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No. 5

House of Representatives

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

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
January 17, 2012.

I hereby appoint the Honorable STEVE WOMACK to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: Loving God, we give You thanks for giving us another year.

At the beginning of this new day, we are grateful as individuals and as a Nation for all the blessings we have been given.

We ask Your blessing upon the Members of this people's House as they reconvene for the second session. May they anticipate the opportunities and difficulties that are before them, and before so many Americans, with steadfast determination to work together toward solutions that will benefit their countrymen. Grant that they be worthy of the responsibilities they have been given by their constituents and truly be the people You have called them to be.

May the walls of disagreement that have divided this assembly be put aside and replaced by a spirit of respect and dignity.

May Your Spirit, O God, be in all of our hearts and minds and encourage us to do the works of peace and justice, now and always.

May all that we do be done for Your greater honor and glory. Amen.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 1 minute p.m.), the House stood in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m.

□ 1830

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at 6 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

CALL OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER. A call of the House is ordered to ascertain the presence of a quorum.

Members will record their presence by electronic device.

The call was taken by electronic device, and the following Members responded to their names:

[Roll No. 1]

Ackerman	Blumenauer	Cassidy
Adams	Boehner	Castor (FL)
Aderholt	Bonner	Chabot
Akin	Bono Mack	Chandler
Alexander	Boren	Chu
Altmire	Boswell	Cicilline
Amash	Boustany	Clarke (MI)
Amodei	Brady (PA)	Cleaver
Andrews	Brady (TX)	Clyburn
Austria	Braleigh (IA)	Coble
Baca	Brooks	Coffman (CO)
Bachmann	Broun (GA)	Cole
Bachus	Brown (FL)	Conaway
Baldwin	Buchanan	Connolly (VA)
Barletta	Buschon	Conyers
Barrow	Buerkle	Cooper
Bartlett	Burgess	Costa
Barton (TX)	Burton (IN)	Courtney
Bass (NH)	Calvert	Cravaack
Becerra	Camp	Crawford
Benishkek	Canseco	Crenshaw
Berg	Cantor	Critz
Biggart	Capito	Crowley
Bilbray	Capps	Cuellar
Bilirakis	Capuano	Cummings
Bishop (NY)	Carnahan	Davis (CA)
Black	Carney	Davis (IL)
Blackburn	Carson (IN)	Davis (KY)

DeFazio	Hanabusa	LoBiondo
DeGette	Hanna	Loebsack
DeLauro	Harper	Long
Denham	Harris	Lowey
Dent	Hartzler	Lucas
DesJarlais	Hastings (FL)	Luetkemeyer
Deutch	Hastings (WA)	Lummis
Diaz-Balart	Hayworth	Lungren, Daniel
Dicks	Heck	E.
Dingell	Hensarling	Mack
Doggett	Herger	Maloney
Dold	Herrera Beutler	Manzullo
Donnelly (IN)	Higgins	Marchant
Doyle	Himes	Markey
Dreier	Hinojosa	Matheson
Duffy	Hochul	Matsui
Duncan (SC)	Holden	McCarthy (CA)
Duncan (TN)	Holt	McCarthy (NY)
Edwards	Hoyer	McClintock
Ellison	Huelskamp	McCollum
Ellmers	Huizenga (MI)	McCotter
Emerson	Hultgren	McDermott
Engel	Hunter	McGovern
Farenthold	Hurt	McHenry
Fattah	Israel	McIntyre
Filner	Issa	McKeon
Fincher	Jackson (IL)	McKinley
Fitzpatrick	Jackson Lee	McMorris
Flake	(TX)	Rodgers
Fleischmann	Jenkins	McNerney
Fleming	Johnson (IL)	Meehan
Flores	Johnson (OH)	Meeks
Forbes	Johnson, Sam	Mica
Fortenberry	Jones	Michaud
Fox	Jordan	Miller (FL)
Frelinghuysen	Kaptur	Miller (MI)
Fudge	Keating	Miller (NC)
Gallegly	Kelly	Miller, Gary
Garamendi	Kildee	Miller, George
Gardner	King (IA)	Moore
Garrett	King (NY)	Mulvaney
Gerlach	Kingston	Murphy (CT)
Gibbs	Kinzinger (IL)	Murphy (PA)
Gibson	Kissell	Myrick
Gonzalez	Kline	Nadler
Goodlatte	Kucinich	Neal
Gosar	Labrador	Neugebauer
Gowdy	Lamborn	Nugent
Granger	Lance	Nunes
Graves (GA)	Landry	Nunnelee
Graves (MO)	Langevin	Olson
Green, Al	Lankford	Olver
Green, Gene	Larsen (WA)	Owens
Griffin (AR)	Larson (CT)	Palazzo
Griffith (VA)	Latham	Pallone
Grimm	LaTourette	Pascarell
Guinta	Latta	Pastor (AZ)
Guthrie	Lee (CA)	Paulsen
Gutierrez	Levin	Payne
Hahn	Lewis (CA)	Pearce
Hall	Lewis (GA)	Pelosi

