 to be exact—I've seen a lot of criminal cases, tried a lot, came across many victims, but this case has bothered me a great deal. I don't know the reason, maybe it's because I have four children—three of them are girls—eight grandkids—five of them are girls, but this one has bothered me a lot just by looking at who this young lady was. Ambushed by two individuals that were caught by the Houston Police Department, Melvin Alvarado, he was the cowardly shooter who shot her in the back. It is not his first experience with the criminal justice system in business Texas. He likes to drink and drive. It turns out, of course, like some others, he was illegally in the United States. He had been deported twice before to his native country of El Salvador, but that didn't make any difference to him. He came back to Houston and committed this crime and robbed this precious child of not only some money, but he stole her life when he came back and shot her in the back not far from where she lived.

There was another individual, Jonathan Lopez-Torres, the getaway driver of the car as they snuck away in the darkness of the night after murdering this beautiful child; he's from Honduras, although he was legally in the United States. He had been arrested for auto theft. The Houston Police Department said when these criminals were arrested they showed no remorse, no sadness, almost arrogant in the crime that they committed here in the United States. Melvin Alvarado confessed to this crime and told the police what he had done.

Joe Lambert, the uncle of Ta, said this about this crime: "Illegals are a big problem in Houston. It is really senseless what happened to my niece, and I don't like it. They are starting to come over here and they do whatever they want to do. What is happening is they are given the green light and saying to the rest of us, hey, you can do whatever you want." Yes, that's what these two arrogant criminals did, but they can do whatever they want. They wanted a little property from this young lady, they shot her because she tried to get away. These are real people, real children, real victims of crime.

The duty of government, Mr. Speaker, is to protect the public. That's why we have government, to protect us. The national government has failed totally in protecting people in the United States from those criminals who come over here to commit crime. We give a wink and a nod to border security, but it doesn't happen. They cross back and forth, they get caught, they get sent back home, they come over again because the border is not secure, Mr. Speaker. It's time for the Federal Government to secure the border so more children don't get murdered by those illegals who come over here for the purpose of committing crime. I'm certainly not talking about all people who come here illegally, but we are talking about one child that was murdered by one.

The answer is not, of course, amnesty—as some advocate in this House who know nothing about the real world—the answer is securing the border by putting the National Guard on the border immediately to prevent people from crossing, and make sure that when we deport those people, they don't come back to the United States.

These individuals, Alvarado, stole the most precious thing we have, that is a human life. No parent wants to lose their child before its time, and the worst thing that can happen is for us to see a child die. And when this young lady was murdered by these criminals, they stole everything she was and everything she will be, and that ought not to be. That should hopefully make us, as a body, do something about cross-border crime. The time is now. And that's just the way it is.

AMERICA NEEDS ECONOMIC RECOVERY

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

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Let me just say, before I start my 5-minute Special Order, Mr. Speaker, that I concur with what my colleague from Texas (Mr. POE) just said. There are innumerable crimes that are being committed by people who are illegal aliens. And he is absolutely correct, we've got to secure that border, and we need to do whatever is necessary. The President of the

United States has the responsibility to protect that border, and he needs to get on with it.

States like Arizona and other States are very concerned about what is going on. There is a sign 80 miles north of the Mexican border in Arizona that says don't go south of here because it's not safe. That's unconscionable. The American people should not have to worry when they are in their own country about terrorists or criminals coming across the border from another country to kill them. So I would just like to say to Mr. POE that I really appreciate your comments.

Let me just say in my Special Order, there was a book called "A Tale of Two Cities" by Charles Dickens that said "It was the best of times and it was the worst of times." I heard some of my colleagues on the other side saying earlier tonight that we really ought to do something about extending the tax cuts that are in place that were put there during the Bush administration. We really need to do that. If you're one of the 10 percent that are unemployed or one of the 15 or 16 percent that are unemployed or unemployable right now, you realize how really bad it is.

We live in the greatest country on the face of the Earth in the history of the Earth, so from that standpoint it is the best of times. But for those who are out of work and struggling right now, it is the worst of times. I had town meetings this past week, and I can't tell you how many people told me how bad it was and how soon they were going to lose their jobs, or their husbands or wives had lost their jobs and they're suffering, so what we need to do is take the steps necessary to bring about economic recovery.

As I've said many times on this floor, when Ronald Reagan took office in the early eighties, he came in, and instead of raising taxes he cut taxes and we had 20 years of prosperity. We had 12 percent unemployment and 14 percent inflation. And what happened was he came in, and when they said he had to raise taxes in order to get the economy moving, he did just the opposite and the economy took off. That's what we ought to be doing today.

If I could talk to the President—and I know I can't because I'm here on the floor—I would say, Mr. President, look at history. Look at John F. Kennedy, a great Democrat President, and look at Ronald Reagan—who I think was the greatest Republican President in our lifetime—and see what they did to bring about economic recovery, and that is, cut taxes, cut government spending, move the country in the right direction, even if it's just for a couple of years that we have the tax cuts in place. But right now is the wrong time to be increasing taxes or letting the Bush tax cuts expire.

And I don't want to be political, but I think I have to say to my colleagues who may be paying attention in their offices right now, there will be a price to be paid in about 6 weeks for those

who don't heed the message that is coming from the American people. They want economic recovery, and they understand what needs to be done. And they're going to hold those of us who don't listen to them accountable on November 2.

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

HONORING UNITED STATES ARMY CAPTAIN DALE A. GOETZ

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

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, United States Army Captain Dale A. Goetz, an Air Force veteran with ties to Colorado, joined the Army's chaplaincy out of a strong desire to help others.

Captain Dale Goetz and his wife Christy both graduated from Maranatha Baptist Bible College in 1995. He was a former pastor of First Baptist Church in White, South Dakota before being stationed at military bases throughout the world.

Earlier this year, Captain Goetz was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 66th Armor Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division at Fort Carson, Colorado, and the family moved to Colorado Springs in January of 2010. This allowed his wife Christy and their sons Landon, Caleb and Joel to be closer to his mother, Hope Goetz, an Elbert County commissioner.

Captain Goetz and his family joined High Country Baptist Church in Colorado Springs the day before he deployed to Afghanistan. Captain Goetz, who had previously served in Iraq, cared about the soldiers he worked with as an Army chaplain, and according to his pastor at High Country Baptist Church in Colorado Springs, his goal as a chaplain was not to be a social worker but to be a spiritual guide. Captain Goetz is described as having "a calm demeanor that helped soldiers find strength in the darkest of times," according to Reverend Stuart Schwenke, a fellow pastor he had gone through ministerial training with.

On August 30, 2010, Captain Goetz was on a mission in Arghandab River Valley, Afghanistan when insurgents attacked his unit with an improvised explosive device which detonated near their military vehicle.

□ 1730

Captain Goetz was gravely wounded and died of injuries sustained during the attack. Four of his fellow soldiers from Fort Carson, Colorado, were also killed in action as a result of the incident.

Captain Dale A. Goetz is a shining example of the United States Army's service and sacrifice. As a former member of the United States Army and a retired Marine Corps combat veteran, my deepest sympathies go out to his mother, Hope Goetz, an Elbert County

Commissioner; his wife, Christy; their sons, Landon, Caleb, and Joel; and his sisters, Ann Senetar and Kim Sumner.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) is recognized for 5 minutes.

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

MAKE IT IN AMERICA

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

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I will engage in a colloquy here, with the permission of the Chair, with my colleagues to discuss an extremely important issue for America—that is, manufacturing. If America is going to make it, we're going to have to make it in America.

But before I go into the subject of how we can restart and rebuild the American manufacturing sector and make it in America, I'd like to do a little review of history first.

Years and years ago, I played football at the University of California. And it's football season, and my friends have often accused me of using football analogies, and, well, it happens to be true. So, okay, it's football season.

Let's consider for a moment that it's not football that we're dealing with but, rather, it's the economy. And if we were to consider the first quarter, we

would have to look at the George W. Bush and the Republican first quarter. What happened?

Beginning in 2007, we began to see the extraordinary crash of the American economy. It just bled jobs. Eight million jobs were lost, peaking in December of 2008, just before the onset of the Obama administration. Nearly 800,000 jobs were lost that month alone, totaling 8 million during that period of time. So you see this incredible decline in the American job market, and this is just the private employment sector. This was replicated in the public sector also.

So that was the first quarter. How did it happen? Why did it happen?

Well, crazy tax policy for starts. Tax policies that gave extraordinary breaks to the very wealthy; modest breaks to the middle class; two wars that were not paid for, the money was borrowed; the Medicare drug benefit, not paid for, creating an enormous deficit and the regulators stepped back. The period of no regulation occurred during that first quarter. Wall Street went crazy. It collateralized debt obligations. The meltdown of the housing industry, subprime loans. All of those things led to this extraordinary decline.

In January of 2009, President Obama came in and we began the second quarter. Tough situation going into that second quarter, but we began to see immediate action taken. The Wall Street stabilization programs went into effect, and the way in which that was administered began to stabilize Wall Street. We had the stimulus program, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. It went into effect. And we saw numerous other pieces of legislation go into effect during the Obama second quarter.

I'm going to go through some of these very, very quickly.

The stimulus program, 3 million jobs as a direct result of that since it went into effect in February of 2009.

We saw also the Worker, Homeownership, and Business Assistance Act dealing with the foreclosures, trying to keep people in their homes and to provide tax relief for small businesses.

We saw the Student Aid and Financial Responsibility Act, the biggest effort since the GI Bill in the 1940s and 1950s, to give people an opportunity to get job training and to get new skills when they got back into the job market.

Cash for Clunkers, stabilizing the automobile industry.

And we also saw the American Government stepping in to save two great icons of the American industry and the hundreds, in fact, thousands of small businesses that depended upon the auto industry with the bailout of General Motors and Chrysler—to good effect. We were able to maintain those small business jobs that were directly impacted there.

We also saw the Credit Cardholders' Bill of Rights. How many of us have reached into our pockets for our credit

cards and we go, "I just know those banks are going to screw me one more time." But no more, because we passed the Credit Cardholders' Bill of Rights.

Other legislation is now pending. All of those are laws.

And one that passed just 3 weeks ago, which was the teachers and the medical legislation, that went into effect fully paid for; 160,000 teachers across the United States will stay in the classrooms providing that education that our students need, and paid for by ending an extraordinarily bad piece of policy that's been in effect for many years that gave a tax break to American corporations that off-shored American jobs.

So what do you mean? Do you mean to tell me that American corporations were able to get a tax break every time they sent a job offshore? Yes. That's exactly what is over today as a result of action taken.

On every one of these bills, every single effort made by this Congress to bring jobs back, to stabilize the economy, we found virtually no Republican support. In the stimulus, none at all. In the credit card, only a handful of Republicans. Republican opposition was uniform for every single effort made by this House, by the Democrats.

The result of our work without Republican support has been a steady improvement, so that for the last 8 months we have seen private sector jobs actually increase—not as much as we need, not as much as we want, but we have seen a clear differentiation between the first quarter with the Bush debacle and the rebuilding of the American economy in the second quarter.

Where are we today? We're at halftime. We're in the locker room here in Washington, D.C. We're in Congress. We're working to complete our plan for the second half—the resurgence and the rebuilding of the American economy. And in this half, we have a series of bills that we put forward—some already law; others that will go into effect in the months ahead—hopefully passed. We'd love to have the support of our Republican colleagues, but, as in this moment, their seats are empty. But when they're filled, they still vote "no" on every effort to rebuild the American economy.

So it's halftime. The question for the American public is: Which team's going to go back on the field for the second half, for 2011 and 2012? Which team's going back on the field? The team that brought us this great debacle, the great crash of the American economy, or the team that has slowly, but every month, brought progress back to the American economy? We're talking now about making it in America.

Joining me today for this discussion is my colleague from the great State of Wisconsin, Dr. KAGEN, an extraordinary individual, an entrepreneur in his own right, who is going to talk about some of the efforts that he's

made and some of the issues that face his district in making it in America and the things that we need to do.

Dr. KAGEN from Wisconsin.

□ 1740

Mr. KAGEN. Absolutely. Well, thank you very much for yielding, and thank you for organizing this hour, where we can begin to have a conversation, a very constructive conversation with the American people across the country about making it in America. And you know, manufacturing does matter. And making it in America really is important. And just maybe, perhaps we should change the slogan from "Make It In America" and add on, "not China."

Because where I live people say, "Hey, Doc, we have got to get our jobs back from China. We want our money back from Wall Street and our jobs back from China." And one of my constituents, who is nearly 80 years old, sent me this note asking really the question about whose side are we on? You mention it's a ball game, a football game. Could be peewee, could be little league, could be NFL. Look, we're all on the same team. We're all in the same boat, the same canoe. And amazing things will happen when we begin to paddle in the same direction. We got to work together to get through the most difficult economic time of our generation.

Elaine from Peshtigo wrote me this note: "I am soon an 80-year old woman and a widow. My husband and I farmed, and we certainly had hard times the first years. But the years now are harder for old people. Oil companies take a huge profit. The CEOs make a salary no man on earth is worth. Pill companies are taking huge profits with no consideration for old people. The people of my generation lived through the Depression, World War II, and two more wars. And now in our old age we face other obstacles."

Well, Elaine, we are working hard to rebuild our economy. We are working hard to generate the jobs we need to work our way back into prosperity. One way that we've done it is to pass an essential bill on health care legislation. We now have a new health care law that guarantees that, Elaine, the doughnut hole is going to be closed over a period of time. We're beginning to close it by \$250 straight away. We've made Medicare stronger and better. How did we do that? By making sure that you have preventative services at no additional copay and no deductible. So this is coming your way.

It's a new American freedom, a new day in America, when no longer will any family have the fear of going broke and losing their home just because of an accident or just because someone gets sick.

But we didn't just act for Elaine and every other family in America to guarantee them access to health care; we lowered their taxes. Now, the quote here says, "Tax bills in 2009 at lowest

level since 1950," from USA Today. We've lowered taxes for the people who need it the most, the middle class. This is not my point of view, this is the point of view of the former domestic policy adviser to President Reagan and Treasury Department economist to President George Herbert Walker Bush. This was a statement that he made, Mr. Bruce Bartlett. Federal taxes are very considerably lower by every measure since Obama became President. The \$787 billion stimulus bill, enacted with no Republican support, reduced Federal taxes by almost \$100 billion in 2009 and \$222 billion in 2010.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Excuse me, if you might yield for a moment, Dr. KAGEN. The stimulus bill was actually a tax cut bill?

Mr. KAGEN. It was the biggest tax cut in American history. We were in such a decline economically, no one felt it. We did it the economical way. We didn't mail people a check. We made sure they got the tax cut on the other end. It was more economical. So never before has such a tax cut been enacted. And it was the Democrats, without the Republicans' support, that guaranteed middle class families would pay less in taxes.

Mr. GARAMENDI. If I might, you and I were talking earlier about a program that you have been doing in your district for the last couple of weeks, and you have been going to communities. And along the way you've reached out and said we need to make it in America. And you were talking about the paper industry. I suppose you have a paper industry in your district?

Mr. KAGEN. I live in Paper Valley. We didn't invent the manufacturing of paper, but we perfected the science and technology. Kimberly-Clark, you have heard of it. You have heard of Kleenex. Let me put in a plug for them. We've got Procter & Gamble. We've got Puffs. Everything in the tissue world and the paper world is in Appleton and Green Bay and the chain of Fox Cities in-between.

And one of those manufacturers, Appleton Coated Paper, tomorrow has a case before the International Trade Commission. And I brought with me a picture of a family. This is the Swanningson family. This is Tony, his wife Sherry, Corey, and Kayla. And they live in Kaukauna on highway ZZ. What are they doing? Well, he works at Appleton Coated Paper. And they have a problem because China has been competing illegally by dumping their paper products into our domestic United States marketplace below our cost of production.

Now, I know you're thinking how does that happen? But before I get there, let me read you the handwritten note that Mr. Swanningson sent to me. "Congressman Steve Kagen, I have been employed in the paper industry for 18 years. I am grateful for the ability to provide for my family that the industry has provided. The dumping of foreign paper into the United States

from companies that are subsidized by their own governments creates a marketplace that seriously threatens my family and countless other families throughout the United States. The ability to sell paper at a price that is less than the cost to produce it places our companies and families at a severe disadvantage. I have been able to maintain employment through four layoffs due to the mill sales and paper machine shutdowns. But the dumping of paper in the United States market is a challenge that me and my fellow union brothers and sisters throughout the United States cannot survive."

You see, what China's been doing—and I have a case against China. They didn't just manipulate their currency, they don't have any environmental protection. They don't have a social safety net. They don't have an Occupational Safety and Health Administration. They don't have OSHA. They don't have an EPA. They have sacrificed their environment for their economic development. And they don't yet have a middle class.

Now, I have nothing against another Nation seeking to lift its people up out of poverty and create a middle class. But they shouldn't do it at our expense. We shouldn't have to sacrifice our middle class solely to build up theirs. It's unfair.

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. If the gentleman will yield on that point, one of the issues we've talked about today and have been for a long time is the issue of Chinese currency manipulation by the Chinese Government. And we do not have to have growth in the United States at the expense of growth in China. If the Chinese would allow their currency to float, it would actually be worth more. So the Chinese consumer would be able to have more buying power for American goods that would be shipped over there, for other companies who are selling within China.

There is just a small group of people within China, who own primarily state-owned businesses, who like the currency low, artificially reduced so that they can ship products to the United States cheaper and subsidized to put American workers out of business. So what we're saying when we say make it in America and manufacture again, can actually help lift up a lot of these folks in countries like China if we play by the rules.

Mr. KAGEN. Would the gentleman yield?

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Be happy to yield.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Excuse me for a moment, gentlemen, but part of our agenda as Democrats then is to make sure that we have fair trade, that we have a fair balance between our Nation, our manufacturers, and those in other countries who may be—not may be, but are—subsidizing their exports, such as China and the currency thing.

Dr. KAGEN? And this is a colloquy, so we will go back and forth here. So please.

Mr. KAGEN. I am getting a little excited because China has been caught

cheating. They don't just manipulate their currency. They provide free energy, they provide no taxation, they provide cheap labor at 82 cents an hour. They have been buying raw materials for nothing, giving it to a company, and then they load it up on a boat and float it outside of Oakland and dump it into our Nation, into our domestic market below our cost of production.

□ 1750

Let me just put it very succinctly. They have targeted everything we make for extinction. It's not just paper. It's high-tech technology; it's automobiles; it's steel; it's textiles.

We have to restore our manufacturing base, yes, in part, by compelling other nations to stop cheating, by not manipulating their currency, by playing fair. One way to play fair is to instead of stealing our jobs, why don't you take our values. Take our values about clean air and clean water, because they are polluting the air that we are breathing.

It's not that far away. If a tall man and an allergist—and I say this—if a tall man in China sneezes, you are going to get it in the back of your head. It's going to come over here.

We have studies that scientifically show that the great dust storm they had in China dropped that dust over on our west coast. We are all here in the same boat. So, yes, we have to push back, not just for fair trade, but for balanced trade, in order for our companies to compete.

I will just relate one story, one educational experience in, I believe it was in February of 2007, just after I was sent here. I had the opportunity with my class of 2006 to sit down with eight CEOs of major manufacturing companies, the high-tech companies, HP, IBM, Dell and the like.

I asked them, what's your biggest component of your overhead, and each one of them said people, people, people, people. I said, well, that would explain why you are taking our jobs over to India and China because you can hire them for less.

And right across from me was Michael Dell and he said, Congressman KAGEN, I am competing with these guys. I have to chase the lowest cost of production around the world or I am out of business, and I have to, after all, represent my people, which are my stockholders.

So we have to make things in America. Manufacturing does matter, but we need a level playing field.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Let's continue on. I notice that another colleague has joined us from the great State of New York, but let me turn back to our colleague that was raising the point about the Chinese currency.

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Yes. Well, I would say that if it's balanced, and I think all of the workers and the business people in America would say this, if China is not manipulating their currency, if there was some balance with human

rights and worker rights and the environment and those kinds of things, we would compete with anybody. But what we have now under the current trading system, with China blatantly manipulating our currency, we had almost everybody at this hearing today acknowledging that China is cheating on their currency, Democrats and Republicans. But we had a lot of Republicans on the other side saying, we just don't think this is the approach.

And it gets back to these multinational corporations that have a stranglehold on a lot of the politics going on here in the United States capital. But we need to bring this bill to the floor of the House of Representatives, and we need to pass it, and we need to take on the Chinese.

We are not going to have a country left in a decade or so if we are not making things. You get the spinoff. You get the technology. You get the patents. You get five, six, seven, eight spinoff jobs for every one job. You are actually making something and moving it to you and you improve it and add value and you pass it along and add value. And then it's assembled; then it's trucked. There is the spinoff that we get with manufacturing. That's how we are going to resuscitate the middle class.

My fear is that as we have lost manufacturing, and if you chart it—you can see it decline from 39 percent in post-World War II down to under 10 percent—you could see the decline. My fear is that as we move into the development of solar panels, as we move into the development of windmills, that's exactly it.

As we develop the green technology and all of the component parts, you will begin to see China taking the lead on green manufacturing, and we can't see that ground because that is the future. As much as our friends on the other side of the aisle want to bury their head in the sand and hope this goes away, that's not the world we live in.

So we need to take a firm approach with China, respect them, but make sure they play by the rules. We have got to play by the rules. Everyone else has got to play by the rules.

I will use one example real briefly. We had a steel company, Oil Country Tubular Products for oil and gas. The steelworkers, the trade groups, the local businesses, all went around, petitioned the International Trade Commission, got approval. The President was kind enough to put on a tariff for these Oil Country Tubular goods coming in. They end up investing \$650 million in a factory in Youngstown, Ohio, 400 construction jobs, 350 permanent jobs, the spinoff, the whole 9 yards because our government enforced the rules and leveled the playing field. That's what we are saying about currency, tires, paper, textiles, right down the line.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Let me take a moment here and bring it back to some-

thing you were talking about. You mentioned the wind turbines and the solar systems. We developed the technology here in the United States, and, in fact, the stimulus bill that provided the largest increase ever in research is going to once again put the United States in a position where we can dominate these green industries.

That research is there. Incidentally, not one Republican voted for that enormous research program and tax cut and jobs program and infrastructure program. Not one Republican voted for the program that created 3 million jobs.

But there is something going on here that we need to pay attention to, and this is a piece of legislation that I have introduced. We are spending billions of dollars to promote the wind industry, the solar industry. These are tax credits that we give to companies for a production tax credit or for someone that's putting a solar cell on their house.

We need to make sure that that tax money is spent on American-made wind turbines and American-made solar panels, biofuels, and other kinds of green technologies. If it's our tax money, then Buy America. Buy American.

A little later here, I suspect, I want one of our colleagues, MARCY KAPTUR, to come and talk to us about a bill that passed out of this House just hours ago that would require that you and I, not just talk the talk, but that we walk the walk and that in the equipment that we purchase for our offices, it be made in America, once again, American tax money used to buy American-made products.

It's a piece of legislation I have introduced. I like it. I like it because it's going to create in my industry wind turbines that are actually going to not only be on the hills but actually made in America.

Enough for me for a few minutes. I notice my colleague from New York, Mr. PAUL TONKO, has joined us. You have been at this a long time. You were in one of the original manufacturing sectors of America. Please tell us.

Mr. TONKO. Thank you, Representative GARAMENDI, for bringing us together. You are right, I do represent the area that houses the Erie Canal bed that was the main route to the westward movement, and it's a necklace of communities called mill towns that were the centers of invention and innovation. That pioneer spirit still exists, I am convinced, in America.

During our recent work-period break, where we all went back to our districts and had a 6-week stretch to connect to our constituents, I did Tuesday tours. The Tuesday tours were about manufacturing, making it in America, and where we need to invest and where the success stories might rest.

It's amazing to see the stories that were impacted by the Recovery Act, work done by water efficiency, energy efficiency, the MEP program, the Manufacturing Extension Partnership,

which, by the way, the previous administration wanted to zero out.

I went to a group called X-Ray Optical. Because of MEP programming and SBIR, Small Business Innovation Research, monies, this group is employing people they never dropped during the recession. They were a steady pulse, and they are exporting.

Just when we want to say we are not exporting and, oh, the die is cast and, oh, woe is us, we lost our manufacturing sector, we lost a third of our manufacturing jobs over the last decade thanks to the weakened policy on manufacturing. But we still have enough jobs that places us on the top of that manufacturing list globally, but we can't afford that present trend which would see us losing more manufacturing jobs.

We have turned that around. Those one-third of manufacturing jobs lost in the last decade equates to 4.6 million jobs lost.

But now, with the Recovery Act, with a new focus on manufacturing, I think there is a stronger sense that we can move forward and proclaim accurately that we want to make it in America.

Representative GARAMENDI, let me just tell you that at X-Ray Optical they are exporting to Asia and to Europe. They are dealing with testing for toxins. They manufacture equipment that is the testing product for toxins in toys, in fuel and a number of items where they can save manufacturers in another realm a lot of money in the up-front part of their process.

□ 1800

And again, it's a high-tech operation where they had the investment and the partnership with the Federal Government so that we can do it smarter, not necessarily cheaper. We can do it smarter, and then we are competitive at the global marketplace.

Another venture was a state-of-the-art operation within the baby food industry. In my district, we have a new facility that qualifies for a silver status LEED building, a green building that has water efficiency and energy efficiency as a major aspect of the work they are doing, saving them cost of production and allowing them to stretch again that opportunity to translate it into jobs. Now, that was a government partnership to provide for water and energy efficiency, another sort of assistance we can provide manufacturing.

And then a third visit, if I might just share this one with you, was an outcome of the ARPA-E grant money that came with Recovery Act money. Now, get a load of this. Before I came to Congress, there was an opportunity for us to really do the ARPA-E program beyond just rhetoric, but the Bush Presidency just proclaimed we are going to have an ARPA-E program with never ever funding it. And finally, we had \$800 million appear from the Recovery Act that went to the actual implementation of ARPA-E.

DARPA, the Defense-related advanced research project opportunities, created situations like Internet for the Defense system and stealth bombers. We took that success that goes back to the NASA days and now overlaid that into the energy thinking, into the energy realm.

And so ARPA-E, with its research project initiatives, is enabling this industry, SuperPower in Schenectady, another tour location, to advance superconductive cable and also storage for intermittent power.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Before you go to the next one, could you share with us where the ARPA-E money came into the system?

Mr. TONKO. Sure. It came right from the Recovery Act.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Most people don't know what the Recovery Act is. They think of the stimulus program. They are one and the same, the stimulus program and the Recovery Act.

Mr. TONKO. It is exactly the same thing. The majority in this House supported the Recovery Act.

Mr. GARAMENDI. That is, the Democrats supported and passed the stimulus program, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

Mr. TONKO. Our friends on the other side of the aisle said "no" to progress.

Mr. GARAMENDI. "No." "No." "No."

So for research-specific programs, for energy research and small businesses, they got grants and loans to develop. The Democrats know that we have to improve the private sector to make jobs.

Mr. TONKO. Absolutely.

Well, let me tell you, Representative GARAMENDI, what this means is that with that recovery money, with the stimulus money that the Democrats support and the Republicans said "no" to, we were able to, for once now, finally, appropriate moneys for the science, the technology, and the basic research.

What they will do at SuperPower is develop that final model that will then be deployed into a manufacturing concept that will allow us to create the storage potential for exactly what you were talking about, solar energy and wind energy, which is intermittent in nature. If we get the storage issue, the battery issue resolved, it becomes even more powerful.

So it's not just about taking a garage idea and creating a manufactured product out of it, but it's also creating jobs, which then enables us to create better energy solutions.

So all of this, in a big picture format, is a whiz-kid idea where everybody from tradesmen to Ph.D.'s all get their hands in the action, where we develop a product line which requires manufacturing jobs, but then that product will enable us to respond more favorably and fully to the energy solutions that we can do here domestically and be more energy self-efficient and energy independent. It all comes together in a

master plan that uses the American workers' intellect from skilled labor on over to the Ph.D. And it all happens with our saying "yes" to a partnership like that of the stimulus package.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Well, we know that the central New York area along the Erie Canal was one of the birthplaces of the American Industrial Revolution. I think there was something in the Midwest, too. My colleagues here from the Midwest may have something to add to it. Ohio, I believe? Do you still make things in Ohio?

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Yes, we do. And we are right in line to continue down the road of innovation, whether it was aerospace with the Wright brothers, the steel industry in Youngstown in the eastern part of my district, or the rubber industry in Akron, which is the western part of my district that I share with Representative SUTTON. And we had, in Youngstown at one point, the highest per capita income in the country in the late fifties, early sixties. Steelworkers were working hard, long hours, making good money, good wages, raising their families, having a good middle class. The big bands would come through town. They would go to Idora Park. The story of America that we all remember.

And today, what we are saying is we understand that it's not going to be 1950, and Frank Sinatra is not going to come back and start singing songs again, as much as that would be terrific. We have got to create our own era of prosperity, and that means that in this country we have got to get tough with globalization and enforcing trade laws. And that means as a country we've got to suck it up, and we've got to say to the multinational corporations, who, quite frankly, don't have the national interest at heart—they've got their bottom line at heart, which is what they do. But as a country, we've got the national interest and need to protect the national interest. So tough with China. Level the playing field. Drive investment back into the United States so that we can make that bus, those solar panels, those windmills and the batteries, right down the line.

And we are not foolish enough. This isn't Pollyanna. We're not going to make everything. We know there is going to be stuff that's manufactured in China for the Chinese markets. Great. And I hope American companies go over there and do that. But what we are saying is we can't be weak-kneed with the Chinese.

I like what I saw today at the hearing we had. I like what I'm hearing within our caucus to possibly bring a bill to the floor that would get tough with China and get us making things in America again.

Mr. GARAMENDI. You said something a moment ago when you were talking about the multinational corporations and whether we're willing to stand up to the multinational corporations and bring jobs back to America. Two and a half weeks ago, we came

back from our session working out in our districts to pick up a piece of legislation called the Education Jobs and Medical Assistance Act. As a result of that, 160,000 teachers are employed across the Nation, and police and firemen, public safety officials and medical services are being provided in the communities.

A major piece of that legislation dealt precisely with the issue you discussed a moment ago about multinationals. Under the previous law, multinational companies that took jobs from America and shipped them to China or somewhere else in the world actually got a tax break. We closed that loophole. We closed that tax loophole, bringing \$10 billion back to the Treasury and discouraging American corporations, ending their incentive.

Mr. TONKO, if you would like to jump into this one.

Mr. TONKO. I think not only is that true, but also I believe during the Bush Presidency there was a strong focus on a portion of our economy, on our jobs, and somewhat a weak commitment to other sectors. As we all know, when you break down the jobs or the economy issue, it's agriculture, it's manufacturing, and it's service sector. I think the emphasis on agriculture and manufacturing was extremely weak.

We see the problems in the agricultural community. I see them in my dairy sector in my district. It's painful to see the lack of attention that has been paid to a fair price for dairy farmers.

In manufacturing, it was ignored heavily. They wanted to, as I said, zero out MEP, the Manufacturing Extension Partnership, which produced a lot of success for X-Ray Optical, where now they are exporting. But they put all their emphasis in the service sector, and where they did, they turned their back to regulation, to oversight, to kind of stewardship of a sector of the economy that, when left to control itself, brought down, because of greed, the American economy, and it wreaked damage upon us.

So what I would say is that we need to put the focus back into manufacturing. The programs we have done here, after the damage that was allowed to occur, are now going to bring back a strong response to manufacturing. And I can't say well enough how strong the Democratic agenda has been here to grow the Make it in America campaign.

Make it in America is something that people have been asking for. And they can't understand, why is it our manufacturing can't work here? Well, we see where the intellect is being invested in, where we are growing a strong partnership with small business, the springboard to our economy. They are providing the great percentage of new jobs in our society.

So, finally, the Democrats bring a working agenda that will be a profitable situation for all of us with job creation and the kind of stability and

local infusion that is essential after it was ignored for far too long.

□ 1810

Mr. GARAMENDI. Let's turn to our colleague from the manufacturing center of America.

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. You want to talk about an example, the illustration of what Democrats stand for when it comes to manufacturing, come to my district. Last week we unveiled the rollout of a third shift at the General Motors plant that is making the Cruise car, a hot car being sold by General Motors all over the world. Think about what would have happened with manufacturing in the United States if this President and this House and this Senate said, Let the auto industry go. I remember watching TV programs and hearing Senators and Republicans from the other side of the aisle saying let the free market work. Let it crash.

We would have lost an essential component to manufacturing in the United States. We would have lost General Motors for sure, sold off in pieces, and who knows who would have come in and ate up that market share from somewhere else in the world. But we said, no. We need to have manufacturing. We need to be a leader in the auto industry. This is something we believe in, and we are now seeing manufacturing increase month after month after month because of the stimulus package and because of what the President and this Democratic Congress did for the auto industry.

Mr. KAGEN. Would the gentleman agree that if you don't make anything, you won't have anything?

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. That makes sense to me.

Mr. KAGEN. You have to make things to have things. And it is manufacturing that brings us our higher wage jobs. But when we brought the bill you referred to to the House floor, only 12 Republicans voted to close the very corporate tax loopholes that ship our jobs overseas. We cannot continue to reward corporations for stealing our jobs and taking them overseas. Whose side are we on? You have to be on the side of the middle class.

When it came time to consider, as we are now in discussions, to making permanent tax cuts for the middle class, it is the Democratic Party that stands up for the middle class to make it possible for them to have a permanent tax cut. The other side of the aisle is promoting what? More and more debt to reward the top 1 or 2 percent income earners in the United States. That is just not right. It is not right for our cities in Wisconsin, and it is not right for America.

The other aspect: The other side of the aisle has an idea about Social Security, to phase it out. Phase out Social Security?

Mr. GARAMENDI. Wait, you mean to tell me that the Republican Party actually has, as one of their policy planks, to phase out Social Security?

Mr. KAGEN. In the State of Wisconsin, it is in their party platform to transform and phase out Social Security. But Social Security is a sacred contract between one generation and the next. It is the most successful social program ever invented by human beings. It guarantees people will be in their house, not the poorhouse, when they become old. It is not a retirement plan, but it is something if you put your money in, you did the work, you have got to be able to get your money out. So when it comes to Social Security, we are here to protect it and enhance it. Our opposition seeks to destroy it. There should be no question about whose side we are on.

But getting back to making it in America, making it in America is not only about manufacturing, it is about guaranteeing that your children have, that the Swanningson family's children, Corey and Kayla, have a great education. It is about guaranteeing that you have access to affordable health care when and where you need it. It is about guaranteeing that our manufacturing base that creates the higher-wage jobs can compete on a level playing field. This is something that just makes sense. But around here, if it makes sense, it is going to be hard to do.

So I would join with my colleagues in encouraging your bill to move forward, to make certain that this administration and any administration moving forward holds China accountable to stop manipulating its currency.

Now, the big picture that I get to see at 30,000 feet that I didn't see before coming here—and you know I am a doctor, right? I always tell my patients, you know, it is going to take you just about as long to get better as it took you to get sick. It took us a while to slide into this deep recession, and it is going to take a while to work our way back into prosperity. But making it—we are going to make it in America, not just with manufacturing once again, but by making sure that we hold China and other Asian nations accountable.

So what I see happening is the idea that free market capitalism has bumped into a brick wall, the Chinese wall. It is the Asian model of capitalism where the government owns the corporation, controls the currency, offers slave-like wages for labor, environmental conditions at work that we would not tolerate, not even for our animals. So what we have to ship overseas is not our jobs, but our American values. That is who we are. The voters will have a chance in several weeks to make decisions about whose side we are on. When it comes to tax cuts for the middle class and to protecting Social Security and making things in America, when it comes to closing those tax loopholes, the Democrats are on their side.

Mr. GARAMENDI. We have talked about various ways we can make it in America, certainly the fair trade dealing with China's currency and the

whole idea of competition. We have talked about the way in which we have to make sure that our tax laws support programs of hiring in the United States rather than off-shoring. In all of these things I would hope our Republican colleagues would come along with us to make it in America. But on maybe 20 different bills that we have moved out of this House, there has been virtually no Republican support.

There are other opportunities, and we offer these opportunities to our Republican colleagues to come along with us on some other programs. A piece of legislation that I am working on deals with these buses that were once made in the Midwest, in Ohio, and are still made in California. Right now we spend about \$6 billion of our gasoline tax money to buy buses, light rail trains, intercity rail systems for Amtrak and the like. In the law, there are four waivers that allow the Department of Transportation to ignore the Buy American rules, and so what has happened over the last 20 years or so is that those waivers are routinely used and transit districts simply buy buses that are made overseas. Our tax money flows out of the country, our jobs disappear, and our industry, the transportation industry, is almost gone.

My legislation tells the Department of Transportation, no, no, those waivers are finished. Three of the four waivers are gone. If there is an extraordinary cost difference, okay. But we want that money spent on American jobs so that when in the San Francisco Bay area, the Bay Area Rapid Transit system, BART, goes out, as they will, to buy \$300 million of train sets for the BART system, where will those trains be made? Will they be made in China? Given the monetary advantage that China has, quite possibly they could win the bid. Given the issues of worker safety and environmental issues that China ignores, they may win the bid. But my legislation says no, we are going to make these trains in America, \$300 million there, \$6 billion to \$7 billion a year across the Nation for transit districts everywhere, we can make it in America if we bring our tax money back. So whether it is wind turbines or solar or buses and trains, it is our tax money. Let's spend it in America, rebuild the American manufacturing system, and make it in America.

Would that be a good thing for Ohio?

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. We are all for it, and I tell you what, if you think about the contrast of the Bush doctrine, which Republicans currently want to go back to, and I am amazed around election time when they are pretty blatant about saying, yup, that is exactly what we want to do. We want to go back to the Bush doctrine on taxes and on energy and all of this, and the economy and not regulating Wall Street, they want to go back to the Bush doctrine of economic policy.

Now I understand that we are having this tax debate now because the tax cuts for the wealthiest Americans and

everyone are going to expire. We need to remember that these were the tax cuts that were going to unleash the economy in the United States. We were going to have all of this growth because of the Bush tax cuts. Cut taxes for the wealthy, explosion among developers, explosion among the economy, and we're going to have low unemployment and everything else. And where did it end? The absolute collapse of the United States economy.

□ 1820

What we're saying is not only tax cuts for the wealthiest in the country but tax cuts to offshore work, incentives for businesses to offshore work out of the country. So it's tax cuts for the wealthiest, offshoring work, having a prescription drug plan that you don't even pay for, borrowing money from the Chinese to run two wars, okay? So this is all the Bush Doctrine which would privatize Social Security and Medicare. This is all the Bush Doctrine.

What we're saying is don't privatize Social Security and Medicare. Let's invest back into these programs. Let's give tax cuts to the middle class. Let's give tax cuts to businesses which will locate and create jobs in the United States. Let's get a manufacturing policy in the United States so that we can have an auto industry, a steel industry, a paper industry, a textile industry, and most importantly, engineering, design and manufacturing economies of the future in green—a clear contrast between the Bush policies that our Republican friends clearly still trumpet and want to go back to. You have on that chart there what we have done to reverse that trend and to continue to invest back into America so we can make things again.

Mr. GARAMENDI. You talked about the investment.

A week ago, President Obama spoke to this issue of making it in America and of rebuilding the American industries. He spoke about the need to give significant tax breaks to businesses that want to invest capital to expand their businesses, to expand their manufacturing bases. Here is a very, very powerful notion.

I was meeting with three of my friends who are in the business community. They are manufacturers—one in the food industry, another in the high-tech industry. I was talking to them about this notion of would you increase your business, would you increase your capital investment on your production lines if you could write off in 1 year the cost of that capital. They said, Absolutely. You put that into law, and I'm investing tomorrow. I'm going to put people to work building my manufacturing base.

So the President has now spoken to this. It's one of the proposals that he has put forward. Today, I introduced a piece of legislation that would do exactly that. Any business that wants to increase its capital investment in that

business—broadband, production lines, machine tools, whatever it is—they could write it off in year one. We can restart the American manufacturing system if we are committed to making it in America, which is a whole series of legislation: ending tax breaks for offshoring, ending tax breaks for businesses that are routinely killing the American economy by sending jobs offshore, using our tax money to build a green economy here in America rather than buying it from manufacturers overseas, making sure our buses, our trains, our planes are made in America.

Dr. KAGEN, you've been in the high-tech industry, in the medical industry. You understand these issues.

Mr. KAGEN. Absolutely.

Mr. GARAMENDI. It affects your kinds of businesses. Share with us your perspective as we begin to wrap this up in the next 6 minutes.

Mr. KAGEN. Well, I'll make a brief comment.

The investment tax credit is so critical for emerging pharmaceutical companies—for biotechnology in particular. So when you reward people for doing good work instead of rewarding corporations and people for their wealth, you really begin to get that engine of America going, that small-business engine that really creates all the jobs that we need. I would summarize what Mr. RYAN had to say as this:

The Bush Doctrine, the Reagan Doctrine of trickle-down economics has failed miserably. It has rewarded people for their wealth instead of their work.

What we must begin to do again is to encourage people, in small business in particular and small banks, to take that risk, to take that chance and to reward you for your risk-taking and for your hard work. That will start the economic engine, and it will rebuild our economy as we go through this transformation over the next decade of becoming energy independent. We may not be totally independent as a Nation as far as growing our own energy, as far as developing our own energy, but we certainly have the resources here at home. Making it in America means not just manufacturing, making things here; it also means investing our hard-earned tax dollars in our own Nation's infrastructure.

What I object to so greatly is that we take our resources, like our children, and send them off to Iraq and Afghanistan, and we send \$2 billion a week into Afghanistan, rebuilding buildings we've never destroyed and building schools that they may need, but we need schools as well and water treatment plants. Look, if we're going to build an infrastructure, it should be here in these United States. That is where my people live. I don't represent people overseas.

Finally, with manufacturing, invest in infrastructure. We also need to balance our trade deals, about which you and I have had discussions with the Asian nations, to make sure that our

trade is balanced. That way, we can generate the higher waged jobs that we need here at home—jobs that will keep people in their homes, that will feed our tax base, that will rebuild our schools, and rebuild our middle class.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Dr. KAGEN, thank you so very much for joining us.

As I started this discussion, I used an analogy of a football game. We're talking about the most important game of all. It's not even a game. The most important thing of all is the American economy and how to keep it going and growing.

To go back over it, during the Bush years, these are all of the reasons we've stated: Two wars for which money was borrowed, creating an enormous deficit; the deregulation of Wall Street, anything goes; the collapse of Wall Street; the issues of tax policy where the wealthy were rewarded for their wealth, not for their work, which led to the largest decline in the American economy since the Great Depression of the 1930s.

It was plain to see that when President Obama came in. That was the first quarter. In the second quarter, we began to see policies that were put forth by the Democratic Party and the Democratic administration, policies that began to restore the American economy—a steady upward climb. It's not where we need to be, but we are on the road, and we did all of that with almost no Republican help at all. If you go back through all of those votes, the Republican Party was standing over there, saying no, no to the programs that actually brought us back, and we continue on today. We are in the locker room, ready for the second half, which begins in January 2011. The question is:

Which team are you going to put back on the field? Where do you stand?

Well, we know pretty clearly where the Republican Party stands. It stands with the old failed policies of the George W. Bush administration. It stands for ending Social Security and for ending Medicare. It stands for anything goes and no regulation; let it rip and it's ripped us off. It stands for tax breaks for the wealthy and the heck with the middle class. That's where the Republican Party stands.

The Democratic Party wants to make it in America, to rebuild the American manufacturing base and the American manufacturing industry.

If you would, Dr. KAGEN, put the picture back up of the family, of the family in your district in the paper industry. This family is losing its job because of unfair competition. If we were to use the Capital Investment Program together with the program that you talked about of restoring fairness and trade, perhaps that company, that family and families in my district would be able to have well-paid, middle class American jobs.

Dr. KAGEN, would you like to close us off here and bring us back to real America.

Mr. KAGEN. Thank you very much for yielding.

I'll just summarize that the Swannington family wants nothing more than any other family in the United States. They want an opportunity to go to work where it's safe, where they can earn a living wage, where they can begin to pay off their own debts and make it on their own, to have their own home, to have a living wage sufficient enough to educate themselves and the next generation—their children. That is, after all, what every family wants.

This is the American Dream that is being stolen away by the illegal dumping of paper into our area, and when China has targeted everything else we make for extinction, it's just time that we stand up and fight for our own jobs here at home. We're going to make it in America when we all begin to paddle in the same direction, when we're all in the same boat. So let's get on board. Let's take that train ride together.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Dr. KAGEN, thank you so very much and my colleagues for joining us, and thank you to my colleagues in the Democratic Party, who are committed to manufacturing matters and to making it in America. We have put forth many, many policies and programs. We ask our Republican colleagues to join us in making it in America.

I yield back my time, Mr. Speaker.

□ 1830

THE ECONOMY

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

Mr. AKIN. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Good evening. It's a pleasure to be able to join you. I had a chance to listen in on some of the last hour presented by the Democrats and their views on the economy. It seemed like a fair amount of sophistry to me and a lot of excuses. It would seem like we're blaming things on Bush and the Chinese. So I am going to be presenting and maybe even have some guests here presenting a different perspective on the economy, and the American people will be the judge of that debate and discussion in November.

Now I would suggest that the Democrats and their policies are actually destructive to the economy. I don't think it's a coincidence that if you look at the 10 cities in America that have the highest percentage of people below the poverty level, that those cities have been managed, every one of them, for many years by Democrats. Now you can blame the Chinese and you can blame President Bush, but I would suggest, and I will show in the next hour in plain, simple terms why the Democrat policies are literally destroying the economy.

Now you could say, well, I don't like that, or maybe you're being partisan.

I'm not really quite so concerned about being partisan or whether we like things politically. I'm concerned with America. I'm concerned with the people that don't have jobs. And I'm concerned that not only are we creating unemployment but we are systematically destroying the businesses that can create employment in the future.

Let's take a look at these questions. Those are strong charges to say that the Democrats are the ones that are actually responsible for what's been going on. I think a lot of Americans have some sense that that may be true. Sometimes it's fun to take a look at some of these political cartoons. We have the President here now talking to the guy that owns the china shop: "Now give me one good reason why you're not hiring." And you have health care reform storming in and cap-and-tax or cap-and-trade and the taxes that are impending and all. The point of the cartoon, of course, is the fact that the policies that we have seen are creating the unemployment.

Let's look at that again just a little bit closer. Now when we talk about the economy, there are different ways of measuring it, you can see. Well, is Wall Street doing well? Am I doing well? Am I happy with my job or are things going comfortably for me? Is there a lot of employment or unemployment? Those are measures that we use. We take a look, also, at the rate of the Federal Government, how much it's spending money versus how much it's having to borrow. Those are all things when we say the economy, what does that mean? But particularly it's very personal when we talk about unemployment and it becomes not a political issue but a personal issue when it's your job that was just lost.

We were told that we had to come up with this economic stimulus bill last year. We were told that if you don't pass this economic stimulus bill, this unemployment could get above where it is now. It's going up, could get above, but if you don't pass it, why, we could have 9 percent unemployment if you don't pass this stimulus bill. And so the Democrats, all by themselves, passed this \$800 billion bill to supposedly stimulate the economy. After they passed it, what happened? Well, now we've got this unemployment here at 9.7 percent. The numbers vary, but we're pretty close to 10. But that 10 percent is very conservative, because if you've lost your job more than a year ago, you don't get to count in the statistics anymore. So, in fact, the unemployment rate is well over 10 percent in America.

Now we were told that if you passed the stimulus bill, that we could keep it underneath 8 percent. That's the words that the Democrats brought to this floor a year ago. The fact is they were wrong. Anybody can see they're wrong. Just take a look at what the unemployment numbers are, and they don't bear it out. In fact, they spent \$800 billion, and where did it all go? Did it go

for a lot of projects? Or was it just more bailouts? In fact, it turned out that it had a lot of bailout money in it that didn't really go for even things that FDR would have considered an economic stimulus package.

This is what's going on. We've got a high level of unemployment. The stimulus package that was passed here, and the Democrats said the Republicans didn't help any. They're right, they didn't, because we didn't think that stimulus package would work. We stood here on the floor, I stood here on the floor on a time just like this, on a Wednesday night, and said, "It's not going to work." But they did it, anyway; and now we can see, it didn't work.

And now what are they going to do? Well, they want to do some more stimulus packages. Is it going to work? No. Because it's based on faulty economics. It will never work. The interesting thing is they should have really listened to the Secretary of the Treasury under FDR, Henry Morgenthau. He tried the same thing. This was back in the 1930s. He said, we've tried spending money to try and get the economy going. We've spent and spent. Now we're in a tremendous amount of debt and unemployment hasn't changed a bit. He said, "It does not work." To this House Ways and Means Committee, Henry Morgenthau, way before I was born, he was saying, "It doesn't work." Yet here we go; we're doing it again.

Now let's take a look more specifically at what the Democrat policies are that are in conflict with creating jobs, because I would suggest that the Democrats have got this problem. The problem is, is that everything they stand for is specifically going to be in conflict with creating jobs.

What are the things they stand for? Well, let's take a look at where jobs come from. And this is the linkage that the Democrat Party doesn't want you to figure out. It's not a very complicated thing. And, that is, if you get a job, you have to get a job from somebody. Who's the "from somebody"? Well, it's a business somewhere. You can't separate employers and people who run businesses from jobs. Jobs just don't hang out there floating around somewhere. They're created by an employer somewhere. And if you create conditions economically that make it impossible for the employers, then guess what's going to happen. You're not going to have jobs. It's not very complicated. It's about as simple as a lemonade stand. I'm going to use the illustration of a lemonade stand to try and hammer through this very simple truth; and it's very important, because the future, the economic future, the future of families in America hang on understanding these simple principles.

The idea is that jobs come from an employer; and if you harm the employer, you're not going to have the jobs. And if you do it bad enough as

FDR did and you hammer them bad enough, you'll put the employers out of business, and then it's going to be a long time before the company starts up and new jobs can be created. So let's take a look at what happens.

Let's say that you've got a lemonade stand. You happen to have a very fortunate piece of property and a whole lot of people are coming through there. They're hot, sweaty and tired. You've got the one piece of property where you can put up a whole of a lemonade stand. So you start out. You hire your younger brother and sister to work there. You squeeze the lemon juice in the morning and get some sugar from the store, put it all together, you get some ice, get out there and you have a pretty good day. You sell a lot of lemonade, you get going at it, and pretty soon, though, you realize there's a whole lot more demand for your lemonade than you have capacity to make this stuff.

So you start thinking, man, I wonder if I should go down and buy some sort of a lemon squeezer and a great big shaker machine and ice machine. I'll hire five or six more people, not just my younger brother and sister but I'm going to bring some other friends from my class and they can all work at the lemonade stand and we'll make a whole lot more lemonade then, you think to yourself. But for me to buy that ice machine and the lemon squeezer and all, I'm going to have to have some money and I'm going to have to make sure that there's going to be enough money coming in from lemonade to pay off the cost of that machinery.

So if you're an owner of a business, one of the things you have to figure out is you have to have enough money to be able to create new jobs. Now if you go with your plan and you buy the lemon squeezer and the ice machine, you can hire eight more people to make lemonade and you can sell it.

□ 1840

But it requires that you've got to have some money to buy the ice machine and the lemon squeezer. You've been making good money in the lemonade stand, you can see how you could pay it off in a couple of months, but you don't have the money right now. And so as a businessman you're saying, well, I've somehow got to get this money, and that comes into a question about liquidity, if you can borrow some money from somebody.

Now, what happens to this lemonade stand guy if you're running along, you're making this lemonade, and all of a sudden you say we're going to put a tax on lemonade stands and we're going to charge 50 cents a glass of tax on lemonade? Well, if you do that, that means the guy that owns the lemonade stand isn't going to have the money to pay off the ice machine and the lemon squeezer, so he's going to just hunker down. He will pay the tax, he will keep things going the way they are, but he says, man, this is a hostile environ-

ment out here. They're taxing every glass of lemonade I make, and so I'm not going to create as many jobs.

Now I guess a lemonade stand may be silly, I'm trying to make it sound simple. It's not complicated. If you tax the owners of businesses heavily they're not going to have the money to make the investments to create new jobs, and it's that linkage which the Democrats refuse to understand and it is so obvious and so simple. Our policies are going after the owners of businesses and we're calling them "rich guys" and we're saying you've got to punish the rich guys by taking their money so everybody else can be okay. This is the bailout mindset. This is the bailout fever that has infected this city. It is the bailout concept that the government has to redistribute wealth. And when you take it away from the guys that own the business, you're not going to be creating the jobs.

That's just the mechanics of how economics works. You don't have to like it. I didn't invent it, I'm just explaining what is common sense and most Americans can understand: Jobs come from employers; if you destroy employers, you're not going to have jobs. And how do you destroy employers? The best way to do it? Tax them. There are other ways to destroy businesses, but taxing them is a pretty good way to do it.

Let's take a look at other questions. One, like the lemonade stand example, if the owner of the business, maybe he's making good profit on his lemonade but he doesn't have a huge bank account or money saved up. What he will want to do is go to a bank and borrow some money for his ice machine and his lemon squeezer. So he goes to the bank and he tries to get a loan from the bank, but what we found is going on right now, the policies on banks are so tight—even though the Fed has released tons of money—that the bankers are afraid to loan money to businesses and businesses are afraid to borrow it. That is not a good condition if you're trying to create jobs because you have to have a source of money for businessmen to borrow in order to get innovation and things going to get the marketplace going.

Another thing that's a huge killer of jobs is if the businessman doesn't know what's going to happen. The guy with the lemonade stand is doing a land office business because it's 100 degrees every day and everybody is coming by his lemonade stand. But the thing is he knows the season is changing and fall is coming and he's not so sure that he is going to be able to sell that lemonade as the weather gets colder. Now he's got some unknowns, the weather is in there. Well, we've got a big unknown, and that's what the people in Washington, D.C. are going to do to businesses next.

When the businessman doesn't know what's going to happen, guess what? In Missouri we have an expression, it's called "hunkering down," or sometimes people say "hunkering down like

a toad in a hailstorm." Well, they hunker down because they're not sure what these guys in Washington, D.C. are going to be doing. And if they're going to pass a health care bill which is going to crank taxes way up on everybody that's working for you, if you're going to pass this great big tax increase, there's some uncertainty there. And if you think the economy is really bad and everybody is struggling and there is not much demand because nobody has jobs and the whole economy is sort of sluggish and sitting like a stone, then you're going to be very careful about doing anything in terms of increasing your productivity or how fast or how efficiently you can make something because you're saying, wait a minute, I'm going to have to make a big investment. I don't know if I can sell enough product with the taxes and everything to be able to pay it off. So uncertainty is a killer in terms of jobs.

And then of course red tape and government mandates. If you make that lemonade stand, test every single glass to make sure it's just crystal pure and you have to file a report with the government and with the EPA that every single glass of lemonade is certified and has been tested on analytical equipment to be sure, what that does is that red tape then makes your cost of product go up and it makes it harder for the guy to run his business. So when you do that, he's not going to hire as many people.

So all of these things are things that are going to make the unemployment rate go up in America. These are the main things. Now, this isn't just TODD just invented this, you can see it by common sense. But also, I've talked to all kinds of businesses. I have had forums of businesses and said, now give us the list of things that make it hard to hire people. These are the lists they come up with, it's not a big surprise. This isn't any kind of rocket science. So my proposition was the Democrat policies are basically in conflict with creating jobs. Let's take a look at what some of those policies are because we have examples of them.

We've been told that all of this woe that the economy is in is President Bush's fault, China's fault. Is it really? Here's the legislation. Democrat tax increases. We just talked about tax increases, the number one enemy of creating jobs. ObamaCare, socialized medicine, \$570 billion, that's what that is supposed to be for a year. That's a lot of money. Who's going to pay that money? You guessed it; it's supposed to be the guys that owns those businesses. Is that going to make for more jobs? No, it's not. SCHIP, \$65 billion. The stimulus, \$7 billion. The benefits and other homebuyer credits, \$23 billion. HIRE Act, \$6 billion. Total package, \$671 billion in tax increases. Is that the way to create jobs? No.

Now the Democrats don't have to look at Republicans to get the right answer, they could look at history. They could look at JFK. JFK was a

Democrat. He understood this stuff, he got it right. JFK came into a time when there was a recession, and he did the right thing; he knew what the right thing to do was, and that was that he cut taxes. And when he did, the economy rebounded. The Democrats could learn from JFK, but they refuse to. They don't want to hear this because they like spending money. Their solution to everything is more money and more government—more government spending, more government programs. They're not listening to JFK, they should have. They could have listened to Ronald Reagan, but they don't like him too well. They don't have to listen to him, they could listen to JFK.

They could also listen to Bush, who inherited a recession in 2000, and in 2001, 2002 and 2003 did a bunch of tax cuts. Those tax cuts got the economy back going again. They could learn from examples, but they're not. Instead, they're following the same path of FDR, who turned a recession into a Great Depression. And they're not listening to Henry Morgenthau, who was the Secretary of Finance under FDR. So these are tax increases. Does that help the job situation? No, not at all. In fact, they harm it.

Well, what other tax increases have we got going? Oh, okay. Not only are we going to increase taxes for all these programs, what we're going to do is we're going to allow all the tax cuts that took place under Bush—which were designed specifically to get the economy going—and we're going to allow those things all to expire or some portion of them to expire, which means that whatever effect they had—because we did move from a recession into some good, strong economic activity in 2004 and 2005 and 2006—whatever effect they had is now going to boomerang, and it's going to hurt us in the same amount in the down side as the other helped us in the up side. And so the ordinary income, the top income rates in 2010, 35 percent, they're going to jump to just under 40 percent. Capital gains is going to go from 15 to 20 percent. Qualified dividends, 15 to almost 40 percent. And the death tax is going to go from 0 to 55 percent.

Let's take an example of what this death tax is going to do. You've got a couple of guys running a farm. You've got 1,000 acres, they've got some good equipment. It's a dad and his son. Tragically, as time goes on, the dad gets old and dies. The farm was owned by the dad. The son wants to take it over—take that equipment, take that acreage and make it go. They hire 10 people to work their farm for them—I just made up the number 10, I don't think they need that many maybe. But anyhow, they got some people that are hired to do that. And so the death tax comes along and says to the son, hey, you owe the government because we're going to tax your dad for dying.

□ 1850

We want 55 percent of the value of that farm. His son takes a look and

says, Well, Mr. Government, if I had to sell half the land, I'd be from 1,000 to 500 acres, and I'd have to choose which tractors that I sell. I couldn't make the farm work. If you take 55 percent out of it, I couldn't make the farm work. The government says, I don't care. Just give me my 55 percent.

It may not be a farm. It may be a small business, but that's what this death tax does. That's why we got rid of the death tax because we want those businesses to keep going. We want that money to be plowed in. And we're willing to live with the fact that somebody may be very well-to-do and very comfortable and having a very nice life. We don't begrudge it to somebody to work hard, save money, and do well. Because we realize if you allow that guy to do well, he's going to hire other people, and that's what creates jobs, and it increases everybody's standard of living.

This policy to allow this thing to go back to 55 percent is going to hurt the job situation. It's going to hurt the economy. It's going to hurt Americans.

Now, the other thing here, the capital gains is the same kind of thing. So if you keep taxing businesses a lot—now, there is this other thing, child tax credit, the marriage penalty and the average, those things are changing back again. And the lowest tax bracket, it goes from 10 to 15 percent.

Now, the Democrats may change this a little bit to make it look pretty to people, but if you don't deal with things like the death tax and qualified dividends and capital gains, these are the things that make the difference in whether or not there are going to be any jobs or whether we're going to have companies going bankrupt.

Well, you got the message. It's really dumb to be raising taxes when the economy is having a hard time. Everybody can tell you that. It just isn't smart. There aren't many people who have been dumb enough economically when the economy is in trouble to want to go ahead and push for the largest tax increase in the history of our country.

Now, I notice my Democrat colleagues were talking about how bad it is that things weren't made in America. They said we've got to bring those jobs back in the country. How are you going to bring jobs back in the country when we create a set of rules that makes it so expensive to build something here that you have a huge advantage somewhere else to build it in another place?

What sort of things would that be, Congressman AKIN? Are you telling me that America's got policies that make it so people don't want to produce things in America? Well, yeah.

Take a look at this. This is the corporate tax rates of a whole bunch of countries—you may not be able to read them all down here. But this is Ireland down here, has a 13 percent; and as you go down the line, let's see, this is Turkey over here. It's gotten to 20 percent. And let's see. Where else do we go?

Sweden, they're pretty socialistic. They're at 20 percent. Then you've got all the way over here to Canada and France. And that green line, that's the United States. We're second only to Japan in terms of corporate tax rates.

Now, it's pretty hard for me to see the logic of complaining about things being made overseas when what we do with our tax policy is tax corporations so heavily that you create an incentive to chase the production overseas. If you're a businessman, you're competing. You're competing with all of these other countries. And what you're going to have to do is be competitive or else people won't buy your product.

So for us in Congress to complain about foreign imports and things when we've got a corporate tax rate that's second highest in the world is once again an example of Democrat tax policy being completely at odds with a goal of a strong economy and lots of jobs. You can't keep taxing the creator of jobs without losing your jobs. I think it's straightforward. I'm trying to make it simple. Because there's one example after the other that our policies just don't make sense.

Here's a chart done in a little more colorful way. We compete with France and Spain, U.K. and China. We talk about China. They've got 25 percent. Here we are. We've got a 40 percent corporate tax rate. Why in the world would we want to be doing that? It just doesn't make sense, and that's why our economy is in trouble. And if we don't fix this, it will just get worse. Because what you do is you hammer a business and you hammer a business, sooner or later it's going to go out of business. Then it's going to be a whole lot harder for somebody to start up a new company and try and put those jobs that could have been there otherwise if our policies had been more favorable.

Now, here's what happened when we did the stimulus. The Democrats' answer to this is, of course, well, the government can direct things and make things work and they'll really make it good. So you've got to take a whole lot of money away from all of those taxpayers. Let's grab a whole bunch of money from the taxpayer, and we're going to spend it in this stimulus bill—which, by the way, went to pay, among other things, the teachers' union in California because they had overspent their pensions and were getting near bankruptcy; same thing in Illinois.

So we're taking this stimulus bill, taking money away from States like mine in Missouri, and giving the money to States that couldn't manage their budgets—like California and Illinois—and taxing the taxpayers all across America to bail out people who were irresponsible. That's where a lot of that stimulus money went. It also went to other various miscellaneous projects and all.

But what was the result of all of the stimulus spending? What you see is we've lost 2.6 million jobs since the stimulus started.

You see, Henry Morgenthau was right. It's not logical that, if government spends a whole lot of money, it makes the economy better.

If you ran your household and you're in trouble economically—you've got a whole lot of loan payments that are coming due, you don't have enough salary to pay those things, you've got some medical bills, everything is not right in your economic little family—and you say to your wife, Hey, here's what I'm going to do. I'm going to go out and get this credit card and I'm going to spend money like mad and that way we can fix our problems here with our little family, your wife would think you were nuts. She'd tell you to stay away from the bar or stop smoking them funny cigarettes because anybody's got the common sense to know that if you're in economic trouble you don't spend money like mad. And yet here we are in economic trouble, we spend money like mad, and then we're wondering how come we lost all of these jobs. What in the world are we thinking?

The Federal Government cannot create jobs by spending lots of money. The Federal Government can spend a lot of money and they can hire people. You say, Wait a minute now. The Federal Government takes a billion dollars and they hire all of these people. Isn't that going to create jobs, because you've got these people working for the government.

Well, here's the trouble with that line of reasoning. It's true; you have government employees. But for every government employee, you've taken money out of the economy which could have been used in the private sector. And when you do that, you lose more than two jobs out of the private sector for every government employee you hire. Obviously, you can't do that very long. Pretty soon you've got more government employees than you do people working in the private sector. And when you've got that, you've got a country that doesn't work anymore economically. And we are rapidly marching toward that point where these economic policies are going to bring a great deal of trouble down on our heads if we don't get sober and start taking a look at the hard facts about economics.

Now, there are a whole lot of people now suffering with unemployment, but it's important for them to understand the principle that you have got to allow businesses to prosper if you want to have employment.

This is where the Democrats should do some reading. This isn't too much reading to do for maybe a week or so. Here it is. Henry Morgenthau, Franklin Delano Roosevelt's Treasury Secretary, before the House Ways and Means Committee, 1939: We've tried spending money. We're spending more than we've ever spent before, and it does not work. I say, after 8 years of the administration, we have just as much unemployment as when we started and an enormous debt to boot.

How many times do we have to replay the sad lessons of history? Well, I can hear all sorts of things. Well, Democrats just saying, Well, the Chinese are fiddling with the currency, and President Bush's policies, they're the ones that brought us all this trouble. No, it's not. No, it's not. It's not President Bush's policies.

Look. President Bush spent too much money. His worst year was 2008 when NANCY PELOSI was Speaker of the House here. He had a deficit of \$450 billion. Too much. He shouldn't have had 450.

□ 1900

In 2009, under Obama's Presidency, \$1.4 trillion. That's three times Bush's worst year out of Bush's 8 years, Obama's first year. The amount of debt incurred in that year was three times in 2009 what Bush's worst was. Don't tell me about Bush. Obama makes Bush look like Ebenezer Scrooge. He's a mere piker when it comes to spending money you don't have. And 2010 you say—was 2010 any better? No, it was worse. It was \$2.5 trillion in deficit spending. We aren't listening to Henry Morgenthau. We should learn from Henry Morgenthau, if he is a Democrat. We should learn from JFK. If you want jobs, you can't destroy the businesses.

Take a look at these government deficits. That's the number that I am talking about here. This gives you a little bit of a sense. Now, you can't run your family that way. And over a period of time what we're going to find out is you can't run a country this way either. Because when you have deficits like this what's going to happen eventually is somewhere along the line you got to pay. And who's going to pay? Well, that hasn't totally been determined. But you can bet one thing: When the economy goes bad everybody suffers.

In fact, if I were a happy little Socialist, and I'm not, but if I were a happy little Socialist what I would want to do is I would want to implement an economic policy that made the economy strong because I would get more government revenues to slop around to my friends. If the job of the government is to redistribute money, is to be experts at bailout, which it should not be, but if that is your goal at least you should adopt policies that are going to provide as much revenue to the government as possible.

In 2001 and 2002, if you took a look at the items that the economists would say were the big ticket items of George Bush, one was the war on terror and the other was the tax cuts. And people said, oh, look at all the money the government lost from the tax cuts. So you add the war on terror and you add the cost of the tax cuts, and what you find is that the money that the government was losing in 2001, 2002, and 2003, in terms of the economy being bad, was worse than the tax cut plus the war on terror. And so when the economy is

bad, not only do people not have jobs and poor people suffer, and more well-to-do people suffer, governments suffer too. The governments don't have the money.

And if you happen to be a State governor and you have a balanced budget amendment in your Constitution, such as Missouri, you are in big trouble if you are the governor because you've got to do some serious cutting. And you're not going to be very popular when the economy goes bad and you happen to be a governor. On the other hand, if the economy's doing well it makes you look like a hero because you have plenty of money for everything and you can be benevolent. So when the economy goes bad it sinks all boats, everybody, including government's as well. So this level of deficit spending is unparalleled in our history, and it's going to destroy our country if we continue along the lines.

Here is one way of looking at the destruction right here. See when we have the Chinese buying up our debt, the Chinese are buying Treasury bills and the Chinese are happy because they're getting paid a certain number of percent by the Federal Government for every Treasury bill. And so they're willing to sit there quietly buying up America and they're getting their percent.

Well, what happens when we spend so much money that all the money that we're taking in with taxes can't afford to pay for what our debt service is? This would be the equivalent of you're at home and you've got these credit cards, the credit card companies really like you and everything, and so your family budget, well, you are spending a little more each month, a little more each month, and pretty soon you find out when you add everything all up that you take a look at your credit card debts and the interest rate that you are paying on all those credit cards is more than the amount of money you make. What's that mean? That means you are in deep doo-doo. You are paying more in interest than you are getting in terms of how much money you make.

When the Federal Government gets to this point what's going to happen is that the amount of tax revenue is going to be less than what we're paying on all this debt that we're buying. That's another way of picturing the fact that these economic shenanigans that are going on cannot continue forever. People understand that. It doesn't make a difference if you are a liberal or a conservative. If you have any understanding of economics, you are going to say, look, this is not sustainable. And that's kind of where we are.

This is Social Security and Medicare. This is what their entitlements are going to cost. This is what the U.S. economy is. You can't sustain this with this. It just doesn't work. And so that's where we are. I started with the premise that the Democrat policies,

the Democrat policies are actually destructive to the economy and they're destructive to creating jobs. And what are those policies? One after the other they are policies of increased taxation, more government programs, more government redtape. And the combination of those things, along with excessive Federal spending, basically creates a suction where there is no money in the economy for small businesses and you don't create any jobs. And that's what's going on.

So as I said as I began, it's not a coincidence that the 10 poorest cities in America, the cities that have the highest percent of people below the poverty level, have all been run by Democrats, some for over 100 years. And they keep electing Democrats because we don't understand the basic idea that jobs come from businesses. If you want a healthy economy and businesses, you're going to have to allow some people to prosper and just grit your teeth when you say it, some people are going to get filthy rich. But the benefit of allowing a few people to get wealthy means you are going to have some healthy companies and companies that are growing and hiring people. And when the economy does better, everybody prospers.

You got a guy on the street, just a little kid trying to make some money. He goes around mowing lawns. Now that kid, would he rather be mowing lawns in a rich neighborhood or a poor neighborhood? I would suggest the kid may be dirt poor, but he would do better in a neighborhood of millionaires because when he mows the lawn, they are going to give him a little bit better price. Another neighborhood full of people that can barely afford putting food on the table, they're not going to pay him much to mow their yard for them. So when the economy gets better, it helps everybody. And when you drive the economy into the dirt, then everybody suffers at the same time.

We may not like it or not, but we're all hooked together in this great country called America. Now, I think there are some ways we could get a little bit philosophical here. I think there are some places where we as Americans have to take a look at our forefathers and maybe learn some lessons from them. Our forefathers bled and died and sacrificed greatly for freedom. Their understanding of freedom was maybe a little different than the way we are today in America.

Their understanding of freedom was a sturdy independence, a sturdy character of hard work and wise decision-making. Honest business transactions. Courteousness. A sense of neighborhood and community service. It was so many things that I heard in an Eagle Scout ceremony on Sunday. All of these virtues about being courteous and cheerful and hardworking and diligent and all these kinds of things. And that was the freedom of our forefathers.

It seems to me that to some degree now in America we've started to adopt

an idea of freedom that it means that anybody can do anything they want regardless of whether it's very smart to do or not. And when things don't go well, we just want the government to come and bail us out. That's what I call bailout fever. I don't think that's the freedom of our forefathers. I don't think the idea is instead of saving for your retirement that you go out and buy the ski boat or whatever it is that you don't really have money to buy, you buy it on credit. And you buy a house too big for what you can afford, and then when things don't go right we say I'm a victim. Those rich somebody or others did this to me. It was George Bush's fault. No, it was the Chinese's fault. No, it's not my fault that I spent all that money on the ski boat. That's not freedom. That's not being responsible. Freedom doesn't mean do whatever you want to do and expect the government or somebody to bail you out and blame someone else. It doesn't mean you are dependent on the government or other people.

Freedom means that you have a right to certain basic inalienable rights, the inalienable right of life, to be alive so people don't kill you, and liberty so you have a right to free speech, to share with your neighbor what you think the truth is and to share your opinions. To be able to get in a town hall meeting and challenge people and say, where did you spend that money and why did we do that? We call it free speech. And to pursue happiness.

□ 1910

To pursue happiness, that means whatever gifts God gave you, whatever desires or interest that you can pursue that career, and you can succeed or you can fail based on whether or not you made good decisions, based on your being responsible.

When the Founders a couple of hundred years ago used the word "government," when they talked about government, they did not think about capitol domes. They did not think about Washington, D.C. They thought about the government that a man exercises over his own life, whether he was honest, hard working, trustworthy, whether he was friendly, whether he was a good citizen in the community, that was the use of the word "government."

Today, we tend to think of government in terms of capitol domes. We need to get back to the traditional view of things in America and not look at freedom as license to do things that are irresponsible and then ask Big Brother government to come pick up the pieces, because the government can't afford to do that anymore.

Recent statistics have just come out, I think it was the front page of the Wall Street Journal saying that in a good number of households in America, almost half of them, there is someone in the household that's getting government bailout of some kind, some type of government subsidy.

Now, obviously, if you keep doing that more and more, there is going to

come a point where it doesn't work and that's what all of these graphs and charts are showing, that you can't continuously have the Federal Government spend more and more money without the wheels falling off of everything. We have come to that point, and the point has to be turned around not even so much by people in Washington, D.C. It has to be turned around by the good citizens of America that look back to the strong parts of our past that have made America such a unique Nation, a totally unique Nation in the history of the world, and we have to go back to those virtues and that self-government that's necessary to rebuild this country.

America was built by these crazy people that came here with all these crazy ideas. They didn't know what "can't" meant. They didn't know what "I can't do it" meant. They just tried. Some dream became a vague possibility, then possibility, and then eventually that dream became reality and America was built one dream at a time.

It became so common we gave it a name. We called it the American Dream. It was a phenomenon of freedom, of citizens being able to be free to succeed or fail without all kinds of government red tape, without excessive government taxation, without bureaucrats looking over your shoulder. They could go out and try. And a lot of them failed.

There was one guy, his name was Edison. He failed a lot. He was trying to make light bulbs. He made a hundred of them. Every one of them didn't work. When he got done with a hundred, he said, well, now I know a hundred ways not to make a light bulb, and he kept on trying. That was that American can-do spirit.

He doesn't ask the government to subsidize his light bulb company; he didn't go to the government for a bailout. He didn't say his mom didn't give him enough chocolate chip cookies so he was really a victim. No, he just went back to the drawing board and kept on working.

And that was the American Dream. So America became a more and more unique country. We came to be the oldest country with the written constitution that we have. We were known for going all over the world when there is a hurricane or a tragedy. Where there is a war where people are being oppressed, you find the American soldiers there helping out. And people around Europe can be cynical; but when there is trouble, they sure like it when America is around.

America was different in other ways too, and in its perhaps most important way America was unique because we were built on a religious principle. We believe that there is a God and that that God granted to all human beings certain basic fundamental rights. We wrote it in a thing called the Declaration of Independence.

We believe that every individual should have the right to be alive. You

shouldn't just shoot people. People should have a right to be alive unless they do something terrible. Second of all, that they should have a right to liberty, the liberty to speak their own, to have the right to free speech and to own property, not to have their property stolen from them by the government and given to someone else.

We didn't believe it was ever the government's job to take money from one person and give it to the other. That was socialism, that was theft, that was immoral. You had the right to own what you worked hard for and you also had the right to pursue whatever it was that God had gifted you to do. If you were to be a singer, God would say go out and be strong and do a good job being a singer.

If you are going to be a businessman, be a good businessman. Treat your employees well. Work hard, be diligent. Don't waste; don't pollute.

If you are going to be someone who is a doctor, go to the top of your profession. Do a good job. Take care of people well. Come up with new procedures and new drugs so that people can be healthy.

And over a period of time the standard of living increased in America because we believed in these basic ideas, these traditions of America. But freedom never was a license to take from other people. It was never a license to make the government the big bailout expert.

That's not what our country was built on. And if we go back to this other approach, it doesn't work economically.

So Americans, again in November, they have a choice. You can believe all of the sophistry and the blame of George Bush and this and that, but we have seen the stimulus bill and it flat didn't work. We have seen the taxation of small businesses. We have seen unemployment go up and up and up, and people have a sense that all is not right economically at the tremendous rate we are spending money. They know that we can't keep on this path. And so the choice is to be made November.

Which approach are we going to take? I think the approach of our forefathers to have a sturdy, hard-work ethic, integrity and each person being responsible and accountable for their own decisions, and scaling back that Federal Government, I think a lot of Americans today believe that in an effort to maybe in a good intended effort to do right things.

We have made the government no longer a servant but a master. I think a majority of Americans now are threatened by the government. I think a lot of Americans realize the government is the problem, not the answer.

I believe those people are going to be rendering a verdict on that regard, into that regard. There is a point when the government becomes the master and not the servant. How close are we to that point? How much control do we really have to the machine that is

promising so much more than anybody has any reasonable expectation that there is revenue to pay for?

How much control do you have when the government agent talks to you about runoff of water? How much control do you have when you want to look for a loan for your kid to go to college and the government is the only one doing it. The government is in the flood business; they are into the automotive businesses. We have got Government Motors now, not General Motors.

They are in the insurance business. The government is going to take over all of health care. How much do you want the government to run and how good a job have they done with the Post Office?

We have a Department of Energy, that's an interesting Department, isn't it, created to make sure that we are not dependent on foreign oil. Boy, I am sure glad we have got that Department working hard.

We have got a Department of Education. That's a wonder too. The government runs that Department of Education. I think the Wall Street Journal about 3 weeks ago said the ACT test scores of kids that are being tested that want to go to college, 24 percent of them, are ready for college. That's amazing, isn't it? You have got a government product, State government and Federal Government product where 24 percent of them are acceptable.

If you bought gasoline and every tank of gas out of 100 tanks, 24 of them worked and the other 76 of them didn't work, you wouldn't buy gas there very much.

So we can let that government agency then run our health care? Is this what we really want in America? I don't think so. People in Missouri had a referendum on that socialized medicine bill, and they passed by 80 percent a measure to challenge that in court. It is unconstitutional to require people to buy health insurance, they be part of this big government bailout, socialized medicine boondoggle. They didn't want it.

And I have a feeling there is a whole lot of other States full of people who are tired of the government being the master and of the attitude that freedom means you can do whatever you want and if things go wrong you are going to live with the bailout.

We cannot continue the level of taxation that we have done. We have to start rethinking, and it doesn't start in Washington, D.C.

I think there are a lot of people that think if we got things right in Washington, D.C., everything would take care of itself. No, that's not right.

Freedom starts in the hearts of individuals that believe that God gives them basic rights. And when the Federal Government starts to take away the basic rights that God gives you, that's when there is really big trouble. That's where there is a clash; that's where true patriots stand up and say, enough already.

That's what happened in the War of Independence. That's what happened in the other wars of America's past. When people threatened our premise that God gives you certain basic rights, and they got in the way of that, that's when Americans stood up and they acted.

□ 1920

Today, there are a lot of Americans that are saying to our Federal Government, No, this is not what America is built on. Our government was built on justice. It was built on the concept that people are equal before the law. If you are a rich man or a poor man, it makes no difference. Everybody is equal before the law. That's not bailout fever.

We have given up justice and gone to socialism. It hasn't worked in Europe. It didn't work for the USSR, and it won't work for us. We need to go back to what works, and that is people are equal before the law and people are free to take a gamble and try to run their business, and if it doesn't work, then they've got to pick themselves up and try again and not complain that they need more bailouts.

In short, there is a reason why there is unemployment today. There is unemployment today because it was created by government policies. And those government policies have to change. We have to take the chains off of American business, and we have to go back to the principles that work.

Well, we've talked about a couple of very philosophical kinds of things: Justice, which is a very important word. Justice does not mean that Lady Justice who has the blindfold over her eyes is peeking. It does not mean that she peeks and gives a special deal to one person or another person. We have created now, with the law, a special bill to create a whole bailout section of the Federal Government so Lady Justice can peek and give money to one person and maybe not to another.

What confidence does the individual American have that the government is going to come and bail them out when they need it? Is the government going to be there? Do you want to be servant to Big Government or do you want to be a free person? Do you want to breathe the fresh air, live in the fresh air and the sunshine of being free, knowing that you also have to be responsible? Or do you, instead, choose the gloomy path of the promise that the government will take care of you even though you know that it can't economically, or it will not take care of you well and allow you to live in some sort of pseudofreedom where you don't make responsible choices and you hope the government will take care of you when it doesn't work?

That's where we are as Americans. It has to start in our hearts. Freedom starts in the hearts of self-governing people who love God. They love their family and they love their country. And America is full of those people.

And I have confidence, I have confidence that the American public still has a passion for freedom, still has a love for this country, still cares about the American Dream and wants to live in an environment where they can be free to exercise their God-given gifts and abilities. They want their children to grow up in a better condition than they are. They want to see civilization building and suffering going down. But the only way you can do that is you have to allow some people to prosper. You can't knock down all the businesses and anybody who makes money and expect to have jobs. You just can't do that. It doesn't work.

And so we come back as we started. Do you want jobs? Let's get rid of all this excessive taxation. Let's do what every President in the past has done when there is a recession—JFK, Ronald Reagan, Bush. Let's cut the taxes. That is what we've got to do. We've got to change the regulations in the banking system so there's liquidity for businessmen to raise money. We have to create an environment where people aren't afraid of some new whacky idea coming down the pike and totally changing the business climate. We have to create a condition where people have confidence that there will be a stable government in this country which is not hostile to business, and we've got to cut the red tape and the government mandates.

What that means is we basically need to take a look at the Federal Government, and we need to say anything that the Federal Government does not have to do, it has to be just gotten rid of. We need to delegate it back to the States or the local governments. We've got to get the Federal Government out of all kinds of businesses they have no constitutional reason to be in, and we have to focus on the basic things, which are justice. We need to make sure there is a level playing field at home for people to do their work, and there has to be a secure environment internationally, which means we have to have national defense. Those are the basic functions of justice. Those should be the functions of limited government.

When the government gets too expensive, you have to go back and say, Wait a minute. Let's do the basics. Let's do the basics well, and everything else the Federal Government does not have to do, then let's get rid of it. That's where we have to be going. That's a clear path. It's something that's not going to happen overnight because it has to change in the hearts of Americans, in the families of America. In the churches and places of worship, there has to be an understanding that it's not the job of the government to take care of everything that goes wrong in everybody's life, because it won't work.

And then Washington, D.C., will change, reluctantly, but Washington, D.C., will change, and we will see a new America and a brighter day and a better day for Americans. We will see a

place where people are employed and excited about their work and where there's a responsibility and a vigor and a vibrancy that was so common of the old Yankee that the Europeans used to make fun of. And once again, that Yankee will be back again, Yankee Doodle. They used to sing about it to make fun of us, but as we have seen tsunamis and hurricanes and all kinds of crises around the world, they like old Yankee Doodle to come to help them.

And so I'm proud to be an American. I know that you're proud to be Americans. We have to move back to the policies that made this country great.

And I see that a very good friend of mine, a former judge, a Congressman from the great State of Texas is here to join us before long, and perhaps he will carry on along these lines. I know he is a man who loves God. He fears God. He loves his country, and he loves his family, and that's why I love him. And so I think the next hour will be exciting, and I urge you to stick with us here.

VACATING 5-MINUTE SPECIAL ORDER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the ordering of a 5-minute Special Order speech in favor of the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) is vacated.

There was no objection.

LET'S FIX AMERICA

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

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, it is always an honor to speak here on the House floor and have that opportunity that was provided by those willing to show the greatest love, according to Jesus, willing to lay down their lives for their friends, their countrymen, so that we could have these freedoms. And when you read the Declaration of Independence, it talks about we are endowed by a Creator with certain inalienable rights, and all men were created equal; now, not with equal talents, not with equal abilities, not with equal money or substances. That was not the point. In God's eyes, we are equal. In the eyes of the Creator, we are equal. And so we are supposed to do the best we can with what we've got.

And as my friend from Missouri was talking about light bulbs, I couldn't help but scratch my head because here in Washington, we are told that the most environmentally friendly majority in the history of the country is in charge now. But I wanted a light bulb that was incandescent so I can see better, because it takes so dadgum long for those others with the curl in there to warm up where you can see. And sometimes, there's a tiny closet there, and I flip the light switch on, well, I just need to flip it on and off. Well, now I've got to leave the energy on long

enough so the bulb warms up to where I can see what's in there. And it's interesting, you can't find, you will not be provided an incandescent light bulb. And we read in the past week that the last incandescent manufacturing plant in the United States proper has now gone out of business.

So what have we done as the most environmentally conscientious Congress in history? We have got light bulbs that have mercury in them—mercury, the substance that does not go away. If you get mercury in your system, you don't get it out. If you get too much, it's lethal. It builds up over time. So what are we doing? We are raising the level of mercury as high as we can get it, this lethal substance, and you say, what is going on?

□ 1930

How can we be environmentally friendly when we are forcing everybody on Capitol Hill to have mercury throughout their offices? It is just one of those things.

If we are all created equal, and the thing we are endowed with by our Creator, inalienable rights, life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, nobody is guaranteed happiness, but the right to pursue happiness. Nobody is guaranteed, under our Declaration or under the Constitution, that everybody is going to share and share alike. That is called a socialist manifesto: from those according to their ability to those according to their needs. It is a lovely idea but it has never worked. It always goes bankrupt because as I found when I was in the Soviet Union as an exchange student talking to farmers who had not been out in their field all day on a great day, well, it was mid-morning, but to that point, that was prime time to work. When I spoke a little Russian back then, I asked, When do you work in the field? They laughed. One of them said I make the same number of rubles if I am out there, pointing out in the sun in the field that really looked bad, or if I am here in the shade. So I am here in the shade. That is why socialism doesn't work. If you pay somebody the same thing to be working out in the hot field, sweating and wearing themselves out, and pay them the same as if they sit in the shade and cut up with their friends, they are going to be in the shade.

The reason free market systems fail is not because a free market system doesn't work; it works beautifully. You do need a government to make sure that everybody plays fairly, not to take away from those who are able to produce more than others, not to kill the incentive for people to actually produce, but to provide a level playing field where everybody can compete equally. That is the job that we are supposed to have. That is the job of the government.

And we have gotten too busy in this body trying to tell everybody what they can do, and as the President says share the wealth, spread the wealth,

you kill incentive and you kill productivity. So when you get right down to it historically, what always brings free market systems to an end is when a governing authority begins to meddle and ruin the free market system and start converting it over to a socialist system. And once a governing authority is able to manipulate the free market system over into a socialist system where you are trying to spread the wealth, you are killing incentive and you are creating class warfare, you are creating all kinds of problems. You are trying to do the things that this government is doing right now, and then you kill the free market system. Not because it doesn't work, but because you have now converted it to a socialist system, which always fails by its own weight. And then that obviously requires a dictator, somebody who forces a sharing of the wealth, a killing of incentives across the board so people do all they can to sit in the shade and not do anything and not produce and not help out their neighbors because they don't have to.

So it broke my heart to keep hearing our President talking about the rich, anybody making over \$200,000. He is talking about small business people. He is talking about people I have had come pleading to me: Stop destroying what I have spent my life building. I had nothing. I had nothing, worked 20 hours a day, put what little bit I had at risk and eventually was able to hire another employee and another employee and another employee. And finally I have in some cases 20, 30, or 140 in one case, one man that was talking to me, 140. Now he is down to about 60, I think he said. But you are killing me. You are killing my business. And you make people hate me because of how hard I worked and how much I sacrificed to build this small business. And in the process, you made me put 80 people out of work.

We should not be about class envy. The reason a free market society works is because there is fairness. When you have a government that is about fairness, then people compete. Entrepreneurship springs up all around and people comes up with ideas. It is worth risking what they have to make things work. That is free enterprise.

And when we have an administration that is so busy stirring up class envy and trying to get people to hate the people that have come to me and said, yeah, I have been making over \$200,000 a year. I have been pouring every dime back into my business. It grows and grows, and we have been able to hire more people. Now I have to lay them off, and you have got people hating me because they think I'm rich. And now you have a President that says I don't deserve the same tax rate that everybody else does. That I deserve to be punished because I took risk and I sacrificed and I grew my business and I hired people and I was fair to them and they loved their jobs and they worked hard, and it grew bigger and better and

we had a great product. And now I have a President that is getting people to hate me and saying I don't deserve to pay the same rate as other people? I mean, how much must a person despise those kind of entrepreneurs who have built a business and created out of nothing. They worked hard with ingenuity and sacrifice, created a thriving business, how much must a President or an administration despise those people to say, I am willing not to help the people that I call middle class if I have to give the same rate to the people that make above \$200,000. I am willing to punish the middle class and not let them have the same rate as they do now. I am willing to let their tax rates zoom up with the biggest tax increase in American history come January 1, I am willing to let that tax rate go up if you try to make me allow those entrepreneurs who have built a business on their own, if you try to make me give them the same tax rate as the middle class, because you see I want to punish them. They have made too much money. They took risks, they laid it all out there on the line.

One fellow talked about how he didn't even own his own trailer, those kinds of things. And he built a business, and now our President says he is rich and he needs to be punished. That is the way you end a free market system. You spread the wealth evenly from those who have risked it all and give to those who have been sitting in the shade watching them work. You kill the free market system. You kill the jobs.

So we have an administration out there saying we are all about jobs, that is our main focus. But by the way, we are going to push through this health care bill that the majority of America says don't, don't, don't, and they pushed it through. And then you see people laid off. So many people have come to me about family members, themselves, cuts in pay, laid off because the cost of the health care that was supposed to go down when this administration ramrodded and crammed this bill down America's throat without letting people truly understand all that was in it. You lose your country if it is based on a free market system when an administration and a Congress tries to make it socialist.

□ 1940

Now, I realize some people think, oh, Socialist is such a horrible word. It's really a very nice concept, actually. If you look at it, you know, we want everyone to share and share alike. Sometimes we're told that growing up: we want to share and share alike. As a parent, I tried to make sure that all three of our girls shared and shared alike, but if one of those children could take what she was given and parlay that into something even better and more productive, that was hers. Whether she shared it or not was completely up to her. I would encourage her to use and develop the talents and what she has been provided.

It is true, as an old preacher of ours used to say, that there are an awful lot of people around here who are born on third base and go through life thinking they hit a triple, and there is an arrogance that goes with that. Sometimes, if somebody comes from a poor family and has everything handed to him, then he thinks he has hit a triple because somebody else placed him on third base.

Either way, we're supposed to never forget that the Founders believed—and most Americans according to the polls believe—that the blessings we have are a gift of God; and if we turn our backs on him long enough, though he is long suffering, patient and full of grace, eventually, he will say, Okay, you turned your back on me long enough. Now I turn my back on you, and you disappear. You head to the dustbin of history.

Now, I wasn't going to bring up this matter. I was very pleased that the President was talking about the tax holiday concept. The problem is he is bringing it up over a year and a half later than it was brought to his attention by me. I told him at the time, Look, you promised everybody a tax cut. You know, of course you put a \$250,000 cap on income. I don't think it ought to be there.

Moody's did an independent study. They said the tax holiday idea, the way I read it, increases the 1-year GDP more than any other stimulus proposal if we pass this stimulus, a tax holiday idea that just said, you know, for the next 2 or 3 months, every dime you make stays in your check and does not go to the Federal Government. You get to keep your income tax in your check. Whether you want to make it 2 or 3 months, you keep it. If we passed it today and if the President signed it today, tomorrow they would have that money in their checks. It wouldn't go to Washington.

At the time, it was going to cost so little money compared to the money the government was spending. In fact, that's where I got the idea in 2008. Of course, we had the \$700 billion Wall Street bailout, which was a huge mistake, and I hope our leaders do finally realize that, but it was a huge mistake. Both sides of the aisle had about half of their Members buying into it. \$700 billion. That could have provided 4 months of every worker in America getting every dime of their income taxes back, along with all of their Social Security money for those 2 months, and it would have let the employers keep the 2 months of matching money that they normally would have to put in to match what the workers put in. That would have given businesses a boost, and it would have given employees this tremendous boost.

We did a little survey of people in our districts: What would you do? Look at your check and at how much money is going to Washington. What would you do with it?

Some said, Look, we've got a gas guzzler, and it's worth less than what we

owe for it, so we can't trade it in. We can't get another car. We're stuck. Yet, if we got 2 months of our own income tax in our checks, we'd be able to finally buy a good, fuel-efficient car. We'd be able to save money on gas in the future.

The truth is that GM and Chrysler wouldn't have needed to have been bailed out because people would have been out there buying cars. Actually, the idea for the tax holiday, when I had it in 2008, came from seeing that \$700 billion for the Wall Street bailout and then hearing here in Washington that, between the Federal Reserve and the things this government was going to do, it would probably end up costing between \$3 trillion and \$9 trillion just to try to get the economy going again. That's when I inquired: How much do we anticipate will be paid for the whole year of 2008 in Federal personal income tax? It was around \$1.21 trillion. \$1.21 trillion and \$3 trillion to \$9 trillion over here, maybe more. I like the \$1.21 trillion. It's at least three to 10 times cheaper, and it's people keeping their own money that they've earned. Then you wouldn't have needed all the bailouts, and everybody could have kept all of their income taxes for a whole year.

I don't like a government's not paying its bills as it goes along. It's not a good idea, but to say no personal income tax for a year when that is so much cheaper than what the Bush administration pushed with the \$700 billion bailout, with the \$800 billion that is now a \$900 billion porkulus bill, from January of 2009 under President Obama, and with the \$400 billion land omnibus bill the following week—all these stimulus packages, so-called—man, it would have been so much cheaper to have said, People, just keep all of your income taxes for a year.

Well, there weren't that many people here on Capitol Hill who felt like they could politically risk signing onto a full year of no income tax. Especially after January when we had the \$800 billion or the \$900 billion, my position was you could take the \$800 billion stimulus package and what was left of the original \$700 billion Wall Street bailout and pay for a whole year of no income taxes being paid. Just take the money from those stimulus packages and bailouts and use those to let everybody keep their own income taxes for a year.

John Shadegg was one. He loved the idea of having a whole year of no income tax. Boy, you talk about a stimulated economy. People would have been buying cars. They would have been eating out. They would have been buying products, buying new homes. Even with 2 months of people's own income taxes, Newt Gingrich's folks ran the numbers for me. He was very helpful. As I recall, an average family, just an average household in America, in just 2 months, was going to have around \$5,000 or so of extra money. Some people said, You know, we got behind on our mortgages when gasoline got to \$4

a gallon the year before, and we just have not been able to catch up; but you let us have all of our income taxes for a couple of months, we'll catch up, and then you won't have to do all of these ridiculous government programs to try and save people's mortgages.

There are other things that need to be done, but I brought this up when I met the President back when he very first came to our Republican Conference, which was held down in the basement here in the Capitol. I said, Look, I don't care who gets the credit. You can put your name on it. Do it. Moody's says it will help the GDP more in one year than any proposal that has been proposed. Even our own leadership's proposal wasn't going to do that much good in one year in the Republican Party. I don't care who gets the credit.