□ 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.



Printed on recycled paper.

Pence	Runyan	Thompson (CA)
Perlmutter	Ruppersberger	Thompson (MS)
Peters	Rush	Thompson (PA)
Petri	Ryan (OH)	Thornberry
Pingree (ME)	Ryan (WI)	Tiberi
Pitts	Sánchez, Linda	Tipton
Platts	T.	Towns
Poe (TX)	Sanchez, Loretta	Tsongas
Polis	Sarbanes	Turner (NY)
Pompeo	Scalise	Turner (OH)
Posey	Schakowsky	Upton
Price (GA)	Schiff	Van Hollen
Price (NC)	Schilling	Velázquez
Quayle	Schmidt	Visclosky
Quigley	Schrader	Walberg
Rahall	Schwartz	Walden
Rangel	Schweikert	Walsh (IL)
Reed	Scott (SC)	Walz (MN)
Rehberg	Scott (VA)	Wasserman
Reichert	Scott, Austin	Schultz
Renacci	Scott, David	Watt
Ribble	Sensenbrenner	Waxman
Richardson	Serrano	Webster
Richmond	Sessions	Welch
Rigell	Sewell	West
Rivera	Sherman	Whitfield
Roby	Shimkus	Wilson (FL)
Roe (TN)	Shuster	Wilson (SC)
Rogers (AL)	Sires	Wittman
Rogers (KY)	Smith (NE)	Wolf
Rogers (MI)	Smith (TX)	Womack
Rokita	Smith (WA)	Woodall
Rooney	Southerland	Woolsey
Ros-Lehtinen	Stearns	Yarmuth
Roskam	Stivers	Yoder
Ross (AR)	Stutzman	Young (AK)
Ross (FL)	Sullivan	Young (FL)
Rothman (NJ)	Sutton	Young (IN)
Royce	Terry	

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Florida (Mr. WEST) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WEST 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.

SWEARING IN OF THE SERGEANT AT ARMS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following resignation from the House of Representatives:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
OFFICE OF THE SERGEANT AT ARMS,
Washington, DC, January 17, 2012.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker, House of Representatives, Capitol, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: I hereby offer my resignation as Sergeant at Arms of the House of Representatives, effective January 17, 2012. It has been a privilege and honor to serve this institution as Sergeant at Arms since the 104th Congress.

If I can ever be of service to the House of Representatives in the future, please do not hesitate to call upon me.

Sincerely,

WILSON LIVINGOOD,
Sergeant at Arms.

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the resignation is accepted.

There was no objection.

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I offer a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 511

Resolved, That Paul D. Irving of the State of Florida, be, and is hereby, chosen Sergeant-at-Arms of the House of Representatives.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

The SPEAKER. Will the Sergeant at Arms-designate please take the well.

The Chair will now swear in the Sergeant at Arms of the House.

The Sergeant at Arms-designate took the oath of office as follows:

Do you solemnly swear or affirm that you will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that you will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that you take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that you will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which you are about to enter, so help you God.

Congratulations.

PROVIDING FOR A COMMITTEE TO NOTIFY THE PRESIDENT OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CONGRESS

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I send to the desk a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 512

Resolved, That a committee of two Members be appointed by the Speaker on the part of the House of Representatives to join with a committee on the part of the Senate to notify the President of the United States that a quorum of each House has assembled and Congress is ready to receive any communication that he may be pleased to make.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

APPOINTMENT AS MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE TO NOTIFY THE PRESIDENT, PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 512

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to House Resolution 512, the Chair appoints the following Members to the committee on the part of the House to join a committee on the part of the Senate to notify the President of the United States that a quorum of each House has assembled and that Congress is ready to receive any communication that he may be pleased to make:

the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CANTOR) and

the gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI).

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WEST). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the question on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal, which the Chair will put de novo.

The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

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

TO INFORM THE SENATE THAT A QUORUM OF THE HOUSE HAS ASSEMBLED

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I send to the desk a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 513

Resolved, That the Clerk of the House inform the Senate that a quorum of the House is present and that the House is ready to proceed with business.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PROVIDING FOR THE HOUR OF MEETING OF THE HOUSE

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I send to the desk a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

□ 1850

The SPEAKER. On this roll call, 378 Members have recorded their presence. A quorum is present.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 1 I was delayed. Had I been present, I would have voted "present."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, January 17, 2012, I was absent during rollcall vote No. 1. Had I been present, I would have voted "present" to establish a quorum in the House of Representatives for the start of the Second Session of the 112th Congress.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 1, I arrived late due to a court case. Had I been present, I would have voted "present."

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the proceedings of January 13, 2012, and announces to the House his approval thereof.

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

Mr. WOMACK. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. WOMACK. Mr. 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. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 514

Resolved, That unless otherwise ordered, the hour of daily meeting of the House shall be 2 p.m. on Mondays; noon on Tuesdays (or 2 p.m. if no legislative business was conducted on the preceding Monday); noon on Wednesdays and Thursdays; and 9 a.m. on all other days of the week.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MAKING IN ORDER MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the order of the House of January 5, 2011, providing for morning-hour debate be extended for the remainder of the 112th Congress, except that House Resolution 514 shall supplant House Resolution 10.

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

There was no objection.

□ 1900

REPORT ON RESOLUTION ADDRESSING A MOTION TO PROCEED UNDER SECTION 3101A OF TITLE 31, UNITED STATES CODE

Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 112-365) on the resolution (H. Res. 515) addressing a motion to proceed under section 3101A of title 31, United States Code, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 1161

Mr. SCHRADER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to withdraw my name as a cosponsor for H.R. 1161.

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

There was no objection.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 3261

Mr. QUAYLE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to remove my name as a cosponsor of H.R. 3261.

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

There was no objection.

KEYSTONE XL PIPELINE

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the little tyrant from the desert in Iran is saber rattling and rattling the nerves of many Americans. Ahmadinejad is threatening to block oil from going through the Strait of Hormuz. This

would raise the price of gasoline in America.

Meanwhile, 3 years have gone by, and the administration continues to delay, delay, delay a decision on the Keystone XL pipeline project.

Approval of this pipeline would immediately create 20,000 jobs in America and bring in 700,000 barrels of oil a day. At first, the administration decided not to decide until 2013. However, new law requires the administration to make a decision by February 21, but there are grumblings the administration may find a way to ignore this provision of the law.

Americans are in need of a stable source of energy, and they are thirsty for jobs. This country needs energy from a reliable and stable country like Canada. We should make Middle Eastern oil and its politics of turmoil irrelevant.

The administration needs to pick a horse and ride it. Build the Keystone XL pipeline from Canada to Port Arthur, Texas.

And that's just the way it is.

CONGRATULATING JONES COUNTY JUNIOR COLLEGE

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

Mr. PALAZZO. Mr. Speaker, today I am proud to recognize an educational keystone in Mississippi's Fourth Congressional District. Jones County Junior College is celebrating 100 years of educational leadership and excellence since 1911.