I wouldn't have minded if he had taken the idea back then and had used it, but he waited over a year and a half and then started describing, virtually almost verbatim, the way I described it over a year and a half ago and then in some of the same speeches said, But you know what? The Republicans don't have any good ideas. Well, I don't care that somebody's taking credit. The old saying goes—Reagan said it often—it's amazing what you can get done here in Washington if you don't mind who gets the credit.

□ 1950

So I don't mind other people taking credit for the idea. I do mind when it's followed or even preceded by the words, "But Republicans don't have one good idea." I think we need to pray for the President's memory. I know the pressure is great. I know it's an awesome responsibility. It's easy to forget things. Boy, do I know that. My wife will sure tell you that. It's easy to forget things. But before you go alleging that Republicans have no good ideas, think for a moment where you got the idea you're proposing. That's what I would offer, Mr. Speaker. And we keep hearing the President and others here on the floor saying that Republicans have not one good idea. They're the Party of No. No good ideas. None at all.

None at all? We need to pray for people's hearing, because there are a lot of fantastic proposals that are being tossed out there that would be wonderful. We do need major tax reform. I'll never forget how depressed I was after I left the Republican annual retreat in early 2006. I had been elected, sworn in in January of 2005, and started Congress with all kinds of hopes and dreams of making the country a better place. A year later we're told, look, there's a tiny chance we might not have the majority next year. It's possible we could lose. We don't think it will happen. We know we had talked about major tax reform this year, but instead we're going to just try to get through this year, not do anything big that will make people mad one way or the other, keep the majority next November, and then we'll come back in

January 2007 and do the major stuff like major tax reform.

Well, we've lost a lot of people who have been defeated since then, because America wants to see us keep our promises. There have been a lot of promises made by this administration, this majority, of things that were going to be done. Even on the crap-and-trade bill that passed here last year, the promises were made over and over: Oh, no, this bill is not going to cost jobs. It's going to create jobs. Create green jobs. After seeing what the people in charge have done in taking away incandescent light bulbs, it makes me wonder, are those green jobs going to have to carry around mercury, too, or what?

The American people are letting it be known, they're not happy with people not keeping their promises here. Actually the truth is, I have a real fear as a Republican that we only get the majority back one more time in my lifetime and if we do not keep our word this time, we'll never get it back again in my lifetime.

There are some great ideas. There are things that should be done. We've talked about balanced budgets for years. And there are some in the prior administration that equated compassion with paying money. There are an awful lot of people in the current administration that equate compassion with giving away somebody else's money. But that's not compassion. That's hurting free enterprise, killing incentive, killing jobs. And when you take away somebody's job, you have hurt them. Psychologists say that's one of the most devastating blows to a person mentally, emotionally, to lose a job. Losing a spouse is up there. Losing a child is right up at the top. But losing a job is one of the most devastating things that can happen. And here we keep doing things over and over.

The crap-and-trade bill is still hanging out there. The rumors are there could be a lame duck session and people that have lost their seats, who were afraid to vote for it before in the House or Senate will vote for it in a lame duck session because they've already been voted out, they've got nothing to lose, and maybe hoping if they vote for it in November or December, maybe the administration will give them a job if they really cater to them and help them do that. That would be disastrous. But if you go back and read the crap-and-trade bill, as I did, you find out that back there it seemed like—and I read from it, standing right over there—around page 900 and something, there was a fund that was created in the bill that would reimburse people or give them a little allowance for those people who lost their jobs as a result of that bill being passed.

Now I know my friends across the aisle who stood up over and over and said, no, this isn't going to cost jobs, this is going to create green jobs, they obviously had not read the bill because I know them well enough to know,

they wouldn't have stood up and intentionally lied. They wouldn't have done that. It's just that they had not read the bill so they were not aware that whoever's staffer or special interest group wrote that bill, they knew people would lose their jobs and that's why they were creating a fund in the bill to give an allowance to people that lost their jobs as a result of the bill. And as I pointed out then, the good news, I guess, to those that voted for that bill is that if it becomes law, no doubt in my mind, a lot of the people that voted for that bill will lose their job as a result of voting for that bill, and they've got an argument that they're entitled to funds from the bill for losing their job as a result of the bill. So they may have created a fund that will help them out.

But we should have a balanced budget amendment, and it's a shame on the Republicans for not getting that done when we had the White House, the House and the Senate. We should have gotten it done. Shame on the Republicans for in the last administration when we had the majority agreeing to tax cuts that we knew would stimulate the economy and but for those tax cuts we would have gone into a massive depression. But the economy was stimulated, and we brought more money into the Federal Treasury than had ever been brought into the Treasury; but the problem is we spent more than had ever been spent in history—up until, of course, this administration. And whereas I can remember being over here on this side and hearing colleagues beat up on Republicans because we were in the majority and to have a \$160 billion deficit was unthinkable, it was just so irresponsible—until, of course, the Obama administration, the Democratic majority, and then actually 10 times that much of a deficit is okay. It was not okay at \$160 billion and it's certainly not okay at 10 times that.

People in the American public were promised change, and yet what they got was not really change; they got 10 times more of what they had before. I don't know why President Bush is being demonized, because this administration and this Congress is pushing 10 times more of exactly what the prior administration did. So instead of condemning the Bush administration and the Republican majority, they ought to be rightfully saying, you know what, we thought you had a good idea when you ran up a \$160 billion deficit, that was such a good idea, we have gone 10 times that, and we're really running up a deficit now.

Shame on Republicans when we had the chance in 2005 and President Bush ran on shoring up Social Security. Now there was all kinds of discussion of privatization; what does it mean, what is it really going to do? And by September of '05, it was obvious the President's political capital was gone and what he had hoped to do would not be done. But I still had hope, because I

knew what had been done with the Texas employment retirement system. They took real money from people's checks that were supposed to go toward retirement and put it in a retirement account. Real money in a real retirement account. Now that was invested and it got hit pretty hard after 9/11. It got hit very hard after "Chicken Little" Paulson ran around and said the financial sky was falling if we didn't give him the \$700 billion slush fund he wanted, and so the market fell 777 points in one day, a self-fulfilling prophecy, and the money lost by everybody that had anything invested.

There was one Republican that I went to because he was so well respected for his business and financial mind, and I said, Look, I've talked to a lot of Republicans and I've talked to some Democrats. Something we could get through here even in September of '05 was a bill that had one thing in it that just said, Social Security tax money for the first time in the history of Social Security, since its inception in the late 1930s, will require that that Social Security tax money be put into the Social Security trust fund.

□ 2000

I don't want to hear any ridiculous talk about lock box. There's never been one. I want one. I want there to be Social Security tax money put into the Social Security Trust Fund and stop putting IOUs in there, markers that are noninterest bearing, and we have to borrow 42 cents out of every dollar that we spend. Stop it already.

Now, to put the Social Security tax money into the Social Security Trust Fund will require us to actually make some tough calls. And since this majority condemned us all the time for spending too much money, then I think a good idea would be to go back to the budget of 2006. I know some are talking about 2008. I think it ought to be 2006. We'll go back to that budget. And I think that would help us maybe take care of the issue and get us a good start of being able to put all of the Social Security tax money into the Social Security Trust Fund.

Now, the Republican is so brilliant he told me that we could never do that. I was shocked. Why not? Because the government would probably buy bonds with it. They'd be the biggest bondholder. We could never allow that to happen. Well, not really. We could create a treasury note that's interest bearing. So it's not risky. It doesn't put the Social Security Trust Fund at risk. That money makes interest. And it's there, and we stop having a Ponzi scheme. A very simple idea, and a Republican has proposed it. But when we were in the majority, our leadership didn't go for it, but I hope and pray they will if we get the majority again.

Health care. Boy, we've seen what the ObamaCare bill has done to health care. And even though people were promised there would be no rationing, then we put a doctor in charge of it

who's talked about, as I recall, not whether there would be rationing but when and who would be rationed. So all of the promises about no rationing, apparently those were not true. And it could be going back to the problem I alluded to earlier. We need to pray for the President's memory so he can remember those things that were promised.

Now, another Republican idea—and I think everybody on this side of the aisle has signed on to it, is in support of it, is an energy bill, an energy plan that says use what we've got. Make sure that when coal is used that it doesn't harm the environment. Put scrubbers on there to make sure that it goes in the environment clean and we don't harm the environment. We can do that.

Use uranium. Use nuclear facilities like we do with our ships and our submarines. It works. That's why we have sailors who are able to go underwater on submarines and stay submerged for 6 months. I was told by some of my friends from A&M that went in the Navy and were on subs underwater 6 months at a time. And he said, You know why we have to come up every 6 months? I said, I assume, to refuel.

Oh, no. Those submarines could stay underwater just on and on and on. We have to come up so that the crew doesn't go crazy, because the nuclear subs could just stay under there as long as they needed to from a practical standpoint.

But there's a source. Most of America didn't notice when our committee voted to put the second-largest source of uranium in this country off limits. People in Louisiana, Republicans and Democrats alike, have been screaming out, You are doing more damage to our State with the moratorium on gulf drilling than the oil spill did.

And when you hurt an economy and you put people out of work, tragically they don't care about the environment. They're just trying to survive. The only countries that can really do much about the environment are those who have such a prolific economy that they can take care of it. But when you have people out of work and they're just living hand to mouth and they're trying to get by, they don't care about the environment because their economy doesn't allow it.

Now, I and, as far as I know, everybody on this side of the aisle wants to develop alternative energy sources. But what a great idea, and it's been proposed, and we pushed it over and over. Instead of raising taxes and—as the President's promise would happen when he was running for office—having energy prices skyrocket if we use coal to make power, instead of doing those things—and as one 80-something-year-old lady told me from east Texas, I was born and raised in a house with no electricity. We had a wood-burning stove. And now the price of energy has gotten so high, I'm going to have to let it go. I can't pay for it. And it looks like I

may end up going out of this world the way I came in, in a home with a wood-burning stove and nothing else, no other power, because people are wanting the prices to skyrocket. And that poor woman, not to be able to pay for her energy bill. No, that's no good way to do it.

God bless this country with more natural resources than any other country in the world. Yeah, the Middle East, they may have more oil with things that are being found around the world, who knows. But we have massive amounts of natural gas, maybe the most coal in the world. We've got nuclear power. We've got wind power. We've got solar. We've got all kinds of things, so many things that can be harnessed.

But if you use the energy with which we have been blessed and designate—I don't care if it's 25, 50 percent of the royalty that we get back from the energy or from the mining or whatever it is, designate that that will all be used to find and research and develop alternative energy sources, so that when we run out—it will be well before we run out. We've got over 100 years of natural gas that's been found and finding more all the time. Before we run out, we'll be able to convert to alternative energy without raising anybody's taxes, without making any 80-year-old women living alone have to go without power, keep the power prices down. That's a Republican solution. And I have friends on the other side of the aisle over here that would sign on to that if their Speaker wouldn't punish them for doing so.

Another idea. I know it's not popular with the administration, but we call it the U.N. Voting Accountability Act. Very simple. It says, in essence, recognize the fact, first of all, that every country is sovereign. You can make your own decisions. We're not going to tell you what to do in your country. We shouldn't. But any country that votes against the United States' position in the U.N. more than half the time, the following year will get no financial assistance from us.

As I've said before, you don't have to pay people to hate you. They'll do it for free. And there are some countries that we keep pouring cash into thinking they'll end up loving us because we'll buy it. Not only do they not love us, they have even greater contempt because they know we know they don't like us and yet we're just pouring money into them. It makes them not only not like us; it makes them have no respect at all for us. It's so unnecessary.

Something that should have been passed in 2006 when we had the majority and we had the chance and some of the people that said they would not let it go through are no longer here—some are—it's a zero-baseline budget bill. It just says there are no automatic increases in any Federal departments' budgets. There's a Republican solution for you. If you want your budget in-

creased in the Federal Government, you have to come justify it, and we ought to put those budgets online where people can watch them like—I think the President put it this way, that he was going to go through the budget line by line with a fine-tooth comb. He was going to put JOE BIDEN in charge of doing that, too. They were going to get rid of everything that was waste.

□ 2010

Well, that hasn't happened yet. Since he is an honest man, I am sure it will eventually happen. But it sure hasn't happened yet. But it would sure happen if you let Americans see every Federal department's budget, how they were spending their money, put it up online, make them put those purchases online the way Congress is now doing. There would be people watching all right.

And if we had a tax holiday and people saw for a couple months how much money they were actually sending to Washington, they would demand it. And they would be watching to see how every Federal department was spending money.

And hey, I got another one for you. This is a Republican proposal from this Republican. Our leaders have not endorsed this. I am just tossing this out. But you know, we had to come in here in August, it cost an awful lot of money to turn all the lights back on, do everything to go back into session, but we did just so that we could get \$10 billion extra to go to the Department of Education to help so-called teachers. Well, it turns out across America only about 50 percent of all the public education employees are teachers.

Well, if you did away with the Department of Education here in Washington and kept that, \$68 billion I believe is what we are spending this year, and divided it among the less than 14,000 independent school districts in America, I am open to a good formula how to do that, just average it would be between \$5 million and \$6 million dollars for every school district in America. Most school districts could really use that money. And boy, that would help education. You wouldn't need near as many bureaucrats because there wouldn't be as many decrees from on high here, Mount Olympus here in Washington. The local school districts would be able to comply with the Constitution, because the Constitution does not enumerate education as a power in the Constitution, which under the 10th Amendment means it's reserved to the States and to the people, the local folks.

Another idea—they say we've got none—another idea, after having been to China years ago and having talked to CEOs about why you went. The corporate tax here is 35 percent. You lump on some of the State income taxes, you lump on local property taxes, all of the taxes, some of them are paying 40 percent, 50 percent in tax for their companies, competing with countries like

China that don't exceed 17 percent. And if they are a big enough company moving over from anywhere in the U.S. to China, they'll cut you a deal, no income tax for a while, because they get it.

If we dropped our corporate tax to 12 percent, I have had CEOs with major companies say we would be rebuilding a plant in the U.S. almost immediately when we went to a 12 percent corporate tax. And what would happen? More and more people would go back to work, and more and more people would be able to pay their taxes. And more and more revenue would come into the Federal Treasury. And then we would be able to buy more and more of those mercury lights that are going to create such a problem for the environment.

There are a lot of very good solutions. And so I don't mind somebody taking my idea. I love it. I think it's the highest form of flattery. But I don't appreciate it when it's followed up with a comment that we have no ideas, no solutions. We've got a lot of them. We just aren't allowed to make amendments on the floor to get those to the floor where they could pass.

I want to finish tonight with a tribute. It is a great honor for me to recognize one of America's greatest songwriters in our Nation's history, who turned 70 years of age this week. He is a man to whom we are indebted for many of the songs that lifted us, especially those of us who are baby boomers, from our low points because his songs spoke our feelings. They spoke our despondence, our hopes, our joy, and especially the joy that comes from loving other people.

I had not met Paul Williams until recent years, but I knew the man well through his lyrics. I have known the man through his lyrics for decades. The hauntingly clear and comforting voice of Karen Carpenter shared some of his songs and expressed our hearts that we had only just begun to live. White lace and promises. A kiss for luck and we're on our way.

For those of us who have loved, he expressed for us to the one we love that we won't last a day without you. And that all we needed was just an old-fashioned love song coming down in three-part harmony, one I am sure they wrote for you and me. Or that we had so much in common because we were all building a home for the family of man.

Paul Williams expressed for us through the voice of Barbra Streisand that wonderful love could be soft as an easy chair, love fresh as the morning air, one love that is shared by two, I have found with you. Like a rose, under the April snow, I was always certain love would grow. Love, ageless and evergreen, seldom seen by two.

Even though Paul had not yet recognized that he had a drinking problem, he forecast years down the road as a recovering alcoholic in that song with the words every day a beginning. Paul has now done that for over 20 years, as

he has made each day a beginning. He knew for many of us that rainy days and Mondays always get us down. And some days it truly did feel that it was, through Helen Reddy's voice, you and me against the world. Sometimes it feels like you and me against the world. When others turn their back and walk away, we could always count on you to say just the right thing, Paul Williams. But for all the times we cried, you always felt the odds were on our side, and we found consolation in that.

Paul Williams asked the ongoing question through the voice of Kermit the Frog as to why are there so many songs about rainbows? And what's on the other side? Well, someday we'll find it, the rainbow connection, because Paul is a lover, a dreamer like me.

Paul, of course, is widely considered one of our most prolific, talented, creative singer-songwriters. He has won awards called Oscar, Grammy, and Golden Globe on multiple occasions, and was nominated for these awards—more than 20 times he has been nominated over the span of his illustrious musical career. Even though he also wrote the theme for "The Love Boat," he nonetheless is deeply loved by so many like me who carry his lyrics in our hearts for life.

As a further attestation of his talent and wide-ranging artistic scope and appeal, his songs have been recorded by a diverse array of our most famous classic and modern musicians such as Elvis, Frank Sinatra, Willie Nelson, Ella Fitzgerald, Ray Charles, Tony Bennett, Sara Vaughan, Luther Vandross, R.E.M., and Jason Mraz, among so many others, in addition to the ones I mentioned already tonight. But this House has time restraints, so there is not enough time to mention all of them.

But additionally, Paul has appeared as an actor in many movies and has been a favorite on television shows. He was one of the most frequent guests on Johnny Carson's "Tonight Show." I used to love to watch him. Always he had the most contagious sense of humor that caused viewers instantly to smile when he was introduced as a guest, because you just knew you were going to laugh. You always knew you were going to laugh with him in the room.

On one such occasion he was a guest on "The Tonight Show" with Burt Reynolds. The chemistry was extraordinary and hilarious. It was only days later when Burt Reynolds called Paul, impressed with how much fun they had had together. He wanted to get with Paul, with Johnny Carson's beloved writer Pat McCormick, plus a few other favorites like Sally Field, Jackie Gleason, and Jerry Reeves and others and make a movie. They did. And the fun they had making that movie came across from the screen to the audience, which made it one of the most successful movies in history.

□ 2020

It was called "Smokey and the Bandit."

There were other Smokey sequels, but that first one was the best. Paul said, Billy Bob Thornton told him that in the South "Smokey and the Bandit" is not considered a movie, it's considered a documentary. Though some identify him in the movies as the short guy, I personally know him to be a full 10 feet tall.

In recognition of Paul's significant and long-lasting musical impact, he was inducted in 2001 into the Songwriters Hall of Fame, and he is currently serving as the president and chairman of the board of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, ASCAP.

But Paul will tell you that having hit rock bottom through his drinking, God blessed him even still, He lifted him and gave him new life with an even more infectious joy. He became a Christian and although some alcoholics fear that they will not be nearly as creative without drinking, Paul showed that's absolutely not the case.

Like virtually all creative geniuses, though, he has known times when he had trouble writing. On one such occasion he went to Nashville, collaborated and out came one of the most touching and autobiographical songs which became a huge hit for Diamond Rio. The words reflected a part of his own struggle with alcoholism and his recovery, though the woman who made him face the truth was not waiting for him when he completely sobered up and dried out. The words say it better than I can:

"I said, Hello, I think I am broken, and though I was only jokin', you took me by surprise when you agreed. I was trying to be clever, for the life of me I never guessed how far a simple truth would lead. You knew all my lines; you knew all my tricks; you knew how to heal that thing no medicine can fix. And I bless the day I met you, and I thank God that He let you lay beside me for a moment that lives on. And the good news is I'm better for the time we spent together. The bad news is you're gone."

"Looking back it's still surprising, I was sinking; you were rising, and with a look you caught me in mid-air. Now I know God has His reasons, but sometimes it's hard to see them when I awake and find that you're not there."

"You found hope in hopeless; and you made crazy sane, you became the missing link that helped me break my chains. And I bless the day I met you, and I thank God that He let you lay beside me for a moment that lives on. And the good news is I'm better for the time we spent together. The bad news is you're gone."

And Paul knows, however, that all things work together for good for those who love God and are called according to His purpose. But that doesn't mean that everything is good; it's certainly not. But thankfully things have worked out so that Paul has been a gift

to this planet and to the millions that he has touched.

Paul has a true driving passion for his family, for his work as a drug rehabilitation counselor with Musicians' Assistance Program, a nonprofit program created by and for the benefit of musicians to help them overcome their substance abuse issues. In 1989 Paul obtained his certification as a drug rehabilitation counselor from UCLA and has for the last 20 years been actively imparting the lessons to others that he had to learn himself the hard way.

He has been given a number of awards for his humanitarian efforts and remains a shining example of someone who has used fame not for self-centered ends but to promote the well-being of others. He is indeed devoted to his church, to the Lord, and just as I found out after I got dumped in college by my girlfriend, God had something else waiting that was supposed to have been all along.

One of the great mysteries in this world, though, is that it is only after a broken heart so often that our hearts are stretched enough and then mend even bigger with a greater capacity for loving others. And so it was with Paul. Subsequently he met and married Mariana. They are happily married and have the deepest love for and pride in their wonderful family.

Though he is a Democrat by political affiliation, he, just as Jesus did, can mingle and feel right at home even

with the least of these, like me. His favorite anonymous quote, apparently he is one we can all take to heart with our interactions with one another, "Care deeply; give freely; think kindly; act gently; and be at peace with the world."

One of my favorite quotes is: "Before the rising sun we fly; so many roads to choose, we start out walking and learn to run. We've only just begun."

We are so grateful that the good Lord led Paul down a road of expressing what we felt, though Paul expressed it in a way we never could. But we can certainly sing, even though some of us should do so only privately.

But it is also true, as Paul wrote, "Time won't change the meaning of one love." And though 70 years of age this week, Paul Williams is ageless and ever, ever green.

Here in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD for all the world to read, as long as there is a United States, it will ever be recorded that Paul Williams lived, laughed, loved, and was immensely helpful to those around him doing the same thing; and hopefully he will be around the rest of my life to add the music to my life.

And, yes, to borrow from another of his songs: "As a traveling boy, Paul was only passing through, but we will always think of you."

God bless you, Paul, for blessing us. Happy birthday.

I yield back.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Ms. SPEIER) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

- Mr. ETHERIDGE, for 5 minutes, today.
- Mr. BRIGHT, for 5 minutes, today.
- Ms. WOOLSEY, for 5 minutes, today.
- Ms. SPEIER, for 5 minutes, today.
- Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.
- Ms. KAPTUR, for 5 minutes, today.
- Mr. KENNEDY, for 5 minutes, today.
- Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. BURTON of Indiana) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

- Mr. POE of Texas, for 5 minutes, September 22.
- Mr. JONES, for 5 minutes, September 22.
- Mr. COFFMAN, for 5 minutes, today.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 8 o'clock and 27 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, September 16, 2010, at 10 a.m.

EXPENDITURE REPORTS CONCERNING OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL

Reports concerning the foreign currencies and U.S. dollars utilized for Speaker-Authorized Official Travel during the second quarter of 2010, pursuant to Public Law 95-384 are as follows:

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMISSION ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2010

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Hon. Alcee Hastings	5/28	6/1	Qatar		456.00		8,990.00				9,446.00
	6/1	6/3	Belgium		896.00						896.00
Alex Johnson	5/28	6/1	Qatar		456.00		8,640.60				9,096.60
	6/1	6/4	Belgium		1,344.00						1,344.00
Dr. Mischa Thompson	5/31	6/4	Belgium		1,792.00		1,005.70				2,797.70
Committee total					4,944		18,636.30				23,580.30

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS, Chairman, July 28, 2010.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2010

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Hon. Betsy Markey	4/8	4/9	UAE		389.00						389.00
	4/9	4/10	Pakistan		360.00						360.00
	4/10	4/11	Afghanistan		78.00						78.00
	4/11	4/12	UAE		0.00		9,672.10				9,672.10
Per diem returned					324.00						324.00
Committee total					503.00		9,672.10				10,175.10

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. COLLIN C. PETERSON, Chairman, July 31, 2010.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2010

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Hon. Ed Pastor	4/5	4/7	Mexico		645.00						645.00
Commercial airfare									631.48		631.48
Hon. John Salazar	4/7	4/8	United Arab Emirates		262.91						262.91
	4/9	4/10	Pakistan		257.62						257.62
	4/10	4/11	Afghanistan								
Commercial airfare		4/12	United Arab Emirates						9,637.10		9,637.10
Hon. Jack Kingston	6/1	6/2	Cote d'Ivoire		240.00						240.00
	6/3	6/3	Ethiopia		379.28						379.28
	6/4	6/4	Kuwait		310.75						310.75
	6/5	6/7	Italy		909.12						909.12
Hon. Lincoln Davis	5/29	5/30	Kuwait		410.00				(³)		430.70
	5/30	5/30	Iraq								
	5/30	6/2	Qatar		996.00						996.00
	6/2	6/5	Syria		819.33						819.33
	6/5	6/6	Lebanon		62.00						62.00
	6/6	6/6	Germany						8,060.70		8,060.70
Commercial airfare										1,101.97	1,101.97
Misc. Embassy costs											1,504.60
Hon. David Obey	5/29	5/31	France		939.89						1,018.63
	5/31	6/2	Norway		826.24						249.49
	6/2	6/3	Ireland		249.49						(³)
Misc. Embassy costs										1,095.30	1,095.30
Hon. John Olver	5/29	5/31	France		939.89						1,504.60
	5/31	6/2	Norway		826.24						1,018.63
	6/2	6/3	Ireland		249.49						249.49
Misc. Embassy costs										(³)	1,095.30
Hon. Ed Pastor	5/29	5/31	France		939.89						1,095.30
	5/31	6/2	Norway		826.24						1,504.60
	6/2	6/3	Ireland		249.49						1,018.63
Misc. Embassy costs										(³)	249.49
Hon. Tim Ryan	5/29	5/31	France		939.89						1,095.30
	5/31	6/2	Norway		826.24						1,504.60
	6/2	6/3	Ireland		249.49						1,018.63
Misc. Embassy costs										(³)	249.49
Hon. Kay Granger	5/29	5/31	France		939.89						1,095.30
	5/31	6/2	Norway		826.24						1,504.60
	6/2	6/3	Ireland		249.49						1,018.63
Misc. Embassy costs										(³)	249.49
Hon. John Carter	5/29	5/31	France		939.89						1,095.30
	5/31	6/2	Norway		826.24						1,504.60
	6/2	6/3	Ireland		249.49						1,018.63
Misc. Embassy costs										(³)	249.49
Hon. Betty McCollum	5/29	5/31	France		939.89						1,095.30
	5/31	6/2	Norway		826.24						1,504.60
	6/2	6/3	Ireland		249.49						1,018.63
Misc. Embassy costs										(³)	249.49
Beverly Airmar Photo	5/29	5/31	France		939.89						1,095.30
	5/31	6/2	Norway		826.24						1,504.60
	6/2	6/3	Ireland		249.49						1,018.63
Misc. Embassy costs										(³)	249.49
John Blazey	5/29	5/31	France		939.89						1,095.30
	5/31	6/2	Norway		826.24						1,504.60
	6/2	6/3	Ireland		249.49						1,018.63
Misc. Embassy costs										(³)	249.49
Marjorie Duske	5/29	5/31	France		939.89						1,095.30
	5/31	6/2	Norway		826.24						1,504.60
	6/2	6/3	Ireland		249.49						1,018.63
Misc. Embassy costs										(³)	249.49
Anne Marie Chotvacs	5/29	5/31	France		939.89						1,095.30
	5/31	6/2	Norway		826.24						1,504.60
	6/2	6/3	Ireland		249.49						1,018.63
Misc. Embassy costs										(³)	249.49
Celes Hughes	6/1	6/4	Iraq							1,095.30	1,095.30
Commercial airfare									35.00		35.00
Committee total					27,463.83		33,917.43		13,185.27		74,566.53

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.
³ Military air transportation.

HON. DAVID R. OBEY, Chairman, July 30, 2010.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES, U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2010

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Visit to Philippines, Cambodia, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand, April 3–10, 2010:											
Hon. Loretta Sanchez	4/4	4/6	Philippines		474.00						474.00
	4/6	4/8	Singapore		155.00						155.00
	4/7	4/7	Thailand								
	4/8	4/9	Cambodia		232.15						232.15
	4/9	4/12	Taiwan		582.90						582.90
Commercial airfare									14,495.70		14,495.70
Timothy McClees	4/4	4/6	Philippines		474.00						474.00
	4/6	4/8	Singapore		155.00						155.00
	4/7	4/7	Thailand								
	4/8	4/9	Cambodia		232.15						232.15

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES, U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2010—Continued

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Commercial airfare	4/9	4/12	Taiwan		582.90						582.90
	4/4	4/6	Philippines				12,929.90				12,929.90
	4/7	4/10	Thailand						339.02		339.02
	4/8	4/9	Cambodia						375.87		375.87
	4/9	4/12	Taiwan				32.66		3703.32		3703.32
Visit to Afghanistan, Pakistan, Qatar, United Arab Emirates, April 4–10, 2010, with CODEL Carper:									31,486.66		31,486.66
Hon. Rob Wittman	4/6	4/7	United Arab Emirates		143.00						143.00
	4/7	4/8	Afghanistan		28.00						28.00
	4/8	4/11	Pakistan		262.00						262.00
Commercial airfare							8,179.10				8,179.10
Thomas Hawley	4/6	4/7	United Arab Emirates		143.00						143.00
	4/7	4/8	Afghanistan		28.00						28.00
	4/8	4/11	Pakistan		262.00						262.00
Commercial airfare							8,179.10				8,179.10
Visit to United Arab Emirates, Afghanistan, May 29–June 1, 2010:											
Hon. Larry Kissel	5/29	5/30	United Arab Emirates		143.00						143.00
	5/30	5/31	Afghanistan		23.00						23.00
	5/31	6/2	United Arab Emirates		273.18						273.18
Commercial airfare							5,698.10				5,698.10
Hon. John Kline	5/29	5/30	United Arab Emirates		143.00						143.00
	5/30	5/31	Afghanistan		28.00						28.00
	4/8	4/11	United Arab Emirates		286.00						286.00
Commercial airfare							9,198.10				9,198.10
Hon. Frank Kratovil, Jr.	5/29	5/30	United Arab Emirates		115.00						115.00
	5/30	5/31	Afghanistan		28.00						28.00
Commercial airfare							5,698.10				5,698.10
Hon. Duncan Hunter	5/29	5/30	United Arab Emirates		143.00						143.00
	5/30	5/31	Afghanistan		28.00						28.00
Commercial airfare							9,198.10				9,198.10
Hon. Martin Heinrich	5/29	5/30	United Arab Emirates		143.00						143.00
	5/30	5/31	Afghanistan		28.00						28.00
	5/31	6/2	United Arab Emirates		286.00						286.00
Commercial airfare							5,698.10				5,698.10
Robert DeGrasse	5/29	5/30	United Arab Emirates		143.00						143.00
	5/30	5/31	Afghanistan		28.00						28.00
	5/31	6/2	United Arab Emirates		286.00						286.00
Commercial airfare							5,698.10				5,698.10
Aileen Alexander	5/29	5/30	United Arab Emirates		143.00						143.00
	5/30	5/31	Afghanistan		28.00						28.00
	5/31	6/2	United Arab Emirates		286.00						286.00
Commercial airfare							9,198.10				9,198.10
Visit to Iraq, Kuwait, May 31–June 4, 2010 with STAFFDEL Hughes:											
Michael Casey	6/1	6/3	Iraq								
	6/3	6/3	Kuwait								
Commercial airfare							7,168.60				7,168.60
Roger Zakheim	6/1	6/3	Iraq								
	6/3	6/3	Kuwait								
Commercial airfare							7,168.60				7,168.60
Visit to Cote D'Ivoire, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Kuwait, Afghanistan, Italy, June 1–7, 2010, with CODEL Inhofe:											
Doug Lamborn	6/2	6/3	Cote d'Ivoire		36.00						36.00
	6/3	6/3	Burkina Faso								
	6/3	6/4	Ethiopia		53.00						53.00
	6/4	6/5	Kuwait		59.00						59.00
	6/5	6/5	Afghanistan								
	6/5	6/7	Italy		224.00						224.00
Visit to Korea, Vietnam, June 8–19, 2010:											
Craig Greene	6/9	6/11	Korea		667.86						667.86
	6/11	6/18	Vietnam		673.00						673.00
Commercial airfare							7,767.70				7,767.70
John Chapla	6/9	6/11	Korea		592.86						592.86
	6/11	6/15	Vietnam		751.34						751.34
Commercial airfare							7,767.70				7,767.70
Committee total					9,392.34		124,075.76		2,604.87		136,072.97

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

³ Indicates delegation costs.

HON. IKE SKELTON, Chairman, July 31, 2010.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND LABOR, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2010

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²

HOUSE COMMITTEES

Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return.

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. GEORGE MILLER, Chairman, Aug. 3, 2010.

(AMENDED) REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2010

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Hon. Cliff Stearns ³	4/30	5/2	Italy		375.66				327.33		702.99
Committee total											

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.
³ Did not travel due to late votes on departure date. Expenses are cancellation fees.

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN, Chairman, July 29, 2010.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2010

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²

HOUSE COMMITTEES
 Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return.

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. BARNEY FRANK, Chairman, July 23, 2010.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2010

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Jasmeet Ahuja	4/30	5/1	Qatar		390.44						390.44
	5/1	5/2	Afghanistan		78.00		(?)				78.00
	5/2	5/4	Pakistan		611.36						611.36
Round-trip airfare							8,577.90				8,577.90
Douglas Anderson	5/30	6/3	South Korea		1,278.00						1,278.00
Round-trip airfare							7,738.30				7,738.30
Hon. Howard Berman	4/30	5/1	Qatar		390.44						390.44
	5/1	5/2	Afghanistan		78.00		(?)				78.00
	5/2	5/4	Pakistan		531.36						531.36
Round-trip airfare							8,577.90				8,577.90
Douglas Campbell	4/30	5/1	Qatar		390.44						390.44
	5/1	5/2	Afghanistan		78.00		(?)				78.00
	5/2	5/4	Pakistan		556.97						556.97
Round-trip airfare							8,577.90				8,577.90
Hon. Russ Carnahan	4/30	5/1	Qatar		320.44						320.44
	5/1	5/2	Afghanistan		38.00		(?)				38.00
	5/2	5/4	Pakistan		646.36						646.36
Round-trip airfare							8,577.90				8,577.90
Theodros Dagne	4/7	4/9	Zimbabwe		734.00						734.00
	4/9	4/10	Kenya		428.00						428.00
	4/10	4/11	Sudan		342.00						342.00
	4/11	4/12	Kenya		428.00						428.00
Round-trip airfare							10,179.90				10,179.90
Hon. Bill Delahunt	5/31	6/4	Turkey		1,714.00				4,328.62		2,042.62
Round-trip airfare							4,926.10				4,926.10
Brian Forni	5/31	6/4	Turkey		1,714.00						1,714.00
Round-trip airfare							6,735.10				6,735.10
Lindsay Gilchrist	5/17	5/20	Tanzania		638.00						638.00
Round-trip airfare							6,239.30				6,239.30
Dennis Halpin	5/30	6/3	South Korea		1,260.00						1,260.00
Round-trip airfare							7,738.30				7,738.30
Hans Hogrefe	4/6	4/9	Philippines		711.00						711.00
	4/9	4/12	Indonesia		699.00						699.00
Round-trip airfare							12,155.50				12,155.50
Eric Jacobstein	5/6	5/7	Panama		254.00						254.00
Round-trip airfare							926.20				926.20
Jessica Lee	4/6	4/9	Philippines		711.00						711.00
	4/9	4/12	Indonesia		699.00						699.00
Round-trip airfare							10,765.50				10,765.50
Noelle Lusane	4/7	4/9	Zimbabwe		734.00						734.00
	4/9	4/10	Kenya		428.00						428.00
	4/10	4/11	Sudan		342.00						342.00
	4/11	4/12	Kenya		428.00						428.00
Round-trip airfare							11,618.70				11,618.70
Julie Kim	6/6	6/12	Poland		1,485.12						1,485.12
Round-trip airfare							1,359.80				1,359.80
Alan Makovsky	5/29	6/1	United Arab Emirates		1,408.48						1,408.48
	6/1	6/3	Bahrain		792.50				4,233.78		1,026.28
	6/3	6/5	Lebanon		664.00						664.00
Round-trip airfare							8,062.20				8,062.20
Robert Marcus	5/29	6/1	United Arab Emirates		1,408.48						1,408.48
	6/1	6/3	Bahrain		792.50						792.50
	6/3	6/5	Lebanon		664.00						664.00
Round-trip airfare							8,062.20				8,062.20
Hon. Michael McMahon	4/30	5/1	Qatar		340.44						340.44
	5/1	5/2	Afghanistan		28.00		(?)				28.00
	5/2	5/4	Pakistan		636.36						636.36
Round-trip airfare							8,577.90				8,577.90
Hon. Brad Miller	4/30	5/1	Qatar		390.44						390.44
	5/1	5/2	Afghanistan		78.00		(?)				78.00
	5/2	5/4	Pakistan		721.36						721.36
Round-trip airfare							8,577.90				8,577.90
Daniel Mulholland	6/6	6/9	Poland		742.56						742.56
Round-trip airfare							2,144.50				2,144.50
Walter Oleszek	6/6	6/12	Poland		1,485.12						1,485.12
Round-trip airfare							1,359.80				1,359.80
Joo-Jin Ong	5/30	6/2	South Korea		1,000.00				4,144.57		2,442.57
	6/2	6/4	China		632.00						632.00
Round-trip airfare							11,530.50				11,530.50

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2010—Continued

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Hon. Donald Payne	4/7	4/9	Zimbabwe		734.00						734.00
	4/9	4/10	Kenya		428.00						428.00
	4/10	4/11	Sudan		342.00						342.00
	4/11	4/12	Kenya		428.00						428.00
Round-trip airfare							11,043.80				11,043.80
Peter Quilter	4/5	4/6	Nicaragua		256.00						256.00
	4/6	4/8	Honduras		472.00						472.00
Round-trip airfare							2,034.70				2,034.70
Sheri Rickert	5/17	5/21	Tanzania		385.00						385.00
Round-trip airfare							8,572.90				8,572.90
Hon. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen	4/30	5/1	Qatar		390.44						390.44
	5/1	5/2	Afghanistan		78.00		(³)				78.00
	5/2	5/4	Pakistan		528.36						528.36
Round-trip airfare							8,577.90				8,577.90
Hon. Edward Royce	4/30	5/1	Qatar		390.44						390.44
	5/1	5/2	Afghanistan		78.00		(³)				78.00
	5/2	5/4	Pakistan		561.36						561.36
Round-trip airfare							8,577.90				8,577.90
Margarita Seminario	4/4	4/9	Peru		1,872.00						1,872.00
Round-trip airfare							6,181.70				6,181.70
Amanda Sloat	6/2	6/6	Bosnia		558.00						558.00
Round-trip airfare							1,535.20				1,535.20
Maureen Taft-Morales	4/5	4/9	Peru		1,248.00						1,248.00
Round-trip airfare							6,181.70				6,181.70
Robyn Wapner	5/6	5/7	Panama		254.00						254.00
Round-trip airfare							926.20				926.20
Clay Wellborn	4/5	4/10	Peru		1,615.00						1,615.00
Round-trip airfare							6,181.70				6,181.70
Lisa Williams	5/14	5/16	Kazakhstan		878.00						878.00
Round-trip airfare							6,111.00				6,111.00
Brent Woolfork	4/5	4/10	Brazil		1,211.00						1,211.00
Round-trip airfare							6,825.70				6,825.70
Committee total					43,628.77		235,759.70		2,004.97		281,393.44

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.
³ Military air transportation.
⁴ Indicates delegation costs.

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN, Chairman, July 29, 2010.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2010

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Andrew Wright	5/24	5/29	Dubai		1,631.24		2,376.10		540		4,547.34
Scott Lindsay	5/24	5/29	Dubai		1,673.24		2,376.10				4,049.34
Boris Maguire	5/24	5/29	Dubai		1,673.24		2,287.10				3,960.34
Christopher Bright	5/24	5/29	Dubai		1,654.36		2,198.10				3,852.36
Committee total					6,631.98		9,237.40		540.00		16,409.38

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS, Chairman, July 31, 2010.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2010

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Hon. Brian Baird	4/5	4/9	Columbia		1,441.20		3,230.70		1,389.00		6,060.90
Hon. Mario Diaz-Balart	4/6	4/8	Columbia		720.60		2,266.70		1,389.00		4,376.30
Commercial airfare											
Hon. Bart Gordon ³	4/30	5/2	Italy		375.66				327.33		702.99
Louis Finkel ³	4/30	5/2	Italy		375.66				327.33		702.99
Hon. Brian Baird	5/29	5/30	Kuwait		410.00		20.70		196.28		626.98
	5/30	5/30	Iraq								
	5/30	6/2	Qatar		996.00						996.00
	6/2	6/5	Syria		819.33				782.36		1,601.69
	6/5	6/6	Lebanon		62.00				123.33		185.33
	6/6	6/6	Germany		0.00						
Commercial airfare ⁴							8,060.70				8,060.70
Nicholas Palarino	5/29	5/30	Kuwait		410.00		20.70		196.28		626.98
	5/30	5/30	Iraq		0.00						
	5/30	6/2	Qatar		996.00						996.00
	6/2	6/5	Syria		819.33				782.36		1,601.69
	6/5	6/6	Lebanon		62.00				123.33		185.33
	6/6	6/6	Germany		0.00						
Commercial airfare ⁴							8,060.70				8,060.70
Committee total					7,487.78		21,660.20		5,636.60		34,784.58

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.
³ Did not travel due to late votes on departure date. Expenses are cancellation fees.
⁴ Entire trip except in/out of Iraq (mil/air).

HON. BART GORDON, Chairman, July 29, 2010.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2010

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Hon. Eleanor Holmes Norton	8/5	8/5	Haiti								
James Tymon	5/30	6/1	Ireland		\$966.00						
	6/1	6/2	Belgium		\$700.00						
	6/1	6/4	Czech Republic		\$416.00		\$5,877.70				\$5,877.70
Committee total					\$1,982.00		\$5,877.70				\$5,877.70

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.
³ Military air transportation.

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR, Chairman, Sept. 30, 2010.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2010

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Hon. Janice Schakowsky	4/5	4/7	Middle East		800.26						
Commercial airfare	4/8	4/10	Middle East		395.00						12,320.65
Adam Lurie	4/5	4/7	Middle East		800.26						
Commercial airfare	4/8	4/10	Middle East		395.00		9,292.39				10,487.65
Frederick Fleitz	4/5	4/7	Middle East		800.26						
Commercial airfare	4/8	4/10	Middle East		395.00		9,292.39				10,487.65
Hon. Silvestre Reyes	4/5	4/7	Mexico		1,290.00						
Commercial airfare							1,326.67				2,616.67
Michael Delaney	4/5	4/7	Mexico		1,290.00						
Commercial airfare							1,730.17				3,020.17
Curtis Flood	4/7	4/9	Mexico		600.00						
Commercial airfare							2,614.67				3,214.67
Nathan Hauser	4/7	4/9	Mexico		600.00						
Commercial airfare							2,614.67				3,214.67
Hon. Peter King	5/29	5/31	Middle East		415.18						
Commercial airfare							13,864.90				14,280.08
James Lewis	5/29	5/31	Middle East		415.18						
Commercial airfare							13,599.90				14,015.08
Harry Hulings	5/29	5/31	Middle East		415.18						
Commercial airfare							13,599.90				14,015.08
Hon. Anna Eshoo	5/29	5/31	Europe		1,428.12						
	5/31	6/2	Europe		1,376.43						
	6/2	6/3	Europe		306.37						
							(³)				3,110.92
Mark Young	5/31	6/2	Middle East		1,575.90						
	6/3	6/5	Middle East		124.03						
	6/5	6/6	Middle East		114.00		8,181.80				9,995.73
Commercial airfare											
George Pappas	5/30	6/1	Middle East		1,575.90						
	6/2	6/4	Middle East		124.03						
	6/5	6/6	Middle East		114.00		8,181.80				9,995.73
Commercial airfare											
Hon. Silvestre Reyes	6/1	6/2	Europe		139.00						
	6/2	6/3	Europe		350.00						
	6/3	6/4	Europe		400.00						
Commercial airfare							3,181.90				4,070.90
Michael Delaney	6/1	6/2	Europe		139.00						
	6/2	6/3	Europe		350.00						
	6/3	6/4	Europe		400.00						
Commercial airfare							2,509.20				3,398.20
In accordance with title 22, United States Code, Section 1754(b)(2), information as would identify the foreign countries in which the Committee Members and staff have traveled is omitted.											
Committee total											118,243.85

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.
³ Military air transportation.

HON. SILVESTRE REYES, Chairman, July 30, 2010.

EXPENDITURE REPORTS CONCERNING OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL

Reports concerning the foreign currencies and U.S. dollars utilized for Speaker-Authorized Official Travel during the first, second, and third quarters of 2010 pursuant to Public Law 95-384 are as follows:

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2010

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Juan Lara	4/04	4/10	Japan		2,924.00		9,228.80				12,152.80
Javier Martinez	4/04	4/10	Japan		2,924.00		9,228.80				12,152.80
Mike Brinck	4/04	4/10	Japan		2,924.00		9,228.80				12,152.80
Committee total					8,772.00		27,686.40				36,458.40

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. BOB FILNER, Chairman, Aug. 13, 2010.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DELEGATION TO POLAND, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JUNE 6 AND JUNE 12, 2010

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Hon. David Price	6/6	6/8	Poland		1,002.57						1,002.57
John Lis	6/6	6/9	Poland		1,435.14				2,109.00		3,544.14
Asher Hildebrand	6/6	6/10	Poland		1,913.52				1,324.80		3,228.32
Margarita Seminario	6/6	6/12	Poland		2,870.28				1,324.80		4,195.08
Committee total											11,970.11

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. DAVID E. PRICE, Chairman, July 12, 2010.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DELEGATION TO SENEGAL, LIBERIA, KENYA, TANZANIA, AND MALI, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 3 AND JULY 15, 2010

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Hon. David Price	7/3	7/4	Senegal		241.00						241.00
Hon. David Dreier	7/3	7/4	Senegal		241.00						241.00
Hon. Allyson Schwartz	7/3	7/4	Senegal		241.00						241.00
Hon. Keith Ellison	7/3	7/4	Senegal		241.00						241.00
Hon. K. Michael Conaway	7/3	7/4	Senegal		185.02						185.02
Hon. Vern Buchanan	7/3	7/4	Senegal		241.00						241.00
Hon. Patrick J. Kennedy	7/3	7/4	Senegal		241.00						241.00
Hon. Lorraine Miller	7/3	7/4	Senegal		241.00						241.00
Hon. John Sullivan	7/3	7/4	Senegal		241.00						241.00
John Lis	7/3	7/4	Senegal		241.00						241.00
Margarita Seminario	7/3	7/4	Senegal		241.00						241.00
Asher Hildebrand	7/3	7/4	Senegal		191.00						191.00
Rachael Leman	7/3	7/4	Senegal		241.00						241.00
Brad Smith	7/3	7/4	Senegal		241.00						241.00
Janice Robinson	7/3	7/4	Senegal		241.00						241.00
Pearl Alice Marsh	7/3	7/4	Senegal		241.00						241.00
Karen Robb	7/3	7/4	Senegal		241.00						241.00
Shalanda Young	7/3	7/4	Senegal		241.00						241.00
Hon. David Price	7/4	7/6	Liberia		580.00						580.00
Hon. David Dreier	7/4	7/6	Liberia		460.00						460.00
Hon. Allyson Schwartz	7/4	7/6	Liberia		580.00						580.00
Hon. Keith Ellison	7/4	7/6	Liberia		460.00						460.00
Hon. K. Michael Conaway	7/4	7/6	Liberia		460.00						460.00
Hon. Vern Buchanan	7/4	7/6	Liberia		580.00						580.00
Hon. Patrick J. Kennedy	7/4	7/6	Liberia		460.00						460.00
Hon. Donald Payne	7/4	7/6	Liberia		230.00						230.00
Hon. Lorraine Miller	7/4	7/6	Liberia		460.00						460.00
Hon. John Sullivan	7/4	7/6	Liberia		432.00						432.00
John Lis	7/4	7/6	Liberia		460.00						460.00
Margarita Seminario	7/4	7/6	Liberia		460.00						460.00
Asher Hildebrand	7/4	7/6	Liberia		410.00						410.00
Rachael Leman	7/4	7/6	Liberia		460.00						460.00
Brad Smith	7/4	7/6	Liberia		460.00						460.00
Janice Robinson	7/4	7/6	Liberia		460.00						460.00
Pearl Alice Marsh	7/4	7/6	Liberia		460.00						460.00
Karen Robb	7/4	7/6	Liberia		460.00						460.00
Shalanda Young	7/4	7/6	Liberia		460.00						460.00
Hon. David Price	7/6	7/9	Kenya		1,089.15		³ 362.00				1,451.15
Hon. David Dreier	7/6	7/9	Kenya		1,050.00		³ 362.00				1,412.00
Hon. Allyson Schwartz	7/6	7/9	Kenya		1,140.00		³ 362.00				1,502.00
Hon. Keith Ellison	7/6	7/9	Kenya		1,050.00		³ 362.00				1,412.00
Hon. K. Michael Conaway	7/6	7/9	Kenya		1,044.12		³ 362.00				1,406.12
Hon. Vern Buchanan	7/6	7/9	Kenya		1,140.00		³ 362.00				1,502.00
Hon. Patrick J. Kennedy	7/6	7/9	Kenya		1,280.00		³ 4,394.70				5,674.70
Hon. Donald Payne	7/6	7/9	Kenya		1,050.00		³ 362.00				1,412.00
Hon. Lorraine Miller	7/6	7/9	Kenya		1,050.00		³ 362.00				1,412.00
Hon. John Sullivan	7/6	7/9	Kenya		995.00		³ 362.00				1,357.00
John Lis	7/6	7/9	Kenya		1,050.00		³ 362.00				1,412.00
Margarita Seminario	7/6	7/9	Kenya		1,050.00		³ 362.00				1,412.00
Asher Hildebrand	7/6	7/9	Kenya		950.00		³ 362.00				1,312.00
Rachael Leman	7/6	7/9	Kenya		1,050.00		³ 362.00				1,412.00
Brad Smith	7/6	7/9	Kenya		1,050.00		³ 362.00				1,412.00
Janice Robinson	7/6	7/9	Kenya		1,050.00						1,050.00
Pearl Alice Marsh	7/6	7/9	Kenya		1,050.00		³ 362.00				1,412.00
Karen Robb	7/6	7/9	Kenya		1,050.00						1,050.00
Shalanda Young	7/6	7/9	Kenya		1,050.00		³ 362.00				1,412.00
Hon. David Price	7/9	7/11	Tanzania		448.00						448.00
Hon. David Dreier	7/9	7/11	Tanzania		448.00						448.00
Hon. Allyson Schwartz	7/9	7/11	Tanzania		448.00						448.00
Hon. Keith Ellison	7/9	7/10	Tanzania		224.00		4,687.00				4,911.00
Hon. K. Michael Conaway	7/9	7/11	Tanzania		448.00						448.00
Hon. Vern Buchanan	7/9	7/11	Tanzania		448.00						448.00
Hon. Donald Payne	7/9	7/11	Tanzania		448.00						448.00
Hon. Lorraine Miller	7/9	7/11	Tanzania		448.00						448.00
Hon. John Sullivan	7/9	7/11	Tanzania		448.00						448.00
John Lis	7/9	7/11	Tanzania		448.00						448.00
Margarita Seminario	7/9	7/11	Tanzania		448.00						448.00
Asher Hildebrand	7/9	7/11	Tanzania		448.00						448.00
Rachael Leman	7/9	7/11	Tanzania		448.00						448.00
Brad Smith	7/9	7/11	Tanzania		448.00						448.00
Janice Robinson	7/9	7/11	Tanzania		448.00						448.00
Pearl Alice Marsh	7/9	7/11	Tanzania		448.00						448.00
Karen Robb	7/9	7/11	Tanzania		448.00						448.00
Shalanda Young	7/9	7/11	Tanzania		448.00						448.00
Hon. David Price	7/11	7/12	Mali		212.00		³ 5,910.00				6,122.00
Hon. David Dreier	7/11	7/12	Mali		212.00		³ 5,910.00				6,122.00
Hon. Allyson Schwartz	7/11	7/12	Mali		212.00		³ 5,910.00				6,122.00
Hon. K. Michael Conaway	7/11	7/12	Mali		110.00		³ 5,910.00				6,020.00
Hon. Vern Buchanan	7/11	7/12	Mali		212.00		³ 5,910.00				6,122.00
Hon. Donald Payne	7/11	7/12	Mali		212.00		³ 5,910.00				6,122.00
Hon. Lorraine Miller	7/11	7/12	Mali		212.00		³ 5,910.00				6,122.00
Hon. John Sullivan	7/11	7/12	Mali		212.00		³ 5,910.00				6,122.00
John Lis	7/11	7/15	Mali		848.00						848.00
Margarita Seminario	7/11	7/15	Mali		848.00						848.00

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DELEGATION TO SENEGAL, LIBERIA, KENYA, TANZANIA, AND MALI, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 3 AND JULY 15, 2010—Continued

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Asher Hildebrand	7/11	7/15	Mali		648.00		(3)				648.00
Rachael Leman	7/11	7/15	Mali		848.00		(3)				848.00
Brad Smith	7/11	7/15	Mali		848.00		(3)				848.00
Janice Robinson	7/11	7/15	Mali		848.00		(3)				848.00
Pearl Alice Marsh	7/11	7/15	Mali		848.00		(3)				848.00
Karen Robb	7/11	7/15	Mali		848.00		(3)				848.00
Shalanda Young	7/11	7/13	Mali		746.00		(3)				746.00
Committee total											112,603.99

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.
³ Military air transportation.

HON. DAVID E. PRICE, Chairman, Aug. 12, 2010.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DELEGATION TO ISRAEL, AFGHANISTAN, AND GERMANY, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN AUG. 2 AND AUG. 7, 2010

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Tammy Baldwin	8/3	8/4	Israel		146.00						146.00
	8/5	8/6	Afghanistan		28.00						28.00
	8/7	8/7	Germany		176.25						176.25
	8/4								³ 100.00		100.00
	8/6								³ 24.00		24.00
	8/4								³ 10.00		10.00
	8/5								³ 20.00		20.00
	8/6								³ 16.00		16.00
	8/7								³ 53.25		53.25
	8/7								³ 1.80		1.80
	8/7								³ 47.30		47.30
	8/7								³ 5.40		5.40
	8/6								³ 135.00		135.00
Committee total					350.25				412.75		763.00

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.
³ Meals, hotels and incidentals.

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN, Chairman, Aug. 26, 2010.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DELEGATION TO HAITI, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED ON AUG 6, 2010

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Hon. Steny Hoyer	8/6	8/6	Haiti						(3)		
Hon. David Price	8/6	8/6	Haiti						(3)		
Hon. Donna Edwards	8/6	8/6	Haiti						(3)		
Hon. Yvette Clarke	8/6	8/6	Haiti						(3)		
Hon. Aaron Schock	8/6	8/6	Haiti						(3)		
Hon. Roscoe Bartlett	8/6	8/6	Haiti						(3)		
Mariah Sixkiller	8/6	8/6	Haiti						(3)		
Elizabeth Murray	8/6	8/6	Haiti						(3)		

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.
³ Military air transportation.

HON. STENY H. HOYER, Chairman, Sept. 7, 2010.

(AMENDED) REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2010

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Hon. Keith Ellison	3/29	3/31	Saudi Arabia		1,347.52						1,347.52
	3/31	4/1	Jordan		360.00						360.00
	4/1	4/2	Israel		402.00						402.00
	4/2	4/5	Egypt		542.05						542.05
									⁴ 14,640.99		14,640.99
Hon. Eni F.H. Faleomavaega	2/13	2/14	Morocco		592.10				(3)		592.10
	2/15	2/16	Spain		901.61				(3)		901.61
	2/17	2/20	Australia		1,471.29				(3)		1,471.29
Hon. Jeff Flake	2/5	2/7	Germany		⁵ 419.60				(3)		419.60
Hon. Sheila Jackson Lee	3/30	3/31	Qatar								342.00
	3/31	3/31	Yemen		342.00						342.00
	3/31	4/1	Bahrain								180.00
	4/1	4/3	Pakistan		180.00						180.00
Alan Makovsky									⁴ 10,045.20		10,045.20
	1/28	1/31	Sweden		1,058.00						1,058.00
									⁴ 9,051.90		9,051.90
Committee total					7,616.17				33,738.09		41,354.26

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

³ Military air transportation.
⁴ Round trip airfare.
⁵ Per diem that was not reported in Q1 report. All receipts have been received.

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN, Chairman, Sept. 8, 2010.

BUDGETARY EFFECTS OF PAYGO LEGISLATION

Pursuant to Public Law 111-139, Mr. SPRATT hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, the attached estimate of the costs of the bill S. 2868, the Federal Supply Schedules Usage Act, as amended by the House, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

CBO ESTIMATE OF PAY-AS-YOU-GO EFFECTS FOR S. 2868, THE FEDERAL SUPPLY SCHEDULES USAGE ACT OF 2010, AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE

	By fiscal year, in millions of dollars—												
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2010–2015	2010–2020
NET INCREASE OR DECREASE (–) IN THE DEFICIT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Impact ¹	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

¹ S. 2868 would amend federal law to allow disaster relief organizations to use the federal supply schedules of the General Services Administration to procure goods and services from private firms for disaster preparedness and response activities. CBO estimates that the increasing number of purchases would increase offsetting receipts by less than \$500,000 annually. Because those fees can be spent by GSA without further appropriation, the net budgetary impact of the legislation would be negligible.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

9373. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 18-501, "Frank Kameny Way Designation Act of 2010"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9374. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 18-526, "Gun Offender Registration Temporary Amendment Act of 2010"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9375. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 18-534, "Transportation Infrastructure Temporary Amendment Act of 2010"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9376. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 18-533, "Redevelopment of the Center Leg Freeway (Interstate 395) Act of 2010"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9377. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 18-525, "Not-for-Profit Hospital Corporation Establishment Temporary Amendment Act of 2010"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9378. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 18-524, "Approval of the Transfer of Control of Starpower Communications, LLC, and its Cable Franchise and Cable System to Yankee Cable Acquisition, LLC Temporary Act of 2010"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9379. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 18-523, "Health Insurance for Dependents Act of 2010"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9380. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 18-502, "Summer Pool Safety Temporary Act of 2010"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9381. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 18-500, "Dorothy Irene Height Memorial Library Designation Act of 2010"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

9382. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting

Transmittal of D.C. ACT 18-527, "Wastewater System Regulation Amendment Act of 2010"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. MCGOVERN: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 1620. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4785) to amend the miscellaneous rural development provisions of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to make loans to certain entities that will use the funds to make loans to consumers to implement energy efficiency measures involving structural improvements and investments in cost-effective, commercial off-the shelf technologies to reduce home energy use (Rept. 111-594). Referred to the House Calendar.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. GARAMENDI:

H.R. 6126. A bill to provide for 100 percent expensing for capital property placed in service on or after September 8, 2010, and before 2012; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BUYER:

H.R. 6127. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the continued provision of health care services to certain veterans who were exposed to sodium dichromate while serving as a member of the Armed Forces at or near the water injection plant at Qarmat Ali, Iraq, during Operation Iraqi Freedom; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. McDERMOTT (for himself, Mr. CHANDLER, Ms. WOOLSEY, Ms. SUTTON, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Ms. RICHARDSON, Mrs. CAPPAS, Mr. TIERNEY, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. CRITZ, Mr. LOEBSACK, and Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California):

H.R. 6128. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permit the Secretary of the Treasury to issue prospective guidance clarifying the employment status of individuals for purposes of employment taxes and to prevent retroactive assessments with respect to such clarifications; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. McKEON:

H.R. 6129. A bill to release the Bodie Wilderness Study Area in Mono County, California; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. STARK (for himself, Mr. HERGER, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. REICHERT, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky, Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ of California, Mr. BOUSTANY, Mr. MEEK of Florida, Mr. ROSKAM, Mr. McDERMOTT, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. KLEIN of Florida, Mr. LINDER, Mr. HIGGINS, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. ETHERIDGE, Mr. POMEROY, Mr. KIND, Mr. LEVIN, and Mr. THOMPSON of California):

H.R. 6130. A bill to amend title XI of the Social Security Act to expand the permissive exclusion from participation in Federal health care programs to individuals and entities affiliated with sanctioned entities; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. NYE:

H.R. 6131. A bill to impose conditions on the disestablishment, closure, or realignment of the United States Joint Forces Command and on workload reductions of civilian personnel of that command, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. FILNER (for himself, Mr. MICHAUD, Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN, Mr. HALL of New York, and Mr. TEAGUE):

H.R. 6132. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish a transition program for new veterans, to improve the disability claim system, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. ANDREWS (for himself and Mr. ROONEY):

H.R. 6133. A bill to require the lender or servicer of a home mortgage, upon a request by the homeowner for a short sale, to make a prompt decision whether to allow the sale; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado:

H.R. 6134. A bill to provide for a 10 percent reduction in pay for Members of Congress; to make Federal civilian employees subject to a period of mandatory unpaid leave, and to reduce appropriations for salaries and expenses for offices of the legislative branch, during

fiscal year 2011; and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration, and in addition to the Committees on Oversight and Government Reform, and the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia:

H.R. 6135. A bill to extend contract periods for renewable energy for Federal agencies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia (for himself and Ms. NORTON):

H.R. 6136. A bill to reduce the heat island effect and associated ground level ozone pollution from Federal facilities; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. ISRAEL:

H.R. 6137. A bill to amend chapter 44 of title 18, United States Code, to prohibit the possession of a firearm by a person who is adjudicated to have committed a violent act while a juvenile; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 6138. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to afford Federal employees residing in the District of Columbia the same opportunities for political participation as are available with respect to certain Federal employees residing in Maryland or Virginia; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. OWENS (for himself, Mrs. LOWEY, Mrs. MALONEY, Mr. TONKO, Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. ARCURI, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. MURPHY of New York, and Mr. HOLT):

H.R. 6139. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 482 East Main Street in Malone, New York, as the "Almanzo Wilder Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. RYAN of Ohio:

H.R. 6140. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4865 Tallmadge Road in Rootstown, Ohio, as the "Marine Sgt. Jeremy E. Murray Post Office"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. SESTAK (for himself, Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania, Mr. CRITZ, Ms. SCHWARTZ, and Mr. CARNEY):

H.R. 6141. A bill to amend the Workforce Investment Act of 1998, to authorize a national grant program for on-the-job training; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. TONKO:

H.R. 6142. A bill to direct the Secretary of Labor, the Secretary of Energy, and the Secretary of Education to, jointly, develop a workforce training and education program to prepare workers for careers in the alternative energy and energy efficiency industries; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. TONKO (for himself and Mr. STARK):

H.R. 6143. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to eliminate the 190-day lifetime limit on inpatient psychiatric hospital services under the Medicare Program; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. CLEAVER:

H. Con. Res. 317. Concurrent resolution commemorating the national partnership between Alpha Phi Alpha, Kappa Alpha Psi and Omega Psi Phi Fraternities and Big Brothers Big Sisters; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California (for herself, Ms. RICHARDSON, Mr. BACA, Mr. RANGEL, and Mr. MEEK of Florida):

H. Res. 1619. A resolution honoring the bicentennial "call for independence" that led to the establishments of the independent sovereign nations of Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Mexico, and Venezuela; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. HOLT (for himself, Mr. CAO, Mrs. KIRKPATRICK of Arizona, Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. SESTAK, and Ms. MCCOLLUM):

H. Res. 1621. A resolution recognizing the 100th anniversary of the historic founding of Catholic Charities USA; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. BACA (for himself, Mr. SKELTON, Mr. COURTNEY, Ms. RICHARDSON, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. CUMMINGS, Ms. KILPATRICK of Michigan, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. MEEK of Florida, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. ARCURI, and Ms. TSONGAS):

H. Res. 1622. A resolution honoring the historic contributions of veterans throughout all conflicts involving the United States; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. BERKLEY (for herself and Mr. WAMP):

H. Res. 1623. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of a national day of remembrance for United States nuclear weapons program workers and uranium miners, millers, and haulers; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. FARR (for himself, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. BORDALLO, Mrs. CAPPAS, Ms. EDWARDS of Maryland, Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, Mr. HONDA, Mr. JONES, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. PIERLUISI, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. WU, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. DOGGETT, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, and Mr. MCDERMOTT):

H. Res. 1624. A resolution recognizing the 40th anniversary of the Coastal States Organization, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. HASTINGS of Florida (for himself, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. BACHUS, Mr. POSEY, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. CAO, Mrs. DAVIS of California, and Mr. DEUTCH):

H. Res. 1625. A resolution recognizing the important role zoos, aquariums, and other wildlife organizations have played in the response efforts in the Gulf region following the Deepwater Horizon oil spill that began on April 20, 2010; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. WATSON:

H. Res. 1626. A resolution commending the National Student Leadership Conference for organizing college campus experiences for high school students for more than 20 years; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 21: Mr. KUCINICH.
H.R. 39: Ms. PINGREE of Maine.
H.R. 208: Mr. DOYLE, Mr. HARE, and Mr. MICA.
H.R. 303: Mr. REHBERG.
H.R. 571: Mr. OLSON.
H.R. 881: Mr. BRADY of Texas.
H.R. 892: Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California.
H.R. 1034: Mr. DJOU.
H.R. 1079: Mr. GRIFFITH and Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois.

H.R. 1133: Mr. CONYERS.
H.R. 1189: Mr. RYAN of Ohio.
H.R. 1210: Mr. MARSHALL.
H.R. 1228: Mr. DUNCAN.
H.R. 1328: Mr. ISRAEL.
H.R. 1340: Mr. HIMES.
H.R. 1362: Mrs. NAPOLITANO and Mr. LARSEN of Washington.
H.R. 1522: Mr. LANCE.
H.R. 1618: Ms. EDWARDS of Maryland and Mr. PASTOR of Arizona.
H.R. 1663: Mr. MCCAUL.
H.R. 1718: Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas.
H.R. 1806: Mr. WOLF and Ms. WOOLSEY.
H.R. 1818: Mr. DEFAZIO and Mr. SABLAN.
H.R. 1868: Mr. BOUCHER.
H.R. 1895: Mr. HOLDEN.
H.R. 1927: Mr. MICHAUD.
H.R. 2000: Mr. CLAY.
H.R. 2021: Mr. CALVERT.
H.R. 2030: Mr. MOORE of Kansas and Mr. PRICE of North Carolina.
H.R. 2115: Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia.
H.R. 2378: Mr. KUCINICH, Mr. HEINRICH, and Mr. BLUMENAUER.
H.R. 2408: Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mrs. DAHLKEMPER, and Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts.
H.R. 2443: Mr. LATOURETTE and Mr. BOREN.
H.R. 2485: Mr. BOREN and Mr. OBERSTAR.
H.R. 2547: Mr. STEARNS.
H.R. 2579: Ms. BALDWIN and Mr. BARROW.
H.R. 2672: Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. HOLT, Mr. COURTNEY, and Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 2941: Ms. CASTOR of Florida.
H.R. 3286: Mr. MARSHALL and Mr. ENGEL.
H.R. 3421: Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ of California.
H.R. 3488: Ms. KILPATRICK of Michigan.
H.R. 3652: Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ of California, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. KIRK, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. DEGETTE, and Mr. KRATOVIL.
H.R. 3655: Mr. ADLER of New Jersey.
H.R. 3666: Mr. STUPAK.
H.R. 3729: Mr. MILLER of North Carolina.
H.R. 3752: Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California.
H.R. 3765: Mr. GERLACH and Mr. MILLER of Florida.
H.R. 3786: Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin and Mr. WILSON of Ohio.
H.R. 3839: Mr. DEFAZIO.
H.R. 4037: Mr. RAHALL and Mr. CLAY.
H.R. 4114: Mr. RANGEL.
H.R. 4197: Mr. POE of Texas.
H.R. 4278: Mrs. DAHLKEMPER.
H.R. 4322: Mr. TOWNS and Mr. MORAN of Virginia.
H.R. 4339: Mr. BACA, Mr. HONDA, Mr. GONZALEZ, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. HARE, Ms. CLARKE, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. BOREN, and Mr. YOUNG of Alaska.
H.R. 4353: Mr. DOGGETT.
H.R. 4477: Mr. CLAY.
H.R. 4554: Mr. CLEAVER and Mr. GUTIERREZ.
H.R. 4555: Mr. DONNELLY of Indiana.
H.R. 4632: Mr. PASCRELL.
H.R. 4677: Mr. MOORE of Kansas.
H.R. 4689: Mr. HOLDEN, Ms. ROYBAL-AL-LARD, Mr. GORDON of Tennessee, Mr. HARE, Mr. CLAY, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. ENGEL, and Ms. MCCOLLUM.
H.R. 4735: Mr. MITCHELL.
H.R. 4769: Mr. INSLEE.
H.R. 4770: Mr. INSLEE and Mr. HINCHEY.
H.R. 4788: Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania and Mr. WILSON of Ohio.
H.R. 4794: Mr. CASTLE.
H.R. 4806: Ms. MATSUI.
H.R. 4844: Ms. MATSUI.
H.R. 4879: Mr. PAYNE.
H.R. 4921: Mrs. DAHLKEMPER.
H.R. 5029: Mr. SESSIONS.
H.R. 5034: Mr. SMITH of Nebraska.
H.R. 5071: Mr. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 5081: Mr. HODES.

- H.R. 5095: Mr. STEARNS and Mr. TURNER.
H.R. 5162: Mr. ISSA, Mr. KIND, and Mr. SMITH of Nebraska.
H.R. 5177: Mr. PRICE of Georgia.
H.R. 5191: Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. STARK, and Ms. HIRONO.
H.R. 5288: Mr. ARCURI, Mr. BAIRD, and Ms. WOOLSEY.
H.R. 5295: Mr. CLEAVER.
H.R. 5324: Mr. HIMES and Mr. PRICE of North Carolina.
H.R. 5339: Mr. BILBRAY.
H.R. 5376: Ms. WOOLSEY.
H.R. 5434: Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Mr. ANDREWS.
H.R. 5460: Ms. BERKLEY and Ms. RICHARDSON.
H.R. 5483: Mr. LANCE.
H.R. 5504: Mr. GARAMENDI and Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California.
H.R. 5523: Mr. SIMPSON.
H.R. 5625: Mr. MARSHALL and Mr. HINCHEY.
H.R. 5680: Mr. MCINTYRE.
H.R. 5689: Mr. DELAHUNT and Mr. BISHOP of Georgia.
H.R. 5732: Ms. SHEA-PORTER.
H.R. 5735: Mr. HEINRICH.
H.R. 5794: Mrs. NAPOLITANO.
H.R. 5803: Mr. HODES.
H.R. 5804: Mr. STARK.
H.R. 5820: Mrs. MALONEY, Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, and Mr. HEINRICH.
H.R. 5828: Mr. GONZALEZ.
H.R. 5833: Mr. MCMAHON, Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. PETERS, Mr. HELLER, and Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.
H.R. 5853: Mr. BURTON of Indiana.
H.R. 5861: Mr. HIGGINS.
H.R. 5916: Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado.
H.R. 5925: Mr. MICHAUD.
H.R. 5926: Mr. ENGEL, Mr. MCGOVERN, and Mr. PLATTS.
H.R. 5928: Mr. PETERSON, Ms. FOXX, Mr. KINGSTON, and Mr. AL GREEN of Texas.
H.R. 5944: Mr. DOYLE and Mr. LOEBSSACK.
H.R. 5961: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
H.R. 5972: Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin and Mr. HILL.
H.R. 5982: Mr. POMEROY.
H.R. 6059: Mr. STARK.
H.R. 6065: Mr. KING of New York.
H.R. 6071: Ms. KAPTUR.
H.R. 6072: Ms. KOSMAS, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mr. COBLE, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, and Mr. SCOTT of Georgia.
H.R. 6081: Mr. WEINER.
H.R. 6085: Mr. GRIJALVA and Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.
H.R. 6091: Mr. STARK, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. HINCHEY, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey, and Ms. WOOLSEY.
H.J. Res. 94: Mr. POE of Texas, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, and Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia.
H. Con. Res. 224: Ms. JENKINS.
H. Con. Res. 259: Mr. WOLF and Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania.
H. Con. Res. 267: Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia.
H. Con. Res. 309: Ms. CASTOR of Florida.
H. Con. Res. 311: Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Mr. MCCOTTER, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. MCHENRY, Mr. CARDOZA, Mr. ROSS, Mr. CONAWAY, Ms. FUDGE, and Ms. FOXX.
H. Con. Res. 316: Mr. LATTA, Mr. BARTON of Texas, Mr. MACK, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. PITTS, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. TIAHRT, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. GINGREY of Georgia, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mr. POSEY, Mr. NEUGEBAUER, Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. MCHENRY, Mr. COBLE, Mr. HENSARLING, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mrs. LUMMIS, and Mrs. BACHMANN.
H. Res. 93: Mr. GARAMENDI and Mr. THOMPSON of California.
H. Res. 111: Mr. CASSIDY.
H. Res. 173: Mr. CARSON of Indiana.
H. Res. 397: Mr. BARROW.
H. Res. 767: Mr. WU.
H. Res. 1319: Mr. GRIJALVA.
H. Res. 1343: Mr. JONES.
H. Res. 1348: Mr. WELCH.
H. Res. 1377: Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. FALCOMA VAEGA, Mr. OBERSTAR, and Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California.
H. Res. 1430: Ms. RICHARDSON, Mr. QUIGLEY, Ms. NORTON, Mr. MEEKS of New York, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Ms. BORDALLO, and Mr. RANGEL.
H. Res. 1433: Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. MCINTYRE, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. HARE, Mr. INGLIS, Mr. ORTIZ, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. FARR, Mr. MOORE of Kansas, Mr. MANZULLO, Mr. BARTLETT, Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. POSEY, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. SUTTON, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. WATT, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mr. KUCINICH, Ms. FOXX, Ms. KAPTUR, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Mr. BROWN of South Carolina, Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky, Mr. SHULER, Mr. MCMAHON, Mr. KRATOVIK, Mr. SCHRADER, Mrs. DAHLKEMPER, Mr. KIND, Mr. ALTMIRE, Mr. FILNER, Mr. PETERSON, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. FOSTER, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee, Ms. GIFFORDS, Mr. SALAZAR, Mr. SRES, Mr. HONDA, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. KLEIN of Florida, and Mr. YARMUTH.
H. Res. 1438: Mr. WOLF.
H. Res. 1442: Mr. LATTA and Mr. JONES.
H. Res. 1444: Mr. CROWLEY, Ms. NORTON, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. MARKEY of Massachusetts, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. SMITH of Washington, and Ms. BERKLEY.
H. Res. 1449: Mr. PRICE of Georgia, Ms. ROSLEHTINEN, Mr. COBLE, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. HELLER, Mr. HOEKSTRA, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. MOORE of Kansas, Mr. BARROW, Mr. THOMPSON of California, and Mr. BLUNT.
H. Res. 1461: Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. HOLDEN, Ms. MARKEY of Colorado, and Mr. MARKEY of Massachusetts.
H. Res. 1476: Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. ELLISON, Ms. HARMAN, Mr. MARKEY of Massachusetts, and Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ of California.
H. Res. 1488: Mr. BACA, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. LATHAM, Mr. HINCHEY, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, and Mr. YOUNG of Florida.
H. Res. 1498: Mr. SCHOCK and Mr. MCCOTTER.
H. Res. 1503: Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. MEEK of Florida, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. BOSWELL, Mr. BISHOP of New York, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. BERMAN, Ms. KOSMAS, Mr. STARK, Mr. MACK, Mr. SERRANO, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. MCINTYRE, Mr. WU, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Ms. HIRONO, and Ms. WOOLSEY.
H. Res. 1507: Mr. ROSKAM, Mr. MCCOTTER, Mr. GORDON of Tennessee, Mr. ISRAEL, and Ms. HIRONO.
H. Res. 1523: Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. BOUCHER, Mr. BARTLETT, Mr. BARROW, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, and Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas.
H. Res. 1524: Mr. GUTIERREZ.
H. Res. 1528: Mr. THOMPSON of California and Ms. SPEIER.
H. Res. 1532: Mr. COSTA and Mrs. MALONEY.
H. Res. 1542: Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia.
H. Res. 1588: Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. FORTENBERRY, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas, Mr. MORAN of Kansas, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. TIERNEY, and Ms. WOOLSEY.
H. Res. 1590: Mr. LINDER, Mr. COHEN, Mr. ISSA, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. CUMMINGS, and Mr. BUTTERFIELD.
H. Res. 1600: Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. PAUL, Mr. EHLERS, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Ms. JENKINS, Mr. PITTS, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. SNYDER, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. LATHAM, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN, Mr. BILBRAY, Mr. HARE, Mr. STUPAK, Mr. POSEY, Mr. GORDON of Tennessee, Mr. BARTLETT, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, and Mr. ARCURI.
H. Res. 1605: Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. BOYD, Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. SCHAUER, Mr. OLVER, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. HOYER, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. GONZALEZ, Mr. RODRIGUEZ, Mr. TONKO, Mr. BOREN, Mr. BOSWELL, Mr. KRATOVIK, Ms. PINGREE of Maine, Ms. TSONGAS, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. ROGERS of Michigan, Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. BILBRAY, Mr. HOEKSTRA, Mr. UPTON, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. ROSKAM, and Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California.
H. Res. 1613: Mr. ELLISON, Mr. SHERMAN, Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. SIRES, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. DELAHUNT, Mr. MCMAHON, Mr. SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. MEEKS of New York, Mr. FORTENBERRY, and Ms. MCCOLLUM.



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Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable MARK BEGICH, a Senator from the State of Alaska.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal Lord God, the fountain of all that blesses us, we thank You for the gift of this new day. These undeserved seconds, minutes, and hours You have graciously given to us provide opportunities to honor You.

As our lawmakers do the challenging legislative labors of this body, may they feel gratitude to You for the privilege of living in these difficult days when faithfulness in service brings even greater glory to Your Name. Let Your kingdom come, and may Your will be done on Earth as it is in heaven. Lord, use our lawmakers to seek Your guidance to do Your will and to fulfill Your sovereign purposes for our time and for all people. Teach them to listen to each other, to respond in respect, esteem, and wisdom, so that laws written here will represent the best in justice and equity for the welfare of our Republic and the world.

We pray in Your sovereign Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable MARK BEGICH led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

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

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. INOUE).

The assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, September 15, 2010.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable MARK BEGICH, a Senator from the State of Alaska, to perform the duties of the Chair.

DANIEL K. INOUE,
President pro tempore.

Mr. BEGICH thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, following any leader remarks, there will be a period of morning business for 1 hour, with Senators during that time allowed to speak for up to 10 minutes each. The Republicans will control the first half of morning business and the majority will control the next half.

Following morning business, the Senate will resume consideration of H.R. 5297, the small business jobs bill. Yesterday, cloture was invoked on the substitute amendment, and the postcloture debate time will expire around 6:15 tonight. Furthermore, cloture was also filed on the underlying bill. I continue to work with my colleagues. Senator MCCONNELL and I have had a number of conversations on how to terminate this legislation and send it to the House. We hope to be able to complete that soon. When we have something worked out, we will notify Senators.

The Senate will recess from 2:45 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. today to allow for Senators to attend the September 11 remembrance ceremony on the east front center steps of the Capitol.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, there will now be a period for the transaction of morning business for 1 hour, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each, with the time divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees, with the Republicans controlling the first half and the majority controlling the final half.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum and ask that the time be charged equally against both sides.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, staff has informed me that our block of time is fully called for, the full 30 minutes. I again call for the calling of the roll for a quorum, and that time will come off the first 30 minutes of the Republicans' time as the first 30 minutes is theirs.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

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



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MILITARY CONSTRUCTION

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I rise to speak in morning business about the military construction issue I spoke about in July. I raised concerns then about the Pentagon's overseas military construction program, particularly in Germany, Korea, and Guam, because, as the ranking member of the Military Construction Subcommittee, I am seeing that we are changing a strategy. Yet we have not had the strategy explained to us. This is the beginning of a huge taxpayer-funded influx of rebuilding overseas in a way that I think is perhaps duplicative and even against the interests that have been shown in our previous strategy. I think it is time to take a pause.

I rise to speak because the GAO has just released a study this week that says we should take a pause. The Military Construction Subcommittee, chaired by Senator JOHNSON—and I respect and appreciate his leadership in this so much—asked the GAO to do a study because we were seeing the Army coming in and asking for what is going to be a commitment for \$1 to \$2 billion to change their headquarters from Heidelberg to Wiesbaden and to add more BCTs than were originally intended to stay in Germany. We looked at this and said: Wait a minute. We are getting ready to duplicate a lot of effort that we have made in bases in America and at a great taxpayer expense. Yet we are not seeing the backup and the strategy proposed to support this kind of taxpayer expense.

Let me start back in the beginning. Prior to the 2010 Quadrennial Defense Review, the Army planned to return the four brigade combat teams stationed in Europe to the United States in fiscal years 2012 and 2013. It would save millions annually in overseas stationing costs. This was in response to the Overseas Basing Commission—that was passed by Congress—to adopt a force projection strategy. The Pentagon is reversing the recent efforts to transform the military and restation tens of thousands of military personnel back on U.S. soil. That is what the Overseas Basing Commission recommended, passed by Congress, supported by Congress, and now we seem to see a change in that strategy but without a projection of what the strategy would be.

What the Overseas Basing Commission found, and the Pentagon originally agreed with, is that training and deployment of forces was determined to be superior in the U.S. bases and certainly more cost efficient. We learned that there were constraints on transferring the members of our military into Iraq because we could not use the airspace of certain European countries, and we could not go on the train through certain European countries. It was costly to get our troops from Germany into Iraq, more costly than it should have been.

In addition, there are training constraints. The Overseas Basing Commis-

sion saw this. Many of us who have looked at bases overseas see that there are training constraints. There are constraints for live artillery training. There are constraints for use of the airspace. In looking at this, it was determined we should bring them home from Germany to train in America to accommodate our families in America and to deploy from America, where we would control the capability to deploy quickly and cost efficiently.

On that basis, we have invested \$14 billion in U.S. bases to accommodate the military and the families who were projected to come to American bases and have the training capabilities they need. Now we are seeing requests for military construction, and it triggered our committee to say: Wait a minute. We are supposed to be pulling out of Germany, but now we are seeing the Army get ready to put \$1 billion to \$4 billion into military construction, to change their headquarters from Heidelberg to Wiesbaden, and duplicate what we have already done in the United States for construction projects in Europe, Korea, and Guam, without demonstrating the cost efficiencies or projected future costs.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator has used 5 minutes.

Mrs. HUTCHISON. I ask unanimous consent for an additional 5 minutes.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there objection? Hearing no objection, it is so ordered.

Mrs. HUTCHISON. I thank the Senator from Maryland.

Now we are seeing an expensive and duplicative strategy—well, there is not a strategy but request for spending. I am asking for a strategy.

The Government Accountability Office did issue a report this week that says the Army's justification for keeping the forces in Europe was based on a flawed analysis, and it would cost taxpayers up to \$2 billion, from 2012 to 2021, to pay for it. Let me reference a couple things from the report. The GAO found the decision to retain brigades in Europe to require the Army to seek roughly \$176 million annually to support the Bamberg and Swineford communities, again in fiscal year 2013. Those are the communities that would have had Army facilities.

The Army now estimates that not returning two of the four BCTs, brigade combat teams, in Europe to the United States could potentially cost between \$1 billion and \$2 billion between fiscal years 2012 and 2021. It will cost an average of \$60 million American dollars per year to retain those units in Europe that were scheduled to be moved to America.

Closing the Heidelberg facility and moving the headquarters to Wiesbaden—the Army estimated that move from Heidelberg to go to Wiesbaden would save hundreds of millions of dollars in 2013. But the GAO found the Army now admits they will need \$150 million annually to support the continuing operation in Heidelberg because of delays.

The GAO goes on to say that the Army has not documented the savings, nor why the move is necessary at that cost. The GAO concludes that with over \$1.3 billion invested since 2004 and another \$1.4 billion in infrastructure investments planned for the Wiesbaden consolidation and the recapitalization of medical facilities and the potential to increase costs, it would cost up to \$2 billion over the next 10 years if all four BCTs were kept in the Europe. The financial stakes are high.

The GAO is recommending in its report that the Secretary of Defense take advantage of a pause before final decisions are made on the Army's European force structure, conduct a comprehensive analysis of alternatives, and have a process that is credible in determining what the costs are and whether those units should be kept in Europe or, as originally planned and as invested in our military bases in America, what it is going to cost.

The GAO has concluded that we need a comprehensive analysis.

It conducted important cost-benefit analyses at the urging of the Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Subcommittee, chaired by Senator JOHNSON. The GAO report findings are instructive. I hope the Pentagon will pause and take a fresh look at this military construction program to determine, does it serve our Nation not to move those troops back? We prepared the bases for them. The families, the medical units, are in the United States now. So, please, I am asking the Pentagon to determine if it does serve our best military strategy and our taxpayers to keep those troops in Europe rather than moving them back.

I want to thank Senator JOHNSON for including a provision in the military construction/VA appropriations bill that would restrict the level of spending in overseas construction. Our bill would restrict the use of MILCON funds for Germany until the Department of Defense completes the following: an evaluation of the NATO strategy concept review, the U.S. assessment of its defense posture in Europe, a front-end assessment of DOD's global posture from fiscal year 2012 to 2016 in the program budget review cycle.

I have shared my concerns with the Secretary of Defense. I have asked him, as our committee has asked him, to provide to the Congressional defense committees a comprehensive Army basing strategy for Europe based on these assessments and a projected timeline and a cost estimate of what this will be.

In Korea, it is the same. We need a cost estimate for the decision that the Pentagon has apparently made to put more troops and families into Korea without any accommodation for the new facilities that will be needed for the accompanied families' military transfer into Korea.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator's time has expired.

Mrs. HUTCHISON. I thank you for allowing me to have the extra 5 minutes. I thank the Senator from Maryland. This is a serious issue. The Department of Defense says they are trying to cut back on military spending, and this is a place that would be very important, because if we are going to have accompanied service people, more in Korea now, we have got to accommodate those families. There will be a longer duration of mission, and we have got to accommodate them.

There is going to be a cost, and we have not even seen the cost estimates for that yet. We should take a pause on this German MILCON until we know if that is the right thing for our global strategy. I thank the Senator from Maryland for accommodating me on the time. There will be further discussion, I assure you.

I ask unanimous consent that the summary from the GAO report be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

U.S. GOVERNMENT
ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE,

Washington, DC, September 13, 2010.

Subject: Defense planning: DOD needs to review the costs and benefits of basing alternatives for Army forces in Europe.

Hon. DANIEL K. INOUE,
Chairman, Committee on Appropriations, U.S. Senate.

Hon. TIM JOHNSON,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies, Committee on Appropriations, U.S. Senate.

SUMMARY

Keeping more Army forces in Europe than originally planned would result in significant additional costs; however, it is unclear the extent to which DOD plans to weigh these costs against the benefits of having additional forces overseas, especially in light of an evolving European strategic concept and U.S. posture plans. In the near term, delays in decisions associated with two initiatives will impact the Army's costs in Europe. First, prior to the 2010 Quadrennial Defense Review, the Army had planned to return two of four brigade combat teams stationed in Europe to the United States in fiscal years 2012 and 2013, which would have saved millions annually in overseas stationing costs by allowing the closure of installations located at Bamberg and Schweinfurt, Germany. However, these plans are on hold pending an announcement of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's strategic concept planned to be announced in November 2010, as well as ongoing U.S. assessments of the global defense posture, which have a less clear time frame for completion. The decision to retain these brigades in Europe will require the Army to seek funding of roughly \$176 million annually to support the Bamberg and Schweinfurt communities beginning in fiscal year 2013, according to Army estimates. Second, U.S. Army Europe estimated that closing Heidelberg and moving its headquarters to Wiesbaden would save hundreds of millions of dollars annually beginning in 2013. However, because of uncertainty for the funding of construction in Wiesbaden, Heidelberg will remain open longer than originally planned and the previously estimated savings will be delayed by 2 years or more. As a result, the Army esti-

mates it will need approximately \$150 million annually to support continued operations. Both our review and an analysis performed by the Army found gaps in the support used to justify the decision to close Heidelberg and consolidate forces in Wiesbaden. Our work revealed that the original analyses were poorly documented, limited in scope, and based on questionable assumptions. Department of the Army officials also found the U.S. Army Europe's original analysis inadequate and performed another more detailed analysis in mid-2009 that affirmed the decision to consolidate but lowered the estimated savings. In the longer term, if DOD decides not to return two of the four Brigade Combat Teams in Europe to the United States the incremental cost could be significant. The Army estimates that, depending upon the assumptions used, it will potentially cost between \$1 billion and \$2 billion more from fiscal years 2012-2021 to keep the two brigades in Europe than it would cost to return them to the United States. DOD is reconsidering retaining the brigades in Europe in part because senior military officials in Europe have said that four brigade combat teams in Europe are needed to meet operational and mission requirements. According to DOD officials, the evaluation of U.S. forces in Europe will be primarily focused on whether four combat brigades will be retained in Europe. DOD and Army guidance call for the department to consider alternatives as part of the economic analyses conducted when contemplating construction or real property acquisition, which are decisions that often arise in the basing decision process, but we found that prior analyses have been limited in scope, or based on assumptions that were questionable. Without a comprehensive analysis, the Army may lack sufficient information to determine the most cost effective approach to maintaining a continued military presence in Europe that will align with the evolving North Atlantic Treaty Organization strategic concept and U.S. defense posture.

Once DOD determines its force structure and basing plans for a region, it then needs to determine the types and quantities of facilities necessary to provide operational and quality of life support to its soldiers and families; however, we were unable to validate whether completed or planned facilities in Europe would meet Army facility planning criteria because U.S. Army Europe planners use inconsistent processes to generate facility requirements. The Army in Europe does not consistently use the official Army facility planning tools that are designed to calculate, using population data and facility space criteria, the facilities required to accommodate forces and ensure that quality-of-life and other facility standards are met. Army officials stated that its facility planning systems do not always include current force structure and installation population data because overseas basing decisions are sensitive and not reflected in the systems before public announcements are made. The Army's systems showed populations at some installations even after anticipated closure dates, making the requirements generated by the systems inaccurate. Army planners in Europe use unofficial, locally developed systems to determine requirements, and we found that planners at different installations were not using consistent methods to calculate requirements for barracks and other facilities. The Army planners in Europe told us that they are developing their own criteria for determining the requirements that varies among the installations. Because these alternative methods are not linked with the Army's official system and its resident facility criteria and vary among the installations, we were un-

able to determine if completed and planned facilities will meet the Army's quality-of-life and other facility planning criteria. Our inability to validate infrastructure requirements reflects systemic issues that have been brought to the Army's attention, but have not yet been resolved. For example, in a June 2010 report addressing domestic facility requirements, we reported that the Army's Real Property Planning and Analysis System did not always produce reliable results for some types of facilities because the systems have often relied on data that were not complete, current, or accurate. Until the Army has a process to calculate facility requirements based on current and accurate information, the department cannot be assured that planned Army facilities in Europe will meet quality-of-life and other facility standards.

We are recommending that DOD require the Army to conduct a comprehensive analysis of alternatives for stationing forces in Europe that, at a minimum, should be done as expeditiously as possible upon the completion of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's strategic concept announcement and consider the costs and benefits of a range of force structure and basing alternatives. Additionally, we are recommending that the Army develop a consistent process to determine specific facility requirements associated with the various basing options. In written comments on a draft of this correspondence, DOD stated that it concurred with our recommendations and have already initiated a strategy-based assessment of U.S. defense posture to be completed by the end of calendar year 2010 and that the Army intends to develop a central, on line classified site containing Army Stationing and Installation Plan population data that will reflect out-year stationing decisions that are classified due to host-nation sensitivity.

BACKGROUND

Since 2004, as part of DOD's Integrated Global Presence and Basing Strategy, the Army has drawn down its forces in Europe and consolidated remaining forces and infrastructure at fewer locations. As a result, according to Army officials these efforts have resulted in significant recurring savings. As shown in figure 1, the Army's plan called for reducing the number of permanent, or enduring, major installations in Europe to six located in Germany at Wiesbaden, Baumholder, Kaiserslautern, Grafenwoehr, Stuttgart, and Ansbach, and one located in Italy at Vicenza. Figure 1 also shows installations located in Germany at Schweinfurt and Bamberg that the Army originally planned to close; however, the status of these installations is now uncertain because of the February 2010 Quadrennial Defense Review tentative decision to retain forces in Europe pending a global force posture review.

From fiscal years 2004 to 2009, the Army spent approximately \$1.3 billion dollars to support its infrastructure transformation and consolidation plans in Europe. The majority of this investment was used to undertake two main efforts: (1) the consolidation of operational forces close to Europe's training facilities at Grafenwoehr, Germany and (2) the consolidation of the U.S. Army Europe's Airborne Brigade Combat Team in Vicenza, Italy. In and around Grafenwoehr, the Army spent about \$473 million on facilities. These included new or renovated operational complexes, maintenance and operations centers, and barracks to support Army brigade combat teams and other units. Other work at Grafenwoehr included upgrading a medical and dental facility and constructing a new post exchange and commissary, dining facility, physical fitness center, as well as numerous other facilities to

support unit operations, the soldiers, and their families. Looking forward, the Army is planning military construction to build barracks facilities at Grafenwoehr to meet the current barracks standard, though this was not part of the original transformation and consolidation plan. At Vicenza, Italy, the Army has spent about \$424 million on facilities to accommodate an expected increase in the forces stationed in Italy. The Army's construction and renovation projects include headquarters and maintenance buildings, barracks, child development centers, and schools at various locations around Vicenza. The remainder of the Army's investment, including Payment-in-Kind and Sustainment, Restoration, and Modernization funds, were used to support transformation and consolidation-related projects throughout Germany, including at Ansbach, Heidelberg, and Kaiserslautern, among others.

In addition to the Army's projects at Grafenwoehr and Vicenza, the Army and TRICARE Management Activity have plans for two major infrastructure projects to support forces in Europe at a cost of almost \$1.4 billion. These include construction of an Army headquarters facility at Wiesbaden, Germany and construction of a replacement regional medical center adjacent to Ramstein Air Base near Kaiserslautern, Germany. Moving and consolidating several Army headquarters from Heidelberg and other locations to Wiesbaden is the last step in the U.S. Army Europe's transformation and consolidation plan that began in 2004. According to U.S. Army Europe officials, consolidating the headquarters would optimize command and control, intelligence, and signal capabilities; provide a more responsive organizational structure; offer better force protection options than at the current location in Heidelberg; and provide access to a nearby Army airfield. The Wiesbaden location would include a theater-level command and control center, a consolidated intelligence center, and a network warfare center at a cost of approximately \$240 million. The first increment of \$59.5 million was appropriated for fiscal year 2009 to build the command and control center and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers began design work for the facility in the first quarter of the fiscal year 2010. DOD's second project is to replace the regional medical center located in Landstuhl and the Medical Clinic at Ramstein Air Base in Germany with a new consolidated medical center adjacent to Ramstein Air Base near Kaiserslautern, Germany at a cost projected at \$1.2 billion. According to DOD, this project is being driven by the effort to recapitalize medical facilities worldwide, and was not part of the effort to transform and consolidate Army forces in Europe. The medical center is a major hospital that provides primary care for more than 40,000 military personnel and 245,000 beneficiaries in the European Command. The facility also provides medical support for casualties that are air-evacuated from Iraq and Afghanistan: wounded personnel are flown into Ramstein Air Base and then taken by bus to Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, approximately 20 minutes away. According to TRICARE Management Activity officials, a 2002-2003 Army Medical Department study recommended that DOD renovate and add to the existing hospital in Landstuhl. However, in 2009, the Senate Appropriations Committee directed DOD to complete a site assessment for this approach and the Office of the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Installations and Environment) conducted a new analysis that included consideration of alternative sites. One of the reasons officials decided upon the new construction adjacent to Ramstein Air Base was because it allows for easier access to the airfield where wounded personnel arrive from combat zones.

Many defense organizations are involved in force structure and basing decisions. According to Army, Joint Staff and DOD guidance, unit commanders, U.S. Army Europe, and European Command are responsible for providing analytical support and coordinating proposed basing actions. For example, for stationing actions and unit moves, commanders of units stationed in Europe will review the mission, operational facilities, base support, available resources, potentially including available funds, and political and environmental effects of the proposed basing action. For force structure changes, Army Headquarters or U.S. Army Europe obtains input and comments from affected commands, including European Command, the functional combatant commands and the component commands. Army Headquarters transmits the resulting proposal to the Joint Staff and requests approval by the Secretary of Defense. European Command conducts an assessment of the implications of potential force structure changes, to inform the Joint Staff and Office of the Secretary of Defense of the relative values or benefits and costs or risks. The assessment includes political-military, operational risk, force structure, infrastructure, and resource implications of the proposed change, and it should address alternatives considered, where applicable.

FUTURE PLANS FOR ARMY FORCES IN EUROPE ARE UNCERTAIN, BUT COSTS ARE LIKELY TO BE HIGHER THAN EARLIER ARMY ESTIMATES

Keeping the four brigades in Europe will require the Army to seek funds to keep installations open in the near term (fiscal years 2013 and 2014) and future decisions about force structure could result in \$1 billion to \$2 billion in incremental costs in the long term if four combat brigades, rather than two, are retained. The Army's force structure in Europe is subject to the results of several pending reviews including a comprehensive review of U.S. defense posture worldwide. To date, however, DOD has not announced the details of the scope and timing for the completion of this comprehensive review.

Retaining forces in Europe will require the Army to spend additional funds, lowering anticipated near-term savings

Delays and changes in decisions will require the Army to seek hundreds of millions of dollars more annually than planned to support facilities in Europe that they originally intended to close. As part of its plans to return two brigade combat teams stationed in Europe to the United States in fiscal years 2012 and 2013, U.S. Army Europe intended to close installations located at Bamberg and Schweinfurt, Germany. However, the decision to retain these brigades in Europe delays or eliminates these savings and, according to Installation Management Command-Europe, will require the Army to seek funding of roughly \$176 million annually beginning in fiscal year 2013 to support base operations at these two communities.

In addition, U.S. Army Europe planned hundreds of millions in savings by closing Heidelberg and consolidating in Wiesbaden by 2013 and did not program funding to operate this installation beyond 2012. However, because of uncertainty for the funding of construction in Wiesbaden, Heidelberg will remain open longer than originally planned and the previously estimated savings will be delayed by 2 years or more. As a result, the Army estimates it will need approximately \$150 million annually to support continued operations.

Both our review and the subsequent analyses performed by the Army found gaps in the support used to justify the decision to close Heidelberg and consolidate forces in Wiesbaden. The original analyses were poorly

documented, limited in scope, and based on questionable assumptions. Army and DOD guidance describing economic analyses to support military construction projects or decisions about the acquisition of real property indicate that reasonable alternatives should be considered when contemplating projects. For example, DOD Instruction 7041.3 indicates that the analyses should address alternatives that consider the availability of existing facilities and estimated costs and benefits, among other factors. Similarly, Army Pamphlet 415-3 identifies the consideration and evaluation of alternatives as sound economic principles underlying the economic analyses to be performed in support of military construction projects. When we asked to see the original analyses for the 2005 decision, U.S. Army Europe officials provided us with an information paper that had been prepared in response to our request but did not produce documentation to support the original decision. Little detail was available about the alternatives that had been considered, or how quantitative criteria (like cost savings) and qualitative criteria (like force protection and access to airfields) were weighed in the decision. Army officials told us that alternatives to Wiesbaden had been considered in discussions, and that these were rejected in favor of Wiesbaden. In addition, although they noted that estimated cost savings was one of the key reasons for the decision, they also told us that the decision was primarily based on judgment. Furthermore, according to DOD officials, the analysis was not rigorous or documented. Department of the Army officials also deemed the analysis inadequate to defend the operational and business needs for the consolidation and as a result called for additional cost analysis to be conducted by officials from the Assistant Chief of Staff-Installation Management. A subsequent, more robust cost analysis completed in 2009 reduced the estimated annual cost savings to less than half of the original estimate, but affirmed the decision to consolidate in Wiesbaden. DOD has updated its plans and has announced that its current plan is to close the facilities in and around Heidelberg by 2015, but has not yet obtained all the funding to build the new headquarters complex in Wiesbaden.

Keeping more forces in Europe than originally planned could cost up to \$2 billion in the long term

DOD has not yet made a final decision on the number of brigades that will remain in Europe for the long term; however, the Army's Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Programs (G8) estimates that the long-term incremental costs for keeping the two brigades in Europe will be between \$1 billion and \$2 billion for fiscal year 2012 through 2021. The projected costs will vary depending on whether forces are sent from the United States to Europe for training to maintain a constant presence in Europe. Figure 2 compares the Army's annual estimated cost for fiscal years 2012 through 2021 for keeping the two additional brigades in Europe versus returning them to the United States, assuming no rotational costs. As shown, in years 2012 and 2013 the need to construct facilities in the United States to house the returning brigades would cost more than retaining the brigades in Europe at existing installations. However, Army analyses show that for fiscal year 2014 through 2021 it will cost on average \$360 million more per year to retain the brigades in Europe.

Several factors make keeping the two additional brigades in Europe more expensive than returning them to the United States. These include the cost to provide schools and commissaries overseas, increased personnel

costs due to overseas allowances, and additional funds for needed infrastructure projects to continue operations at Bamberg and Schweinfurt. For example, the Army estimates that for fiscal years 2016 to 2021 it will need approximately \$370 million to improve facilities at Bamberg and Schweinfurt to meet quality of life standards because improvements had not been planned for either of these locations as they had previously been scheduled to be returned to the German government.

Even with the potential significant long-term costs, senior military officials in Europe have argued that the larger force structure is necessary. In March 2010, the Commander of European Command stated in written testimony that without four brigade combat teams and certain headquarters capabilities European Command assumes risks in its capability to conduct steady-state security cooperation, shaping, and contingency missions and that deterrence and reassurance are at increased risk. He also stated that the loss of certain headquarters combined with significant force requirements in support of Overseas Contingency Operations outside the European Command region makes retaining four brigade combat teams critical to the United States Army Europe's and European Command's mission.

DOD's plans for reviewing U.S. global defense posture are unclear, but alternatives under consideration are limited

The Army's force structure in Europe is subject to the results of a pending review of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's Strategic Concept and an accompanying U.S. assessment of the U.S. European defense posture network. The new North Atlantic Treaty Organization strategic concept is scheduled to be unveiled at a November 2010 meeting in Lisbon, Portugal. The 2010 Quadrennial Defense Review announced plans for a comprehensive review of U.S. defense posture worldwide and the Secretary of Defense issued a memorandum in May 2010 identifying global posture as a critical issue to be scrutinized in preparation for the fiscal year 2012 budget process. To date, DOD has yet to announce the details of the scope and timing for the completion of its comprehensive review of global posture.

DOD and Army guidance should prompt the department to consider alternatives when contemplating basing decisions. In our past work, we have found weaknesses in the department's process for adjusting defense global posture and linking it with current strategy. And, even though DOD has stated that it plans to conduct a comprehensive review of global posture, DOD and Army officials told us their review of Army forces in Europe will focus on whether four combat brigades will be retained in Europe. Additionally, until the North Atlantic Treaty Organization new strategic concept is unveiled, it is not known if DOD and the Army are making basing decisions that will support the new strategy.

INCONSISTENT PROCESSES TO DEVELOP FACILITY REQUIREMENTS HAMPERS VALIDATION OF FACILITY NEEDS

Once DOD determines its force structure and basing plans for a specific region, it then needs to determine the types and quantities of facilities necessary to provide operational and quality of life support to its soldiers and families; however, we were unable to validate whether completed and planned facilities in Europe meet Army facility planning criteria because U.S. Army Europe planners use inconsistent processes to generate facility requirements. The Army in Europe does not consistently use official Army facility planning tools to calculate its requirements. The Army's official tools for determining fa-

cility requirements do not use the most current and accurate information for European locations, such as installation population data and, in some cases, planners have used alternative or workaround methods to develop facility requirements.

Army guidance directs garrison planning staff to use an Army-wide system, known as the Real Property Planning and Analysis System, to conduct facility requirements analyses which determine requirements for the number, type, and size of facilities needed to accommodate forces stationed at each installation. The planning and analysis system uses installation population data from the Army Stationing and Installation Plan and Army standardized facility criteria needed to support the population and meet mission requirements and quality-of-life standards. For example, the system uses installation population data to determine the required number and size of headquarters and administrative buildings, maintenance facilities, barracks, medical and dental clinics, commissaries, and other support facilities needed at each installation.

According to Army officials, the force structure and installation population data used by the Real Property Planning and Analysis System are not current and thus not accurate. Army officials stated that its facility planning systems do not always include current force structure and installation population data because overseas basing decisions are sensitive and not reflected in the systems before public announcements are made. For example, we found in the case of Vicenza that the facility requirements in the planning and analysis system did not track with anticipated increases in the installation population. Specifically, the Army's force structure is expected to almost double in Vicenza, Italy for fiscal years 2010 to 2014, yet the planning and analysis system was not edited to reflect a corresponding increase in facility requirements.

Because the stationing data do not always reflect current or planned force structure decisions, U.S. Army Europe planners often use alternative methods to determine facility requirements. However, such methods use spreadsheets that are not linked to the planning and analysis system or the criteria database. And, because the alternative requirements determination methods are not linked with the official planning system and its resident facility criteria and standards, it is unknown if planned facilities will meet Army quality-of-life and other facility standards contained in that system. We found that planners were not using consistent methods to calculate facility requirements. To illustrate, key U.S. Army Europe officials told us that because accompaniment rates for troops in Europe are different than in the United States, Army installation planners in Europe were not using the Army's facility planning criterion for determining barracks and family housing requirements; instead, they are using their own subjective estimates that vary among the installations. Planners explained that it was a challenge to develop these rates because the documents available to them that provided details on installation population were not always up to date and did not accurately reflect future Army force structure decisions. This lack of consistency in the methods used by planners in Europe and not knowing to what extent the planners are using current information to determine facility requirements precluded us from validating whether completed or planned facilities in Europe would satisfy its infrastructure needs.

Our inability to validate infrastructure requirements reflects systemic issues that have been brought to the Army's attention, but have not yet been resolved. A 2006 Army

Audit Agency report on military construction requirements in Europe noted that Army systems for planning construction projects often contained conflicting or inaccurate information and planners sometimes generated incorrect requirements when they used the systems. Although the Army Audit Agency found that planned military construction projects were adequate to support U.S. Army Europe's installation plans, it also identified concerns with the accuracy of the information used to determine facility requirements in Europe. The report noted that project planners often did not maintain adequate documentation supporting how they determined requirements and, as a result, often had to recreate the information to support their analysis. In addition, in a June 2010 report that examined facility requirements for Army installations in the United States, we found that the Army's Real Property Planning and Analysis System did not always produce reliable results for some types of facilities because the system has often relied on data that are not complete, current, or accurate. For instance, we found that the facility design criteria had not been updated to reflect current standard designs for 47 of the 58 facility types in the system. As a result of our findings, to improve the accuracy and completeness of the Army's Real Property Planning and Analysis System as a tool for generating facility requirements, we recommended that the Secretary of Defense direct the Secretary of the Army to develop and implement guidance that requires the Army Criteria Tracking System which feeds standardized facility criteria into the Army's Real Property Planning and Analysis System to be updated to reflect changes to facility designs as they are made. DOD concurred with our recommendation and stated that the Army has already taken action to enhance the accuracy of its planning systems to better respond to changing requirements.

CONCLUSIONS

With over \$1.3 billion invested since 2004, another \$1.4 billion in infrastructure investments planned for the Wiesbaden consolidation and the recapitalization of medical facilities, and the potential to increase costs by up to \$2 billion over the next 10 years if all four Army brigades are kept in Europe, the financial stakes are high for DOD as it considers its future posture. Existing guidance should prompt the department to consider analyses of alternatives when contemplating basing options; however, previous Army analyses have not been well documented, and the plans being pursued are based on a previous strategy developed in 2004 and may not be aligned with a new strategic concept that has yet to be determined. In addition, the Army's approach to managing its facilities thus far has resulted in uncertainty concerning whether completed and planned facilities will meet infrastructure needs. Until facility requirements reflect quality-of-life and other standardized facilities criteria, there is inadequate assurance that the Army's facilities in Europe will fully meet the needs of soldiers and their families. Without a comprehensive review the Army may lack sufficient information to determine the most cost effective approach to maintaining a continued presence in Europe.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR EXECUTIVE ACTION

To take advantage of the pause before final decisions on the Army's European force structure are made and determine the best course of action for its European posture, we recommend that the Secretary of Defense direct the Secretary of the Army to take the following two actions:

- 1, Conduct a comprehensive analysis of alternatives for stationing forces in Europe. At

a minimum, the review should be done as expeditiously as possible upon the completion of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's strategic concept announcement and consider the costs and benefits of a range of force structure and basing alternatives.

2. Develop a consistent process to determine specific facility requirements associated with the various options.

We are sending copies of this report to other congressional committees and interested parties. We are also sending copies to the Secretaries of Defense and the Army. In addition, this report will be available at no charge on our Web site at <http://www.gao.gov>. If you or your staff have any questions about this report, please contact me. Contact points for our Offices of Congressional Relations and Public Affairs may be found on the last page of this report. GAO staff who made key contributions to this report are listed in enclosure II.

JOHN PENDLETON,
Director,

Defense Capabilities and Management.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Maryland.

SMALL BUSINESS LENDING

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I take this time, first, to thank Senator LANDRIEU for her persistence in bringing forward legislation that is going to help small businesses. We are on the verge, I hope this week, to finally pass in the Senate legislation that will help the small businesses in our country—H.R. 5297 that is now before us. Hopefully we are going to be able to get this legislation through the Senate.

What this bill does is create jobs. I am proud to serve on the Small Business Committee. We have been working long and hard, and many of the provisions we have supported in our committee on a strong bipartisan basis are included in the legislation that is now before us.

This bill is about helping small businesses so we can create more jobs for our communities. I think my colleagues will all agree and acknowledge that more jobs are created through small companies than through large companies. If we are going to be able to grow our economy, we have to be able to help our small businesses.

It is also known that innovation is more likely to come from the opportunities from small companies. So we need to pay attention to and help our small companies help our economy grow. The bill that is before us incorporates many of the provisions that have been voted on in a bipartisan way by the Small Business Committee. But let me tell you this: I traveled the State of Maryland during our August break when we are back in our States. I had a chance to visit all parts of the State of Maryland and visited many small business owners. The No. 1 issue they continued to raise with me is the ability to be able to borrow money, to get credit for their businesses to expand.

We spent a lot of time trying to help the Wall Street bankers, but, quite frankly, it has not gotten to the small

business owners. They are not able to get the type of loan at an affordable cost so that they can expand their businesses. This bill will help. This bill provides strength to the SBA.

I think all of us agree, the Small Business Administration has the tools to help small companies. But we need to give them the tools that can work in the current economy. So this legislation extends the 7(a) loans under the SBA from \$2 million to \$5 million, the 504 loans from \$1.5 million to \$5.5 million, and the micro loans. They may not seem like a lot of money, \$35,000 to \$50,000, but that could be the key piece of the puzzle necessary for a company to start or expand and create more jobs in our communities.

The legislation also extends the SBA guarantees to 90 percent and waives the costs so we can make it affordable. The legislation sets up an intermediary lending program so that we encourage banks to make more loans to small businesses. In all, it is estimated that it will generate \$5 billion of credit for small businesses, creating 300,000 jobs. That is quite a step forward, quite an important step forward to help our communities.

In addition, the legislation includes help to our States. In the State of Maryland, we have our own program. Governor O'Malley has a program that is aggressively helping small companies in Maryland. The problem is, as you know, State budgets are strapped. This bill provides \$1.5 billion more for the programs our States are operating in order to expand those programs. That will be leveraged to far more than \$1.5 billion of new credit to small companies. It will provide substantial help in Maryland and all of the States of our Nation.

The bill also deals with the continuing problem of contracting. If you are a small company, you are trying to get a contract with the Federal Government—you do not have a lot of contract officers in your business, you are trying to be very efficient, you need help so you can get a fair shake in bidding for a Federal contract.

Unfortunately, today there have been abuses known as bundling where agencies have bundled together a lot of small contracts into a large contract, making it very difficult for a small company to get any part of that Federal contract. In addition, there is prime contractor abuse in not paying the subcontractors on time, which are generally more likely to be the smaller companies.

This legislation incorporates the work of our committee to make it easier for Federal procurement officers to enter into contracts with small businesses. The proposal is estimated to create another 100,000 jobs in our communities.

This is what we need to do. These are not partisan issues. These are bipartisan. I do not know of anyone who disagrees with our efforts to try to help small businesses with more credit or

make it easier for them to deal with the Federal Government.

One other major part that will create jobs in our communities is to make it easier for small companies to be exporting goods to other countries. We all talk about keeping jobs in America. Let's not outsource. Let's keep the jobs right here in America. Well, again, if you are a small company, and you are trying to get through the bureaucracy of exporting, it can become very difficult. This legislation makes it easier for our small companies to be able to participate in international trade, keeping jobs here in America, creating more jobs, helping our economy, reducing the balance of payment problems we have with other countries. It is a win-win situation for the U.S. economy.

In addition, this legislation provides tax relief for small companies. Tax relief. We all talk about that. You get higher deductions for startup costs so small companies can get help from the Federal Government as far as tax relief.

It provides tax equity for small companies in the deductions of their health insurance costs, and allows for the continued writeoff of capital expenditures that were included in the Recovery Act. So there are a lot of tools to help small companies grow. But here is the good news: It is done without adding any money to the deficit of the country. It is totally paid for. We all understand we have to energize the growth of jobs in our economy, but we cannot do it at the cost of raising the deficit. This bill provides the tools but makes sure that we do not add to the deficit of the country, again, strengthening the underlying economy so that we get true job growth.

I thank all who have been responsible to help bring this bill together. I think it is an important step forward in creating new jobs and helping our economy grow and helping small companies help our country. I am proud to support this legislation and hope we can move it quickly this week and get the tools out there helping our small companies grow, creating more jobs for the people in our communities.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Washington State.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, over the last several months I have been pushing very hard for this legislation that would help small business owners in my home State of Washington access the capital they need to expand and create jobs.

I stand here today to urge all of our colleagues to put politics aside and finally allow this critical legislation to pass. I spent the last month crisscrossing my home State of Washington talking to families and small business owners about ways that we can create jobs and grow the economy. What I heard again and again from so many of these small business owners is that one

of the major factors that prevented them from growing is their inability to access credit. Banks were not lending their money to the small businesses that were doing better than they have ever done before.

I recently spoke with a small business owner named Alton McDonald who owns a grocery store in Tacoma. He told me he wants to hire new employees. His business is primed to grow. But when he went to the bank to get a loan he was turned down.

I spoke with a small business owner named Peter Aaron, who owns the Elliott Bay Bookstore in Seattle which has been a local institution for decades. He is doing his best to keep his head above water in these tough economic times. But he told me that finding a lender to lend him the money he needs to stay in his business is an ongoing challenge. Right now he is struggling to get the financing he needs to put books on his shelves for the holiday season so that when people come in to buy there is something for them to buy.

I had the opportunity to speak with Timothy Robinson. He owns a small manufacturing company in Snohomish County. His small business today employs about 14 people and he is doing well. But he told me that despite his best efforts, he simply cannot get access to the credit he needs to expand. If he could get a bank to give him a loan, Timothy told me he could add 30 people right away, 30 new jobs in Snohomish County.

What I heard from these small business owners and dozens more over the last several weeks was clear: If small businesses were given access to credit, they would be able to expand their operations and add new jobs—as simple as that. Small businesses such as the ones I visited in Washington State can be the engines that drive our economic recovery. But that engine needs fuel in the form of credit to run, and that fuel is not flowing right now.

In communities across my home State of Washington, it has been community banks that have taken the lead in providing that fuel for small business growth. They understand the communities they work in, and they work closely with local small business owners to make sure that their needs are met. But the sad fact is that for far too long our community banks been ignored in our economic recovery. Since this recession began, we have seen banks fail one after another, lending drying up to our small businesses, and job growth suffering. Meanwhile, Wall Street institutions such as AIG and Goldman Sachs were deemed too big to fail. The collapse of our community banks has apparently been too small to notice.

That is why last year I introduced the Main Street Lending Restoration Act, which would direct \$30 billion to help jumpstart small business lending.

It is why I spoke directly to Secretary Geithner about this several

times. It is why I have been pushing my colleagues hard to make small business lending a priority. It is why, when President Obama came to Seattle last month, I introduced him directly to several small local business owners and we specifically talked about this issue. I believe strongly that we need to focus more on community banks if we are really going to make progress and bring true recovery to Main Street businesses.

I am proud to stand here today in support of the small business lending legislation now before us. This bill takes the most powerful idea from my Main Street Lending Restoration Act. It sets aside \$30 billion to help local community banks—those under \$10 billion in assets—get the capital they need to begin lending money to small businesses again. It would reward banks that are helping small businesses grow by reducing interest rates on capital they receive under this program. It would help support small business initiatives that are administered by States across the country struggling today because of budget cutbacks. It does all this while saving taxpayers an estimated \$1 billion.

When I met with small business owners across my State, I spent a lot of time talking with them about this bill. I talked about how it would help them create jobs and grow their businesses. Every single small business owner with whom I spoke thought this was a very important idea. Many of them had a question for me—a question to which I wish I had a better answer. Their question: Who would oppose this bill? Who would oppose a bill that seems to be such a commonsense solution to a most pressing problem, a bill that would create jobs and help small businesses grow, boost our economy at a time when it is so desperately needed? Who would stand up and say no? I was asked that constantly. Unfortunately, I suspect it comes down to some old-fashioned political games. I fear too many of our Republican colleagues are afraid that a victory for small businesses is a victory for the Democratic Party. They don't want that to happen this close to an election. I think that is truly a shame because I believe the challenges small business owners face today transcend partisan politics.

The truth is that this is a non-partisan bill. It is a bill that puts credit back into the hands of small business owners. It is a bill that puts people back to work. It is a win for small business. It isn't a win for a political party. It is a win for the economy, our workers, and our country. I urge my colleagues to put partisan politics aside, listen to the voices of their constituents, listen to small business owners, and support this critical legislation.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BURRIS). The Senator from Montana is recognized.

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, are we still in morning business?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. We are.

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, on behalf of the leader, I yield back our time so we can get to the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

SMALL BUSINESS LENDING FUND ACT OF 2010

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of H.R. 5297, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 5297) to create the Small Business Lending Fund Program to direct the Secretary of the Treasury to make capital investments in eligible institutions in order to increase the availability of credit for small businesses, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax incentives for small business job creation, and for other purposes.

Pending:

Reid (for Baucus-Landrieu) amendment No. 4594, in the nature of a substitute.

Reid (for Nelson (FL)) modified amendment No. 4595 (to amendment No. 4594), to exempt certain amounts subject to other information reporting from the information reporting provisions of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

Reid (for Johanns) modified amendment No. 4596 (to amendment No. 4595), to repeal the expansion of information reporting requirements for payments of \$600 or more to corporations.

Reid amendment No. 4597 (to the language proposed to be stricken by amendment No. 4594), to change the enactment date.

Reid amendment No. 4598 (to amendment No. 4597), of a perfecting nature.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Montana.

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, the Book of Ecclesiastes says: "A worker's sleep is sweet." Because of the great recession that started in 2008, millions of Americans have lost sleep. Why? Because they lost their work. That is why, throughout this Congress, we have been working to create jobs. That is why today, with this small business jobs bill, we are continuing to work to create jobs.

One of the first things this Congress did was to pass the Recovery Act in February of 2009. The Recovery Act cut taxes for Americans by \$326 billion. That is right. The Recovery Act cut taxes for Americans by \$326 billion. In their latest report on the Recovery Act, the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office once again reports that the Recovery Act is working.

That office, CBO, says in the second quarter of this calendar year; that is, in 2010, the Recovery Act "raised real . . . gross domestic product by between 1.7 percent and 4.5 percent"—raised gross domestic product by between those amounts. CBO also says—and I am quoting from them—the Recovery

Act “lowered the unemployment rate by between 0.7 percentage points and 1.8 percentage points.” That is right: The Recovery Act lowered the unemployment rate. CBO also says the Recovery Act “increased the number of people employed by between 1.4 million and 3.3 million” people. Continuing, CBO says the Recovery Act “increased the number of full-time-equivalent jobs by 2.0 million to 4.8 million compared with what would have occurred.”

Just think of that. That is CBO’s estimates of the effect of the Recovery Act—all positive in all those respects.

In March, Congress passed the HIRE Act; that is, the Recovery Act last year, the HIRE Act this year. The HIRE Act includes a payroll tax exemption for new hires. The HIRE Act cut taxes by a further \$15.5 billion. That law has also helped to bolster job creation.

I might add that this summer the Treasury Department found:

From February to May of 2010, an estimated 4.5 million workers who had been unemployed for eight weeks or longer were hired by employers who are eligible for the HIRE Act payroll tax exemption.

These actions that Congress has taken, therefore, are working.

August was the eighth consecutive month of private sector job growth—the eighth consecutive month. Coming out of the 2001 recession, it took 28 months before we had 8 straight months of private job growth.

Since last December, the American private sector has created 763,000 net new jobs. Contrast that with the previous 8 years under the previous administration. During that 8 years, America’s private sector lost 673,000 jobs.

This chart I have in the Chamber shows that. If you look at the chart, beginning in January of 2008, the red bars show the job loss. The job loss got greater from January of 2008, April 2008, July 2008. As you see the longer red bars, that shows the greater job loss.

Then, beginning with the Recovery Act in 2009, what happened? Look at this chart. This chart shows it. The black bars show action since the Recovery Act. The red bars to the left are job loss before the Recovery Act. Once the Recovery Act passed, according to the black bars on the chart, job loss decreased, steadily decreased in April 2009, July 2009, and October 2009. Then, guess what. We start getting positive numbers where job creation exceeded job loss. Those are the blue bars in January 2010, April 2010, and July 2010.

So just to repeat broadly, beginning in January 2008, job loss grew dramatically, unfortunately, for all those folks. The Recovery Act passed in the beginning of 2009, and then job loss got less and less and less and less until about October, January of this year, and now we have a net increase of private jobs. The Recovery Act and the HIRE Act worked.

We still have more to do. We still need to do more to help create new

jobs, and we will not rest until every American who wants to work can find it.

We are doing more today. The small business jobs bill we are working on right now is about helping Americans get back to work. This bill helps by helping small businesses especially hire more workers.

Small businesses are the backbone of America’s economy. We say that many times because it is true. They are the principal engine of job growth. Over the past 15 years, small businesses have created two-thirds of all new jobs. It is not big business that creates most of the new jobs. Two-thirds of new jobs are created by small businesses. That has been the case for a long time, and I daresay it will continue to be.

But the great recession hit small businesses especially hard. Since December 2007, small businesses lost more than 6 million jobs.

This small business jobs bill would help create the right economic conditions for job growth. This small business jobs bill on the floor now could help small businesses create as many as 500,000 new jobs.

The great recession’s credit crunch starved America’s small businesses’ access to the capital they need. We hear that all the time. I say to the Presiding Officer, I know you do back home in your State. In response, this small business jobs bill will provide small businesses with access to capital, robust incentives for investment, and support for innovation and entrepreneurship.

How? Well, this small business jobs bill would give small businesses \$12 billion in tax cuts—\$12 billion in tax cuts aimed at small businesses. It would increase small business lending. It would help small business owners get private capital to finance expansion and hire new workers. It would reward entrepreneurs for investing in new small businesses. It would help Main Street businesses compete with large corporations, and all these things would help small businesses create as many as half a million new jobs.

Creating jobs is what people want us to do. I might say, I have a hard time understanding why some on the other side of the aisle have been holding this bill up for weeks and weeks. That is their business. I do not understand it, but that is their business. This is the kind of commonsense legislation we have before us today that Americans sent us here to do.

At last, the end is in sight, thanks to the courageous votes of Senator GEORGE VOINOVICH and Senator GEORGE LEMIEUX. I thank them. I thank Senator VOINOVICH and I thank Senator LEMIEUX on behalf of Americans and on behalf of all the folks, especially small businesses, who want to find jobs.

I thank, as well, every other Senator on this side of the aisle for their votes. I thank those two Republican Senators and the Democratic Senators who

voted for this bill. Because of all of you, we are finally bringing this debate to a close, and it is certainly time to.

It is time to pass this bill. It time to help small businesses. It is time to help create up to half a million new jobs. So let us bring this debate to a close. Let us send this targeted tax relief to small businesses without further delay, and let us pass this commonsense legislation.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, while we are talking about taxes, I wish bring up something that is significant to about 26 million Americans. It doesn’t deal only with small businesses, but obviously a lot of small businesses are affected by the issue I bring to my colleagues’ attention. I do this several times a year. It deals with the alternative minimum tax, a tax that I am sure that out of the 26 million people who might be hit this year if we don’t do something, a lot those are small businesspeople.

The AMT was first enacted by Congress in 1969. The alternative minimum tax was created in reaction to some very wealthy and very high income individuals paying no income tax. These high-income individuals were able to do this because they were able to claim a huge amount of tax credits and deductions legally.

Probably the sensible way to have dealt with this problem would have been to curtail the proliferation of those tax credits, tax deductions, and tax expenditures at that time. Unfortunately, that was not the course Congress took when the alternative minimum tax was set up, now 40 years ago. Instead, Congress created this alternative tax system that we call the alternative minimum tax. With the alternative minimum tax, an individual must first calculate his regular income tax, and then he must calculate his alternative minimum tax. The taxpayer compares the two numbers and pays the highest figure of tax owed. I know this is complicated, figuring one’s taxes twice—as if the regular income tax all by itself isn’t complicated enough—but it has gotten much worse over the decades.

The alternative minimum tax has not merely added complexity; it has ensnared tens of millions of Americans in its clutches. What was originally intended for fewer than 200 very wealthy taxpayers back in 1969 because they didn’t pay any income tax—legally didn’t pay any income tax—now has grown to ensnare tens of millions of middle-class Americans.

What is really worse is that it was supposed to get everybody to pay some income tax under the theory that if you live in America, even if you take legal advantage of everything the Tax Code allows you to do and still pay no tax, you ought to pay something, so the alternative minimum tax. But now the IRS tells us that there are a large

number of people—not tens of thousands but thousands—who don't pay either the regular income tax or there are ways they don't legally have to pay the alternative minimum tax. So it isn't even accomplishing its original purpose of making sure everybody pays some income tax.

The reason it has grown to include many middle-income Americans is because the exemption amount has not been indexed for inflation. Congress has increased the exemption amount so it would be targeted toward those people it was meant to hit—very wealthy people.

We keep talking around here about patching the AMT. We have done it every year since 2001. Congress has passed the AMT so that only 4 million taxpayers have been subject to it in the past few years. At this point, however, the AMT is not patched for 2010. So unless Congress acts to patch the AMT, rather than only about 4 million Americans being subject to the AMT, more than 26 million will be.

The chart I have here shows my colleagues a breakdown of the number of families and individuals State by State subject to the alternative minimum tax. These families and individuals should be paying the alternative minimum tax right now because Congress hasn't acted so far this year, after 9 months, to do the patch. That means that about 22 million families and individuals are currently scheduled for quite a surprise come April 15, 2011. Roughly 4 million Americans are presumably used to paying the AMT, but the additional 22 million families and individuals currently subject to it may not have realized they are standing in a hole dug by this Congress. Until Congress patches the AMT in 2010, these individuals should either have their wages withheld at a higher rate and/or pay estimated taxes to take into consideration the fact that the AMT has not been patched. But we would have to figure that very few of these 22 million Americans are, in fact, paying the higher estimated taxes in anticipation of Congress not acting on the AMT. They probably do not know.

The third quarterly estimated tax payment is due today. Literally right now, taxpayers across the country are under the legal requirement to pay their estimated tax. They should be using the form depicted on this chart, the form 1040-ES. I hope I am not here in January when the final estimated payment is due.

It is disappointing that Congress has created a situation where law-abiding citizens who still trust in Congress to look out for them are at odds with the law, even if only temporarily. The betting money is that Congress will get this job done before the end of 2010, but in the meantime, confusion reigns.

In many ways, people simply do not know what to do about this. As I said, taxpayers don't know how much estimated tax to pay. The IRS doesn't know what forms to be preparing for

publication. Tax software firms don't know how they should program their software. Tax professionals are not sure what to advise their clients. Government revenue estimators don't know whether to count the AMT patch in or out. And most important, our fellow Americans don't know how to plan their financial affairs. Can they afford that vacation or can they afford a new car? Can they afford some additional gift to charity? Should they contribute more or less to their 401(k)? The answers to these questions turn in part on whether Congress patches the alternative minimum tax.

So what is to be done? The 2005 bipartisan tax reform panel had two different tax reform options: the simplified income tax and the growth and investment tax. But under either option, the bipartisan tax reform panel said that Congress should simply repeal the AMT. I think that is what has to be done.

Don't forget the philosophy behind it 40 years ago, not indexed. That is why we have to patch, is because 200 people, maybe only 150 at that time, were not paying any income tax. Progressives thought: Well, everybody living in this free country, even if they legally don't have to pay any income tax, ought to pay "some tax." So that is the philosophy behind it. We have not argued so much with that philosophy over the last 40 years. But we are in a situation where the IRS says there are some people in America who legally don't have to pay income tax or the alternative minimum tax. Does that make sense? Why would we have that law on the books if it is not fitting its original intention?

That is what I would favor—complete repeal of the AMT. If that isn't to be done, I would favor then a permanent patch of the AMT. Given Congress's actions in this area, it seems likely we will patch it year after year after year, so wouldn't it help with everyone's plans to simply do that once and for all? That is the question. That would be the way to do it. It is predictable.

But allow me to address the AMT in the context of statutory pay-as-you-go. The statutory pay-as-you-go was enacted earlier this year as part of the majority party's debt limit increase. Some on the other side of the aisle have described statutory pay-as-you-go as a fiscally responsible way in which to address the 2001 and 2003 tax relief extensions.

Statutory pay-go provides that all the regular tax relief for taxpayers under \$250,000 is permanent. Statutory pay-go, however, only provides for a patch to the AMT just for 2 years: 2010 and 2011. So what is going to happen in the next year, come 2012? There are at least four possible options.

Option 1 would be: In 2012 and after, AMT will not be patched. But I do not really think that is an option Congress would seriously entertain—then or now—to add another 20 some million people paying this tax that middle-in-

come taxpayers were never supposed to pay in the first place.

Option 2: In 2012 and after, AMT will be patched and paid for with new taxes. That would be consistent with what we call statutory pay as you go, but does anyone think that would make sense, pay for tax relief with new tax burdens?

Option 3: In 2012 and after, AMT will be patched and paid for with spending cuts. In general, I believe that we need to use spending cuts to tackle our deficits and debt. But we know our friends in the Democratic leadership are allergic to spending cuts. So, as much as we would like to reign in the record spending spree of the last 18 months, I don't see my friends on the other side agreeing to cure their allergy to spending restraints. They've rejected roughly \$270 billion in spending restraints since adopting the much ballyhooed statutory pay-go regime.

But then there is option 4: In 2012 and after, AMT will be patched and not paid for. That certainly is an option I am very open to and quite possibly what Congress will ultimately do and has done in the past. Money that wasn't supposed to be collected in the first place shouldn't be relied on as revenue and so doesn't need to be offset.

However, if the AMT is patched and not paid for, then there is a hidden \$1 trillion revenue loss in the package. This means the deficit impact of the so-called fiscally responsible package is understated by \$1 trillion. The so-called fiscally prudent statutory pay-as-you-go legislation likely has a \$1 trillion understatement of the deficit impact.

If fiscally responsible is understating an increase to the deficit by \$1 trillion, I wonder then what fiscal irresponsibility would be. The AMT is a serious problem and needs to be addressed in a comprehensive, permanent, prompt, fiscally prudent fashion.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Illinois is recognized.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, first, I thank the chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, Senator BAUCUS of Montana, who just spoke about the bill before us. If you go to any State in America and ask those who own small businesses what their challenges are today, I will guarantee you that in the top one, two or three items, it is access to credit.

This bill, this small business jobs bill, will give access to credit to thousands of businesses across America so they will have money to expand inventory, to expand their business, to expand their employment.

Many of us believe, as Senator BAUCUS has said, small businesses are key to job growth in America. I cannot explain—I cannot explain—why the Republican Party decided to filibuster this to try to stop us from even bringing this bill to the floor over and over and over. We should have passed this bill months ago. It should have been

passed on a bipartisan basis. The Small Business Committee is one of the most bipartisan committees in the Senate. Yet they have resisted it.

I wish to join Senator BAUCUS in thanking two Republican colleagues who had the courage—and it took political courage—to step up and say: Put an end to this filibuster. We have to help small business. Senator GEORGE VOINOVICH of Ohio and Senator GEORGE LEMIEUX of Florida both stepped up, and because of their courage, we passed this bill yesterday with 61 votes—at least moved it forward, I should say, toward passage, and that is dramatic, positive progress for us when it comes to dealing with this recession.

I also wish to say there was a statement made yesterday. I listened to it in my office. It was the stakeout of the Republican leaders after their luncheon, and I listened carefully as Senator MCCONNELL, the Senate Republican minority leader, as well as Senator KYL of Arizona, and others in their leadership, came to the microphones right outside this Chamber and said there should be no tax cuts in America—pardon me—there should be no tax increases in America. They came and said there should be no tax increases in America for anyone. They were focusing on the Bush economic policies that gave tax cuts to the wealthiest Americans, and these Republican leaders said: There should be no tax increases in America.

I wish to say that from my point of view, yesterday the Senate Republican leadership, in front of microphones right outside this Chamber, filed for bankruptcy for the United States of America. If we cannot, in the midst of this recession and with our Nation's deficit, ask for a sacrifice from the wealthiest people in America, then I am afraid we have lost our way.

Let me quote someone who knows a little bit about policy in Washington. His name is David Stockman. I remember David Stockman when I first came to Congress because David Stockman was the budget adviser to President Ronald Reagan. He was the man who guided the President in his thinking about budgets. So, certainly, he has a Republican resume that is pretty strong.

What did David Stockman say about the current state of the Republican Party when it came to these issues of deficits and tax cuts? Here is what he said:

If there were such a thing as Chapter 11 for politicians, the Republican push to extend unaffordable Bush tax cuts would amount to a bankruptcy filing. The nation's public debt . . . will soon reach \$18 trillion.

Stockman said it screams "out for austerity and sacrifice." But, instead, the GOP insists "that the Nation's wealthiest taxpayers be spared even a three-percentage-point rate increase."

Well, I know what the Republicans are likely to say in response. They are likely to argue what they have argued for 10 years; that is, if we give a tax break to the wealthiest people in

America, then this economy is going to prosper. These wealthy people will spend their money and invest their money in a way that will create jobs, which leads to one very basic question. After 10 years of tax cuts for the wealthiest people in America, where are the jobs? After 10 years of tax cuts for millionaires and those at the highest levels of income, where are the jobs? Eight million Americans are out of work. Another 6 million have basically given up looking for work. We have 14 million unemployed in the worst recession we have ever faced because of Bush economic policies—we have to go back to the Great Depression to see anything worse—and it was based on 10 years of tax cuts for wealthy people. This did not create jobs; it created the biggest debt in the history of the United States.

Let me digress for 60 seconds or so for history. President William Jefferson Clinton left office, turning over the keys to the White House to George W. Bush. What was the state of the economy in America? Well, we had created some 22 million jobs in the previous 8 years. We had a national debt that had been accumulated—a national debt from George Washington through President Clinton of \$5 trillion—\$5 trillion—and the President said—President Clinton said to President Bush: Welcome to Washington. Good luck in your administration. Let me give you as a starting gift from my administration a \$120 billion surplus—surplus in the Treasury—not a deficit but a surplus.

Now, fast-forward 8 years. Now President George W. Bush has had his chance to use his economic policies, and where are we? Well, the national debt has risen from \$5 trillion over an 8-year period of time to \$12 trillion—more than double during that period of time. How does one more than double the national debt of America in 8 years? Well, let me count the ways.

First, wage two wars and don't pay for them—wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Secondly, do something no President has ever done in American history: give tax cuts in the midst of a war. We have all the ordinary expenses of our government, and then we have the added expense of war, and President Bush and his Republicans in Congress said: Well, the answer to that is to cut people's taxes.

Guess what. When you cut taxes, you take money out of the Treasury that otherwise would come in and add to the national debt. Then add a few major programs that President Bush passed and didn't pay for. Medicare prescription Part D is a classic example. Though we in health care reform were required by President Obama to pay for it, the Republicans, facing a change in Medicare, did it without paying for it. They added to the national debt.

So President George W. Bush left office. The \$5 trillion debt under President Clinton is now \$12 trillion, and he said to President Obama: I won't be able to hand you that surplus that I

was given when I took office. Instead, I am handing you a \$1.2 trillion debt in the next year. Ten times more than the surplus offered him, he offered to President Obama. President Obama took his hand off the Bible being sworn in as President, and in the first month faced 750,000 Americans newly out of work. Welcome to Washington, President Obama; a little gift from the previous administration. That is what we have.

So now come Senate Republicans, and they say: Well, to get out of this recession, clearly what we need to do is do everything over again that got us into the recession, and the first thing we need to do is cut taxes on the wealthiest people in America. As David Stockman says: If you can't ask a millionaire to give up a 3-percent tax cut in the midst of what we are facing in this Nation—a millionaire—if you can't ask for a sacrifice from those who are most well off in our country, how can you possibly govern in a responsible way?

Senator MCCONNELL introduced a bill this week which spells out exactly what he thinks about the deficit. His bill—a tax cut bill—will add \$4 trillion to the national debt. That is \$4 trillion unpaid for. Did he raise taxes to give tax cuts to others? No. Did he cut spending to give tax cuts to others? No. He just said \$4 trillion of debt, here it is, unpaid for. This is the party of fiscal conservatism? These are the deficit hawks? These deficit hawks have had their wings clipped—clipped by the richest people in America, and that is their position.

If I can transition to another question of debt, it isn't just the debt of our national government, as large as it is, that ought to concern us. There are other debts across America. Americans have \$826 billion in credit card debt. Naturally, people are struggling to make ends meet, and they are going to put more debt on their credit cards. They are going to owe more. So \$826 billion in credit card debt.

The debt I want to focus on is even larger. The Federal Reserve recently revealed that we passed a milestone in American economic history in June of this year. For the first time in history, American consumers owe more on their student loans than on their credit cards. We have \$826 billion in credit card debt and \$850 billion in student loan debt. The total national student loan debt is increasing at the rate of \$3,000 per second. The average college student in 2008 graduated with over \$23,000 in student loans. By the time the students start college this fall, when they graduate, they could easily owe more than \$30,000 at graduation.

Growing student loan debt creates a tremendous burden on recent college graduates. Recent graduates have a hard enough time finding a job in today's economy, but they need a job that pays enough to cover their monthly student loan payments. Young adults delay decisions to pursue advanced degrees, buy a home, start a

family, because of student loan debt. We want young Americans to be an active engine for our economy, but too many graduates trapped in debt have to worry about the first paycheck and making the first payment on their student loans.

This week, Education Secretary Arne Duncan announced the 2008 student loan cohort default rates. Default rates on student loans across America were 7 percent—up from 6.7 percent last year. The cohort default rate is a snapshot of one group of students, those whose first loan repayments came due between October 1, 2007, and September 30, 2008, and who defaulted on their loans before September 30, 2009. During that time, over 200,000 borrowers defaulted on their student loans within 2 years of leaving college.

I was the beneficiary of a student loan when I went to school. It was called the National Defense Education Act. I couldn't have gone to college and law school without it. My understanding was—at least I felt an obligation to pay off that loan so that future generations could borrow that money and other students would get a chance to go to college. Now we find in this cohort 200,000 students already defaulting within 2 years of leaving college. This shows difficult economic times and the trouble young people are having finding jobs after school.

But a closer look at the data reveals another growing problem. Default rates at for-profit colleges are already far too high and rising. The 2-year default rate at for-profit colleges was 11.6 percent in 2009, up from 11 percent the year before. In comparison, public colleges had an average default rate of 6 percent; nonprofit colleges, 4 percent.

So let's put the numbers in perspective. The default on student loan payments from those graduating from nonprofit colleges nationwide, 4 percent; public colleges, 6 percent; and the default rate at for-profit colleges, 11.6 percent in 2009.

More than one out of every nine students who take out a student loan to attend a for-profit college will default on that loan within 2 years of leaving school, and the results are even worse after 2 years. Since 1995, two out of every five—40 percent of students who attended 2-year, for-profit colleges—defaulted on their student loans. Students at for-profit schools represent less than 10 percent of postsecondary students in America but one-quarter of student loan borrowers and 43 percent of all student loan defaults. Defaulting on a student loan is not just a bad economic experience; it can be a disaster.

For-profit recruitment officials, however, take it very lightly when they explain to young people what the consequences are of default on a student loan. The Government Accountability Office investigated 15 for-profit colleges and found that all 15 colleges misled students, including making false statements about student loans and defaults. One recruiter told a potential applicant:

I owe \$85,000 to the University of Florida. Will I pay it back? Probably not . . . I look at life as tomorrow's never promised. Education is an investment. You're going to get paid back tenfold no matter what.

Another recruiter taped by a government investigator said, when the student asked about student loans:

But it's, workable, you know, it's really workable. And the . . . a lot of people have student loans . . . but the best thing about it, it's not like a car note, where if you don't pay they're gonna come after you.

That is a lie, and it is that kind of lie that is leading students into debt that they cannot repay.

Defaulting on a Federal student loan can have dire consequences for these students for the rest of their lives.

Here is what happens if students don't pay back their student loans. First, the loan will be turned over to a collection agency and they will be charged collection costs over and above the loan up to 25 percent. Their wages can be garnished, their tax refund intercepted, and their Social Security benefits withheld. Their defaulted student loan will be reported to a credit bureau and remain on their credit history for 7 years after they pay it off. That means they may not be able to buy a car or a house or take out a credit card. It might even mean they don't get a job if an employer looks at their credit history. They can't take out any more student loans or receive Pell grants to go back to school. They are no longer eligible for HUD and VA loans. They can be barred from the Armed Forces and they might be denied some jobs in the Federal Government.

That recruiter was right about one thing, though: a student loan is not like a car loan. Car loans can be discharged in bankruptcy but not student loans. A borrower can never escape a student loan, whether it is federally guaranteed or a simple private loan for school.

I had a hearing in Chicago about 3 weeks ago on these for-profit schools. I never saw such a crowd in my life. Do you want to know why? This is a big, profitable business. These schools are dragging in billions of dollars in Federal money that is then being loaned to students so they can go to school online or at these so-called for-profit schools. They end up with a worthless degree, if they graduate, deep in debt. They default on the loans and the government loses.

So I went to this hearing with 450 people showing up at this hearing on for-profit colleges.

I didn't expect an amazing turnout. There were picketers on the sidewalk outside the Federal court building. Lo and behold, they were there for me. I went up to the students and said to them: Hi, I am DICK DURBIN. I am going up to the hearing. What are you kids doing here? They said: We are students at the Illinois Institute of Art, which is a school in Schaumburg, a suburb of Chicago. They were dressed similar to

the people you see on "Top Chef." I don't know the name of the white tunic they wear. I said to them: So you are at this for-profit college. What are you studying? They said: Culinary arts. One said: I want to be a cook and own a restaurant. I said: How much does it cost you in tuition to go to this school?

Well, it is a 2-year course in culinary arts, and the tuition is \$54,000. Do you know what the starting pay is for people in a restaurant, a cook? It is about \$10 an hour. So I said: Are you concerned about paying back this student loan? The answer was: Yes, but someday I may own a restaurant. Well, they may. These students were misled into believing they were going to get a job to pay them enough to pay back that student loan, but very few will be able to do so. There just isn't that much money in that line of work. I wish we could suspend all the "Top Chef" shows on the cable networks for a couple years so kids will stop signing up for \$50,000 training courses and borrowing student loans they can never pay back to become the "top chef."

For some, I wish them the best, but it is going to be impossible—difficult at least—for them to pay their loan back. For another school that was upstairs, it was \$41,000 for the culinary arts degree.

I say to the Presiding Officer, who is also from Illinois, we have something called the City College of Chicago. Do you know what the same culinary arts course, over a 2-year period of time, which is just as good, same course, same training—what it costs in tuition for 2 years? It is \$12,000. It is \$12,000 to go to a city college, a community college, for culinary arts. But it is \$54,000 to go to the Illinois Institute of Art—whatever that is—out in Schaumburg. You may say to yourself that these students are dragging themselves deeply into debt that they may never get out of, and the default rate at for-profit colleges is outrageous. It is double what it is for many other schools across America.

The growing levels of student loan debt and the increase in defaults are undermining our economic recovery. Instead of contributing to the economy, many graduates and former students are doing all they can to dig out of debt.

While high tuition levels and student debts are a problem across higher education, I am particularly troubled by these for-profit colleges. Low-income students come to these colleges in droves, lured by promises of high-paying careers and flexible courses. Did you see that ad on cable TV saying you can get a college degree in your pajamas? It shows this beautiful young girl in her pajamas saying: I am going to college in my pajamas.

Here is an alert to young people across America: You are not going to earn a college degree in your pajamas. You have to dress up and be part of the world and go to school. I understand that you can go online, and for many

people that is a great way to go to school, but it takes more than lounging around the house and going online and ending up with a worthless degree. One of the persons who testified in our hearing was a young girl who is a graduate in law enforcement from the Westwood College. Ever heard of it? I haven't. She went to school there in Chicago; it took her 5 years. She got a bachelor's degree in law enforcement because she wanted to work for the Chicago Police Department or the Sheriff's Department. She wanted to be a professional there and she would have a bachelor's degree. They laughed at her when she showed them that degree. Westwood College? They didn't even accept or recognize it. There she sat, after 5 years of education, with a worthless degree. Do you know what it cost her? It cost \$86,000 in student loans. That is how much she owed for that worthless degree. Now she cannot get a Federal student loan to go to a community college. She cannot get a Pell grant. She is paying \$600 a month and living in her parents' basement.

That is the reality of life for these young people who are lured into these for-profit colleges. What are the biggest recipients of Federal loans in America today when it comes to those colleges? No. 1, University of Phoenix, the Apollo Group. How many undergraduate students do they have? They have 480,000 undergraduate students—more than the combined undergraduate enrollment of the entire Big Ten schools. No. 2, Kaplan; No. 3, DeVry; No. 4, Penn State University, which offers online courses. They are taking out the lion's share—25 percent—of all Federal student loans for education help to for-profit colleges and have 43 percent of the student loan defaults. It tells the story.

Low-income students don't know any better. They are signing up for courses with promises that can't be kept. I went to the Web site of Roosevelt University, an established college in Chicago, to look up some information, and I was bombarded with ads from these for-profit schools. I called the President of the school and said: Chuck, have you looked at your own Web site? You can't find Roosevelt on there. There's Argosy and Corinthian and all these things thrown at you. Imagine a young person who is trying to decide where to go to school.

It is time to look at risk sharing when it comes to student loans. These for-profit colleges ought to be on the hook. If they are going to lure young people into debts they can't pay, they ought to have some skin in the game and say: If there is going to be a default, we are going to pay a price too. Secondly, I am sick and tired of these schools that are not accredited and are being given money for Federal student loans. If your school is not accredited and if your hours cannot transfer to another school, you should not receive Federal loans. Students should not have to go through a research inves-

tigation to decide whether a school is accredited. That is not their job and should not be. It ought to be our job as a requirement. We ought to say that if you want to qualify for Federal aid for education, you have to be an accredited school. If it is a phony school, you don't get Federal money. That ought to be the basics.

Today, school officials are working with incentives, incidentally, that push companies to bring in the highest volume of financial aid, which means they will sign up anybody who can qualify. They don't care if you can read or write. Literally, they will put you on as one of their students earning a baccalaureate degree, and they will get the money from the Federal Government. Incidentally, they complained recently because we capped how much Federal money a for-profit college can receive of their revenues at 90 percent—and they complained. Colleges that have burdened students with this debt, without giving them the skills and credentials, should share a piece of this default risk. Maybe then the colleges would focus less on bringing in as many students as possible, at the highest tuition as possible, and focus more on preparing students to succeed. We need to seriously consider this risk sharing, as well as other ideas to bring student loan debt defaults under control. I look forward to working with my colleagues.

Look at your own States. For those of us who have voted reflexively for Federal student loan increases and Pell grants, the party is over. I will not stand by and watch billions in taxpayers' money funneled into for-profit schools that heap debt on the students and fail to give them the training and degree they need to succeed in life. It is time to bring this to an end.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from South Dakota is recognized.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, the legislation before us is the small business bill, which includes a number of provisions. I have stated before in comments on the floor that there are a number of concerns I have about the \$30 billion lending fund that is included in what is now the Baucus-Landrieu substitute amendment to the small business bill.

I simply say, in reaction to the comments of the Senator from Illinois, because a suggestion was made that somehow Republicans were trying to block this bill, I think everybody should know this is being debated under a procedure that is very unique. The Democratic leader filled the tree, which blocks Republicans from offering amendments. So it should come as no surprise that the minority party would react negatively to not being able to have any of their amendments considered or voted on in a debate about legislation such as a small business bill, which we happen to think is very important.

The suggestion was made by the Senator from Illinois that, again, somehow

Republicans are being resistant to or blocking this, I think, misses the broader point, which is that there are a number of us who have amendments we would like to offer to try to improve the bill and make it better. But the majority party has filled the tree, and that means, in layman's terms, that they are not going to allow any amendments. This is being considered under a procedure that doesn't allow us to offer amendments, and I have a couple that are filed at the desk. If I were permitted to do so, I would offer them. I think they address what are some of the fundamental shortcomings in this underlying legislation.

I don't think we ought to be using taxpayer dollars to establish this new fund—this \$30 billion lending fund or what I like to refer to as "TARP III"—and there is a section 103 of the substitute amendment that creates this small business lending fund. Part of that section allows a bank that received TARP funds to refinance into the newly created small business lending fund. Obviously, there are advantages to this refinancing because this new lending fund was created specifically to avoid the negative association with TARP.

While I have serious concerns with allowing these banks to refinance into this new program, at least the legislation prevents those banks that are behind in dividend payments from refinancing into this new fund. I would give the underlying legislation credit in that regard. What the legislation fails to do, however, is provide a similar prohibition on those banks that are behind in their TARP payments from applying to receive even more capital from the Treasury to this new fund. They can't refinance, but they can get more funds from the Treasury, even though they are delinquent in their payments already to the TARP fund.

According to the most recent report, on July 21, 2010, there were 105 TARP recipients who took funds through the Capital Purchase Program that missed their scheduled dividend payment. That is \$157.7 million in outstanding obligations to the Treasury through TARP.

Keep in mind, there were over 70 banks under \$10 billion in assets that have received TARP funds through the Capital Purchase Program. Of the six largest banks over \$10 billion, all but one have paid back their obligation. Of the 701 banks under \$10 billion in assets, there are 625 banks with outstanding investments.

If you are a bank that took money from TARP and are behind in what you owe the taxpayers, you should not be allowed to take more money from the Treasury. This is a major loophole in this legislation.

My amendment, No. 4614, would make sure those banks that are non-paying TARP recipients would not have access to more capital through this fund.

A bank would not extend a second loan to a customer who is behind in

their first loan. Why wouldn't we, as the American taxpayers, provide the same restrictions when it comes to a loan through the Treasury? It seems to me that is a fairly straightforward understanding that we ought to have. If you are delinquent on your first loan, you should not be able to get a second one. As I said before, that is a shortcoming in this legislation.

My amendment would correct that. I think this is an important safeguard that ought to be included. Having said that, that is not enough to make this legislation stronger and better.

At the end of the day, I still believe the small business lending fund will be a reincarnation of TARP. This is not something I can support.

While I am opposed to the inclusion of this fund in this small business bill, I am particularly concerned that we are not adequately measuring the cost of this provision. When I say that, I point out that the CBO, Congressional Budget Office, scored the small business lending fund, and when they did that, the analysts produced two estimates, which is a rare departure from their standard procedure.

One cost estimate was based on a cash-basis method of cost accounting. The other was based on fair market value. The former estimated that the small business lending fund would save taxpayers \$1.1 billion over 10 years. That is using the cash-basis accounting method that I mentioned earlier. The fair market value estimate suggested this fund would result in a \$6.2 billion net loss in taxpayer money over that same period.

You have a \$7.3 billion difference on a \$30 billion fund, and I think that is due to the inadequacies in the cash-basis method of accounting, which does not include adjustments for market risk. That is why I think the CBO submitted two different cost estimates, which, as I said, is a sort of departure from their common practice.

To quote the Congressional Budget Office—and this is important:

... cost estimates made under the Federal Credit Reform Act [which is what we use in terms of making estimates of what things will cost] do not provide a comprehensive measure of the cost to taxpayers primarily because the Federal Credit Reform Act methodology does not include costs that stem from certain risks in lending—risks that private investors would require compensation to bear.

CBO goes on to say:

In particular . . . it does not recognize a cost for the risk that losses from defaults will be higher during periods of market stress when resources are scarce and most valuable.

That is from the Congressional Budget Office pointing out the flaws in the traditional way in which the cost of a program such as this would be accounted for.

Phrased differently, with this fund taxpayers are assuming an uncompensated level of risk as lenders of last resort, and this risk is not accounted for in the cash-basis cost estimate.

While I believe the movement of the Federal Government to ownership of private companies in and of itself is a disturbing trend and is one that needs to be stopped and rolled back rather than promoted in advance, it is critically important that these programs include a proper accounting of their costs—something that is lacking in this small business bill.

What my amendment No. 4610 would do is require the Congressional Budget Office to score Federal Government purchases of equity purchases or capital investments on a fair-value basis that considers market risk. In other words, it would use the convention that was used in the original TARP bill that was passed back in 2008. This change would be consistent with what private companies are doing in terms of moving toward a fair-value method of accounting because of its superiority to a cash-basis method of accounting.

This is not the first time this more accurate method of scoring would have been used by the Congressional Budget Office. As I said, when the original TARP program first moved through Congress, it included an important provision that the cost of the bill be calculated using a discount rate adjusted for market risk. Yet, despite all the similarities between this bill we are debating today and TARP, this bill does not have any such provision. Because of this, many Senators and Members of Congress believe this bill will save money for the taxpayers, when, in fact, the opposite is true. If you use the fair-value method of accounting, as I said earlier, according to the Congressional Budget Office, this provision—this \$30 billion mini-TARP program—has a net cost of \$6.2 billion as opposed to a savings of \$1.1 billion if you use the cash method of accounting. The most comprehensive estimate we have from the CBO is that the \$6.2 billion will be more reflective of the actual cost, but because the cash-basis method of accounting is used, this cost is not going to be added to the pay-go scorecard.

One of the most important duties we have as Senators and Members of Congress is to be vigilant in watching the taxpayers' money and how it gets spent. This duty has taken on increased importance as the Federal Government and Federal spending has exploded and our national debt has now surpassed \$13 trillion.

A quick point on that point. Before I got up to speak, the Senator from Illinois was talking about the Federal debt. Of course, as is typically the case around here, when one of my Democratic colleagues gets up, they think that all that happened is all Bush's fault. Anything bad in America today, it is Bush's fault. What he did not mention, of course, is the fact that on January 2007, the Democrats took control of both the Senate and the House of Representatives. Since that time, they have been writing the budgets. We all know that under the Constitution, the President cannot appropriate a single

dime. It is Congress that appropriates money. Since January of 2007, it has been the Democrats who have been writing the budgets around here.

Even if you give them the benefit of the doubt and say when the President came to office in January 2009 and you measure it from that point forward to where we are today, we have added almost \$3 trillion to the Federal debt—almost \$3 trillion since January of 2009 when this President took office. If you were breaking that down into terms people can understand, if you are a child under the age of 18 in America today, when the President took office in January of 2009, the debt for a young person under the age of 18 was \$85,000. Today, it is \$114,000. Since this President has taken office, the share of the Federal debt for an average American under the age of 18 has increased by \$29,000. By the year 2016, that number will be \$196,000. Mr. President, do you want to know why? Because the debt is projected to explode over this next decade. In fact, it took 232 years and 43 Presidents to rack up the first \$5.8 trillion in debt. In the next 5 years, we are going to double that and triple it under the President's budget.

I will be the first to admit that Republicans are not perfect, and when we were in charge of the Congress, there were certainly things we should have done better in terms of getting our fiscal house in order in Washington. But to say for a moment, as the Senator from Illinois tried to imply when he was on the floor, that somehow this was a function or a problem that was created by the Republicans or somehow by Bush is just absolutely inconsistent with the facts. As I said, Democrats took control of this Chamber in January 2007. The President became President of the United States in January 2009. Since January 2009, the Federal debt has grown \$3 trillion.

There is a whole lot of spending going on around here that is being routinely ignored by Members on the other side when they get up to speak, such as a \$1 trillion stimulus bill that was designed to keep unemployment under 8 percent. We all know unemployment today is well north of 9 percent. In fact, with no end in sight, the amount of spending and borrowing that continues today, in my view, puts in jeopardy the opportunity for this economy to recover and begin to create jobs, which is what all of us want to see happen.

But when you spend \$1 trillion and borrow it and you hand the bill to your children and grandchildren, when you create a massive new expansion of health care which, when fully implemented, will cost the taxpayers \$3.2 trillion and at every turn continue to spend more and more, at some point you have to say, when you are in a hole, you ought to quit digging. That is precisely where we are. We are in a deep, deep hole.

The first rule should be: do no harm. When it comes to spending and the

debt, the administration and the current leadership of this Congress have taken that to a whole new level. That is a comment about this debt and one of the reasons this legislation is so important and why it is important that we get it right in terms of accounting for the true costs of the underlying bill.

It is my belief that the fair-value method of accounting provides a much more accurate, much more transparent, and much more comprehensive way of accounting for the costs and benefits of these programs. To ignore the risks these programs pose to the hard-earned money of American taxpayers is simply to stick our heads in the sand and hope. This is not a responsible strategy for governing, and I hope my colleagues will work with me to update this outdated method of scoring with regard to this \$30 billion mini-TARP that is included in the small business bill.

While I have many concerns with this bill, some of which I just outlined, we are debating what I think was a well-intended bill with a lot of good provisions and many I support. There are a number of provisions in this bill which, left to themselves, I think will be good. I am a member of the Small Business Committee. We made adjustments in the small business lending program, increasing loan sizes and guarantees for SBA 7(a) and 504 loans and temporarily reducing the fees for some of those loans. It updates SBA's very outdated size standards and provides much needed tax relief through bonus depreciation, section 179 expensing, and allowing business credits against the alternative minimum tax.

There are provisions in this bill that I think do get at providing assistance to small businesses, but I cannot support a new program that puts more taxpayer dollars at risk. The American taxpayer is expected today—this is with the most recent estimate—to lose \$66 billion thanks to the original Troubled Asset Relief Program, the TARP, and this current legislation reincarnates that TARP through a \$30 billion Treasury fund that will be used to inject capital into banks that are then directed to lend to small businesses.

Treasury and the administration have tried various programs through TARP to increase small business lending without any success, mostly because of a lack of interest on the part of the banks. Again, this lack of interest is likely attributed to the fact that many banks recognize the negative stigma that accompanies accepting TARP money, and that is why I think the Democrats and the administration are trying to create a new fund and call it something other than TARP. The actual language in this amendment provides assurance to banks that by accepting this money, they would not be TARP recipients. That is actually specified in here because they want to get rid of the original stigma that comes with the original TARP. In their talk-

ing points, even the White House admits the "program would be separate and distinct from TARP to encourage participation." Essentially, what they are saying is, We are not going to call it TARP. We are going to call it something different. If we call it TARP, banks will not participate, and we want to encourage banks to participate.

The administration goes on to say that "the administration's proposal would encourage broader participation by banks, as they would not face TARP restrictions." These "restrictions" the White House is referring to include limits on executive compensation and warrant requirements—many of the restrictions included in the original TARP program.

I wish to point out for the benefit of my colleagues that Elizabeth Warren, who serves as the chairwoman of the Congressional Oversight Panel, has criticized the manner in which TARP funds have been provided to smaller banks—15 percent of which cannot even make payments to the Treasury regarding TARP funding they received. The new fund relies on the same problematic lending structure that has been deemed a failure under TARP.

I wish to quote what this Congressional Oversight Panel said about the Small Business Lending Fund.

The small business lending fund prospects are far from certain.

The small business lending fund also raises questions about whether, in light of the Capital Purchase Program's—

That was the program under the main TARP—

poor performance in improving credit access, any capital infusion program can successfully jump-start small business lending.

It goes on to say:

Banks are subject to a stigma for accepting government money no matter the name of the program.

The small business lending fund looks uncomfortably similar to the TARP.

Like the Capital Purchase Program—

In the original TARP—I continue to quote from the Congressional Oversight Panel's report—

the small business lending fund injects capital into banks, assuming that an improved capital position will increase lending—despite the lack of evidence that the Capital Purchase Program—

Again, the original TARP—
did so.

This lending fund does not affect the capital issues affecting banks "nor any of the issues affecting small business credit demand." It goes on to say that such a fund "runs the risk of creating moral hazard by encouraging banks to make loans to borrowers who are not creditworthy."

That is all from the Congressional Oversight Panel's report about the very Small Business Lending Fund—the concept we are debating as part of the small business bill.

I am ready to close, but the point I am trying to underscore with this amendment is that the same flawed

structure for repayment that is not working for small banks under the current TARP is included in the legislation before the Senate. Knowing this, we are purposefully removing some of the safeguards created through the original TARP, allowing TARP recipients who are behind in their payments—people who are delinquent in their payments—to participate in the new program and get even more funding under this new mini-TARP program.

I believe there are more responsible methods to support our small businesses than through a \$30 billion Treasury line of credit for banks. Let's focus on the programs we know work. As I said, some of them are included in this bill, such as the SBA 7(a) and 504 loan programs. Let's not create a new Treasury fund and hope somehow in the end it is going to pay off. History has proven otherwise.

We all know small businesses are the economic growth engine in our economy. They are what keeps this economy growing. Two-thirds or three-quarters of the jobs in our economy are created by small businesses. Despite spending hundreds of billions of dollars on a stimulus bill, the Nation's unemployment rate is still at 9.5 percent. How many more billions are we going to have to spend before we realize that might not be the correct solution to this problem?

Let's pass a good bill that helps small businesses grow and prosper, not another version of a failed TARP program. I think we, as Members, ought to be able, in the context of this legislation, to offer amendments. These two amendments I have spoken to this morning are examples of amendments that would make this bill stronger and that we are being blocked from offering because of the procedure under which the leader has determined this bill ought to be considered.

That is unfortunate. It goes against the very nature of the Senate, which is a place that tends to be free-flowing and open to debate and where all Members have an opportunity to speak to legislation and to get their amendments voted on. That has not been the case here. And I regret that, but we are where we are. We are going to have a vote later, and I hope my colleagues will vote to defeat this bill.

I thank the Presiding Officer.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Minnesota.

Mr. FRANKEN. Mr. President, I want to say one thing to my esteemed colleague from South Dakota. I went all around the State of Minnesota during this recess. I had 118 meetings. Many of them were economic development meetings all around the State. Over and over and over I heard from small businesses that they can't get access to capital, and I heard from commercial bankers that they can't lend capital because their regulators are saying: Well, we are going to have to write that all off.

Small businesses want this. This is not toxic asset relief, as TARP was. This is small business lending. Small businesses create 70 percent of new jobs, and this is something that Minnesota's small businesses want and the Small Business Administration in Minnesota wants.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak for 15 minutes as in morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

FDA FOOD SAFETY MODERNIZATION ACT

Mr. FRANKEN. I rise today, Mr. President, to speak in support of food safety legislation. Food safety is a topic that affects every single American. Food safety is something we all care about because we all eat. American consumers spend more than \$1 trillion on food each year, and each year there are an estimated 76 million cases of foodborne illness, including at least 5,000 deaths a year in our country. That is why it is time that this important piece of bipartisan legislation be brought to the floor. We have waited far too long to do our job and to complete our work on the issue. We have waited too long to pass a bill that will save lives.

In November, we unanimously voted S. 510, the bipartisan FDA Food Safety Modernization Act, out of the HELP Committee—unanimously. At the time, we were talking about the recent outbreaks of *E. coli* in spinach and salmonella in peppers and peanut butter. But months have passed and we have still not brought the bill to the floor. In the months since we have passed the bill out of committee, we have already had more outbreaks of salmonella—from black and red peppers in 44 States and frozen tuna in 6 States. Seven states have been affected by raw milk outbreaks, including my home State of Minnesota. Eighteen states have been affected by salmonella in frozen dinners. And this summer, we have seen one of the worst outbreaks in recent history. From May to September of this year, 1,519 illnesses were reported that are likely to be associated with contaminated eggs. That includes at least 14 Minnesotans. And we may still see more cases before this awful situation has been resolved.

With all these cases of illnesses and the recalls taking place, I think we all understand the serious threat contamination poses to our food supply. We have heard repeatedly, and correctly, that our current food safety system is broken. The system relies too heavily on reacting to outbreaks after they have occurred instead of preventing their occurrence in the first place. This is why we need to pass Federal legislation now. We must stop more Americans from getting sick and bring our country's food safety system into the 21st century.

S. 510 will provide FDA with the resources and authorities it needs to properly oversee that safe food comes to our table. There are a lot of great

provisions in this bill, and I want to highlight a few that are most important to us in Minnesota.

First, the bill would give FDA the authority to require certification of imported food and verify that the food coming from foreign suppliers is safe. Our food safety system was set up in the early 1900s, and a lot has changed since then. The key difference is that we have a lot more imported food than ever before. The truth is that even if we do everything right with our food products here in the United States, about 15 percent of our food comes from other countries. S. 510 gives the FDA new authority so we can avoid situations such as the 2007 melamine contamination in the infant formula and pet food coming from China.

Secondly, S. 510 would get the FDA out and inspecting food producers more often and require them to keep better records. Right now, FDA visits a given food facility every 10 years, on average. A lot can change in 10 years. Ten years is not frequent enough to assure safety.

The issue is primarily one of lack of resources. As the number of food producers has increased, FDA's capacity has remained stagnant. This bill would provide FDA with the resources to inspect more frequently and target the facilities with the greatest risk for outbreaks. FDA would also have the authority to require better recordkeeping and access records if there is a reasonable probability that a problem is occurring.

Lastly, S. 510 would also make sure the FDA is equipped to trace and recall food quickly when it needs to. Right now, there are a lot of processed foods with a lot of different ingredients and there are no requirements for anyone to track where they come from, and when there is a problem, FDA can't force a company to recall its product, even when there is overwhelming evidence to do so.

Let me give an example of why these traceback and recall provisions are particularly important. In late 2008, the Minnesota Department of Health noticed an elevated number of salmonella cases. My State has one of the best surveillance systems in the country, and after comprehensive investigations, the Minnesota scientists identified the King Nut brand of peanut butter as the culprit, produced by the Peanut Corporation of America, or PCA.

Minnesota folks worked with the FDA and the CDC, and in January companies began to voluntarily recall products with potentially contaminated products. But it was difficult for the company to know exactly where the contaminated peanut butter had ended up. So the recall was expanded three different times to try to get hold of the outbreak.

Most companies complied. But on March 23, 2009, the FDA asked the Westco Fruit and Nut Company to voluntarily recall all of its products containing peanuts from PCA because of the contamination threat. Westco re-

fused. This company willingly put American lives in danger. And since the FDA doesn't have mandatory recall authority—now—it wasn't until April 27, 2009—36 days later—at the request of the FDA, that U.S. Marshals seized about \$35,000 worth of PCA peanuts and products containing PCA peanuts at Westco because of possible salmonella contamination. So even after the tainted products were identified, it took almost 5 weeks to get the salmonella-laced peanut products off the shelves and away from where they could harm people.

This contamination and the subsequent investigation led to weeks of multiple company recalls of more than 2,000 different products from the shelves. But if the FDA had been able to immediately trace foods back to their producers and demand they be recalled, it could have withdrawn the contaminated foods much more quickly, saved lives, and prevented illness. Because so much tainted peanut butter got into our markets, the whole debacle was estimated to have cost the industry nearly \$1 billion and led to the loss of innumerable jobs.

But the greatest cost was to American families. Because of the tainted products that PCA sent to market, over 700 Americans became ill, half of them children. Nine people died, three of them from my home State of Minnesota.

One of those who died was Shirley Almer, a Minnesota mother of three sons and two daughters. She had survived brain cancer and was in good health at the time of the outbreak. There was Clifford Tousignant of Duluth, a Korean war veteran, father of six, grandfather of 15, and great-grandfather of 14, who died. And Doris Flatgard of Bergen, MN, who had been married to her husband John for 65 years before she died from eating peanut butter on her morning toast.

I wanted to recount this outbreak because there are lives that were lost because we failed to protect the American people.

The bill we referred out of the HELP Committee takes some steps to improve the traceback infrastructure, but I think we can do more. I decided to work on this issue when Shirley Almer's three sons came and met with me and told me about how their lives had changed since they lost their mother; how their family would never be the same. They told me about the contaminated peanut butter, about how it had been included in countless products across the country, but we couldn't track the problem down fast enough since we don't require companies to keep track of where ingredients come from.

That is why I have been working closely with my colleague Senator BROWN of Ohio to strengthen the traceability provisions in S. 510. I think we have made some good progress and I am hopeful the bill will be even better because of our efforts.

S. 510 includes a lot of other great provisions too and there is not enough time to talk about them all. But I do know that many elements of the bill were inspired by the great food safety work we do in Minnesota. We are a national leader, especially in early detection of foodborne disease. I am pleased that my colleague from Minnesota, Senator KLOBUCHAR, has a great provision we hope will be in the final bill to enhance our Nation's foodborne illness surveillance.

Mandatory recall authority, traceability, more frequent inspections, better recordkeeping, and safer imported foods—these are just a few of the reasons why we need to get the food safety bill to the President's desk, and we need to get it there now. Not later, but now.

This is legislation that every member on the HELP Committee, on both sides of the aisle, voted to favorably report. Every Member of this body recognizes the importance of food safety to the American people. The FDA Food Safety Modernization Act will finally give the FDA the tools it needs to do its job and keep Americans safe. So I urge the majority leader to bring this critical legislation up before we head home in October. We can't afford to wait any longer.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Florida.

Mr. LEMIEUX. Mr. President, I come to the floor today to talk about job creation and what this Congress needs to do in order to make sure that our businesses have the best chance of succeeding in what is a very difficult business climate.

I have the privilege of representing the great State of Florida—18½ million people. The economic difficulties we are having now are as difficult as anybody can remember. We are No. 1 in being behind on our mortgage payments; No. 1 on mortgage foreclosures for the first half of the year, and unemployment is at record highs—near 12 percent. No one can remember a recession as difficult as the one we are experiencing.

I think it is our job, as Members of Congress, to do what we can where we can be helpful to try to get people back to work. In Florida, our small businesses are struggling. When I drive down the State roads of Florida, down Federal Highway in southeast Florida, or I am in Tallahassee on Monroe or I am over in Pensacola or in Jacksonville or wherever I am in the State—and I spent a lot of time in the State during our work period in August visiting with business owners—I see more and more doors that are shut, small businesses that have been closed.

I talked to a woman today who owns a small strip shopping center. She said in the past 3 years they have gone from being 95 percent occupied to 55 percent occupied. Businesses are struggling. That is why I was proud to work with Senator LANDRIEU and others to fash-

ion a small business bill, a bill I believe is going to help our small businesses get back to work.

The small business bill does three things, principally, that I think are going to help small businesses. First, it is going to cut taxes on small businesses by \$12 billion—a tax cut for small businesses. Among those tax cuts is a 100 percent exclusion of capital gains tax for those who invest in a small business. There is a provision to allow firms to immediately write off 50 percent of the cost of new equipment, and there is a doubling of the tax deduction for expenses for start-up businesses to \$100,000. These will allow businesses to pay less taxes, to buy new equipment, hopefully hire new people, and get Floridians and Americans back to work.

The bill also has a lending facility, a \$30 billion lending facility that is going to bring money to small community banks to get loans to them—not Goldman Sachs, not Citibank, not Wall Street but the banker down the street, the banker who knows the small dry cleaners, the local paint shop, those small businesses that employ our friends and neighbors. If these banks do not loan the money, they will have to pay a higher interest rate back. They cannot just keep the money on their books to make their balance sheets look better. If they want to participate in this program—and it is voluntary, by the way—if they want to participate and get these dollars out to small businesses, they have to lend them out.

All over Florida small businesses tell me they cannot get a loan, that their credit line has been frozen. If they are some of the few businesses that have a chance to expand, they cannot do so because they cannot get the needed capital.

I visited one of those businesses this past week in Florida, a business by the name of UniQueso. They are a family business, two brothers, and they make dairy products, principally focused on the growing Hispanic community in Florida. They have had great success because this is a market that wants more of these wonderful products. They are moving their business from Cocoa to Orlando, FL. They are building a new plant. I had a chance to tour it. They are going to open in about a month, and they are growing their business. They are doubling the number of their employees. They are going to produce 10 times more product than they did at their previous location—just the kind of story we want to hear.

But even though they have a good business plan, even though they are making money, 10 banks denied them loans. What did they do? This family-owned business had to sell off a majority share in their company to get an investor so they could expand. At least they were able to find a private investor, but they should not have had to give up control of their family business just to succeed in the marketplace when no bank would give them a loan.

I believe this small business bill, while it will not cure every problem, is a good start. It is not going to cure all the troubles we have in this economy. That is why I am proud to support it. Frankly, there are not a lot of folks on my side of the aisle who support this bill. But I have to look at this bill for what it means for Florida and the country. It does not increase the debt, it does not increase the deficit, it does not increase taxes—it cuts taxes—and it is going to help small businesses with tax cuts and the credit they need to build their small business and, hopefully, put people back to work. That sounds good for Florida. It sounds good for America.

But we need to do more. Where I do differ with my colleagues on the other side of the aisle is that we have taken steps in this Congress in the past year and a half that have been chilling to business and job creation. When I talk to business folks in Florida, they tell me this new health care law is keeping them from hiring new employees. They do not understand it, it is complicated, it is thousands of pages. They understand if maybe they hire that next employee, they will come within the confines of the bill and will be fined if they do not offer the type of health care the Federal Government has mandated.

The financial regulation bill we passed in this Congress has caused confusion and anxiety among businesses in Florida, some of which have told me they are going to move a portion of their business to the Bahamas so they will not fall under these regulations. That is jobs that will leave Florida.

Small business in Florida is frozen in its tracks because of an uncertain regulatory burden from Washington and now the specter of new taxes. At the end of this year, the tax cuts that were put in place nearly a decade ago are set to expire. If those tax cuts expire, we are going to raise taxes during a recession, and we are going to raise taxes on small businesses. As many as three-quarters of a million small businesses in America will be impacted by higher taxes at the end of the year if Congress does not act.

Look, I walked across the aisle to work with my colleagues from the other side on something that made sense for job creation. I know now that there are four or five or six of my colleagues on the other side who are saying let's not raise taxes on anybody during recession. We need to work together. We need to work together to be problem solvers. It does not make any sense to raise taxes during a recession. It doesn't make any sense to raise capital gains taxes, which will stop investment. It doesn't make any sense to raise the taxes on dividends, which will hurt seniors, which will hurt people who invest in companies, which will chill business. It doesn't make any sense to raise taxes on small businesspeople who, we know, create two out of every three jobs in this country—more than that in my home State.

I hope we will work together to extend the current policy for everyone and not raise taxes in the middle of a recession.

Let me say there is one more thing this Congress can do right now to help job creation. We have three pending trade agreements—with Panama, with Colombia, and with South Korea. The President of the United States said in his last State of the Union Address that he wants to pass these free-trade agreements. He wants to promote trade and exports with foreign countries.

Why haven't we taken them up? Why haven't we passed them? Colombia and Panama are huge trading partners of my home State of Florida. If we pass these free-trade agreements, we will create jobs in Florida almost immediately. Let's get out of the business of pulling huge levers on this economy, imposing new restrictions, and burdens and taxes on businesses. Let's promote trade. Where we act, let's act judiciously, with the surgeon's knife and not the bureaucrat's bludgeon.

Business is hurting in this country, small business especially, hurting very much in my home State of Florida. I think there is a way for us to work together to do these things which will put Americans back to work.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. KAUFMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. KAUFMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that I be allowed to speak as in morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

Mr. KAUFMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to express my concerns about the continued disparagement of our Federal workforce. I also want to speak about the opportunity we have for long-term investment in making our government work better for all Americans.

Earlier this month, people across the country took time to mark Labor Day. It is a moment to celebrate one of the chief American values that has helped make this country so great, that is, hard work. Employees in every industry tirelessly each day not only realize their own share of the American dream, but also because it is part of our culture to strive for success in every task we undertake.

I have seen the same quality every day throughout my career, exemplified in all the outstanding government employees with whom I have met and worked. That is why I have been coming to the floor each week to honor a great Federal employee. All of those I have so honored work extremely hard and serve with dedication.

In June, I spoke from this desk about how efforts to scapegoat government workers with threats to freeze their pay or cut hiring are counterproductive and how proponents of such measures use flawed analysis of compensation data to make their argument.

I was dismayed and upset to see once again an article in USA Today making the claim that Federal employees earn more than double that of private sector employees. USA Today based their article on the newly released data from the Bureau of Economic Analysis, and, quite frankly, they did a very poor job of it.

Unfortunately, their findings have been circulated to other papers and on television and are being used as fodder for political attacks directly against those who work in government jobs. The article's lead statistic is based on 2009 BEA data that shows the average amount spent by the Federal Government—not the average salary, the average amount spent by the Federal Government—on salary and benefits for each worker, is \$123,049. For the average private sector employee in this country, they figure \$61,051. This statistic would truly be shocking if it were true.

The newspaper also points to a trend, a growing pay gap, between Federal employees and those in private companies. That trend is also based on a flawed reading of statistical data.

In my remarks of June 17, I went through their early analysis of Federal compensation data from 2008 and explained the flaws in their methodology and how they drew spurious conclusions. This latest study simply repeats the mistakes they made last time.

Let me list several common analytical errors. No. 1, the analysis did not consider differences in experience and education. The data does not measure similar populations sometimes, even USA Today concedes. The article says that with regard to the gap in pay between Federal and private sectors: "The analysis did not consider differences in experience and education."

The analysis does not take into account the statistically significant fact that the private sector workforce is 52 times larger than the Federal workforce. There are 101.3 million private sector workers. Simply put, there are far more people proportionally in the private sector earning low wages than the Federal sector, only 1.9 Federal civilian employees, because the government has outsourced so many of its low-paying jobs.

This is like matching apples and oranges. Our Federal workforce has also become far better educated in the last 20 years, which translates into greater earning power. The most egregious mistake made by USA Today in its last analysis, which I spoke about in June, was trying to compare data from two different Bureau of Labor Statistics studies. The numbers the paper used for private sector salaries comes from

the BLS's National Compensation Survey, while the numbers used for its Federal employee salaries are from another data set, the Occupational Employment Statistics Program.

Even the BLS has warned against comparing data from these sets against one another. On its Web site it says:

Occupational wages in different ownership groups (the private sector, and state, local, and federal governments) are influenced by many factors that the [Occupational Employment Statistics] measure cannot take into account. It goes to list examples, such as "level of work performed," "age and experience," and "cost of living" adjustments for large urban areas.

For many of the occupations being compared, the total number of Federal employees in a given category is miniscule compared to the total employed in the private sector; therefore, leaving the statistical analysis in the lurch.

For others, the job categories in the private and public sectors are simply not comparable. One great example is broadcast technicians. According to USA Today, broadcast technicians in the Federal Government earn an average of \$132,000 a year, while those in the private sector earn only a little more than \$88,000.

However, what USA Today does not tell its readers is that according to the very same data set they use, there are only 110 broadcast technicians working in the entire Federal Government. In the entire national workforce, according to the same data, there are 33,550 broadcast technicians. This means the broadcast technicians in the Federal Government represent three-tenths of 1 percent, three-tenths of 1 percent of the total.

One can hardly compare them, especially since, according to the OPM, 99 percent of broadcast technicians in the Federal Government work for the Broadcasting Board of Governors here in Washington and are broadcasting throughout the world.

I know very well from personal experience that BBG technicians require much more experience and education than the average private sector broadcast technician working at radio and television stations across the country, many of which are very small.

The same is true for clergy. Most of the 810 clergy in our Federal workforce are employed by the Veterans Health Administration. I think it is reasonable to take a guess at what clergy might be doing at the VA—working as chaplains and counseling our wounded warriors. There are 42,040 clergy employed in this country, many of them with small congregations that cannot afford to pay much salary. It is impossible to draw conclusions by comparing 800 Federal clergy to over 42,000 clergy based on compensation alone.

Let's take a look at another one. Highway maintenance workers are said to make an average of \$11,344 more each year in the Federal Government than in the private sector. However, if we look at the data, we find there are only 50 highway maintenance workers

in the entire Federal workforce. When USA Today compares this to the total number in the private sector, how many highway maintenance workers are they looking at for an average? The answer is 5,190. That is 104 times more.

But this brings us to the other problem. Some of these jobs, like highway maintenance worker, do not have truly comparable positions in the Federal Government. When searching through the Office of Personnel Management's human resources data, one cannot even find such a category. The 50 who work in the Federal Government, who were listed in the BLS survey under this category, are likely performing very different, and quite possibly more highly specialized work, than most of the highway maintenance workers in the private sector.

The Federal Government is not like any private industry. Federal employees perform functions directly relating to public health, national security, and financial stability. Jobs in the Federal Government routinely involve decisionmaking that affects millions of lives.

Over the past 20 years, after calls in the 1980s and early 1990s to streamline government, many Federal jobs not directly related to "inherently governmental functions" have been outsourced. This is a good thing. As a result, the demographics of the Federal workforce have been transformed perhaps even more dramatically than most realize. That is the subtext behind the data chosen by USA Today.

By far, most of the jobs now performed for the government by private sector contractors are entry level and low wage. This includes maintenance workers, customer-service agents, security guards, and other jobs that typically receive smaller salaries.

Correspondingly, a larger share of the jobs still held by Federal employees is higher wage, supervisory, and professional—such as physicists, doctors, and highly specialized IT experts.

At the same time, the size of the Federal Government is virtually unchanged since the 1960s, even though our Nation has grown by 40 percent in the same period. According to the OPM, in 1960 there were 1.8 million Federal employees. Today, there are 1.9 million. Looking at this chart, one can see that the Federal workforce has shrunk drastically compared to the number of Americans it serves on a per capita basis. The total population of the United States was 180 million in 1960, and it has risen to over 300 million today.

These days, Federal employees are working harder than ever. In fact, and I have said this before, the USA Today is right about one thing. There is a public-private pay gap, but it goes the other way.

The Federal Salary Council reported last October that civilian Federal employees are making, on average, over 26 percent less than private sector workers in comparable jobs. This gap continues to widen.

I am thrilled that there are so many outstanding individuals who have chosen to work in public service knowing that they could probably make more money in the private sector. But the pay gap has certainly continued to discourage many talented Americans from making that choice.

Like all important decisions we make about government, our mission to recruit and maintain the best possible workforce must feature a strategic approach.

I think Linda Bilmes, of Harvard's Kennedy School, and Max Stier, the President and CEO of the Partnership for Public Service, put it best when they wrote:

The fundamental mistake . . . is to think of the federal workforce as a cost rather than as a resource that delivers specific benefits to the nation.

That was from an op-ed in the Boston Globe in February.

The great Federal employees I have honored from this desk over the past 16 months are just a few examples of government workers who are an asset and make great contributions to the government but, more importantly, to the country.

As Director of the Office of Public Housing Programs at HUD, Nicole Faison inherited a rental assistance program rated as "high-risk" by the GAO for 13 years due to rampant waste, fraud, and abuse. She quickly turned it around, eliminating over \$2 billion—that's billion with a "B"—in fraudulent payments what is that worth?

Eileen Harrington and the Federal Trade Commission's "Do Not Call Team" brought peace of mind to dinner tables around the country when they designed and implemented the national registry to stop telemarketing calls. Tens of millions have benefited.

Dr. Gareth Parry, who retired last year after a long career at the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, worked to create risk assessment models for our Nation's nuclear facilities. His efforts significantly improved the safety of communities near nuclear plants and those who work there.

I could go on and on and on.

But the example of Dr. Parry leads me to an important point we here in Congress must consider. There is a lot of data on the demographics of our Federal workforce. While some choose to point to compensation, the statistic I think is most pressing and needs the most attention is that of retirement eligibility.

Currently, there are two retirement systems for civilian Federal employees. Those who began work before 1984 fall under the old civil service retirement system, or CSRS. All employees hired after 1984 participate in the Federal employees retirement system, or FERS. In 1997, the number of employees eligible to retire under CSRS was 12 percent. In 2006 it had climbed to 37 percent. That is over a third of the workforce. That is over a third of the Federal workforce. For those eligible

to retire under FERS, the number climbed from 7 percent to 13 percent.

As I said in June, the OPM today estimates that a fifth of the Federal employees will leave the workforce by 2014. That is almost 400,000 people. Many have already been postponing retirement for years because they know we need their talents and experience.

Today our civil service finds itself at a crossroads.

We could choose to listen to those who continue to disparage public employees and cut salaries or cap hiring. We would, however, undoubtedly see more failures to regulate Wall Street because we didn't have regulators or those who drill offshore, failures to secure our borders and keep our communities safe, failures to ensure that all citizens have fair access to resources they need to pursue the American dream.

We can do that, but there is an alternative. Actually, I would say, it is a necessity.

We can choose—now at this critical moment—to renew our investment in a strong, vibrant, and successful Federal workforce. The return on such investment promises to be high—indeed, if we fail to devote ourselves now to building a top-notch civil service, the next generation of Americans will have to spend even more to fix the problems that will result.

In his book, "Excellence," former Health, Education, and Welfare Secretary John Gardner—who founded the public interest group Common Cause—wrote that:

The society which scorns excellence in plumbing as a humble activity and tolerates shoddiness in philosophy because it is an exalted activity will have neither good plumbing nor good philosophy: neither its pipes nor its theories will hold water.

In the same way, if we don't value our government workers and the jobs they perform, we're going to end up with a Federal workforce—and a government—that isn't the best it could be for all of us. I have never known Americans to settle for second-rate.

What does a sound investment in our Federal workforce look like? First, we will need to redouble our efforts to recruit new hires, and I hope many will be young graduates. We have so many young people right now who are eager to give back to this country and make a difference.

According to the Partnership for Public Service, the Federal Government will need to fill 273,000 full-time, mission-critical jobs over the next 3 fiscal years. By mission-critical, they mean jobs considered essential for agencies to fulfill their obligations to the American people: doctors and nurses at the VA, counterterrorism analysts, lawyers, high-tech specialists, contract administrators. These are very special jobs. We have high unemployment now, but the kind of jobs we need are not readily available.

So how can we attract the best and brightest of the new generation into

public service? We need to pursue policies and enact legislation that will enable a work-life balance competitive with the private sector. This includes programs like parental leave, loan repayment, and telework. I am glad that some departments are already making strides on work-life balance, and I commend Chairman AKAKA of the Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia for being a leader on these issues.

We should also be launching programs to help train managers and supervisors, since more and more Federal employees are taking on these roles. With so many lower wage jobs outsourced to contractors, we need to ensure that those managing contracts remain Federal employees and that they have the skills and experience to make sure contract work is being performed according to the public interest. Just think how much it has cost us because people were not monitoring contracts. Think about the problems we have had monitoring contracts.

Now some of my colleagues are probably starting to shake their heads and say: Wait a minute; Americans do not want bigger government.

Indeed, these recent charges that Federal employees are somehow overpaid evoke the perpetual claim that the most desired government is always the smallest. That cuts and outsourcing are ends in themselves. We hear it every day, that government is too big. However, it was precisely this ideology of reduction that left our key regulatory agencies unable to prevent disasters like the financial crisis and the gulf oilspill and so many other things over the last 8 to 10 years where agencies did not follow up—whether it was FDA, the Consumer Protection Agency.

I think they have it wrong. It is not that Americans want smaller government. They want better government. They want government that works.

Let me share some interesting findings from a survey conducted in May by the Center for American Progress and Hart Research Associates. The study found that 62 percent of Americans have an unfavorable view of Federal Government, a 22-percent rise since 2000.

However, it also found that Americans would rather improve the efficiency and effectiveness of government than reduce its size. The same number—62 percent—preferred better government to just smaller government. Among those who identified as political moderates, the figure was even higher, at 69 percent.

Furthermore, when asked about specific aspects of government involvement, a majority of Americans believe the Federal Government should be more involved in solving problems. 60 percent want the government to do more to improve schools; the same number want Federal help to make college more affordable; and 57 percent

would like the government to do more to reduce poverty.

Investing now in building and developing the next generation of Federal employees will go a long way in making sure that government works better for everyone. It will help us tackle problems such as these—developing clean energy, expanding educational opportunities, reducing poverty—and avoid the next financial crisis or major oil spill.

It is time to ask ourselves what kind of government we want for the next century. We can not afford to let this important debate about our Federal workforce and its future be hijacked by those who prefer to scapegoat and distort the facts. We have all seen what happens when we make important policy decisions based on incorrect information.

I am encouraged that the OPM has joined with the Office of Management and Budget and the Labor Department to study the actual pay gap, in order to determine how best to compare Federal and private-sector jobs. Once we have that data, then we will be better able to figure out how to make Federal jobs competitive with their private-sector counterparts and attract the very best talent into government.

Again, I want to stress, everybody cares about money. Most Federal employees I meet are here because they want to make the world a better place and they are concerned about making the world a better place, and they want to make a difference for their lives. That is one of the things we do not talk about nearly enough; that is, how great it is when you get to my age to see that you actually tried to make the world a better place, and you worked on making the world a better place.

That is important, and that is the kind of people we have in the Federal Government. They are willing to make the financial sacrifices because they care about and make the special extra effort to give of themselves in order to make this country the great country we know it is.

By looking forward, by ceasing the “blame game,” and by making a commitment now to building the best Federal workforce possible, we can ensure that the next generation is well poised to tackle its greatest challenges.

Lincoln called on his fellow Americans to cherish and safeguard our greatest strength: “government of the people, by the people, and for the people.” We must also strive to maintain a civil service of the same kind for the long term. Our children and grandchildren deserve the same type of great Federal employees we have today.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. HAGAN). The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Louisiana.

Mr. VITTER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. VITTER. I ask unanimous consent to speak as in morning business for up to 12 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

DREAM ACT

Mr. VITTER. Madam President, I was very disappointed to learn recently that Senator REID intends to bring up a very significant amnesty proposal next week known as the DREAM Act. It is disguised as an education initiative, but it will provide a powerful incentive for more illegal immigration by allowing States to grant in-state tuition to illegal alien students. This is a bad idea at any time, but this is a bad idea right now, at the worst possible time.

Unfortunately, this announcement isn't shocking given Senator REID's and this administration's record of pushing policies on the American people that the people oppose. In these difficult economic times, it is really an insult to legal, taxpaying citizens that the President and Senator REID would want to use their hard-earned money to pay for in-state college tuition for illegal aliens.

This horrible economy has increased the demand for enrollment and help at public universities. As a growing number of families are unable to afford an education at a private university, they turn to public universities in increasing numbers, and they turn to that help, including in State tuition, in increasing numbers. At a time when many Americans cannot afford to send their children to college at all, this bill would allow States to provide in-State tuition to illegal aliens who would displace legal residents competing for those taxpayer subsidies.

I am opposed to this proposal because of that—because it would unfairly place American citizens in direct competition with illegal aliens for very scarce slots in classes at State colleges and universities. The number of those coveted seats is fixed, so every illegal alien who would be admitted because of this through the DREAM Act would take the place of an American citizen or legal immigrant. It makes no sense to authorize Federal and State subsidies for education of illegal aliens, when our State schools are suffering, as higher education budgets are slashed, admissions are curtailed, and tuition is increased.

Enactment of the DREAM Act would do just that, and it would be bad policy under any circumstances, but in the current economic climate it would be a catastrophe.

Again, the DREAM Act would grant amnesty to millions of illegal aliens who entered the United States as minors and who meet loosely defined so-called educational requirements.

Specifically, the bill grants immediate legal status to illegals who have merely enrolled in an institution of higher education or received a high

school degree or diploma. The bill's sponsors described the beneficiaries of this legislation as "kids," boys and girls. In reality, the DREAM Act is far broader than that. It would allow illegals up to the age of 35 to be eligible to receive this amnesty and qualify for Federal student loans.

The American people have made it very clear that they want to see the government fulfill its responsibility to enforce the laws on the books, take steps to control illegal immigration, not to reward bad behavior with tuition breaks.

Amnesty and economic incentives, such as taxpayer-subsidized tuition, only encourage more illegal immigration. This is certainly not the answer to our current immigration crisis and will only worsen our current economic crisis.

If Senator REID does move forward with this proposal, I plan to file a second-degree amendment to strike the provision that allows States to grant in-State tuition for illegal aliens. It will be a very clear choice: Do you want these limited resources, this limited help, to go to U.S. citizens and legal immigrants or do you want illegals to compete for those and take some of those slots away from U.S. citizens and legal immigrants?

As chairman of the border security caucus, I will be fighting this overall measure tooth and nail and also advancing this second degree proposal. This is common sense. This is certainly the sentiment and the will of the American people.

I encourage all of my colleagues—Democrats and Republicans—to talk to Senator REID to dissuade him from the bill overall and, if it comes to the floor, to support this second-degree amendment so that American citizens and legal aliens are not having slots taken away from them by illegals in this matter.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REED. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REED. Madam President, we have been debating for weeks now a needed solution to our economic recovery in the United States. We have seen some progress, but it is a long and difficult journey for American families. The depth of the crisis that materialized in the last few years of the Bush administration can't be overcome in just 18 months, although I believe we are headed in the right direction. The legislation we are considering will help us in that journey to recovery.

We have seen, in fact, over the last several months, an increase in private sector jobs. We didn't see that in the last several years of the Bush administration. When President Obama took

office, we were losing 750,000 jobs a month and we had 22 straight months of job losses. Now we need to turn that dynamic around by creating private sector jobs, but we have to do much more.

The great engine of private job creation is small business in America. These provisions are aimed to aid small businesses throughout the country. Small business is an engine of growth. It is the place where people will, I think, find employment as we go forward. Our small business community has been hit very hard by the economic crisis, the financial crisis, and the collapse of the credit bubble. Small businesses have lost more than 6 million jobs since December 2007, and we have to start restoring those jobs.

The legislation we are considering—the Small Business Jobs Act—will provide \$12 billion in fully paid-for tax breaks for small businesses to bolster confidence in the economy by unlocking frozen credit markets, spurring job creation, and fostering our Nation's burgeoning recovery. These tax incentives will allow small businesses to make investments to help with job growth, purchases, and expansion. I emphasize that these are fully paid for because we have multiple challenges.

I have served long enough to recall in 2000, when we were looking at strong employment growth and a Federal budget surplus, and, in 2009, when President Obama took office, we were looking at a job collapse in many parts of the country and a huge deficit, which is still going on. So we have to consider both as we move forward.

The particulars of this legislation are important to note because they will contribute, I believe, very significantly—and one would hope very quickly—to increased job opportunities throughout the country. The legislation will incentivize investors by giving 100 percent exclusion from capital gains taxes on small business investments. It will create a targeted \$30 billion small business lending fund to provide small community banks with the capital to increase their ability to lend to small businesses. This is particularly notable. I must commend Senator LANDRIEU for her tenacious advocacy of this position, along with Senator MERKLEY and others. In fact, this is a bipartisan effort. This proposal will put money in the hands of small community banks that want to lend, that have clients, and that do it the old-fashioned way. They look at the books, they know the borrower, they have faith and confidence in that individual, and they are constrained now because they do not have sufficient capital to expand their lending. With this capital, they will be able to expand lending and go right out to the heart of small businesses throughout the country. Madam President, just as in North Carolina, in Rhode Island I have numerous businesses that will come in and say they are very successful, they want to expand, they can hire a few people, but

they just can't get the loan from the bank. This will help.

Another provision reduces the tax burden of small businesses by allowing them to carry back general business tax credits to offset their tax burdens from the previous 5 years. Small businesses will also be able to count the general business credits against the Alternative Minimum Tax. That will free up capital for expansion and job growth.

The legislation also increases Section 179 expensing—permitting up to \$500,000 in capital investments that businesses can expense to immediately get some tax credit for it. It also extends bonus depreciation, allowing taxpayers to immediately write off 50 percent of the cost of new equipment. We hope that this will have the small businessman or woman buying a piece of equipment which will require, we hope, a manufacturer or assembler somewhere in the United States to call people back to work to meet this new demand.

This is going to increase demand for goods and services, and that is one of the key deficiencies in this current economy. We have a lot of money locked up. It is said, quite authoritatively, that there is about \$2 trillion on the balance sheets of corporations throughout the United States that they are not spending. We hope these incentives will produce increased demand which will get them to start spending and provide the kind of private capital investment and momentum that will carry us forward.

As I mentioned before, this Small Business Jobs Act has a \$30 billion lending fund that is so critical. More than 10 community banks in Rhode Island, for example, are eligible to receive these funds. I have spoken to many of the bank leaders and they are ready to lend right now. They have customers whom they have great faith in, who have a good business plan and are profitable. In fact, many times business owners are willing to guarantee or to put up even personal collateral to get the loan. Yet the bank says: We can't do that because we have reached the limit based on our capital of what we can lend to small business. This raises those limits, and it is absolutely necessary to do that.

One other important aspect is that this legislation will raise the limits on loans that the Small Business Administration can make and guarantee. Again, another source of tremendous and important funding is being capped now because they can't make big enough loans because there are certain loan limits. It will also extend the elimination of the fees borrowers pay to the SBA. Now we have businesses that may be ready to hire, but they just can't generate the cash to pay the fees. Now they will be able to get the loan, hire the workers, and move forward.

The legislation also supports States because there are many State initiatives. There is \$1.5 billion in grants to

States that will help in their efforts. There are many States that have programs very much like our Small Business Administration at the Federal level—innovative programs that will be supported.

This legislation has bipartisan support, and that is absolutely necessary. Again, I wish to thank particularly my colleagues who were supportive of the cloture motion that has us now on a path to passage. I thank them very much for their efforts. They made a decision that will benefit American businesses across the country, small businesses in particular.

We need to move forward. We need to get this legislation done—I hope this week—as soon as we can. Then we have other legislation we can and should consider. For example, we have a tax extenders bill that will hopefully provide R&D tax credits and other provisions that will help businesses, both large and small but particularly small business.

I urge all my colleagues, now that we feel confident we have the votes, let's move to final passage. Let's give American businesses, particularly small businesses, the help they need to move the economy forward.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah.

POLYCYSTIC KIDNEY DISEASE

Mr. BENNETT. Madam President, I am rising today because this is PKD Awareness Week. People say: What is PKD and why do we need to be aware of it? PKD is the acronym that stands for polycystic kidney disease. Polycystic kidney disease is the leading cause of kidney failure from a genetic disease in America. Every year, we have PKD Awareness Week, as we try to bring people a better understanding of it.

Let me outline how serious it might be and how it affects the Federal Government. For those who do not know, it is a silent killer that stalks more than 600,000 Americans. That is greater than the number of Americans who are afflicted with cystic fibrosis, Huntington's disease, sickle cell anemia, hemophilia, muscular dystrophy, or Down syndrome. That works out to be about 12,000 PKD sufferers in each State. Every one of them is at risk for kidney failure and the ravages that come with that.

I became aware of it particularly when my daughter was diagnosed with it. It is a disease that is carried as a genetic disease. We had no idea it was anywhere in the family until she was diagnosed with it. We have now tried to go back to find out who may or may not have had it. But this means that not only is she at risk and is losing kidney function, but so are her children and perhaps so are others in our family. So it becomes a very significant personal thing for me, but I wish to reach out and express my gratitude to my colleagues in the Senate, who do not have the same kind of personal connection, who have joined in cospon-

soring the resolutions on PKD Awareness Week—Senator HATCH, Senator KOHL, Senator SPECTER, and Senator HARKIN. Over the years, they have cosponsored the annual PKD Awareness Week resolution. They have joined in securing PKD-specific appropriations report language, and they have helped pass the Genetic Information Non-discrimination Act, which has been very important with respect to this disease and others where, for a variety of reasons, they have not had the kind of attention they have needed.

This has an impact on the Federal Government because the annual cost of PKD exceeds \$2 billion for kidney dialysis, kidney transplants, antirejection drugs, and related therapies. That, of course, affects those who have government money going into their health care support. End-stage renal disease is the fastest growing expense of Medicare. This causes a huge financial, emotional, and physical burden on the Americans who are affected by it.

The good news is that the field of PKD research is robust, the therapy is ripe, and I ask my colleagues to look favorably on a forthcoming public-private partnership initiative that is known as the Regional PKD Diagnostic and Clinical Treatment Center, designed to increase application of new diagnostic methods and therapeutic regimens for PKD patients, conduct pilot studies and clinical trials, and, finally, coordinate data and streamline the appropriate clinical application of effective treatments.

I am pleased to have the opportunity to once again call attention to the disease of polycystic kidney disease and the ravages and challenges it has. I thank my colleagues for their continued support over a 20-year period of PKD Awareness Week and the work they have done in the Senate and hope that all of us can continue to support an activity to keep the research going forward. The consequence will be, if it is successful, tremendous benefit for those families who suffer from PKD and financial benefit for the government as a whole through reduced Medicare costs.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. UDALL of New Mexico). Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I would like to speak to the bill pending before us briefly, first to respond to a criticism that Republicans had been filibustering this bill, and, therefore, that somehow revealed an antagonism on the part of Republicans toward small business.

The charge is so ludicrous that one would think it does not even need to be responded to. Republicans have been

the champions of small business in this debate about taxes. I will have more to say about that in a moment.

Why was it that the majority of Republicans did not want to proceed with the proposal that the majority leader put before the Senate? A very simple reason. The majority leader, once again, precluded Republicans from offering any amendments. The entire history of the Senate is a history of tradition and comity and the opportunity for the minority to be able to offer amendments and debate.

When repeatedly the majority leader does what they call, in the Senate parlance, filling the parliamentary tree, which means he precludes the minority from offering any amendments, naturally Republicans are going to object to that.

We said repeatedly we would be delighted to debate this bill, just let us offer some amendments. No, was the answer; you cannot do that. Well, we are on the bill now, and I think it is pretty clear that what this debate boils down to is what is the best way to help the small businesses who are the job creators. In fact, about one-quarter of all of the jobs in this country are created by small business, and what we know is that especially the small business folks are the first ones to hire in bad economic times, hoping to bring the economy out of a recession.

Why are they not hiring today? Well, on Monday I came to the floor and I pointed out one of the reasons. One of the entrepreneurs in our country wrote an op-ed in the Wall Street Journal in which he totaled up all of the expenses that he has every time he hires someone. I believe, if memory serves me correctly, it cost him about \$78,000 every time he hired somebody who had a \$44,000 salary. That is in the extra taxes that he would have to pay and the cost of regulations just to comply with Federal law for hiring one additional person. It is no wonder that small businesses do not hire at this point.

So what is the Democratic response? Let's raise their taxes. Let's make it even more difficult for small businesses to hire people. We believe that is the wrong solution, and rather than looking at the kind of bill that is on the Senate floor today that creates yet another kind of TARP bank lending authority, something the American people are a little bit fed up with, we believe we should leave tax rates where they are so that businesses have some certainty that they are not going to be raised. At least do not make it worse.

I noted that the distinguished assistant majority leader earlier this morning inadvertently confused tax cuts with tax increases. I have done the same thing many times. But the reason I wanted to point that out is because I think there has been so much talk on the Democratic side about tax cuts for the rich that the Members on the other side have almost gotten to believe that. The truth is, nobody is proposing

tax cuts for the rich. Nobody is proposing tax cuts for anyone.

My colleague from Illinois corrected himself and said: No, I mean tax increases. That, of course, is what the question is. Should there be tax increases on anyone? The Republican position is no. At least in times of recession or bad economic times, do not raise taxes on anyone. Do not raise taxes on families who are struggling to make ends meet, and do not raise taxes on businesses, especially the small businesses that are the best job creators.

So our view is, do not raise taxes. But the Democratic view is, well, let's raise taxes on some but not on others. That is this class warfare concept that I was critical of Monday. In America we do not believe in class warfare. We think everyone ought to have a chance to succeed, and if someone succeeds, we applaud it and we hope we are in the position the next week or the next year. But, instead, there seems to be a view that, well, rich people can afford it, so let's raise their taxes.

Again, economists generally—including Peter Orszag, the immediate past Director of OMB under President Obama—have made it clear that raising taxes on anyone, including the entrepreneurs, those people who pay in the higher tax brackets, is a bad thing for job creation especially in bad economic times.

So why would we do it? Well, the concern is we have to be worrying about the deficit. Well, this is a fine time to be worrying about the deficit and a fine way to do it. We spend \$1 trillion on a new health care bill, we spend \$1 trillion on a stimulus bill, we spend all of this other money bailing out this and that in our economy, and now another new TARP lending program spending trillions of dollars, a budget that doubles the national debt in just 5 years, doubles all of the debt accumulated from George Washington through George Bush, we are going to double that in 5 years under the Obama budget.

I would suggest that we ought to start worrying about the spending. If we are worried about the deficit, let's stop the spending spree. Let's do not try to make up a little bit of that by deciding to tax a bunch of people who are the very folks who are going to hire the employees that are going to help bring us out of the recession.

Am I just sort of fancifying this or do real small businesspeople have this view? Well, let me just read about—I think there are three, maybe four folks here. These are some of the folks, some of the 750,000 small business owners in the United States whom we are counting on to create jobs and who would see an increase in their marginal income tax rate under the Democratic proposals.

I just want to quote from what a few of these folks say. Here is the chief operating officer of a company called Logical Advantage in North Carolina.

His name is John Fread. He says marginal tax rates will mean his company will not be able to hire the new sales representative it needs, and it may force layoffs. He says:

We founded Logical Advantage in 2003 with a couple of card tables and laptops and a staff of three. We've been successful and have since expanded our business. One of the keys to our growth has been our determination to reinvest our profits in our firm. We're organized as a pass-through business, (meaning the company's taxes are paid at the individual income tax rate),—

That is why this marginal rate is so important—

and if our marginal income tax rates go up, we'll be left with less money to put back into our company. This would mean we would not be able to hire an additional sales representative.

Then he also closes with this:

Also, since our employees bill their services hourly, we use profits to keep our employees employed between projects and avoid layoffs. Without this additional cash, we'll have no choice but to do layoffs. My advice to Congress would be to keep the current tax rates in place and do all they can to avoid raising our taxes because that will lead to fewer jobs.

So here is an entrepreneur, a small business owner, who says he wants to create jobs, save the jobs he has. He wants to expand, but an increased tax burden will prevent him from doing so. No, we are not talking about tax cuts for the rich. Nobody is talking about tax cuts. We are talking about keeping his taxes from going up. That is what we want to prevent.

Kevin Linehan of Bravadas Fairfax, LLC, a small clothing and accessories business, says—and I hope I am pronouncing that correct—Bravadas is the way I see it here. Anyway, he says the shaky economy has forced him to cut his staff and payroll by 40 percent and slice his inventory by 30 percent, not an uncommon situation in this economic downturn. He wants Congress to know that if the top two marginal rates increase, he will not be able to hire the new employees he needs, increase his inventory, or take the risks that would lead to innovation in his business. I am going to quote him.

If Congress goes through with the plan to increase the marginal income tax rates for the top two brackets, my business will be hurt. We've already been battered by the recession and had to cut staff and payroll by 40 percent. I have also cut both my advertising and inventory by 30 percent each, and have had to downsize and change locations to save on rent.

If Congress raises my taxes, it will be more of the same rather than being able to grow my business, attract new customers and hire new staff. In fact, in this economy I have had to cut back on essentially all new business activity, meaning I've stopped trying to innovate and instead have been forced to focus on only those activities that are the most profitable because I cannot afford to take risks. The more and more the government takes, the more difficult it is for small businesses like mine to be successful and do the things they want us to do, which is to create jobs.

Here is a third small businessperson, Ray Pinard. He owns a printing busi-

ness in Boston. He says if tax rates go up, he would not have the resources to expand his business operation to new areas, and, therefore, to create new jobs. Here is what he wants Members of Congress to know:

Keeping the tax burden low is so critical to our business, 48HourPrint.Com. . . . With the economy where it is, now certainly isn't the time to play games by extending tax relief for some but not others.

For example, if Congress fails to keep all of the current income tax rates in place and we take a hit, then that will mean we have left capital to grow our team and our operations, not only in the Boston area but at our other facilities in Ohio, Arizona, and New Hampshire, as well. There are thousands of other small businesses out there that will react similarly if their tax burdens increase. I am worried that it will take much longer to get our economic ship righted if our elected officeholders in Congress fail to show leadership on this issue. [Raising taxes] is a job killer. Leave the money in the private sector where it will be put to good use.

Despite what the President says, these tax increases will have a very negative impact on job creation, especially for the small businesses, the entrepreneurs I have quoted. These are the people who are on the ground, running businesses, trying to weather the bad economy, hoping to hire new workers. They are telling us that their businesses cannot tolerate new taxes.

As this debate continues, I will share more stories from small businesses and other folks who are opposed to the tax increases.

It is critical that we appreciate the fact that even the talk about this, even the potential for an increase in taxes, has created a kind of uncertainty that has caused businesses to lock up and not want to make any kind of big decisions because of what they think could happen. I remind my colleagues that this money is not the government's money. It doesn't belong to the Congress or the President. When we talk about taxing people, we are talking about taking their money. It is not the government's money. It is their money.

The question is, Will the government do more good spending it or will the private sector, the people who have that money, who earned that money? Will they do more good with it? I think it is obvious that these small business folks I have talked about will put that money to good use for their families and their employees. They will create more jobs with it. That will help more folks.

The irony is that will eventually help the economy and will even help the U.S. Treasury, because we have more people paying more taxes at the existing rates, and that means more revenue for the Federal Government.

This is a very aspirational country. Almost everybody here looks at opportunity. We all think we can do better. If we work hard, we have a system that will reward hard work. These successful small business folks never cease to amaze me. They come up with an idea, a service, or a product to sell. They go through all the difficulties of doing so,

sometimes mortgaging their home, borrowing money. They are the lifeblood of the economy. They are not some bunch of fat cats. They are the people who make the economy work.

It bothers me when folks on the other side of the aisle denigrate them as if they are somehow evil people because they end up making enough money to pay taxes in the top tax brackets when, as we pointed out, the reason for that is that as business people who are not corporations, they are subchapter S or other partnership or small business legal entities, they pay taxes as individuals. And because of the income of their businesses, therefore, they are put in the top bracket and somehow, therefore, they deserve to be punished—they can afford it; they are the rich.

They are not the rich. They are folks like all of us, struggling to make ends meet, who will hire more people and who don't deserve to be punished for their success. We are supposed to be creating incentives for people to do exactly this. Ironically, the bill we are debating now is a bill that is supposed to help small business folks. We will give these TARP-like funds to the banks and make them lend a certain amount of it to small businesses, and everybody will be better. My guess is, if we let the small businesses keep their money and not raise their taxes, they would be perfectly happy and be able to get along, and they would have the ability to borrow money from the banks without the effect of the legislation before us.

I hope we both begin to change our rhetoric, not to attack those people who are the backbone of the economy, people who cannot afford another tax increase, who want to help the economy recover and like to hire more people, and that we would also recognize the most productive way to help them is to simply not raise their taxes. We are not talking about a tax break. I would argue that this TARP-like lending thing is an idea that may be well motivated, but it is not the way to help most of the businesses we are talking about. Just don't raise their taxes.

I will return to where I started. Some of us get a little confused. Sometimes we say tax cut when we are talking about tax increases. It may be that we have gotten so used to this rhetoric that somehow somebody is asking for a tax cut for the rich when, in fact, I don't know of anybody who is asking for a tax cut for the rich. Not a single Republican is asking for a tax cut for the rich. All we are asking is don't raise taxes on anybody; it is usually not a good idea, and it is certainly not a good idea in this time of economic downturn.

I hope as time goes on, I will have the opportunity to reflect on what more small business folks have written to us, and we will take their pleas to heart. The three people I have talked about today all say: Don't raise my taxes. I am having a hard enough time

as it is. If you leave me alone, I might be able to begin hiring more people.

Let's take those stories to heart and listen to our constituents and not take the attitude that Washington knows best. It reminds me a little of what the President and one of our colleagues said in a townhall meeting in August when somebody asked about the health care bill. One of our colleagues said: Well, you may not like it now but over time I think you will get to appreciate it.

It is the attitude that we know best here; we will make the decisions; you may not like them now, but you will come to think they are okay over time. I think Americans have understood what it takes to make a successful business. They understand what taxation is all about. They understand this isn't the time to raise taxes on anybody, and we ought to get away from this idea that Washington knows best. Let's listen to our constituents. Let's listen to what they are telling us. Don't raise our taxes.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. KYL. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECESS

Mr. KYL. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in recess under the previous order, which means that we would return at 3:30.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess until 3:30 p.m.

Thereupon, at 2:38 p.m., the Senate recessed until 3:30 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. MERKLEY).

SMALL BUSINESS LENDING FUND ACT OF 2010—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I rise to speak on behalf of the bill.

I rise to strongly support the pending bill, the Small Business Jobs and Credit Act. I do it because it will help small business create jobs in Maryland. I spent much of the last several months visiting worksites in Maryland, and it was an exciting time. Maybe orders and customers are not up, but enthusiasm and entrepreneurship is up, and absolutely, in many areas, consumerism and customers are up.

I visited bakeries, microbreweries, factories of small machine tool companies wanting to retool. During that time I visited Main Street, small streets, rural communities. I talked with small business owners and their employees.

What was loud and clear and visible was that small businesses are stressed

and strained. Small businesses said: Hey, BARR, it is sluggish out there. There is uncertainty, but we believe we can expand. We believe we can grow our business, but we need help.

They continually talked about their problems in having access to credit—not because they were not good risks but because there was not good money out there for them to borrow. Even though these businesses are thriving, they could not expand because they could not get the loans they needed to grow.

I visited a startup green energy business whose demand is skyrocketing, but they need credit to expand their business and, I might add, certainty in an energy bill.

I visited a wonderful family bakery which reminded me so much of my own grandmother's bakery. Well, they just do not bake bread, they build community and create jobs. They want to expand. They need access to credit.

I visited a machine tooling business in Baltimore which does precision metal work for many of the components for our military, the space program. They, too, want to retool.

These are "good guy" businesses, working hard, playing by the rules. They have jobs right here in the United States of America. They want to expand. They want to hire. They want to upgrade their equipment. They want access to credit. They need a government on their side and at their side.

I believe that is what the Small Business Jobs and Credit Act will do. It will help businesses be able to get that much needed access to credit to be able to strengthen our economy.

I know people are anxious about the economy. Many are worried their middle-class life is slipping away. But in Maryland we know we can count on small businesses to create jobs, to help people who are in the middle class stay there, and those who want to get there be able to do so through hard work.

From beauty shops to biotech, there are family-owned businesses, small businesses in Maryland that need help. What they need is not a guaranteed outcome, but they do need to have access to credit.

I am no Janey come lately on this issue of small business. My grandparents owned a local bakery shop. My father ran a small grocery store, alongside with my mother. I often watched him open very early for local steelworkers and automobile workers, people who worked making the famous National Boh beer right down the street. They would come and buy their lunches before going to the morning shift.

We know what it is like to have a small business and to be able to meet a payroll and to be able to grow. I saw what it means to be able to provide service to the community, lend a helping hand, provide a good customer value for a hard day's work. I believe it is through these small entrepreneurial efforts that we will get our economy going and growing.

We have bailed out banks. We have even bailed out other countries. Now we have to bail out the people who are building the United States of America—the people who are building jobs in the United States of America. That is what I think this bill will do.

What I like about it is, it gets credit flowing to small business. It creates a Small Business Lending Fund at the Department of the Treasury to help those community banks at the local level lend to small businesses. It creates incentives for private businesses to invest by making the capital gains from small business stock tax free. It provides tax breaks that will help small businesses grow by making it less expensive to purchase new equipment. We help small businesses get started by doubling the amount of startup costs small businesses can deduct from their taxes.

So let me repeat. No. 1, we create a Small Business Lending Fund at Treasury that guarantees access to credit. We make capital gains tax free. That will help small business investment. We will help make sure small businesses grow by making it less expensive to purchase new equipment because of the tax breaks we give, and we are going to double the amount of startup costs small businesses can deduct from their taxes to help make sure they can get a jump-start on getting underway. I believe we have practical, affordable solutions.

Some people say: Is this a baby TARP? No, this is not a TARP. We do not bail out Wall Street. We help Main Street. We help all those people with a dream in their heart, with a small business underway, with the grit and determination to be able to create a job for themselves and for others and add a product and add value to the United States of America. These are jobs that will stay in the United States of America.

So let's say goodbye to tax breaks to send jobs overseas, and let's say hello to tax breaks to make sure our small businesses can grow. I hope we pass this bill. I hope we get it done this week. I hope we get our economy rolling in the way we need to do so.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant editor of the Daily Digest proceeded to call the roll.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Dakota.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I wish to speak today for a few moments about the unfinished business of the Senate, but I will focus on only one issue.

We come now to September of an even-numbered year. We will have an election in November, and then we will have a lameduck session, apparently, and the Congress will end its session. Then the question is, What is left on the table? What is the unfinished busi-

ness? What has not been done that needs to be done for this country? It is a very long list, unfortunately. I would say the reason, in most cases, is we have experienced in this Congress less cooperation and more determination to block almost anything than at any time I have seen in the 30 years I have served here. It doesn't matter what the issue is. We have had issues that are noncontroversial, that get 94 or 98 votes in favor of the issue, that have been blocked when brought to the floor on a motion to proceed. We have a noncontroversial issue, a motion to proceed brought to the floor on something on which there is no controversy, and it is subject to a filibuster, and then a cloture motion has to be filed. Then 2 days have to pass before it ripens. We have a cloture vote, and then following the cloture vote, the minority says: Well, we insist that the 30 hours postcloture be used. So 30 hours has to be burned off. Only then can you get to a vote on a noncontroversial issue. Then you have the vote, and it is 98 to 1. That has happened throughout this year—continual efforts to block everything; deciding that the best strategy politically, apparently, for the minority here in the U.S. Senate is to block everything.

The result is that the list of unfinished business in this Senate is unbelievable. Not one appropriations bill will be done when we break for October. An energy bill which I intend to speak about today is critically important for this country's future and has not been done. Extending the tax extenders, the research and development tax credit, and so many other issues that are important have not been done. It is not because Senator REID hasn't tried as majority leader. He has tried in every way to make progress on these issues. We have just not been able to get it done.

Let me speak for a moment about one issue that will represent the unfinished business, regrettably, unless there is a change of heart somehow and perhaps at the end of this session, in a lameduck session, we are able to get it done; that is, energy.

Energy affects everyone's lives. They don't think about it, but they get up in the morning and perhaps take a shower. That is energy coming from a hot water heater. They turn off an alarm clock first. That is energy coming from electricity. They then go down and perhaps have a slice of toast. That is energy from the toaster. They have some coffee, which uses energy from a stove. They put a key in the ignition and drive to work—energy from the gas tank of that vehicle. Almost every waking moment is blessed with abundant energy resources in this country. We don't even think about it. We do all of those things in the first hour of our day and never think about the fact that energy played such a central role.

Here is the dilemma. Our country, in large part, runs on oil—not exclusively but in large part—oil and natural gas.

Coal is a very important part of producing electricity, but oil is 70 percent of our transportation, and here is the circumstance we face. Nearly two-thirds of the oil we use in America we have to get from somewhere else. We use one-quarter of all the oil that is sucked out of this planet every single day. We put straws in this planet, called drilling rigs, and we drill holes very deep into the surface of this planet, and we find oil and we suck oil out of the planet, and one-fourth of it must come to this little spot on the globe called the United States of America. That is the prodigious appetite we have for energy, and it enhances our lives in every way. But it doesn't add up. We use one-fourth of all the world's energy in our country, but we produce only 10 percent of the world's energy, and we have only 3 percent of the world's energy reserves. That is not an equation that adds up.

So if two-thirds of our oil comes from outside our country—some of it from countries that don't like us very well—what are the consequences of that? Does that represent adequate national security when we are dependent on that amount of oil from others? It does not. It represents a very deep vulnerability that one day that supply of oil could be cut off from our country, and our economy would be flat on its back.

What do we do about that? Well, we should produce more, to the extent we can, and we are, and I will talk about that in a moment. We should conserve more. We should be concerned about the efficiency of its use. We should find new sources of energy. We should convert the automobile fleet, to the extent we can, to an electric fleet. We should continue to invest in the longer stream strategies such as fuel cells and hydrogen. All of those things are necessary. We should have a renewable electricity standard that drives the production of electricity from renewable energy that says: Here is where America needs to go. Here is what we want to produce in our future. Count on it, believe in it, invest in it, because this is America's policy for the next decade. We should do that. It is called a renewable electricity standard. We should build a transmission capability around the country, just as we did interstate highways—an interstate transmission grid that allows us to produce energy where the wind blows and the sun shines and move it to the load centers that need the energy. All of these things are necessary. Yet the prospect is that they will all be left on the drawing table at the end of this session of the Congress.

Let me describe, if I might, what we have done and what we threaten to lose. A year ago last June, we passed on a bipartisan basis out of the Energy Committee here in the Senate a piece of legislation that reduces our dependence on foreign energy; increases our domestic production of energy from virtually all sources; establishes a renewable electricity standard; helps create a transmission superhighway; electrifies and diversifies our vehicle fleet;

enhances our energy efficiency; expands clean energy technology; and will train the energy workforce of tomorrow. We did all of that, passed that out of the Energy Committee and did it on a bipartisan basis. And we threaten to lose all of that progress at the end of this session unless we get some cooperation on the floor of the Senate.

I have described a bit of this, but let me do it by chart. Our dependence on foreign energy—and this translates mostly to foreign oil by sector. You can see that the most significant sector that increases our dependence on foreign oil is the transportation sector. We use 70 percent of our oil in the transportation fleet. Seventy percent of our oil is used in transportation. That is why all of us understand that we have to convert.

By the way, moving to an electric transportation fleet—and I will talk a bit about that later—it is not new; it is back to the past in many ways. When President Taft decided that the horse and buggy had outlived its usefulness as a mode of transportation outside of the White House—he ordered an electric vehicle, the Baker electric vehicle. So the fact is, it is not as if electric vehicles haven't been around; they have.

When Henry Ford decided that the Model T shall have an internal combustion engine because Thomas Edison suggested that was the way to go, that determined for the future what we were going to be doing for a long, long time. Then in 1916 our country said: You know what we want to do, we want to reward anybody that goes and finds oil and gas because we are building this automobile fleet with the internal combustion engine that needs to use gas stations every week or two, so we need to have gasoline at these gas stations. In 1916, we decided as a country to say: If you are looking for oil and gas, God bless you. We want to reward you. We are putting in place deep, permanent tax incentives to say: You go look for oil and gas because that is good for the country.

So here we are nearly a century later, and the problem is that we now know that being dependent on others for two-thirds of our oil—70 percent of which is used to run our transportation fleet—holds America hostage. It holds our economy hostage and holds our future hostage. So what do we do about that?

Here is a chart that shows the use of energy in this country. At this point, coal fuels about half of the electricity generated in our country. That comes from coal. There is a problem with coal, and that is, when you burn it to produce electricity, it puts carbon into the atmosphere, and we now know that contributes to climate change and global warming, putting more and more carbon into the atmosphere is troublesome.

So now we come to an intersection that is different from any other intersection we have been at before: trying to ensure a better energy future and at

the same time address climate change. That is a pretty difficult proposition but not impossible.

By the way, our energy future will not be a future without coal, so the question is, How do we deal with the fact that burning coal produces carbon? Well, the energy legislation we have produced begins to address that by saying that there are a lot of ways to separate carbon when coal is burned and to use that carbon in a lot of different ways, one of which is to put it underground to enhance oil recovery from an oil well. If you put carbon deep into the ground in an oil well that is almost depleted, you can move oil out of that oil well. That is called enhanced oil recovery. Another way is just storing this carbon underground. Another is to understand there are uses for carbon that can produce additional fuel. You can take the carbon from a coal plant, strip the carbon from the emissions, and use it to feed algae. Algae is that single-cell pond scum that you see—the green scum on top of water. But if you grow algae—and how does algae grow? In water, sunlight, and CO₂. To grow algae, you take the CO₂, grow algae with it and then harvest the algae, and you then get diesel fuel. So you create something—you have a problem that creates a solution. Solve a problem by creating a product. That is another approach. There are more. There are other ways to address this.

There is a patent by a guy in California who says he has the silver bullet. You can use coal and get rid of the CO₂, because he mineralizes the entire effluents from a coal plant and turns it into a product that encompasses all of the CO₂ that is harder and more valuable than concrete. So that brings the cost of capturing and containing CO₂ down to near zero, he says. I don't know whether that is accurate; all I know is there are a lot of interesting ideas out there about how to continue to use coal and protect this country's environment at the same time.

I would say one other thing about this. A woman scientist from Sandia National Laboratory testified before a subcommittee that I chaired, and she said: You think of carbon, CO₂ emissions, as a problem. Why don't you think of carbon as a product? Then she described what you can do with carbon as a value-added product. She is absolutely right.

I believe that in 5, 10, 15, 20 years, if we make the right investments, we will almost certainly be able to continue to use coal, our most abundant resource, and do it in a way that protects this country's environment by sequestering and providing a beneficial use for carbon.

So 48 percent of the fuel used for electricity comes from coal. As you see, some comes from natural gas, some is hydroelectric, and that represents a descriptive use of the various kinds of resources in this country.

I mentioned a while ago that the Energy bill had what is called a renewable

electricity standard—RES. Why is that necessary? Because you have to decide where you are headed. You have to drive toward a goal. I support a 20-percent renewable electric standard. If I buy a kilowatt hour of electricity, I want 20 percent of that to come from renewables. Twenty percent of that, by 2020, would create 100,000 more new jobs. But much more important than that is it would put us on the road to what we should be doing; that is, maximizing the production of renewable energy.

The fact is, taking energy from the wind makes a lot of sense. It is not polluting. Somewhere in this country, the wind blows almost all the time. Perhaps I have a vested interest because the Department of Energy says the State of North Dakota is the windiest State in America. We are born leaning to the northwest. There is just a lot of wind in our State. So we have the capability all across this country to produce substantial amounts of wind energy.

This picture shows what we are doing these days in sunflower fields, where we grow sunflowers and harvest energy from the wind. It is really pretty simple and works very well.

This chart describes how dependent and how addicted we are to oil. The top oil consumers in 2008—you can see the green line is the United States. It far exceeds the use of oil by anyone else on this planet.

China is next but, of course, China has, I think, 1.4 billion people.

Tomorrow there will be, on Capitol Hill, a Nissan LEAF. I am not advertising for Nissan, I have never driven one. I will drive one tomorrow, because they have a new electric car coming here for people to test drive. I have described a bit about the electric vehicle future, and I, along with Senators ALLEXANDER and MERKLEY, from Oregon, have introduced legislation that would move this country toward an electric drive future. I think it is a great piece of legislation.

This country needs to decide where it is headed and then create incentives and a roadmap to get there. There is an old saying that if you don't care where you are going, you are never going to be lost. It is true for this country as well. I believe it is far better for this country to set a course, create a destination, and then say to people and investors—to everyone—here is where we are headed. You can count on it, believe in it, and invest in it, because here is where America is going. That is what we ought to do.

There is not a lot of time left in this legislative session. One of the very important pieces of unfinished business reflects what I have described in general form; that is, energy production, conservation, excessive dependence on foreign oil, a concern about the environment, energy conservation and efficiency, and all of this is critically important.

I come from a State that is producing a lot of energy, no question about that.

When I was a little boy, in my hometown of 300 people, there was never much going on. So we would drive up and down Main Street forever seeing if something was going on, and it never was. Sometimes we would go to an adjoining town 20 miles away to see if there was anything going on there, because that was a town of about 800 people—much larger—and there was never anything going on there either.

What happened one day is that news reached our town that somebody was going to drill an oil well 2 miles west of Regent, ND. We thought this was unbelievable, something is going to go on. So they hauled in these big rigs with a truck, and lots of metal, and they built this little pyramid, and all these strange, new people were in our town, and then this oil rig went up—a drilling rig. Then they put lights on it. At night, in a town where there was nothing to do, we would drive out and park our cars and look at the lights on the oil rig because there was something happening. It was so exciting. I can remember as a little boy looking at that oil rig thinking that this is unbelievable, something has come to our town—it and a circus, but they were in different years. It took some while to put it up. They do it now in 30 days. But it took a while to drill this well, and then our town was like a balloon that lost the air, because they discovered it was a dry hole. So that was my acquaintance with oil and drilling and the people who decide to go out and look for a source of energy, and remembering the lights as a young boy.

Now, in my State, I asked the U.S. Geological Survey about 3, 3½ years ago, to do an assessment of what is called the Bakken shale. That is a formation that is in most of western North Dakota and a fair amount of eastern Montana. It is a formation of shale rock that is 10,000 feet, or 2 miles, below the surface of the ground. It is very extensive. They do core samples way down so they know where that shale exists. It is 100 feet thick. When I had the U.S. Geological Survey assess how much oil would be recoverable from the Bakken formation—which you could not have gotten 10 years ago, because we didn't know how—the USGS said: We believe there is up to 4.3 billion barrels of recoverable oil from that. That is the largest amount of recoverable oil, using today's technology, that we have ever assessed in the history of the lower 48 States. We have 120 or 130 oil rigs in western North Dakota drilling wells, and they each drill a new well in 30 days, and then it moves. At each well site, there are 1,000 discrete truck visits back and forth. You can imagine the activity that is going on. They go down 10,000 feet, with 1 drilling rig, 2 miles down, and make a big curve with that rig and go out 2 miles searching for the middle third of a 100-foot seam. That is how sophisticated it is. When they find it, they go out 2 miles, and then they fracture that rock with hydraulic fracturing—water under

high pressure—and the oil drips, and they put a pump in, and they are getting up to 2,000 barrels per day out of this Bakken formation in some of these wells. It is unbelievable.

I didn't intend to describe it at that length, but the point is we are producing more oil in this country. We are producing more, but not nearly enough to make us less dependent, or even close to independent. We are still so unbelievably vulnerable to foreign oil. If nothing else would drive the Congress to decide we have to do better and do more in energy, it ought to be that we are unbelievably dependent. God forbid that some day somebody wakes up in this country and understands that none of their electricity works because terrorists have interrupted the supply of oil, they have brought down the grid system, and somehow we don't have electricity and we don't have oil.

This country needs better security and more energy security than that. That is the reason to have an energy bill. I have said often that I believe in doing everything. I come from a high school class of nine. There were no foreign languages in that class, so I didn't take Latin, but I have always felt these Latin words describe my approach on energy: *totus porcus*. I think that means "whole hog." I believe we ought to do everything we can and do it well. Should we maximize renewables? Yes. Should we drill in areas where there is oil and gas domestically? The answer is yes. Should we proceed with ethanol and the biofuels? You bet your life. Should we continue to work on coal and make the investments necessary to sequester carbon or use it to produce other fuel? The answer is, of course, that we should do all of that.

Should we be more conservation minded? We are prodigious users and wasters of energy. I also think of the words *totus porcus* when I pull up to a stop light in Washington, DC, and somebody pulls up next to me driving a Hummer; it is like driving a tank down the streets of a major American city, and it is getting probably 6 miles per gallon. Now I will hear from them, I am sure.

This country can do better in every single area of energy: conservation, efficiency, energy production, and also distribution, and the pipelines that are necessary, and the transmission lines that are necessary.

I mentioned earlier that the Energy bill we passed has the capability of helping produce an interstate highway of transmission. That is very important. When the winds blow—if you are going to gather energy from the wind and use it, you have to transmit it someplace on transmission lines. We can't build them in this country. We have built 11,000 miles of natural gas pipelines in the last 9 years, and do you know what we have done on high voltage interstate transmission lines? It is 660 miles. Why? You can't build them. There are a dozen ways for people to

say no, and they do: not on my property, not in our State—not here or there. So you have planning problems, siting problems, and price problems.

We are probably not going to be able to get to this bill now, which will represent the important unfinished business this year and addresses these important issues. I may well be the only person who cares. There is not a big fuss here about leaving on the floor an energy bill that was bipartisan and was passed by the Energy Committee a year and a quarter ago now. I think others in this country understand the vulnerabilities of this country. We respond sometimes to catastrophes. We respond sometimes when something awful happens. So some day if, God forbid, we wake up and flip the switch and the lights don't come on, or we get in our vehicle and go to find oil and it doesn't exist, so there is no gas for the cars, then we will understand that somehow, some way, we should have done something that addresses what we know is a vulnerability for this country.

The intersection of better energy policy and policy that addresses the issue of climate change is an intersection we can't ignore. We are at that intersection, and there is about to be an accident unless we make smart choices. I hope in the coming weeks in the Congress we might, all of us, decide let's try to reduce that list of unfinished business by at least doing something that represents a bipartisan consensus out of a committee, a major committee, in this Congress, the Energy Committee. This is a good bill that deserves passage. It will strengthen this country's energy and America's security generally.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. FRANKEN). The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. LEVIN. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, it is very easy to say we need to create more jobs. It has proven much more difficult to get bills passed to accomplish that. On both sides of the aisle we say we are in agreement that small businesses are the engines of job growth. Before us is a bill that would put our words into action by enacting a number of provisions that will help these businesses survive and thrive, keeping current workers on the payroll and creating new jobs. For months this legislation has been bottled up in this Chamber, held up by a filibuster. The filibuster has come despite the fact that business groups have strongly, almost unanimously—in fact, probably unanimously—called for its passage. It promises to help create perhaps half a million jobs that our economy needs so desperately to get moving again.

I am hopeful we will finally end this needless delay and get small businesses the support they need, get capital flowing, and get more Americans back to work. We are on the verge of doing that, and I hope we can do it within the next 24 hours.

This bill is going to do that by addressing a key problem small businesses now face—difficulty in obtaining the capital they need to operate, expand, and grow. One of the most important ways in which this bill will do that is through a State small business credit initiative. I have sought inclusion of this provision along with many Senators, including SHERROD BROWN and Senators STABENOW, WARNER, BAUCUS, SHAHEEN, BEGICH, MCCASKILL, and others, in order to provide badly needed assistance to State and local programs across the country that help small businesses grow. Let me explain how this works.

Just as the recession has battered the value of our homes, it has also battered the value of business property such as real estate, factories, and equipment. That has damaged the ability of small businesses to get bank financing because it has lowered the value of property they can offer as collateral. Businesses with plenty of customers and excellent credit histories have been unable to get the financing they have relied on and need, endangering existing jobs and preventing the creation of new jobs. My State and many others have begun programs designed to deal with this problem. Thanks to our collateral support program in Michigan, companies such as Saline Electronics, an electronics manufacturing company, and Display Pack, a packaging company, have been able to expand production and add workers. Just since 2006, with just \$3 million in State money, Michigan's capital access program has leveraged nearly \$88 million in private lending and saved or created an estimated 13,000 jobs. But the demand for this successful program far exceeds the resources available.

In Michigan and elsewhere, these programs can't help enough of the businesses that could effectively use support. Lack of resources for small businesses is stifling job creation by small business.

The legislation before us includes what we call the State small business credit initiative which will make available \$1.5 billion to State and local programs that help small businesses get the loans they need. It will help provide many times that much in private loans to small businesses.

There are other major provisions of this bill that will help small businesses create jobs. This bill contains \$12 billion in tax cuts for small businesses, tax cuts that will help them put their money into growing their businesses and creating new jobs. It will more than double the limits for two of the Small Business Administration's most important loan programs and provide other enhancements to the SBA loan

programs, enhancements that will increase lending to small business by over \$5 billion in the first year.

The bill also includes a proposal which I suggested for what we call an intermediary lending pilot program which allows the SBA to make loans to intermediary lenders such as business incubators which can then loan that money to growing businesses. The bill also includes the small business lending fund. This provision is very similar to the Bank on Our Communities Act. It will provide capital to local community banks, banks on which small businesses depend, so they in turn can lend that money to small businesses. It does all this in a way which will not add to our budget deficit.

This legislation has the support of nearly 200 business and financial industry groups. If these groups, many of which disagree with one another on many issues, can come together to support this legislation, it speaks volumes about the positive impact this bill is going to have.

I thank our Small Business Committee chairman, Senator LANDRIEU, for her extraordinary leadership in guiding this bill to the Senate floor. She has shown talent, dedication, a willingness to work with Senators of both parties, and a determination to overcome the obstacles that have threatened to prevent us from providing the support small businesses need. The Senate and the Nation are benefiting greatly from the leadership of Senator LANDRIEU.

This body should do everything within its power to help the businesses of our Nation put workers back on the job. We cannot afford to miss opportunities to boost employment because the hundreds of thousands of people in my State and the millions across the country who have lost their jobs in this recession deserve our very best efforts.

All of us, Democrats and Republicans, say we support small business. We have an opportunity in the next few hours to back up our words with actions.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant editor of the Daily Digest proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, we have the Small Business Jobs Act of 2010 before us. For more than a year now, the mantra of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, meaning the majority party, has been: jobs, jobs, jobs. Unfortunately, the only jobs the policies of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle have created are government jobs. The legislative fixes proposed by the other side have fallen short in creating private sector job growth.

I have a chart here that will show unemployment reaching a high of 10.1

percent in October 2009. The administration promised that unemployment would not go above 8 percent if we enacted their \$800 billion stimulus bill. Moreover, they asserted that 90 percent of the jobs would be in the private sector. The unemployment numbers have come down from their high in October, but this has not been the result of a robust hiring in the private sector. To the contrary, many people are simply no longer counted as being unemployed because they have stopped looking for work. For those who did find work, many found work with the U.S. Census Bureau helping to complete the 2010 census. The unemployment rate reached a low of 9.5 percent in July but once again has ticked up to 9.6 percent as 114,000 temporary census jobs ended. While those who put their faith in the stimulus package believed that this summer would become known as "recovery summer" due to all of the stimulus projects underway, it actually has ended in what a National Public Radio story termed as an "economic pot-hole."

To be fair, the private sector employment number has inched up slightly in the past few months. For August, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that private sector employment payroll edged up by 67,000. However, the problem is that around 150,000 jobs need to be added each month just to keep up with the growth in population. So basically, by adding 67,000 jobs, we are treading water too slowly to keep our head above water. Moreover, as pointed out in the September issue of the National Federation of Independent Business Small Business Economic Trends, 45,000 of those 67,000 private sector jobs were in education and health care. These jobs are heavily dependent on government spending, and that means these are not typical small business jobs on Main Street.

It is clear, however, that the small businesses remain pessimistic about the economy and are hesitant to hire new workers. According to the National Federation of Independent Business's most recent survey—and we have a chart here on this point—a net negative 1 percent of business owners plan to create new jobs in the next 3 months. A net negative 8 percent of business owners expect the economy to improve. Only 4 percent of the business owners said it was a good time to expand. A net negative 30 percent of owners reported higher earnings. This last component is especially important for businesses when it comes to hiring new employees since businesses need to know that revenue generated from an additional employee will exceed the costs.

Given the current unemployment rate, it is not surprising, then, that we are once again looking at ways to create jobs. Hence the bill that is before the Senate. The question remains: Are we going to continue to look to the government to be the job creator or are we going to realize that job creation

and real economic growth comes from the private sector? This question also brings to mind that government doesn't create wealth; government consumes wealth. So if we are going to increase the economy in this country, it has to be done through the private sector.

The bill before us appears to recognize the importance of the private sector—in particular, the importance of small businesses and entrepreneurs in getting our economy back on track and getting the employment numbers to move in the right direction. I have been beating the drum for some time now that if we want to get our economy back on track, we need to focus on small business. After all, small business is responsible for creating 70 percent of the jobs in our economy. That is not a Republican percentage put out there by my party. That is also a figure I have heard the President of the United States, our President, say in speeches as well—70 percent of the new jobs are created in small business.

During the debate on the \$800 billion stimulus bill, I pointed out that it contained too little in terms of provisions aimed at small business. In all, less than one-half of 1 percent of the stimulus bill was tax relief for small businesses. Unfortunately, my concern that the stimulus bill provided too little relief to small businesses has proved correct. Since the stimulus bill was signed into law, small businesses have been hemorrhaging jobs. According to the ADP national employment data, since the stimulus was enacted, small businesses, which are those defined as fewer than 500 employees, have lost a net amount of 2.6 million jobs. During this same time, large businesses, which are those with over 500 employees, lost a net amount of 716,000 jobs. According to this data, small businesses have accounted for nearly 80 percent of the decline in employment since the stimulus bill was signed into law.

With the consideration of the small business package before us today, I hope this body is finally starting to get serious about tracking unemployment through a true jobs bill. Compared to previous stimulus or jobs bills promoted by the majority, this small business bill has a rather modest cost, with tax provisions totaling about \$12 billion. It is targeted at job creation by providing small businesses with incentives to invest in new equipment, expand their operations, and ultimately hire new employees. The bill includes provisions that would encourage small businesses to invest in new equipment and real property by increasing the amount of capital expenditures small businesses can expense. For equipment, the amount that can be expensed is increased to \$500,000 and for real property, to \$250,000.

Moreover, it encourages investment by providing additional first-year bonus depreciation. It promotes entrepreneurship in another way by increasing the amount allowed as a deduction

for startup expenditures. It increases access to capital by allowing 100 percent of gain from investment in qualified small business stock to be excluded from income. It also takes the general business credits out of the alternative minimum tax for those sole proprietorships, flowthroughs, and non-publicly traded C corporations with \$50 million or less in annual gross receipts. Another way is increasing access to capital by extending the 1-year carryback for general business credits to a 5-year carryback for small businesses.

Finally, this bill promotes small business fairness by limiting harsh penalties that have been imposed on small businesses by the IRS and equalizing the tax benefits for health insurance that self-employed individuals may receive to those received by employees.

In regard to the Small Business Administration provisions, I strongly support many of the bipartisan provisions included in the bill. This legislation would increase small business lending by lowering small business loan program fees while at the same time raising loan guarantees and lending limits. Specifically, this bill extends the fee reductions and eliminations for the Small Business Administration's 7(a) program and 504 program and the 90-percent loan guarantee limit for the SBA's 7(a) program. I am pleased that these well-established, effective measures have been included in the bill. Raising the 7(a) guarantee rate and reducing lenders' and borrowers' fees in the 7(a) and 504 loan programs has been enormously successful. These modifications, which expired in May, have led to a significant increase in lending capacity and access to capital.

I am a supporter and, in fact, have been a leader of the many bipartisan small business provisions in the current small business package. I am an original cosponsor of S. 3604, stand-alone legislation introduced by Senator SNOWE, the ranking member of the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, which would extend the same Small Business Administration lending provisions that are in the bill currently before the Senate.

Additionally, many of the small business tax incentives included in the small business package were taken from legislation I introduced last year entitled the "Small Business Tax Relief Act of 2009." Of course, there are differences and additional provisions I would have liked to have been included, but, as with any piece of legislation in the Senate, there is a need to compromise if you want to get anything done. My bill generally would have made the small business tax provisions permanent law. I believe this would have provided small businesses with certainty and promoted job creation over the short run as well as the long run. However, the Senate small business package generally only makes the tax provisions applicable for 1 year.

That gets us back to the point that the word "uncertainty" crops up so often when used by small businesses as well as big businesses—the uncertainty of what Congress is going to do or the fact that when they make policy, they don't make it for a long enough period of time.

That word, "uncertainty," is the one reason jobs are not being created. It is kind of a sin that Congress would bring about this sort of uncertainty—or maybe the executive branch of government is bringing about some uncertainty—when, in fact, corporations have a historically high amount of cash just lying around. The last figure I saw was \$2.1 trillion, and with \$2.1 trillion, one would think there would be a lot of jobs expanded, except the people who could do it don't know what Congress is going to do to them next, so they are taking caution. Well, if we could reduce that caution and encourage them a little bit by letting them know what we are doing over the long haul, it would go a long way to getting this unemployment down.

Getting back to what I said, I would have liked to have seen in this bill an additional provision from my bill included in the final package. This provision would have provided small businesses with a 20-percent deduction off of their small business income. It is unfortunate that this provision was left out. This was the largest and most important provision of the bill I introduced in the summer of 2009.

However, in all, the tax provisions included in the Senate small business package provide real relief to small businesses. They generally have the support from Members on both sides of the aisle. In fact, you would have thought this small business bill would have been a slam dunk. However, the Democratic leadership has used the small business bill as a political football, scoring political points. The majority leader refused to allow the small business bill to be considered under regular order. The majority leader filled the amendment tree, thereby limiting amendments that could be offered. The Democratic leadership and the administration then proceeded to blame Republicans for blocking relief for small business. This is despite the fact that the Democrats were unable to get their own Members in line on the small business package. It still remains unclear whether the Democrats in the House, with their large majority, will pass the small business bill should it pass this body.

Moreover, the waters of the small business package were further dirtied by the inclusion of a controversial lending provision that would create a \$30 billion lending fund. This fund is designed to provide billions of taxpayer dollars to banks for the purpose of making loans to small businesses. To me and to many experts, the fund resembles the TARP bailout program, which has been badly mismanaged.

Elizabeth Warren, head of the TARP Congressional Oversight Panel, expressed skepticism that the fund would be effective in increasing small business lending.

She stated that:

Such a fund runs the risk of creating moral hazard by encouraging banks to make loans to borrowers who are not creditworthy.

The Special Inspector General of TARP stated that:

In terms of its basic designs, its participants, its application process, and perhaps its funding source from an oversight perspective, the [small business lending fund] would essentially be an extension of TARP's Capital Purchase Program.

There is also disagreement about the cost of the program. Proponents argue that the lending fund will raise \$1.1 billion. However, the Congressional Budget Office has indicated that if you score the fund on a fair value basis, the program would score as a cost to taxpayers of \$6.2 billion. The Congressional Budget Office has indicated that the fair value basis is a more comprehensive measure of the cost than estimates done on a cash basis.

Many Members in this body voted for the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act in 2008 because we were led to believe our economy was on the brink of failure. We were told the Treasury Department would purchase toxic assets. But after its passing, the executive branch changed course and picked winners and losers. Where? Not on Main Street but on Wall Street.

We should not be fooled again by the same officials at Treasury who have mismanaged TARP and have been less than transparent with the American people about how the taxpayers' money has been spent.

I compliment my friend, Chairman BAUCUS, for diligently pressing the tax provisions in this bill. There are many good things in this bill, but I believe it could have been better. Unfortunately, the Democratic leadership is more interested in scoring political points than actually providing relief to small businesses. If the majority was actually interested in passing small business relief, a small business package could have been put together that would have garnered 80, 90, or more votes. But instead the majority leader filled the tree, prohibiting amendments being offered to improve the bill.

The small business fund in the bill just doesn't have the safeguards in place to ensure that recipients are creditworthy or that taxpayers may be made whole in the end.

Should this bill be signed into law, I will do my part to make sure the implementation is in the best interest of the taxpayers as well as small businesses.

WATCH-DOGGING THE WATCHDOGS

Mr. President, I want to speak about watch-dogging the watchdogs.

I first started watch-dogging the Pentagon in the early 1980s, when President Reagan was trying to ramp up the defense budget. A group of De-

fense reformers were examining spare parts pricing. We found the Pentagon buying a \$750 toilet seat and \$695 ashtrays for military airplanes.

That experience taught me an important lesson: If you are going to watchdog the Pentagon like the inspector general, or IG, is supposed to do, then you better sharpen your wits and have the tools of the trade ready.

One of the most important oversight tools is the simple tool of the audit. The audit is the IG's main weapon for detecting and reporting fraud, waste, and theft. Mr. President, I am sad to report that the IG's Audit Office at DOD is not ready to tackle fraud and waste. The lack of IG audit readiness comes at a time when aggressive audits are sorely needed.

Secretary Gates recently announced that he wants to cut \$100 billion in wasteful spending. But he is relying on the Pentagon bureaucrats to eliminate it. Asking those who created the waste in the first place to then turn around and get rid of it is not a good plan. He needs a better mix of weapons. To win this declared war on waste, Secretary Gates needs the independent backup from the IG. Unfortunately, the inspector general's Audit Office is AWOL doing policy audits instead of financial audits.

Policy audits are not known for exposing waste. Last year, I received a series of anonymous letters alleging mismanagement and low productivity in the IG's Audit Office. This is a huge Audit Office. It has 765 auditors and an annual budget of \$90 million.

In response, I and my staff conducted an indepth review of all the pertinent issues. That oversight report was just completed, and I forwarded it to Secretary Gates with recommendations within that report for corrective action.

My oversight should fit right in with Secretary Gates' plan to cut waste at the Defense Department. My people in Iowa are aching for some commonsense fiscal policy in Washington.

My oversight report puts the spotlight on a good starting point. That oversight report indicates this vital piece of inspector general oversight machinery—the important tool of the audit—has been disabled. It is broken, leaving hundreds of billions of tax dollars vulnerable to fraud, waste, and abuse, outright theft.

The status quo is totally unacceptable. The IG's audit machinery needs to be brought back up to standard.

IG Heddell needs to hit the reset button. He needs to refocus the audit effort on priority areas consistent with the inspector general's core mission, which is to detect and report fraud, waste, and abuse.

The problem identified in my oversight report is twofold. The first big problem is the broken Defense Department's accounting system. That system is incapable of generating accurate and complete financial data.

The success or failure of an audit turns on the quality of data available

for that audit. Unfortunately, the quality of Defense Department data presented to auditors should probably be rated as poor to nonexistent. The consequences are then predictable. Auditors consistently report "no audit trail found." But what does "no audit trail found" mean? It means critical supporting documentation and data are missing. Vital records are not available for audit. Money has been paid out but for what? When there is no audit trail to follow, that question gets no answer.

The "no audit trail" finding is like a bad toothache that doesn't go away. The IG's own audit manuals warn that a "no audit trail" scenario is a red warning flag. It is a very common indicator of fraud. So we have clear-cut indicators of fraud that show up in one IG report after another and, do you know what. Nothing seems to happen. It is like the IG is howling in the wilderness. There is no followup, no corrective action.

Why is this being tolerated? How many more times does the IG need to be confronted by such obvious signs of fraud before decisive action is taken?

Maybe next time the auditors can't find an audit trail on a big contract, they should "lock the doors and call the law"—just drop a net on the place and call for backup.

This brings me to my second audit issue. The IG's Audit Office has allowed itself to be buffaloed by the "no audit trail" scenario. It just backs off and rolls over instead of attacking the problem head on with solutions.

The heart and soul of my financial oversight operation is a contract audit.

In the government, there can be no expenditure of public money without a written binding contractual agreement. That document must specify what goods and services are to be delivered. That is the law. That is where the money trail starts, with a contract. That is where audit work should begin. It is square 1 on the audit roadmap.

Beyond the contract, there are a number of critical data points or, you might say, dots. These should pop up on the auditor's radar screen. These may include contract modifications, recorded obligations, inspection and receiving reports, invoices, and payments, eventually.

To get a handle on fraud and waste, auditors then need to connect all the dots between the contract that starts over here at the beginning and the final payment of money over here. They need to make all of the hookups. For example, when contract requirements can't be matched with payment, well then, bingo; there is a potential problem.

This is what is called a full-scope, end-to-end audit. This is what auditors must do to document and verify fraud and waste. Doing that work positions them to answer two key oversight questions: Did the government get what it ordered at the agreed-upon price and schedule or did the government get ripped off?

Top audit officials repeatedly and consistently told my investigators that doing genuine contract audits was “impossible, we can’t do it, it’s too difficult.”

One audit appears to illustrate and typify the seemingly impassable obstacle, or brick wall, perceived by the auditors. The report is entitled “The U.S. Air Force’s Central War Reserve Material Contract.” It is report No. D-2009-108.

Instead of attempting to verify payments at the primary source, which is the Defense Finance and Accounting Service, the audit team opted for an unauthorized shortcut. When you are following the taxpayers’ money to see if there is fraud involved, you are going to find some shortcut?

They chose, then, to rely on payment data provided by who? The contractor, DynCorp, the target of the audit. Even using this flawed audit procedure, examiners were unable to match contract requirements with payments. Then when they could not do it, they just give up. The report concluded:

The government did not know what it was paying for. . . . It may have paid for services DynCorp did not perform.

The auditors then simply turned a blind eye to the potential fraud here in this instance.

One hundred sixty-one million dollars went out the door, and for what, we don’t know. The report does not tell us. It does not nail down all of the pertinent facts. It is inconclusive and unfinished. The auditors just kicked the can down the road, bucking it to another Defense Department audit agency.

Clearly, auditing large, complicated Defense Department contracts where there is no audit trail to follow is, we have to admit, a daunting task. But that does not mean it is a mission impossible. It can be done. It has to be done. Senior managers refer to this task as “audit trail reconstruction work. It is labor intensive pick and shovel work.”

Today, the inspector general relies on small rinky-dink 5- or 10-member audit teams. That doesn’t cut it. The IG needs to deploy much larger teams consisting of 25, 50, or even 100 auditors or more to tackle the most egregious contract jobs. And I don’t mean hire more than the 675 employees who are already there eating up \$90 million.

Let me make one point crystal clear right now—and I am repeating because I think it is important. I am not suggesting the IG needs to hire more auditors. This should be done within available resources. What I am saying is this: The audit office needs to switch from a large number of small teams to a small number of large teams. That would be a reallocation of audit resources. The top audit office official said it would be possible “to cobble together such an audit team to look at one of the big weapons programs.” However, doing that would “deplete resources needed to meet other priorities.”

The “other priorities” referenced by this top official are probably wasteful reviews of the Department’s policy and procedures—in other words, doing policy auditing instead of doing financial auditing.

In 2009, the audit office did not conduct one in-depth contract audit of a major weapon system or contract. Aren’t major weapon systems an audit priority? The record suggests that it is not an audit priority.

To this Senator from Iowa, this is an astonishing revelation. The inspector general is not doing contract audits. How can this be? If the IG is doing contract audits, then the office of the IG is not or should not be open for business—ought not to be spending that \$90 million.

The core IG mission is to detect and report fraud, waste, and abuse to the Secretary and to the Congress and to recommend corrective action. To detect and verify fraud and waste, auditors need to be on the money trail 24/7. That is where most fraud occurs. They need to be connecting all the dots between contract signing over here and the last payment being made over here.

Instead of trying to do contract audits, the audit office gave up and moved to greener, easier pastures. Most audits now focus on policies and procedures. In moving in this direction, the inspector general has strayed far from a core mission costing \$90 million. Today’s preference for policy audits yields zero benefits to the taxpayers. These reports cost about \$800,000 apiece. Cranking out worthless policy audits may not qualify as misconduct, but it surely is a blatant waste of precious tax dollars, at \$90 million a year.

The current focus on policy audits helps me understand why 765 auditors—with an annual budget of \$90 million—could not root out any measurable fraud or waste last year. The IG there at the Department of Defense needs to hit the reset button and refocus the audit effort on the core IG mission.

First, he needs to resume full-scope contract audits to root out fraud and waste. Second, the audit office needs to aggressively review all the Defense Department’s plans and programs for deploying a modern accounting system. It needs to offer specific recommendations that would help the Department reach the 2020 readiness goals.

I am receiving assurances from the IG at the Department of Defense that he is moving smartly in the right direction. The signals from that office are very encouraging. Yet I remain skeptical. The audit office still seems to think that full-scope contract audits are a nonstarter and policy reviews are highly relevant. We need a change of course.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to a period of morning business

with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

REPORT ON FOREIGN TRAVEL

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, It has been my custom to make a report to the Congress, my constituents, and the general public when I return from a trip. I have sought recognition to speak about foreign travel I made to Beijing, Hanoi and Taipei from August 6, 2010, to August 16, 2010.

We departed Dulles International Airport on United Airlines on Friday morning, August 6 en route to Beijing, China. This was my sixth visit to China, with the most recent taking place in 2006.

On Sunday, August 8, we had a meeting with Mr. William Farris, Managing Counsel for Google. Mr. Farris had previously served as general counsel for the Congressional-Executive Commission on China, which was created by congressional statute in 2001 to oversee human rights and the rule of law. Especially with his background in these critical issues, Mr. Farris offered his views on the potential for unfettered access to the internet in China, the recent cyber attack against Google, and an overview of the Chinese business environment. Although Google initially censored its search engine in China, I was pleased that it has decided to offer a reroute through Hong Kong servers in order to provide uncensored access. China continues to put pressure on international firms over the nature of content produced. The Chinese government maintains a block on many U.S. Websites, including Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube. The pressure that the Chinese government places on firms has already led to the departure of major foreign ventures. Go Daddy, a leading U.S. Web site registration firm, has recently left the Chinese market. Increasing freedom will facilitate economic growth and attract investment.

In my fiscal year 2011 appropriations request letter to the State and Foreign Operations Subcommittee on the Senate Appropriations Committee, I urged the provision \$50 million from the democracy fund to promote widespread, secure Internet use by individuals residing in countries with Internet monitoring, censorship, and control. This is a low-cost method of allowing people, especially those living under repressive regimes, to access all-source, unfiltered information. This capability enables freedom of thought, expression, and the unimpeded flow of ideas and information. One group, the Global Internet Freedom Consortium—an alliance of several organizations specializing in anti-censorship technologies—has submitted several important proposals. This group has been particularly effective in China, neutralizing the Chinese government’s “Golden Shield” and “Green Dam” barriers.

As I wrote in my July 7, 2009, op-ed in the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette:

The United States must fight fire with fire in finding ways to breach these cyberwalls, which dictatorships use to control their people and keep themselves in power. Tearing down these walls can match the effect of what happened when the Berlin Wall was torn down. No one understands this better than the dictator states.

The Internet has proven to be one of the most powerful tools for cultivating nascent democracies. American companies who have abetted repressive regimes by censoring information should reexamine their relationships and ways of doing businesses.

That afternoon, we met with Ambassador Jon F. Huntsman Jr. and his wife, Mrs. Mary Kaye Huntsman, at the Ambassador's residence. I have known Ambassador Huntsman since his days as Deputy U.S. Trade Representative in the George W. Bush administration as well as the Governor of Utah. Ambassador Huntsman, fluent in Mandarin, brought unique skills to this post, gleaned from studying China for much of his life, serving as a missionary in the Republic of China, and extensive business experience. We discussed different dynamics of the U.S.-China relationship, including international trade, regional security, and human rights.

On Monday, August 9, we began the day with a country team briefing from the U.S. Embassy in China. The briefing was led by Robert Goldberg, the Deputy Chief of Mission, and included Christopher Adams, Minister Counselor for Trade Affairs at the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative, Aubrey Carlson, Political Minister Counselor, MaryKay Carlson, Acting Consul General, David Dollar, U.S. Treasury Economic and Financial Emissary to China, Robert Forden, Acting Economic Minister Counselor, Bradley Gehrke, Defense Attaché, Randal Phillips, Minister Counselor for Plans and Programs, and William Zarit, Minister Counselor for Commercial Affairs from the Department of Commerce. Following the Country Team Briefing, I met John Klena, Julie Schneider, Andriana Wiegand, Sanford Dawson, Frank Joseph, Msg. Simon Price, Msg. Michael Fernald, Msg. Kenneth Hayles, and Megan Kellogg, fellow Pennsylvanians who admirably serve the U.S. through our Embassy in Beijing.

Although the U.S. has many shared interests with China, it is important that we do not shy away from issues of potential conflict. I pushed for the need to gain leverage in our relationship with the Chinese in order to get them to change their behavior. I posed the question whether congressional action on trade issues and other disagreements with China would be helpful in pursuing U.S. policy aims. The country team indicated that congressional engagement helps China understand different stakeholders in the U.S. system. One other way to engage the Chinese is to coordinate with other countries and the business community to apply uni-

fied pressure against China on specific trade issues.

An area of concern is China's commitment to reducing the proliferation of nuclear weapons, especially with regard to Iran and North Korea. Although China initially resisted a new round of sanctions against Iran this year, China seems to have been compliant with United Nations Security Council resolutions. China has significant energy and banking investments in Iran, and is reluctant to undermine its own interests. Iran has a history of using deceptive financial practices to circumvent U.N. sanctions, and it is important that all nations block banking relations with Iranian financial institutions if those transactions could facilitate Iranian nuclear proliferation. I made the point that an Israeli strike on Iranian nuclear weapons facilities could harm China's energy supply, and that China might not have considered the impact of such an armed conflict on their bilateral relationship with Iran.

China is North Korea's most significant economic partner and continues to provide North Korea with food aid. In 2009, trade between China and North Korea surpassed \$2.7 billion. In 2009, North Korean exports to China rose by 4.3 percent to \$793 million. China needs to be more willing to collaborate with the U.S. and international partners on urging North Korea to abandon its nuclear weapons program and destabilizing rhetoric. According to the U.S. Mission, engagement with North Korea is the best bilateral working relationship we have with China.

A recurring issue during my visit to the region was territorial disputes in Southeast Asia. One especially problematic area is the South China Sea, which stretches from Singapore and the Strait of Malacca to the Strait of Taiwan. This waterway includes over 200 small islands, the majority of which are uninhabitable but rich in such natural resources as oil and natural gas. Although projections for energy reserves in the South China Sea vary, a 1994 U.S. Geological Survey approximated that there were 28 billion barrels of oil. Because there has not been any exploratory drilling in the area, estimates for energy reserves in two of the particularly resource-rich island chains, the Spratly Islands and Paracel Islands, are unknown. According to the Energy Information Administration at the Department of Energy, oil consumption in Asia is estimated to rise by over 2.7 percent per year to nearly 29.8 million barrels per day in 2030. Given the strategic importance of the South China Sea, many of its proximate nations have competing claims for territory. Although the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea has not determined specific territorial delineations, it has offered guidelines for the resolution of competing claims through negotiation between nations.

China submitted a map to the United Nations Security Council that depicted

China's claim to over 80 percent of the South China Sea. The map includes a U-shaped line, connected by "9 dots," granting China access to portions of the shores of Vietnam, Indonesia, Malaysia, Brunei and the Philippines. This year, China began referring to this disputed waterway as a "core national interest," similar language used to describe Tibet and Taiwan. China currently occupies several of the Spratly Islands. Vietnam has also claimed the Spratly Islands, occupying a small portion of the chain, as well as the Paracel Islands, despite ceding the latter to China after being forcibly removed by the Chinese military in 1974. China claims a wide-ranging exclusive economic zone, EEZ, an area of a sea zone for which a nation owns rights for use of marine resources including fishing and subterranean energy stores, in the South China Sea, despite the fact that Brunei, Malaysia, the Philippines, Taiwan, and Vietnam all have proximate coastal areas and competing claims for sovereignty. An EEZ, as described in the U.N. Convention on the Law of the Sea, is permitted for certain waterways given their proximity to the coast of a country and other geographic factors.

The South China Sea is host to over one-third of global maritime commerce, as well as more than 50 percent of Northeast Asia's energy supplies. U.S. forces also use the South China Sea to support the war in Afghanistan. China's naval aggression is troubling. China has developed its naval power to an unprecedented extent in recent years. Not only has China provoked U.S. military and aircraft in the South China Sea, but its defense budget has grown by 10 percent per decade, only slowing to 7.5 percent in 2010. China's naval modernization began in the 1990s, integrating such components as anti-ship ballistic missiles, submarines, new weapons acquisition, and surface ships into their forces. China has been known to use the force of its navy to resolve disputes, in opposition to U.N. treaties and internationally accepted norms.

Increased Chinese aggression is also evident in the Yellow Sea. In the wake of a March 26, 2010, North Korean sinking of a South Korean ship, killing 46 sailors, the U.S. and South Korea announced, on July 6, 2010, plans to hold war games. In a July 8, 2010, press report, China came out against any foreign warships or planes participating in military activities in the Yellow Sea or adjacent areas and ultimately hosted its own war games on the same day that the U.S. and South Korea did. The Chinese military conducted a drill of unmanned drone aircraft in coastal areas to test radar and electromagnetic interference. The Yellow Sea is international waters—all nations should have access.

Another contentious issue is the manufacturing of counterfeit products. In 2009, China was the source of 79 percent of the total value of all counterfeit products seized by U.S. Customs,

totaling over \$260 million. Chinese products also accounted for over 90 percent of all intellectual property rights-related seizures. The Business Software Alliance, an information technology industry group, has projected that 80 percent of software used in China has been pirated in violation of international copyright infringement laws, an improvement from 90 percent in 2004. As a growing power, China should make a greater effort to abide by international conventions and respect intellectual property rights. In fact, China stands to greatly benefit from fostering a business environment that protects innovation. A 10-percent drop in pirated software since 2004 corresponded to the addition of 220,000 jobs in China's legitimate information technology sector. Additionally, companies such as Apple, could be more willing to introduce new ventures to Chinese markets with assurances that their products would be protected. Because Chinese companies preemptively registered both the iPad trademark and design patent, Apple has delayed market entry of the iPad in China.

We departed the Embassy for a meeting with the Governor of the People's Bank of China, Zhou Xiaochuan. Many of the economic issues in the relationship between the U.S. and China have persisted for years. Although Chinese officials have met with Secretary Geithner and former Secretaries of the Treasury, the U.S. should continue to develop a frank dialogue with the Chinese. The U.S. Embassy counts 49 formal dialogues with the Chinese regarding financial and economic cooperation, although the Chinese count 60. At the meeting, I pressed the issue of China's currency manipulation. Governor Zhou mentioned that the Chinese economy is transitioning, noting that workers' wages have increased by 20 percent and that China is allowing for increased private sector growth. Although the Chinese economy grew at 7.7 percent in 2009, Governor Zhou expected China's export growth rate to slow over the next 3 to 5 years. I objected that 5 years would be too long to wait as the U.S. is losing jobs, especially in industries such as steel and rubber. I argued that Congress is contemplating legislating on the currency issue to rectify imbalances. Governor Zhou discussed how economic uncertainty has made the Chinese government more careful about economic policy changes and that China has economic challenges of its own, including a 10-percent unemployment rate. I retorted that the U.S. unemployment rate is currently at 9.6 percent.

I informed Governor Zhou about how Chinese subsidies and dumping are unfairly harming the steel and tire industries. According to the most recent data issued by the Foreign Trade Division of the U.S. Census, the annual trade deficit with China stands at \$93.3 million as of May 2010. Employment in American manufacturing has plummeted at the same time that Chinese imports and U.S. trade deficits have set records. The trade deficit with China is

the largest imbalance ever recorded between two countries, in part because of China's deliberate undervaluing of its currency. I brought up two cases I recently argued before the International Trade Commission, ITC, for which the ITC found that Chinese tire imports had disrupted the U.S. tire industry. In December of 2009, I urged the ITC to charge China with dumping of tubular steel and to impose sanctions. I argued that the lost jobs, reduced hours, and plant shutdowns constituted a "severe and intolerable harm." By the spring of 2009, 6 of 11 high grade tubular steel plants in the country, including mills in Koppel and Ambridge, PA, were idle as a result of Chinese imports. While the Koppel and Ambridge plants are back operating at minimum capacity, overall industry operating capacity dropped from 68.5 percent in 2006 to 17.6 percent in 2009. During the same period, China's market share of high grade tubular steel rose from 15 to 37 percent. The ITC determined that the steel industry was materially injured or threatened with material injury, and the Commerce Department issued an AD duty order on imports ranging from 29.94 to 99.14 percent.

I emphasized to Governor Zhou that it is unacceptable for China to continue to dump goods on the American economy. He mentioned that China understands the pressure on the Pennsylvania industries. He said that certain shifts are inevitable and suggested that the U.S. seek settlement from the World Trade Organization, WTO. The U.S. has filed eight cases at the WTO for trade violations. We settled four cases and won four of them. I pressed that the WTO takes too long and that the damage from unfair trade practices is done before there is time for a resolution.

Following our meeting with the People's Bank of China, we departed for a meeting with Vice Minister of Commerce Wang Chao. We discussed the benefit of enhancing the U.S.-China relationship by targeting areas of mutual interest. I argued that the current trade relationship between the U.S. and China has an unfair impact on the U.S. steel and rubber industries. I also pressed the issue of ITC violations and Chinese subsidizing and dumping goods. The U.S. is the largest export destination of China, and China is the third largest export destination for the U.S. There are 58,000 U.S. companies present in China. I told the Minister that both China and the U.S. should review subsidies in a manner where everything is placed on the table.

Our last meeting in Beijing was at Tsinghua University, host of the Temple University Rule of Law Program in China. On this visit, I met with Wang Zhenmin, dean of the Law School and John Smagula, director of Asian Programs at Temple University Beasley School of Law. Since 1999, Temple has educated 1,024 legal professionals. Seventy-nine percent of these participants have been from the public sector, including 370 judges, 151 prosecutors, 88 government officials, 152 law profes-

sors, and 47 Non-Governmental Organization legal staff.

On this visit, I addressed students in the master's in law program. The students included: Judges Jiang Minsong, Su Tuan, Wang Didi, Wang Xiaoqin, Wei Xigui, Xie Aimei, Yang Lingping, and Zhou Junsheng; Prosecutors Feng Guanhua, Lin Bowen, Lu Xiaomei, Tang Shengjia, and Yang Li; Chinese Officials Li Sheng, Ma Ning, Pang Lei, Xiang Hang, and Yang Kefei; Law Professors Abulimiti Ameina, Lu Yao, and Zheng Yanpu; and from the private sector, Dimitrova Deniza, Fan Ping, Guo Qishi, Kuang Lu, Lang Zhuo, Tan Jiakai, Wang Hong, Wang Xin, Xu Changrong, Zhang Hairong, Zhang Xianzhong, Zhang Yitong, and Zhu Wenting. The group asked me numerous questions on topics ranging from Justice Kagan, my battles with cancer, my legislation that would televise Supreme Court deliberations, and health care reform. The students were eager to discuss the benefits of the Temple University Program in China and how the school continues to play an important role in bridging U.S.-Chinese relations and cultivating the development of law.

This trip to China was especially meaningful for me because my last visit in August 2006 was on a CODEL led by my friend, the late Senator Ted Stevens. The Nation has lost an icon of statesmanship and a stalwart public servant. Senator Stevens was an exemplary leader in the U.S. Senate, a champion for military and defense issues, a proud veteran, and friend of mine. His work on behalf of all Alaskans was unparalleled in the U.S. Senate, and his passion for this country will be forever remembered. Joan and I are deeply saddened by this news and offer our most sincere condolences to Catherine and the Stevens family.

I want to note that Senator Stevens was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for flying support missions for the 14th Air Force, also known as the Flying Tigers, during World War II. The Flying Tigers, the First American Volunteer Group of the Chinese Air Force, were organized before the U.S. officially entered World War II, designed to fight against Japanese forces. In 1942, the division was officially inducted into the U.S. Air Force.

On Tuesday, August 10, we departed Beijing on Vietnam Airlines for Hanoi, Vietnam. This was my second visit to Vietnam. We were met at the airport by Ambassador Michael Michalak and Control Officer Michael Goldman.

On Wednesday, August 11, we departed for the U.S. Embassy in Hanoi to receive a country team briefing. This briefing, led by Ambassador Michalak, was staffed by Mike Goldman, Acting Political Counselor, Patrick Reardon, Defense Attaché, Justin Taylor, from the Foreign Agricultural Service, Michael Foster, Acting USAID Country Director, Eric Frater, the Environment, Science, Technology, and Health Officer, Yashue Pai, from the

Foreign Commercial Service, Vivian Chao, PEPFAR Country Director, Lloyd Neighbors, Public Affairs Officer, Bruce Struminger, Center for Disease Control Country Director, Jessica Webster, Economic Counselor, and Robert Frazier, Management Counselor and Acting Deputy Chief of Mission. I also appreciate the efforts of Nicole Johnson, Michael Orona, Tim Liston, and Matt Mathews.

At the briefing, we discussed the need to promote education in Vietnam, address climate change in a global way, and deepen trust between the U.S. and Vietnam. Military exchanges could assist the latter aim. The U.S. Embassy is actively involved in locating and returning the remains of U.S. soldiers who were missing in action during the Vietnam war, as well as managing funding appropriated by Congress to clean up Agent Orange. The continued presence of Agent Orange in Vietnam continues to present grave health threats to the Vietnamese. The Vietnamese government requested that the U.S. focus its remediation efforts on Da Nang Airport. USAID has estimated that at least \$24 million is needed to complete this remediation project. I have supported U.S. funding for remediation of dioxin contaminants, one of the harmful components of Agent Orange, including \$15 million in fiscal year 2010 funding. The fiscal year 2010 amount was \$3 million higher than the fiscal year 2009 amount.

The U.S. currently contributes over \$154 million a year in total aid to Vietnam, with \$102 million allocated to the health sector—largely for the President's Emergency Plan For AIDS Relief, PEPFAR, and avian influenza. HIV/AIDS continues to pose a serious threat to the Vietnamese. In the 111th Congress, I voted to appropriate \$48 billion for international HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria programs through fiscal year 2013, including \$30 billion for PEPFAR. In my fiscal year 2011 appropriations request letter to the State and Foreign Operations Subcommittee on the Senate Appropriations Committee, I asked for \$1.75 billion for the global fund to fight AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria worldwide.

Another issue in Vietnam is the continued presence of unexploded ordinance. Since the end of the Vietnam war in 1974, more than 40,000 Vietnamese have been killed from contact with unexploded ordinance and another 64,000 people have been injured. According to Vietnam's Ministry of Defense, over 16 million acres of Vietnam are still contaminated by 350,000 to 800,000 tons of unexploded ordinance, with over 3 million landmines in addition to unexploded bombs. From 2000 to 2009, Vietnam has received more than \$37 million in U.S. assistance for de-mining, mine risk education, survivors' assistance, and landmine impact studies. At the current pace of clearance, it will take 300 years and more than \$10 billion to clear Vietnam of leftover unexploded ordinance.

This year, the U.S. and Vietnam celebrate the 15th anniversary of diplomatic relations. Fifteen years ago, bilateral trade was \$451 million annually, an amount dwarfed by the \$15.4 billion traded in 2009. The U.S. and Vietnam have come very far in overcoming historical animosities, exemplified through joint military exercises held on August 11, 2010. Vietnam currently holds the rotating Chair of ASEAN and the ASEAN Regional Forum, increasing its leadership role in the region. Since adopting a series of economic reforms in 1986, Vietnam has been steadily liberalizing its economy. Vietnam was admitted to the World Trade Organization in 2007. This economic transition has led to a steep decline in the poverty rate, which dropped from 58 percent of the population in 1993 to below 30 percent in 2003. The partnership between Vietnam and the U.S. continues to grow. In 2009 the U.S. imported \$12.2 billion from Vietnam and exported \$3 billion.

With regard to territorial disputes in the South China Sea, in recent months, China has escalated its rhetoric, harassed Vietnamese fishing boats, and objected to potential cooperation between Western energy companies and the Vietnamese government to harness resources. Using the guidelines for EEZs, Vietnam claims sovereignty over all of the Spratly and Paracel Islands. In 2002, Vietnam, along with other ASEAN countries, signed the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea. The parties of this declaration agreed to settle the territorial disputes in the South China Sea through negotiation and the development of peaceful solutions rather than military force. Accordingly, Vietnam resolved a dispute with Cambodia over the Gulf of Thailand through a 2006 resource-sharing pact. In 1992, Vietnam and Malaysia signed a Joint Development Areas agreement. In 1997, Vietnam and Thailand signed an agreement delineating their respective sea boundaries. Despite all of these agreements, China has not been willing to pursue peaceful arrangements, instead relying on coercion and bullying. Supported by the leadership of Secretary Clinton, a coalition of Southeast Asian nations, at the recent ASEAN Regional Security Forum, publicly challenged Chinese sovereignty over many areas of the South China Sea, seeking a regional solution as opposed to a series of bilateral agreements.

On August 11, we participated in a working lunch hosted by the National Assembly Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman Ngo Quan Xuan. We discussed the importance of the U.S.-Vietnam economic relationship, Agent Orange remediation, as well as the prospect of Chinese regional hegemony. The Chairman also mentioned that there are 13,000 Vietnamese students studying in the U.S.—this student exchange is particularly important given the need for trained doctors and lawyers in Vietnam and for fostering ties

between the U.S. and Vietnam among the next generation of leaders. I explained to him how a lack of progress on human rights threatens progress of many areas of the U.S.-Vietnam relationship, including arms sales.

The next day, we met with Duong Trung Quoc, a member of the Vietnamese Assembly. He is one of the few non-Communist members in the Assembly and shared his views on prospects for liberalizing Vietnam and the future of the Vietnamese political and economic systems. He is a historian and journalist by trade. We spoke at great length about the history of Vietnam and how historical interactions have shaped current regional tensions and security concerns.

On Friday, August 13, we departed Hanoi for Taipei, Taiwan on China Airways. This was my fourth visit to Taiwan, with the most recent one taking place in 2001.

After being received at the airport by officials from the Taiwanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the American Institute in Taiwan, we were escorted to a meeting with President Ma Ying-jeou. President Ma was born in Hong Kong and received his undergraduate education from the National Taiwan University. He then received graduate degrees from New York University and Harvard University. President Ma served as mayor of Taipei before being elected President in 2008.

The U.S. and the Republic of China enjoy close ties. President Ma offered his views on North Korean aggression and China's role in the region. I pressed him on the steel industry, tariffs in both our countries, importing American beef to Taiwan, and ways of enhancing the bilateral economic relationship. The U.S. exported over \$18.5 billion to Taiwan, while it imported \$28.4 billion. Taiwan is currently the 11th largest export market for U.S. goods and the U.S. is currently Taiwan's third largest trade partner. The bilateral Trade and Investment Framework Agreement, TIFA, a process designed to enhance economic cooperation and resolve disputes, guides U.S.-Taiwan trade relations.

We spoke about the recent Economic Cooperation Framework Agreement, ECFA, between Taiwan and China, signed on June 29, 2010. The ECFA was preceded by the first direct flight between Taipei and Shanghai, which departed on June 14, 2010, increasing the ease of travel between China and Taiwan. The ECFA will remove tariffs on 539 Taiwanese products and 267 Chinese goods over the next 3 years. This deal permits Taiwan to seek free trade agreements with other nations in the region, and talks with Singapore are currently underway. Because Taiwan would struggle economically without the Chinese market, some are wary that Taiwan is becoming too dependent on the Chinese.

We discussed U.S. arms sales to Taiwan. The Taiwanese Relations Act, TRA, of 1979 calls for the U.S. to supply

Taiwan with capabilities for self-defense and creates unofficial representation in Taiwan through the American Institute in Taiwan. The TRA names U.S. policy as being oriented towards resisting coercion of the unofficial U.S.-Taiwan relations. Although the U.S. must provide for the sale of arms to Taiwan, the TRA does not specify the types of armaments, requiring only that Taiwan should be able to maintain "sufficient" defensive capabilities. Under the purview of the TRA, the U.S., on August 25, 2008, announced its intent to sell 60 Harpoon missiles, worth approximately \$89.8 million, to Taiwan. On October 3, 2008, the Defense Security Cooperation Agency notified Congress of the possible foreign military sale of six different types of defense articles and equipment, which could have totaled a maximum of approximately \$6.4 billion. After increasingly tense relations between the U.S. and China, President Obama decided to defer the arms deal until 2011. Taiwan will still be able to purchase minor parts and upgrades.

We discussed the Taiwanese request, submitted in November 2009, to upgrade F-16A/D fighters which were initially sold to Taiwan in 1992. The Taiwanese request noted that the upgrades would render the fleet parallel to the new F-16C/D fighters, reducing the need for a substitute fleet. American contractors have estimated that this retrofit would take approximately 6 years to complete.

On August 15, we attended a working lunch hosted by Dr. Lyushun Shen, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs. The meeting was attended by Benny T. Hu, Chairman of CDIB BioScience Venture Management, Maj. Gen. Mike Tsai-Mai Tien of the Republic of China Air Force Academy, Mrs. Tien, Lawrence S. Liu, Senior Vice President of China Development Financial Holdings, Johnson S. Chiang, Section Chief of the Department of North American Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ms. Grace Ya-hung Lin, Assistant to Deputy Minister Shen, Eric Madison, Deputy Director of the American Institute in Taiwan, Ms. Judy Kuo, Deputy Chief from the Economic Section at the American Institute in Taiwan, and Ms. Astrid Ai-yun Chen, Officer, Department of North American Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

On Monday, August 16, we met with Wang Jin-pyng, president of the Legislative Yuan, before departing for Taipei International Airport. We flew on Eva Airlines from Taipei to Newark, NJ, for 16 hours leaving on August 16 and arriving on August 16 crossing the international date line.

I would like to recognize Major Lance Burnett and Dan Eisenberg of my staff for their support of this CODEL.

NATIONAL PROSTATE CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I rise today to discuss the significant threat

prostate cancer poses to the male population in the United States.

The American Cancer Society estimates that more than 217,000 American men will learn that they have prostate cancer in 2010, and 32,000 American men will lose their lives to the disease this year, making prostate cancer the second most common cause of cancer death among men.

One out of every six American men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer, and an estimated one in 36 men will die from this disease.

African-American men experience a significantly higher incidence rate of prostate cancer than White males, and more than double the mortality rate.

This disease is also affecting young Americans. Thirty percent of those battling prostate cancer are under the age of 65, prime years of productivity for families and for this Nation.

Doctors across our country agree: early detection presents the best chance for a cure. However, this motto is more than good public policy for me.

As a 10 year prostate cancer survivor myself, I know the value of early detection and surgery, and it is painful for me to know that many good people in this great country are not being diagnosed early and are therefore greatly increasing their risk. The simple PSA blood test can be the key to detection. Millions have taken advantage of it, but unfortunately millions do not. We must do better.

Approximately 98 percent of men diagnosed with early stage prostate cancer are still alive after 10 years, but only 18 percent of those diagnosed with advanced stage prostate cancer survive 10 years.

Increasing awareness of prostate cancer is particularly important to my home State of Alabama. Although we have world class medical research facilities at the University of Alabama at Birmingham and excellent doctors across the State, 3,300 men in Alabama will develop prostate cancer in 2010, and 600 deaths in our State will be attributed to prostate cancer this year.

In May 2006, Alabama was one of 5 States to receive a failing grade in regards to its "prostate cancer awareness" by the National Prostate Cancer Coalition. A 2006 CDC study found that 38 out of 100,000 Alabama men die from prostate cancer, ranking Alabama 47th in the US.

Every year since 2002, I have introduced a resolution to increase awareness about prostate cancer and to encourage men to talk with their doctors about this disease.

I am pleased to partner with ZERO: The Project to End Prostate Cancer in promoting this year's resolution and other activities throughout the month of September to increase public knowledge about prostate cancer including risk factors, prevention, and treatment options.

Last night the Senate passed S. Res. 597, a resolution to designate September 2010 as National Prostate Can-

cer Awareness Month. The purpose of this resolution is to bring attention to prostate cancer and encourage Americans to take an active role in the fight to end the devastating effects of prostate cancer on individuals and their families.

I am honored to be joined on this resolution with 28 cosponsors, including Senators BAYH, BENNETT, BOXER, BURR, BURRIS, CARDIN, CASEY, CHAMBLISS, COCHRAN, CRAPO, DODD, DORGAN, FEINGOLD, FEINSTEIN, HATCH, INHOFE, INOUE, ISAKSON, JOHANNES, JOHNSON, KERRY, LANDRIEU, LUGAR, SCHUMER, SHELBY, SPECTER, TESTER, and VITTER.

I thank my Senate colleagues that have worked to increase prostate cancer awareness through this resolution, and I applaud the work of countless Americans who give up their time and energy to raise awareness of this disease and fight prostate cancer's impact on families and our Nation.

AMERICA'S CUP INDUCTION

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, this Saturday I will attend the 17th annual America's Cup Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony in Newport, RI. Today, I would like to congratulate this year's inductees: Simon Daubney, Warwick Fleury, Murray Jones, Dean Phipps, Mike Drummond, and Halsey Herreshoff. I would also like to say a few words about Rhode Island's connection with sailing and with the America's Cup.

I should call special attention to the Rhode Islander being honored, Halsey Herreshoff. Halsey has made numerous contributions to the sailing world. His four defenses of the America's Cup and his legendary naval designs continue the long and proud history of the Herreshoff family. His grandfather, Nat "the wizard of Bristol" Herreshoff, designed 27 years of defenders of the America's Cup, and that tradition was passed down through his father to Halsey. Halsey Herreshoff is the editor of the classic "The Sailor's Handbook" and has served his community as the Bristol town administrator for 8 years. He continues his service as president of the Herreshoff Marine Museum and as a member of the Bristol Town Council. He is a friend, a public servant, and a great sailor, and I congratulate him on this honor.

In 1930, Newport hosted its first America's Cup race. For many decades, Newport and the America's Cup were so closely identified as to be virtually indistinguishable. Our excellent sailing waters and winds, our beautiful venue, our legendary hospitality, and a long string of successful defenses kept this link firmly forged.

It is thus no coincidence that this ceremony is held in Newport or that the America's Cup Hall of Fame resides in Rhode Island. People across the country closely associate our great Ocean State with our sailing culture. And nothing is more responsible for that association than our long connection with the America's Cup. Newport

hosted the Cup for over 50 years; its departure in 1983 left our State without one of its most cherished icons.

For Rhode Island, the Cup represented more than the pride of years of successful defenses: the Cup was a huge boost to our economy. San Francisco, the site of the next race, estimates that the competition will bring \$1.4 billion in additional revenue, and a 2007 study estimated that Newport could see a \$886 million boost if we were the host site. Imagine what that investment would do for Rhode Island with our nearly 12 percent unemployment rate. The Cup brings millions of dollars in construction, hospitality, boat maintenance, and media jobs—jobs our State sorely needs.

While the Cup may no longer be held in our Ocean State, Rhode Island continues its love for sailing and remains a great host site for national and international races. Efforts are underway to bring some of the America's Cup qualifying races to Newport—efforts I enthusiastically support. It would be heartening to see the Cup come full circle, to what we still consider its true home.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REISTERSTOWN AMERICAN LEGION POST 116

• Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I would like my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Reisterstown American Legion Post 116, which will celebrate its 75th anniversary on November 6, 2010. The American Legion Department of Maryland has 147 active posts. Reisterstown Post 116 is the largest post and the largest wartime veterans service organization in the State of Maryland. The Reisterstown American Legion Post 116 was formed on November 6, 1935, by a group of 13 charter members. By 1986, the post had expanded to more than 400 members, including a Sons of the American Legion Squadron of 75 members, an American Legion Auxiliary of about 100 members, and an active Legion Riders organization.

Part of the Reisterstown American Legion Post 116's success has been its involvement in the northwest Baltimore County community. The post awards scholarships to students, participates in the American Legion Boys and Girls State programs, and assists the Reisterstown Recreation Council. Post 116 also provides volunteers and donations to many charitable organizations, including the Maryland Special Olympics, the Epilepsy Foundation, United Cerebral Palsy, the Muscular Dystrophy Association, and the Multiple Sclerosis Society.

I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating Post 116 on its 75th anniversary, and to join me in commending the post's leadership, past and present, and in extending our thanks to its members for their service to

Reisterstown Post 116, the Baltimore community, and to our country.●

REMEMBERING RALPH SMEED

• Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, today I honor the life of Ralph Smeed, who will be remembered affectionately for his great love for this country.

Ralph had many accomplishments throughout his life. Born into a pioneer family in southwestern Idaho in 1921, Ralph embodied strength, perseverance and devotion. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II, attended the University of Idaho, and was a successful and able businessman who ran his family's ranching operation after Ralph's father passed away. Ralph was also a dynamic thinker, debater and writer, who contributed significantly to State and national political discussions, cofounded the Center for the Study of Market Alternatives, served on the board of the Foundation for Economic Education, and was a long-time newspaper columnist. Ralph had a unique and powerful way of communicating his ideas, and his presence in Idaho political discourse will be greatly missed. One could not ignore Ralph's electronic reader board that gave passersby food for thought. Understandably, Ralph has been honored for his strong commitment to free market ideals, liberty and his defense of the principles of freedom.

Ralph will continue to be recognized for his numerous accomplishments, but it is his example of conviction that will be most remembered. Ralph had strong principles and held true to his values. He thought deeply, understood the value of listening albeit many times with great restraint, and delivered his points with passion and humor. Ralph could not be rightly accused of caring too little. He did not sit on the sidelines. Ralph embraced the dialogue and tackled the tough issues. He was always engaged and challenged others. Ralph's interjection of free-thinking, strong, libertarian views shaped discussions and opinions. He added flavor and insight from his many years of experience, discussion and contemplation. He sought to protect individual liberties and contributed substantially to conservative knowledge.

Ralph was a spirited, dedicated, witty, generous, sincere individual and true patriot. Ralph touched and enriched the lives of all those he met, and I am grateful to have known him. There is no doubt there will be a significant void left by Ralph's passing. As we honor Ralph Smeed's life, and extend thoughts and prayers to Ralph's family, friends and loved ones for this great loss, Ralph's individuality and dedication will not be forgotten. Ralph was a true thought provoker who was devoted to the promotion of liberty and encouraging others to work for liberty. Ralph Smeed will be greatly missed.●

REMEMBERING BOBBY EUGENE HANNON

• Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, today I recognize Bobby Eugene Hannon Sr., 76, of Hot Springs, who passed away Saturday, August 28, 2010. A beloved member of the Hot Springs community and the entire State, "Coach Hannon" was one of Arkansas's finest citizens. His legacy will long be remembered at Hot Springs High School, where he coached football from 1970 to 1979. His many championships and accomplishments in coaching were highlighted by his undefeated 1970 State Championship Team, voted No. 1 in the State by the Associated Press.

In 2008, Coach Hannon was inducted into the Arkansas High School Coaches Association Hall of Fame. He received the Lowell Manning Award in 1970 as the Arkansas High School Coach of the Year and was selected head coach for the West Squad in the AHSCA All Star Game. His teams competed in five more championship games, including the longest high school football game in Arkansas history against Jonesboro in 1972 that ended in a tie for co-championship.

Before his coaching career, Coach Hannon was an outstanding athlete with many accomplishments, including serving as quarterback of Little Rock High School and being selected All-State and All-Southern quarterback. Coach Hannon received a football scholarship at Arkansas Tech University and played there for 4 years, where he received all AIC conference honors.

Drafted into the U.S. Army, he played on the Fort Lewis Washington Championship football team for 2 years. Coach Hannon also played shortstop for the famed Little Rock Doughboys baseball team next to Major League Baseball Hall of Fame third baseman Brooks Robinson.

After retiring from coaching, he continued his working career selling team sporting goods for Spaulding and Sportstop Athletics. Most recently Coach Hannon was employed by Hurst, Morrisey and Hurst Law Firm.

Coach Hannon was involved in numerous community services. He was a member of Brookwood Baptist Church, a lifetime member of Elks Lodge No. 380, American Legion Baseball commissioner for 4 years, served as cochairman for the State Multiple Sclerosis Fund Raisers and was a member of the Hot Springs Quarterback Club prayer group.

He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Janice (Avra) Hannon; his three children, Lisa Hannon Madden, Bobby Eugene Hannon Jr., and Bridget Hannon Summers; four grandchildren, Beau Harvey, Trish Madden Jordan, Lauren Hannon Madden Pope, and Don Allen Madden III; four step-grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and three step great-grandchildren.

Along with all Arkansans, I thank Coach Hannon for his years of service to our State. He will be greatly missed.●

TRIBUTE TO TIM PIKE

• Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, today I recognize Arkansan Tim Pike of Quitman who was recently named Arkansas's 2010 First Responder of the Year by the Arkansas EMT Association. Tim represents the best of Arkansas and is more than deserving of this prestigious honor. I congratulate him on this significant achievement.

Tim's tenure as a first responder for the Quitman EMS spans 25 years. He has saved countless lives and aided his fellow citizens at times when they needed him the most. Tim's efforts have also inspired those who he has helped to "pay it forward" and give back to the community through volunteerism and other types of service.

Tim first started his volunteer service with the local fire department in 1985. That same year, he became a volunteer first responder for the ambulance service. Today, he balances both his gun business and his duties as Quitman's animal-control officer and Cadron Township constable.

First responders like Tim help keep Arkansas safe, and I am grateful for their service and sacrifice. Along with all Arkansans, I commend our emergency responders for their commitment to protecting the citizens of our State.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:34 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 6102. An act to amend the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010 to extend the authority of the Secretary of the Navy to enter into multiyear contracts for F/A-18E, F/A-18F, and EA-18G aircraft.

At 6:21 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has agreed to the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 3978) to amend the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007 to authorize the Secretary of Homeland Security to

accept and use gifts for otherwise authorized activities of the Center for Domestic Preparedness that are related to preparedness for and response to terrorism, and for other purposes.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bills were read the first time:

S. 3790. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide that persons having seriously delinquent tax debts shall be ineligible for Federal employment.

S. 3791. A bill to require Members of Congress to disclose delinquent tax liability, require an ethics inquiry, and garnish the wages of a Member with Federal tax liability.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-7301. A communication from the Acting Director of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Northern Rockfish for Catcher/Processors Participating in the Rockfish Limited Access Fishery in the Central Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska" (RIN0648-XX68) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 12, 2010; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7302. A communication from the Acting Director of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish Fisheries; Adjustment to the Loligo Trimester 2 and 3 Quota; Correction" (RIN0648-XW95) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 12, 2010; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7303. A communication from the Acting Director of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Ocean Perch in the Western Yakutat District of the Gulf of Alaska" (RIN0648-XX77) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 12, 2010; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7304. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Regulated Navigation Areas, Safety Zones, Security Zones; Deepwater Ports in Boston Captain of the Port Zone, MA" (RIN1625-AA00 and RIN1625-AA11) (Docket No. USCG-2009-0589) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 28, 2010; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7305. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule en-

titled "Thiabendazole; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 8842-7) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 30, 2010; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-7306. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Spiromesifen; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 8841-9) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 30, 2010; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-7307. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Bifenazate; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 8840-9) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 30, 2010; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-7308. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Choline hydroxide; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance" (FRL No. 8841-6) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 30, 2010; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-7309. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "2-methyl-1,3-propanediol; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance" (FRL No. 8838-3) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 12, 2010; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-7310. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Flubendiamide; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 8836-2) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 12, 2010; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-7311. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Mancozeb; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 8841-1) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 12, 2010; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-7312. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Alkyl Alcohol Alkoxyphosphate Derivatives; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance" (FRL No. 8836-5) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 12, 2010; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-7313. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to members of the Armed

Forces and their dependents reliance on the supplemental nutrition assistance program under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7314. A communication from the Chief Counsel of the Fiscal Service, Bureau of Public Debt, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Regulations Governing Agencies for Issue of United States Savings Bonds Offering of United States Savings Bonds" (31 CFR Parts 317, 351, 353, and 359) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 24, 2010; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-7315. A communication from the Chief Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Final Flood Elevation Determinations" ((44 CFR Part 67) (Docket No. FEMA-2010-0003)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 12, 2010; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-7316. A communication from the Chief Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Suspension of Community Eligibility" ((44 CFR Part 64) (Docket No. FEMA-2010-0003)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 12, 2010; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-7317. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Maryland; Transportation Conformity Regulations; Withdrawal of Direct Final Rule" (FRL No. 9187-9) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 12, 2010; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7318. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Restructuring of the Stationary Source Audit Program" (FRL No. 9195-7) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 12, 2010; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7319. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan; National Priorities List: Powersville Site Superfund Site" (FRL No. 9194-3) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 12, 2010; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7320. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Connecticut; Determination of Attainment of the 1997 Ozone Standard for the Greater Connecticut Area" (FRL No. 9195-2) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 12, 2010; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7321. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Massachusetts: Final Authorization of State Hazardous Waste Management Program Revisions" (FRL No. 9190-6) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 12, 2010; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7322. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Outer Continental Shelf Air Regulations Consistency Update for Massachusetts" (FRL No. 9167-7) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 12, 2010; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7323. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Minerals Management: Adjustments of Cost Recovery Fees" (RIN1004-AE18) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 12, 2010; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7324. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Delaware; Administrative and Non-Substantive Amendments to Existing Delaware SIP Regulations" (FRL No. 9186-6) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 12, 2010; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7325. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; State of Missouri" (FRL No. 9186-2) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 12, 2010; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7326. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans and Operating Permits Program; State of Nebraska" (FRL No. 9186-5) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 12, 2010; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7327. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Ohio; Final Approval and Promulgation of State Implementation Plans; Carbon Monoxide and Volatile Organic Compounds" (FRL No. 9187-4) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 12, 2010; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7328. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division,

Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Minnesota" (FRL No. 9187-5) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 12, 2010; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7329. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Establishment of the Sierra Pelona Valley Viticultural Area" (RIN1513-AB64) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 13, 2010; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-7330. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Update of Weighted Average Interest Rates, Yield Curves, and Segment Rates" (Notice No. 2010-57) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 12, 2010; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-7331. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Announcement of the Results of 2009-10 Allocation Round of the Qualifying Advanced Coal Project Program and the Qualifying Gasification Project Program" (Notice No. 2010-56) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 12, 2010; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-7332. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Expanded Carryback of Net Operating Losses and Losses from Operations" (Notice No. 2010-58) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 12, 2010; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-7333. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Applicable Federal Rates—September 2010" (Notice No. 2010-20) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 12, 2010; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-7334. A communication from the Chief of the Trade and Commercial Regulations Branch, Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Entry Requirements for Certain Softwood Lumber Products Exported from Any Country into the United States" (RIN1515-AD62) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 12, 2010; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-7335. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Procedures for the Handling of Retaliation Complaints Under Section 219 of the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act of 2008" (RIN1218-AC47) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 12, 2010; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-7336. A communication from the Director of Legislative and Regulatory Affairs, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Allocation of Assets in Single-Employer Plans; Valuation of Benefits and Assets; Expected Retirement Age" (29 CFR Part 4044) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 12, 2010; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-7337. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel of the Federal Election Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Coordinated Communications" (Notice No. 2010-17) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 6, 2010; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7338. A communication from the Program Analyst, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Light-Duty Vehicle Greenhouse Gas Emission Standards and Corporate Average Fuel Economy Standards; Final Rule" (RIN2060-AP58; RIN2127-AK50) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 2, 2010; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7339. A communication from the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Report to Congress: Study of Discharges Incidental to Normal Operation of Commercial Fishing Vessels and Other Non-Recreational Vessels Less than 79 Feet"; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. LEAHY, from the Committee on the Judiciary, without amendment:

S. 139. A bill to require Federal agencies, and persons engaged in interstate commerce, in possession of data containing sensitive personally identifiable information, to disclose any breach of such information (Rept. No. 111-290).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. BROWN of Ohio:

S. 3784. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4865 Tallmadge Road in Rootstown, Ohio, as the "Marine Sgt. Jeremy E. Murray Post Office"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. NELSON of Florida (for himself and Mr. BROWNBACK):

S. 3785. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to encourage investment in commercial spaceflight facilities and equipment, research, and job training, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. KERRY (for himself, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. LEAHY, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, and Mr. MENENDEZ):

S. 3786. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permit the Secretary of

the Treasury to issue prospective guidance clarifying the employment status of individuals for purposes of employment taxes and to prevent retroactive assessments with respect to such clarifications; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND:

S. 3787. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend and modify the benefits available in empowerment zones and other tax-incentive areas, to require the Secretary of Commerce to establish a program for the award of grants to States to establish revolving loan funds for small and medium-sized manufacturers to improve energy efficiency and produce clean energy technology, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a tax credit for farmers' investments in value-added agriculture, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself and Mr. CRAPO):

S. 3788. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to temporarily increase the investment tax credit for geothermal energy property; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. GREGG, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, and Mr. BARRASSO):

S. 3789. A bill to limit access to social security account numbers; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. COBURN (for himself, Mr. BURR, Mr. ENSIGN, Mr. THUNE, and Mr. ISAKSON):

S. 3790. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide that persons having seriously delinquent tax debts shall be ineligible for Federal employment; read the first time.

By Mr. COBURN (for himself, Mr. BURR, Mr. ENSIGN, and Mr. THUNE):

S. 3791. A bill to require Members of Congress to disclose delinquent tax liability, require an ethics inquiry, and garnish the wages of a Member with Federal tax liability; read the first time.

By Mr. VITTER:

S. 3792. A bill to provide for restoration of the coastal areas of the Gulf of Mexico affected by the Deepwater Horizon oil spill, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. COBURN (for himself and Mrs. McCASKILL):

S. Res. 622. A resolution to stop secret spending; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. KAUFMAN (for himself, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mrs. BOXER):

S. Res. 623. A resolution commending the encouragement of interest in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics by the entertainment industry, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. INHOFE (for himself and Mr. COBURN):

S. Res. 624. A resolution honoring the members of the Army National Guard and Air National Guard of the State of Oklahoma for their service and sacrifice on behalf of the United States since September 11, 2001; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. LIEBERMAN:

S. Res. 625. A resolution designating September 2010 as "National Preparedness Month"; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 493

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 493, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the establishment of ABLE accounts for the care of family members with disabilities, and for other purposes.

S. 654

At the request of Mr. BUNNING, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 654, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to cover physician services delivered by podiatric physicians to ensure access by Medicaid beneficiaries to appropriate quality foot and ankle care.

S. 831

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 831, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to include service after September 11, 2001, as service qualifying for the determination of a reduced eligibility age for receipt of non-regular service retired pay.

S. 984

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 984, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for arthritis research and public health, and for other purposes.

S. 1611

At the request of Mr. GREGG, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1611, a bill to provide collective bargaining rights for public safety officers employed by States or their political subdivisions.

S. 1619

At the request of Mr. DODD, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1619, a bill to establish the Office of Sustainable Housing and Communities, to establish the Interagency Council on Sustainable Communities, to establish a comprehensive planning grant program, to establish a sustainability challenge grant program, and for other purposes.

S. 1695

At the request of Mr. BURRIS, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1695, a bill to authorize the award of a Congressional gold medal to the Montford Point Marines of World War II.

S. 1859

At the request of Mr. ROCKEFELLER, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1859, a bill to reinstate Federal matching of State spending of child support incentive payments.

S. 2896

At the request of Mr. FRANKEN, the name of the Senator from Vermont

(Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2896, a bill to recruit, support, and prepare principals to improve student academic achievement at high-need schools.

S. 3156

At the request of Mr. BROWNBACk, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3156, a bill to develop a strategy for assisting stateless children from North Korea, and for other purposes.

S. 3184

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the names of the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN) and the Senator from Colorado (Mr. UDALL) were added as cosponsors of S. 3184, a bill to provide United States assistance for the purpose of eradicating severe forms of trafficking in children in eligible countries through the implementation of Child Protection Compacts, and for other purposes.

S. 3231

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3231, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain tax incentives for alcohol used as fuel and to amend the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States to extend additional duties on ethanol.

S. 3447

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the names of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUE), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), and the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) were added as cosponsors of S. 3447, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve educational assistance for veterans who served in the Armed Forces after September 11, 2001, and for other purposes.

S. 3657

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3657, a bill to establish as a standing order of the Senate that a Senator publicly disclose a notice of intent to objecting to any measure or matter.

S. 3671

At the request of Mr. ROCKEFELLER, the names of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN) and the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) were added as cosponsors of S. 3671, a bill to improve compliance with mine and occupational safety and health law, empower workers to raise safety concerns, prevent future mine and other workplace tragedies, establish rights of families of victims of workplace accidents, and for other purposes.

S. 3703

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) and the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 3703, a bill to expand the research, prevention, and

awareness activities of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the National Institutes of Health with respect to pulmonary fibrosis, and for other purposes.

S. 3737

At the request of Mr. ENZI, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3737, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act and title XVIII of the Social Security Act to make the provision of technical services for medical imaging examinations and radiation therapy treatments safer, more accurate, and less costly.

S. 3739

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) and the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 3739, a bill to amend the Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act to include bullying and harassment prevention programs.

S. 3772

At the request of Mr. REID, the names of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY), the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. AKAKA), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. BURRIS), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY), the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN), the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SPECTER) were added as cosponsors of S. 3772, a bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide more effective remedies to victims of discrimination in the payment of wages on the basis of sex, and for other purposes.

S. 3773

At the request of Mr. MCCONNELL, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3773, a bill to permanently extend the 2001 and 2003 tax relief provisions and to provide permanent AMT relief and estate tax relief, and for other purposes.

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 3773, *supra*.

S. 3774

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the names of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BOND) and the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 3774, a bill to extend the deadline for Social Services Block Grant expenditures of supplemental funds appropriated following disasters occurring in 2008.

S. CON. RES. 71

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 71, a concurrent resolution recognizing the United States national interest in helping to

prevent and mitigate acts of genocide and other mass atrocities against civilians, and supporting and encouraging efforts to develop a whole of government approach to prevent and mitigate such acts.

S. RES. 603

At the request of Mr. SPECTER, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 603, a resolution commemorating the 50th anniversary of the National Council for International Visitors, and designating February 16, 2011, as "Citizen Diplomacy Day".

S. RES. 609

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the names of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER), the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) and the Senator from Illinois (Mr. BURRIS) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 609, a resolution congratulating the National Urban League on its 100th year of service to the United States.

S. RES. 618

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 618, a resolution designating October 2010 as "National Work and Family Month".

AMENDMENT NO. 4594

At the request of Mr. REID, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4594 proposed to H.R. 5297, an act to create the Small Business Lending Fund Program to direct the Secretary of the Treasury to make capital investments in eligible institutions in order to increase the availability of credit for small businesses, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax incentives for small business job creation, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. KERRY (for himself, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. LEAHY, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, and Mr. MENENDEZ):

S. 3786. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permit the Secretary of the Treasury to issue prospective guidance clarifying the employment status of individuals for purposes of employment taxes and to prevent retroactive assessments with respect to such clarifications; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, today I am introducing the Fair Playing Field Act of 2010 to provide a fairer playing field to America's businesses and workers. It will ensure workers are afforded protections already in the law, such as workers' compensation, Social Security, Medicare, payment of overtime, unemployment compensation, and the minimum wage. It will also ensure help

employers who play by the rules are not forced to compete against those businesses that don't. This legislation is identical to legislation being introduced in the House of Representatives by Representative McDERMOTT. Senators MURRAY, GILLIBRAND, SHERROD BROWN, FRANKEN, AKAKA, SCHUMER, and LEAHY are cosponsors.

Under current law, employers are required to take certain actions on behalf of their employees including withholding income taxes, paying Social Security and Medicare taxes, paying for unemployment insurance, and providing a safe and nondiscriminatory workplace. Employers are not required to undertake these obligations for independent contractors. Too often, workers are misclassified by businesses looking to avoid paying taxes. These businesses receive an unfair advantage over businesses that play by the rules. The Internal Revenue Service, IRS, currently uses a common law test to determine whether a worker is an employee or independent contractor. Unfortunately, a loophole exists which allows a business to escape liability for misclassifying employees as independent contractors. Furthermore, there is statutory prohibition on the IRS providing guidance through regulation on employee classification.

Federal and State revenue is lost when businesses misclassify their workers as independent contractors. A study estimated that, between 1996 and 2004, \$34.7 billion of Federal tax revenues went uncollected due to the misclassification of workers and the tax loopholes that allow it. Recently, GAO and Treasury Inspector General reports have cited misclassification as posing significant concerns for workers, their employers, and government revenue.

Section 530 of the Revenue Act of 1978 generally allows taxpayers to treat a worker as not being an employee for employment tax purposes, regardless of the worker's actual status under the common law test, unless the taxpayer has no reasonable basis for such treatment or fails to meet certain requirements. Section 530 is commonly referred to as a "safe harbor." This provision was initially enacted in 1978 for a year to give Congress time to resolve these complex issues. In 1982, the safe harbor was made permanent. In addition, section 530 prevents the IRS from requiring an employer afforded a safe harbor to reclassify a worker prospectively.

The Fair Playing Field Act of 2010 ends the moratorium on IRS guidance addressing the worker classification issue. The legislation requires the Secretary of Treasury to issue prospective guidance clarifying the employment status of individuals for Federal employment tax purposes. The effective date for the provision of authority to issue guidance is the date of enactment.

Under the Fair Playing Field Act of 2010, the section 530 safe harbor will

continue to be available to employers with respect to the treatment of an individual for Federal employment tax purposes until the individual has a reclassification date. An individual's "reclassification date" is the earlier of the following two dates: the first day of the first calendar quarter beginning more than 180 days after the date of an "employee classification determination" with respect to such individual; or the effective date of the "first application final regulation" issued by the Secretary of the Treasury with respect to such individual. An "employee classification determination" with respect to an individual is a determination by the Secretary of the Treasury, in connection with an audit of the taxpayer that begins after the date that is one year after the date of enactment, that a class of individuals holding positions with the taxpayer that are substantially similar to the position held by the individual are employees.

I urge my colleagues to cosponsor the Fair Playing Field Act of 2010 which will provide valuable protections to workers who are erroneously misclassified and help combat the underground economy.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself and Mr. CRAPO):

S. 3788. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to temporarily increase the investment tax credit for geothermal energy property; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I am pleased to join with my colleague from Idaho, Senator MIKE CRAPO, in introducing the Geothermal Energy Investment Act of 2010. This legislation will amend an already existing investment tax credit for geothermal energy authorized under Sec. 48 of the tax code. The bill would provide geothermal energy with the same 30 percent investment tax credit that is now available to solar energy and fuel cell technologies in Sec. 48 and extend this 30 percent tax credit for geothermal through December 31, 2016, as it is for these other technologies. Without this legislation, new geothermal energy projects would be allowed only a 10 percent investment tax credit under Section 48. This legislation will create a more level playing field among clean, renewable energy technologies and support substantial growth in utility scale geothermal power, distributed on-site power generation, and heating for buildings and commercial processes.

Geothermal energy facilities provide a continuous supply of renewable energy with very few environmental impacts. Although the United States has more geothermal capacity than any other country, this potential has been barely tapped. This shortfall is partly due to the high initial cost and risk involved in locating and developing geothermal resources. Extending the 30 percent tax credit through 2016 will help give geothermal developers the assurance they need to make the long

lead-time investments in exploration and development necessary to make expansion of geothermal energy a reality.

This legislation is identical to a bipartisan companion bill, H.R. 5612, that Representative EARL BLUMENAUER from Oregon has introduced in the House.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 3788

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Geothermal Energy Investment Act of 2010".

SEC. 2. TEMPORARY INCREASE IN INVESTMENT TAX CREDIT FOR GEOTHERMAL ENERGY PROPERTY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subclause (II) of section 48(a)(2)(A)(i) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking "paragraph (3)(A)(i)" and inserting "clause (i) or (iii) of paragraph (3)(A)".

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to periods after the date of the enactment of this Act, under rules similar to the rules of section 48(m) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (as in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of the Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1990).

By Mr. COBURN (for himself, Mr. BURR, Mr. ENSIGN, Mr. THUNE, and Mr. ISAKSON):

S. 3790. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code to provide that persons having seriously delinquent tax debts shall be ineligible for Federal employment; read the first time.

Mr. COBURN. Mr. President, today I have introduced two separate bills, S. 3790 and S. 3791, intended to hold members of Congress and other Federal employees to the same tax rules Washington imposes on the rest of America.

In 2009, the Internal Revenue Service, IRS, found nearly 100,000 civilian Federal employees were delinquent on their Federal income taxes, owing over \$1 billion in unpaid Federal income taxes. When considering retirees and military, more than 282,000 Federal employees owed \$3.3 billion in taxes.

These bills are not intended to single out the majority of Federal employees who work hard and pay their taxes, but members of Congress and Federal employees have a clear obligation to pay their Federal income taxes. Legislators and government employees should not be exempt from the laws they write and enforce. The very nature of Federal employment and the concept inherent to "public service" demands those being paid by taxpayers contribute their fair share of taxes. They should lead by example.

Tax delinquency rate among congressional employees exceeds the rate of all returns filed nationwide. Taxpayers are fed up with those in Washington living under a different set of rules than the

rest of America. At a time when Congress may allow taxes to increase on some or even all Americans, Congress should not expect other Americans to pay more taxes when they are not even paying the taxes they owe under the rates they set themselves.

The bills I am introducing are fair to Federal employees and other taxpayers. Both bills carefully reach only those paid by the taxpayers who have willfully neglected to pay their incomes taxes.

The legislation excludes elected officials or Federal employees who made oversights in their personal taxes but willfully agree to pay them, or if they are challenging the delinquency in court or through the IRS. Instead, it targets those who willfully neglect or avoid the pay their taxes.

Specifically, it excludes Federal employees from termination and Members of Congress from repercussions if the individual is currently paying the taxes, interest, and penalties owed to IRS under an installment plan; the individual and the IRS have worked out a compromise on the amount of taxes, interest and penalties owed and the compromise amount agreed upon is being repaid to IRS; the individual has not exhausted his or her right to due process under the law; or the individual filed a joint return and successfully contends he or she should not be fully liable for the taxes, interest, and/or penalties owed because of something the other party to the return did or did not do.

The first bill requires all Federal employees to be current on their Federal income taxes or be fired from their jobs.

The second bill requires Members of Congress to report any outstanding tax liability. If the Member possesses a tax liability, this bill would require the appropriate congressional committee to launch an ethics investigation and the Member's salary would be reduced in accordance with the amount he or she owes.

These bills require no more of members of Congress or Federal employees than is required of other Americans.

It should be a priority of this Congress to pass these solutions as a way to guarantee equal treatment under the law. This is especially important at this time when our national debt exceeds \$13.5 trillion since this legislation is estimated to reduce the Federal deficit by at least \$3 billion.

I hope my colleagues on both sides of the aisle will support these bills to demonstrate their commitment to requiring Congress to live under the same rules it imposes on the rest of the country. It is time for every member of Congress to pay their taxes rather than simply spending the taxes of others.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 622—TO STOP SECRET SPENDING

Mr. COBURN (for himself and Mrs. MCCASKILL) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. RES. 622

Resolved, SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This resolution may be cited as the "Stop Secret Spending Resolution".

SEC. 2. STOPPING SECRET SPENDING.

(a) NOTICE REQUIREMENT.—In the Senate, legislation that has been subject to a hotline notification may not pass by unanimous consent unless the hotline notification has been posted on the public website of the Senate for at least 3 calendar days as provided in subsection (b).

(b) POSTING ON SENATE WEBPAGE.—At the same time as a hotline notification occurs with respect to any legislation, the Majority Leader shall post in a prominent place on the public webpage of the Senate a notice that the legislation has been hotlined and the legislation's number, title, link to full text, and sponsor and the estimated cost to implement and the number of new programs created by the legislation.

(c) LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Senate shall establish for both the Senate Calendar of Business and the Senate Executive Calendar a separate section entitled "Notice of Intent To Pass by Unanimous Consent".

(2) CONTENT.—The section required by paragraph (1) shall—

(A) include any legislation posted as required by subsection (b) and the date the hotline notification occurred; and

(B) be updated as appropriate.

(3) REMOVAL.—Items included on the calendar under this subsection shall be removed from the calendar once passed by the Senate.

(d) EXCEPTIONS.—This section shall not apply—

(1) if a quorum of the Senate is present at the time the unanimous consent is pro-
pounded to pass the bill;

(2) to any legislation relating to an imminent or ongoing emergency, as jointly agreed to by the Majority and Minority Leaders; and

(3) to legislation dealing solely with post office namings.

(e) SUSPENSION.—The Presiding Officer shall not entertain any request to suspend this section by unanimous consent.

(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

(1) the term "hotline notification" means when the Majority Leader in consultation with the Minority Leader, provides notice of intent to pass legislation by unanimous consent by contacting each Senate office with a message on a special alert line (commonly referred to as the hotline) that provides information on what bill or bills the Majority Leader is seeking to pass through unanimous consent; and

(2) the term "legislation" means a bill or joint resolution.

Mr. COBURN. Mr. President, there has been much debate over the past year regarding "secret holds" stalling the consideration of presidential appointments or slowing expedited passage of legislation by the Senate. Lost in this discussion has been an issue that should be a far greater concern for taxpayers—"secret spending."

This body routinely attempts to pass hundreds of bills costing tens of billions of dollars or more in secret without debate, votes, or amendments. It does so using an unofficial process not found in Senate rule books known as the "hotline."

The U.S. Senate is often referred to as "the world's greatest deliberative body." This is because Senate rules grant each of the Senate's 100 members rights that cannot be overridden by a simple majority, including the right to require debate before a bill is considered or passed.

Yet, the Senate practice known as the "hotline" often prevents and precludes debate. In fact, Senators often do not even read the bills being passed using the hotline.

The term "hotline" or practice of "hotlining" bills does not appear in the Senate's official rules, but this procedure is utilized nearly every day the Senate is in session. A hotline is an informal term for an alert sent to members of the Senate giving notice of a proposed agreement to allow a bill or resolution to be approved by the Senate without debate or amendment. A measure that is "hotlined" is recorded in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD as a being agreed to by unanimous consent, UC.

Hotlines occur at the discretion of the Majority Leader in consultation with the Minority Leader. The leader's office contacts each Senate office with a message on a special alert line called the "hotline," which provides information on what bill or bills the leader is seeking to pass through unanimous consent. Hotline notices are only given to Senate offices.

If there is an objection to the bill being "hotlined," a senator is asked to call the leader's office and give notice of intent to object to the bill being passed by unanimous consent whenever such a request may occur. The process of notifying the leader's office of an objection to "hotline" is informally referred to as a "hold." In practice, instead of requiring explicit unanimous consent to pass a bill, the "hotline" process only requires a lack of dissent.

In many instances, bills are hotlined for which no text, description, or budget estimates have been made publicly available. In some Senate offices, the "hotline," or request for unanimous consent to pass a measure, may never even reach senators, and the decision to allow a bill to be approved without debate is determined by staff, who do not even read the bill.

When a bill is "hotlined," the public is not informed and neither is the media. Only the offices of senators are alerted. It is therefore a form of "secret spending." Much like a "hold" can be kept from the public, so can the "hotlining" of bills, which can cost billions of dollars.

The vast majority of legislation approved by the Senate is done so via the "hotline" under the guise of unanimous consent. According to the Congressional Research Service, CRS, "in

the last ten Congresses, 110th–101st, an average of 93 percent of approved measures did not receive roll call votes” and “in the 111th Congress through February 1, 2010, 94 percent of approved measures were approved without a roll call vote.”

Every time the Senate passes legislation without full and open debate, the American people are done a disservice. The Senate should not pass a new bill if its text, purpose, and budget estimate are not available to the general public.

Taxpayers and the media should have the right to read and analyze legislation prior to its passage. Senators, likewise, have a responsibility to know the contents of legislation prior to granting consent for its passage. Additionally, hotlining bills take away the accountability for legislation approved by the Senate. Since there is no recorded vote for most hotlined bills, senators have no culpability for most of the legislation approved by the Senate.

The lack of of an objection from unelected staff should not be sufficient to pass legislation that could spend millions or even billions of dollars and significantly alter U.S. laws.

In many cases, if a senator objects to a hotline request—even if the objection is merely to be granted sufficient time to study and review the text, cost, and impact of the legislation—special interest groups will immediately label the senator who is trying to be diligent as an undemocratic obstructionist.

But the truth is neither democracy nor taxpayers are served well by this process. “Hotlining” bills enable the hasty passage of legislation without the public’s knowledge or feedback. This process benefits politicians and special interests rather than taxpayers.

Senators have an obligation to their constituents to do their jobs, which includes reading the bills and understanding the impact of legislation passed by Congress.

Today I am introducing the “Stop Secret Spending Resolution” along with Senator Claire McCaskill of Missouri. This bi-partisan legislation would provide transparency and accountability by prohibiting a bill or joint resolution from passing without a vote until the hotline notifications are available on a public website for at least 72 hours. The public notice much include: a cost analysis completed by the non-partisan Congressional Budget Office (CBO); the number of new programs created by the legislation; and the actual legislative text.

The new 72 hour rule would not apply to noncontroversial item such as post office namings and sense of the Senate resolutions; nominations; any legislation relating to an imminent or ongoing emergency; or a unanimous consent request made when a quorum of the Senate is present.

Voters are demanding Congress bring greater accountability to the legislative process. Ending secret spending

represents a meaningful first step to guaranteeing increased accountability and transparency by providing sufficient time for the public to review legislation before it is passed by Congress.

I ask my colleagues on both sides of the aisle for their support of this legislation.

—————

SENATE RESOLUTION 623—COMMENDING THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF INTEREST IN SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, AND MATHEMATICS BY THE ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Mr. KAUFMAN (for himself, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mrs. BOXER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

S. RES. 623

Whereas science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (referred to in this preamble as “STEM”) are vital fields of increasing importance in driving the economic engine of the United States;

Whereas STEM-educated graduates have and will continue to play critical roles in helping to develop clean energy technologies, to find life-saving cures for diseases, to solve security challenges, and to discover new solutions for deteriorating transportation and infrastructure;

Whereas through 2018, STEM occupations are projected to provide 2,800,000 job openings;

Whereas over 90 percent of STEM occupations require at least some postsecondary education;

Whereas students across the country, especially young women and underrepresented minorities, need greater understanding and appreciation of STEM careers, and access to quality STEM opportunities;

Whereas the entertainment industry of the United States, comprised of movies, television, theater, radio, DVDs, video games, as well as other video and audio recordings and means of communications, has an extraordinary ability to reach the people of the United States, especially young people;

Whereas the entertainment industry has begun to make significant investments in support of STEM education; and

Whereas, for example, the Entertainment Industries Council has developed the Ready on the S.E.T. and . . . Action! initiative to elevate the importance of science, engineering, and technology in national entertainment and news productions by connecting STEM experts, companies, and organizations with the entertainment industry in order to disseminate accurate information about STEM professionals and careers, and producing the first-ever S.E.T. Awards Show this year to award accurate and impactful portrayals of STEM in movies, television series, radio and television news programs, and print and online journalism: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commends the effective use of the substantial influence and resources of the entertainment industry of the United States, by those members of the entertainment industry, such as the Entertainment Industries Council, who are working to encourage interest in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics; and

(2) urges the entertainment industry to continue to use the creative talent, skills, and audience-reach at its disposal to commu-

nicate the importance of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

Mr. KAUFMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to support the efforts of the entertainment industries to encourage interest in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, or STEM. As the only serving Senator who has worked as an engineer, I am proud to sponsor a resolution acknowledging the essential role STEM professionals play and the important work that they do.

I would also like to thank Senators FEINSTEIN and BOXER for joining me in introducing this resolution.

I truly believe that, whether one considers our dependence on fossil fuels, efforts to promote global health, new challenges in homeland security, or re-investing in America’s infrastructure, the next generation of STEM-educated graduates will be the problem solvers for the most important issues of our time.

In fact, through 2018, STEM occupations are projected to provide 2.8 million job openings. What is more, over 90 percent of STEM occupations require at least some postsecondary education.

Yet, students across the country, particularly women and underrepresented minorities, need a better understanding of, and appreciation for, STEM careers. They also need better access to quality STEM opportunities and activities.

Fortunately, the entertainment industry has recognized this need.

The Entertainment Industries Council—a non-profit organization created in 1983 by leaders in the industry to raise awareness about major health and social issues—recently developed a similar initiative to elevate the importance of STEM in national entertainment and news productions. Ready on the S.E.T. and . . . Action! will connect STEM experts, companies, and organizations with the entertainment industry in order to disseminate accurate information about STEM professionals and careers.

Moreover, for 14 years, the Entertainment Industries Council has produced the PRISM awards to honor productions and performances that accurately portray prevention, treatment, and recovery of substance abuse and mental illness. This year, they will produce the first-ever S.E.T. Awards Show to honor accurate and impactful portrayals of STEM in movies, television series, news programs, and print and online journalism.

Specific programming has started to take off. PBS has a new show called SciGirls to support girls’ interests in STEM. Each half-hour episode follows a different group of middle school girls who put science and engineering to work in their everyday lives. The young girls are aided in their quests by female mentors and a companion Web site is incorporated into the TV series.

Just a few weeks ago, the Science Channel introduced Head Rush. This one-hour, commercial-free programming is targeted at middle school-age

students and explores STEM through hands-on experiments, video shorts, viewer questions and answers, games, and visits from special guests. Hosted by Kari Byron of Discovery's Mythbusters, there are three segments per show which each address a specific theme of the hour.

The entertainment industry of the United States has an extraordinary ability to reach young people. Whether it is movies, television, radio, or video games, the entertainment industries reach many of our nation's youth, multiple times a day. I am so pleased that many in this industry are using this opportunity to positively impact their audiences by teaching them the wonders of STEM. I commend their efforts thus far and encourage them to continue to work to communicate the importance of STEM to their audiences. I truly believe support for STEM—in government, entertainment, and business—is essential for our economic growth and recovery. It is the future of our workforce. It is the key to our future prosperity.

SENATE RESOLUTION 624—HONORING THE MEMBERS OF THE ARMY NATIONAL GUARD AND AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA FOR THEIR SERVICE AND SACRIFICE ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED STATES SINCE SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

Mr. INHOFE (for himself and Mr. COBURN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 624

Whereas members of the Army National Guard and Air National Guard of the State of Oklahoma reside throughout the State and come from various communities, backgrounds, and professions;

Whereas the Army National Guard and Air National Guard of the State of Oklahoma are composed of: the Joint Forces Headquarters, the 45th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, the 45th Fires Brigade, the 90th Troop Command, the 189th Regional Training Institute, Camp Gruber Joint Maneuver Training Center, the 137th Air Refueling Wing (formerly the 137th Airlift Wing), the 138th Fighter Wing, the 205th Engineering Installation Squadron, and the 219th Engineering Installation Squadron;

Whereas, since September 11, 2001, units and members of the Army National Guard and the Air National Guard of the State of Oklahoma have been deployed, and are continuously being deployed, in support of United States military operations at home and abroad;

Whereas the 45th Infantry Brigade mobilized in 2003 for Operation Enduring Freedom and deployed more than 700 soldiers to Afghanistan to provide training to Afghan Security Forces;

Whereas the 45th Infantry Brigade Combat Team mobilized in 2007 for Operation Iraqi Freedom and deployed more than 2,700 soldiers to provide command and control and conduct security force and detainee operations, representing the largest single deployment for the Oklahoma Army National Guard since the Korean War;

Whereas the 45th Fires Brigade mobilized in 2008 for Operation Iraqi Freedom and de-

ployed more than 1,000 soldiers to provide command and control and conduct security force operations;

Whereas 90th Troop Command units mobilized for Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom and deployed more than 2,600 soldiers to conduct combat support and combat service support missions;

Whereas the 189th Regional Training Institute and Camp Gruber Joint Maneuver Training Center have provided professional training to military and nonmilitary personnel to enhance domestic security and prepare units for deployments abroad;

Whereas the Oklahoma Army National Guard mobilized in 2005 and deployed more than 2,500 soldiers to support relief operations in response to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, including assisting law enforcement agencies with traffic control and security, transporting and distributing food, water, and ice, conducting search and rescue and ground and air evacuations, providing generator support, and performing other missions to protect life and property;

Whereas elements of the 137th Airlift Wing mobilized in 2003 for Operation Iraqi Freedom and deployed to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia as part of the largest C-130 wing assembled in history, transporting troops, food, supplies, and equipment to United States forces in Iraq;

Whereas elements of the 137th Airlift Wing mobilized in 2003 for Operation Enduring Freedom and deployed to Uzbekistan, providing critical airlift and logistical support for United States forces in Afghanistan;

Whereas between 2003 and 2006, the 137th Airlift Wing transported 39,368 troops and 11,170 tons of critical cargo to United States forces in Iraq and Afghanistan;

Whereas the 137th Airlift Wing mobilized in 2005 and deployed one of the first C-130 units to support relief operations in response to Hurricane Katrina, including evacuating hospital and nursing home residents to safety by air, providing critical logistical support, and airlifting 2,500 members of the Oklahoma Army National Guard to population centers to provide aid to hurricane victims;

Whereas the 138th Fighter Wing mobilized in 2005, 2007, and 2008 for Operation Iraqi Freedom and deployed to Iraq to provide close air support and engage in combat missions, during which the 138th Fighter Wing expended 109,000 pounds of combat ordnance and successfully destroyed numerous targets; and

Whereas, since September 11, 2001, the 138th Fighter Wing has flown numerous Air Sovereignty Alert missions in the United States, protecting domestic targets against attack and contributing to homeland defense, and in 2008 the 138th Fighter Wing was recognized as the most active alert facility in the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) expresses its gratitude to the members of the Army National Guard and Air National Guard of the State of Oklahoma and their families for their service and sacrifice on behalf of the United States since September 11, 2001; and

(2) recognizes the citizen-soldiers and airmen of the Oklahoma National Guard as invaluable to the national security of the United States, vital to defending against threats both foreign and domestic, and essential for responding to State and national emergencies.

SENATE RESOLUTION 625—DESIGNATING SEPTEMBER 2010 AS “NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH”

Mr. LIEBERMAN submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 625

Whereas a terrorist attack, natural disaster, or other emergency could strike any part of the United States at any time;

Whereas natural and manmade emergencies disrupt hundreds of thousands of lives each year, costing lives and causing serious injuries and billions of dollars in property damage;

Whereas Federal, State, and local officials as well as private entities are working to deter, prevent, and respond to all types of emergencies;

Whereas the people of the United States can help promote the overall emergency preparedness of the United States by being prepared for all types of emergencies;

Whereas National Preparedness Month provides an opportunity to highlight the importance of public emergency preparedness and to encourage the people of the United States to take steps to be better prepared for emergencies at home, work, and school;

Whereas the people of the United States can prepare for emergencies by taking steps such as assembling emergency supply kits, creating family emergency plans, and staying informed about possible emergencies; and

Whereas additional information about public emergency preparedness may be obtained through the Ready Campaign of the Department of Homeland Security at www.ready.gov or the American Red Cross at www.redcross.org/preparedness: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 2010 as “National Preparedness Month”; and

(2) encourages the Federal Government, States, localities, schools, nonprofit organizations, businesses, and other applicable entities along with the people of the United States to observe National Preparedness Month with appropriate events and activities to promote emergency preparedness.

NOTICES OF INTENT TO SUSPEND THE RULES

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I submit the following notice in writing: In accordance with rule V of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby give notice in writing that it is my intention to move to suspend rule XXII, paragraph 2, for the purpose of proposing and considering the following:

After part IV of subtitle A of title II, insert the following:

PART V—ENERGY

SEC.—. INCENTIVES FOR BIODIESEL AND RENEWABLE DIESEL.

(a) CREDITS FOR BIODIESEL AND RENEWABLE DIESEL USED AS FUEL.—Subsection (g) of section 40A of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking “December 31, 2009” and inserting “December 31, 2010”.

(b) EXCISE TAX CREDITS AND OUTLAY PAYMENTS FOR BIODIESEL AND RENEWABLE DIESEL FUEL MIXTURES.—

(1) Paragraph (6) of section 6426(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking “December 31, 2009” and inserting “December 31, 2010”.

(2) Subparagraph (B) of section 6427(e)(6) of such Code is amended by striking “December 31, 2009” and inserting “December 31, 2010”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to fuel sold or used after December 31, 2009.

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I submit the following notice in writing: In accordance with rule V of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby give notice in writing that it is my intention to move to suspend rule XXII, paragraph 2, for the purpose of proposing and considering the following:

Mr. HATCH moves to commit H.R. 5297 to the Committee on Finance of the Senate with instructions to report the same back to the Senate with changes to make permanent the research credit under section 41 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

NOTICE OF HEARING

IMPEACHMENT TRIAL COMMITTEE ON THE ARTICLES AGAINST JUDGE G. THOMAS PORTEOUS, JR.

Mrs. MCCASKILL. Mr. President, I wish to announce that the Impeachment Trial Committee on the Articles Against Judge G. Thomas Porteous, Jr. will meet September 21 and 22, 2010, at 8 a.m., to conduct evidentiary hearings.

For further information regarding this meeting, please contact Erin Johnson.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on September 15, 2010, at 10 a.m. in room SR-328A of the Russell Senate Office Building.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on September 15, 2010, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing entitled "Covered Bonds: Potential Uses and Regulatory Issues."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on September 15, 2010, at 2 p.m., in room 253 of the Russell Senate Office Building.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the

Senate on September 15, 2010, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing entitled "Banking on Reform: Capital Increase Proposals from the Multilateral Development Banks."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on September 15, 2010, at 10 a.m. to conduct a hearing entitled "Nuclear Terrorism: Strengthening Our Domestic Defenses, Part II."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate, on September 15, 2010, at 10 a.m., in room SD-226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled "Prohibiting Obscene Animal Crush Videos in the Wake of United States v. Stevens."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate, on September 15, 2010, at 2 p.m., in room SD-226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled "Judicial Nominations."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the following members of my staff be allowed floor privileges during consideration of the small business jobs bill: William Kellogg, Danielle Dellerson, Manishi Rodrigo, Jack McGillis, Brychan Manry, James Baker, Nicole Lemire, Deborah Ma, Julie Scott.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Matthew House and Brandon Scheuring of my Finance Committee staff be granted privileges of the floor for the duration of the 111th Congress.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

HONORING OKLAHOMA MEMBERS OF THE ARMY AND AIR NATIONAL GUARD

Mr. DURBIN. I ask unanimous consent the Senate now proceed to consideration of S. Res. 624, which was submitted earlier today.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 624) honoring the members of the Army National Guard and the Air National Guard of the State of Oklahoma for their service and sacrifice on behalf of the United States since September 11, 2001.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. DURBIN. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 624) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 624

Whereas members of the Army National Guard and Air National Guard of the State of Oklahoma reside throughout the State and come from various communities, backgrounds, and professions;

Whereas the Army National Guard and Air National Guard of the State of Oklahoma are composed of: the Joint Forces Headquarters, the 45th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, the 45th Fires Brigade, the 90th Troop Command, the 189th Regional Training Institute, Camp Gruber Joint Maneuver Training Center, the 137th Air Refueling Wing (formerly the 137th Airlift Wing), the 138th Fighter Wing, the 205th Engineering Installation Squadron, and the 219th Engineering Installation Squadron;

Whereas, since September 11, 2001, units and members of the Army National Guard and the Air National Guard of the State of Oklahoma have been deployed, and are continuously being deployed, in support of United States military operations at home and abroad;

Whereas the 45th Infantry Brigade mobilized in 2003 for Operation Enduring Freedom and deployed more than 700 soldiers to Afghanistan to provide training to Afghan Security Forces;

Whereas the 45th Infantry Brigade Combat Team mobilized in 2007 for Operation Iraqi Freedom and deployed more than 2,700 soldiers to provide command and control and conduct security force and detainee operations, representing the largest single deployment for the Oklahoma Army National Guard since the Korean War;

Whereas the 45th Fires Brigade mobilized in 2008 for Operation Iraqi Freedom and deployed more than 1,000 soldiers to provide command and control and conduct security force operations;

Whereas 90th Troop Command units mobilized for Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom and deployed more than 2,600 soldiers to conduct combat support and combat service support missions;

Whereas the 189th Regional Training Institute and Camp Gruber Joint Maneuver Training Center have provided professional training to military and nonmilitary personnel to enhance domestic security and prepare units for deployments abroad;

Whereas the Oklahoma Army National Guard mobilized in 2005 and deployed more than 2,500 soldiers to support relief operations in response to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, including assisting law enforcement agencies with traffic control and security, transporting and distributing food, water, and ice, conducting search and rescue and ground and air evacuations, providing generator support, and performing other missions to protect life and property;

Whereas elements of the 137th Airlift Wing mobilized in 2003 for Operation Iraqi Freedom and deployed to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia as part of the largest C-130 wing assembled in history, transporting troops, food, supplies, and equipment to United States forces in Iraq;

Whereas elements of the 137th Airlift Wing mobilized in 2003 for Operation Enduring Freedom and deployed to Uzbekistan, providing critical airlift and logistical support for United States forces in Afghanistan;

Whereas between 2003 and 2006, the 137th Airlift Wing transported 39,368 troops and 11,170 tons of critical cargo to United States forces in Iraq and Afghanistan;

Whereas the 137th Airlift Wing mobilized in 2005 and deployed one of the first C-130 units to support relief operations in response to Hurricane Katrina, including evacuating hospital and nursing home residents to safety by air, providing critical logistical support, and airlifting 2,500 members of the Oklahoma Army National Guard to population centers to provide aid to hurricane victims;

Whereas the 138th Fighter Wing mobilized in 2005, 2007, and 2008 for Operation Iraqi Freedom and deployed to Iraq to provide close air support and engage in combat missions, during which the 138th Fighter Wing expended 109,000 pounds of combat ordnance and successfully destroyed numerous targets; and

Whereas, since September 11, 2001, the 138th Fighter Wing has flown numerous Air Sovereignty Alert missions in the United States, protecting domestic targets against attack and contributing to homeland defense, and in 2008 the 138th Fighter Wing was recognized as the most active alert facility in the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) expresses its gratitude to the members of the Army National Guard and Air National Guard of the State of Oklahoma and their families for their service and sacrifice on behalf of the United States since September 11, 2001; and

(2) recognizes the citizen-soldiers and airmen of the Oklahoma National Guard as invaluable to the national security of the United States, vital to defending against threats both foreign and domestic, and essential for responding to State and national emergencies.

NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH

Mr. DURBIN. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration S. Res. 625, submitted earlier today.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 625) designating September 2010 as “National Preparedness Month.”

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. DURBIN. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and any statements be printed in the RECORD.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 625) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 625

Whereas a terrorist attack, natural disaster, or other emergency could strike any part of the United States at any time;

Whereas natural and manmade emergencies disrupt hundreds of thousands of lives each year, costing lives and causing serious injuries and billions of dollars in property damage;

Whereas Federal, State, and local officials as well as private entities are working to deter, prevent, and respond to all types of emergencies;

Whereas the people of the United States can help promote the overall emergency preparedness of the United States by being prepared for all types of emergencies;

Whereas National Preparedness Month provides an opportunity to highlight the importance of public emergency preparedness and to encourage the people of the United States to take steps to be better prepared for emergencies at home, work, and school;

Whereas the people of the United States can prepare for emergencies by taking steps such as assembling emergency supply kits, creating family emergency plans, and staying informed about possible emergencies; and

Whereas additional information about public emergency preparedness may be obtained through the Ready Campaign of the Department of Homeland Security at www.ready.gov or the American Red Cross at www.redcross.org/preparedness: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 2010 as “National Preparedness Month”; and

(2) encourages the Federal Government, States, localities, schools, nonprofit organizations, businesses, and other applicable entities along with the people of the United States to observe National Preparedness Month with appropriate events and activities to promote emergency preparedness.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME—S. 3790 AND S. 3791

Mr. DURBIN. I understand there are two bills at the desk and I ask for their first reading en bloc.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will read the titles of the bills for the first time.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3790) to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide that persons having seriously delinquent tax debts shall be ineligible for Federal employment.

A bill (S. 3791) to require Members of Congress to disclose delinquent tax liability, require an ethics inquiry, and garnish the wages of a Member with Federal tax liability.

Mr. DURBIN. I now ask for a second reading and I object to my own request, all en bloc.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection having been heard, the bills will receive their second reading on the next legislative day.

Mr. DURBIN. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—H.R. 5297

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I now ask unanimous consent that when the Senate convenes at 9:30 a.m., Thursday, September 16, and after any leader remarks, it resume consideration of H.R. 5297; that all postcloture time be considered expired at 10:45 a.m.; that upon the expiration of time, all pending amendments be withdrawn, except amendment No. 4594; that for the duration of this agreement, no other amendments, motions, or points of order be in order except as noted in this agreement; that the only motions in order be a Hatch motion to suspend the rules with respect to research and development and a Grassley motion to suspend the rules with respect to biodiesel, with Senators BAUCUS, HATCH, and GRASSLEY, or their designees, each controlling a total of 15 minutes; that the votes with respect to the motions to suspend occur in the order in which offered, beginning at 10:45 a.m.; that after the first vote, the succeeding votes be limited to 10 minutes each, and that prior to each vote there be 2 minutes of debate equally divided and controlled in the usual form; that upon disposition of the aforementioned motions, the chairman of the Budget Committee's pay-go letter be read into the RECORD, the substitute amendment be agreed to, and then the time until 12 noon be equally divided and controlled between the leaders or their designees; that at 12 noon the Senate proceed to vote on the motion to invoke cloture on H.R. 5297, as amended; that if cloture is invoked on the bill, then all postcloture time be yielded back, the bill be read a third time, and the Senate then proceed to vote on passage of the bill, as amended, without further intervening action or debate; further, that the motions identified in this agreement be those which have been submitted at the desk when this agreement is entered.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, first of all, I express my appreciation to everyone who worked to this end. I wish we had not had to spend the time we did, but we did, and now we are at a point where we need to be. I have had a number of conversations with the Republican leader, not only to work toward this but on how we can complete our work for this work period prior to the elections. So we are working on that. We do not have it done yet, but Senator MCCONNELL and I have had a number of conversations today and several yesterday.

ORDERS FOR THURSDAY,
SEPTEMBER 16, 2010

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 9:30 a.m., on Thursday, September 16; that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and that following any leader remarks, the Senate resume consideration of H.R. 5297, as provided under the previous order.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. Thanks, Mr. President.

PROGRAM

Mr. REID. Tonight we were able to reach an agreement to complete action on the small business jobs bill. We are going to complete that tomorrow, as outlined previously. Under the agreement, there will be a series of two rollcall votes at 10:45 a.m. and two rollcall votes at 12 noon tomorrow.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M.
TOMORROW

Mr. REID. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate—and I do not think there is—I ask unanimous consent that it adjourn under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 7:20 p.m., adjourned until Thursday, September 16, 2010, at 9:30 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

CAROL FULP, OF MASSACHUSETTS, TO BE A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE SIXTY-FIFTH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS.

JEANNE SHAHEEN, OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, TO BE A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE SIXTY-FIFTH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS.

ROGER F. WICKER, OF MISSISSIPPI, TO BE A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE SIXTY-FIFTH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS.

GREGORY J. NICKELS, OF WASHINGTON, TO BE AN ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE SIXTY-FIFTH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS.

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be general

GEN. CLAUDE R. KEHLER

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be general

GEN. CARTER F. HAM

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be vice admiral

REAR ADM. CECIL E. HANEY

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

POLLY R. GRAHAM

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

DWAIN K. WARREN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

JAMES K. BARNETT
CARLTON FISHER, JR.
SCOTT H. JENSON
EDWARD D. NORTHRUP

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

TINA F. EDWARDS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED INDIVIDUALS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY RESERVE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be captain

JOXEL GARCIA
LARRY E. MENESTRINA

THE FOLLOWING NAMED INDIVIDUALS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE REGULAR NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

To be lieutenant commander

BRIAN D. ONEIL
JOSE R. PEREZTORRES

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 531 AND 5582:

To be lieutenant commander

ERIK RANGEL

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

FINDINGS SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH (C)(2)(C) OF H. RES. 1493, PROVIDING FOR BUDGET ENFORCEMENT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2011

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. OBERSTAR. Madam Speaker, pursuant to paragraph (c)(2)(C) of H. Res. 1493, Providing for Budget Enforcement for Fiscal Year 2011, I submit the following findings that identify changes in law that help achieve deficit reduction by reducing waste, fraud, abuse, and mismanagement, promoting efficiency and reform of government, and controlling spending within Government programs that the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure may authorize.

INTRODUCTION

The Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure is committed to improving efficiency in the Federal Government and providing cost savings to accomplish the joint goals of reducing expenditures and ensuring maximum value to the taxpayer in Federal programs within the jurisdiction of the Committee.

Beginning in the 110th Congress, the Committee has aggressively reviewed program implementation to ensure that Federal agencies, and their state and local partners, were appropriately implementing laws consistent with statutory intent and the best needs of the public. The commitment is not to programs, but to the goals and objectives that best serve the needs of the American people in an efficient, fiscally responsible way. To that end, the Committee has developed and will continue to develop multiple proposals to improve the operation of government, including opportunities to reduce expenditures and the deficit. Because many of the programs within the Committee's jurisdiction are implemented in partnership with state and local governments, the Committee continues to pursue improvements at all levels of government.

Today's report describes a list of activities and proposals that include reductions in and elimination of mandatory spending, reductions in and elimination of authorizations for discretionary spending, investments that would be expected to achieve quantifiable future savings, and revenues that more equitably distribute the cost of government services among the beneficiaries of those services and reduce demands on the General Fund. These proposals will allow the Nation to achieve its investment goals at less cost and allow Federal investment to provide increased benefits.

These proposals reflect the Committee's efforts to date. The Committee will continue its efforts to find creative and efficient ways to make government more responsive to the needs of the Nation.

RECENT HIGHLIGHTS

The Committee's oversight efforts recently resulted in exposing unwarranted cost overruns in Federal construction. At the Committee's request, the Government Account-

ability Office (GAO) analyzed courthouse construction since 2000 and determined that expenditures have been unnecessarily increased by nearly \$900 million. The Committee is responding through general legislation and authorizations for specific Federal courthouse construction projects to ensure that such unnecessary costs are not repeated.

Other positive results of the Committee's efforts have resulted in improvements and corrections to the Coast Guard's Integrated Deepwater Program, the Federal Aviation Administration's regulatory responsibilities and air traffic control modernization, mismanagement at the Federal Maritime Commission, disaster response by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, international water quality expenditures, and the civil works program of the Corps of Engineers.

The Committee's efforts associated with the Coast Guard's Integrated Deepwater Program (Deepwater) continue to provide benefits. Deepwater is a series of procurements being undertaken by the Coast Guard to replace or upgrade its major surface and aviation assets. The procurements are expected to cost \$25 billion by the time they are complete in 2026.

The Committee conducted an investigation that probed deeply into the contract management and decision-making processes within the Coast Guard and its contract partner, Integrated Coast Guard Systems (ICGS) (ICGS consisted of Lockheed Martin Corporation and Northrop Grumman Corporation). The Committee found that the Coast Guard was warned of flaws in the designs for Coast Guard assets long before the designs were finalized. The Committee also found that in some cases, substandard information technology equipment was installed on the patrol boats. Finally, records indicated that there were irregularities in the process for testing and certifying the ships for standards designed to prevent the release of classified information.

The Committee's investigation resulted in the Coast Guard removing ICGS as the lead systems integrator for Deepwater, and a reimbursement claim by the Federal government of \$96 million from ICGS.

The Committee continues to monitor the Deepwater Program, guarding against waste, fraud, abuse, and mismanagement, and ensuring that taxpayers receive the full value of their investment.

While the Committee continues to conduct oversight of agency programs in all areas of its jurisdiction, in this Congress, the Committee is being particularly aggressive in overseeing the implementation of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Recovery Act) (P.L. 1115).

The Recovery Act provided \$64.1 billion for programs within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, including \$38 billion for highway, transit, and wastewater infrastructure formula programs. Since enactment of the Recovery Act, the Committee has performed vigorous oversight, to ensure that the funds provided are invested quickly, efficiently, and in harmony with the job-creating purposes of that Act.

Just 10 days following enactment of the Recovery Act, the Committee requested monthly reports from States, major public

transit agencies, and metropolitan planning organizations on the use of highway, transit, and wastewater infrastructure formula funds provided under the Recovery Act. The Committee continues to receive those reports.

The Committee's request goes beyond the transparency and accountability requirements of the Recovery Act, expanding the scope of programs covered by the reporting requirements, and accelerating the deadline by which information is reported. These reports include information on the number of projects that have been put out to bid, are under contract and underway, and have been completed. The information also includes job hours created or saved and payroll figures. The Committee receives monthly reports from Federal agencies implementing Recovery Act programs under the Committee's jurisdiction.

Since April 2009, the Committee has published a monthly report reflecting this information. All released information can be found at the Recovery Act section of the Committee's website: <http://transportation.house.gov>. The Committee requested that these recipients continue to submit monthly reports directly to the Committee for the remainder of 2010.

Of the \$38 billion available for highway, transit, and wastewater infrastructure formula program projects under the Recovery Act, as of June 30, 2010, \$35 billion (92 percent) has been put out to bid on 18,718 projects. Within this total, 18,002 projects totaling \$33.4 billion (88 percent) are under contract. Across the Nation, work has begun on 17,024 projects totaling \$32.7 billion (86 percent)—work producing badly needed jobs today. Work has been completed on 6,920 projects totaling \$5.3 billion. From these investments, not only has the economy benefited from the jobs created, the public benefits from the investment itself through improved transportation and quality of the environment.

In addition to the monthly reporting, the Committee has held 18 oversight hearings on the Recovery Act since its enactment, with seven of these hearings occurring during 2010. This total includes nine Full Committee hearings and nine subcommittee hearings. These 18 hearings included a total of 123 witnesses and spanned 64 hours. The breadth of witnesses included Ray LaHood, Secretary of the Department of Transportation and Lisa Jackson, Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, as well as other Federal, State, and local government officials, private industry leaders, and workers actively engaged in implementing the Recovery Act.

The Committee held its most recent oversight hearing the last week in July, and will continue to hold oversight hearings on the Recovery Act throughout 2010.

In addition to overseeing implementation of the Recovery Act, as of the date of this report, the Committee and its subcommittees have conducted 23 separate hearings in 2010 to review the budgets and programs of agencies within the Committee's jurisdiction. Additional hearings are planned.

This report includes specific findings and recommendations developed by the Committee related to Federal spending and government operations. As the findings and recommendations demonstrate, the Committee has made and continues to propose many

• 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.

positive changes to improve the efficiency of government and deliver the best possible outcomes to our constituents.

SPECIFIC FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
REDUCE EXCESS EXPENDITURES ON NEW
COURTHOUSE PROJECTS

This proposal achieves deficit reduction by promoting efficiency and reform of government and reducing waste by ensuring that the number of courtrooms in proposed new courthouse projects constructed by the General Services Administration (GSA) more accurately reflects needs and budgetary realities by aligning the number of courtrooms to reflect courtroom sharing by judges, and realistic projections of additional, future judgeships. Where practicable, the Committee seeks to ensure authorizations directing that courthouses be redesigned to eliminate not only excess courtrooms, but also the additional building volume that would have accommodated those excess courtrooms.

In accordance with 40 U.S.C. 3307, appropriations for specific GSA construction projects may only be made if authorized by resolutions adopted by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate.

The Government Accountability Office reported (GAO-10-417) that courtroom overbuilding, as a consequence of both inordinately high judgeship projections by the Judiciary and the Judiciary's failure to share courtrooms in a fashion supported by empiric courtroom usage data, resulted in construction of 1.8 million square feet of unnecessary space for 33 courthouses completed since 2000.

This excess construction translates into a one-time construction cost waste of \$422 million, and an annual waste of \$26 million in additional operation and maintenance costs for the unneeded space.

The budgetary impact of downsizing proposed courthouses is being realized today. Since June 2009, the Committee has authorized five courthouses with curtailed numbers of courtrooms. According to budget estimates provided by GSA, or derived from information provided by GSA, the Committee has saved more than \$87 million to date by limiting the number of courtrooms in new courthouses. The savings are a consequence of lower initial capital costs to build, and less money spent by GSA to lease space because the proposed courtroom space can now be used by Federal agencies that do not need to be located in leased facilities.

	<i>[In millions]</i>
San Diego, California Courthouse:	\$50.8
Greenbelt, Maryland Courthouse	
Annex:	\$5.2
Mobile, Alabama Courthouse:	\$7.8
Savannah, Georgia Courthouse:	\$7.8
San Antonio, Texas Courthouse:	\$15.5

Total savings (to date): \$87.1

Additional savings will be realized as the limitations are applied to other courthouse projects not yet authorized or constructed.

ELIMINATE FUNDING FOR LOW-PRIORITY
TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS

This proposal achieves deficit reduction by eliminating more than \$713 million in currently available funding for low-priority transportation projects. It will be accomplished by enacting H.R. 5730, the "Surface Transportation Earmark Rescission, Savings, and Accountability Act", a bill introduced by Representative Betsy Markey of Colorado. On July 27, 2010, the House passed H.R. 5730 by a vote of 394-23.

H.R. 5730 rescinds \$713.2 million of Federal-aid highway contract authority that was

provided in four prior surface transportation authorization bills and that is currently available for 309 Member-designated projects. Rescinding this \$713.2 million means that it cannot be spent or used to offset increased spending in the future. Any savings from this bill would reduce the deficit.

In addition, the bill establishes a process for the Secretary of Transportation to track unspent project funds going forward, enabling Congress to identify projects that have inactive funds or that have been completed in the previous year. This tracking process will create opportunities for future, additional savings.

Member-designated projects play an important role in the Federal-aid highway program. They provide constituents with a chance to interact directly with their elected officials on community priorities, and allow Members an opportunity to support transportation safety and mobility improvements that may be overlooked by a State department of transportation.

Yet, it is also necessary to use a common-sense approach to funding for projects that are complete or no longer viable. Many of the funds rescinded under this bill are from projects that are complete, but have excess remaining funds. There is no reason for these funds to remain available such that they could be used for future spending.

Other projects affected by H.R. 5730 are those that show no likelihood of going forward due to changing community priorities or other transportation needs. Rescinding funds from projects that are no longer viable is a practical approach to saving taxpayers' dollars.

Rescinding this \$713.2 million prevents it from being spent or used as an offset to increased spending in the future.

It has, unfortunately, become somewhat routine for appropriations bills to rescind existing contract authority to offset other spending. Under budgetary rules, even if a contract authority rescission is "scored" as only reducing budget authority, not outlays, a budget authority offset is often all that is needed to facilitate additional spending in an appropriations bill.

In fact, the Senate Committee on Appropriations has proposed to use a portion of the funds rescinded in this proposal to offset spending in its version of the FY 2011 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development appropriations bill.

Rescinding the \$713.2 million outside the appropriations process makes that amount unavailable for use in some future appropriations bill, and it will indeed result in real savings.

The proposal is in line with the High Priority Project reform principles issued by the bipartisan leadership of the Committee in April 2009, which established an unprecedented level of transparency, accountability, and reform for surface transportation projects going forward.

These principles called for the repeal of funds from older projects that have not been spent. The proposal is an effective and thoughtful means of achieving this policy objective and will save the government money.

ELIMINATE FY 2010 FUNDING FOR CERTAIN
TRANSPORTATION PROGRAMS

This proposal achieves deficit reduction by eliminating funding for certain Department of Transportation programs that will not be used in 2010. It will be accomplished by enacting H.R. 5604, the "Surface Transportation Savings Act of 2010", a bill introduced by Representative Thomas S. P. Perriello of Virginia. On July 20, 2010, the House passed H.R. 5604 by a vote of 402-0.

H.R. 5604 rescinds \$82 million in excess contract authority that the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and the Federal Transit Administration cannot use in fiscal year 2010. In doing so, the bill makes these funds unavailable for expenditure or as an offset against other spending in the future.

The largest rescission occurs in NHTSA's safety belt performance grants program. This program received \$124.5 million in FY 2010 to carry out an incentive grant program to encourage States to enact and enforce laws requiring the use of safety belts. This funding level equals the amount authorized for this program in FY 2009 under the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: a Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) (P.L. 109-59).

According to NHTSA, only three States are expected to qualify to receive an incentive grant under this program in FY 2010, requiring no more than \$28.5 million to carry out the authorized activities of the program.

NHTSA does not have authority to redistribute the unused program funds this fiscal year, and the funds will remain unallocated in FY 2010. The bill rescinds \$56.0 million in existing but unusable contract authority from this program.

H.R. 5604 also rescinds \$8.5 million in contract authority from NHTSA's administrative expenses, the National Driver Register, and NHTSA's research and development programs.

This excess contract authority was made available under the extension of current surface transportation programs passed as part of the Hiring Incentives to Restore Employment Act (HIRE Act) (P.L. 111-147).

Because the amounts of contract authority provided for these programs under the HIRE Act exceeds the funding levels provided by the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010 (division A of P.L. 111-117), NHTSA cannot use these funds this year. However, the unavailability of the funding this year does not preclude the opportunity for the funds to be transferred or used as an offset in future years.

Finally, the bill rescinds \$17.4 million of contract authority from the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) formula and bus grant programs. The HIRE Act provides \$8.361 billion in FY 2010 to carry out FTA's formula and bus grant programs, \$17.4 million more than the funding level provided in the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010. FTA does not have the ability to utilize these funds this year.

Although the \$82 million rescinded by the proposal cannot be used at the present time, there are two ways this \$82 million could be used to increase spending in the future if it is not rescinded now. First, a future appropriations or other legislative act could increase the obligation limitations that control spending for these highway safety and transit programs, thereby allowing this \$82 million to be spent. Second, a future appropriations act could rescind this \$82 million and use that rescission to offset increased spending on other programs.

Unfortunately, it has become somewhat routine for appropriations bills to rescind surface transportation contract authority to offset increased spending elsewhere. In fact, the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2010 (P.L. 111-212), rescinds \$25 million in highway safety contract authority as an offset for spending in that law. Had this proposal been enacted earlier, it would have preserved the additional \$25 million in spending reduction, for a total savings of \$107 million.

The Committee on Appropriations includes such rescissions in appropriations bills because the rescissions offset other spending.

Under budgetary rules, even if a contract authority rescission is “scored” as only reducing budget authority, not outlays, a budget authority offset is often all that is needed to facilitate additional spending in an appropriations bill.

Rescinding \$82 million outside the appropriations process makes that amount unavailable for use in some future appropriations bill, and it will indeed result in “real” savings.

This proposal is a common sense step toward improving the Nation’s fiscal foundation and ensuring that the Federal surface transportation funds are invested as efficiently as possible.

CONSOLIDATE ADMINISTRATIVE FUNCTIONS OF REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSIONS

This proposal achieves deficit reduction by promoting efficiency and reform of government functions across several regional development commissions. These commissions include the Denali Commission, the Northern Border Regional Commission, the Southeast Crescent Regional Commission, the Northern Great Plains Regional Authority, and the Southwest Border Regional Commission.

The Denali Commission (established in 1998), the Northern Border Regional Commission (established in 2008), the Southeast Crescent Regional Commission (established in 2008), the Northern Great Plains Regional Authority (established in 2002), and the Southwest Border Regional Commission (established in 2008) have similar purposes while serving different areas of the country. Each is designed to enhance and promote wealth generation and economic growth strategies and projects. Their efforts focus on leveraging public, private, and philanthropic resources in areas such as transportation and basic infrastructure, job skills training and entrepreneurial development, comprehensive strategy development, advanced technologies and telecommunications, and sustainable energy solutions.

Opportunities exist to reauthorize and rationalize the structures of these several regional commissions and authorities. The proposal includes a consolidation of Inspectors General Offices, accounting and contracting functions, and certain other administrative functions. A possible location for consolidation is within the Department of Commerce since the Secretary of Commerce currently has responsibility for appointing several of the Federal Co-chairs associated with the commissions and authorities.

The budgetary savings associated with this proposal are estimated at \$1 million.

CREATE AN EQUITABLE METHOD FOR BENEFICIARIES OF HAZARDOUS MATERIAL TRANSPORTATION PERMITS AND APPROVALS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE COST OF SERVICE

This proposal achieves deficit reduction by promoting efficiency and reform of government and reducing expenditures from the General Fund by requiring the Secretary of Transportation to establish a reasonable fee for processing applications for, and ensuring compliance with the terms of, special permits and approvals. The fee would be an offsetting collection for administering the special permits and approvals program. This proposal is contained in H.R. 4016, the “Hazardous Material Transportation Safety Act of 2009”, as ordered reported favorably by the Committee on November 19, 2009.

The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration processes about 5,000 special permits and 10,000 approvals annually. Currently, the expenses associated with special permits and approvals are paid from the General Fund. Charging a fee commensurate with the costs of providing the permits would reduce the deficit by reducing de-

mands on the General Fund. Such fees are appropriate because the benefits are specific or localized and costs should more appropriately be the responsibility of the beneficiaries of the service.

The budgetary impact of this proposal would be to reduce demands on the General Fund for all or some of the costs of processing the permits and approvals, currently estimated in excess of \$20 million annually.

DEAUTHORIZE ANTIQUATED PROJECTS OF THE CORPS OF ENGINEERS

The proposal achieves deficit reduction by promoting efficiency and reform of government and reducing waste by using both legislative and administrative means to deauthorize projects authorized to be carried out by the Corps of Engineers (Corps), thereby ensuring that no future appropriations will be made for them and they will not be built.

The Corps currently has in excess of \$60 billion in authorized but unconstructed projects or elements of projects. Deauthorizing some of those projects will eliminate future expenditures. H.R. 5892, the “Water Resources Development Act of 2010”, as ordered reported favorably by the Committee on July 29, 2010, deauthorizes 12 specific, currently authorized water resources projects. Under the bill, on the date of enactment of H.R. 5892, these projects would no longer be authorized for construction by the Corps.

Section 1001 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1986 directs the Corps to provide Congress with a list of unconstructed projects, or unconstructed separable elements of projects, which have been authorized, but have not received obligation of Federal funding for the full five fiscal years preceding the transmittal of the list. All 12 projects identified in H.R. 5892, the “Water Resources Development Act of 2010”, meet these criteria, and were identified as eligible for deauthorization by the Corps.

The budgetary impact, according to the Corps, of deauthorizing and not constructing the 12 projects in H.R. 5892 is a reduction of future Federal spending of \$871.8 million.

USE FEDERAL HIGHWAY FUNDING MORE EFFECTIVELY TO IMPROVE BRIDGE CONDITIONS

This proposal achieves deficit reduction by promoting efficiency and reform of government by (1) focusing more Federal highway funding on the Nation’s core highway and bridge network, (2) requiring increased State reporting on the use of this funding, and (3) prohibiting transfers of funding between different highway programs. In combination, these provisions will increase the effectiveness of Federal highway funding in improving bridge deficiencies.

H.R. , the “Surface Transportation Authorization Act of 2009”, as recommended favorably by the Subcommittee on Highways and Transit on June 24, 2009, includes such provisions.

On July 21, 2010, the Department of Transportation’s Inspector General testified before the Subcommittee on Highways and Transit that the Federal Highway Administration’s accounting system is unable to link expenditure of Highway Bridge Program funding to improvements made to deficient bridges. Furthermore, States are currently allowed to transfer Bridge Program funds to other Federal-aid highway programs, and the agency has no ability to determine the extent to which these transferred funds are used on bridge projects.

The budgetary impact of more efficient use of Federal highway funding to reduce bridge deficiencies (and increased accountability for the use of that funding) will reduce the Nation’s backlog of deficient bridges—and consequently reduce the amount of Federal

bridge funding needed in future surface transportation authorization acts.

REDUCE ENERGY CONSUMPTION IN FEDERAL BUILDINGS THROUGH ENERGY EFFICIENT BUILDING SYSTEMS AND COMPONENTS

This proposal achieves deficit reduction by promoting efficiency and reform of government and reducing waste by creating highly efficient operating systems and energy conservation measures as key attributes of High-Performance Green Buildings. The term “High-Performance Green Buildings” also encompasses sustainability, safety, security, durability, and functionality. Savings in reduced Federal building energy consumption will occur as a consequence of investments made under the Recovery Act for retrofitting GSA facilities with energy efficient building systems and components. GSA’s expenditures under the Recovery Act may address all aspects of High-Performance Green Buildings, but savings estimates are only readily made with regard to energy efficient systems and components.

The Recovery Act made available \$4.5 billion to be used to convert GSA facilities to “High-Performance Green Buildings”. Recovery Act expenditures were justified predominantly in terms of creating employment opportunities for Americans and, in the case of Federal infrastructure spending, improving infrastructure conditions, performance, and efficiency.

The budgetary impact based upon GSA’s estimates and calculations for 66 of 252 building modernization projects is energy savings achieved due to reinvestment funded under the Recovery Act of 13 percent to 20 percent of the buildings’ total energy footprint, with most savings averaging closer to 20 percent. This is equivalent to \$41 million per year, or \$698 million over the 30-year useful life of the infrastructure improvements (calculated on a present value basis).

APPLY REALISTIC, SITE-APPROPRIATE SECURITY STANDARDS THAT FULLY MEET SECURITY NEEDS AT AN AFFORDABLE COST

This proposal achieves deficit reduction by promoting efficiency and reform of government and reducing waste by having the Committee expand its practice of directing GSA to apply the Interagency Security Committee (ISC) Standards to Department of Defense (DOD) space procurements rather than DOD’s more stringent and more costly Anti-Terrorism Force Protection Standards for non-military office (i.e., civilian and support elements within DOD, as opposed to combat or special forces) functions that will be housed in commercial leased space.

In accordance with 40 U.S.C. 3307, GSA can only enter into a commercial space lease where the annual cost is greater than \$2.7 million if the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate adopt resolutions authorizing the lease.

Through testimony of both Federal officials and private sector security experts given at a hearing before the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings and Emergency Management on May 20, 2010, the Committee determined that there is no public policy justification, and no technical security justification, for the routine use of the DOD Anti-terrorism Force Protection Standards in GSA lease procurements for civilian agencies within the Defense establishment.

The budgetary impact of the proposal would be substantial whether the space is new construction or retrofitted existing space.

For example, a recent review of a lease proposal to accommodate the DOD Medical Command Headquarters indicated that the

cost differential in retrofitting buildings to meet the DOD security standard, relative to the ISC standard, is approximately \$65 per square foot. This translates into an annual rental premium of approximately \$9 per rentable square foot per year. For the DOD Medical Command Headquarters, at 750,000 rentable square feet, this cost premium equates to \$6.75 million per year, or \$101.25 million in nominal dollars over the 15-year lease term. If the DOD needs were met by new construction built expressly to the requirements of the DOD security standards (as opposed to retrofitting an existing building), the overall construction cost premium would average between 8 percent and 10 percent (exclusive of the additional land cost needed for the larger building set-back requirements). This would translate into a \$2 per rentable square foot premium. It is hard to estimate what the additional land cost would contribute in terms of a higher rent. For the DOD Medical Command Headquarters procurement, the cost premium for the construction alone (excluding land) equates to \$1.5 million per year or \$22.5 million over the lease term.

Therefore, using the DOD procurement as an example, the potential savings associated with this reform proposal for just this one procurement ranges between \$22.5 million for new construction and \$101.35 million for retrofitted space.

Because of a BRAC-imposed deadline, the Committee authorizing resolution for the DOD Medical Command Headquarters procurement allowed GSA to proceed with the most expeditious procurement solution, and so savings associated with the use of the ISC standard in lieu of the DOD standard were not realized in this transaction. Nonetheless, the Committee confirmed the opportunity for significant future savings.

For future large space lease procurements implemented by GSA on behalf of DOD, which will total well over 2 million square feet over the next few years, the savings potential through reliance upon the ISC standard rather than the DOD standard is approximately \$180 million.

DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT PERFORMANCE MEASURES AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN SURFACE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAMS

This proposal achieves deficit reduction by promoting efficiency and reform of government by requiring new transportation performance measures designed to achieve specific national objectives. Recipients of Federal transportation funds will be required to meet a variety of performance targets, and their progress will be monitored and publicly reported by the Department of Transportation (DOT).

H.R. , the "Surface Transportation Authorization Act of 2009", as recommended favorably by the Subcommittee on Highways and Transit on June 24, 2009, includes such provisions.

The Department of Transportation has few tools for monitoring and holding grant recipients responsible for successful and efficient use of surface transportation funds. Currently, DOT does not measure how Federal transportation funding achieves national goals, nor does the Department distribute funding based on performance criteria.

The budgetary impact of specific performance measures will result in much more efficient use of taxpayer dollars, and provide taxpayers with tangible and measurable results for their investments in improving mobility, increasing safety, and expanding mode choice.

INCREASE ACCOUNTABILITY FOR THE FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION'S NEXTGEN PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION

This proposal achieves deficit reduction by promoting efficiency and reform of govern-

ment and guarding against waste, fraud, and abuse by increasing accountability within the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to ensure timely and efficient implementation of the Next Generation Air Transportation System (NextGen). The proposal would establish a Chief NextGen Officer as the primary point of accountability for NextGen implementation at the FAA, elevate the Director of the Joint Planning and Development Office to the position of Associate Administrator for NextGen Planning, Development, and Interagency Coordination, and create reporting and other requirements to ensure accountability for NextGen-related deliverables.

The various offices responsible for different aspects of the FAA's NextGen program have encountered difficulties in coordination. The air traffic control modernization program was on the High-Risk List of the Government Accountability Office (GAO) from 1995 to 2009. Although GAO removed the air traffic control modernization program from the High-Risk List, GAO and the Committee remain concerned that NextGen is a high-risk effort because of its cost and complexity.

The positive budgetary impact of this proposal will accrue from ensuring that a single person within the FAA is equipped with the stature and authority necessary to coordinate NextGen implementation across numerous FAA offices, eliminating duplicative efforts and ensuring accountability.

ADJUST FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION FEES

This proposal achieves deficit reduction by promoting efficiency and reform of government, and reducing expenditures from the General Fund, by requiring the FAA to establish fees for aircraft registration, certification, and related services, and to update the amounts charged for overflight fees (fees assessed to the operators of aircraft that fly in U.S.-controlled airspace but do not take off or land in the United States). Fees will be an offsetting collection and subject to appropriations. Permit fees will be adjusted periodically as necessary to cover the FAA's cost of providing the services for which the fees are charged.

Revising the FAA's registration fees will equitably assign the costs of providing services to the beneficiaries of those services. These revised fees will allow the FAA to recover much of its costs, lessening the demand on the General Fund.

The proposal is contained in H.R. 915, the "FAA Reauthorization Act of 2009", which passed the House on May 21, 2009, by a vote of 277-136. The initial fee rates would reflect the FAA's current costs of providing each service. The FAA would periodically adjust the fees established under this proposal when cost data reveal that the cost of providing the service is higher or lower than the cost data that were used to establish the fee then in effect.

The proposal also directs the FAA Administrator to update the amounts of overflight fees that are currently charged to operators of aircraft that fly in U.S.-controlled airspace but neither take off nor land in the United States, to ensure that the fees reflect the FAA's current cost of providing services to such flights. These fees were initially authorized by the Federal Aviation Reauthorization Act of 1996 (P.L. 104-264), and the rates currently in effect are identical to those originally established by the FAA's final rule on overflight fees in 2001 (14 C.F.R. 187 Appx. B (2008)). The Administrator should set overflight fees in amounts that bear reasonable relationships to costs.

The budgetary impact of this proposal would be savings through improved effi-

ciency by permitting the FAA to assess fees for services in amounts that are realistically commensurate with the costs of providing those services. The proposal assists the FAA in recouping substantial costs, lessening demand on the General Fund and reducing the deficit.

INCREASE OVERSIGHT OF THE FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION'S ADS-B CONTRACT

This proposal achieves deficit reduction by promoting efficiency and reform of government by enhanced oversight of performance of the FAA's automatic dependent surveillance-broadcast (ADS-B) contract.

This proposal requires the FAA to submit a report detailing the Administration's plans and schedule for integrating ADS-B technology into the National Airspace System (NAS). In addition, this proposal requires the FAA to insert provisions into the contract that protect the Federal Government's interest, such as: requiring FAA's approval before the contract is assigned to or assumed by another entity, including any successor entity, subsidiary of the contractor, or other corporate entity; designating the assets, equipment, hardware, and software used in the performance of the contract as critical to national infrastructure for national security; requiring the contractor to provide continued broadcast services for a reasonable period until the provision of such services can be transferred to another vendor or to the Government in the event of termination or material nonperformance of the contract; and permitting the Government to acquire or utilize the assets, equipment, hardware and software necessary to assure the continued and uninterrupted provision of ADS-B services for reasonable compensation.

This proposal is contained in section 204 of H.R. 915, the "FAA Reauthorization Act of 2009", which passed the House on May 21, 2009 by a vote of 277-136.

On August 30, 2007, the FAA awarded a performance-based service contract for ADS-B services to a consortium led by ITT Corporation. Instead of adopting a more traditional acquisition strategy for ADS-B, whereby the FAA would own, operate, and maintain the system, the FAA chose a service contract approach, whereby the ITT team will build the ADS-B ground stations and own and operate the equipment. The FAA's use of this approach to ADS-B implementation justifies continuing oversight of the implementation process.

The budgetary impact will be reflected in the subscription charges relating to ADS-B use by properly equipped aircraft and air traffic control (ATC) facilities. The total value of the contract, which has a number of options extending through 2025, is \$1.86 billion. Because it is a nontraditional acquisition, vigorous oversight of its implementation will promote efficiency and ensure against mismanagement or waste. The taxpayer benefits in the long-run through dramatic improvements in the safety and efficiency of the Nation's air traffic control system. FAA air traffic controllers will be equipped to handle an increasing volume of air traffic and will process that traffic much more efficiently than before, while aircraft operators will conserve fuel and minimize greenhouse gas emissions by flying more efficient routings.

MODIFY THE AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND FORMULA

This proposal achieves deficit reduction by promoting efficiency and reform of government by ensuring that the amount that is made available from the Airport and Airway Trust Fund (Trust Fund) each year to fund the Federal Aviation Administration more accurately reflects actual receipts.

This proposal modifies the formula that determines the amount that is made available from the Trust Fund each year to fund

the FAA. The modification ensures that the Trust Fund maintains a positive balance despite overly-optimistic revenue forecasts.

The uncommitted cash balance in the Trust Fund has declined dramatically in recent years. At the end of FY 2001, the uncommitted cash balance was \$7.3 billion. For FY 2009, the uncommitted balance was approximately \$299 million. This decline in the Trust Fund's uncommitted balance is due to overly-optimistic revenue projections, combined with a statutory requirement to appropriate from the Trust Fund an amount that is equal to those revenue projections.

The current statutory formula requires that estimated Trust Fund receipts each year must equal Trust Fund expenditures. Under these conditions, the Trust Fund balance should remain stable. However, the Trust Fund revenue estimates included in the President's budget for the past seven years were overly optimistic; such that the amounts appropriated from the Trust Fund (based on those estimates) exceeded the amounts actually deposited into the Trust Fund, resulting in declines in the uncommitted cash balance. The eventual impact would either be a dramatic decline in resources available to the FAA (and a decline in service), or the need for additional revenues from the General Fund.

This proposal modifies the statutory formula to make available from the Trust Fund an amount equal to 90 percent of the estimated revenues, rather than the current 100 percent, until the actual level of revenues received for that year is known. Once actual revenues are known, a "look-back" adjustment compares the actual revenues received by the Trust Fund to the amounts made available from the Trust Fund for that year, and the difference between the two is applied as an adjustment to the amount made available from the Trust Fund for the current budget year. This change provides greater room for error in revenue estimates until the actual level of revenues received for that year is known, and an adjustment is made to reconcile actual amounts deposited to the Trust Fund with actual amounts appropriated from it. Given recent revenue estimates, a 10 percent margin of error is necessary.

This proposal is contained in section 105 of H.R. 915, the "FAA Reauthorization Act of 2009", which passed the House on May 21, 2009 by a vote of 277-136.

The budgetary impact of this proposal would be greater funding stability by mitigating the effect of overly-optimistic revenue projections. The current expenditures from the Trust Fund could create a need to use the General Fund to alleviate budget short-comings, or result in diminished services. This proposal protects both services and the General Fund.

UPDATE REVENUES FOR THE INLAND WATERWAYS TRUST FUND

This proposal achieves deficit reduction by promoting efficiency and reform of government by updating revenues for the Inland Waterways Trust Fund to ensure the ability to meet the authorized non-Federal cost-share of inland waterways capital investment projects carried out by the Corps of Engineers.

Section 102 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1986 establishes that the costs of construction for navigation projects on the inland waterways transportation system of the United States are equally divided between funds appropriated from general revenues of the United States and funds appropriated from the Inland Waterways Trust Fund (Trust Fund). The Trust Fund was established in 1978, consisting of receipts from a new inland fuel tax. Title XIV of the Water

Resources Development Act of 1986 amended the tax rate, which is currently derived from a 20-cent-per-gallon tax on diesel fuel used by commercial vessels engaged in inland waterway transportation, plus investment income.

Over the past few years, the annual balance in the Inland Waterways Trust Fund has declined (estimated to be just \$23 million at the end of fiscal year 2010), and this lack of available funding is expected to have an adverse impact on the pace of construction projects on the inland system due to the unavailability of the 50 percent share of the construction costs for such projects that is derived from the Trust Fund.

In April 2010, the Inland Marine Transportation Systems Capital Investment Strategy Team released a report, entitled Inland Marine Transportation Systems (IMTS) Capitol Projects Business Model, Final Report that recommends several actions to address the construction of projects on the inland system. One recommendation in the report to address the ongoing shortfall in the Inland Waterways Trust Fund is to adjust the current fuel tax by an amount ranging between \$0.06 and \$0.09 per gallon. (The \$0.09 per gallon increase would increase the current fuel tax to the level it would otherwise have reached if it had been indexed for inflation from 1994.)

The budgetary impact of the proposal would preserve the role of non-Federal interests participating in construction and rehabilitation of the inland waterways. The current \$0.20 per gallon tax on diesel fuel has been in place since 1994. According to the Congressional Research Service, had the initial authorization of fuel tax been indexed for inflation since 1994, an additional \$302 million would have been available from the Trust Fund for construction. Because the shortfall in revenues in the Trust Fund is expected to adversely impact the pace of construction of these vital inland waterways projects, modifying the current fuel tax to a level that adjusts the rate for inflation over the past 16 years is essential to efficient construction of navigation projects on the inland system. In addition, modifying the fuel tax ensures that users of the inland system continue to contribute an equitable portion of the funding for inland navigation projects.

RESTRUCTURE SURFACE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAMS

This proposal achieves deficit reduction by promoting efficiency and reform of government by dramatically reforming the programmatic structure through which Federal surface transportation funding is distributed to States and local governments. The proposal consolidates or terminates more than 75 existing programs and directs the majority of surface transportation funding into several core categories. The proposal also requires the Department of Transportation (DOT) to work in an integrated manner to increase intermodal transportation solutions.

H.R. , the "Surface Transportation Authorization Act of 2009", as recommended favorably by the Subcommittee on Highways and Transit on June 24, 2009, includes such provisions.

The Department of Transportation currently has 108 surface transportation programs administered separately by a multitude of different agencies attempting to address mobility and infrastructure needs. While each of these programs serves an important purpose, because they are segmented and focused on addressing specific modal issues rather than intermodal goals, managing 108 separate programs prevents DOT from using all available tools simultaneously and efficiently in a truly intermodal fashion.

The budgetary impact of reforming the structure of the Department of Transportation's Federal programs will provide taxpayers with a better return on their investment. DOT will be able to provide intermodal solutions to the mobility, safety, and maintenance challenges facing our transportation network. By bringing together different programs and modes, DOT can offer effective, least-cost solutions, reducing costs in our Nation's surface transportation programs and making them more transparent and accountable.

IMPROVE MANAGEMENT OF FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION PROPERTY INVENTORY

This proposal achieves deficit reduction by promoting efficiency and reform of government by clarifying the FAA's current authority to purchase and sell property needed for airports and air navigation facilities, and includes the authority to retain funds associated with disposal of property.

This proposal is contained in section 217 of H.R. 915, the "FAA Reauthorization Act of 2009", which passed the House on May 21, 2009 by a vote of 277-136.

Real property assets that are not needed for FAA's mission are marked as "Inactive/Excess" in the Real Estate Management System. These are non-performing assets. Currently, because of costs associated with disposal (such as demolition, environmental audits, and asbestos abatement), some extraneous properties and equipment (e.g., non-directional beacons, radars, outer markers) unnecessarily remain in the FAA's active inventory for long periods of time. These are physical assets that provide no benefits to the FAA or public, yet require continuing involvement by the FAA.

The budgetary impact of this proposal is from allowing the FAA to reduce its non-performing assets. According to the FAA, the current total replacement value of non-performing assets, as reported to the Office of Management and Budget, is \$64.1 million. Allowing the FAA to dispose of these assets will remove costs associated with carrying the assets, plus allow any real property to be placed into productive use. Clarification that the FAA has the authority to retain proceeds from the sale of property will allow the FAA to cover the costs of disposal and the shutdown of extraneous equipment, and will ultimately improve the Federal balance sheet.

INCLUDE STAKEHOLDERS IN AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL MODERNIZATION PROJECTS

This proposal achieves deficit reduction by promoting efficiency and reform of government, and avoiding waste, fraud, and abuse by ensuring that employees are involved in Air Traffic Control (ATC) modernization projects.

This proposal requires the FAA to establish a process for including and collaborating with qualified employees selected by each affected exclusive collective bargaining representative in the planning, development and deployment of ATC modernization projects, including Next Generation Air Transportation System (NextGen). In addition, the FAA is required to report to the House and Senate committees of jurisdiction on the implementation of this section within six months of the date of enactment.

This proposal is contained in section 205 of H.R. 915, the "FAA Reauthorization Act of 2009", which passed the House on May 21, 2009 by a vote of 277-136.

Many past ATC modernization projects had to be reworked because employee groups, representing the operators of new equipment, were not consulted on human factors issues early in the development of the project. Experience demonstrates that active engagement with employees can improve the decisions affecting employee performance.

Investments needed to achieve the end-state NextGen, FAA's primary ATC modernization effort, are estimated to cost between \$15 billion and \$22 billion. Utilizing tools to improve the efficiency of that process will ensure that benefits are maximized for the expenditures made.

REFORM THE FEDERAL AVIATION

ADMINISTRATION'S PILOT RECORDS SYSTEM

This proposal achieves deficit reduction by promoting efficiency and reform of government and reducing expenditures from the General Fund by requiring the FAA to create a pilot records database.

Under the Pilot Records Improvement Act of 1996 (PRIA) (P.L. 104-264), air carriers must obtain the last five years' performance and disciplinary records for a prospective pilot from his or her previous employer. PRIA also requires carriers to obtain records for a pilot from the FAA. FAA records regarding pilot certification are protected by the Privacy Act of 1974. However, PRIA requires carriers to obtain a limited waiver from prospective pilots allowing for the release of information concerning their current airman certificate and associated type ratings and limitations, current airman medical certificates, including any limitations, and summaries of closed FAA legal enforcement actions resulting in a finding by the FAA Administrator of a violation that was not subsequently overturned.

The FAA's records system is technologically outdated and inefficient. The "Airline Safety and Federal Aviation Administration Extension Act of 2010" (P.L. 111-216) reforms the records process by requiring the FAA to establish one database containing each airman's comprehensive record, including both FAA records and air carrier records.

When fully implemented, such a database will enable the FAA to process records requests more efficiently and in an automated fashion. As envisioned in the statute, the FAA will be responsible for establishing the database and inputting years of record information. While the initial process of establishing the database will require sufficient time and funding, the long-term effects will be a more efficient system for all users—the FAA, air carriers, and airmen—and will allow for the quick and seamless retrieval of information that is necessary to improve airline safety. In addition, the statute enables the FAA to establish fees for airmen to access their records, which will enable the FAA to recover some system costs.

The budgetary impact associated with this proposal will be determined from a combination of reduced processing costs and offsets from fees, reducing demands on the General Fund.

ESTABLISH PERFORMANCE MEASURES AND ACCOUNTABILITY FOR THE NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM

This proposal achieves deficit reduction by promoting efficiency and reform of government by implementing specific performance measures and goals to track progress in meeting specific environmental improvements to the Nation's estuaries carried out by the 28 established National Estuaries Programs.

This proposal is contained in H.R. 4715, the "Clean Estuaries Act of 2010", which passed the House on April 15, 2010, by a vote of 278-128.

The National Estuaries Program was established in the Clean Water Act in 1987 to improve the quality of estuaries of national importance. The law directs the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to work cooperatively with state and local interests to develop plans for attaining or maintaining water quality in an estuary. The Administrator of EPA convenes a management con-

ference of all interested parties where the Administrator determines what control of point and nonpoint sources of pollution to supplement existing controls of pollution is required to provide for protection of public water supplies and the protection and propagation of a balanced, indigenous population of shellfish, fish, and wildlife, and allows recreational activities, in and on water. Each program establishes a comprehensive conservation and management plan (CCMP) to meet the statutory goals.

The Environmental Protection Agency currently has few tools for holding recipients of National Estuaries Program grants accountable for the timely, efficient, and effective use of Federal funds. In addition, according to information from EPA, several communities that currently participate in the National Estuary Program were given an EPA rating of fair to poor, but it is difficult to assess whether this is a result of lack of available funding to implement National Estuary Program CCMPs, or a result of the failure of individual programs to achieve their stated environmental restoration goals.

The budgetary impact of specific performance measures, including the authority for the Administrator to suspend or terminate the eligibility of a grant recipient to receive National Estuaries Program funding, will result in more efficient use of taxpayer dollars, and provide for tangible and measurable results from Federal investment in the restoration of the Nation's estuary areas. In recent years, individual national estuary programs have received, on average, approximately \$500,000 annually to carry out restoration efforts within their geographic regions; however, under current law, there are no specific criteria to evaluate the performance of the 28 currently authorized programs. The absence of performance criteria does not afford EPA a tool to determine the effectiveness of the expenditures. It also reduces the ability to disseminate information among estuary programs.

The performance measures contained in H.R. 4715 will provide a mechanism for the evaluation of individual program performance, as well as a process for suspending or barring future appropriations to poor performing programs.

PROMOTE ASSET MANAGEMENT OF PUBLICLY-OWNED TREATMENT WORKS

This proposal achieves deficit reduction by promoting efficiency and reform of government by requiring all eligible recipients of funding from Clean Water State Revolving Funds to conduct an inventory and assessment of the critical assets of the treatment works, and to prepare an asset management plan for maintaining, repairing, and, as necessary, replacing such assets (e.g., sewer lines, pumping stations, treatment plants), as well as a plan for funding such activities.

This proposal is contained in H.R. 1262, the "Water Quality Investment Act of 2009", which passed the House on March 12, 2009 by a vote of 317-101.

The Environmental Protection Agency and others estimate that the Nation will need to invest between \$300 to \$400 billion over the next 20 years to address critical water and wastewater infrastructure needs, including the repair and replacement of a large portion of the approximately 1,000,000 miles of storm and sanitary sewers across the United States. However, a 2004 study by the then-General Accounting Office (GAO) (GAO-04-461) estimated that significant long-term savings could be achieved through increased asset management by local wastewater utilities. The rationale is that increased awareness of the condition of local sewer systems,

paired with a more regimented asset replacement program, could reduce the need for more costly repairs through emergency actions (and the associated disruption in service), as well as the potential increased response costs from the release of untreated sewage into the environment. In addition, this increased awareness of the actual condition of local systems could provide incentives to better match local rates to both short-term and long-term capital needs.

The budgetary impact of asset management on budgetary savings is undefined. The GAO report identified several local examples of how increased asset management had resulted in significant cost savings for individual utilities, both in terms of decreased costs from more effective maintenance programs, as well as prioritizing the expenditure of local resources on repairing and replacing the highest-risk local assets (i.e., assets at the highest risk of failure). In addition, the report identified how detailed awareness of the actual conditions of local systems could provide increased incentives to modify local rates, which, according to EPA, could reduce the overall long-term need for Federal capital expenditures. For example, according to EPA estimates, a three percent annual adjustment in local infrastructure spending could significantly reduce the overall gap between annual wastewater infrastructure spending and identified needs.

INCREASE EFFICIENCY IN ADDRESSING WATER QUALITY PROBLEMS BY REINVESTING IN NONPOINT SOURCE MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS

This proposal achieves deficit reduction by promoting efficiency and reform of government by increasing Federal investment in addressing nonpoint sources of pollution as a cost-effective way of improving water quality throughout the Nation.

During the initial years following enactment in 1972, the modern Clean Water Act enabled the Nation to make great advances in improving the quality of U.S. waters and controlling various sources of pollution. However, over the past two decades, progress has slowed because of the failure to address a significant exception—nonpoint sources of pollution. Nonpoint source pollution refers to the polluting of water by diffuse sources rather than single identifiable "point" sources such as industrial and municipal discharges. These diffuse sources are usually associated with precipitation runoff and land use activities as opposed to end-of-pipe discharges. After 38 years of Federal and State efforts to protect water quality under the Clean Water Act, the single largest-remaining and uncontrolled contributor of pollutants to the Nation's waters is nonpoint sources. In fact, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimated that 90 percent of the Nation's impaired waters are contaminated, in part, by nonpoint sources of pollution.

Because of the regulatory structure of the Clean Water Act, EPA's ability and available tools to address pollution differ whether the origin is a point source or a nonpoint source. When a waterbody is impaired for certain pollutants, such as nutrients, the structure of the Act can require imposing ever-more-stringent requirements on individual point sources of pollution, such as sewage treatment plants, to address pollutants that may emanate from both point and nonpoint sources. In many instances, it would be cheaper and more effective to invest in upstream controls of nonpoint sources of pollutants than to require the construction of advanced treatment technologies for downstream dischargers. As noted in the most recent EPA Clean Watershed Needs Survey, over 10 percent (or \$24 billion) of the currently reported need for wastewater infrastructure is for advanced treatment. Much of

that investment is associated with reducing nutrients from nonpoint sources. Nonpoint source controls are generally more effective and efficient than structural advanced treatment.

The budgetary impact of the proposal, although difficult to quantify, is that increased investment and implementation of nonpoint source control measures will improve water quality in many of the Nation's rivers, streams, and lakes in a more cost-effective manner than expenditures for ever-more-stringent requirements of point sources for the same pollutants.

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF
CHIEF JOSEPH V. PUCCI

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of Joseph V. Pucci, devoted husband, father, grandfather, brother, friend, United States veteran and retired tire chief for the City of Brooklyn, Ohio. Chief Pucci lived life with an unwavering commitment to family, community and country.

The son of Italian immigrants, Chief Pucci was raised in Brooklyn, Ohio, and called Brooklyn home his entire life. He was drafted into the U.S. Army in 1943 and served with honor and courage. He survived combat as an infantryman in North Africa and Italy and was awarded the Purple Heart for injuries he suffered in Anzio. Chief Pucci was also honored with the Good Conduct Medal, the Bronze Star, and the Combat Infantryman's Badge. After the war, he began working for the City of Brooklyn as a bus driver and service department worker. In 1951, he began working as a firefighter. Nine years later he was appointed to role of fire chief. For the next thirty years, he served as leader of the Brooklyn Fire Department with excellence, integrity and dedication. He retired in 1990. Chief Pucci's commitment to the safety of residents was unparalleled. He led many initiatives that strengthened the entire department, including an effort to establish the first state-certified paramedic program in Ohio's history.

The only thing that eclipsed Chief Pucci's dedication to community safety was his devotion to his family. In 1949, he met and married Lois McCormick. Together, they raised their children Theresa, Frank and Joseph. A devoted husband; father; father-in-law to Darwin, Kathleen and Kitty; and grandfather to Nicol, Marlo, Joseph, Francesco, Michael and Kevin; Chief Pucci's family was the foundation, joy and strength of his life. Reserved, humble and kind, Chief Pucci was known for his generous heart and willingness to help others whenever and wherever needed.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and remembrance of Joseph V. Pucci, whose life was lived with great joy, love and in service to others. I offer my deepest condolences to his beloved family, extended family and many friends. His legacy of devotion to the safety of the citizens of Brooklyn, and his love of family and friends will be forever remembered.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL
DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, today our national debt is \$13,440,225,498,627.42.

On January 6th, 2009, the start of the 111th Congress, the national debt was \$10,638,425,746,293.80.

This means the national debt has increased by \$2,801,799,752,333.60 so far this Congress.

This debt and its interest payments we are passing to our children and all future Americans.

TRIBUTE TO CHUCK LOVIN

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Chuck Lovin, a World War II Navy and Marine veteran from Boone County, Iowa, and to express my appreciation for his dedication and commitment to his country.

The Boone News Republican is currently running a series of articles that honors one Boone County veteran every Tuesday from Memorial Day to Veterans Day. Chuck Lovin was recognized on Tuesday, July 6. Below is the article in its entirety:

BOONE COUNTY VETERANS: CHUCK LOVIN
(By Alexander Hutchins)

When millions of men are mobilized for a war effort, it is easy to neglect the sheer logistical network needed. Amidst the brutality of the Pacific island invasions, there were touches of a more orderly life. At one point in the war, Charles "Chuck" Lovin, 90, was in a foxhole on the Marianas Islands as Navy Corpsman, providing dental care in the midst of a marine invasion.

Lovin grew up on a farm, and said that in a way the life of work was good preparation for his tour in the Navy, and later the Marines.

"All we did was work, and every day we got up at 4 a.m.," Lovin said.

Despite the work, he was an avid fan of sports and played them consistently through his school career. He participated in track, basketball, tennis and just about everything except football . . . as long as his chores were completed.

Lovin was a student at Upper Iowa University when World War II began, studying social studies and physical education. His goal was to be a coach and make a career out of his passion for sports.

Lovin was exempt from the draft at the beginning of the war due to his status as a student, but when he reached the end of his studies, he enlisted in the Navy. After entering the Navy in August of 1942, he was trained as a dental technician before being assigned to the USS Nevada, which had been damaged in the Pearl Harbor attack but was repaired and returned to service. Lovin served for one and a half years on the Nevada, cleaning teeth and providing other dental services.

"The ship was good duty. There were so many guys on there it was like living on a city," he said.

When the ship was briefly reassigned to the Atlantic theater, passing through the Panama Canal, the crew took on a number of American sailors who were suffering from mental disorders after traumatic tours on submarines. Some of the sailors were under enough distress that they were restrained or placed on suicide watch.

"They were calm during the day, but at night, when the moon would come out, it would get bad," Lovin said.

He still remembers today a doctor explaining that many of the men would return to normal when they returned home, but some soldiers would suffer difficulties for their remaining years.

Lovin would clean teeth for the sailors late at night on the ship as a matter of duty and didn't charge, but small donations from troops gave Lovin enough money to play poker and buy necessities. Throughout the war, Lovin saved up a portion of his pay to buy the ring he would present to his long-time girlfriend, Lorraine, before they married. The two were split by the war, but wrote to each other almost every day. Necessities of war meant that mail arrived in batches about once a month, and letters were censored. "I faired a lot better than some guys who got Dear John letters," Lovin said. Lorraine still has the ring he presented her.

Lovin returned to the U.S. after his tour on the ship and entered a ten-week training program with the Marine Corps to prepare him for entering the Fleet Marine Force, or FMF.

"They had a lot of fun, the Marines, taking the Navy guys and working them over for ten weeks," Lovin said jokingly.

He was assigned to the 18th anti-aircraft battalion and paired with a doctor named Jim Holdt who would become a long-time friend. Lovin and Holdt worked closely throughout the invasion of Tinian in the Marianas Islands, initially providing care to Marines with a foot-cranked dental station that Lovin carried onto the island with his duty pack.

"My greatest impression was landing with the Marines. I had this whole pack, plus the medical [equipment] on the side, and I told the doctor 'I don't think I can get over that rope ladder and down into the water.' He swore at me and said 'you're going to make it, Charlie.' I made it, but the impressionable thing was all the dead bodies of the Japanese and even the Marines. You pushed them aside when you made the landing. When we got in there, by then they had a lot of the Japanese in corrals and all they wanted was the American cigarette," Lovin said.

"It was your job, and that was it. You just did it, and in that sense it was like growing up on a farm," Lovin said. "I held sick call and treated all the trench mouth and all that."

He treated ailments for the Marines protecting Tinian from Japanese air attacks after he came aboard the island in one of the later waves of the invasion.

"Doctor Holdt, that I was with for two years and shared the same foxhole, he would take over. . . when he would drill teeth I'd provide the power and clean the teeth at the same time," Lovin said.

Prior to his landing Lovin was on his troop ship when the initial Marine invasion landed, and could hear the conflict as the occupation fought to take enough of the island to allow support troops to move in. He was assigned to patrol around the major smokestack of his ship while the invasion occurred, and said he was always fearful that an enemy bomber would manage to hit the ship while the invasion raged on.

Lovin and Holdt slept on cots under mosquito netting on the island, and Lovin remembers clearly that Holdt slept with a .45-caliber pistol.

"I kept saying that one of these days you're going to wake up from a dream and shoot me," Lovin said jokingly.

He worked in trenches and foxholes after initially landing, and in only a few weeks the engineering corp had built a facility that Lovin moved into for treating soldiers. He spoke of helping to unload injured Marines from hospital ships that had steamed in from Okinawa and other islands once engineers could build a hospital. Lovin said he always remembered though some of the soldiers were bandaged, injured or burned severely they all asked him for cigarettes.

"I always said they ought to pull that ship up to New York and make the American people go aboard that ship," Lovin said.

Lovin's duties were the same on the battleship and with the invasion, but the experiences surrounding his work were vastly different.

"With the Marines there was more of an 'esprit de corps,' because you all depended on the other guy," Lovin said. "Long toward the end of the war I got sent back to go to officer training school at the University of Pennsylvania, but the war ended while I was home on leave."

There was no fanfare for Lovin when the war ended. He was given his severance pay, boarded a train, and came home. Because he had earned his degree from Upper Iowa University before joining the Navy, he was hired as a sports coach in Rockford, Iowa almost immediately after the war. Lovin said the days after the war were excellent times for finding work, as there were so many jobs opening up after soldiers returned from Europe and the Pacific. He moved to Boone to coach tennis, basketball and other sports and joined a number of civic organizations such as the Lion's Club and the American Legion. "I'd never been involved in things like that, living on a farm," Lovin said. He and his wife took picnics, wintered in Arizona for many years and took in the community.

The Lovins eventually met Holdt, the doctor Lovin had worked with in the war, and the two couples visited each other in their respective communities.

Lovin encouraged citizens today to do what they can to understand the importance of the protection the military provides. Donating care packages or sending correspondence to troops can make a big difference, he said.

Much of Lovin's time is now taken by visiting numerous class reunions for all of the years he worked in the Boone schools. His legacy is displayed in the pictures of his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren on a wall in his home and in the years of school classes he receives invitations for reunions from.

I commend Chuck Lovin for his many years of loyalty and service to our great nation. It is an immense honor to represent him in the United States Congress, and I wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

HONORING DUANE FURMAN

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor Duane Furman for receiving the 2010 Lifetime Achievement Award. He has lived a long and distinguished life and career, adhering to extremely high standards of quality and integrity.

Duane was born in Dinuba and moved to Madera in 1963 to become the superintendent of Madera School District. Under Duane's leadership, Madera Unified School District unified ten school districts into one and grew to serve a broad range of students and helping them reach their academic potential. Duane's background in education started in the classroom as a school teacher and then principal.

Duane is exceptionally well connected within his professional community. He is a life member of the National Education Association, the past president of the Madera County Chapter of the California Elementary Administrators Association, the state chairman of the California Elementary Schools Administrators Association. In addition, he was the past president of Phi Delta Kappa Delta Chapter, as well as the California Association of School Administrators. This just scratches the surface of Duane's contributions and participation in his professional career.

In addition to professional organizations, Duane is deeply involved in his community. He is past president of Madera Rotary Club, part of the Madera County Mental Health Advisory Board, and part of the Education and Ambassador Committee of the Madera Chamber of Commerce. Additionally, Duane was a founding board member of the Madera County Arts Council. He has been given numerous awards including the Fresno State Kremen School of Education Noted Alumni Award, the Phi Delta Kappa Service Award, and the San Joaquin River Trust Director Emeritus Award, all in 2007.

Duane is married to Patricia, also an educator, and they have three children. Presently, Duane serves on the Board of Directors for the Madera Community Hospital, as well as the San Joaquin Valley Paleontology Foundation.

Madam Speaker, please join me in commending Mr. Duane Furman for a life well-lived and wishing him the best of luck and health as he continues setting the standard.

IN RECOGNITION OF JUDITH HURLEY STANLEY COLEMAN

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in commemoration of the life of Mrs. Judith Hurley Stanley Coleman. Mrs. Stanley Coleman, an active philanthropist and environmentalist in her community, passed away on August 1, 2010 at the age of 75. She was a model citizen and adored by her colleagues. Her faithful dedication and commitment toward others is unquestionably worthy of this body's recognition.

Mrs. Stanley Coleman was raised in Asbury Park, New Jersey by her mother and grandparents. She graduated as valedictorian from Asbury Park High School in 1952 and later went on to earn a bachelor's degree in history from Smith College in Northampton, Massachusetts. Her academic accolades have earned her a position in the Asbury Park High School's Hall of Fame.

Judith Stanley Coleman's exceptional record of community service can be traced back more than four decades. Mrs. Stanley Cole-

man served as a trustee and held various leadership positions on the boards of the Visiting Nurse Association of Central Jersey, Monmouth Medical Center Foundation, Monmouth Medical Center, Monmouth University, Rumson County Day School, Stevens Institute of Technology, Count Basie Theatre, the SPCA, and Monmouth Museum. Her passion for better, more accessible health care was matched by her love of community activism, politics, historic preservation and environmental justice. As founder and President of the Monmouth Conservation Foundation, President of the Save Sandy Hook organization, and a trustee of the Monmouth Park Charity Fund, Mrs. Stanley Coleman fought hard to preserve Central New Jersey's beautiful natural resources for future generations to enjoy. Her work in the community continued with her involvement in public service and politics. Mrs. Stanley Coleman was a member of the New Jersey Highway Authority under former Governor Thomas Kean. She was also appointed the Chairwoman of the Middletown Planning Board and served with this organization for over thirty years. Mrs. Stanley Coleman remained an active member of the Republican Party, serving as New Jersey's Republican National Committeewoman for ten years and fundraising for various GOP candidates throughout the country. She was a leader determined to make a difference in the community. Mrs. Stanley Coleman's unending generosity and charitable activities have undoubtedly touched many lives and have helped countless people throughout Central New Jersey.

As a result of her exceptional work, Mrs. Stanley Coleman received countless awards and honors for her achievements. She was awarded the 1983 Brotherhood Award from the National Conference of Christians and Jews, the Salvation Army's Others Award in 1984, and the 2003 Christine Todd Whitman Award of Distinction. Mrs. Stanley Coleman was also listed in the 1987 edition of "Who's Who in American Women."

Madam Speaker, Judith Stanley Coleman dedicated her life to philanthropy and environmentalism and her actions touched the hearts and minds of countless men, women and children. Her legacy has served as an inspiration to us all and she will be truly missed.

COMMEMORATING SEPTEMBER 11

SPEECH OF

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Mr. CROWLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 1610 a measure honoring those who perished in the terrorist attacks of September 11th, 2001. I would like to thank the leadership from both sides of the aisle for their efforts in bringing this resolution to the floor, and I support its swift passage.

By coming together today we show that, despite some of our differences, our entire nation is committed to defending the American people and honoring the memory of those who lost their lives to senseless violence nine years ago.

First and foremost, this effort is about remembering and respecting those who lost

their lives on September 11th. Their presence can never be replaced, and their absence remains with all of us.

I have met many of the families who lost loved ones in the terror attacks, and I share their pain having lost a cousin and many friends myself that day. I know that the pain of that day does not simply disappear with the passage of time. Today, we not only offer our enduring respect to those who died we honor their friends and families who carry on with their lives.

We must never forget that the attack by Al-Qaeda on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon were not just an attack on those inside the buildings. They were attacks on the United States of America. The terrorists believed that September 11th would weaken Americans, our values and our way of life. They were wrong. We will not rest until justice is served to those who attacked and murdered innocent American civilians.

IN RECOGNITION OF CALPINE CORPORATION

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Calpine Corporation on the 50th Anniversary of their commercial operations at The Geysers in Lake County, California.

Calpine Corporation owns and operates the world's largest renewable geothermal power facility at The Geysers. The company's 15 geothermal power plants there are capable of generating up to 725 megawatts of baseload renewable, green energy around the clock.

Calpine is expanding its production at The Geysers through wastewater discharge projects in which clean, reclaimed wastewater from local municipalities is recycled into the geothermal fields where it is converted to steam for electricity production. This provides an environmentally-sound wastewater discharge solution for the neighboring cities and increases the long-term productivity of The Geysers.

In addition to The Geysers, Calpine operates natural gas fueled power plants in 21 states and Canada. Its 93 power plants have nearly 29,000 megawatts of generating capacity. It is the nation's largest operator of combined-cycle and cogeneration plants.

In April 2010, the California Department of Conservation recognized Calpine for its ongoing commitment to safety and the environment for its facilities at The Geysers.

At The Geysers, Calpine owns and operates the Cartwright Geothermal Visitors Center, a 6,500 square foot learning center that is open to the public. More than 60,000 visitors from all 50 states and 77 countries have visited the center. Calpine regularly hosts open houses for the community and guided tours of its plants there.

The 330 full-time Calpine employees at The Geysers volunteer in the community and each year host a popular Earth Day event and contribute to the Blood Bank of the Redwoods and United Way. Calpine helps underwrite local paramedic services, community pools, sports fields and recreation areas.

Madam Speaker, Calpine Corporation is an industry leader and one of the leading community partners in my district. It is therefore appropriate that we honor them today on the 50th Anniversary of their operations at The Geysers.

TYLER SPARKS

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Tyler Sparks. Tyler is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 249, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Tyler has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Tyler has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Tyler has earned the rank of Warrior in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say and is a member of the Order of the Arrow. Tyler has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Tyler designed and constructed 6 raised historical gardens at Watkins Mill State Park outside of Kearney, Missouri.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Tyler Sparks for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING AMERICAN TROOPS WHO DIED ON D-DAY

SPEECH OF

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Madam Speaker, on June 6, 1944—D-Day—Allied forces crossed the English Channel to land in Normandy, France. Code-named Operation Overlord, the Normandy landing remains the most massive and complex opposed amphibious invasion in history.

With tremendous courage, the Allies pushed entrenched German forces back from the beaches of Normandy. Thus began the liberation of France and the massive campaign that would ensure the defeat of Nazi Germany in western Europe.

American leadership and the courageous sacrifices made by American servicemen and women were essential to the success of the operation. Led by President Franklin Roosevelt, Supreme Allied Commander General Dwight D. Eisenhower, and General Omar Bradley, American soldiers and airmen sacrificed dearly to defend the United States, our allies, and the world against the savage aggression of Nazi Germany and the Axis powers.

Today, let us honor the courage and sacrifice of those thousands of brave men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice to de-

fend the American people and the people of the world from tyranny.

INTRODUCING H.R. 6127—"EXTENSION OF HEALTH CARE ELIGIBILITY FOR VETERANS WHO SERVED AT QARMAT ALI ACT"

HON. STEVE BUYER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. BUYER. Madam Speaker, today I am introducing a bill, H.R. 6127, the Extension of Health Care Eligibility for Veterans who Served at Qarmat Ali Act, to extend the VA healthcare enrollment period for certain veterans who served in the Qarmat Ali region of Iraq.

Soon after the conflict in Iraq began in 2003, Army National Guard units from my home state of Indiana as well as units from Oregon, West Virginia, and South Carolina and National Guardsmen mobilized as individual augmentees from across the nation were called up and tasked with guarding the Qarmat Ali water treatment facility.

For 6 months—from April to September—these National Guardsmen from across the nation bravely guarded the plant, located just outside Basra. Their mission was to secure the facility and provide protective services for the independent contractors who were working throughout the region to restore Iraqi oil production.

Recently, they have been notified of their possible exposure to a toxic chemical known as sodium dichromate and are being asked to come forward, be evaluated, and enroll in VA's Gulf War Registry. Health problems associated with such exposure include respiratory issues, skin lesions, and burns. Contact may cause increased rates of lung cancer and other ear, nose, throat, and skin disorders.

The men and women of these National Guard units completed their mission—and served our country—well. It was hard for me to discover that despite their safe return, their service may continue to put them at risk. In particular, I am very sensitive to the Hoosiers who may have been injured.

Under current law, combat veterans who served on active duty in a theater of combat operations during a period of war after the Persian Gulf War or in combat against a hostile force during a period of "hostilities" after November 11, 1998 are eligible to enroll in the VA health care system, notwithstanding sufficient evidence of service-connection, for five years following separation from service.

This includes members of the National Guard and Reserve who were activated and served in combat support or direct operations as long as they meet certain requirements.

When Congress established the 5 year period of open enrollment for VA health care it was with the understanding that some wounds of war may not manifest themselves until years after a veteran leaves military duty.

But despite our best intentions, we are finding that some veterans are faced with combat-related health problems that were not apparent even 5 years after the veteran re-entered civilian life. This creates a gap in services that unfairly penalizes these men and women for conditions out of their control.

I commend the VA for their efforts to contact these veterans and create the Qarmat Ali Registry to aggressively track and treat veterans exposed to this toxic chemical as part of the Gulf War Registry.

However, it is also important for them to have immediate access to VA's high quality health care system. The use of VA health care will help to identify potential medical conditions, and provide counseling, immunizations, and medications to prevent illness. Appropriate preventative care can substantially improve health outcomes and the quality of life for our honored heroes.

But, some of the Qarmat Ali veterans who separated from service following their deployment in 2003 may no longer be eligible to enroll in VA health care under the 5-year open enrollment period. As a result, they must first file a claim and seek a service-connected disability rating before enrolling in the VA health care system and gaining access to the comprehensive medical care VA provides.

Unfortunately, the claims process can be both time-consuming and daunting. It is unacceptable that the Qarmat Ali veterans, already subjected to harmful toxins during service to our country, must now await the outcome of a lengthy and sometimes adversarial claims processing system before they can enroll in VA health care.

The VA was established expressly to care for veterans like these who willingly left their homes, families, and lives to protect and defend our nation and may find themselves sick or injured as a result of such selflessness.

H.R. 6127 would correct this unintended gap in services by extending the enrollment eligibility period for Qarmat Ali veterans by 5 years from the date of notification. This would allow them to immediately begin receiving services at VA medical facilities for any and all of their health care needs.

Breaking down barriers to needed care is the very least we, as a grateful nation, can do for the men and women who fight for our freedoms, in Qarmat Ali and around the world.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 6127 and these brave American heroes.

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF
SERGEANT MAJOR ROLANDO
MOORE, JR.

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of SGM Rolando Moore, Jr., upon his retirement from the U.S. Army, which follows nearly 30 years of honorable and dedicated service to our country.

In 1981, Sergeant Major Moore enlisted into the U.S. Army, completing basic training at Fort Leonard in Wood, Missouri. He received advanced training at Fort Sam in Houston, Texas. Throughout his military career, Sergeant Major Moore Jr. sought higher learning in the military, where he excelled in numerous courses and training programs, and also at private institutions of higher learning. He earned a Bachelor's degree in business management from Columbia College, and is cur-

rently pursuing a Master's degree from the University of Phoenix.

Sergeant Moore's military education included in-depth training and education in the areas of patient advocacy and administration. He worked as a senior advisor, patient administration consultant and chief clinical officer at military medical facilities across the country and overseas, including: Walter Reed Army Institute of Research in Washington, DC; Eisenhower Medical Center at Fort Gordon, Georgia; and military facilities in Alabama, Colorado, Michigan, Hawaii and Korea. Sergeant Moore has been recognized with numerous military honors, including the Meritorious Service Medical Award with three oak leaf clusters; the Army Commendation Medal with three oak clusters; the National Defense Service Medal; the NCO Professional Development Ribbon; the Army Service Ribbon; and the Overseas Ribbon Award.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and gratitude of SGM Rolando Moore, Jr., for his exemplary service on behalf of our country. His military career is framed by dedication and unwavering commitment to the health and welfare of our veterans, and his work will have a positive impact on the lives of countless veterans and their families for years to come. I wish Sergeant Major Moore, his wife, Mary Moore, and his daughters, Jazmen Moore and Kalea Moore, much peace, health and happiness in all their future endeavors.

FINDINGS OF THE CHAIRMAN OF
THE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY
AND COMMERCE RELATING TO
EFFICIENCY AND REFORM PUR-
SUANT TO H. RES. 1493

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. WAXMAN. Madam Speaker, thoughtful stewardship of our national budget and accountability in government should be a top national priority. Toward that end, in the 111th Congress, the Committee on Energy and Commerce has been vigilant in conducting oversight hearings to identify waste, fraud, abuse, and mismanagement in government, and this effort has informed the development of a number of legislative initiatives that would produce substantial deficit reduction. Pursuant to the instructions in H. Res. 1493, following is a discussion of major Committee initiatives in this area.

One of the main areas of the Committee's focus has been promoting efficiency and effectiveness in our nation's health care system. The Affordable Care Act, which the President signed into law earlier this year, contains reforms that will save the taxpayers \$130 billion over the next ten years and \$1.2 trillion over the following decade.

This legislation contains many important provisions to reduce waste, fraud, and abuse in the health care system. These include new tools to identify fraudulent providers and prevent them from enrolling in Medicare and Medicaid; new and stronger penalties for providers that defraud Medicare and Medicaid; new data-sharing and data-reporting requirements to identify waste, fraud, and abuse; and

new funding to identify, prevent, and prosecute fraudulent Medicare and Medicaid providers.

The Committee has been reviewing additional cost-cutting initiatives involving health coverage. One concerns drug manufacturer rebates under the Medicare Part D program. The costs of drugs for Medicare-Medicaid dual eligible enrollees (which are paid almost entirely by the federal government) should be no higher under Medicare Part D than they are under Medicaid. The Committee-passed version of health reform included such a rebate provision. A version of this provision that passed the House (but was not enacted into law as part of the Affordable Care Act) would have saved taxpayers approximately \$115 billion over ten years.

Significant taxpayer savings for the federal government would also result by prohibiting "pay for delay" agreements between brand-name drug manufacturers and generic drug manufacturers under which the generic companies are paid to delay the marketing of generic products. Each year, the government spends billions of dollars on prescription drugs through programs such as Medicare and Medicaid, and the inflated drug costs that result from artificially delayed entry of generics onto the market mean higher costs for the government. The Committee and the House approved health reform legislation that included such a prohibition, but this language was not included in the version of the bill that became law.

Energy policy provides another potential for significant savings. Last year, the House passed comprehensive energy legislation that would have saved the taxpayers \$9 billion over ten years. This legislation has not yet been considered by the Senate.

Other areas the Committee is examining also provide avenues for savings. In the telecommunications area, efforts to improve spectrum management and identify opportunities for spectrum reallocation and auction could save taxpayers billions of dollars. Further, the universal service fund costs consumers approximately \$8 billion per year. Under the leadership of Subcommittee Chairman RICK BOUCHER, the Committee has been examining ways to make this fund more efficient and control costs.

The Committee will continue its broad-ranging efforts to consider these and other approaches to address waste, fraud, abuse, and mismanagement in government and reduce the federal deficit.

TRIBUTE TO DAVID MONDT

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize David Mondt, a World War II Army Air Corps and National Guard veteran from Boone County, Iowa, and to express my appreciation for his dedication and commitment to his country.

The Boone News Republican is currently running a series of articles that honors one Boone County veteran every Tuesday from Memorial Day to Veterans Day. David Mondt was recognized on Tuesday, June 29. Below is the article in its entirety:

BOONE COUNTY VETERANS: DAVID MONDT
(By Alexander Hutchins)

At 21 years of age, many kids are still wet behind the ears and trying to carve out a living for themselves. When David Mondt was 22, he was flying nighttime raids to drop paratroopers from the 82nd Airborne into the battlefields of Europe.

Mondt, 87, previously a first lieutenant in the Army Air Corps during World War II, was born in Boone and has lived in the community nearly his entire life. He lived in Perry for a year in his childhood, at which time he was hit by a Hawkeye Laundry truck. No lasting injuries resulted from the accident, but Mondt soon returned to Boone and continued his education.

"The biggest thing was getting a bicycle, which I eventually did," Mondt said of the most significant part of his childhood.

When World War II began, Mondt watched the Iowa National Guard mobilize and head to Louisiana.

"Then they started the draft, and I didn't want to wait for that, so I joined the Air Force," he said.

Mondt began training to be an Army Air Corps mechanic when he first joined, as pilot training was only available to soldiers 21 and older. While in mechanic training, the age requirements for pilot training were lowered, and Mondt, then 18, applied and was accepted into program. He went into the pilot school in Texas, and mere days before graduating the program was scrapped and modified to the Flight Officer Program.

"In one day, November the 10th, 1942, I was a Private, a Staff Sergeant and a flight officer in a matter of hours," Mondt said.

Mondt was eventually placed with the 62nd Troop Carrier Squadron, men with whom he would fly for the rest of the war. Every man in the squadron would return home alive at the war's conclusion.

The squadron flew mostly day-to-day supply and troop transport missions. Mondt flew a C-47 Skytrain cargo plane for the entirety of the war, and said he missed a pre-D-Day appearance by General Eisenhower because he was running a load of supplies. Mondt originally flew runs in North Africa, then as part of the American invasion of Italy where he dropped paratroopers on Sicily.

After the fascist collapse in Italy, Mondt was sent to England and prepared for the D-Day invasion. Mondt would drop members of the 82nd Airborne in the now-famous invasion of Europe, and in the nighttime raid the C-47s received enemy fire, but managed to deploy the paratroopers successfully.

"Everything was fine, as long as you were over England or over the water. When we hit the coast of France we started receiving fire from the Germans," Mondt said. One plane from the squadron was shot down, but the crew survived.

Mondt's plane would return from the mission, but it was hit by anti-aircraft fire. All the windows were blown out and Mondt was hit by the shrapnel flying about the cabin. Mondt received the Purple Heart for his injury, although he would carry pieces of shrapnel in his back for years.

Despite all the events conspiring around him that would become critical to world history, Mondt said that in the end the daily activities were orderly and regimented.

"Whatever they told you to do, you did," Mondt said. "It was really just an everyday occurrence. When you weren't dropping paratroopers, you were hauling supplies to front-line troops."

Mondt flew British and Polish soldiers into the Battle of Arnhem, but toward the end of the war more flights were daytime operations. Mondt said that after crossing the Rhine River, there were hardly any German

air forces left. The planes had all been bombed at the airfields by the Army Air Corps.

"If you got back from the flight, you got a place to sleep, and it was warm, and [you got] good food. The ground troops ate out of mess kits. We never did," Mondt said.

When he returned to the U.S. after his tour of duty, he was offered a chance to leave the Air Corps while in St. Louis. Mondt accepted and returned to Iowa. He didn't spend long out of an airplane, however, as he joined the Army Aviation of the National Guard upon returning to Boone. He would fly aircraft with the National Guard, including helicopter training in Texas, and would serve in the Guard until the age of 60. At one point Mondt was told the Army would be decommissioning all of its planes for helicopters, but he never heard what came of that plan.

Life was normal after the war. Mondt sold insurance when he wasn't on Guard duty, and he married his wife, Yvonna. They raised four children and lived a quiet life.

"Mowing grass," Mondt said jokingly when asked what he did for a hobby while living in Boone. Mondt said the war had little permanent effect on him, as his outlook on life after the war was similar to his outlook on life before the conflict.

"It [the war] hasn't affected me at all, as far as I can recall," Mondt said. Beginning in 1951 his squadron from the war began holding reunions, and the original gathering had 41 participants. Though the numbers have dwindled, Mondt still attends reunion functions for the war.

I commend David Mondt for his many years of loyalty and service to our great nation. It is an immense honor to represent him in the United States Congress, and I wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE DEDICATION OF THE HINDU TEMPLE OF CANTON

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. PETERS. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the dedication of the Hindu Temple of Canton, a beacon of community and spirituality benefitting the Hindu community of Greater Detroit.

Just a little over a year ago, I stood at the Temple site along with the members of the Hindu Temple to turn the first shovels of soil for this center's major expansion. Its completion marks a new phase of growth and prominence for this vibrant community, and I am proud and honored to recognize this dedication.

In October of 1986, a small group of dedicated members of the Hindu community decided that there was a clear need to build a Temple that would cater to the western suburbs of Detroit. Construction began in 1988, and the Temple first opened its doors on December 25, 1990.

For the past 20 years, the Temple has fulfilled its role as a true center of the community—offering classes and concerts, hosting countless gatherings, annual celebrations of Indian Independence Day, and supporting the broader community through a Scholarship Program for graduates of Plymouth Canton High School.

With the completion of this new expansion, the Temple will be able to welcome ever-larg-

er numbers of members into its doors and continue to provide the rich and dynamic programming that has become its signature.

Madam Speaker, it is my distinct privilege to mark the dedication of the Hindu Temple of Canton and the milestone of progress and growth it represents for the Hindu Community of metro Detroit.

COMMEMORATING SEPTEMBER 11

SPEECH OF

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Speaker, it is difficult to believe that it has been 9 years to the day when our Nation was attacked by foreign terrorists who claimed the lives of 2,977 Americans including 411 of our Nation's bravest first responders.

As a Member of the Homeland Security Committee I am proud of the steps we have taken since that fateful day to make the American people safer, but our work is far from complete and this is a mission we, as public servants, can never stop striving to achieve.

I am also proud that this Congress passed the aptly-named Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act which designates September 11 as a National Day of Service and Remembrance.

On September 11 more so than any other day of the year we should come together as Americans and find new ways to serve our Nation.

For it was on September 11 that so many Americans unexpectedly found themselves in the middle of a truly horrible situation and yet summoned the courage to help save others without regard to themselves.

So I say to all of you that many of the wounds of that fateful day will heal over time, but that we will never forget the heroism we witnessed, the lessons we learned, and the redemption the American people earned through our own strength.

On September 11, more than any other day in our history, we witnessed what it truly means to serve our Nation as a first responder.

We witnessed police officers, fire fighters, and paramedics racing up flights of stairs, hoping to save even a few more lives, without once thinking about their own safety.

Its not only those of you who are already serving our communities that understand this sacrifice, it is also evident in all of our current trainees, because after 9/11 no one could possibly make the commitment to being a first responder without fully understanding what kind of sacrifice was being asked of them.

As a public servant, I can not pretend to relate to this level of sacrifice, but I do strongly share your determination that those first responders who lost their lives on 9/11 should not just merely be commemorated, but in fact their memories should spur us towards making our Nation stronger and safer.

As a Member of Congress and as an original member of the House Homeland Security Committee, I believe we must commit ourselves to providing our Nation's first responders with all the tools they need to protect our communities.

I also believe it is critical on this day to say that we need Congress to bring back the James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act—and this time we need bipartisan support to pass it.

While the entire Nation watched with sorrow for those we lost and tried to heal emotionally after that day—there were only a few brave souls who went back to that rubble day-after-day and endured the physical and mental strain of clearing the remains of the towers in lower Manhattan.

On that day we gave those brave souls the “all clear” sign, but we now know that we were exposing those men and women to a poisonous dust that would stay with them for the rest of their lives.

We need this bill because it will finally provide comprehensive health care and compensation for thousands of our ailing 9/11 heroes.

This isn't just a bill for New York and New Jersey—this is a bill for all Americans. We know that people from all 50 States were in lower Manhattan on or after 9/11 and now are facing serious health concerns.

This is not about Bill Pascrell or any other public official, but I tell you all of this because I want you, the protectors of our communities, to know that I stand firmly behind the mission of our Nation's first responders.

We can not turn back the clock and provide our first responders with the equipment they should have had on 9/11, but we must take every step necessary to ensure that all of you are equipped with the tools necessary to face all the threats of the future.

These are bipartisan solutions that all Americans have embraced because we understand now that if we are not strong here in our communities than we are not safe as a Nation.

I want to conclude by simply stating that even 9 years after 9/11 we will continue to bow our heads for those we lost, but we will also hold our hands in solidarity with one another, in the determination of those brave first responders who proved on 9/11 that we may have been attacked, but that we would not be defeated.

FINDINGS OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE RELATING TO EFFICIENCY AND REFORM PURSUANT TO H. RES. 1493

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. REYES. Madam Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 1493 and on behalf of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, I submit the following findings that identify potential changes in law that help achieve deficit reduction by reducing waste, fraud, abuse, and mismanagement, promoting efficiency and reform of government, and controlling spending within government programs authorized by the Committee.

On February 26, 2010, the House of Representatives passed H.R. 2701, the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010. This legislation includes a number of changes in law that would help achieve deficit reduction by reducing waste, fraud, abuse, and mis-

management, as well as promote efficiency and reform in government, and control spending within intelligence programs.

Creation of an Inspector General for the Intelligence Community. The bill would create a statutory and independent inspector general for the Intelligence Community (IC/IG), whose office would have authority to conduct audits and investigations within and across the elements of the Intelligence Community. The IC/IG would be a powerful tool for identifying waste, fraud, abuse, and mismanagement in the Intelligence Community.

Granting access to the General Accounting Office. The bill would require the General Accounting Office be given access to Intelligence Community records and personnel for the purposes of conducting audits and investigation as directed by the congressional intelligence committees. These audits and investigations have proven critical to Congress' ability to identify waste, fraud, abuse, and mismanagement throughout the federal government; this provision will bring the same level of congressional oversight to the Intelligence Community.

Review of covert action programs by Inspector General of the Central Intelligence Agency. The bill would require that the CIA/JIG conduct audits of each covert action program at least once every three years, which would ensure that these critical and sometimes costly programs receive an appropriate level of scrutiny.

Improvements to congressional oversight. The bill would enhance congressional oversight over the Intelligence Community in a number of ways, which would better enable Congress to help reduce the deficit by promoting efficiency, controlling spending, and reducing waste, fraud, abuse, and mismanagement. These include:

Reform to congressional reporting on covert actions. The bill would make a number of improvements to the process through which the Intelligence Community informs Congress regarding certain sensitive covert actions, including a requirement that all notifications to the Gang of 8 (the Speaker of the House, House Minority Leader, Senate Majority and Minority Leader, and the Chair and Ranking Member of the two Intelligence Committees) be provided in writing; and that all members of the congressional intelligence committees be provided with “general information” regarding a notification to the Gang of 8. The bill also defines the specific terms that would necessitate congressional notification.

Certification of compliance with oversight requirements. The bill would require the head of each element of the Intelligence Community to certify semi-annually that the element has notified Congress of all significant and significant anticipated intelligence activities, as required by law.

Cybersecurity oversight. The bill would require notification to Congress of all new and existing cybersecurity programs, giving Congress better visibility into this evolving and resource-intensive mission.

Security clearance reform. The bill would require extensive reporting to Congress, including a comprehensive quadrennial audit, regarding the processes used by the federal government to provide security clearances. It would also create an ombudsman responsible for addressing complaints regarding the security clearance system. Committee hearings and other investigations have identified numer-

ous inefficiencies in the security clearance systems, which these reforms will help to address.

Reform and oversight of personnel policies. The bill includes a number of provisions intended to help control the growth of personnel and other administrative costs within the Intelligence Community. These include:

Caps on personnel levels at the Office of the Director of National Intelligence. The bill would limit the number of personnel at the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI), which has increased substantially since the ODNI was created.

Annual personnel level assessments. The bill would require that the Intelligence Community conduct a comprehensive review of all personnel, both federal employees and contractors across all agencies, which would assist the Intelligence Community and Congress in identifying redundancies, excessive growth, and other inefficiencies.

Report on intelligence community contractors. The bill would require a comprehensive report on the use of personal services contractors within the Intelligence Community, the impact of these contractors on personnel management systems, plans to convert positions from contractor to federal employee, and accountability methods. The use of contractors in the Intelligence Community has increased substantially over the past ten years, at considerable cost to the taxpayer.

This report will enable Congress to identify contractor mismanagement and to monitor the implementation of responsible and cost-effective policies regarding contractors across the Intelligence Community.

Reports and plans. The bill includes provisions to require reports or plans on various subjects, which will assist Congress and the Intelligence Community in determining ways to achieve a variety of missions more efficiently and effectively without waste, fraud, abuse, or mismanagement. These include:

Report on intelligence resources dedicated to Iraq and Afghanistan. The bill would require a report summarizing the intelligence resources dedicated to Operation New Dawn (formerly Operation Iraqi Freedom) and Operation Enduring Freedom, so that Congress can ensure that they are used in the most efficient and cost-effective manner.

Report on transformation of the intelligence capabilities of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) has undertaken significant internal restructuring to better enable it to collect intelligence on potential terrorists, among other threats. The bill requires a comprehensive assessment of this effort, which would allow Congress and the FBI determine whether further changes are necessary and/or cost-effective.

Intelligence community financial improvement and audit readiness. The bill requires that each element of the Intelligence Community produce a plan for achieving full, unqualified audits by September 30, 2013, which is an integral step toward implementation of sound financial management practices at these agencies.

Inspector General report on over-classification. The bill requires that the IC/IG conduct an analysis of the over-classification of national security information and recommend ways to resolve the problem. Over-classification can inhibit the sharing of intelligence, which can lead to redundancy and waste.

Report on information sharing practices of joint terrorism task force. The bill requires a report on the information sharing practices of the FBI-New York Police Department Joint Terrorism Task Force to help identify ways in which combining federal, state, and local resources can result in a more efficient use of those resources.

Plan to implement recommendations of the data center energy efficiency reports. The bill requires that the Director of National Intelligence prepare a plan to comply with a report regarding the use of energy efficient data centers, which would help the Intelligence Community reduce its energy costs.

Repeal of certain reporting requirements. The bill would reduce the resources expended across the Intelligence Community on preparing reports that are redundant or obsolete.

HONORING PONZI VINEYARDS

HON. DAVID WU

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. WU. Madam Speaker, I rise today to offering congratulations to the Ponzi Vineyards on their fortieth anniversary of outstanding wine making and stewardship of the land.

Located in Beaverton, Oregon, in the heart of my district, Ponzi Vineyards has a long tradition of creating highly rated wines in the great wine-producing region of the Willamette Valley. Ponzi Vineyards is internationally acclaimed for producing some of the world's finest pinot noir, pinot grin, pinot blanc, chardonnay and white riesling, as well as arnei and dolcetto, two rare Italian varietals.

Ponzi Vineyards remains a family owned business, with the second generation now directing the operation. Founded by Dick and Nancy Ponzi, the winery has always maintained an unwavering commitment to building a tradition of winemaking excellence, as well as a commitment to protecting the environment.

All of the Ponzi's vineyard land is certified to comply with the world's highest standard for sustainable viticulture. Since the beginning, the Ponzis have instilled a strong belief in respect for, and responsibility toward our natural resources.

I congratulate the Ponzi family on its forty years of producing high-quality wines, while simultaneously protecting the Earth.

FINDINGS OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY RELATING TO EFFICIENCY AND REFORM PURSUANT TO H. RES. 1493

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, in accordance with the Budget Enforcement Resolution, I submit those changes in law resulting from legislation approved or filed by the Committee on Homeland Security that will help achieve deficit reduction by enhancing efficiency, accountability and over-

sight, while eliminating waste, abuse, mismanagement, and fraud in Government programs within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Homeland Security.

Below are measures within the Committee's jurisdiction that have, to date, been approved by the House during this Congress and reflect the Committee's efforts to promote efficiency, government reform and result in budgetary savings:

H.R. 553, the Reducing Over-Classification Act, which creates a standard for formatting finished intelligence and eliminates redundant classification efforts.

H.R. 2200, the Transportation Security Administration Authorization Act, which streamlines management at TSA, requires risk-based allocation of resources, and promotes operational efficiency.

H.R. 4842, the Homeland Security Science and Technology Authorization Act of 2010, which establishes new internal controls, more robust standards, and reforms for all of the research and development conducted by both the Department of Homeland Security's Science and Technology Directorate and the Domestic Nuclear Detection Office.

H.R. 3978, the First Responder Anti-Terrorism Training Resources Act, which allows the Department of Homeland Security to accept gifts for its first responder training centers, thereby alleviating need for the Department to purchase certain equipment or material.

H.R. 3980, the Redundancy Elimination and Enhanced Performance for Preparedness Grants Act, which requires the identification of redundant rules and regulations and a plan to eliminate redundant reports and regulations.

H.R. 1148, a bill to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to conduct a program in the maritime environment for the mobile biometric identification of suspected individuals, including terrorists, to enhance border security, which promotes government efficiency by streamlining processing, prosecution, and deportation of suspected individuals.

H.R. 2868, the Chemical and Water Security Act of 2009, which controls spending by requiring that grants be awarded on a merit and risk based basis, streamlines the regulatory requirements for securing chemical and water treatment facilities and, by enhancing the security of such facilities, mitigates against the potentially astronomical costs associated with the response to and recovery from a successful terrorist attack on such a facility.

H.R. 1617, the Department of Homeland Security Component Privacy Officer Act of 2009, which establishes a privacy officer in each Department of Homeland Security component, thus enhancing efficiency by reducing the potential for the production of regulations or guidelines that are subject to challenge under privacy laws.

H.R. 4748, the Northern Border Counter-narcotics Strategy Act of 2010, which enhances the efficiency of governmental efforts to prevent the illegal trafficking of drugs across the northern border by requiring a strategy stating the specific roles and responsibilities of relevant agencies.

H.R. 1178, a bill to direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a study on the use of Civil Air Patrol personnel and resources to support homeland security missions, and for other purposes, which requires a report to Congress focusing on the

feasibility and cost effectiveness of using the Civil Air Patrol to supplement Departmental air resources involved in border enforcement and other homeland security missions.

H.R. 1665, the Coast Guard Acquisition Reform Act of 2009, which eliminates massive cost overruns and potential future costs overruns for Coast Guard acquisitions.

H.R. 3619, the Coast Guard Authorization Act for Fiscal Years 2010 and 2011, which creates an acquisition directorate to provide guidance and oversight for Coast Guard acquisitions, the result of which will be cost savings.

Madam Speaker, the measures I have listed display the Committee on Homeland Security's commitment to advancing legislation that seeks to reduce the national deficit by promoting government efficiency while focusing on our primary mission of pursuing legislation that enhances the security of our nation.

RECOGNIZING STEVE LEWANDOWSKI ON THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF ANNOUNCING AT THE SAN DIEGO POLO CLUB

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. ISSA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the tenure of Mr. Steve Lewandowski, on the occasion of his 20th anniversary as announcer at the San Diego Polo Club. As a beloved media personality in San Diego County, I would like to congratulate Steve and celebrate his two decades of outstanding commentary for the Club.

Known as the Voice of the San Diego Polo Club, Steve has provided invaluable entertainment acting as a play-by-play announcer, color commentator and ambassador for the game he learned to play at the club. With Steve's wealth of knowledge and enthusiasm for the game, you wouldn't know that he didn't have much background in polo when he arrived in San Diego in 1982 as a naval officer based in Coronado. But after his first match at the Club in 1991, he was instantly hooked.

With a background in public speaking, Steve came in to announcing at the club by chance, as a last minute backup whose versatile talents instantly took everyone by storm. From there it was history as Steve proceeded to take over the distinguished post that has warmed hearts for the last 20 years.

Novice fans count on him to provide the introductory polo basics, seasoned veterans want the inside scoop—Steve delivers it all in an eloquent balance. Known for his ability to convey tremendous excitement and enthusiasm, Steve has announced at the World Cup, done commentary as "the voice of polo" for ESPN, and has traveled all over the world, including Mexico, Ireland, and Australia.

Furthermore, Steve has made countless contributions to our community as the Master of Ceremonies and auctioneer for hundreds of charity events. Steve holds a particular passion and longstanding commitment to supporting wounded warriors. Time and again, Steve has demonstrated his admirable dedication and unwavering support for wounded warriors and the organizations that serve them.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues please join me in recognizing Steve

Lewandowski on the occasion of his 20th anniversary announcing at the San Diego Polo Club. Thank you.

HONORING BILL DAWSON

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor Bill Dawson for receiving the 2010 Lifetime Achievement Award. He has lived a long and distinguished life, adhering to extremely high standards of quality and integrity.

Bill Dawson was born in Glendale, California and moved to Madera in 1985. He spend ten years as the production control manager for National Can. He was also a plant controller for Penata Foods and Industrial Blow Molding. In addition, he spent 25 years as the owner of Round Table Pizza and recounts the highlight of his careers as helping kids see the benefit of a good education.

Bill is well connected within his community. For almost twenty years, he has been a member of the Lions Clubs, both Breakfast and Evening Lions. He was awarded the Lion of the Year award seven times. Additionally, he was past president of Madera Linkage Foundation. He is currently the president of the Foundation for high school Athletic Needs and was the 1996 Homecoming Grand Marshall.

Bill is married to his wife, Brenda. It is clear that they will leave a lasting legacy for generations to come. Madam Speaker, please join me in commending Bill for a life well lived and wishing him the best of luck and health as he continues setting the standard.

HARRISON J. SHIPMAN

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Harrison J. Shipman. Harrison is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 249, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Harrison has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Harrison has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Harrison has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Harrison designed and constructed a memory garden at Weston Christian Church in Weston, Missouri. Harrison honored the memory of 70 late members of the church with bricks with their names inscribed on them.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Harrison J. Shipman for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

RECOMMENDATION OF CHANGES IN LAW THAT HELP ACHIEVE DEFICIT REDUCTION BY REDUCING WASTE, FRAUD, ABUSE, AND MISMANAGEMENT, PROMOTING EFFICIENCY AND REFORM OF GOVERNMENT; AND CONTROLLING SPENDING WITHIN GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS, PURSUANT TO H. RES. 1493

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Madam Speaker, pursuant to section (c)(2)(C) of H. Res. 1493, the Small Business Committee has taken steps to “identify changes in law that help achieve deficit reduction by reducing waste, fraud, abuse, and mismanagement, promoting efficiency and reform of government, and controlling spending within Government programs” that fall within the Committees’ legislative jurisdiction. With the economy beginning to show promising signs of recovery, it remains imperative that Congress and this Committee effectively oversee that taxpayer funds are used effectively. This includes not only terminating duplicative programs, but also taking steps to eliminate wasteful practices in federal agencies.

The Committee has taken its oversight role very seriously. H. Res. 40, which was passed at the beginning of this Congress, amended Clause 2(n) of House Rule XI by requiring that committees undertake intensive and regular examination of executive branch activities. We have exceeded the 1 hearing per 120 day requirement under H. Res. 40 and held 10 hearings on the Small Business Administration (SBA) and its programs. This has included 4 Government Accountability Office (GAO) investigations, all of which were requested by this Committee.

As a direct result of these oversight activities, the Committee makes the following recommendations pursuant to H. Res. 1493:

1. Termination of Patriot Express Loan Program: The Increased Veteran Participation Program contained in P.L. 110–186, the Military Reservist and Veteran Small Business Reauthorization and Opportunity Act of 2008, provides a more suitable financing alternative for veteran-owned small businesses than the Patriot Express Loan program. In particular, the program established in P.L. 110–186 provides for a higher guarantees, larger loan sizes, and reduced fees than the Patriot Express pilot program currently operated by the SBA. For this reason, the Committee recommends the termination of the Patriot Express initiative because the alternative program established in P.L. 110–186 will better serve veteran entrepreneurs.

2. Termination of SBA Express Loan Program: Given increasing defaults and the projected costs associated with the SBA Express program, the Committee recommends that this program be immediately terminated. The initiative has grown costly and does not satisfy any public policy goal, making it a poor use of scarce taxpayer funds. With a reduced guarantee of only 50 percent, the SBA Express Loan program fails to provide a sufficient incentive for lenders to make loans that they would otherwise not make.

3. Termination of the HUBZone Program: In the last three years, GAO has found that the

program was continually subject to widespread fraud and mismanagement. The program places taxpayer funds at substantial risk for fraud, waste, and abuse. Given the high frequency of fraud, legitimate small business contractors are placed at a distinct disadvantage due to the continued operation of this program. As a result, the Committee recommends that it be terminated.

4. Termination of the Emerging Leaders Initiative: While the goals of this program are justifiable, the Committee is concerned about the effectiveness and efficiency of the initiative due to its program design and past performance. As a pilot program, the initiative failed to demonstrate the capacity to generate a significant economic impact despite the large share of resources allocated to it. This program only produced 132 jobs at a cost of \$800,000—an average of cost of \$6,000 per job created. This amount is almost twice as much as the job creation cost of the Small Business Development Center program, which costs \$3,500 to create one job. In addition, this program is duplicative of SBA’s extensive network of entrepreneurial development providers. As a result, the Committee recommends that it be terminated.

5. Termination of the Regional Innovation Clusters Initiative: The Committee has major concerns over the design of the regional cluster program. Although the program’s goal is to target significant resources to regional industry clusters, the institutional framework to implement the proposal has not been clearly established. Plans for the allocation of resources, partnership agreements among local, private, and federal service providers in the targeted areas, and decision-making coordination remain unclear. In addition, the program lacks a specific implementation strategy, has inadequate federal oversight over the allocation of resources, and does not contain sufficient performance measures to determine its success. Due to these limitations, there is significant concern over abuse of thirds for this initiative. As a result, the Committee recommends that this program be terminated.

6. Termination of the National Veterans Business Development Corporation: This Corporation was created to provide training and entrepreneurial development services to veterans. Unfortunately, it has not reached its full potential and the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars have called for its termination. Given concerns that the organization is insufficiently fulfilling its purpose to provide comprehensive assistance to separating members of the nation’s military forces, the Committee has authored and the House passed an alternative program in H.R. 1803, the Veterans Business Center Act of 2009. This legislation establishes a dedicated national network to deliver the services more efficiently than the Corporation. The Committee’s commitment to promoting veteran entrepreneurship remains strong. Therefore, it is critical that assistance programs to the sector are effective and that veterans have access to these resources so they can establish successful enterprises in all stages of the economy.

7. Termination of the Drug-Free Workplace Program: The Drug-Free Workplace program was originally created to assist small firms in the implementation of a plethora of substance abuse counseling and training activities. This included creating workplace drug policies, drug prevention training and education seminars, providing for drug-testing,

and counseling employees on substance abuse. Instead, the program has evolved into a subsidy solely for drug-testing centers, a private industry that does not warrant funding from the SBA, an agency whose mission is to promote and assist small businesses. Given the financial challenges facing the government, it is not prudent to use scarce taxpayer funds to purchase drug-testing services from and for viable private sector companies. As a result, the termination of program funding is appropriate due to the lack of meaningful returns on the public investment.

8. Termination of the National Women's Business Council (NWBC)—The NWBC mandate is to conduct research on women entrepreneurship, which is duplicative of the research work of the SBA's Office of Advocacy. Having two research entities conduct similar research is unnecessary and the NWBC funding should be terminated. The Office of Advocacy is the appropriate entity to conduct all entrepreneurship-related research as it benefits from both economies of scale and scope in its organization structure and staff capabilities.

In the last 18 months, small businesses have increasingly turned to the SBA for assistance. This has helped stem job losses and, in some parts of the country, created pockets of new growth. As a result, we are now beginning to see signs of strength, as private sector jobs continue to be added. To this end, the National Association for Business Economics recently found that 31 percent of companies added jobs between April and June, the highest level since 2007. Additionally, 39 percent of businesses surveyed reported that they expect to hire more workers over the next six months, which is the most since January 2008. Such growth is promising and it suggests that the business climate is becoming ripe for the establishment of new firms. This means that the SBA needs to be prepared to help these firms succeed, while also containing its costs. The Committee's proposals, if implemented, will accomplish this by reducing the federal deficit, curtailing fraud, and enabling the SBA to focus on its most important and successful programs. By increasing efficiency, the agency's existing tools and resources can be improved, without imposing additional costs on the taxpayer. This is a means to not only act in a fiscally prudent manner, but also a way to meet the needs of our nation's small businesses.

IN RECOGNITION OF MADLYN AND
JAMES AARON

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of James and Madlyn Aaron's long-standing dedication to their community and to applaud their many contributions to the public. I hope that their faithful devotion to the state of New Jersey may serve as an example to us all.

James Aaron has been practicing law for 41 years and is a member of the New Jersey State Bar and Monmouth Bar Association. He is currently partner at the distinguished firm of Ansell Grimm & Aaron, based in Ocean, New

Jersey. Jim has been able to connect his professional career with his desire to contribute to his community. He has served as a panelist for the Monmouth University Real Estate Institute and has lectured for the Institute of Continuing Legal Education. In addition, Jim has been the City of Long Branch's City Attorney since 1994, has served as the municipal prosecutor and attorney for the zoning board for the City of Long Branch, and has held the position of Ashbury Park's City Attorney. In fact, he is the only City Attorney in the history of New Jersey to serve these cities at the same time. Jim's impressive legal career includes practicing before the United States Supreme Court, the United States Court of Appeals, and the United States Court of Claims.

Mr. Aaron's active participation in New Jersey civic life extends to a variety of other spheres as well. In 2006, Jim was appointed the Commissioner of the New Jersey Racing Commission. He also sits on the Board of Trustees of the Hollywood Golf Club. In addition, because religion is important to him, Jim has attended Temple Beth Miriam for his entire life. He is now a member of the Temple's Board of Trustees.

Jim's wife Madlyn Aaron was a school teacher in the Long Branch school system for over 33 years. She holds a B.A. and an MBA from Monmouth University, and her commitment to education has continued even after retirement. Madlyn and Jim sponsor the Leslie B. Aaron Scholarship Fund which provides a scholarship to a deserving Long Branch High School senior every year. They also sponsor Heimlich-Aaron Scholarship Fund which provides a scholarship for a worthy graduate of Temple Beth Miriam's Hebrew High School. The couple supports Monmouth University and the Monmouth Medial Center, and their contributions to civic life also include their active membership in the Long Branch Chamber of Commerce. Perhaps most notably, Jim and Madlyn recently served as co-chairs of the Temple Beth Miriam's "Capital Campaign." The campaign successfully raised over \$2.5 million dollars for the Temple.

Madam Speaker, please join me in leading this body in acknowledgement of the dedication of James and Madlyn Aaron to their community. Their contributions to civic life and charitable and religious organizations make them tremendously valued citizens of my district and the state of New Jersey.

HONORING THE LIFE AND WORK
OF DR. CLAIRE COLEMAN

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. PETERS. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to rise today to remember and honor the life of a dear friend, Dr. Claire Colman. Claire was an accomplished physician, a staunch champion of women's rights, and a dedicated Democratic activist.

Since her passing last December, friends from around the Metro-Detroit area and Michigan have remembered Claire in various ways, including a most fitting dedication by the Birmingham-Bloomfield Democratic Club of a park bench in Birmingham's Shain Park. I am honored to add my words today to the growing list of tributes to Claire's life.

Claire embodied progressive values and had an abiding passion for human rights. She was a tireless leader, ably heading key organizations as Michigan NOW and Detroit WAND, even while struggling with serious health issues. Through her leadership and activism, Claire was the essence of advocacy. Even the most minor task warranted her attention—she was ever on the phone, at meetings, raising money and raising spirits. She remains an example for us all.

Above all, however, Claire was a loving and devoted wife to Michael and mother to Joe and Brian. To both my wife Colleen and I, she was not only a dear friend but a trusted advisor and stalwart advocate.

In so many ways, Claire's passion, energy and enthusiasm for life and goodness lives on in each of us. Her memory inspires us to work toward a world that expresses our shared values. She is missed. She is cherished. And she will always be in our hearts.

FINDINGS OF THE CHAIRMAN OF
THE COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT
AND GOVERNMENT REFORM RELATING TO
EFFICIENCY AND REFORM PURSUANT TO H. RES. 1493

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, pursuant to subsection (c)(2) of H. Res. 1493, the House-passed Budget Enforcement Resolution, I am submitting the following information for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. The Budget Enforcement Resolution requires that I identify the Committee actions that help achieve deficit reduction by reducing waste, fraud, and abuse in government programs, promoting efficiency and government reform, and controlling spending in the government programs. This requirement reflects the House's commitment to deficit reduction and bringing about a more efficient and accountable government for the American people. As Chairman of the Oversight Committee, I am pleased to comply with this requirement.

A September 2 letter from the Speaker of the House and Majority Leader to House Committee Chairs identifies some of the important legislative steps the Oversight Committee has taken to promote deficit reduction, fiscal responsibility, and government reform in the 111th Congress. The Oversight Committee and the House of Representatives passed the Government Efficiency, Effectiveness and Performance Improvement Act, H.R. 2142. As the letter acknowledges, the enhanced oversight provided by this legislation will significantly cut government waste. In addition, the Committee approved the Improper Payments Elimination and Reduction Act, H.R. 3393, which was also signed into law (as S. 1508) on July 22, 2010. The Office of Management and Budget recently reported that the federal government made an astonishing \$98 billion in duplicate, erroneous, or undocumented payments in 2009. The Committee's and the Congress' efforts, in passing H.R. 3393 / S. 1508, will provide the government with the tools it needs to recover these overpayments for the American taxpayers and stop them from occurring in the first instance.

In addition to these important reforms, the Oversight Committee is pursuing a broad-based approach to deficit reduction and budget savings. The Committee's actions include direct oversight of agencies to improve and address inefficient practices that would result in over \$19.4 billion in budget savings. The Committee also has advanced legislative reforms to strengthen the internal watchdogs at government agencies, improve the investigative and auditing arm of Congress, empower federal workers to fight fraud and waste without fear of retaliation, improve government efficiency by facilitating the sale of surplus federal real property, and save hundreds of millions of tax dollars by expediting the transition of government-wide telecommunication services. These efforts are described below.

HOLDING AGENCIES ACCOUNTABLE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF OVER \$19.4 BILLION IN COST SAVINGS REFORMS

At the request of the Oversight Committee, Inspectors General from across the government identified improvements and efficiencies in government operations that would result in over \$19.4 billion in savings to the federal budget if fully implemented. As the country begins to recover from the economic crisis, the American public should have confidence that agencies will be held accountable for taking any actions necessary to recover such significant savings of their hard-earned tax dollars. The Oversight Committee will monitor implementation of each of these IG recommendations. The Committee will require agency heads to report back on the steps they are taking to recoup these savings for the U.S. taxpayers, to provide a timeline for the realization of these savings, and detail any administrative or legislative action needed to bring about these savings and efficiencies.

STRENGTHENING THE IG COMMUNITY

The Oversight Committee is also taking legislative action to promote better and more efficient government. This September, the Committee plans to bring legislation (H.R. 5815) to the floor of the House of Representatives that will better equip Inspectors General to fulfill their statutory mission of rooting out waste and fraud in the federal government. The legislation complements and strengthens the Committee's ongoing oversight efforts in this area. The legislation will require corrective action by government agencies to address IG cost saving recommendations. A statutory mandate will remove the bureaucratic inertia and barriers that too often slow or thwart agency efforts to tackle inefficiencies that account for billions of dollars in unnecessary spending every year. The legislation will also provide IGs with the tools they need to conduct complete and thorough investigations of waste, fraud, and abuse in government contracting. Collectively, the reforms in H.R. 5815 will strengthen the authority of IGs so they can better fulfill their important mission of fighting waste and protecting the interests of the taxpayers.

IMPROVING THE GAO

During this Congress, the House of Representatives passed legislation (H.R. 2646) sponsored by the Oversight Committee that will strengthen the authority and effectiveness of the General Accountability Office (GAO). The GAO helps inform the Congress, Executive agencies, and the public about areas and programs within the federal government that are performing well, and those that need to be improved or are vulnerable to waste, fraud, and abuse. GAO audits pro-

vide reliable assessments as to whether the taxpayers are receiving full value from important government programs. H.R. 2646, which is awaiting action in the Senate, will increase the effectiveness of GAO by ensuring that GAO is not unnecessarily restricted in its efforts to secure necessary information in the course of performing its auditing and investigative functions for the Congress.

EMPOWERING FEDERAL EMPLOYEES TO COMBAT WASTE, FRAUD, AND ABUSE

The Oversight Committee is committed to advancing H.R. 1507, the Whistleblower Protection Enhancement Act of 2009, and is currently negotiating with the Senate on this essential reform. Similar legislation was passed as part of the Recovery Act in the beginning of the Congress, but was unfortunately stripped out in conference with the Senate. The government should make every effort to ensure that tax dollars are not misspent or vulnerable to waste, fraud, or abuse. Federal employees at financial and other agencies throughout the government are often the first to witness abuses or illegality that presents a risk to the taxpayer. They are in a position to call attention to waste in government operations because they see what is happening inside our government on a day-to-day basis. Providing strong protections for those who disclose misconduct helps to promote a more accountable and transparent federal bureaucracy. Importantly, the legislation also extends strong whistleblower protections to employees of government contractors.

FACILITATING SAVINGS THROUGH SALES OF REAL PROPERTY

Last September, the Oversight Committee favorably reported H.R. 2495, the Federal Real Property Disposal Act. This legislation would encourage the sale of surplus federal real property by allowing the General Services Administration to use its funds to prepare unneeded properties to be reported excess. It would also allow agencies to retain the proceeds from the sale of surplus real property. These measures would implement recommendations by GAO, which has stated in its High-Risk Series that the funding needed to prepare property for disposal and some agencies' inability to retain sale proceeds have been longstanding barriers to the sale of surplus property. The language of H.R. 2495 is being added to S. 1510, the United States Secret Service Uniformed Division Modernization Act, and the Oversight Committee is currently negotiating with the Senate on final language for the bill.

SAVING TAX DOLLARS BY EXPEDITING THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS TRANSITION

The delay in transitioning government-wide telecommunications services from the General Services Administration's FTS2001 contract to Networx has resulted in the loss of approximately \$22 million a month. At the current pace, those losses could total between \$300 million and a half-billion dollars in unrealized cost savings by May 2011. The Oversight Committee held a hearing on this issue in May 2010 and will continue closely monitoring and working with the General Services Administration, the Office of Management and Budget, and individual Agencies to expedite the transition to Networx. In addition, I am planning to introduce legislation requiring agencies to complete the transition to Networx before the current FTS2001 bridge and crossover contracts expire in May 2011. If enacted, this legislation would eliminate the need for the General Services Administration to enter into any additional bridge contracts.

I look forward to continuing to work with House leadership, the other Committee

Chairs, and the Members of this body as we take steps to eliminate the deficit, and promote government that best protects the interests of the U.S. taxpayers.

INTRODUCTION OF THE HATCH ACT NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION PARITY ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Hatch Act National Capital Region Parity Act. This bill would remedy an omission in federal law that treats District of Columbia residents who work for the federal government differently from their federal colleagues in the Washington metropolitan area. This omission is another remnant of the days before the District of Columbia was a self-governing jurisdiction. This bill would give the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) authority to designate the District of Columbia similar to other local jurisdictions so that federal employees who reside there may take an active part in political management and political campaigns for local partisan elections. Under the Hatch Act, OPM only has authority to designate Maryland and Virginia localities in the immediate vicinity of the District, or towns in which the majority of voters are federal employees, as exempt from the Hatch Act's prohibition on federal employee participation in local partisan elections. Currently, federal employees residing in 47 Maryland localities, 15 Virginia localities and 12 other localities across the United States are permitted to participate in local partisan elections.

OPM's authority to exempt certain localities recognizes that, if large numbers of residents in a jurisdiction are federal employees, much of a locality's population would be denied the opportunity to participate in local affairs. When the Hatch Act was passed in 1940, the old Civil Service Commission (CSC) was given authority to exempt federal employees living in Maryland and Virginia localities near D.C. because large numbers of residents of those localities were, and continue to be, federal employees. However, CSC was not given the same authority for the District of Columbia, even though a large number of residents were, and continue to be, federal employees, probably because D.C. did not have local elections until the Home Rule Act of 1973.

This bill is part of our ongoing mission to wipe away all the disparate treatment of District residents left in federal law. Our related pending bill, the Hatch Act Reform Act (H.R. 1345), which the House passed last year and is now on its way to the Senate floor, would permit the District of Columbia, the only local jurisdiction where local government employees are under the federal Hatch Act, to enact and operate under its own local Hatch Act, like other jurisdictions in the United States.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the District of Columbia as a self-governing jurisdiction by supporting this bill.

RECOGNIZING THOMAS E. PUGH ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE JOHN HEINZ REHABILITATION CENTER IN WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. KANJORSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Thomas E. Pugh on his retirement from the John Heinz Rehabilitation Center in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania.

Mr. Pugh was born in Hunlock Creek, Pennsylvania in 1942.

A lifelong resident of Northeastern Pennsylvania, Mr. Pugh graduated from Northwest Area High School in Shickshinny, Pennsylvania before attending the Pennsylvania State University where he majored in English.

Mr. Pugh served in the United States Navy during the Vietnam War.

For the past three decades, Mr. Pugh has worked at the John Heinz Rehabilitation Center in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, part of the Allied Services network of health care and service organizations that provide rehabilitative, vocational, home care, and residential services throughout Northeastern Pennsylvania.

John Heinz Rehab specializes in inpatient rehabilitation services, particularly in the areas of brain injury, injured worker recovery, and pediatrics.

After almost thirty years working at John Heinz Rehab and Allied Services, Mr. Pugh will retire as Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer.

Mr. Pugh's exemplary work at John Heinz Rehab over the past few decades has been recognized throughout the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

In 2009, Mr. Pugh received the Individual Distinguished Service Award from the Pennsylvania Association of Rehabilitation Facilities.

This award recognizes an individual who, "by an unusual act or by a significant history of service, has made a substantial contribution to the development of rehabilitation facility or has a marked impact on both the quality and quantity of services provided by rehabilitation programs."

Throughout his career, Mr. Pugh has also consistently donated his time and efforts throughout the community.

He has served on the boards of the Greater Wilkes-Bane Association for the Blind, the Luzerne County Community College Foundation, the Northwest Area School District, and the Arthritis Foundation, where he was honored as "The Community Leader of the Year" in 2006.

Mr. Pugh has also devoted his time to assisting local veterans, and has been a strong advocate for children suffering from autism and learning disabilities.

Mr. Pugh currently resides in Hunlock Creek, Pennsylvania with his wife, the former Christine Cummings. They have four children, Jennifer, Sarah, Rachel, and Matthew.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing the remarkable career of Mr. Thomas E. Pugh. Over the past three decades Mr. Pugh has devoted himself in many ways to improving the lives of the residents of our community.

IN HONOR OF THE OBAMA WAY COMMITTEE

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the efforts of a remarkable group of citizens in my Central California district. They are gathering today to commemorate our nation's historic election, nearly two years ago, of its first African-American President. No American could remain unmoved by this great historic watershed. That is particularly true in the California Central Coast Community of Seaside.

Seaside grew up as an Army town, the neighboring community to Fort Ord, one of the U.S. Army's largest training and operational bases for much of the 20th Century. That alone would have made Seaside much like any other Army town across the country—except that Fort Ord was the first Army facility to desegregate following President Truman's 1948 executive order. So while the home states of many prominent Army bases remained gripped by segregation, Fort Ord and its surrounding communities became a magnet for African American soldiers to serve and later to retire. As Seaside's first lawyer, my father, the late State Senator Fred Farr, represented many soldiers who wanted to avoid reassignment to a southern state post because they had married a white or Asian woman during their time in the service and could not return to a State where that marriage was illegal.

So the election of an African-American child of a mixed marriage holds a special symbolism for a community that grew out the same hard fought tradition of multi-racial tolerance. Which brings me to the efforts of this remarkable group of Seaside community members.

Following the election, the idea arose that Seaside should rename one of its primary thoroughfares in honor of President Obama. An informal committee of volunteers took the idea and worked through the intricacies to municipal administration. A full name change posed significant challenges to the businesses and residents who had invested in the Street's traditional name. A compromise was reached. So this afternoon Seaside community members and elected leaders will gather to give Broadway Avenue the honorary designation of 'Obama Way' in recognition of our Nation's historic election of its first African-American President. To my knowledge this is one of the first such street designations in the United States in honor of the President, though I am confident that many more will follow.

In closing, I formally recognize those leading citizens who played the central role in this small, but remarkable achievement. They include the Chairman of the Obama Way Com-

mittee LTC(R) Morris McDaniel, former Seaside Mayor Don Jordon, his wife Alice Jordon, former Councilmember and MPUSD Trustee Helen Rucker, the Rev. H.H. Lusk, Ruthie Watts, Kathy Badon, Sandra Lackey, Yolanda Grumble, and Carlos Ramos. Madam Speaker, I know that I speak for the whole House in commending them for their community service.

PROCLAIMING SEPTEMBER 15TH LITERACY AWARENESS DAY IN WHEATON, ILLINOIS

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. ROSKAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize September 15th 2010, as Literacy Awareness Day in Wheaton, Illinois, in the heart of my Congressional District.

Literacy Awareness Day is an initiative of the non-profit group Literacy DuPage. Literacy DuPage reaches over 30 communities in DuPage County. The group's mission is to change the lives of future generations by providing one-on-one English literacy tutoring for adults. To celebrate Literacy Awareness Day on September 15th, participating Wheaton businesses will donate a portion of their sales to help fund the group's literacy programs.

Today, we join together to celebrate Literacy Awareness Day and the growth and continued good works of Literacy DuPage.

Madam Speaker and Distinguished Colleagues, please join me in recognizing September 15th as Literacy Awareness Day in Wheaton, Illinois, and in wishing Literacy DuPage continued success.

TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF K-9 SERGEANT THOMAS "TOMMY" ALEXANDER

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of K-9 Sergeant Thomas "Tommy" Alexander, a brave and dedicated Rayville police officer, who was fatally shot in the line of duty on September 11, 2010 at the age of 57.

Alexander was a devoted husband and father of two as well as a faithful community advocate. In addition to his duties as an officer, he shared his talent of cooking to help local churches raise money and lent his time to the local high school by taking tickets at games and making travel arrangements for the football team. A lifelong friend said it best as he described Alexander as a "selfless man, who had God in his heart."

I extend my deepest condolences to those he leaves behind. Words cannot express the depth of the loss felt by his family, friends and community he loved to serve.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to recognize the service and sacrifice of Tommy Alexander. He was a remarkable example to us all, and today, I salute him.

HONORING DON AND CATHI
WARNOCK

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor Don and Cathi Warnock for receiving the 2010 Lifetime Achievement Award. They have lived a long and distinguished life, adhering to extremely high standards of quality and integrity.

The Warnocks meet at California State University, San Jose and married in 1965. They then moved to Cathi's hometown of Madera, where Don went to work for his father-in-law at Valley Grain Products in 1971. In 1986, Don left the company and with Cathi, founded Warnock Food Products. Today, Warnock Food Products is the largest snack food company in Madera.

The Warnocks are well connected within their community. They have been involved in Camp Fire USA, the Alegria Guild, and the Madera Sunrise Rotary. Additionally, Don has been involved with the Boy Scouts of America and was a founding member of the Madera Ag Boosters.

Don and Cathi are proud parents and grandparents of three children and five grandchildren. It is clear that they will leave a lasting legacy for generations to come.

Madam Speaker, please join me in commending Mr. and Mrs. Warnock for a life well-lived and wishing him the best of luck and health as he continues setting the standard.

HONORING JOHN CALLENDER ON
THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. TIBERI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the retirement of Mr. John Callender from the Ohio Hospital Association. His August 30, 2010 retirement marked thirty years of service.

John is a native of St. Joseph, Michigan and a graduate of Michigan State University. Prior to his work at the Ohio Hospital Association, John worked at the Health Care Financing Administration, within the Department of Health and Human Services for ten years. He also served in the U.S. Marine Corps and was honorably discharged in 1977.

During his tenure, the Ohio Hospital Association has benefited from John's hard work and institutional knowledge. He oversaw activities for all fiscal matters affecting Medicare, Medicaid and health insurance. John was also responsible for maintaining professional relationships with Congress and the executive branch, managing the Hospital Care Assurance Program, the Data Services Program, and chairing the Ohio Hospital Association's Center for Education. He served as chair of Ohio Hospital Capital, OHA Solutions and the Ohio Health Council. He is a member of the Healthcare Financial Management Association and the American Society of Association Executives.

I am honored to have this opportunity to recognize John for his dedication and achievements during his thirty years of service. I wish John and his wife, Betty, all the best. I am confident John will continue his good works and find happiness in the years ahead.

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES FINDINGS PURSUANT TO THE BUDGET ENFORCEMENT RESOLUTION

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. RAHALL. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the Committee on Natural Resources, pursuant to subsection (c)(2) of H. Res. 1493, which passed the House on July 1, 2010, I am submitting findings that identify changes in law that help achieve deficit reduction by reducing waste, fraud, abuse and mismanagement and promoting reform of government programs.

In this regard, the Committee on Natural Resources has reported, and the House has passed, H.R. 3534, the "Consolidated Land, Energy and Aquatic Resources Act of 2010." According to the Congressional Budget Office, this legislation would reduce future deficits by \$5.3 billion over the 2011–2015 period and \$1.7 billion over the 2011–2020 period by reducing abuses which have occurred in the federal offshore oil and gas leasing program and by promoting greater efficiencies in those programs.

Specifically, the Consolidated Land, Energy, and Aquatic Resources Act would make several significant changes to current law in order to create greater efficiencies, transparency, and accountability in the development of federal energy resources. In this regard, the bill would impose tough new ethics standards, including putting an end to the revolving door between government and the oil and gas industry. It would reform the Minerals Management Service by breaking it up and removing the conflict-of-interest between leasing, inspections, and revenue collection. And it would close royalty loopholes that allow companies to get away with shortchanging the American people, including provisions designed to do away with the ability for companies to pay zero royalties during times of high oil prices—consumers paying sky-high gas prices that fuel record profits should not face the indignity of receiving no royalty on the sale of the public's oil.

The legislation would also provide for strong new safety standards for offshore drilling, including independent certifications of critical equipment, demonstrations of the ability to respond to future blowouts or major spills, increased inspections, stiffer penalties for safety violations, and an end to the practice of issuing environmental waivers for drilling plans.

Enactment of this legislation would reduce the budget deficit and reform government programs while promoting the energy security of the United States.

FINDINGS SUBMITTED BY JOHN CONYERS, JR., CHAIRMAN OF HOUSE COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY PURSUANT TO H. RES. 1493

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. CONYERS. Madam Speaker, pursuant to H. Res. 1493, as chair of the Committee on the Judiciary, I submit the following highlights of "changes in law" enacted in the 111th Congress within the jurisdiction of the Committee that "help achieve deficit reduction by reducing waste, fraud, abuse, and mismanagement, promoting efficiency and reform of government, and controlling spending within Government programs." These enacted changes in law include:

(1) Fraud Enforcement and Recovery Act (Public Law 111–21). This law clarifies and strengthens the criminal penalties for various forms of fraud, including fraud in connection with the Troubled Asset Relief Program and other federal assistance programs, including economic stimulus funds. It also strengthens incentives and protections under the False Claims Act for private citizens to help root out fraud against the federal government and help bring the perpetrators to justice. See 111 Cong. Rec. H5260–67 (May 6, 2009).

(2) Antitrust Criminal Penalty Enhancement and Reform Extension Act (Public Law 111–30). This law extends and strengthens a temporary program that promotes more effective and efficient detection and prosecution of illegal price-fixing cartels, by giving secondary participants in the cartel legal protection for blowing the whistle on the cartel and cooperating in the investigation and prosecution. This program has been demonstrated to substantially enhance the reach of the Justice Department's cartel enforcement resources. See 111 Cong. Rec. H3716–7 (May 24, 2010).

(3) Human Rights Enforcement Act (Public Law 111–122). This law consolidates Justice Department jurisdiction over serious human rights crimes into one section within the Department's Criminal Division. This will enable the Department to employ its enforcement resources with greater efficiency and effectiveness to vigorously prosecute perpetrators of serious human rights crimes. See 111 Cong. Rec. H14892–4 (December 15, 2009).

(4) Foreign Evidence Request Efficiency Act (Public Law 111–79). This law promotes greater efficiency and cooperation in international law enforcement by streamlining the process by which the federal government responds to requests for evidence by foreign governments in their investigations. Instead of having to file and process a request separately in every federal judicial district where the evidence or witnesses might be found, which could require involvement by a dozen or more different U.S. Attorneys on a single request, the request can now be handled centrally by one or two U.S. Attorneys. See 111 Cong. Rec. H10092–4 (Sept. 30, 2009).

In addition, other proposed legislation within the jurisdiction of the Committee has been approved by the House and would reduce waste, fraud, abuse, and mismanagement, promote efficiency and reform of government, and control spending within Government programs. This legislation includes:

(5) H.R. 2247, the Congressional Review Act Improvement Act, which would provide for federal agencies to more efficiently promulgate final rules, while ensuring effective Congressional review;

(6) H.R. 3632, the Federal Judiciary Administrative Improvements Act of 2009, which would improve the efficiency of the federal court system, including by improving the control and protection of confidential information and the reporting of criminal wiretapping orders; and

(7) H.R. 3808, the Interstate Recognition of Notarizations Act of 2009, which would improve the efficiency of federal and state courts by requiring them to recognize documents lawfully notarized in any state where interstate commerce is involved.

In addition to the legislative activity described above, the Committee has conducted extensive oversight aimed at reducing waste, fraud, abuse, and mismanagement and improving federal government efficiency. A primary focus of the Committee's oversight efforts is the Department of Justice (DOJ) and its component divisions and agencies, including the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). Both the Committee and the DOJ Inspector General have devoted considerable attention to the FBI, DOJ, and other agencies, with several Committee hearings held relating to the Bureau and other agencies this year, including:

(8) Committee Oversight Focusing on FBI-ATF Problems. The Committee's Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security Subcommittee held a hearing on February 24, 2010, focusing on three recent Inspector General reports raising concerns about long-standing problems in FBI and other DOJ operations. These include wasteful and potentially dangerous overlap and rivalry between the FBI and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF) on explosives investigations, backlog and related problems concerning the FBI's foreign language translation work, and coordination and related problems concerning DOJ and FBI anti-gang activities. The hearing and related oversight of the FBI and DOJ have revealed significant progress in addressing these difficulties, and DOJ indicated at the hearing that it was moving forward vigorously to complete its efforts to resolve the decade-long FBI-ATF problems. In fact, in early August, 2010, the acting Deputy Attorney General issued a memorandum and protocol specifying the division of responsibility between FBI and ATF on explosives-related matters, including the conduct of investigations and the maintenance of a single national explosives database.

(9) Other Committee Oversight Concerning the FBI. On March 24, 2010, the Committee held a hearing including representatives of the FBI's Terrorist Screening Center, as well as the National Counterterrorism Center and the Departments of Homeland Security and State, which focused on efforts to improve the sharing and analyzing of information to prevent terrorism. On May 20, 2010, the Committee's Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security Subcommittee held a hearing at which an FBI representative provided an update concerning national efforts to eliminate the DNA backlog in forensic casework and the Combined DNA Index System that supports the national DNA database. A staff briefing on FBI efforts to remedy the backlog is scheduled for September 20, 2010.

(10) Committee Oversight on the Department of Justice and its Divisions. Other Committee oversight hearings have focused on DOJ and its divisions. On May 13, 2010, the Committee held a DOJ oversight hearing at which Attorney General Eric Holder testified and answered a full range of questions from Committee members about many aspects of DOJ operations. The Committee has submitted followup written questions, including questions focusing on efforts to improve DOJ efficiency with respect to financial and grant funds management. On March 4, 2010, the Committee's Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security Subcommittee held a hearing on efforts to enforce criminal laws against Medicaid fraud, which included testimony from the Department's Criminal Division. Overall, the Committee has held 12 oversight hearings during this year alone focusing on DOJ, including testimony from officials from the Antitrust, Civil, Criminal, and Civil Rights Divisions, the FBI, and the Executive Office of Immigration Review.

(11) Committee Oversight on Other Federal Agencies. The Committee has also held a number of oversight hearings focusing on agencies within its jurisdiction that are outside DOJ. For example, focusing on hearings during this session, on March 23, 2010, the Committee's Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship, Refugees, Border Security, and International Law held an oversight hearing on the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), which included testimony from the Department of Homeland Security's Inspector General and the Government Accountability Office on efforts to improve information technology, fees, and other aspects of USCIS management. On May 5, 2010, the Committee held an oversight hearing on the United States Patent and Trademark Office (PTO), which led to the PTO-related legislation discussed above. On May 20, 2010, the Committee's Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law held a hearing on the recently revived Administrative Conference of the United States (ACUS), which featured testimony by the Chairman of ACUS and Supreme Court Justices Stephen Breyer and Antonin Scalia. On June 29, 2010, the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism and Homeland Security held an oversight hearing featuring testimony from the Secret Service. And on July 27, 2010, the Commercial and Administrative Law Subcommittee held a hearing on Federal Rulemaking and the Regulatory Process, which included testimony from Cass Sunstein, Administrator of the federal Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DENNY REHBERG

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. REHBERG. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 519 and 520, I was unavoidably detained due to travel complications. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

MOVE ME IN HONOR OF LT COL. ANNETTE BERGERON "RET." UNITED STATES ARMY MATC SUPERVISOR P.T. AMPUTEE

HON. TRENT FRANKS

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a great American, a former Lieutenant Colonel in the United States Army, Annette Bergeron. Annette is the MATC supervisor of the P.T. Amputee section over at Walter Reed. She has worked virtually with all of the amputees coming back from the war.

She inspires all of her patients with her motivation and ability to reach so deep down inside of all of her wounded warriors. Inspiring them by demanding the best out of all her heroes, as she brings them to new heights by not pitying them but pushing them beyond their limits. And her greatest gift is knowing her patients, with her strong knowledge and sixth sense to read them.

There are families all across this nation, and magnificent heroes who will carry her in their hearts for the rest of their lives. Knowing the great debt they owe to her, and the angels over at Walter Reed who are but some of our nations greatest unsung heroes, I ask that this poem penned in honor of her at the request of SSG. Poe of North Carolina and by Albert Caswell, be placed in the RECORD.

Move Me
Move me . . .
Bend me, reach me . . . then she . . .
As she so but brings out, but the very best in me!
As she will not so rest, will she!
So relentless, but to the tenth degree!
Like a Jedi Knight, her light we see!
And from all of us, will not so settle for less . . . will she!
Until, I can but so be . . .
So but be, but the very best I can be!
Men and women without arms and legs. . .
Broken into so many pieces, as are they. . .
Magnificent heroes who to this our nation so gave. . .
As she's rebuilding fine lives night and day!
The queen of pain, bringing all of them to a better day. . .
With but her heart of a lioness, bringing us to the highest degree!
All in what a heart can be, as she so bids us to so believe. . .
So begs us all to so reach . . . to so reach, so deeply down so deep. . .
As her promise, to us all as she so keeps. . .
Move me!, touch me! motivating all of us, as such she!
As does she!
As against all odds, but to the core, reaching us all so very deeply. . .
Letting us all, but to be . . . but the very best we can be. . .
From out of the ashes of war, so resurrecting all of our lives indeed!
Making us whole, giving us all that we so need!
For in her world, there is no such word as self pity!
Only, how high a soul can reach!
Making us all so believe!
As an angel on earth, as but her fine worth!
To all of our precious men and women, of that red, white & blue. . .

For them she so bleeds, so tried and true!
A shining star over at Walter Reed, a real
who's who!
For Bo knows hearts, of most heroic hues!
And how to get inside them so very deep to
view!
Bo, you move me! oh yes you do!

HONORING THE SERVICE AND SACRIFICE OF UNITED STATES ARMY SECOND LIEUTENANT MARK J. PINCEK

HON. GABRIELLE GIFFORDS

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Ms. GIFFORDS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor United States Army 2LT Mark J. Pincek, who passed away on July 11, 2010.

Born and raised in Michigan, Mark joined the U.S. Navy in July, 1991 and rose to the rank of Petty Officer Second Class. He served two deployments aboard the USS *Vicksburg* as a gunner's mate before graduating from Florida State University with a Bachelor's Degree in communication and film studies.

On September 17, 2009, Mark graduated from Fort Benning's Officer Candidate School and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Army. He was then assigned to Charlie Company of the 304th Military Intelligence Battalion where he completed the Military Intelligence Basic Officer Leadership School and was then assigned to Bravo Company of the 304th and was responsible for updating the Afghanistan training scenario. His work in the training scenario function earned him many laudatory comments.

We remember Mark and offer our deepest condolences and sincerest prayers to his family. My words cannot effectively convey the feeling of great loss nor can they offer adequate consolation. However, it is my hope that in future days, his family may take some comfort in knowing that Mark made a difference in the lives of many others and serves as an example of a competent and caring leader and friend that will live on in the hearts and minds of all those he touched.

This body and this country owe Mark and his family a debt of gratitude and it is vital that we remember him and his service to his country.

Mark is survived by his wife, Kerin; father, Stephen; mother, Dianne Heskett-Ward; brothers, Steven, Duane and Devin; and sisters, Diana, Nancy, Susan, Sandy and Mara.

TRIBUTE TO CLYDE "BILL" NEELY

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Clyde "Bill" Neely, a World War II Army Air Corps veteran from Boone County, Iowa, and to express my appreciation for his dedication and commitment to his country.

The Boone News Republican is currently running a series of articles that honors one Boone County veteran every Tuesday from Memorial Day to Veterans Day. Clyde "Bill" Neely was recognized on Tuesday, July 13. Below is the article in its entirety:

BOONE COUNTY VETERANS: CLYDE "BILL" NEELY

(By Alexander Hutchins)

Clyde "Bill" Neely, 86, a former Army Air Corps Sergeant, lives a full life. He resides today in his childhood home, and what was once an attached grocery store is now a personal museum to his life's achievements.

Neely served in the Boone Fire Department after the war, drawing strength from the same discipline he called upon when he served in the Army Air Corps in World War II.

Neely was born in Boone in 1924 in a house across the street from his current residence. He graduated from high school and played sports in the community. Neely met his wife Florence while still in high school. They would marry in 1943, and he would be one of the few married men in his unit.

"I had a real excellent childhood. In fact, I've had an excellent life," Neely said with a smile.

His father was a butcher who ran a grocery out of the house that the Neely's now reside in. Neely would run the grocery for several years when he returned from the war, though he would eventually close the store and join the fire department.

Neely's role in the war began in 1943.

"Originally I started right after I got out of school, because we knew after Pearl Harbor that our life was going to be in the military," Neely said.

He had wanted to train in a nearby military Ferry School to ship airplanes overseas for the war effort, but the program was cancelled before Neely entered the Army. He then enlisted in the Air Corps in Des Moines and attended basic training in Miami, Florida. Neely's older brother, Noel, was one of four Boone men he trained with.

"Like I said, I've had good luck all the way through my life," Neely said.

Neely's eyesight kept him from being trained as a pilot, but he entered the Armament service and trained to maintain and repair weapons, as well as load bombs and cargo on the B-24 bombers his unit flew. He would serve part of the war in the U.S. before being stationed in Aldborough, England.

Part of Neely's early duty in the war was in training other Air Corpsmen in the U.S.

"We used to train aerial gunners with a .50 caliber machine gun. We'd start them out with pistols and rifles and work them up to their machine guns. Then, when they went into advanced training, we'd put a big sleeve on behind a tow plane and we'd take all the bullets they would use and put different colors of paraffin on them so when the bullet went through the sleeve it left a color. That's a way we could identify just how many of the gunners could hit their targets," Neely said.

When Neely was stationed in England, he worked in Armament to load the B-24 bombers for missions. His unit, the 8th Air Corps, included Neely's Commanding Officer as the youngest Colonel in the Air Corp and the actor Jimmy Stewart as an operations officer. The ground crew could tell from the bomb and fuel loads where the planes would be flying, and Neely said the crew would always "sweat out" the flights while the bombers were away. The 8th Air Corps had more casualties per unit than any other branch of the service, Neely said.

"From D-day until we won supremacy of the air over there, we were loading out two or three missions a day," he said.

Neely's first experience upon arriving in England was hearing an Axis Sally radio broadcast that promised the German air force would "pay them a visit." The base was bombed that night, and after that engagement drone bombs would sometimes zip over

the base bound for targets further into England.

"People forget how smart the Germans were," Neely said.

At the end of the war, Neely and the 8th Air Corps were assigned to pack up equipment and prepare to deploy to the Pacific theater. That redeployment was thankfully unnecessary and Neely was released from the Air Corps while on duty in California.

Neely returned home and ran the family grocery store, but after marrying his wife Florence and starting a family he was informed of an open position on the Boone Fire Department in 1951. He would serve a career with the Boone Fire Department until retirement in 1984. He also coached baseball for almost 20 years. When a drowning occurred at Ledges State Park, Neely was instrumental in one of the first underwater rescue teams in the state. He and Florence would raise three sons: Allen, Richard and Ronald (who has since passed away).

Neely attributed much of his success in the fire department to the attitude and discipline he acquired as a result of his service.

"People don't realize it, but your fire department to be exact, or your police department, have to be partially military," Neely said.

His training also helped him learn to control his temper, restraining a tendency he had to "fight at the drop of a hat" in his younger days.

Neely said he has no real regrets from his time in the war. "I did it. I'd do it again," Neely said. "The nation came together in a rare way, and everyone did their part in that time."

He did say that modern wars are a different enterprise, as soldiers today aren't able to trust the people around them.

"A fight is one thing, but that's not a fight," Neely said. One of the important things to do, he said, was to thank veterans when the opportunity is available.

Neely has previously served as grand marshal in Boone parades, and a memorial to his son, Ronald, sits in the current fire station, commemorating his years of service.

I commend Clyde "Bill" Neely for his many years of loyalty and service to our great Nation. It is an immense honor to represent him in the United States Congress, and I wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

FINDINGS OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS RELATING TO EFFICIENCY AND REFORM PURSUANT TO H. RES. 1493

HON. DAVID R. OBEY

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. OBEY. Madam Speaker, it is the highest priority of the Appropriations Committee to ensure that the American people are well served by sound investments in federal programs and services. To this end, the Committee has been working to produce fiscal year 2011 appropriations legislation in a fiscally disciplined manner. The Committee conducted more than 160 hearings this year in order to thoroughly review the President's fiscal year 2011 budget request and to conduct vigorous oversight of ongoing programs.

In keeping with an overall discretionary funding level of \$14.5 billion below the President's request, two fiscal year 2011 appropriations bills have passed the House and the remaining 10 bills have been approved at the

subcommittee level. In the coming weeks, the Committee will continue its work to produce fiscal year 2011 appropriations that meet Americans' highest priority needs within this fiscally responsible framework.

In the two fiscal year 2011 appropriations bills that have passed the House thus far—Transportation/HUD and Military Construction/VA—the Committee has made some significant cuts below the Administration's request. Among these reductions, the Committee cut \$500 million below last year and \$1.36 billion below the request for ill-defined or duplicative programs of the Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Department of Transportation. The Committee also cut \$545 million below the request for military construction projects due to bid savings and ill-defined plans for the realignment of forces to Guam.

In recent years, the Appropriations Committee has also eliminated or cut hundreds of wasteful and duplicative programs. Last year alone, the Committee terminated 60 programs and significantly cut funding for another 660 programs.

Since 2007, the Appropriations Committee has strengthened contract oversight and independent audits to make programs across federal agencies more effective and efficient. As an example, the Committee has led an initiative to double enforcement capacity to end improper payments, fraud and other abuses at the Social Security Administration and the Departments of Labor and Health and Human Services. These efforts are projected to save more than \$48 billion over the next 10 years.

Furthermore, the Appropriations Committee has ended unnecessary no-bid contracts and strengthened competition, management and oversight in government contracts across the federal government.

Most notably, the Committee has worked to impose discipline and strengthen accountability for Department of Defense, (DOD), contracted services. From 1997 to 2007, DOD contracted service costs grew 143 percent from \$125 billion to \$299 billion. Yet, DOD had no system of accountability for contract services, and couldn't even identify the number of its contractors. At the Committee's direction over the past three years, the Pentagon is now implementing reform efforts to strengthen contracting and clarify rules prescribing when outsourcing is and is not appropriate. The Army can now identify the number of its contractors (213,000) and is working to bring in house inherently governmental functions. The Defense Department estimates that these actions will result in a \$4.5 billion savings by 2015. Last year, the President followed the Appropriations Committee's lead and announced government-wide contracting reforms based on the Committee's direction to DOD over the past 3 years.

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS' OVERSIGHT OF GOVERNMENT SPENDING

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. FILNER. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the budget enforcement resolution for fiscal year 2011 passed by the House of Represent-

atives on July 1, 2010, as Chairman of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs I am submitting "findings that identify changes in law that help achieve deficit reduction by reducing waste, fraud, abuse, and mismanagement, promoting efficiency and reform of government, and controlling spending within Government programs" the Committee may authorize.

Under Democratic leadership, the Committee has undertaken an active and far-reaching oversight agenda that has, among other accomplishments, identified ways to save millions of taxpayer dollars within the Department of Veterans Affairs through improvements in the operation and management of veterans' benefits and health care programs. Working closely with the VA's Office of Inspector General, we have pushed the VA to more effectively utilize the generous and robust budgets provided by this Congress under your leadership.

Since the beginning of the 110th Congress, the Committee on Veterans' Affairs has been striving to revolutionize the manner in which the VA provides benefits to veterans. By mandating greater efficiency and a veteran-first attitude, we have sought to change the perception of the VA as being the veterans' adversary to standing as the veterans' advocate.

To further this effort, we are continuing to work toward major reforms in the VA's claims processing system and the VA's acquisition and procurement system. I am confident that when these reforms take place, taxpayers will realize major cost-savings by providing greater efficiency, fairness, and accountability. The Committee is also working toward integrating the VA's Post 9/11 G.I. Bill benefits and improving and streamlining the application process.

These efforts will, in the months ahead, result in assisting the House in working toward its goal of making government more responsive and effective while saving taxpayer dollars and reducing our deficit.

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF
CAROLE A. SLIWA

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of Carole A. Sliwa who lived her life with great energy, joy and with love for her family, friends and community.

Mrs. Sliwa was the devoted wife of Theodore "Ted" Sliwa for 56 years. Since childhood, her faith and her family served as her strength and her foundation. She remained very close to her extended family members, especially her brother Daniel and his wife, Patty; her sister, the late Patricia, and her brother-in-law, Donald. In addition, Mrs. Sliwa was a cherished friend to many people throughout the Greater Cleveland community.

Mrs. Sliwa's enthusiasm for local arts programs never wavered, and she shared her artistic gifts with many. Her beautiful paintings are displayed in the homes of numerous friends and relatives. Mrs. Sliwa's lifelong commitment to and passion for the arts is also reflected in her membership and leadership in

several community art centers, including the Ohio Artist Color Society, the Friendship Center of Bay Village, the Lakewood Art League, and the Art Mart of Brecksville.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and remembrance of Mrs. Carole A. Sliwa. I offer my condolences to her devoted husband and to her entire family and many friends. Mrs. Sliwa lived her life with great joy and love. Her devotion to family and friends, and her passion for the arts, will be treasured and remembered always.

—FINDINGS PURSUANT TO THE
HOUSE BUDGET RESOLUTION

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. LEVIN. Madam Speaker, I submit the following.

HEALTH CARE/MEDICARE

Congress spent the first part of this session enacting landmark health reform legislation that substantially reforms and strengthens the Medicare program. As a result of this legislation, CBO estimates net deficit reduction of \$143 billion from 2010 to 2019, and deficit reduction of more than \$1 trillion in the next decade. In addition, the Medicare Actuary estimates that the Medicare changes enacted in health reform will extend the life of the Part A Trust Fund by 12 years—the largest extension in history. Finally, as a result of the new law, national health expenditures per insured person will fall by \$1,400 by 2019.

The health reform law also includes extensive provisions to aggressively reduce fraud, waste, and abuse in government health programs. The Affordable Care Act (ACA) establishes new authorities to enhance fraud-fighting when providers first enroll in the program and during the pre- and post-payment periods.

During the Medicare provider enrollment period, ACA strengthens provider screening and disclosure requirements and allows the Secretary to impose a moratorium on new providers in areas of significant risk. These tools will help keep fraudulent providers out of government programs before they have a chance to act. In the pre-payment period, ACA directs the Secretary to establish a program of increased oversight for new providers and allows for the suspension of payment, if deemed appropriate, to a provider or supplier. For the post-payment and enforcement period, ACA establishes new penalties for the submission of false data or false claims and increases funding for proven fraud-fighting programs used by the Office of Inspector General (OIG) and the Department of Justice.

Taken together, these provisions reduce fraud, waste, and abuse by improving payment accuracy, promoting efficiency, and controlling spending within Medicare and other government programs.

The Committee's efforts to achieve deficit reduction, prevent fraud, promote efficiency, and control spending within government programs extend beyond the ACA. The Preservation of Access to Care for Medicare Beneficiaries and Pension Relief Act of 2010 (P.L. 111-192) included two provisions that address these goals. First, this law clarifies the 3-day payment window for inpatient admissions to ensure that all services related to the hospital admission are included in the bundled payment. Absent this provision, hospitals would likely have unbundled hospital payments driving up Medicare spending. Second,

the law established a CMS-IRS data match to identify potentially fraudulent providers. This provision authorizes the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to collaborate with the IRS to determine whether providers enrolling or re-enrolling in Medicare have failed to file Federal tax returns or have delinquent tax debts. In doing so, the law helps to identify potentially fraudulent providers earlier in the application process and allows the Secretary to use this information in determining whether to deny such application or to apply enhanced oversight to the provider.

Following passage of health reform legislation, the Committee has held and will continue to hold oversight hearing on a number of issues, including:

FRAUD, WASTE AND ABUSE

While many of the HHS OIG recommendations from their annual compendium were adopted in the ACA, combating fraud remains a top priority for the committee. On June 15th, the Health and Oversight Subcommittees held a joint hearing on combating fraud, waste, and abuse. At this hearing, a representative of the HHS Office of Inspector General discussed two new tools that would improve OIG's ability to prevent criminals from becoming providers in the Medicare program. The first recommendation was to provide OIG with broader permissive authority to exclude permanently from Medicare corporate executives who have been involved in Medicare fraud. Second, it was suggested that the OIG permissive authority could also be expanded to better enable the OIG to reach parent companies that may be hiding behind corporate shells.

On September 14, 2010, in response to these recommendations, Health Subcommittee Chairman Representative Stark and Ranking Republican Wally Herger introduced the Strengthening Medicare Anti-Fraud Measures Act. The bill would provide the OIG with this expanded permissive authority. We are awaiting a CBO score of the legislation.

HITECH IMPLEMENTATION

Enactment of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 included the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health (HITECH) Act, which created incentive payments for providers that adopt and meaningfully use electronic medical records. Increased adoption and meaningful use of health information technology will arm providers with information that is usually held only in paper records, lower duplication rates of procedures, promote efficiency and quality, and reduce waste as providers coordinate care through improved exchange of clinical information. The Health Subcommittee held an oversight hearing on implementation of HITECH Act earlier this year and will continue to monitor the program to ensure that the advance of health information technology improves quality and efficiency of the delivery of health care in the Medicare program.

DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT COMPETITIVE BIDDING PROCESS

The Medicare Modernization Act directed CMS to establish a competitive bidding process for payment of durable medical equipment, prosthetics, orthotics, and supplies (DMEPOS) under Medicare. The first round of competitive bidding for DME was delayed in 2008 because of implementation problems. Later this year, CMS will award contracts under the first round of the revised program. The Health Subcommittee will examine whether CMS has adequately addressed problems with the competitive bidding program and explore its potential effect on beneficiaries' access to the program and supplier participation.

TAX PROVISIONS TO PREVENT TAX AVOIDANCE AND FRAUD

CLOSING FOREIGN TAX CREDIT LOOPHOLES

On August 10, 2010, the House passed H.R. 1586, the Education Jobs and Medicaid Assistance Act by a vote of 247 to 161. The bill, signed into law the same day (P.L. 111-226), included changes developed jointly by the Treasury Department, the Committee on Ways and Means, and the Senate Committee on Finance to curtail abuses of the U.S. foreign tax credit system and other targeted abuses. Foreign tax credits are intended to ensure that U.S.-based multinational companies are not subject to double taxation. However, multi-national corporate taxpayers have taken advantage of the U.S. foreign tax credit system to reduce the U.S. tax due on completely unrelated foreign income in a manner that has nothing to do with eliminating double taxation. The bill eliminated \$9.6 billion of foreign tax credit loopholes.

TRANSFER PRICING

On July 22, 2010, the Committee on Ways and Means held a hearing to begin initial discussions of the complex areas of tax law that govern transfer pricing practices among related parties (multinational corporations). Pursuant to a request by the Committee in December 2009, the Joint Committee on Taxation (JCT) undertook a study of transfer pricing issues. Part of that study involved meetings with tax practitioners and the IRS to gain a better understanding of how companies can structure overseas operations to minimize U.S. taxes. The JCT released a report summarizing its work, beginning with a study of the issues and specific case studies to illuminate the potential for income shifting through transfer pricing. The Committee continues to investigate opportunities for reducing tax avoidance by multinational corporations through transfer pricing structures.

FIRST-TIME HOMEBUYER PROGRAM

The Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008 established the First-Time Homebuyer Credit, which generally provided an \$8,000 tax credit to certain taxpayers for the purchase of a home. The credit was extended and expanded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 and the Worker, Homeownership, and Business Assistance Act of 2009 (Assistance Act). On October 22, 2009, the Subcommittee on Oversight of the Ways and Means Committee held a hearing on administration of the credit by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). At the hearing, the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration (TIGTA) released a report finding instances of fraud and abuse in the program. In response to the report, TIGTA and the U.S. Government Accountability Office made several legislative recommendations to improve administration of the credit. On October 22, 2009, Oversight Subcommittee Chairman John Lewis (D-GA) introduced H.R. 3901, the Homebuyer Tax Credit Improvement Act of 2009, which provided the IRS with additional authority to prevent fraudulent claims and claims by minor children. On November 6, 2009, H.R. 3901 was enacted into law as part of the Assistance Act (P.L. 111-92).

PRISONER TAX FRAUD

On September 27, 2008, the House passed H.R. 7082, the Inmate Tax Fraud Prevention Act of 2008. This law allows the IRS to exchange with officers and employees of the Federal Bureau of Prisons certain tax return information with respect to prisoners whom the Secretary has determined may have filed false or fraudulent tax returns. This provision was enacted into law on October 15, 2008. In June 2010, TIGTA released a report estimating that about 1,300 prison inmates

(more than 90 percent of whom were state prison inmates) claimed and received more than \$9 million in fraudulent first-time homebuyer tax credits. On June 29, 2010, a provision to allow the IRS to disclose tax return information to officers and employees of State agencies charged with the administration of prisons passed the House in H.R. 5623, the Homebuyer Assistance and Improvement Act of 2010. On July 2, 2010, this provision was enacted into law as part of the Homebuyer Assistance and Improvement Act of 2010 (P.L. 111-198).

TAX PROVISIONS TO PROMOTE GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY AND REFORM

INCREASE ELECTRONIC FILING OF TAX RETURNS

The Internal Revenue Service Restructuring and Reform Act of 1998 (RRA) established a goal for the IRS to receive at least 80 percent of tax and information returns electronically. For 2010, the overall electronic filing (e-filing) rate is projected to reach approximately 59 percent. To achieve the 80 percent goal, an estimated 40 million additional returns need to be e-filed. On October 22, 2009, Oversight Subcommittee Chairman John Lewis (D-GA) introduced H.R. 3901, the Homebuyer Tax Credit Improvement Act of 2009, which authorized the IRS to require tax return preparers to file returns electronically in order to achieve additional cost reduction and savings. On November 6, 2009, H.R. 3901 was enacted into law as part of the Worker, Homeownership, and Business Assistance Act (P.L. 111-92). The Electronic Tax Administration Advisory Committee, established by the RRA, believes that this is the single most important initiative that will enable the IRS to reach its 80 percent electronic filing goal.

REMOVAL OF CELL PHONES FROM LISTED PROPERTY

In 1989, Congress passed a law requiring taxpayers to substantiate the business use of cell phones. At that time, cell phones were an expensive perk for executives. Cell phones and similar equipment are now ingrained in daily business practices at all levels. The Administration has recognized that cell phone service in this country has changed dramatically over the past decade and recommended that the law be modernized to remove the special documentation requirements for cell phones and reduce the cost of administering and complying with the provision. On April 15, 2010, a provision to eliminate the strict substantiation rules on cell phones passed the House in H.R. 4994, the Taxpayer Assistance Act of 2010.

Repeal of the partial payment requirement on submissions of offers-in-compromise. Offer-in-compromise (OIC) agreements are an important collection alternative for the IRS and taxpayers. Under current law, due to legislation passed in 2006, a taxpayer offering to settle a tax liability must make a partial payment with submission of an OIC application. The need to increase the usage of OIC agreements in situations of economic hardship was raised at a February 2009 hearing of the Subcommittee on Oversight of the Committee on Ways and Means. On May 12, 2009, Oversight Subcommittee Chairman John Lewis (D-GA) introduced H.R. 2343, a bipartisan bill that would increase the likelihood that some amount of tax is collected and promote continued tax compliance by repealing the partial payment requirement. On April 15, 2010, a provision to repeal the partial payment requirement passed the House in H.R. 4994, the Taxpayer Assistance Act of 2010.

STUDY ON DELIVERY OF TAX REFUNDS

The National Taxpayer Advocate (NTA) has stated that the quickest and cheapest way to distribute tax refunds is electronically rather than by paper checks in the

mail. However, a large number of taxpayers do not have bank accounts. These taxpayers are not able to fully participate in electronic filing because the IRS cannot transmit their refunds to them electronically. The NTA recommended that the Department of Treasury develop a program to enable taxpayers to receive refunds on stored value cards. On April 15, 2010, a provision to require the Secretary of Treasury, in consultation with the National Taxpayer Advocate, to conduct a study on the feasibility of delivering federal tax refunds on debit cards, prepaid cards, or other electronic means passed the House in H.R. 4994, the Taxpayer Assistance Act of 2010.

STUDY ON TIMELY PROCESSING AND USE OF INFORMATION RETURNS

Under current law, the IRS processes tax returns before it processes related information returns, such as Forms W-2 and Forms 1099. The IRS does not match information on income tax returns to information returns until after the filing season has ended. There are two reasons for the delay: (1) the deadline for filing information returns generally is March 31 and (2) the tax filing season begins in mid-January. A provision to require the Secretary of Treasury to study, and make recommendations on, the administrative and legislative steps required to allow the IRS to receive information returns before it processes income tax returns passed the House in H.R. 4994, the Taxpayer Assistance Act of 2010.

CLARIFY THAT THE BAD CHECK PENALTY APPLIES TO ELECTRONIC PAYMENTS

Taxpayers are subject to a penalty if their check or money order in payment of their tax liabilities is not honored. On April 15, 2010, a provision to ensure fair application of the penalty by clarifying that the penalty applies to all commercially acceptable instruments of payment (i.e., electronic payments) passed the House in H.R. 4994, the Taxpayer Assistance Act of 2010. On July 2, 2010, this provision was enacted into law as part of the Homebuyer Assistance and Improvement Act of 2010 (P.L. 111-198).

TRADE

The Trade Subcommittee is developing Customs and Border Protection (CBP) reauthorization legislation addressing two important oversight issues explored at a May 2010 hearing: (1) correcting the agency's failure to collect antidumping and countervailing duties; and (2) addressing cost overruns and delayed implementation of the agency's new, modernized computer system, the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE).

COMBATING THE EVASION OF ANTIDUMPING AND COUNTERVAILING DUTY ORDERS

The U.S. government loses hundreds of millions of dollars every year when foreign companies employ fraudulent tactics to evade U.S. antidumping and countervailing duty orders. Such tactics include misrepresenting the country of origin of imported products or mislabeling the types of products being imported on Customs import documentation. The resulting impact in the United States is two-fold. Not only is there lost revenue to the government, but also American businesses and workers are denied relief from the illegal trade practices that the antidumping and countervailing duties are designed to neutralize. The Trade Subcommittee is preparing legislation to counter these kinds of practices and aims to move that legislation shortly. This legislation: (1) establishes clear, expeditious timeframes for CBP to investigate and determine whether evasion is occurring; (2) requires maximum cooperation between CBP and the Department of Commerce in making and en-

forcing such determinations; and (3) provides authority for CBP to collect unpaid duties and assess penalties. This legislation will diminish substantially the duties lost to evasion as well as the corresponding harm to the U.S. industry.

ENSURING EFFICIENT USE OF TAXPAYER DOLLARS IN FURTHER ACE DEPLOYMENT

The Trade Subcommittee is preparing legislation that will support the positive steps taken by CBP since its May 20th hearing to get ACE deployment back on track and moving in the right direction. ACE development to date has cost over \$3 billion, and the system continues to have limited functionality to attract a critical mass of users. Completion of ACE promises significant benefits to CBP, businesses, and workers alike, increasing U.S. competitiveness and saving taxpayer dollars. The Trade Subcommittee is developing legislation to ensure that: (1) ACE is completed expeditiously and with strong functionality; and (2) the funds invested in this project, going forward, are used efficiently and effectively.

SOCIAL SECURITY

In December of 2009, Congress enacted H.R. 4218, the No Social Security Benefits for Prisoners Act of 2009 (P.L. 111-115) to prevent retroactive Social Security and Supplemental Security Income benefit payments from being issued to individuals while they are in prison, along with beneficiaries in violation of conditions of parole or probation, or who are fleeing to avoid prosecution for a felony or a crime punishable by sentence of more than one year. The Social Security Act already barred payment of monthly benefits to such individuals. This new law ensures the prohibition applies to retroactive benefit payments as well, and allows payments to be paid once the beneficiary is no longer prohibited from receiving payments under the provisions of this bill.

In response to a Social Security Administration Inspector General report that as many as eight states use prison industries to perform work that allows inmates access to individual Social Security numbers, Chairman Pomeroy introduced H.R. 5854, the No Prisoner Access to Social Security Numbers Act of 2010. The bill would protect the accuracy of Social Security records and help shield individuals from identity theft and other potential crimes by prohibiting federal, state, and local governments from employing prisoners in any capacity that would allow inmates access to full or partial SSNs of other individuals. The Federal Bureau of Prisons already proscribes such work by federal inmates by regulation. This bill would extend this policy to all of the states.

In recent years, we have substantially increased funding for program integrity at the Social Security Administration, which will save billions of dollars in overpayments and payments to people who have become ineligible for benefits. Because the Social Security Administration uses innovative predictive modeling techniques to identify cases with the highest risk of an overpayment and targets those cases for careful review, they are able to generate savings of as much as \$12 for every dollar invested in program integrity, despite Social Security's already very low error rate. For example, in 2008 their computer models allowed them to target the beneficiaries most likely to have medically improved for full eligibility reviews, saving \$3.8 billion in Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, and SSI benefits. If SSA had randomly selected cases for intensive review, they would only have saved \$900 million.

Because the return on investment is so significant, we plan to work on legislation that will increase our investment in Social Security's fight against fraud, waste, and abuse.

FINDINGS PURSUANT TO THE HOUSE BUDGET ENFORCEMENT RESOLUTION

HON. JOHN M. SPRATT, JR.

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. SPRATT. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Budget Enforcement Resolution that the House passed on July 1, I hereby submit an outline of changes within the Budget Committee's jurisdiction to help achieve deficit reduction by reducing waste, fraud, abuse, and mismanagement, by promoting efficiency and reform of government, and by controlling spending.

While the Budget Committee does not have jurisdiction over specific government programs, it does maintain a broad oversight role over the federal budget as well as budget process.

This year Congress enacted statutory pay-as-you-go (PAYGO) legislation, a measure under the Budget Committee's jurisdiction. The legislation was the culmination of years of work on the part of Congressional Democrats to restore statutory PAYGO after the previous statute expired in 2002. That version of PAYGO reined in new entitlement spending and required new tax cuts to be offset in the 1990s, with the result that the federal budget returned to surplus. The new law likewise will help set budgetary priorities and restore fiscal responsibility. Since its enactment in February, Congress has passed and the President has signed legislation into law with PAYGO provisions reducing the federal deficit by a total of \$58.4 billion over the next five years and a total of \$43.1 billion over the next ten years, according to the most recent OMB scorecard.

The passage of statutory PAYGO built on the internal House PAYGO rule, adopted during the opening week of the Democratic majority in 110th Congress—along with a rule that fast-track budget reconciliation procedures cannot be used for legislation that increases the deficit. The Budget Committee works continuously with other House committees to ensure that legislation coming to the House floor for a vote meets the requirements of these deficit-reducing rules.

One of the critical roles that the Budget Committee plays each year is to set the overall level of discretionary spending for the annual spending bills produced by the Appropriations Committee. This year, the appropriations cap is \$7 billion below the comparable level proposed by the President, and follows a similar reduction of \$7 billion below the President's request last year. Approving these more disciplined spending levels encourages Congress to find efficiencies and reduce wasteful spending while providing enough room to fund critical services and investments at a time when the economy is still recovering from the worst recession in decades.

In addition, on May 28 of this year, I introduced H.R. 5454—the Reduce Unnecessary Spending Act of 2010—that will enhance fiscal discipline by allowing the President to sign spending bills into law while culling out unneeded or wasteful items and proposing that Congress rescind them. "Expedited rescission" under this bill requires Congress to consider the President's recommendations as one package, without amendment and on a

fast-track basis, guaranteeing an up-or-down vote within a specified time frame. While expedited rescission will not eliminate the federal deficit, it will be one more tool to control spending. Forty Democrats have joined me in cosponsoring this bill, including five Budget Committee members.

Finally, in light of the Budget Committee's broad oversight role on the federal budget, four Committee members have been appointed to the President's National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform. With representation on both sides of the aisle from the House, the Senate, and the private sector, the Commission is charged with building consensus on ways to wipe out the deficit and improve the long-term fiscal sustainability of major entitlement programs. The House Democratic leadership has pledged to vote this year on any legislative recommendations reported by the Commission and approved by the Senate, and agrees that deficit reduction as a result of the recommendations cannot be used to offset costs of future legislation. The deficit-reduction proposals of the bipartisan commission will be issued in December.

The Budget Committee will continue to examine ways to reduce the deficit and increase efficiency in government spending. I look forward to working further with all Members of Congress to address the long-term budget challenges facing the nation.

IN RECOGNITION OF JOSEPH M.
WOJCIK

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of Joseph M. Wojcik, a native and lifelong resident of South River, New Jersey. Mr. Wojcik's outstanding legacy of public service, commitment and dedication to his community, as well as civic achievements, are unquestionably worthy of this body's recognition.

Joseph M. Wojcik's career of public service began early as a student studying at Rutgers University. While attending college, he ran for positions on the South River Board of Education and the South River Town Council. His enthusiasm for and commitment to service continued into his professional life when Mr. Wojcik served the South River Planning Board as well as the South River Recreation Commission. Furthermore, he has dedicated time to the South River Knights of Columbus where he has had the honor to serve as Deputy Grand Knight, as well as Grand Knight in recent years. Currently, Mr. Wojcik is actively working for the Borough of South River.

Mr. Wojcik's time and energy has also been dedicated to engaging with the Polish community in Middlesex County, of which he is a member. His efforts have been repeatedly recognized and, in a special tribute to his status in the community, this year he has been given the honor of serving as the Grand Marshall of the Middlesex County Pulaski Day Parade. Mr. Wojcik's father led the same parade as Grand Marshall in the early 1980's. As a proud citizen of Polish heritage, Mr. Wojcik embodies what the Parade's highest honorary position entails.

Madam Speaker, Joseph Wojcik epitomizes what it means to give back to one's community. Please join me in leading this body in acknowledgment of the extraordinary contributions of Joseph M. Wojcik. He has worked tirelessly throughout his life to assist the residents of South River and his dedication should be an inspiration to us all.

HONORING SAINT JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH OF CORNING, MISSOURI

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Saint John's Lutheran Church of Corning, Missouri, as they celebrate their sesquicentennial anniversary.

Since being founded as the Deutsch Evangelish Lutheraner St. Johannes in 1860, the St. John's congregation has remained a pillar of the community. The efforts of the community to save the church during the historic floods of 1951 and 1993 highlight the importance of this church to the surrounding area. The historical nature of the church was recognized in 2008 when it was placed on the National Registry of Historic Places.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in congratulating Saint John's Lutheran Church of Corning, Missouri for their 150 years of service to the Corning community.

FINDINGS OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS RELATING TO EFFICIENCY AND REFORM PURSUANT TO H. RES. 1493

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. BERMAN. Madam Speaker, pursuant to subsection (c)(2)(C) of House Resolution 1493, "Sense of the House on Deficit Reduction," requesting Committees of the House of Representatives to submit findings which identify changes in law that would help achieve deficit reduction by reducing waste, fraud, abuse, and mismanagement and which promote efficiency and reform of government and control spending in programs under committee jurisdiction, I submit this report. It includes an accounting of Committee legislation that: (a) has been enacted into law; (b) has been passed by the House and/or considered by the Committee; or (c) is presently being drafted in Committee under my direction. In each case I have ensured that legislation accomplishes, or will accomplish, the objectives called for the Budget Enforcement Resolution.

ENACTED LEGISLATION

The Committee reported out the Pakistan Enduring Assistance and Cooperation Enhancement Act of 2009 (H.R. 1886), which streamlined and developed tighter benchmarks and accountability measures for the substantial American economic and military assistance being provided to the Government of Pakistan. In conference with the Senate, this bill was

passed as the Enhanced Partnership with Pakistan Act of 2009, which became Public Law 111-73.

PASSED BY THE HOUSE

On June 4, 2009, the Committee reported H.R. 2410, authorizing appropriations for the Department of State and the Peace Corps for fiscal years 2010 and 2011, and to modernize the Foreign Service and other international affairs-related programs and agencies.

Title II, Section 211, of the legislation requires the Secretary of State to improve coordination among all the various efforts within the government to conduct public diplomacy.

Section 216 reauthorizes an Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy charged with conducting an in-depth review of public diplomacy programs, policies, and activities to assess their effectiveness.

Section 302 of the legislation directs the development of a national review of diplomacy and development every four years in order to make policies and programs more effective and efficient.

Section 303 authorizes the establishment of a Lessons Learned Center in order to provide support for best practices in our diplomacy and development efforts.

The legislation also contains such cost savings proposals as limiting compensatory time off for travel by Foreign Service Officers and providing for the suspension of Foreign Service Officers without pay.

Title VIII of the legislation, entitled "Export Control Reform And Security Assistance," includes:

Section 828 which require the Secretary to present plans to make defense trade licensing self-financing.

Section 807, permits the Secretary to use registration fees for licensing functions currently supported by appropriated funds.

Section 826 grants the President the flexibility to remove satellites and related components from the munitions list, thus reducing licensing costs for these items.

Title IX, "Actions To Enhance the Merida Initiative," requires the President to establish and implement a program to assess the effectiveness of assistance provided under the Merida Initiative.

LEGISLATION INTRODUCED

The Committee introduced the Initiating Foreign Assistance Reform Act of 2009 (H.R. 2139) that requires the Administration to develop a National Strategy for Global Development which would define and streamline the roles of each department and agency engaged in development policies. It includes a provision that requires the development and implementation of a rigorous system to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness and efficiency of United States foreign assistance.

LEGISLATION BEING DRAFTED

The Committee has also begun work on two major legislative reforms:

The first is an extensive effort to rewrite the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961. The purpose of the overhaul is to increase the accountability, transparency and effectiveness of foreign aid programs, which are currently fragmented across 12 departments, 25 different agencies, and nearly 60 government offices. In so doing, I hope to clear away many of the inefficiencies and program duplications which have developed since the last major re-write of the legislation in 1985.

The current system of unclear mandates, fragmented authorities, overlapping responsibilities, antiquated rules and tortuous procedures hampers our ability to deliver aid to the people who need it at the lowest possible cost. One lesson of the 1990s is that reductions in force at USAID did not result in improved efficiency. Instead, a specialized and experienced federal workforce was largely replaced by a contractor bureaucracy that operates at higher cost and with less accountability. Another lesson was that elimination of the USAID office that conducted program monitoring and evaluation seriously hindered our ability to assess the performance of our aid programs and share and replicate best practices. When resource allocations are made without the benefit of quantitative program indicators and rigorous impact evaluations, there is little basis for determining which activities and approaches are most effective and where the needs are greatest. Both H.R. 2139 and the foreign aid reform bill currently being drafted contain mandatory requirements for monitoring and evaluation of all foreign assistance programs.

The second is a redraft of legislation under the Export Administration Act of 1979 to reauthorize, streamline and update the Act to ensure that it is responsive to both current security threats and the international commercial environment in which U.S. firms must compete.

The staff draft of the export administration legislation includes two provisions requiring a periodic independent evaluation of the system. One provision would require evaluations of the effectiveness of export controls in protecting U.S. national security and would require the evaluations, with recommendations for improvements, to be sent directly to the President and Congress. The second provision would require an evaluation of the effectiveness of U.S. diplomacy in engaging with the four multilateral export control organizations. These would be the first systemic evaluations of U.S. export controls and our diplomacy regarding controls. They would contribute to modernization of the current system, which is widely judged to be falling behind in its mission.

On a related point, the Committee staff is engaged in oversight of both the Export Administration Regulations (dual-use) and the International Traffic in Arms Regulations (munitions) to strengthen the effectiveness of regulations, licensing and enforcement. Such oversight led to enactment of a provision in the Comprehensive Iran Sanctions, Accountability and Divestment Act (P.L. 111–195) to strengthen the enforcement authority of the Commerce Department's Bureau of Industry and Security.

Separate from the preceding, the Committee staff is drafting legislation that would provide the Trade Promotion Coordinating Committee with new authority over agencies' programs and budgets. The draft legislation would require coordination of the federal government's 17 export promotion programs, to more effectively deploy existing budgetary and staffing resources to increase U.S. exports. The bill also would require a reallocation of resources in the U.S. Commercial Service to overseas markets with potential for increased purchase of U.S. exports. The draft legislation is in response to Committee staff inquiries and a series of GAO reports that have identified signifi-

cant overlap, gaps and inefficiencies in these programs.

Finally, in terms of the Committee's oversight of ongoing agency activities, Committee staff conduct assiduous review of agencies' advance notifications of grants and contracts under programs under the Committee's jurisdiction. The goal is to ensure that proposed expenditures are in line with applicable statutes, federal policy and program goals. Proposed expenditures that raise questions are examined and then blocked if found to be inappropriate. As an example, in August, Committee staff urged the Trade and Development Agency to reconsider a proposed contract for technical services that could be provided more cost-effectively by federal employees. The agency did so and cancelled the proposed contract.

RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANT ROLE ZOOS, AQUARIUMS, AND OTHER WILDLIFE ORGANIZATIONS HAVE PLAYED IN THE RESPONSE EFFORTS IN THE GULF REGION FOLLOWING THE DEEPWATER HORIZON OIL SPILL THAT BEGAN ON APRIL 20, 2010

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution recognizing the important role zoos, aquariums, and other wildlife organizations have played in the response efforts in the Gulf region following the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. Even in difficult economic times, zoos, aquariums, and other wildlife institutions have provided valuable staff and resources for rescue and rehabilitation efforts in the Gulf region. This resolution would give these organizations the praise and support they deserve for their dedication and selfless contributions.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service have identified zoos and aquariums as important partners in the rescue and rehabilitation efforts of the wildlife impacted by the oil spill. Many of these institutions already have in place established programs for animal rescue and rehabilitation as well as the resources needed to address short-term and long-term impacts of the oil spill on animals and habitats in the Gulf of Mexico region.

The unique expertise of the professionals at zoos and aquariums is invaluable to responding to environmental disasters like that in the Gulf region following the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. Additionally, their contributions to conservation programs, science education, and community development deserve our continued support and appreciation.

One of these valuable organizations is the Association of Zoos and Aquariums, AZA. Established in 1924, the AZA has been dedicated to advancing the work of zoos and aquariums in the areas of conservation, education, science, and recreation. There are over 200 AZA-accredited zoos and aquariums in 46 states, where they support more than 126,000 jobs and attract 180 million visitors annually. Of these AZA-accredited institutions, 70 have contributed to the rescue and rehabilitation ef-

forts in the Gulf of Mexico following the Deepwater Horizon oil spill which began on April 20, 2010.

I am proud to have the Palm Beach Zoo, an AZA-accredited institution, in my district. The Palm Beach Zoo actively promotes conservation and education programs, including the incorporation of Species Survival Plans and Population Management Plans through the AZA.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to recognize the important work that these organizations do and for their partnership in the recovery efforts in the Gulf region. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution and the important contributions zoos, aquariums, and other wildlife organizations make in our communities.

COMMEMORATING SEPTEMBER 11

SPEECH OF

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Mr. RAHALL. Madam Speaker, we have witnessed the personal courage and sacrifice made by so many West Virginians, who serve our great state and country proudly in our armed forces. But we must never forget those who lost their life on September 11, 2001—a most tragic day in our history.

Today, it is appropriate that the formal federal recognition ceremony at the West Virginia National Guard for its Joint Interagency Training and Education Center coincides with the ninth anniversary of terrorist attacks on America.

Those who delivered the blows hoped their cowardly actions would mark the beginning of our destruction. Instead, they reaffirmed our commitment to our founding values and inspired a renewed dedication to embrace once again that America's destiny is the world's destiny—to secure life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

Today will always be a solemn day for Dr. Kenneth and Sharon Ambrose who lost their son, Dr. Paul Ambrose. He was on board American Airlines Flight 77 that was hijacked by terrorists and flown into the Pentagon. His passion to improve health care and the well being of West Virginians through better nutrition and activity lives on through the Paul Wesley Ambrose Health Policy Program, a fellowship program at Marshall University's Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine, and the Paul Ambrose Trail for Health being developed for Huntington with the Rahall Transportation Institute. PATH is a 26-mile walking and shared-road trail that encompasses nearly every part of the city.

The Puritan preacher John Winthrop proclaimed as he and his followers sailed for America and freedom, "The eyes of all people are upon us."

Many have looked to us in awe, over the last nine years and through the nearly four centuries of our history—inspired by our nation rooted in liberty, and today we must re-dedicate ourselves to continue our mission to improve life and protect those freedoms we all hold dear.

REMEMBERING STAFF SERGEANT
PHILLIP JENKINS

HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I rise with a heavy heart to honor the sacrifice and courage of a young Hoosier who lost his life while supporting Operation New Dawn in Iraq.

Staff Sergeant Phillip Jenkins was providing security for a visiting commander when he was mortally wounded by hostile fire. Despite the dangerous nature of military service, Staff Sergeant Jenkins always knew he wanted to join the Army. Like so many before him, Staff Sergeant Jenkins bravely answered the call of duty. We will long remember the passion and dedication he had for his country, and the joy he had for life.

Staff Sergeant Jenkins is a true American hero, but the tragedy of such a loss as this is never easy. I give my most sincere condolences to Staff Sergeant Jenkins' wife, Melissa, and two young daughters, Lindly and Piper; mother, Rose Jenkins; sister Cassie Jenkins; mother-in-law Debby Feurer; father-in-law Mike Hays; two brothers-in-law Matt Hays and Nick Hays; and paternal grandmother Darlene Carlile. The Good Book tells us that "The Lord is close to the broken-hearted," and that is my prayer for the family of Staff Sergeant Phillip Jenkins.

CONGRATULATING THE
TEUTOPOLIS BASEBALL TEAM
ON WINNING THE STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, today I rise to congratulate the Teutopolis Wooden Shoes baseball team on the state championship.

Teutopolis recently upset the undefeated Harrisburg in the state championship by a score of 5–1 to claim their first state title in school history. The Wooden Shoes finished the season with an impressive 31–4 record.

My congratulations go out to Head Coach Justin Fleener, Assistant Coach Rob Bothwell and Assistant Coach Troy Bierman for their work with this outstanding group of student-athletes. But most of all, I want to congratulate the members of the 2010 Teutopolis Wooden Shoes state champion baseball team: Ryan Pruemer, Clint Lustig, Luke Bushur, Andy Hardick, Lance Niebrugge, Kyle Zerrusen, Jeff Bloemer, Derek Repking, Derek Thompson, Jordan Roepke, Damon Hoene, Bo Bliedernicht, Dillon Hardick, Brock Swingler, Cole Borries, Josh Koester, Garrett Overbeck, Brett Deters and Mark Niebrugge.

They have represented themselves, their school and the community in an exemplary fashion, and I would like to join with the other members of this House in wishing them the best of luck in their future endeavors, both on and off the field.

HONORING BRIGADIER GENERAL
HECTOR E. PAGAN, UNITED
STATES ARMY

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Brigadier General Hector E. Pagan, United States Army, who on Friday, September 17th will retire and relinquish command of Special Operations Command South, SOCS, to Rear Admiral Thomas L. Brown II.

Since the summer of 2008, Brigadier General Pagan has exemplified unparalleled leadership through his command of Special Operations Command South in Florida. A New York native, he grew up in Puerto Rico and was commissioned as an infantry officer from the ROTC program at the University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez. In 1980 he attended the Infantry Officers Basic Course and Ranger School and was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 51st Infantry, in Germany, as a Rifle Platoon Leader, Company Executive Officer and Scout Platoon Leader. In 1983, he attended the Infantry Officers Advanced Course and remained at Fort Benning, Georgia, with the Infantry Training Group and the 29th Infantry Regiment, where he served as chief, Special Weapons Committee, operations officer, and commanded the Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Bn., 29th Infantry Regiment from 1984 to 1986.

Brigadier General Pagan served in Panama with the 3rd Bn., 7th Special Forces, SF Group, Airborne, 1988–1990, as an A-Detachment commander and Battalion S1. He served in Operation JUST CAUSE and deployed to El Salvador in 1989. From 1990 to 1992, he served in SF Branch, Total Army Personnel Command as a future readiness officer and captains assignments officer. He attended the Army Command and General Staff Course and then served as the executive officer, 1st Bn., 7th SF Group (Airborne). From 1994–1995, he served in the U.S. Army Special Operations Command as the chief, officer management, office of the deputy chief of staff for personnel.

He returned to the 7th SF Group, Airborne, in 1995, where he served as group operations officer, executive officer and deputy commander. From 1998–2000, Brigadier General Pagan commanded the 2nd Battalion, 1st SF Group, Airborne, at Fort Lewis, Washington. After his tour with the 1st SF Group, he was assigned to the Special Operations Command South, Naval Station Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico, where he served as the director of operations, J3, from 2000 to 2002.

Upon completion of the U.S. Army War College in 2003, Brigadier General Pagan took command of the 5th SF Group, Airborne, in Baghdad, Iraq, Operation Iraqi Freedom. He led the 5th SF Group, Airborne, in combat as the commander of the Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force—Arabian Peninsula for two combat tours in 2003 and 2004.

In 2005, Brigadier General Pagan served as the special assistant to the commander of the United States Special Operations Command at MacDill Air Force Base, Florida. In 2006, he assumed duties as the deputy director of the Operations Support Group in the Center for

Special Operations in the U.S. Special Operations Command. Brigadier General Pagan served as the deputy commander, U.S. Army Special Operations Command in November 2006 and in May 2007 assumed duties as deputy commander, U.S. Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center at Fort Bragg, NC until July, 2008.

His awards and decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit with one bronze oak leaf, Bronze Star Medal with bronze oak leaf, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Meritorious Service Medal with one silver oak leaf and one bronze oak leaf, the Army Commendation Medal with bronze oak leaf, the Army and Joint Service Achievement Medals, the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal with bronze star device, the Joint Meritorious Unit Award, 2nd oak leaf cluster, the Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation, Special Forces and Ranger Tabs, the Combat Infantryman Badge, second award, the Expert Infantryman Badge, and Master Parachutist Badge. He earned a master's degree in management from Troy State University and a master's degree in strategic studies from the U.S. Army War College.

Brigadier General Pagan has served our nation honorably. He has dedicated his life to defending freedom, ensuring that our democratic principles remain intact and that Americans can continue to live in liberty. His patriotism, courage and leadership are unparalleled, as is his commitment to the ideals of democracy. For me it has been a privilege getting to know Brigadier General Pagan and I am honored to call him a friend. I ask that you join me in thanking Brigadier General Hector E. Pagan for his years of service to our country, and his family for supporting him throughout his military career. I wish them well in their future endeavors and will be eternally grateful for their sacrifices and commitment to our Nation's safety and freedom.

HONORING THE SERVICE AND SACRIFICE OF UNITED STATES
ARMY SERGEANT MARTIN A.
LUGO, JR.

HON. GABRIELLE GIFFORDS

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Ms. GIFFORDS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor United States Army Sergeant Martin A. Lugo, Jr., who was killed in action on August 19, 2010.

A native of Tucson, Arizona, Martin graduated from Tucson High Magnet School in 2004 and enlisted in the Army shortly thereafter. Martin, a decorated combat veteran and graduate of the U.S. Army's Ranger School, re-enlisted in February 2010. He was on his 6th combat deployment and 4th to Afghanistan, when he was killed by small arms fire in Logar Province, near the Afghanistan-Pakistan border. Martin was assigned to Company C, 1st Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment. Among his many decorations, he earned the Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal and Purple Heart. He was one of our nation's most elite, best and bravest.

We remember Martin and offer our deepest condolences and sincerest prayers to his family. My words cannot effectively convey the

feeling of great loss nor can they offer adequate consolation. However, it is my hope that in future days, his family may take some comfort in knowing that Martin made a difference in the lives of many others and serves as an example of a competent and caring leader and friend that will live on in the hearts and minds of all those he touched.

This body and this country owe Martin and his family a debt of gratitude and it is vital that we remember him and his service to his country.

Sergeant Lugo is survived by his mother, Maria; father, Martin; and sister, Leslie.

PASSING OF JAMIE GRODSKY

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Madam Speaker, I rise to offer my condolences and sympathies to the family and friends of Jamie Grodsky, former counsel for the Natural Resources Committee at the time that I served as committee chair. Her funeral took place in San Francisco in May of this year, and she will also be remembered in a Memorial Service to be held on September 20 in Jack Morton Auditorium at George Washington University.

Jamie passed away on May 22, 2010. She was an extraordinary individual, who was both respected and cherished by her numerous friends and family members, as well as by her colleagues and students.

Jamie played many valuable roles in her various jobs in all three branches of the Federal Government and in academia. For five years in the 1980's she was an Analyst with the Office of Technology Assessment. In that capacity she helped write reports and analyses that helped us to understand and benefit from changes in information technology and economic competition.

From 1993 to 1995, Jamie returned to the Hill to serve as a counsel to the Natural Resources Committee. During that time, Jamie worked with me on a wide range of issues, including developing new policies for the conservation and use of the natural resources in the Western United States, and other environmental issues.

A native of California, Jamie went to work for Senator DIANNE FEINSTEIN from California, as a counsel on the Judiciary Committee from 1995 to 1997. Among other issues she worked on were privacy, civil rights, judicial nominations, antitrust, intellectual property, and constitutional law.

Jamie was well educated and loved learning. She received a BA with distinction from Stanford University, where she was elected president of her class. She subsequently received an MA from U.C. Berkeley in Economic Geography, and returned to Stanford to receive her law degree where she was Articles Editor of the Stanford Law Review and received the Murie Award in Environmental Law and the Ochlmann Prize for Legal Writing.

Jamie left Capitol Hill to clerk for the Chief Judge of the Ninth Circuit, the Hon. Proctor Hug, who described her as "the most multi-talented person I have ever met." From there, Jamie served as Senior Advisor to the general counsel of the U.S. EPA from 1999 to 2001.

Jamie went on to become a well respected law professor, first at the University of Minnesota, and, beginning in 2006, as a Professor of Environmental Law at George Washington University where she received tenure. She was a proficient writer and was one of the Nation's preeminent experts in environmental law. Two of her recent articles were chosen as being among the top five law review articles in the Nation.

At various times, Jamie also found time to backpack around Appalachia, play guitar with the great Doc Watson; walk with Native Americans from California to Utah; serve as Educational Director of the San Francisco Oceanic Society (where she founded Sea Camp, a children's maritime educational camp); and conduct research in marine biology at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute in Massachusetts.

There is no question that the Congress and our country are a better place because of Jamie's contributions. Jamie displayed not only tremendous knowledge, expertise and judgment, but also incredible enthusiasm and friendship to all who knew her. I know I speak for all of my colleagues on both sides of Capitol Hill, as well as Jamie's co-workers in the Executive Branch and Judicial Branch, and for her students and friends in Washington, D.C., California, Minnesota and around the Nation, when I offer my condolences and respect for a life well lived and fully enjoyed.

ADERA NICHOLE ETHERIDGE MAKES HER MARK ON THE WORLD

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my son David and his wife Casey on the birth of their second child, Adera Nichole Etheridge. Adera was born this morning, September 15, 2010 and weighed 6 pounds and 10 ounces. My wife Faye and I are excited about the birth of our seventh grandchild, and she joins me in wishing David and Casey and their son, Walker, great happiness upon this new addition to our family.

Faye and I are truly blessed by the arrival of Adera Nichole Etheridge. The birth of a new child is a joyous occasion that reminds us of the promise of a new life. And I know that Walker is excited to have a sister with whom he can play. Children remind us of the incredible miracle of life, and they keep us young-at-heart. Every day they show us a new way to view the world. I had the pleasure of hearing one of Adera's first cries this morning, and I can assure you she is going to be one strong, vivacious little girl.

God has truly blessed my family with this new addition. My family and I are looking forward to spending a lot of time with Ms. Adera and introducing her to our friends and neighbors in North Carolina's Second Congressional District.

FIGHTING MEDICARE FRAUD

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. STARK. Madam Speaker, I rise as Chairman of the Ways and Means Health Subcommittee with my colleague and Ranking Member WALLY HERGER (R-CA) to introduce the Strengthening Medicare Anti-Fraud Measures Act.

This bipartisan legislation is a direct byproduct of a joint hearing held by the Ways and Means Health and Oversight Subcommittees earlier this year. The hearing was on efforts to reduce fraud, waste and abuse in Medicare.

We heard testimony at this hearing from two panels of witnesses. The first panel consisted of Members of Congress pursuing legislative initiatives to reduce Medicare fraud, waste and abuse. The second panel was made up of government witnesses: Office of the Inspector General of the Department of Health and Human Services (OIG), The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, and the Government Accountability Office.

Numerous witnesses raised concerns about limitations to the authority of the Office of the Inspector General to minimize Medicare fraud. From this discussion it became clear to Ranking Member HERGER and myself that we should change the law to provide the Inspector General with the additional tools requested to better protect Medicare.

This is a simple bill with only two provisions. It expands the OIG's permissive authority to ban executives whose companies have been convicted of Medicare fraud from the program. Second, it expands the OIG's permissive authority to exclude affiliates of corporations convicted of fraud, including parent companies hiding behind convicted corporate shells.

The first change is important because it will enable the OIG to protect Medicare from executives who circumvent exclusion by moving to another company. Under current law, executives whose companies are convicted of fraud can be excluded from Medicare. However, if the executive has left the company by the time of conviction, he or she cannot be barred from Federal health care programs. These executives are able to move from one company to another and continue to defraud Medicare, seniors, and taxpayers.

The second change provides the OIG with stronger tools to address corporations that have engaged in fraud. Companies that engage in fraud often set up shell companies to insulate themselves from liability. Criminal settlement negotiations can result in the conviction of these shell organizations with no real operational impact on the parent company. Without discretionary authority to exclude parent companies from the program, the OIG is missing a tool in its arsenal that could allow the government to exclude or obtain stronger prospective remedies in settlements.

We held a hearing, we learned of a need, and we are joining across party lines to introduce this legislation. Reducing fraud, waste and abuse in government programs is a bipartisan priority. We urge our colleagues to cosponsor this bill and quickly enact these new anti-fraud tools to protect Medicare beneficiaries and all of America's taxpayers.

IN RECOGNITION OF VICTOR A.
"VIC" POZZI

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Victor A. "Vic" Pozzi as the Town of Windsor, California honors him for 45 years of community service on October 22, 2010.

Mr. Pozzi has served as a director of the Windsor Volunteer Fire Department, which later became the Windsor Fire Protection District, for 45 years. He was a volunteer fire fighter for 41 of those years. Over those years, he has responded to approximately 220,000 calls for service.

He was the consummate fire fighter and received Windsor's Firefighter of the Year Award multiple times. He was further honored when the award given annually to the department's most reliable firefighter was named the "Vic Pozzi Award."

Mr. Pozzi began his fire service career in neighboring Sonoma Valley, where he was born and raised. He joined the Shell Vista Fire Department in Sonoma Valley in 1956 and served with that unit until 1963 when he moved to Windsor. He was given a gold shield when he left Shell Vista and is still an honorary member of that department.

In addition to his fire fighting duties, Mr. Pozzi has been a member of the Farm Bureau for more than 60 years. He grew up on a dairy farm and transferred his farming interests to his property in Windsor, where he still keeps a dairy herd, ducks, geese, emus, Brahma bulls, sheep and a llama.

Madam Speaker, Vic Pozzi is a true ambassador for Windsor, for firefighters, for farmers and for everyone who believes that a good citizen is one who participates and gives back to his or her community. It is appropriate that we honor him at this time.

COMMEMORATING THE 100TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF MEXICO'S REVOLU-
TION AND 200TH ANNIVERSARY
OF INDEPENDENCE

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mexico's bicentennial celebration in honor of the 200th anniversary of its independence and the 100th anniversary of its revolution. Today, I wish to commemorate Mexico's celebrations along with the people of the 5th district.

Mexico's Independence Day celebrates the successful war for sovereignty from Spain. Influenced by America's war of independence—Miguel Hidalgo, one of Mexico's most revered heroes—changed the course of Mexico's history with the Cry of Dolores, the call to his people to revolt against centuries of oppression from the Spanish Crown. Heroes such as Ignacio Allende and Jose Maria Morelos joined Hidalgo in the movement. Although Mexico did not become fully independent until 1821, today marks the anniversary of Sept.

15, 1810, the beginning of the struggle that led to the birth of modern Mexico.

Mexico's bicentennial festivities also honor the 100th anniversary of Mexico's Revolution. The Revolution started in 1910 in response to the social and economic injustices of the autocracy in Mexico. Leaders such as Francisco Madero, Francisco "Pancho" Villa and Emiliano Zapata led the lengthy and arduous fight for democracy. The end of the revolution led to a new constitution and Mexico's values of liberty, equality and justice were restored.

My hometown of Chicago has the second largest Mexican population of any city in the United States. To honor two of Mexico's most historic events, Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley proclaimed 2010 The Year of Mexico. The city of Chicago will be participating in three annual Mexican Independence Day parades: the famous 26th Street celebration, as well as others in the Pilsen neighborhood and downtown Chicago.

Madam Speaker, Mexico's anniversaries not only keep the memories of Mexico's liberators alive, these celebrations also honor Mexico's pride and patriotism. On this day, I am proud to join the people of my district and those of Mexican descent in celebrating Mexico's bicentennial.

FINDINGS OF THE CHAIRMAN OF
THE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE
AND TECHNOLOGY PURSUANT TO
H. RES. 1493

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I am submitting, pursuant to House Resolution 1493, changes in law that could help achieve deficit reduction by reducing waste, fraud, abuse, and mismanagement; promoting efficiency and reform of government; and controlling spending within Government programs for which the Committee on Science and Technology has primary authorizing authority. The specific measures listed below are pending before Congress. If enacted, these measures would reduce government waste, promote efficiency, and help to control spending within Government programs.

COORDINATION AND NON-DUPLICATION

One of the recurring legislative themes for the Science and Technology Committee during the 111th Congress has been coordination and non-duplication. In tough budgetary times, it is vital that precious Federal research dollars not be spent on duplicative programs. Unfortunately, the coordinating activities necessary to prevent duplicative research efforts have been surprisingly lacking both across the Federal government and within individual agencies. To ensure that Federal research expenditures are most effective, the Committee included coordination requirements in several bills this Congress.

The first example of this theme was the House passage of the National Nanotechnology Initiative Amendments Act of 2009 (H.R. 554) on February 11, 2009. The National Nanotechnology Initiative (NNI) is an effort to coordinate over 1.7 billion dollars in annual Federal nanotechnology research expenditures across 15 separate agencies. The 2009

bill is an update to the existing program which should strengthen the interagency coordination and oversight functions of NNI.

Interagency coordination was also the driving premise behind H.R. 1145, the National Water Research and Development Initiative Act of 2009, which passed the House on April 23, 2009. The purpose of this bill is to create a Federal initiative to coordinate the Government's efforts in research and development related to water resources. This is another field of inquiry in which multiple Federal agencies are involved, but where little effort has been expended to date to determine if these efforts are complementary or duplicative. H.R. 1145 would remedy this by bringing each of these agencies together, along with the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP), to develop a National Water Research and Assessment Plan to coordinate water research across the Federal Government.

The Committee's efforts to coordinate Federal Government activities also extended to the field of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) education in H.R. 1709, the STEM Education Coordination Act of 2009, which passed the House on June 8, 2009. The purpose of H.R. 1709 is to establish a committee through the National Science and Technology Council with OSTP, to coordinate Federal programs and activities in support of STEM education across the Federal Government. The coordinating committee would also be charged with developing and periodically updating a strategic plan for STEM education to craft a more cohesive and effective Federal effort toward STEM education.

In H.R. 2020, the Networking and Information Technology Research and Development Act of 2009, the Committee updated the successful Networking and Information Technology Research and Development (NITRD) program to codify and emphasize the National Coordination Office to ensure coordination of the computing and information technology research of the 13 Federal agencies performing this type of work. The bill would also require the formulation of a strategic plan to set a coordinated direction for Federal information technology research. Additionally, the bill emphasizes communication with outside communities of interest in an effort to help ensure that Federal research investments in these areas compliment, rather than duplicate, private-sector investments in these areas.

The Committee also established an Interagency Coordinating Committee in its reauthorization of the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program and the National Windstorm Impact Reduction Program in H.R. 3820, the Natural Hazards Risk Reduction Act of 2010. The purpose of the committee is to ensure a coordinated approach in Federal research related to the earthquake and wind programs authorized in H.R. 3820. H.R. 3820 passed the House on March 2, 2010.

Finally, the Committee broadly addressed the issue of coordination of Federal efforts in the areas of research and development and STEM education in H.R. 5116, the America COMPETES Reauthorization Act of 2010, which passed the House on May 28, 2010. In addition to containing identical provisions as H.R. 554, H.R. 1709, and H.R. 2020, the

COMPETES Act contained additional provisions dealing with coordination and non duplication. Under Title VI of the bill, the Undersecretary for Science at the Department of Energy was given additional authority to coordinate energy technology research, development, and demonstration activities across the Department. There are also coordination provisions relating to the management of federal scientific collections and manufacturing research and development.

NASA ACQUISITION REFORM

Over the course of the past several years, the Committee on Science and Technology has investigated deficiencies in the awarding of major NASA contracts, with a focus on the flawed awarding of the Space Communications Networks Services Contract. This contract award, worth 1.3 billion dollars, has been successfully protested to the Government Accountability Office twice, and significant concerns regarding NASA's contract award management have been raised by these protests. To address these issues, the Committee devoted Title VIII of its 2010 NASA authorization (H.R. 5781) to acquisition management. Notably, this title attempts to avoid organizational conflicts of interest in major NASA acquisitions by prohibiting contractors providing systems engineering or technical assistance to NASA from competing for the underlying management or acquisition contract. Similar provisions applicable to the Department of Defense were included in the Weapon Systems Acquisition Reform Act of 2009. In an effort to control spiraling acquisition costs, Title VIII of H.R. 5781 also strengthens a prohibition on expenditure of funds for acquisitions which exceed a 30 percent cost growth.

MANUFACTURING EXTENSION PARTNERSHIP MANAGEMENT

As a component of the America COMPETES Reauthorization Act of 2010, the Committee included a provision requiring the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) to conduct an assessment of the governance of the Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) program. In carrying out the assessment, the Director is instructed to use criteria established pursuant to the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award. This novel approach is intended to require the director of NIST to use criteria generally applied in making assessments of private sector proposals on NIST's own programs. It is hoped that this critical assessment will lead to better management of the MEP program.

FUTURE AREAS OF FOCUS

The Committee on Science and Technology continues to look at ways of making the Federal scientific agencies more efficient and better managed. One area of future focus is the management of the Department of Energy's (DOE) civilian research laboratories. DOE's laboratories are currently regulated internally, and, to a large degree, to a single DOE set of standards. However, the safety, environmental, and security requirements of DOE's civilian and military laboratories vary greatly. The Committee has begun to investigate whether turning DOE's civilian laboratories over to non-DOE regulation would prove more cost effective than its current internal management structure. The Committee has also been looking at recommendations from a 2009 report by the National Academy of Public Administration to determine if DOE could imple-

ment practices aimed at better management of its human capital.

I hope these examples of the Committee's legislative work prove helpful to the Congress at large. As the Congress moves forward with future efforts toward deficit reduction and enhanced management of the Federal Government, the Committee on Science and Technology will continue to be an enthusiastic partner in these endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF MERYL FRANK

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Her Excellency Ambassador Meryl Frank, honoree at the Jewish Outreach Institute's 2010 Tribute Evening. For many years, Ambassador Frank has dedicated her time to serve the local community and advocate on behalf of women's rights. Her numerous achievements and accolades have earned her this prestigious recognition bestowed upon her by the Jewish Outreach Institute.

Ambassador Frank is a graduate of Livingston College, Rutgers University where she majored in history. She also earned multiple graduate degrees from Yale University in International Relations, Political Science, and Public Health in 1987 and 1988.

As Mayor of Highland Park, Ambassador Meryl Frank dedicated her life to serving her constituents. During her tenure, she was known for her commitment to ethics and good government. Under her direction, Highland Park maintained their title as New Jersey's first green community. The Borough of Highland Park continues to promote a tradition of diversity throughout the community and currently also houses one of the best public school systems in the nation. Highland Park's success is a result of Ambassador Frank's dedication to the residents and displays outstanding leadership.

Ambassador Frank touts thirty years of exceptional community service and advocacy work on behalf of women and children. Ms. Frank served at the World Health Organization (WHO) in Copenhagen, Denmark and prepared a report on the Implementation of the International Code on Breast Milk Substitutes. She has also served as Director of the Infant Care Leave Project at the Yale Bush Center in Child Development and Social Policy and President of the Women's Division of the American Jewish Congress. Ms. Frank co-authored and edited *The Parental Leave Crisis: Toward a National Policy*, was a key advocate of the federal Family and Medical Leave Act signed into law by President Clinton, and was an author of the New Jersey Family Leave Act signed by Governor Kean. As a result of her hard work, Ms. Frank was appointed U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) in February 2010 after already having served as the U.S. Representative to the CSW for nearly one year. Her commitment to improving and empowering the lives of women globally has gained her acclaim as a mentor, trainer, and lecturer on women's leadership and political participation. Ambassador Frank's outstanding

work has undoubtedly touched the lives of many individuals and is worthy of recognition by the Jewish Outreach Institute.

Madam Speaker, I sincerely hope that my colleagues will join me in recognizing Ambassador Meryl Frank. Her life-time devotion to helping others will continue to serve as a shining example of what steadfast commitment and determination can accomplish.

CONSOLIDATED LAND, ENERGY, AND AQUATIC RESOURCES ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 30, 2010

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3534) to provide greater efficiencies, transparency, returns, and accountability in the administration of Federal mineral and energy resources by consolidating administration of various Federal energy minerals management and leasing programs into one entity to be known as the Office of Federal Energy and Minerals Leasing of the Department of the Interior, and for other purposes:

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Chair, I submit an exchange of letters between the Committee on Natural Resources and the Committee on Ways and Means concerning H.R. 3534.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS,
Washington, DC, September 13, 2010.

Hon. NICK J. RAHALL II,
*Chairman, Committee on Natural Resources,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR NICK RAHALL: I am writing to you concerning the jurisdictional interest of the Committee on Ways and Means in your amendment in the nature of a substitute to H.R. 3534, the "Consolidated Land, Energy, and Aquatic Resources Act of 2010."

Rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives provides that the Committee on Ways and Means has jurisdiction over "revenue measures generally." Section 802 of H.R. 3534, as amended, raises revenue by imposing a fee of \$2 per barrel of oil and 20 cents per million BTU of natural gas produced on Federal onshore and offshore lands. As a result, Section 802 of H.R. 3534, as amended, is within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Ways and Means.

I recognize and appreciate your desire to bring this legislation before the House in an expeditious manner and, accordingly, I will not seek a sequential referral of H.R. 3534, as amended. However, I agree to waive consideration of this bill with the understanding that this does not in any way prejudice the Committee on Ways and Means and its jurisdictional prerogatives on H.R. 3534 or similar legislation.

Further, the Ways and Means Committee reserves the right to seek the appointment of conferees during any House-Senate conference convened on this legislation on provisions of the bill that are within the Committee's jurisdiction. I ask for your commitment to support any request by the Committee on Ways and Means for the appointment of conferees on H.R. 3534 or similar legislation. I also ask that a copy of this letter and your response be included in the Congressional Record during consideration of this bill by the House.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

SANDER M. LEVIN,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES,
Washington, DC, September 15, 2010.

Hon. SANDER M. LEVIN,
Chairman, Committee on Ways and Means,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you for your letter indicating the Committee on Ways and Means' jurisdictional interests in certain provisions of the amendment in the nature of a substitute to H.R. 3534, the Consolidated Land, Energy, and Aquatic Resources Act of 2010.

I acknowledge your jurisdictional interests in the bill. I appreciate your willingness to forego seeking a sequential referral of the legislation and understand that this action will in no way waive your Committee's jurisdictional interests or serve as a precedent for future referrals. I also understand that you reserve the right to seek to have conferees named from the Committee on Ways and Means on these provisions, and would support such a request if it were made.

A copy of our respective letters regarding H.R. 3534 will be entered into the Congressional Record.

Thank you for the cooperative spirit in which you have worked regarding this matter and others between our respective committees.

With warm regards, I am

Sincerely,

NICK J. RAHALL II,
Chairman, Committee on Natural Resources.

COMMEMORATING SEPTEMBER 11

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL E. McMAHON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Mr. McMAHON. Madam Speaker, I would like to thank you and Majority Leader HOYER for introducing this resolution and for honoring the memory of those who perished in 9/11, including the nearly 300 men and women from my district.

Many of us lost family and close friends in the attacks. Their memories are kept alive through the devotion and steadfast commitment of their strong families and kind-hearted friends. 9/11 will never be forgotten, but we must continue to recognize not only all who we lost, but the bravery of so many on that tragic day.

We will never forget the tearful wishes of loved ones speaking their final goodbyes and comfort to their spouses and children, and we will never forget those who heroically ran into the buildings or stayed behind to help others.

In the brutality of those attacks, we saw the heart of the American spirit and the bravery of all Americans.

In particular, I would like to recognize the thousands of emergency service workers and volunteers in New York City who rushed to the pile to aid the rescue and recovery to save lives, with little care for their own health and safety.

To this day, these brave men and women, which include people like Martin Fullam, a 30-year veteran FDNY lieutenant from Staten Is-

land, still suffer from medical complications from the air in the days following the attack, which was thick with toxic smoke and debris.

On each anniversary of the attacks, we hear many touching tributes to the heroism of the innocent victims of that faithful day and of course, the brave men and women who rushed to Ground Zero.

But, remembering the legacies of those who are no longer with us and fulfilling our promises to those who are still here perhaps will be the greatest tribute to all to all those affected by this tragedy—both the victims and survivors of the worst attack on U.S. soil in the history of this great country.

To all the other first responders who are struggling with 9/11-related illnesses, I say we will help you.

To reiterate this significance of this day and of the work that goes unfinished, I would like to tell the story of another young man in my district by the name of Stephen Siller.

Stephen was on his way home when he heard on his scanner news of the attack on the Trade Center and he immediately turned his car around and drove back to Manhattan through the Brooklyn Battery Tunnel.

With tunnel traffic at a standstill, Stephen got out of his car, strapped on his gear and ran towards the burning towers. He eventually met up with his squad members as they rushed into the World Trade Center, where he helped save tens of thousands of office workers.

But sadly, Stephen and his entire squad were never to be seen again. Stephen's family and the people of New York City honor his memory and bravery with a 5K "Tunnel to Towers" run that retraces Stephen's steps. Stephen's memory also lives on in the good works the family has done by building Stephen's House and Home for orphans.

So in Stephen's honor, and in respect for the memory of the nearly 3,000 others murdered on that fateful day nine years ago, I urge my colleagues to vote for H. Res. 1610.

HONORING ELVAN AND ELEANOR NEWCOMB

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor Elvan and Eleanor Newcomb for receiving the 2010 Lifetime Achievement Award. They have lived a long and distinguished life, adhering to extremely high standards of quality and integrity.

The Newcombs moved to California's Central Valley from Oklahoma in 1941, the year they married. Elvan started his career as a tractor dealer, salesman, partsman, and mechanic at a dealership in Madera and has expanded his management and ownership since his first job.

Elvan and Eleanor are well connected within their community. They have been involved in Warner Pacific College, Fourth Street Church of God, Madera Valley Bank, Cattlewomen's, Cow-bells, Republican Women, Madera Historical Society, and Women of the Church of God of the Central Valley. In 2007, Elvan and Eleanor were honored as Old-Timers Day's King and Queen and have been faithful and

generous leaders at their church, and are committed to historic California events, such as Mule Days in Bishop, California, where they have attended festivities for over 50 years.

Elvan and Eleanor are proud parents, grandparents, and great-grandparents of three children, five grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren. It is clear that they will leave a lasting legacy for generations to come.

Madam Speaker, please join me in commending Elvan and Eleanor Newcomb for a life well-lived and wishing them the best of luck and health as he continues setting the standard.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN HARRISON

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize John Harrison, a World War II Army veteran from Boone County, Iowa, and to express my appreciation for his dedication and commitment to his country.

The Boone News Republican is currently running a series of articles that honors one Boone County veteran every Tuesday from Memorial Day to Veterans Day. John Harrison was recognized on Tuesday, July 20. Below is the article in its entirety:

BOONE COUNTY VETERANS: JOHN HARRISON

(By Alexander Hutchins)

John Harrison, 84, a former Army Staff Sergeant, was raised on a farm south of Perry in the midst of the depression.

"Back in those days we were just coming out of the depression, and we didn't have anything, but we had plenty to eat," said Harrison.

He worked throughout his youth and contributed to his family's income in tough times. This spirit of hard work and the necessity of duty would shape his life as much as his time in the Army during World War II.

Harrison spent much of his youth working on the family farm and for other farmers in the area.

"I vividly remember the summer of 1936, when we'd throw a mattress out under the shade tree in the yard and just hope and pray for a little breeze," Harrison said.

He trained in carpentry in high school, a skill that he would employ in a brief career after the war. He married his first wife, Betty, before joining the service, though she has since passed away.

Harrison was inducted into the Army in September of 1944, took his basic training at Fort Hood, Texas, and went overseas in January of 1945.

"I was on the island of Saipan until they got a convoy together, then we went to Okinawa," Harrison said.

When deploying to the island, the sister ship of Harrison's vessel was hit by a Kamikaze pilot. The soldier above Harrison on the rope dropped his rifle, and Harrison would sport the dent in his helmet for the rest of his time in the service.

He served with the 34th Combat Engineers, primarily building Bailey Bridges and other infrastructure, but did fire and was fired upon by Japanese forces.

"I do remember when we were moving forward we would see trucks going by carrying dead soldiers," Harrison said. "[They] had new combat boots on that didn't even have

mud on them yet. We lost a lot of men there.”

“Then as soon as the war ended in Okinawa, they loaded us on LST’s and they took us to Korea. We went in on the west side at a place called Inchon. They loaded us on a narrow-gauge railway train, and every little hill that we’d go up, we’d have to get out and help push the train,” Harrison said.

His unit, now the 42nd Engineering Construction Battalion, was deployed near Seoul, Korea, in late August, 1945, to help build the Temple Airfield.

“I remember the first time I went up the streets of Seoul, you could go across the Han river and look straight ahead to the capitol and it looked like a beautiful city, and from the front side of the street it did, but you’d go around the back to the alleys and maybe a cow or a pig would be sticking its head out the window,” Harrison said.

He was in Korea until July, 1946. He earned a bronze battle star, three overseas service bars, an Asiatic/Pacific Theater ribbon, a victory medal, an army of occupation medal and a good conduct medal.

“When I came home from the service, first I worked [to] help building Quonset huts for the veterans over at Iowa State College,” Harrison said. “Then I went to work for Otis lumber yard, doing carpentry work. I did that until 1956, and then I went on the fire department.”

Harrison would spend 28 years with the fire department, and in 1985 he began working at the county courthouse as Director of Veteran’s Affairs for 20 years. When working as a carpenter, Harrison helped build 16 new homes in Boone.

“Growing up, everyone worked, so I always did work. If I were younger I’d still work today. That was drilled into me when I was a young kid, that if you wanted something out of life you had to work for it and I still feel that way today,” Harrison said.

Harrison has undergone knee replacement surgery, but stays active and walks each day. He has a daughter living in Boone, two sons, seven grandchildren and seven great grandchildren.

Harrison said he has no significant regrets from his time in the Army, and he appreciates accoutrements for veterans such as VA hospitals.

“Back in those days, you knew when it came your time to go into the service and you were old enough, you went. You just didn’t make a fuss about it,” he said.

Harrison said he feels remorse for soldiers from the current conflict, facing a war that is so different from the one he participated in.

“I wish all the young men and women in the service the best,” Harrison said.

People today are fairly savvy to modern wars, he said, and modern soldiers thankfully have the option to remain in contact with family and friends without relying on censored mail, as was the case in World War II.

Harrison will board an Honor Flight next month on August 19, and will visit the World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C.

I commend John Harrison for his many years of loyalty and service to our great nation. It is an immense honor to represent him in the United States Congress, and I wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. CROWLEY. Madam Speaker, on September 14, 2010 I was absent for two rollcall votes. If I had been here, I would have voted: “yea” on rollcall vote 519 and “yea” on rollcall vote 520.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARY JO KILROY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Ms. KILROY. Madam Speaker, on the legislative day of Tuesday, September 14, 2010, I was unable to cast votes on rollcall votes 519 and 520. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on rollcall votes 519 and 520.

COMMENDING BRANDON ACADEMY'S DESIGNATION AS A 2010 BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

HON. ADAM H. PUTNAM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. PUTNAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend Brandon Academy of Brandon, Florida, for winning the prestigious 2010 National Blue Ribbon Schools award. This recognition of incredible accomplishment was bestowed on the Academy by U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan.

Brandon Academy is a private school in Hillsborough County that provides for the intellectual development of 227 pre-kindergarten through 8th grade students. It boasts one of the most well-balanced curriculums in the nation, offering exceptional instruction in math, science, writing, and the arts. Thus, the Academy equips its students with the skills they need to become upstanding, productive, and well-informed citizens. The high achievement of the Academy’s student body is in no small part due to the involvement of parents in their children’s education.

The Blue Ribbon Schools award is considered the highest honor an American school can obtain. Schools singled out for this national honor reflect the goals of our nation’s education reforms for high standards and accountability. Specifically, the Blue Ribbon Schools program is designed to honor public and private schools that are either academically superior in their states or that demonstrate dramatic gains in student achievement.

I applaud Head of School Robert Rudolph and Principal Sondra Cliggitt, as well as the teachers and students of Brandon Academy for their hard work and commitment to excellence. A good education is essential to ensuring that future generations lead more successful, fulfilling lives. They are making a true difference in the lives of so many, and building communities that improve students’ learning.

IN HONOR OF FIRE CHIEF
TIMOTHY A. POTTS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Fire Chief Timothy A. Potts on the occasion of his retirement from the Olmsted Falls Fire Department. He honorably served the people of Olmsted Falls with unwavering dedication for 35 years as a paramedic, firefighter and fire chief.

Chief Potts joined the Olmsted Falls Fire Department on April 14, 1975, and two years later he graduated as a paramedic. Throughout his tenure as a firefighter and paramedic, Chief Potts’ motivation to study, and then later teach, never diminished. In 1981, Chief Potts became a river rescue instructor and his expertise in this area of rescue became sought after by numerous departments across the state of Ohio. Throughout the 1980s, he travelled throughout the state to teach courses on river rescue and rope rescue.

In 1988, Chief Potts was sworn in as lieutenant and, in 1990, he began teaching all areas of pre-hospital emergency medical care to firefighters and paramedics at Southwest General Hospital. Throughout his career, Chief Potts sought to strengthen and enhance the Olmsted Falls Fire Department. He wrote grants for his department totaling nearly \$1 million, and helped other fire departments secure more than \$4 million in funding. In addition, Chief Potts was instrumental in designing the new Olmsted Falls Fire Department building and firehouse. He was sworn in as fire chief in June of 2004.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Fire Chief Timothy A. Potts for his focus and dedication to keeping the people who live and work in Olmsted Falls safe and secure. His work and accomplishments as chief, firefighter, paramedic and instructor reflect integrity, excellence, expertise and heart. His efforts will continue to enhance the foundation of safety and well being throughout Olmsted Falls and will provide a shining example for all who will follow in his path.

A TRIBUTE TO THE 2010 ELLIS ISLAND MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the 2010 recipients of the coveted Ellis Island Medal of Honor. Presented annually by the National Ethnic Coalition (NECO), the Ellis Island Medal of Honor pays tribute to our Nation’s immigrant heritage, as well as individual achievement. The medals are awarded to U.S. citizens from various ethnic backgrounds who exemplify outstanding qualities in both their personal and professional lives, while continuing to preserve the richness of their particular heritage. Since NECO’s founding in 1986, more than 2,000 American citizens have received Ellis Island Medals of Honor, including six American

Presidents, several United States Senators, Congressmen, Nobel Laureates, outstanding athletes, artists, clergy, and military leaders.

As we all know, citizens of the United States can trace their ancestry to many nations. The richness and diversity of American life makes us unique among the Nations of the world and is in many ways the key to why America is the most innovative country in the world. The Ellis Island Medals of Honor not only celebrate select individuals but also the pluralism and democracy that enabled our ancestors to celebrate their cultural identities while still embracing the American way of life. This medal is not about money, but about people who really seized the opportunities this great country has to offer and who used those opportunities to not only better their own lives but make a difference in the lives of those around them. By honoring these outstanding individuals, we honor all who share their origins and we acknowledge the contributions they and other groups have made to America. I commend NECO and its Board of Directors headed by my good friend, Nasser J. Kazeminy, for honoring these truly outstanding individuals for their tireless efforts to foster dialogue and build bridges between different ethnic groups, as well as promotes unity and a sense of common purpose in our Nation.

Madam Speaker, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in recognizing the good works of NECO, and congratulating all of the 2010 recipients of the Ellis Island Medals of Honor. I also ask unanimous consent that the names of this year's recipients be placed into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

2010 ELLIS ISLAND MEDALS OF HONOR
RECIPIENTS

Ichak K. Adizes, PhD, Adrienne G. Alexanian, Richard F. Ambinder, MD, Cyrus Amir-Mokri, Anousheh Ansari, Rao S. Anumolu, Robert S. Atallah, Mohamed A. Atassi, MD, FACC, Kevork D. Atiniazian, Nancy H. Bailey, Hon. Rosemary Barkett, Samira Kanaan Beckwith, Sarkis Bedevian, Dorothy L. Beeve, RN, Jerold E. Beeve, MD, Suraj P. Bhatia, Carole Black, Chief George F. Brown (Ret.), Richard R. Buery, Jr., Michael Capasso, Dominic Chianese, Hank Hyunho Choi, Yen S. Chou, Jim Lin-Chi Chu, Carl J. Clause, Eugene P. Conese, Sr., John F. Conley, Thomas J. Cook, Edward Cruz, Paul R. Davies, Chief Raymond Diaz, Edward B. Diethrich, MD, Andre C. Dimitriadis, PhD, Borko B. Djordjevic, MD, Thomas J. Donohue, David Du, David B. Falk, Lina Fang, Eric Friedberg, Col. Arnald D. Gabriel, USAF (Ret.), Rod G. Gilbert, Col. David G. Goulet, USMC, E. Bulkeley Griswold, Col. Gina M. Grosso, USAF, S. K. Gupta, Wolf Hengst, Gregory M. Hodge, PhD, Maj. Gen. Karl R. Horst, USA, Hon. Jerry MacArthur Hultin, Chief James Jephthah, Ted Johnson, James Keach, Alan Krutchkoff, Tak W. Kwan, MD, William K. Lee, MD, Robert J. Loggia, Wing K. Ma, Vahid Majidi, Fouad Malouf, James V. Malpeso, MD, MSgt. Chester L. Marcus, Jr., USA, Chief Denis McGowan, Shekhar Mitra, PhD, Mohsen Moazami, Curtis E. Moll, Yasmin Motamedi, Jeremiah A. Mullins, Agneta E. Nilsson, RADM Joseph L. Nimmich, Sr., USCG, Irene M. O'Neill, Bedros S. Oruncakci, Hemant Patel, MD, Francis J. Pearn, Richard R. Pergolis, Timothy A. Phillips, Michael J. Piazza, Hon. Rosemonde Pierre-Louis, Kappana Ramanandan, Maj. Gen. Michael S. Repass, USA, Hon. Edward J. Rollins, Stanley M. Rumbough, Jr., William J. Ryan, Kenan E. Sahin, PhD, Joseph M. Saponaro, John F. Scarpa, Jane Seymour, Faryar Shirzad, John Shu, Esq., Dr. Ruth J. Simmons, Prasad

Srinivasan, MD, George R. Stevenson, Bert R. Sugar, Hon. Eugene R. Sullivan (Ret.), Jordan P. Thomas, Annie S. Totah, Suzanne von Liebig, PhD, William D. Walsh, RADM Philip A. Whitacre, USN (Ret.), Morrill Worcester, Mohammad Yahyavi, Vartkes B. Yeghiayan, Esq., Matt H. Yildizlar, Chang Bin Yim.

HONORING TWO ROCK VALLEY
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH ON
THEIR 150TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the sesquicentennial of the Two Rock Valley Presbyterian Church in Two Rock, California, of which I am a member. This small church has a special history in our community for the past 150 years.

The Two Rock Valley Presbyterian Church was founded in 1860, approximately 10 years after the first settlers arrived. Fire has destroyed the church sanctuary twice, only to be rebuilt by the community. The first building dedicated in March 1863 was destroyed in October 1895. The second building was dedicated in March 1896 and destroyed in July 1949 by a controlled burn that got out of control on the nearby United States Army property, now a Coast Guard Base. The third and current church sanctuary was dedicated on February 1, 1953.

The congregation owns and operates the Two Rock Valley Presbyterian Church Cemetery located adjacent to the church structure. The first internments date back to 1861. Unfortunately, the fire of 1949 destroyed most of the records. A community project was organized in 1992 to identify plot locations and prepare a detailed plot map.

The members of Two Rock Valley Presbyterian Church have a long history of community involvement as their mission states "a tradition of witness and service." In 1865, they helped found the Tomales Presbyterian Church which they now consider their sister church.

More recently, the church members are involved with the work of the Petaluma Food Pantry by working with a coalition of other churches to feed the hungry in our community. Their mission extends to regular contributions to the Cents-Ability Hunger Program of the Presbyterian Church (USA) which provides much needed funds both nationally and to Africa.

Congregants are also volunteers at the Two Rock Volunteer Fire Department and the Two Rock Elementary School. Many annual community events including the Abelskiver Breakfast on Mother's Day, the Harvest Festival in September, and the Turkey Dinner in November rely on the volunteers from the church to help bring people from the surrounding community together.

Churches are a place for community members to come together not just to worship but to build the community. Two Rock Valley Presbyterian Church is that church to the residents of Two Rock.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to represent the congregation of the Two Rock Valley Pres-

byterian Church in Congress, and I ask that you join me in congratulating them on their accomplishments of the past 150 years and wishing them the best for the future.

MONA DIXON BOYS AND GIRLS
CLUB YOUTH OF THE YEAR

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Ms. Romonia Dixon of Tempe, the recipient of the 2010 Boys and Girls Club of America National Youth of the Year Award.

Mona's remarkable story begins with a difficult past. For much of her life, her family did not have a home of their own and she moved from shelter to shelter to find a place to sleep at night. Sometimes the family was even split up in order to find enough spaces to sleep. Mona did not let difficult circumstances get in the way of her success, however. She worked hard in all aspects of her life; she excelled in school, she financially contributed to her family by holding a part-time job, and she was active in Boys and Girls Clubs of the East Valley in Tempe, AZ.

Dixon went on to graduate with a 3.92 GPA, placing her third in her class of 280. She was also captain of the basketball team and participated in the National Honor Society, Peer Leadership, Student Council and the Math Team. Dixon is currently a freshman at the Barrett Honors College at Arizona State University, and is well on her way to a planned master's degree in international retail management.

We have something in common. She attended Tempe High School, my alma mater and a place I called home for 28 years as a Government teacher and, as I said, she is currently a freshman at ASU which is also my alma mater. With our similar academic paths, Congress may not be far behind for this young woman. This week, I had a chance to sit down and talk with her. I was very impressed with her commitment to her community and expect she will accomplish great things in the years to come.

With this award, she receives a number of scholarships, but the meaning of this award goes far beyond that. It would have been easy for her to take a different path, but she made decisions that would better her life and that has brought her here, today.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing Mona for her tremendous accomplishment and for setting an example for the young people of our nation.

TRIBUTE TO LOUIS WOLFGRAM

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Louis Wolfgram, a Vietnam War Army and National Guard veteran from Boone County, Iowa, and to express my appreciation for his dedication and commitment to his country.

The Boone News Republican is currently running a series of articles that honors one Boone County veteran every Tuesday from Memorial Day to Veterans Day. Louis Wolfram was recognized on Tuesday, June 22. Below is the article in its entirety:

BOONE COUNTY VETERANS: LOUIS WOLFRAM
(By Alexander Hutchins)

Louis Wolfram, 60, Command Sergeant Major (retired) of the Iowa National Guard, has recently returned to State Active duty on Retiree Recall after retiring on his 60th birthday June ninth.

Wolfram was born in Sumner, Iowa to a family with nine children. His father had served in the Army Air Corps in World War II, but Wolfram was the only child out of his eight siblings that served in the military. Wolfram's father owned a grocery store in Sumner.

"He saw the writing on the wall that the small-town grocery was going to disappear and went into insurance," Wolfram said. The family moved to Jefferson, Iowa and then Boone. In 1968 Wolfram graduated Ryan High School.

One year later, in 1969, he was drafted.

On January 28 of 1970 Wolfram went on Active Duty and proceeded to receive training in accounting and stock control after a stint in Fort Des Moines, Fort Lewis and Fort Lee. After being trained to do both manual and mechanical accounting (using computers he described as half the size of a table) he received two weeks leave and then deployed to Vietnam.

Wolfram received his choice of specialty in the Army, but in exchange for his preference in duty he made a three-year commitment to the Army rather than the standard two. Wolfram served for 18 months in Vietnam at a large supply post in a rear area of Vietnam.

"I was a logistician," he said. "We pulled perimeter guard and did sweeps in the morning. I wasn't out beating the bush like the infantry guys were."

When he returned from two years in Vietnam, Wolfram was offered the option of serving a year at Fort Hood, a year in Germany or leaving the Army a year early. Wolfram took the option to leave the service, but says now he regrets not joining the National Guard immediately after leaving the Army.

"I was out for about five years," Wolfram said, and during this time he worked for John Deere.

In October of 1977 he joined the National Guard, where he is still serving after his retirement.

Wolfram said some of his fondest experiences are his travels throughout the U.S. and to Norway, Japan and Korea. He has been working full-time in the National Guard since 1986.

"The floods of '93 were a real, major event, just with all the manpower the guard put out there and the situations that we put our soldiers in that could have been catastrophic," Wolfram said.

He served as the Task Force Command Sergeant Major for the National Guard in Des Moines at the time of the flood and was impressed by how lucky the soldiers were in all the dangerous work they did fighting the flood.

Wolfram said he was especially proud of the work he did with the Iowa Military Academy and the opportunities he has received through the academy to train younger soldiers in leadership roles. Wolfram served two years as the Enlisted Senior Instructor for the Academy.

"That was a fruitful time in my career," he said.

Wolfram was also assigned for 14 years in the Boone Army National Guard base as a supply and food service administrator.

"You see a lot of happy faces when guys get good chow," he said with a laugh.

Before his retirement, Wolfram was serving as an enlisted advisor to the Judge Adjutant General of the Iowa Guard, advising the commander of the Iowa Guard on meeting the needs of the soldiers.

In 1990 Wolfram earned his degree in business and accounting, partly due to the credits he earned while serving in the Guard. He said he appreciated his education and all the opportunities he received to work with his leadership skills.

"One thing I regret is not joining the guard immediately after leaving active duty, and the other is that I didn't get to deploy to Iraq or Afghanistan," he said. "Some people would say 'You're nuts for wanting to do that,' but it's part of what you swore in for and signed up for."

He said it is important to remember that many soldiers do not deploy, and he is always impressed working with combat veterans of previous eras.

For the past ten years Wolfram has worked on the military funerals honor team, work that has given him tremendous respect for the men and women who deploy overseas.

Wolfram was most impressed with how well prepared and supported the soldiers of today are, something he is acutely aware of after his time in Vietnam. He and his wife currently care for two of their grandchildren, and he said he will enjoy taking them out boating this summer, as well as finally being able to grow a beard.

I commend Louis Wolfram for his many years of loyalty and service to our great Nation. It is an immense honor to represent him in the United States Congress, and I wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

COMMEMORATING SEPTEMBER 11

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, today, I joined Congressional colleagues at a bipartisan ceremony in commemoration of the victims of the September 11, 2001 attacks.

Nine years ago, our great country experienced the tragedy of a generation. Nearly 3,000 people were taken from this world too soon when violent extremist terrorists in Al Qaeda hijacked four planes and attacked the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. Among those who died that fateful day were hundreds of brave first responders who risked everything to save others.

I join my fellow Americans today in remembrance. As our battle with Al Qaeda continues, on this day, it is our responsibility as proud Americans to honor those who have perished by recommitting ourselves to the values of our great Republic.

On 9/11, we lost thousands of men and women across ethnicities, national origins, religious perspectives, and ideologies. Our country includes the rich tapestry of the world, and our success has always depended on our willingness to embrace everyone who is willing to work hard and play by the rules.

We cannot allow cruel acts of terror to divide us. We are the United States of America,

but Al Qaeda wants us to be the Divided States of America. There is no more appropriate day to demonstrate to the world that we refuse to back down from our shared civic values. Today, let's stand together, united as Americans, in somber mourning for those we've lost and in hopeful yearning for the bright future we can forge together.

IN HONOR AND MEMORY OF
MAYOR JAMES W. DAY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of former City of Parma Mayor, James W. Day—beloved husband of the late Caroline C. Day; devoted father of James W. Day, Jr.; father-in-law of Linda; dear grandfather of Meghan, (Kevin), Amy (Devon), James and Christopher; great-grandfather of Masie; brother of Harvey; honorable WWII Veteran, and friend and mentor to many.

James W. Day served as Mayor of Parma from 1962 to 1967. Prior to that, he served for 8 years as councilman, and was also a member of the zoning board. A veteran, he served our Nation with courage and honor in the Army during World War II. He was a 50-year member of the American Legion and was a Charter Member of the Elks Lodge—both located in Parma. Mayor Day's incredible vision and dedication to the welfare of residents came at a challenging time, when the City's population had quickly jumped from 28,000 in the fifties to more than 80,000 by the mid-sixties. To accommodate this rapid growth—and continue to provide services while maintaining a vision for the future—Mayor Day implemented many projects that continue to make the City of Parma a thriving suburb.

When several acres of land became available for sale on York Road, Mayor Day led the effort to secure the land for what would soon become the Western Campus of Cuyahoga Community College. He is also credited with spearheading the efforts that led to the development of the Parma Justice Center, Parma Community General Hospital and the Parmatown Mall—located on Day Drive, which is named after him. Ahead of his time, Mayor Day understood the significance of preserving green space. In the 1960's, he championed the effort to save the Ridgewood Golf Course from certain closing by pressing city leaders to have the city purchase the golf course. To this day, Ridgewood Golf Course continues to operate without any funds from the City. To acknowledge his lifelong efforts to keep Parma "green," the City of Parma officially designated a neighborhood city park as the "James W. Day Park."

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and remembrance of Mayor James W. Day, who lived his life with great love for family, community, and country. I offer my deepest condolences to his family, friends and to the Parma community. Mayor Day touched many lives with his kind heart, joy for living, vision—and he will be remembered always.

FEDERAL FURLOUGH BILL

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, one of the most unpleasant adjustments a former small businessman or former State legislator—and I am both—faces in coming to DC is the unlimited ability of the Federal Government to deficit spend. We all know that small businesses have to balance the books, or they go out of business. At least, that was true before the bailout culture took hold here in DC. And unlike the spendthrift ways prevalent in this building, State governments generally have to balance their budgets.

Currently, at least 24 States, and nearly three fourths of a million workers, are undertaking a budget-cutting maneuver that I believe we should consider at the Federal level: short term employee furloughs. These States, across the Nation, along with city and county government counterparts, recognize that occasional worker furloughs are necessary to cut budgets and hold down spending. It also has the benefit of ensuring that Federal workers are not sheltered from the realities of life in today's economy.

The Federal Government continues to grow, and continues to rack up debt. I would like to make the U.S. Government as cost conscious as the States. My legislation is a start. It will make Federal civilian employees subject to a non-consecutive two-week furlough next year, correspondingly reduce appropriations for salaries and expenses for offices of the legislative branch, and provide a 10 percent reduction in pay for Members of Congress. An exception is provided for national security or reasons relating to the public health or safety, including effective law enforcement. This bill will save the Federal Government over \$5.5 billion.

Furlough Fridays are becoming a common occurrence for State and local governments. They present slight problems but they provide large solutions to the budget troubles we face. I believe that managed appropriately, with due allowance for vital and national security implications, as specified in this bill, they can do the same for the Federal Government.

HONORING COLOMBIAN AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED STATES
CAROLINA BARCO ISAKSON

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, Colombia and the United States America enjoy a friendship rare among nations. That friendship has been strengthened by Colombian Ambassador to the United States Carolina Barco Isakson's tireless engagement and sound stewardship over her four-year tenure. While I am sad to see her leave this post, I commend her work and legacy on behalf of U.S.-Colombia relations.

Ambassador Barco, whom I consider a close friend, has made the case for continued strong ties between our two countries. She

has told the positive, but yet unfinished, narrative of Colombia coming back from the brink and building strong democratic institutions. Over the past several years, Colombia has adopted several innovative initiatives to protect human rights, address the needs of internally displaced people and investigate and prosecute crimes against humanity. Colombia has seen impressive gains in security. Long an economic dynamo in Latin America, the Government of Colombia has battled back the FARC and right-wing militias giving citizens their security back. In the process they have invested mightily in social programming, taking government services to places where they hadn't previously been provided.

Through my service in the Peace Corps in Medellin, I grew to love Colombia. Over the last several years, I have happily watched Colombia grow more stable and prosperous. Ambassador Carolina Barco recounted every detail of Colombia's remarkable turnaround to Members of Congress in vivid detail. And when that didn't work she showed the story by taking Members of Congress to Colombia.

Ambassador Barco is a lifelong public servant whose commitment to improving not just her country, but the entire world, is evident in all that she does. Prior to heading the Colombian Embassy in Washington D.C., she was Colombia's Minister of Foreign Affairs from 2002 to 2006. She has directed the City Planning Department in Bogota and advised the National Planning Department, the Office of the Mayor of Bogota and the Ministries of Development, Culture, and Environment. She has consulted with the United Nations Development Program and is a member of Lincoln Institute of Land Policy's Board of Directors.

Ambassador Barco will soon return to her roots as an urban planner. She intends to stay on in Washington, D.C. to consult with the Inter-American Development Bank on green-ing cities.

I asked Ambassador Barco to name one thing that she achieved while Ambassador to the United States that makes her most proud. Without hesitation she noted that it was bringing Peace Corps back to Colombia. After two decades, Peace Corps will return to Colombia largely due to the heavy lifting Ambassador Barco did to bridge our countries and outreach to the appropriate government agencies.

Ambassador Barco never missed an opportunity to show her appreciation for Peace Corps. She invited former volunteers to the Colombian Embassy, where she watched in amazement as scores of former Peace Corps volunteers sang the Colombia National Anthem. She traveled to Cartagena two years ago to celebrate the return of hundreds of former Peace Corps volunteers to Colombia for a special week of service, always with the goal of formalizing a relationship between the Peace Corps and Colombia. I am proud to say that the first class of Peace Corps volunteers since 1981 is now working in Colombia, changing the lives of countless Americans and Colombians for the better.

Thank you, Ambassador Barco, for successfully bringing our countries together and keeping our alliance relevant and robust. I wish you all the best as you depart from this important ambassadorship and will look forward to collaborating with you as you continue to make a positive impact with your work.

HONORING ELLEN FEINBOLD

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, I am from time to time asked to write to help explain why a particular organization is giving an award to a particular individual. In this case, the reverse would be in order: that is, if an organization dedicated to providing first-rate housing for older people was not to honor Ellen Feingold that would demand an explanation.

After a distinguished career as an advocate and administrator, Ellen took on the job of running Jewish Community Housing for the Elderly. And I can think of no better career move—not for Ellen, but for the thousands of people who are the beneficiaries of her enormous talent, great compassion, and inexhaustible supply of common sense.

At a time when the whole notion of an important public sector role in improving the quality of our lives, especially in cooperation with private sector activity is under attack, the great work Ellen did at JCHE becomes even more important than the work itself. That is because it stands as an example of what can be done when talented people use the resources of both the private and public sectors to achieve great results.

Ellen is entitled to take great comfort in the fact that so many thousands of people live better lives than they otherwise would have had she not done her work.

COMMEMORATING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INCHEON LANDING

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. ROSKAM. Madam Speaker, we have occasion today to mark the deep and sustained friendship between our Nation and the great Republic of Korea.

Today, September 15th, marks the 60th anniversary of the daring amphibious landing at Incheon by United Nations forces under the leadership of General Douglas MacArthur. British military historian Anthony Farrar-Hockley called the landing "a stroke of genius" because of the way it caught the North Korean enemy by surprise and put them off-balance.

As the son of a Korean War veteran, I value the history and deep sacrifices the people of both our countries have shared over the years. My father took great pride in service, appreciating the important work of the Korean War for the preservation of liberty and for the advancement of peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula, in Northeast Asia and the world as a whole.

Indeed, the strategic importance of the Republic of Korea as an ally of ours in that region cannot be overstated.

Our friendship with and commitment to Korea does not only rest on the experiences shared in the Korean War six decades ago. No, the United States and the Republic of

Korea remain partners dedicated to peace, freedom, democracy, and global stability.

The relationship between the United States and Korea is a comprehensive and dynamic one. We are major trading partners, with investment ties deep among our countries.

However, we have not even come close to realizing the full potential of this relationship. In 2007 our two countries signed a Free Trade Agreement that, by every estimate, will improve the lives of people in both Korea and the United States by creating jobs, reducing prices of products and services, and expanding consumer choices. This agreement when implemented will remove 95 percent of the bilateral tariffs between our countries that are currently holding back what could be tremendous growth for both sides.

Unfortunately, the agreement has not yet been brought to Congress for a vote. I hope that, in the coming months, my colleagues will recognize the economic boost that ratifying this agreement will generate.

As a co-chair of the bipartisan U.S.-Korea Free Trade Working Group, I will be working to ensure that we can meet President Obama's stated goal of being able to resolve outstanding issues by November so that we can once and for all remove this impediment to an increasingly productive economic relationship.

I look forward to a vigorous discussion of the merits of the agreement as ratification would further consolidate the longstanding friendship between the United States and Korea, an alliance forged in battle and sharpened through six decades of business, cultural, and political exchanges.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in remembering the success of the Incheon Landing on its 60th anniversary, saluting the veterans of the Korean War, and recognizing the bright future ahead for our two countries when we can finally realize the mutual benefits of the U.S.-Korea Free Trade Agreement.

FINDINGS SUBMITTED PURSUANT
TO H. RES. 1493

HON. COLLIN C. PETERSON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. PETERSON. Madam Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 1493, I am submitting changes in law that will help achieve deficit reduction by reducing waste, fraud, abuse, and mismanagement; promoting efficiency and government reform; and controlling spending in the programs within each Committee's jurisdiction.

This year saw significant deficit reduction resulting from crop insurance changes enacted by Congress in the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act, FCEA, of 2008. In that legislation, the Committee included a provision directing the Administration to renegotiate the federal crop insurance program's Standard Reinsurance Agreement, which sets the financial terms and conditions for companies which participate in the program. The fruits of our effort were borne when USDA completed its renegotiation this past June, resulting in a more efficient crop insurance program and net savings, according to the Congressional Budget Office, of almost six billion dollars for deficit reduction.

This six billion dollars represents a seven percent reduction in the crop insurance program's baseline from FY 2011–20, making the Committee on Agriculture the only Committee in the U.S. House of Representatives that has accomplished deficit reduction this year through decreasing mandatory spending for programs under its jurisdiction. If other federal government spending was trimmed by a similar percent reduction and the savings dedicated to deficit reduction, we would reduce the budget deficit by almost three trillion dollars during FY 2011–20.

Federal spending to support production agriculture, according to CBO, represents less than one-half of one percent of all Federal Government spending. With these reductions, I believe agriculture has gone above and beyond any expectation with regard to finding cuts to reduce the deficit. However, this does not mean our programs are completely free of waste, fraud, abuse, and mismanagement or inefficiency. As Chairman, I can assure you that I will continue to lead the Committee's efforts through investigations, hearings, and general oversight to find other ways to improve further the operation of the government programs under our jurisdiction.

CELEBRATING THE FITZGERALD
THEATER'S CENTENNIAL SEASON
AND ITS PLACEMENT IN THE NA-
TIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC
PLACES

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Ms. McCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, today I rise to commemorate the centennial season of the Fitzgerald Theater, located in downtown Saint Paul, Minnesota. On September 18th, 2010, Minnesota Public Radio, which owns the theater, will celebrate the 100th season of "the Fitz," as it is affectionately known, and commemorate its placement on the National Register of Historic Places.

Originally called the Sam S. Schubert Theater when it opened in August 1910, this theater has long served as a cultural center for the many visitors and residents of Saint Paul. In 1910, a young Saint Paul resident named F. Scott Fitzgerald was only 14 years old and yet to author the great American novel, "The Great Gatsby."

Eighty-four years later, another great artist and resident of Saint Paul, Garrison Keillor, led the charge to rename the theater in honor of F. Scott Fitzgerald and his role in American letters. And thus, in 1994, what began as the Schubert was reborn as the Fitzgerald Theater. Now, at 100 years old, the building is the oldest surviving theater space in Saint Paul and is a cultural landmark for the state of Minnesota.

The 1,000-seat theater continues to serve and strengthen regional and national communities as Minnesota Public Radio's largest broadcast studio. The Fitzgerald Theater is also home to the nationally-broadcast radio show, A Prairie Home Companion with Garrison Keillor. More than 100 years after its opening night, the Fitzgerald Theater continues to evolve, while maintaining its commitment to compelling performances, live radio

shows, and a legacy of significant literary programming.

Without any doubt, the Fitzgerald Theater has contributed a century's worth of memories, ideas, and insights to Saint Paul and the national cultural and literary community. The Fitzgerald will thrive into the 21st century, playing a critical role for future generations in bringing ideas and information in the areas of news, culture, literature, and music to a broad audience, both in Saint Paul, Minnesota and nationwide.

Madam Speaker, please join me in rising to honor the centennial season of the Fitzgerald Theater and its contributions to the rich history and culture of the city of Saint Paul and the state of Minnesota.

IN MEMORY OF FRED SHAW

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. ELLISON. Madam Speaker, it is with great sadness I rise today to mourn the passing of my friend Fred Shaw. A stand-out student in China, Fred first came to the United States seeking an advanced degree in Civil Engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He moved to the Twin Cities in 1947 to complete a Ph.D. at the University of Minnesota.

Fred made his first mark on the Minnesota business community in 1974 when he co-founded the Shaw-Lundquist Contracting firm, which stands presently as one of the most prominent general contractors in Minnesota and is the largest Asian-American-owned contractor in the nation. The motto of his company, "Be honest, fair, and reliable and treat people right," is a lesson in which everyone can find truth. In addition to his business endeavors, Fred played a pivotal role in the advancement of minorities in business having been a founding member of the National Association of Minority Contractors (NAMC) of Minnesota and the Chinese American Business Association. Fred's dedication and tireless work will continue to inspire minority groups in the business community for years to come.

Furthermore, Fred will be remembered as a great supporter of international education. He and his wife Jennie established a scholarship with the University of Minnesota China Center which helps send students to China for academic study.

Madam Speaker, Minnesota has lost a true trailblazer in the promotion of minority businesses with the passing of Fred Shaw.

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF
JOHN THOMAS SABOL

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of John Thomas Sabol, devoted husband, father, grandfather, friend and United States veteran. Mr. Sabol lived life with great joy and an unwavering dedication to his family, community and country.

Mr. Sabol was born in McKees Rocks, Pennsylvania, the son of Slovak immigrants. Growing up he was instilled with the values of family, hard work, the Catholic faith, and pride in his heritage. Following high school, he enlisted in the United States Coast Guard and served our nation from 1952 to 1955. During the Korean War, Mr. Sabol was stationed in Japan and served as a damage control man on the Coast Guard Carrier *Winnebago*. He was awarded the United Nations Service Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, and the Korean Service Medal.

Mr. Sabol came to Cleveland, Ohio, for a wedding and there he met the woman who would become his wife, Agnes Fertal. John and Agnes had an instant connection as both their families hailed from the same region in Slovakia. He soon moved to Cleveland and began work at the General Motors Chevy Plant in Parma, where he worked for 30 years, retiring in 1985. He married Agnes at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church in Cleveland, on September 29, 1956. Mr. and Mrs. Sabol celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary surrounded by family and friends, in 2006. Together, Mr. and Mrs. Sabol raised three children: Jeanne, Jack (wife Tracy) and Judy.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and remembrance of John Thomas Sabol. I extend my condolences to the family and friends of Mr. Sabol; through them his memories and spirit will live on.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE COLLINSVILLE, ILLINOIS, ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 100th Anniversary of the Collinsville, Illinois, Order of the Eastern Star, Chapter 666. A celebration of this occasion will be held on September 26, 2010, at the Masonic Temple in Collinsville.

The organization was chartered on October 6, 1910, by Worthy Matron Lucy M. Holding and Worthy Patron R. Guy Kneeder. The organization still meets today in the Masonic Temple in Collinsville. The current Worthy Matron is Betty Ruhmann and the Worthy Patron is Jack Kime.

I congratulate the Collinsville Order of the Eastern Star on this special occasion and extend my best wishes for an enjoyable celebration.

COMMEMORATING SEPTEMBER 11

SPEECH OF

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to support H. Res. 1600 which expresses the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the terrorist attacks launched against the United States on September 11,

2001. I congratulate Majority Leader HOYER and Minority Leader BOEHNER for their efforts on this important resolution.

The events of September 11, 2001 were a national tragedy. Over 3,000 innocent Americans died that day at the hands of international terrorists. In New York City, Washington, DC, and a field in Pennsylvania, Americans were directly confronted with acts of aggression on a scale and scope that our nation had never before seen. Our national consciousness was forever changed on that day as we all remember the losses we suffered and the horrific images of that day.

On the ninth anniversary of those events we must reflect and remember the victims and heroes of that tragic morning. I hope everyone takes some time to remember the nearly 3,000 American lives that were cut short that day and salute the firefighters, first responders and rescue workers who sacrificed their lives saving others.

For the victims, heroes and their families, let us never forget this fateful day, and let us refocus ourselves on what makes America unique and special in the world of nations—liberty and diversity, equality and the rule of law.

I urge my colleagues to join me in support of this resolution.

HONORING JERRY VENTURI

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor the life of Jerry Venturi, who is receiving the 2010 Lifetime Achievement Award. Jerry lived a long and distinguished life, adhering to extremely high standards of quality and integrity.

Jerry Venturi passed away in 2008 at age 67 after a struggle with cancer. However, his legacy lives on in his Madera community. Jerry was a remarkable musician from his youth, a performer, a band leader, a music business owner, and a mentor for countless Madera musicians.

Jerry was well connected within his community. He was a faithful participant in St. Joachim Catholic Church and a first degree member of the Knights of Columbus, a fraternal Catholic service organization. In addition, Jerry and his band performed every year in the Madera County Arts Council "Concert in the Park," where he assisted other performers set up their sound systems.

Jerry's musical legacy extended to all of the students that entered his mentorship through his store, performance and service. It is clear that Jerry's memory will continue to inspire music and community service for generations to come. Madam Speaker, please join me in commending Jerry Venturi for a life well-lived.

HONORING MR. RAWLEIGH "MIKE" THOMPSON

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride and pleasure that I rise today

to commemorate Mr. Rawleigh "Mike" Thompson on the occasion of his 90th birthday.

On September 12, 1920, Mr. Thompson was born in Hineston, Louisiana. He is the only son of four siblings.

Oakhill High School recognizes Mr. Thompson as the first person to receive a diploma from their school and he proudly cites his position as Valedictorian. To attain this achievement, he overcame many obstacles, one of which was to walk and ride two different buses totaling 46 miles round trip each school day.

Mr. Thompson married Bessie Lee Jones and they were blessed with seven children. Further blessings now include nine grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

He joined the U.S. Army in 1942 serving in World War II. Upon his departure from the military he worked at a sawmill and then began his career at the VA Medical Center in Pineville, Louisiana. Mr. Thompson was employed at the VA for 29 years and remarkably never missed a day of work.

As his family and friends prepare to join together to honor Mr. Thompson, he continues to exemplify a strong character of dedication, compassion and devotion.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. Thompson on this truly significant birthday.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN MILES

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize John Miles, a Korean War Army Veteran from Boone County, Iowa, and to express my appreciation for his dedication and commitment to his country.

The Boone News Republican is currently running a series of articles that honors one Boone County veteran every Tuesday from Memorial Day to Veterans Day. John Miles was recognized on Tuesday, June 15. Below is the article in its entirety:

[From The Boone News Republican, June 15, 2010]

BOONE COUNTY VETERANS: JOHN MILES

(By Alexander Hutchins)

"That was a cold place over there. Cold, cold, cold," John Miles, 82, said of his time in the Korean War.

Miles has lived in Boone his entire life and worked for 36 years as a railroad dispatcher. He graduated from Boone High School and the local junior college, and a history of participating in warfare was in his family. Miles had four older brothers, each of whom served in World War II and returned home safely. Miles joined the Army in 1950, and returned from the Korean War with a Purple Heart and a Bronze Star to eventually married and have two sons.

"The Miles" lucked out," he joked.

When Miles enlisted in 1950, he was trained at Fort Leonardwood, in Missouri, and was assigned to the 40th division of the 160th infantry. He became a combat medic, and routinely entered the field to tend to wounded soldiers while under fire.

"The Chinese could put artillery shells in your back pocket," Miles said. No matter the enemy resistance Miles tended to the wounded, and resistance varied greatly from day to day. "When you're a medic, you go no

matter what. When guys are getting shot at, that's why you're there," he said.

Miles described living in bunkers while in Korea—large holes excavated in the earth that were lined with timber posts. Miles knew all the men he served with and said he always loved the camaraderie with his fellow soldiers.

"War is hell to be in, but it was a good experience," Miles said. "I'd do it again if I had to."

He said the thing he appreciated the most was the friendship he had with the men he served with, despite the frigid and deadly conditions. He spoke of one friend who never returned—a soldier who the army failed to find after a search and is still listed as missing.

After being in the country for six months, Miles was in the field tending to two wounded soldiers when a shell exploded nearby. Miles was hit with shrapnel and wounded. He was rescued from the field by jeep and then flown by helicopter to the USS Consolation hospital ship. He stayed on the ship for six months until he was able to walk again and returned home. He was awarded his Purple Heart and Bronze Star for his service.

Miles returned to Boone and the railroad. Despite the hardship of the war, Miles said he eventually returned to an ordinary life.

"When I first got home, I couldn't go to a movie because I was too jittery," he said of films with gunfire or war movies. Later his tension abated and he was able to pursue all his social activities. Miles is an avid fan of sports who often swam at the public pool and played tennis and baseball in an adult league at the city park.

At 35, Miles married school classmate Lois Huffman, who has since passed away, and the couple had two sons, Lane and Lynn. Miles says he responds to the conflicts in the world today as anyone else probably would. "It works out of your system," Miles said of the trauma he felt in the war. "I lived a regular life when I got home. It was different for a while, but you get used to it again."

Miles said that many veterans returning home aren't respected as they should be. He said he supports providing higher education to veterans to help them get professional jobs. "I'm a veteran, but there are veterans who come home who aren't treated the way they should be," Miles said.

I commend John Miles for his many years of loyalty and service to our great nation. It is an immense honor to represent him in the United States Congress, and I wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF DETECTIVE CHAD DOUBLE, DISTRICT CHIEF ROBERT REBTOY AND OFFICER PATRICK SPELMAN FOR THEIR DEDICATION TO PUBLIC SAFETY

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. PETERS. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize and honor America's First Responders, the brave men and women who have dedicated their lives to protecting the lives of our citizens. As we remember those who have fallen in the line of duty, I wish to also recognize the continued dedication of those who serve our communities today.

In particular, I rise to honor and recognize three committed public servants from Michigan's 9th Congressional District: Detective

Chad Double of the Farmington Hills Police Department, District Chief Robert Rebtoy of the Farmington Hills Fire Department and Officer Patrick Spelman of the Farmington Public Safety Department. In their respective roles, these men have been shining examples of dedication and public service and have made a real difference in their communities and undoubtedly to the many individuals and families whose lives they have touched.

Detective Chad Double began his career with the Police Department nine years ago as a cadet and through much hard work and determination rose to the rank of Detective in the Department's Investigative Bureau, which he holds today. Detective Double has been honored many times in his young career, receiving multiple citations, commendations and awards.

Like so many of his brethren, District Chief Robert Rebtoy of the Farmington Hills Fire Department brings a lifetime of dedication to protecting public safety. Mr. Rebtoy's 42 years of service with the Department are marked by distinction, having received dozens of awards and citations for his work, including the 1985 Fire Fighter of the Year Award from his Department.

Farmington Public Safety Department Officer Patrick Spelman is yet another fine example of public service. In his short time with the Department Officer Spelman received numerous awards and commendations for his service, including recognition as the Department's 2009 Officer of the Year.

The responsibilities placed on our first responders are often the most significant and demanding, ensuring the safety and continued health of our community. Their lives are on the line every day as they bravely undertake the work of protecting our communities. It is fitting that these men be honored for their dedication on September 11, 2010 when just nine years ago, so many of their brothers and sisters were called upon to meet an unparalleled challenge. Their courage, bravery and determination, like those of these three men, are most valued virtues found in all our first responders.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and honoring these three outstanding public servants. Detective Double, District Chief Rebtoy and Officer Spelman represent the kind of dedication and self-sacrifice emblematic of our nation's first responders whose work is so critical to the continued security and welfare of our communities.

ANDREW HUTCHINSON

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Andrew Hutchinson. Andrew is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 332, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Andrew has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Andrew has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous

merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Andrew achieved the rank of Warrior in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say. Andrew has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Andrew provided maintenance at St. Robert's Bellarmine Church in Blue Springs, Missouri, by replacing the outside steps and repainting a shed for the church.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Andrew Hutchinson for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

IN RECOGNITION OF SUDHIR PARIKH

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Dr. Sudhir M. Parikh, a resident of New Jersey and honored member of the Indian American community. Dr. Parikh recently received the 2010 Padma Shri award from President Pratibha Patil of India, honoring distinguished Indians and people of Indian origin for their contributions to a wide variety of fields in public life. I applaud Dr. Parikh's achievements and dedication and recognize his work as it serves as an inspiration to us all.

Dr. Parikh is a nationally acclaimed and respected allergist and immunologist and has used his time, money, and influence to advance the goals of the Indian American and Indian communities. With the Padma Shri award, Dr. Parikh becomes the only Indian American to receive the Ellis Island Medal of Honor, the Pravasi Bharatiya Samman, and the Padma Shri. The Ellis Island Medal is the highest civilian honor presented to a U.S. immigrant for community and social service. The Pravasi Bharatiya Samman award is the highest honor the Government of India presents to non-residents.

Publisher of Parikh Worldwide Media, Inc., the largest Indian American publishing group in the United States, Dr. Parikh's priority is to use the media to empower second-generation Indians assimilating to American society. His work with the media has a dual purpose: to expose mainstream America to the accomplishments and quality of the Indian American community and to encourage young people to pursue the American Dream.

Dr. Parikh has also helped construct an influential Indian American lobbying force in Washington D.C., arranged several high-level meetings between U.S. and Indian lawmakers, and secured critical votes on multiple Indian issues. Dr. Parikh has worked closely with members of both houses of Congress and the Administration to develop a close, strategic relationship between the United States and India. Under his guidance, the Friends of India Caucus was created in the Senate. Dr. Parikh was also actively involved in the U.S.-India Civilian Nuclear Agreement. He currently serves as founding board member and Vice Chairman of the Indian American Republican Council, President of the Indian American Forum for Political Education and the board of the Federation of Indian Associations.

As a community activist, Dr. Parikh has donated to charitable organizations in both the United States and India. Most notably, he accompanied former President Bill Clinton to Gujarat in 2001 following the devastating earthquake and in 2004 launched a humanitarian program to help tsunami victims. Dr. Parikh has worked to establish trauma centers in India and supports the One Teacher School in tribal regions. Moreover, Dr. Parikh has donated considerably to the Indian Independence Day Parade, the American India Foundation, Share and Care, and the Nargis Dutt Foundation. Dr. Parikh is one of the largest benefactors of both the Vraj Temple and the Vaishnavaita Temple.

Madam Speaker, please join me in leading this body in acknowledgement of the extraordinary contributions of Dr. Sudhir Parkikh. He is a greatly valued citizen of the state of New Jersey, and I am honored to recognize him today.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF DAVE
NEWMAN

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise to remember Dave Newman who died on September 2, 2010. Most people in the Cleveland area will remember him as Cousin Dave Wilson, the host of the long-running show "When the Roses Bloom Again" every Thursday night on WRUW, 91.1 FM in Cleveland, the radio station of Case Western Reserve University.

Cousin Dave has hosted the country music show since 1975 which has featured all manner of American roots music, including folk, blues, bluegrass, country & western, rockabilly, twang and many other similar genres. Cousin Dave was not only popular with college music listeners, but he also had a wide and diverse global audience which grew from the early days when WRUW operated around the campus at 10 watts, through power increases to 1000 watts and 15,000 watts, and in recent years as the station webcast at www.wruw.org. Cousin Dave, along with deejays Dan Ewry and Jim Gilliland who adopted the names Cousin Dan and Cousin Jimmie, took on the "Wilson" surname to honor and remember one of their early listeners and supporters, Rose Wilson, who could not find other sources in Cleveland for the beloved music of her native West Virginia. Cousin Dave changed the name of his show from "Mather Jamboree" to "When the Roses Bloom Again" after Rose Wilson died. Besides playing the music from vinyl and CDs, Cousin Dave featured live performers on an almost weekly basis with the help of his assistant James E. Guyette, also known as Mr. JG. Together, Cousin Dave and Mr. JG featured little-known performers who later developed large local, regional and national followings, such as Stacie Collins, Colette, David Childers, Charlie Christopherson, Hillbilly Idol, Al's Fast Freight, and Crossties, to name just a few.

Dave Newman, Dave was his given name, David was a nickname, was born in Dayton and moved to the Cleveland area as a child. He graduated from Warrensville Heights High

School in 1962 and Kent State University with a degree in Sociology in 1968. In 1969 he began his career as a caseworker for the Cuyahoga County welfare department and went on to become a casework supervisor before he retired in 2003. In his retirement, he started working at Sokolowski's University Inn in Cleveland's Tremont neighborhood until he was diagnosed with cancer in 2005. Surviving the cancer, Dave went on to serve as a liaison between the welfare department and the county Bureau of Developmental Disability, running a successful experimental program which enabled clients with disabilities to receive all the services and benefits to which they were entitled.

Dave married Denise Kassoff in 1970 and they celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary on June 14 of this year. Together they had 3 children, Amanda, Zachary, and Benjamin Adon, who survive him. He is also survived by his mother Mary Newman and sister Joyce Norman. Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in remembering Cousin Dave and giving our condolences to his family and his many friends in the Greater Cleveland community and beyond.

HONORING THE 100-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE NANTICOKE CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT STATION NO. 4

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. KANJORSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to the 100-year anniversary of the Nanticoke City Fire Department Station No. 4.

The Station is located at 108 Espy Street in the Hanover section of Nanticoke, Pennsylvania and is home to the Hanover Hose Company, Engine No. 4 of the Nanticoke City Fire Department.

The Nanticoke City Fire Department is comprised of seven volunteer fire companies operating out of two fire stations. The Department serves a population of over 10,000 Nanticoke residents, including myself and my wife, and responds not only to fire calls but also EMS calls, motor vehicle accidents, and mutual aid calls with neighboring townships.

In 2010, they have responded to over 500 incidents throughout the community.

The Hanover Hose Company was originally organized in 1895, making it one of the oldest of the seven volunteer fire companies of the Nanticoke City Fire Department.

In 1897, the Hanover Hose Company purchased property at 108 Espy Street in Nanticoke, and donated the property to the local area government—at that time the Nanticoke Borough.

Shortly after its donation, the Borough erected an original frame structure on the property where the Company held some of its earliest meetings.

In 1910, the Borough replaced the original structure with a brick building, which celebrates its 100-year anniversary this year.

The current structure was first home to the Company's hose and chemical truck and horses until 1924. Since then, the building has

housed the Company's upgraded fire equipment, including first a Reo Hose and Chemical Truck from 1924 to 1927, and its replacement, an American LaFrance triple combination truck.

Since its construction in 1910, the building has also been used as a police station, a jury room, and a library, and has hosted a countless number of community gatherings.

Currently, the building at 108 Espy Street in Nanticoke serves as one of two fire stations of the Nanticoke City Fire Department, and currently houses the Hanover Hose Company's 1974 Hahn Pumper.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing this local milestone. Over the past 100 years, 108 Espy Street in Nanticoke has become a symbol of community pride and service.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO MR. D.J. PANDIAN, IAS, PRINCIPAL SECRETARY, ENERGY AND PETROCHEMICAL DEPARTMENT, GOVERNMENT OF GUJARAT

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. D.J. Pandian, Principal Secretary of Energy and Petrochemicals of the Government of Gujarat.

Mr. Pandian, who has 30 years of experience in public policy and administration, is leading a high-level business delegation from Gujarat, India to the U.S. to promote and strengthen U.S.-India trade. The Gujarat delegation is on a four-city visit to the U.S. to showcase investment opportunities.

In cooperation with the Alliance for U.S.-India Business, AUSIB, the Congressional Taskforce on U.S.-India Trade and Investment Relations welcomed the Gujarat delegation at a meeting held in the U.S. Capitol on September 15, 2010.

The taskforce and the Gujarat delegation discussed ways in which they could collaborate, particularly in the fields of healthcare, IT, renewable energy, and the oil and gas sectors. On behalf of the delegation, Mr. Pandian extended invitations to Members of Congress to attend the Vibrant Gujarat 2011 Summit to be held on January 12–13, 2011, in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.

The Gujarat delegation received an overwhelming response of support from Members of Congress and I want to personally thank Mr. Pandian for his leadership in bringing key stakeholders together and, once more, I commend Mr. Sanjay Puri, President of AUSIB, for highlighting the importance of this delegation's visit to Washington, D.C.

Prior to his current assignment, Mr. Pandian served as the Chief Executive Officer of Gujarat State Petroleum Corporation, GSPC, and its group companies for 8 years. During his tenure, he converted the minuscule GSPC into a giant oil and gas company with presence in the entire Value Chain of Hydro Carbon Sector.

He developed extensive gas grid networks for transmission and distribution of natural gas throughout Gujarat. Through his visionary policies and program implementation skills, he

also developed city gas distribution systems in most of the districts of Gujarat with active public and private participation.

He was also instrumental in setting up a modern university, Pandit Deendayal Petroleum University, to provide highly skilled technical manpower to the industries in the petroleum sector.

Mr. Pandian's work is unmatched and it is my honor to pay tribute to him.

COMMEMORATING SEPTEMBER 11

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, September 11, 2001, is a day forever etched into the memory of most Americans. On that day, over 3,000 innocent people—including 48 men and women from the state of Maryland—died during the attacks on the Pentagon, the World Trade Center, and aboard Flight 93. We gather today to honor their memory and the sacrifice of the families of the victims. We also renew our commitment to honoring the sacrifice and service of the citizens who risked their lives to help the victims as well as the survivors.

While 9/11 is a day of great sadness, it is also a moment of pride. Our reaction as a nation to those events—both as they were unfolding and afterwards—reveals much about us as a people. On that day, our enemies thought they could break our will, but they underestimated our resolve and resilience. They sought to divide us, but they misjudged the breadth of our unity and the depth of our commitment to freedom.

As we look back on the 9 years since the attacks, we are reminded that the threat is not over—the United States still faces enemies who spread hate through violence. The federal government and Congress have an obligation and duty to protect our nation. We have made great progress since the attacks, but there is still much to be done.

It is on this day that we also reflect on the way Americans from all backgrounds came together as one in the face of adversity. While every American should take a moment out of his or her day to remember those who were lost, we must continue to dedicate ourselves to giving back to our communities.

CELEBRATING HISPANIC
HERITAGE MONTH

HON. MAXINE WATERS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I rise to join with Latinos and Latinas in California's 35th Congressional District and all across the United States in celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month, which starts today. This month is a great opportunity to learn about and to recognize the history of Hispanics in our state and our country, their significant accomplishments and their important ongoing contributions.

The Hispanic community in America, which now numbers almost 50 million people, is di-

verse. The largest group is Mexican-Americans, many of whom tomorrow will be celebrating 200 years of Mexico's independence from Spain and later this year will commemorate the centennial of the Mexican Revolution, when the people of Mexico rose up against an oppressive dictatorship to establish a democratic government that promoted equality and human rights.

Despite the diversity among Hispanics, members of the community share common values with one another and with all other Americans: faith, family, and love of country. The Hispanic dream—the hope of a better, more prosperous future—is the American Dream.

Economically, culturally, and politically, Latinos are a vital part of our district, our state and our nation. American life has been enriched by Hispanic contributions in business, education, government, and the arts for more than 200 years.

As we celebrate the progress, success and achievements of the Hispanic community, we must also recognize the considerable challenges the community faces. Many Hispanic families and businesses have not fared well economically over the last several years as the failed economic policies of the Bush Administration led to the worst recession since the Great Depression.

Hispanics, like African Americans and other minorities, have been particularly impacted by the economic downturn, with higher rates of unemployment and predatory subprime mortgages.

Over the last year and a half, the Democratic-led Congress has been working hard to improve the lives and meet the needs of America's Hispanic families—from the economy, to small businesses, to making college more affordable, to health care, to veterans. We must do all we can to better ensure that all Latinos, like all Americans, have a meaningful opportunity to improve their lives and pursue the American Dream. I will continue to be a strong advocate for Hispanics and all of my constituents.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Ms. RICHARDSON. Madam Speaker, yesterday I was unavoidably delayed and unable to return to the floor in time for rollcall vote 519.

Had I been present for rollcall No. 519, I would have voted "aye" (H. Res. 1052, Honoring the members of the Army National Guard and Air National Guard of the State of Oklahoma for their service and sacrifice on behalf of the United States since September 2001).

FINDINGS OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ARMED SERVICES RELATING TO EFFICIENCY AND REFORM PURSUANT TO H. RES. 1493

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the budget enforcement resolution for fiscal year 2011 passed by the House of Representatives on July 1, 2010, as chairman of the House Armed Services Committee I am submitting for inclusion in the Congressional Record efforts by the committee that will achieve deficit reduction through reduction in waste, fraud, abuse, and mismanagement, promoting efficiency and reform of government, and controlling spending within Government programs authorized by this committee.

As stewards of the public funds, it is imperative that Congress support a commitment to oversight of all aspects of federal spending and to ensure that tax dollars are protected from waste, fraud and abuse and that the Federal Government is efficient in meeting the needs of our country. Members of the Armed Services Committee embrace this obligation and have taken an active role to protect America's tax dollars while ensuring our nation's defense.

Of all our efforts to ensure the best value for every taxpayer dollar, I am particularly proud of the Committee's accomplishments on defense acquisition reform during the 111th Congress. As you know, former ranking member John McHugh and I appointed a Panel on Defense Acquisition Reform in March 2009. Over the course of the subsequent 12 months, the Panel held 14 hearings examining all aspects of the defense acquisition system. The exceptional work of this panel, led by Chairman ROB ANDREWS and Ranking Member MIKE CONAWAY, led directly to passage of the IMPROVE Acquisition Act of 2010, which will reform much of the defense acquisition system and potentially save taxpayers billions of dollars. This is in addition to the Weapon Systems Acquisition Reform Act of 2009, signed into law by President Obama on May 22, 2009, which has already started to save money for the American taxpayer by reforming the way the Department of Defense acquires weapon systems.

These major efforts to bring much needed reform to the defense acquisition system are in addition to all of the Committee's continual work overseeing defense budgets, programs, and spending. Also, the committee undertakes an annual national defense authorization bill that includes a number of provisions that seek to eliminate waste, fraud and abuse within the Department of Defense, and the Department of Energy for defense matters.

During the first session of the 111st Congress, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010, H.R. 2647, was signed into law on October 8, 2009. Public Law 111-84 contains a number of provisions that seek to root out fraud, waste and abuse within the Department of Defense (DOD), and also sought to enhance the effectiveness of our national security programs and policies. Examples of such legislative action include:

Limited low rate production of Future Combat Systems spin-out early-infantry brigade

combat equipment pending a technology readiness assessment, independent cost estimate and the testing of all systems constituting the equipment set in their production configuration (section 111).

Required a joint and common requirement for unmanned cargo-carrying capable unmanned aerial vehicles to avoid costly duplication of multiple service programs (section 142).

Limited the obligation of funds for Net-Enabled Command Capability (NECC) until the Department provided a roadmap for command and control systems. This provision contributed to the program being subsequently cancelled in the fiscal year 2011 budget submission (section 217).

Required the Secretary of Defense to issue policy guidance requiring the establishment of a third-party certification process for private security contractors to allow for greater governmental oversight and prevent fraud and abuse within such contracts (section 324).

Developed a comprehensive plan for improving inventory management practices for spare parts (section 328).

Directed the DOD to implement a new acquisition process to improve the speed and quality of developing or purchasing information technology (IT) goods and services for the Department (section 804).

Established life-cycle management and product support managers for major weapons systems to allow greater visibility of the operation and support costs for a weapon's entire life-cycle (section 805).

Clarified reporting requirements to ensure that cooperative agreements and grants are treated in the same manner as other contracts in Iraq and Afghanistan to improve interagency coordination and reduce waste and duplication of programs among federal agencies (section 813).

Eliminated a loop-hole that allowed contractors to overcharge the Department on certain contracts (section 814).

Extended the Commission on Wartime Contracting in Iraq and Afghanistan by one year to continue its oversight activities (section 822).

Allowed the Department to recoup award fees from companies and contractors who activities jeopardize the health and safety of government employees and service members (section 823).

Required a GAO report on the Acquisition Workforce Development Strategic Plan for the federal civilian workforce (outside of the Department of Defense) to improve the quality and training of the civilian workforce to enhance each agency's ability to tackle waste, fraud and abuse in their service contracts (section 834).

Established an entity to oversee the transition of Defense Integrated Military Human Resources System (DIMHRS) from a single Department-developed program to multiple service integrated pay and personnel systems in order to capture the benefits of the significant financial investment that had been made in the unsuccessful development of the DIMHRS system (section 932).

Codified a requirement for the Secretary of Defense to develop an annual plan for shaping and improving DOD's civilian employee workforce to improve the quality and training of DOD civilian workforce, especially in the acquisition and audit fields (section 1108).

During the second session of the 111th Congress, the Committee continued its over-

sight responsibilities and additional initiatives are contained in the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2011, which builds upon the accomplishments of the previous session. H.R. 5136 contains legislative priorities that will continue efforts to reduce waste, fraud and abuse within the Department.

Allows the Navy to budget for large capital ships over a period not to exceed three quarters of the number of years of planned ship construction. This provision would allow for more efficient use of the limited ship building funds available (section 121).

Limits the obligation of funds for the F-35 program, a \$380 billion acquisition program, until specified milestones have been met by the program to help ensure the program produces a viable aircraft within cost limits. (section 141)

Directs the Secretary of Defense to create a comprehensive improvised explosive device project data base to reduce the duplicative projects that are being conducted by DOD (section 143).

Requires the Secretary of Defense to determine better ways to effectively address its research and development and procurement requirements for body armor for the individual services (section 144).

Requires separate program elements for the Joint Light Tactical Vehicle Program to provide Congress better visibility over the costs and acquisition plans for the program (section 214).

Requires the Secretary of the Army to submit a cost benefit analysis of future options for developing tank-fired munitions (section 232).

Establishes a pilot program for micro-grid components and systems for the Department of Defense to achieve economies of scale for bulk purchases of effective systems (section 243).

Requires reports from the Government Accountability Office (GAO), DOD, State Department, and US Agency for International Development on contracting in Iraq and Afghanistan. The reports are intended to strengthen management of contracts, coordination of contracts among the agencies, and oversight (sections 822 and 823).

Establishes a Joint Medical Command to improve medical care and services for service members, families and retirees and could result in significant savings for the Department of Defense's Health Affairs program (section 903).

Reduces budget transfer authority to ensure that budget requests are validated. This will help to ensure that high priority programs are funded and prevent wasteful spending for lower priority programs (section 1001).

Directs the Secretary of Defense to conduct an independent review of each working capital fund within the Department of Defense to ensure better management and oversight of these funds (section 1402)

Amends the Federal Information Security Management Act of 2002 to make it more effective and provide for continuous monitoring of IT systems (section 1701).

Requires the Department of Defense to provide an assessment of facilities that can be retrofitted with insulation to improve energy savings (section 2833).

Report language: "Matters Relating to the Common Database for Tracking Contracts and Contractor Personnel in Iraq and Afghanistan." Highlights that agencies have been slow to im-

plement the database, and that GAO and the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction have both stated that if the database were complete, it would be a helpful tool for performing audits, oversight, and investigations.

In addition, the House yesterday considered H.R. 6102, which amends the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010, Public Law 111-84, to extend the authority of the Secretary of the Navy to enter into multiyear contracts for F/A-18E, F/A-18F-SF, and EA-18G aircraft. Passage of this bill would save the Department of the Navy an estimated \$600 million in contract savings in fiscal year 2010.

Madam Speaker, as Chairman of the House Armed Services Committee I remain committed to ensuring that the committee continues its efforts to eliminate waste, fraud and abuse and advance efforts to ensure cost-effective capabilities and to control spending within the Department of Defense. I appreciate the opportunity to share the actions taken by the Committee during the 111th Congress to achieve deficit reduction through the elimination of waste, fraud, abuse, and mismanagement, promoting efficiency and reform of government, and controlling spending of programs authorized by this committee.

FINDINGS OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES RELATING TO EFFICIENCY AND REFORM PURSUANT TO H. RES. 1493

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, the Financial Services Committee continues to work hard throughout the 111th Congress; fulfilling the pledge our New Direction Congress has taken, with your leadership, to restore fiscal discipline and accountability in the stewardship of the Federal budget.

I am pleased to provide an update since my letter on May 26, 2010, on what our Committee has specifically done to promote efficiency and prudent government reforms while reducing waste, fraud, abuse and mismanagement with respect to government programs and agencies within our jurisdiction. As of this week, we will have held over 65 oversight hearings that achieve these objectives.

A list of recent oversight hearings that fully comply with the Rules of the House, as required by H. Res. 40 sponsored by Representative JOHN TANNER, is attached. These hearings have directly resulted in stronger transparency and protections for U.S. taxpayers, including increased returns from the TARP warrants program, vigorous oversight of the conservatorship of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac and the future of housing finance, and other key areas where taxpayer dollars are at stake.

As you know, this Committee played a key role in fully protecting taxpayers and rooting out waste, fraud and abuse with our work producing the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, which the President signed into law on July 21, 2010, P.L. 111-203. This historic new law overhauls

and strengthens the financial regulatory system, ending the need for taxpayer-funded bailouts while better protecting consumers, investors, and taxpayers. For example, with the new Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, the law consolidates and strengthens consumer protection duties by streamlining powers previously scattered across too many agencies.

From an oversight perspective, the Wall Street Reform Act will help curb waste, fraud, and abuse by creating a new Council of Inspectors General on Financial Oversight, which will improve coordination of financial agency Inspector's General and help them identify any gaps or weaknesses in financial regulation. Additionally, with the inclusion of a version of Representative STEVE DRIEHAUS' legislation—H.R. 3330, the Improved Oversight by Financial Inspectors General Act—the

law provides Inspectors General with more flexible and reasonable reporting requirements so that vital financial agency programs, such as foreclosure mitigation and anti-terrorist finance efforts, will be properly monitored to fully protect taxpayers. The law also grants these Inspectors General with more independence and accountability, ensuring taxpayers have the best watchdogs monitoring financial regulatory activities. Finally, over 40 mandatory Government Accountability Office reports and studies were included in the law so that the implementation is closely monitored and will maximize efforts to eliminate waste, fraud and abuse throughout the reformed financial regulatory apparatus. A full list of those GAO reports is attached.

In addition, in July the House initiated and the President signed into law, P.L. 111–229, statutory authority for the Federal Housing Ad-

ministration (FHA) to raise loan fees to help shore up the FHA Fund. The Office of Management and Budget estimates that this could save taxpayers at least \$250 million a month. The House has also adopted the "FHA Reform Act of 2010", H.R. 5072, which gives the Department of Housing and Urban Development increased powers to impose sanctions and terminate FHA lenders which are not following program rules or otherwise increasing risk to taxpayers on FHA loans they originate. This bill is pending in the Senate.

We look forward to continue working with you and the rest of our colleagues in the 111th Congress to strengthen accountability, transparency and taxpayer protections through future oversight efforts.

Attachments.

Committee on Financial Services — House Resolution 40 hearings
Update since 5/26/10 through 9/13/10

Date	Hearing title	Committee/Subcommittee
7/13/2010	“After the Financial Crisis: Ongoing Challenges Facing Delphi Retirees”	Oversight and Investigations
7/20/2010	“Oversight of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission: Evaluating Present Reforms and Future Challenges”	Capital Markets
7/29/2010	“Future of Housing Finance: The Role of Private Mortgage Insurance”	Capital Markets
7/29/2010	“Alternatives for Promoting Liquidity in the Commercial Real Estate Markets, Supporting Small Businesses and Increasing Job Growth”	Full Committee
8/23/2010	“Too Big Has Failed: Learning from Midwest Banks and Credit Unions”	Oversight and Investigations
8/24/2010	“Empowering Consumers: Can Financial Literacy Education Prevent Another Financial Crisis?”	Oversight and Investigations
9/15/2010	“The Future of Housing Finance: A Progress Update on the GSEs”	Capital Markets
9/16/2010	“Legislative Proposals to Address Concerns Over the SEC’s New Confidentiality Provision”	Full Committee

Bold indicates hearing has already taken place.

**Mandatory Government Accountability Office (GAO) Reports and Studies
Required by the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act**

TITLE I
1. Sec. 122 Grant of authority to GAO to audit the Financial Stability Oversight Council
2. Sec. 171(b)(6) Audit of smaller institution access to capital
3. Sec. 174(a) Study of hybrid capital instruments
4. Sec. 174(b) Study of foreign bank intermediate holding company capital requirements
TITLE II
5. Sec. 202(e) Study of bankruptcy and orderly liquidation process for financial companies initial report
6. Sec. 202(f) Study of international coordination relating to bankruptcy
7. Sec. 202(g) Study of prompt corrective action implementation
8. Sec. 203(c)(5) Mandated audit of any future systemic risk determinations made under new 203(b)
TITLE IV
9. Sec. 412 Study on custody rule costs
10. Sec. 415 Study on accredited investors
11. Sec. 416 Study on SRO for private funds
TITLE V
12. Sec. 526 Study of non-admitted insurance market
TITLE VI
13. Sec. 603(b) Study of exceptions under Bank Holding Company Act
TITLE IX
14. Sec. 918 Study regarding mutual fund advertising
15. Sec. 919A Study on conflicts of interest
16. Sec. 919C Study on financial planners
17. Sec. 929Z Study on securities litigation
18. Sec. 939D study on alternative business models
19. Sec. 939E Study on creation of an independent professional analyst organization
20. Sec. 961(e) Report and certification on SEC internal supervisory controls
21. Sec. 962 Report on SEC personnel management
22. Sec. 963 Audit of SEC financial controls
23. Sec. 964 Report on oversight of National Securities Associations
24. Sec. 968 Study on SEC revolving door
25. Sec. 976 Study of increased disclosure to investors
26. Sec. 977 Study on municipal securities markets
27. Sec. 978(b) Study evaluating the GASB
28. Sec. 988 Review reports by IG of Board when National Credit Union Share Insurance Fund experiences losses under revised definition of material/non-material losses
29. Sec. 989 Study on proprietary trading
30. Sec. 989F Study of person-to-person lending
31. Sec. 989I Study on exemption for smaller issuers

TITLE X
32. Sec. 1013(d)(7) Study on financial literacy program
33. Sec. 1017(d)(5) Audit the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection
TITLE XI
34. Sec. 1102 Grant of authority to review recent Federal Reserve emergency credit facilities
35. Sec. 1104(e)(2) Mandated audit of any liquidity event determination by FDIC and Fed
36. Sec. 1109(a) Audit of Fed Reserve emergency credit facilities
37. Sec. 1109(b) Audit of Federal Reserve Bank governance
TITLE XIV
38. Sec. 1421 Report on effects of enactment of Act on various mortgage issues
39. Sec. 1476(a) Study on effectiveness and impact of various appraisal methods
40. Sec. 1476(d) Additional study on appraisal
41. Sec. 1492 Study on government efforts to combat mortgage foreclosure rescue scams
TITLE XV
42. Sec. 1502(d)(1) Reports on conflict minerals various issues
43. Sec. 1502(d)(2) Reports on conflict minerals effectiveness
44. Sec. 1505 Study on IG independence, effectiveness, expertise

RECOGNIZING MEMBERS OF THE
GUJARAT, INDIA DELEGATION
FOR STRENGTHENING THE U.S.-
INDIA ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Mr. FALEOMAVEGA. Madam Speaker,
yesterday, I welcomed to Washington, DC, 16

business leaders from Gujarat, India in a statement that I submitted for the RECORD. Today, I rise to recognize eight additional members of the delegation including S A Dula, Advisor, Industrial Extension Bureau; Kamalakara Rao Yechuri, CFO, GMR Group; Palak Sheth, OSD, Pandit Deendayal Petroleum University; Hemang Jani, PriceWaterhouseCoopers Pvt. Ltd.; Jitendra Shah, Managing Director, Tip Sons Financial Services Pvt. Ltd.; Murli Ranganathan, Director, Torrent

Power Ltd.; Vivek Rastogi, Associate VP, Abellon Energy; and Mr. Inderpreet Wadhwa.

As top business leaders, these individuals came to Washington to discuss key areas in which the U.S. and India can collaborate to strengthen bilateral economic relations. They and their colleagues have played an integral role in the growth of India and the State of Gujarat, and it is my privilege to recognize their contribution to strengthening the U.S.-India economic partnership.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the *Extensions of Remarks* section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, September 16, 2010 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

SEPTEMBER 21

8 a.m.

Impeachment Trial Committee (Porteous)
To resume hearings to examine the Articles Against Judge G. Thomas Porteous, Jr.

SH-216

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of General James F. Amos, USMC, for reappointment to the grade of general and the be Commandant of the Marine Corps.

SD-G50

10 a.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine investigating infrastructure, focusing on creating jobs and growing the economy.

SD-538

Finance

To hold hearings to examine welfare reform, focusing on women and poverty.

SD-215

2:15 p.m.

Foreign Relations

Business meeting to consider S. 3581, to implement certain defense trade treaties, S. 1183, to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to provide assistance to the Government of Haiti to end within 5 years the deforestation in Haiti and restore within 30 years the extent of tropical forest cover in existence in Haiti in 1990, S. 3184, to provide United States assistance for the purpose of eradicating severe forms of trafficking in children in eligible countries through the implementation of Child Protection Compacts, S. 3665, to promote the strengthening of the private sector in Pakistan, S. 3297, to update United States policy and authorities to help advance a genuine transition to democracy and to promote recovery in Zimbabwe, Treaty Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of Australia Concerning Defense Trade Cooperation,

done at Sydney, September 5, 2007 (Treaty Doc. 110-10), Treaty Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland Concerning Defense Trade Cooperation, done at Washington and London on June 21 and 26, 2007 (Treaty Doc. 110-07), and the nominations of Alexander A. Arvizu, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Albania, Matthew J. Bryza, of Illinois, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Azerbaijan, Norman L. Eisen, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to the Czech Republic, Joseph A. Mussomeli, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Slovenia, and Duane E. Woerth, of Nebraska, for the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service as Representative of the United States of America on the Council of the International Civil Aviation Organization, all of the Department of State.

S-116, Capitol

2:30 p.m.

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Maria Elizabeth Raffinan, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia; to be immediately followed by a business meeting to consider pending calendar business.

SD-342

Intelligence

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of David B. Buckley, of Virginia, to be Inspector General, Central Intelligence Agency.

SD-124

SEPTEMBER 22

8 a.m.

Impeachment Trial Committee (Porteous)
To continue hearings to examine the Articles Against Judge G. Thomas Porteous, Jr.

SH-216

10 a.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Securities and Exchange (SEC) Inspector General's Report on the Investigation of the SEC's Response to Concerns Regarding Robert Allen Stanford's Alleged Ponzi Scheme and Improving SEC Performance.

SD-538

Budget

To hold hearings to examine assessing the Federal policy response to the economic crisis.

SD-608

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine nine years after 9/11, focusing on confronting the terrorist threat to the homeland.

SD-342

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the Electronic Communications Privacy Act, focusing on promoting security and protecting privacy in the digital age.

SD-226

Rules and Administration

To hold hearings to examine the filibuster, focusing on legislative proposals to change Senate procedures, including S. Res. 416, amending the Standing Rules of the Senate to pro-

vide for cloture to be invoked with less than a three-fifths majority after additional debate, and S. Res. 619, expressing the sense of the Senate that the Senate of each new Congress is not bound by the Rules of previous Senates.

SR-301

Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine a legislative presentation focusing on the American Legion.

345, Cannon Building

2 p.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine reauthorization of the National Flood Insurance Program.

SD-538

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine investigating and prosecuting financial fraud after the Fraud Enforcement and Recovery Act.

SD-226

2:30 p.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Consumer Protection, Product Safety, and Insurance Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine S. 3742, to protect consumers by requiring reasonable security policies and procedures to protect data containing personal information, and to provide for nationwide notice in the event of a security breach.

SR-253

SEPTEMBER 23

9:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold an oversight hearing to examine Veterans' Affairs disability compensation, focusing on presumptive disability decision-making.

SDG-50

2:30 p.m.

Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

SEPTEMBER 29

2 p.m.

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe

To hold hearings to examine charges against Mikhail Khodorkovsky's Yukos Oil Company.

1539, Longworth Building

SEPTEMBER 30

2:30 p.m.

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine implementation, improvement, sustainability, focusing on management matters at the Department of Homeland Security.

SD-342

OCTOBER 6

9:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold an oversight hearing to examine Veterans' Affairs Information Technology (IT) program, focusing on looking ahead.

SR-418

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S7097–S7142

Measures Introduced: Nine bills and four resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 3784–3792, and S. Res. 622–625. **Page S7134**

Measures Reported:

S. 139, to require Federal agencies, and persons engaged in interstate commerce, in possession of data containing sensitive personally identifiable information, to disclose any breach of such information. (S. Rept. No. 111–290) **Page S7134**

Measures Passed:

Honoring the Oklahoma Army National Guard and Air National Guard: Senate agreed to S. Res. 624, honoring the members of the Army National Guard and Air National Guard of the State of Oklahoma for their service and sacrifice on behalf of the United States since September 11, 2001. **Pages S7140–41**

National Preparedness Month: Senate agreed to S. Res. 625, designating September 2010 as “National Preparedness Month”. **Page S7141**

Measures Considered:

Small Business Lending Fund Act—Agreement: Senate continued consideration of H.R. 5297, to create the Small Business Lending Fund Program to direct the Secretary of the Treasury to make capital investments in eligible institutions in order to increase the availability of credit for small businesses, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax incentives for small business job creation, taking action on the following amendments and motion proposed thereto: **Pages S7103–19, S7119–26**

Pending:

Reid (for Baucus/Landrieu) Amendment No. 4594, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S7103**

Reid (for Nelson (FL)) Modified Amendment No. 4595 (to Amendment No. 4594), to exempt certain amounts subject to other information reporting from the information reporting provisions of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. **Page S7103**

Reid (for Johanns) Modified Amendment No. 4596 (to Amendment No. 4595), to repeal the expansion of information reporting requirements for payments of \$600 or more to corporations. **Page S7103**

Reid Amendment No. 4597 (to the language proposed to be stricken by Amendment No. 4594), to change the enactment date. **Page S7103**

Reid Amendment No. 4598 (to Amendment No. 4597), of a perfecting nature. **Page S7103**

A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at approximately 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, September 16, 2010, that all post-cloture time be considered expired at 10:45 a.m.; that upon the expiration of time, all pending amendments be withdrawn, except Reid (for Baucus/Landrieu) Amendment No. 4594 (listed above), that for the duration of this agreement, no other amendments, motions or points of order be in order except as noted in this agreement; that the only motions in order be a Hatch motion to suspend the rules with respect to R&D, and a Grassley motion to suspend the rules with respect to biodiesel; with Senators Baucus, Hatch, and Grassley, or their designees, each controlling a total of 15 minutes; that the votes with respect to the motions to suspend occur in the order in which offered beginning at 10:45 a.m.; that after the first vote the succeeding vote be limited to 10 minutes each; and that prior to each vote, there be 2 minutes of debate equally divided and controlled in the usual form; that upon disposition of the aforementioned motions; the substitute amendment be agreed to; and then the time until 12 noon be equally divided and controlled between the two leaders, or their designees; that at 12 noon, Senate vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the bill, as amended; that if cloture is invoked on the bill, then all post-cloture time be yielded back, and Senate vote on passage of the bill, as amended; provided further, that the motions identified in this agreement be those which have been submitted at the desk when this agreement was entered. **Page S7141**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Carol Fulp, of Massachusetts, to be a Representative of the United States of America to the Sixty-fifth Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

Jeanne Shaheen, of New Hampshire, to be a Representative of the United States of America to the Sixty-fifth Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

Roger F. Wicker, of Mississippi, to be a Representative of the United States of America to the Sixty-fifth Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

Gregory J. Nickels, of Washington, to be an Alternate Representative of the United States of America to the Sixty-fifth Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

Air Force nomination in the rank of general.

1 Air Force nomination in the rank of general.

1 Army nomination in the rank of general.

1 Navy nomination in the rank of admiral.

Routine lists in the Army and Navy. **Page S7142**

Messages from the House: Page S7132

Measures Read the First Time: Pages S7132, 7141

Executive Communications: Pages S7132–34

Additional Cosponsors: Pages S7134–35

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: Pages S7135–39

Additional Statements: Pages S7131–32

Notices of Intent: Pages S7139–40

Notices of Hearings/Meetings: Page S7140

Authorities for Committees to Meet: Page S7140

Privileges of the Floor: Page S7140

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 7:20 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, September 16, 2010. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S7142.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

NATIONAL ORGANIC LAW

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the National Organic Law at 20, focusing on sowing seeds for a bright future, after receiving testimony from Kathleen A. Merrigan, Deputy Secretary of Agriculture; Regina Beidler, Beidler Family Farm, Randolph Center, Vermont; Will Harris, White Oak Pastures, Bluffton, Georgia; Michael Sligh, National Organic Coalition, Pittsboro, North Carolina; and Sarah Bird,

Annie's, Inc., Napa, California, on behalf of the Organic Trade Association.

COVERED BONDS

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine covered bonds, focusing on potential uses and regulatory issues, after receiving testimony from Representative Garrett; Julie L. Williams, First Senior Deputy Comptroller, Chief Counsel, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Department of the Treasury; Michael H. Krimminger, Deputy to the Chairman, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation; Scott A. Stengel, Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP, Washington, D.C.; Kenneth A. Snowden, University of North Carolina at Greensboro; and Ric Campo, Camden Property Trust, Houston, Texas, on behalf of the National Multi Housing Council and the National Apartment Association.

NATIONAL RAIL POLICY

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the federal role in national rail policy, including S. 2889, to reauthorize the Surface Transportation Board, after receiving testimony from Senator Kohl; John D. Porcari, Deputy Secretary of Transportation; and Daniel R. Elliott III, Chairman, Surface Transportation Board.

MULTILATERAL DEVELOPMENT BANKS

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine banking reform, focusing on capital increase proposals from multilateral development banks, after receiving testimony from Marisa Lago, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for International Markets and Development; Ian Solomon, United States Executive Director of the World Bank, Washington, D.C.; and Curtis S. Chin, United States Executive Director to the Asian Development Bank, Manila, Philippines.

NUCLEAR TERRORISM

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee resumed open and closed hearings to examine nuclear terrorism, focusing on strengthening our domestic defenses, after receiving testimony from Jane Holl Lute, Deputy Secretary, Tara J. O'Toole, Under Secretary for Science and Technology, Warren M. Stern, Director, Domestic Nuclear Detection Office, Robin E. Kane, Assistant Administrator for Security Technology, Transportation Security Administration, John P. Woods, Deputy Assistant Director, National Security Investigations Division, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Todd C. Owen, Executive Director of Cargo and Conveyance Security, Office of Field Operations,

Customs and Border Protection, Rear Admiral Cari B. Thomas, Director of Response Policy, Coast Guard, and Melissa Smislova, Associate Deputy Under Secretary for Analysis, all of the Department of Homeland Security.

PROHIBITING OBSCENE ANIMAL CRUSH VIDEOS

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine prohibiting obscene animal crush videos in the wake of *United States v. Stevens*, after receiving testimony from Nancy Perry, The Humane Society of the United States, Washington, D.C.; and Kevin Volkan, California State University Channel Islands, Camarillo.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Susan L. Carney, of Connecticut, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit, who was introduced by Senator Dodd, Amy Totenberg, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Georgia, who was introduced by Senators Chambliss and Isakson, James Emanuel Boasberg, and Amy Berman

Jackson, both to be United States District Judge for the District of Columbia, who were both introduced by Representative Norton, and James E. Shadid, who was introduced by Representative Schock, and Sue E. Myerscough, both to be United States District Judge for the Central District of Illinois, who were both introduced by Senator Durbin.

IMPEACHMENT TRIAL: PORTEOUS

Impeachment Trial Committee (Porteous): Committee continued open and closed hearings to examine the Articles Against Judge G. Thomas Porteous, Jr., after receiving testimony from DeWayne Horner, Special Agent, and Bobby Hamil, former Agent, both of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice; Duncan W. Keir, Chief Judge, United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Maryland; Charles Gardener Gay, Indiana University Maurer School of Law, Bloomington; Rhonda Danos, Marrero, Louisiana; Claude Lightfoot, Jr., New Orleans, Louisiana; and Timothy A. Porteous, Kenner, Louisiana.

Committee will meet again on Thursday, September 16.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 18 public bills, H.R. 6126–6143; and 8 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 317; and H. Res. 1619, 1621–1626 were introduced. **Pages H6762–63**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H6763–64**

Report Filed: A report was filed today as follows:

H. Res. 1620, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4785) to amend the miscellaneous rural development provisions of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to make loans to certain entities that will use the funds to make loans to consumers to implement energy efficiency measures involving structural improvements and investments in cost-effective, commercial off-the-shelf technologies to reduce home energy use (H. Rept. 111–594).

Page H6762

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Yarmuth to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H6687**

Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the guest chaplain, Reverend Roderick Pearson, St. Mark Remnant Ministries, Central Islip, New York. **Page H6687**

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Congressional Made in America Promise Act: H.R. 2039, amended, to clarify the applicability of the Buy American Act to products purchased for the use of the legislative branch and to prohibit the application of any of the exceptions to the requirements of such Act to products bearing a Congressional seal, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 371 yeas to 36 nays, Roll No. 521; **Pages H6690–91, H6721–22**

Berry Amendment Extension Act: H.R. 3116, amended, to prohibit the Department of Homeland Security from procuring certain items directly related to the national security unless the items are grown, reprocessed, reused, or produced in the United States; **Pages H6691–94**

First Responder Anti-Terrorism Training Resources Act: Concurred in the Senate amendments to H.R. 3978, to amend the Homeland Security Act of

2002 to authorize the Secretary of Homeland Security to accept and use gifts for otherwise authorized activities of the Center for Domestic Preparedness that are related to preparedness for a response to terrorism; **Pages H6694–96**

Recognizing the 50th anniversary of the passage of legislation that created real estate investment trusts (REITs): H. Res. 1595, to recognize the 50th anniversary of the passage of legislation that created real estate investment trusts (REITs) and gave millions of Americans new investment opportunities that helped them build a solid foundation for retirement security and has contributed to the overall strength of our economy; **Pages H6696–97**

Captain Rhett W. Schiller Post Office Designation Act: H.R. 5873, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 218 North Milwaukee Street in Waterford, Wisconsin, as the “Captain Rhett W. Schiller Post Office”, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ ye-a-and-nay vote of 411 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 522; **Pages H6697–99, H6722**

Federal Supply Schedules Usage Act: S. 2868, amended, to provide increased access to the General Services Administration’s Schedules Program by the American Red Cross and State and local governments; **Pages H6699–H6700**

Expressing support for designation of the last week of September as National Hereditary Breast and Ovarian Cancer Week: H. Res. 1522, to express support for designation of the last week of September as National Hereditary Breast and Ovarian Cancer Week and the last Wednesday of September as National Previvor Day, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ ye-a-and-nay vote of 408 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 523; **Pages H6700–03, H6722–23**

Overseas Contractor Reform Act: H.R. 5366, to require the proposal for debarment from contracting with the Federal Government of persons violating the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act of 1977, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ ye-a-and-nay vote of 409 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 524; **Pages H6703–34, H6723–24**

Mandatory Price Reporting Act of 2010: S. 3656, to amend the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 to improve the reporting on sales of livestock and dairy products; **Pages H6706–07**

Veterinarian Services Investment Act: H.R. 3519, amended, to amend the National Agricultural Research, Extension and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 to establish a grant program to promote efforts to develop, implement, and sustain veterinary services; **Pages H6707–09**

Providing funds to the Army Corps of Engineers to hire veterans and members of the Armed Forces

to assist the Corps with curation and historic preservation activities: H.R. 5282, amended, to provide funds to the Army Corps of Engineers to hire veterans and members of the Armed Forces to assist the Corps with curation and historic preservation activities; **Pages H6713–14**

Andrew W. Bogue Federal Building and United States Courthouse Designation Act: H.R. 5651, to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 515 9th Street in Rapid City, South Dakota, as the “Andrew W. Bogue Federal Building and United States Courthouse”; **Pages H6714–15**

Frank Evans Government Printing Office Building Designation Act: H.R. 5706, amended, to designate the facility of the Government Printing Office located at 31451 East United Avenue in Pueblo, Colorado, as the “Frank Evans Government Printing Office Building”; **Pages H6715–16**

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: “To designate the building occupied by the Government Printing Office located at 31451 East United Avenue in Pueblo, Colorado, as the ‘Frank Evans Government Printing Office Building’.”. **Page H6716**

Robert M. Ball Federal Building Designation Act: H.R. 5773, amended, to designate the Federal building located at 6401 Security Boulevard in Baltimore, Maryland, as the “Robert M. Ball Federal Building”; **Pages H6717–19**

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: “To designate the Federal building located at 6401 Security Boulevard in Baltimore, Maryland, commonly known as the Social Security Administration Operations Building, as the ‘Robert M. Ball Federal Building’.”. **Page H6719**

Observing the fifth anniversary of the date on which Hurricane Rita devastated the coasts of Louisiana and Texas and remembering those lost in the storm and in the process of evacuation, recovery, and rebuilding: H. Res. 1583, amended, to observe the fifth anniversary of the date on which Hurricane Rita devastated the coasts of Louisiana and Texas, to remember those lost in the storm and in the process of evacuation, recovery, and rebuilding; to salute the dedication of the volunteers who offered assistance in support of those affected by the storm, to recognize the progress of efforts to rebuild the affected Gulf Coast region, to commend the persistence of the people of the States of Louisiana and Texas following the second major hurricane to hit Louisiana that season, and to reaffirm Congress’ commitment to restore and renew the Gulf Coast region; **Pages H6719–21**

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: "Observing the fifth anniversary of the date on which Hurricane Rita devastated the coasts of Louisiana and Texas, and for other purposes." **Page H6721**

Supporting backcountry airstrips and recreational aviation: H. Res. 1473, amended, to support backcountry airstrips and recreational aviation; **Pages H6725–26**

Recognizing the 90th anniversary of the 19th Amendment: H. Res. 1375, amended, to recognize the 90th anniversary of the 19th Amendment; **Pages H6726–29**

Permitting Members of Congress to administer the oath of allegiance to applicants for naturalization: H.R. 4862, amended, to permit Members of Congress to administer the oath of allegiance to applicants for naturalization; and **Pages H6729–31**

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that law enforcement service dogs and their handlers perform a vital role in providing for our Nation's security: H. Res. 1614, to express the sense of the House of Representatives that law enforcement service dogs and their handlers perform a vital role in providing for our Nation's security and should be recognized for their service. **Pages H6731–33**

Moment of Silence: The House observed a moment of silence in honor of the victims of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. **Page H6724**

Suspension—Proceedings Resumed: The House agreed to suspend the rules and agree to the following measure which was debated on Tuesday, September 14th:

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the terrorist attacks launched against the United States on September 11, 2001: H. Res. 1610, to express the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the terrorist attacks launched against the United States on September 11, 2001, by a 2/3 yea-and-nay vote of 410 yeas with none voting "nay", Roll No. 525. **Pages H6724–25**

Suspensions—Proceedings Postponed: The debated the following measures under suspension of the rules. Further proceedings were postponed:

Expressing the support for and honoring September 17, 2010 as "Constitution Day": H. Res. 1612, to express the support for and to honor September 17, 2010 as "Constitution Day";

Pages H6704–06

Expressing condolences to and solidarity with the people of Pakistan in the aftermath of the devastating floods that began on July 22, 2010: H. Res. 1613, amended, to express condolences to and solidarity with the people of Pakistan in the after-

math of the devastating floods that began on July 22, 2010; and **Pages H6709–13**

James Chaney, Andrew Goodman, Michael Schwerner, and Roy K. Moore Federal Building Designation Act: Concur in the Senate amendments to H.R. 3562, to designate the federally occupied building located at 1220 Echelon Parkway in Jackson, Mississippi, as the "James Chaney, Andrew Goodman, Michael Schwerner, and Roy K. Moore Federal Building". **Pages H6716–17**

Recess: The House recessed at 2:59 p.m. and reconvened at 4:03 p.m. **Page H6725**

Discharge Petition: Representative Daniel E. Lungren presented to the clerk a motion to discharge the Committee on Ways and Means from the consideration of H.R. 5141, to repeal the expansion of information reporting requirements for payments of \$600 or more to corporations, and for other purposes (Discharge Petition No. 13).

Quorum Calls—Votes: Five yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H6721–22, H6722, H6723, H6723–24, H6724. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

Committee Meetings

MEDICARE DURABLE EQUIPMENT BIDS

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Health held a hearing entitled "Medicare's Competitive Bidding Program for Durable Medical Equipment: Implications for Quality, Cost and Access." Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Health and Human Services: Lawrence Wilson, Director, Chronic Care Policy Group, Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services; and Daniel Levinson, Inspector General; Kathleen King, Director, Health Care, GAO; and public witnesses.

PENDING HEALTH LEGISLATION

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Health held a hearing on the following public health measures: H.R. 211, Calling for 2–1–1 Act of 2009; H.R. 758, Pediatric Research Consortia Establishment Act; H.R. 1032, Heart Disease Education, Analysis Research, and Treatment For Women Act; H.R. 1210, Arthritis Prevention, Control, and Cure Act of 2009; H.R. 1230, Bone Marrow Failure Disease Research and Treatment Act of 2009; H.R. 1362, National MS and Parkinson's Disease Registries Act; H.R. 1995, Eliminating Disparities in Diabetes Prevention Access and Care Act of 2009; H.R. 2408, Scleroderma Research and Awareness Act; H.R. 2818, Methamphetamine Education,

Treatment, and Hope Act of 2009; H.R. 2941, To reauthorize and enhance Johanna's Law to increase public awareness and knowledge with respect to gynecologic cancers; H.R. 2999, Veterinary Public Health Workforce and Education Act; H.R. 5354, Gestational Diabetes Act of 2009; H.R. 5462, Birth Defects Prevention, Risk Reduction, and Awareness Act of 2010; H.R. 5986, Neglected Infections of Impoverished Americans Act of 2010; H.R. 6012, To direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to review uptake and utilization of diabetes screening benefits and establish an outreach program with respect to such benefits; H.R. 6081, Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Reauthorization Act of 2010; the Telehealth Improvement and Expansion Act of 2010; and the Health Data Collection Improvement Act. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Health and Human Services: Lawrence Tabak, M.D., Principal Deputy Director, NIH; Ileana Arias, Principal Deputy Director, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; and Marcia Brand, M.D., Deputy Administrator, Health Resources and Services Administration.

FUTURE OF HOUSING FINANCE

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Capital Markets, Insurance, and Government Sponsored Enterprises held a hearing entitled "The Future of Housing Finance: A Progress Update on the GSEs." Testimony was heard from Michael S. Barr, Assistant Secretary, Financial Institutions, Department of the Treasury; and Edward J. DeMarco, Acting Director, Federal Housing Finance Agency.

EVOLVING NATURE OF TERRORISM

Committee on Homeland Security: Held a hearing entitled "The Evolving Nature of Terrorism—Nine Years after the 9/11 Attacks." Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law, approved for full Committee action the following bills: H.R. 1521, Cell Tax Fairness Act of 2009; H.R. 4677, as amended, Protecting Employees and Retirees in Business Bankruptcies Act of 2010; and H.R. 5043, Private Student Loan Bankruptcy Fairness Act of 2010.

DOMESTIC MINOR SEX TRAFFICKING

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security held a hearing on Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking. Testimony was heard from Representatives Maloney, Speier, Poe of Texas, and Smith of New Jersey; former Representa-

tive Linda Smith of Washington; Francey Hakes, National Coordinator for Child, Exploitation Prevention and Interdiction, Department of Justice; and public witnesses.

RURAL ENERGY SAVINGS PROGRAM ACT

Committee on Rules: Granted, by non-record vote, a structured rule providing for consideration of H.R. 4785, the "Rural Energy Savings Program Act." The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Agriculture and by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill except those arising under clause 9 or 10 of rule XXI. The rule provides that in lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Agriculture now printed in the bill, the amendment in the nature of a substitute printed in part A of the report shall be considered as an original bill for the purpose of amendment and shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against the amendment in the nature of a substitute except those arising under clause 10 of rule XXI.

The rule makes in order only those amendments printed in part B of the report. Each such amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. All points of order against the amendments in part B except for clauses 9 and 10 of rule XXI are waived.

The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. The rule provides that the Chair may entertain a motion that the Committee rise only if offered by the chair of the Committee on Agriculture or his designee. Finally, the rule provides that the Chair may not entertain a motion to strike out the enacting words of the bill. Testimony was heard from Representatives Holden, Butterfield, Cleaver, and Inglis.

ENBRIDGE PIPELINE OIL SPILL IN MARSHALL, MICHIGAN

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Held a hearing on Enbridge Pipeline Oil Spill in Marshall, Michigan. Testimony was heard from Deborah A.P. Hersman, Chairman, National Transportation Safety Board; John D. Porcari, Deputy Secretary, Department of Transportation; Lisa Jackson, Administrator,

EPA; Scott Masten, Senior Scientist, National Toxicology Program, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, NIH, Department of Health and Human Services; and public witnesses.

VETERANS MEASURES; PERSONALITY DISORDERS AND VA BENEFITS

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Ordered reported the following: Draft Legislation to be introduced; H.R. 3685, To require the Secretary of Veterans affairs to include on the main page of the Internet website of the Department of Veterans Affairs a hyperlink to the VetSuccess Internet website and to publicize such Internet website; H.R. 5360, as amended, Blinded Veterans Adaptive Housing Improvement Act of 2010; H.R. 5630, To amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for qualifications for vocational rehabilitation counselors and vocational rehabilitation employment coordinators employed by the Department of Veterans Affairs; H.R. 3787, as amended, To amend title 38, United States Code, to deem certain service in the reserve components as active service for purpose of laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs; and H.R. 5993, as amended, SAVINGS Act of 2010.

The Committee also held a hearing on Personality Disorder Dischargers: Impact on Veterans' Benefits. Testimony was heard from Debra A. Draper, Director, Health Care, GAO; the following officials of the Department of Defense: Lernes J. Hebert, Acting Director, Officer/Enlisted Personnel Management; and MG Gina S. Farrisee, USA, Director, Military Personnel Management, G-1, U.S. Army; Antonette Zeiss, Acting Director, Chief Patient Care Services, Officer for Mental Health, Office of Patient Care Services, Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; a representative of a veterans organization; and public witnesses.

CHINA'S EXCHANGE RATE POLICY

Committee on Ways and Means: Held a hearing on China's Exchange Rate Policy. Testimony was heard from Representatives Ryan of Ohio, Smith of Nebraska, Bocchieri and Jenkins; and public witnesses.

Hearings continue tomorrow.

BRIEFING—HOT SPOTS

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Subcommittee on Terrorism, Human Intelligence, Analysis, and Counterintelligence met in executive session to receive a briefing on Hot Spots. The Subcommittee was briefed by departmental witnesses.

Joint Meetings

MINORITY POLITICS AND PRESSURES

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: Commission held a briefing on minority politics, minority pressures in the Obama Era, including successes and challenges to the inclusion and effective participation of racial and ethnic minorities in the political sphere, from Representative Barbara Lee; and Gay McDougall, United Nations Independent Expert on Minority Issues, New York, New York.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2010

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine the promise of human embryonic stem cell research, 10 a.m., SD-124.

Full Committee, business meeting to markup proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2011 for the Department of Defense and the Legislative Branch, 2 p.m., SD-106.

Committee on Armed Services: to hold hearings to examine the current security situation on the Korean Peninsula; with the possibility of a closed session in SVC-217 following the open session, 9:30 a.m., SD-106.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: to hold hearings to examine the Treasury Department's report on international economic and exchange rate policies, 10 a.m., SD-538.

Committee on the Budget: to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Jacob J. Lew, of New York, to be Director of the Office of Management and Budget, 9 a.m., SD-608.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Aviation Operations, Safety, and Security, to hold an oversight hearing to examine the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority, Reagan Washington National Airport and the Perimeter Rule, 2:30 p.m., SR-253.

Committee on Foreign Relations: business meeting to consider Treaty between the United States of America and the Russian Federation on Measures for the Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms, signed in Prague on April 8, 2010, with Protocol (Treaty Doc. 111-05), 9:30 a.m., SD-419.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Jacob J. Lew, of New York, to be Director of the Office of Management and Budget, 3 p.m., SD-342.

Committee on the Judiciary: business meeting to consider S. 3675, to amend chapter 11 of title 11, United States Code, to address reorganization of small businesses, S. 3717, to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Investment Company Act of 1940, and the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 to provide for certain disclosures

under section 552 of title 5, United States Code, (commonly referred to as the Freedom of Information Act), S. 2888, to amend section 205 of title 18, United States Code, to exempt qualifying law school students participating in legal clinics from the application of the general conflict of interest rules under such section, and the nominations of Kathleen M. O'Malley, of Ohio, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Federal Circuit, Beryl Elaine Howell, and Robert Leon Wilkins, both to be United States District Judge for the District of Columbia, Edward Milton Chen, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of California, Louis B. Butler, Jr., to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Wisconsin, John J. McConnell, Jr., to be United States District Judge for the District of Rhode Island, Goodwin Liu, of California, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit, Robert Neil Chatigny, of Connecticut, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit, and Michael J. Moore, to be United States Attorney for the Middle District of Georgia, Michael Robert Bladel, to be United States Marshal for the Southern District of Iowa, Kenneth James Runde, to be United States Marshal for the Northern District of Iowa, James Edward Clark, to be United States Marshal for the Western District of Kentucky, Joseph H. Hogsett, to be United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, and Beverly Joyce Harvard, to be United States Marshal for the Northern District of Georgia, all of the Department of Justice, 10 a.m., SD-226.

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: to hold hearings to examine the Deepwater drilling moratorium, focusing on a review of the Obama Administration's economic impact analysis on United States small businesses, 10 a.m., SR-428A.

Impeachment Trial Committee (Porteous): to continue hearings to examine the Articles Against Judge G. Thomas Porteous, Jr., 8 a.m., SH-216.

House

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Health, to mark up the following bills: H.R. 211, Calling for 2-1-1 Act of 2009; H.R. 758, Pediatric Research Consortia Establishment Act; H.R. 1032, Heart Disease Education, Analysis Research, and Treatment For Women Act; H.R. 1210, Arthritis Prevention, Control, and Cure Act of 2009; H.R. 1230, Bone Marrow Failure Disease Research and Treatment Act of 2009; H.R. 1347, Concussion Treatment and Care Tools Act of 2009; H.R. 1362, National MS and Parkinson's Disease Registries Act; H.R. 1995, Eliminating Disparities in Diabetes Prevention Access and Care Act of 2009; H.R. 2408, Scleroderma Research and Awareness Act; H.R. 2818, Methamphetamine Education, Treatment, and Hope Act of 2009; H.R. 2941, To reauthorize and enhance Johanna's Law to increase public awareness and knowledge with respect to gynecologic cancers; H.R. 2999, Veterinary Public Health Workforce and Education Act; H.R. 5354, Gestational Diabetes Act of 2009; H.R. 5462, Birth Defects Prevention, Risk Reduction, and Awareness Act of 2010; H.R. 5986, Neglected Infections of Impoverished Americans Act of 2010; H.R. 6012, To

direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to review uptake and utilization of diabetes screening benefits and establish an outreach program with respect to such benefits; H.R. 6081, Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Reauthorization Act of 2010; H.R. 6110, Telehealth Improvement and Expansion Act of 2010; and H.R. 6109, Health Data Collection Improvement Act; 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Communications, Technology, and the Internet, hearing on H.R. 5828, Universal Service Reform Act of 2010, 10 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, hearing entitled "Legislative Proposals to Address Concerns Over the SEC's New Confidentiality Provision," 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Subcommittee on International Organizations, Human Rights and Oversight, hearing on Fulfilling the Promise of Peace: Human Rights, Peace and Reconciliation in Northern Ireland and Bosnia, 9:30 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Courts and Competition Policy, hearing on Competition in the Evolving Digital Marketplace, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee on Insular Affairs, Oceans and Wildlife, hearing on the following bills: H.R. 4339, Dr. Rita Hocog Inos Fellowship Act; and H.R. 6015, To require the Director of the Bureau of Economic Analysis of the Department of Commerce to publish certain economic data regarding territories and Freely Associated States, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands, hearing on the following bills: H.R. 1853, To clarify the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Interior with respect to the C.C. Gragin Dam and Reservoir; H.R. 4036, National Liberty Memorial Act; H.R. 5965, Monongahela Conservation Legacy Act of 2010; and H.R. 6111, To amend the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Development Act to extend to the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park Commission, 10 a.m., 1334 Longworth.

Subcommittee on Water and Power, hearing on the following measures: H.R. 3061, Pine River Indian Irrigation Project Act of 2009; H.R. 5039, To amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the design, planning, and construction of the Groundwater Replenishment System Expansion to reclaim and reuse municipal wastewater in the Orange County, California region; H.R. 5413, Pechanga Band of Luiseno Mission Indians Water Rights Settlement Act of 2010; and H.R. 6107, To amend Section 301(d) of the Hoover Power Plant Act of 1984 to provide for notice regarding certification of certain projects, 10 a.m., 1310 Longworth.

Committee on Science and Technology, Subcommittee on Investigations and Oversight, hearing on Camp Lejeune: Contamination and Compensation, Looking Back, Moving Forward, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Aviation, hearing on Pilot Flight and Duty Time Rule, 11 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs, hearing on Examining Training Requirements of Veterans Benefits Administration Claims Processing Personnel, 10 a.m., 334 Cannon.

Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, hearing on Update on the Post-9/11 G.I. Bill, 1 p.m., 334 Cannon.

Committee on Ways and Means, to continue hearings on China's Exchange Rate Policy, 2 p.m., 1100 Longworth.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, executive, briefing on Update on FISA Court, 2 p.m., 304-HVC.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

9:30 a.m., Thursday, September 16

Senate Chamber

Program for Thursday: Senate will continue consideration of H.R. 5297, Small Business Lending Fund Act, and after a period of debate, vote on or in relation to Hatch motion to suspend the Rules, and Grassley motion to suspend the Rules at 10:45 a.m.; to be followed by two roll call votes on the motion to invoke cloture on H.R. 5297 and passage of the bill at 12 noon.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Thursday, September 16

House Chamber

Program for Thursday: Consideration of H.R. 4785—Rural Energy Savings Program Act (Subject to a Rule).

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE

Alexander, Rodney, La., E1627, E1646
 Berman, Howard L., Calif., E1634
 Burton, Dan, Ind., E1641
 Buyer, Steve, Ind., E1619
 Coffman, Mike, Colo., E1617, E1644
 Conyers, John, Jr., Mich., E1628
 Crowley, Joseph, N.Y., E1618, E1641
 Diaz-Balart, Mario, Fla., E1636
 Ellison, Keith, Minn., E1645
 Etheridge, Bob, N.C., E1637
 Faleomavaega, Eni F.H., American Samoa, E1648, E1655
 Farr, Sam, Calif., E1627, E1644
 Filner, Bob, Calif., E1631
 Frank, Barney, Mass., E1644, E1650
 Franks, Trent, Ariz., E1629
 Garamendi, John, Calif., E1643
 Giffords, Gabrielle, Ariz., E1630, E1636
 Gordon, Bart, Tenn., E1638
 Graves, Sam, Mo., E1619, E1624, E1634, E1647
 Hastings, Alcee L., Fla., E1635

Issa, Darrell E., Calif., E1623
 Johnson, Henry C. "Hank", Jr., Ga., E1619, E1646
 Kanjorski, Paul E., Pa., E1627, E1648
 Kilroy, Mary Jo, Ohio, E1641
 Kucinich, Dennis J., Ohio, E1617, E1620, E1631, E1641, E1643, E1645, E1648
 Latham, Tom, Iowa, E1617, E1620, E1630, E1640, E1642, E1646
 Levin, Sander M., Mich., E1631
 McCollum, Betty, Minn., E1645
 McMahon, Michael E., N.Y., E1640
 Miller, George, Calif., E1637
 Mitchell, Harry E., Ariz., E1642
 Norton, Eleanor Holmes, D.C., E1626
 Oberstar, James L., Minn., E1611
 Obey, David R., Wisc., E1630
 Pallone, Frank, Jr., N.J., E1618, E1625, E1634, E1639, E1647
 Pascrell, Bill, Jr., N.J., E1621
 Pence, Mike, Ind., E1636
 Peters, Gary C., Mich., E1621, E1625, E1647
 Peterson, Collin C., Minn., E1645
 Putnam, Adam H., Fla., E1641

Quigley, Mike, Ill., E1638
 Radanovich, George, Calif., E1618, E1624, E1628, E1640, E1646
 Rahall, Nick J., II, W.Va., E1628, E1635, E1639
 Rehberg, Denny, Mont., E1629
 Reyes, Silvestre, Tex., E1622
 Richardson, Laura, Calif., E1649
 Roskam, Peter J., Ill., E1627, E1644
 Shimkus, John, Ill., E1636, E1646
 Skelton, Ike, Mo., E1633, E1649
 Stark, Fortney Pete, Calif., E1637
 Thompson, Bennie G., Miss., E1623
 Thompson, Mike, Calif., E1619, E1638
 Tiberi, Patrick J., Ohio, E1628
 Towns, Edolphus, N.Y., E1625
 Van Hollen, Chris, Md., E1649
 Velázquez, Nydia M., N.Y., E1624
 Waters, Maxine, Calif., E1649
 Waxman, Henry A., Calif., E1620
 Woolsey, Lynn C., Calif., E1642
 Wu, David, Ore., E1623



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