Located in Ellisville, Jones is the largest single-campus 2-year college in our State. And it's among the top-ranking community and junior colleges in the Nation for enrollment. JCJC boasts diverse and competitive programs, including nine academic divisions, four career and technical divisions, and awarding-winning athletic teams.

How does Jones County live up to its motto of "Inspiring Greatness"? During the past 100 years, Jones' outstanding faculty and five presidents, including the current president, Dr. Jesse Smith, have brought commitment and consistency to this campus. It is not unusual to see Dr. Smith visiting casually with students around campus, leading by example and investing in student success.

I salute Dr. Smith, the staff, faculty, alumni, and students of Jones County Junior College on more than 100 years of excellence. Congratulations on a job well done.

Go Bobcats.

CONGRATULATING NORTH DAKOTA STATE BISON

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

Mr. BERG. Mr. Speaker, today I want to congratulate the North Dakota

State Bison on an incredible football season that led to winning the 2011 FCS championship. More than 10,000 Bison fans cheered on NDSU in Frisco, Texas, where the Bison defeated Sam Houston by a score of 17-6.

The Bison and Coach Craig Bohl worked hard this season, and their determination resulted in NDSU's ninth football championship and the first championship in Division I.

These student athletes represent NDSU's commitment to both academic and athletic excellence. Their character and perseverance truly exemplify the North Dakota spirit, and they have made our State proud.

Congratulations, Coach Bohl, the Bison players, and NDSU fans everywhere on an excellent season. Thank you, and go Bisons.

KEEPING OUR JUNIOR ATHLETES SAFE

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

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the courage of two young Minnesotans whose lives have been drastically changed recently while playing a sport they truly love.

A December 30th high school hockey game began brightly for 16-year-old high school sophomore Jack Jablonski, who scored the opening goal of the game. But a shocking check from behind during the second period left Jack paralyzed.

And sadly, one week later, another young hockey player, 18-year-old Jenna Privette from St. Croix Lutheran High School, was hospitalized after also being injured during a game.

Despite this, these two young athletes have not lost their love of the game and have shown incredible courage in the face of such terrible accidents.

I am pleased that this weekend the Minnesota State High School League took swift action in announcing new rules that aim to make the game safer.

I urge all of us to keep Jack, Jenna, and their families in our thoughts and prayers.

□ 1910

H-CANYON IS A VITAL NATIONAL ASSET

(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, H-Canyon Chemical Separations Facility at the Savannah River Site near Aiken, South Carolina, which is valued at nearly \$1 billion, is the only shielded nuclear chemical separations plant still in operation in the United States. During its operating life, H-Canyon facility routinely recovered uranium-235 and neptunium-237 spent fuel and has aided America in

honoring its international agreement by returning these fuels for the purposes of nuclear nonproliferation and safeguarding.

Today, H-Canyon and its HB-Line operations are supporting the DOE Highly Enriched Uranium Blend-Down program and Plutonium Disposition program. By blending down highly enriched uranium and isolating plutonium from surrounding corrosive elements, H-Canyon ensures our country's national security, while simultaneously providing fuel which is currently being purchased by the Tennessee Valley Authority to empower commercial nuclear reactors.

As difficult funding decisions are made in this Congress, I urge my colleagues to support the mission of H-Canyon. It is a vital national asset that has served our country since victory in the Cold War and will continue to protect and serve Americans both home and abroad for decades.

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

CONGRATULATIONS, HOUSTON TEXANS

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, you would wonder how do you claim victory out of a season that if you are a professional football player does not end in the Super Bowl.

I rise today to congratulate and thank my hometown team of the Houston Texans, a very young franchise that came together and showed their mighty might and kept on plugging until they got into the playoffs and even to the point of meeting the Baltimore Ravens last Sunday.

There are many good things to say about this team; and in the backdrop of the holiday of Dr. Martin Luther King, it is also a tribute to these young men who worked together and showed themselves as brothers, coming from so many diverse backgrounds from around the Nation. Their owner, Bob McNair; their coach, Coach Kubiak; their defense coach, Wade Phillips; General Manager Smith; and some of their stars, like No. 80 and Arian Foster and their young quarterback and many others showed themselves to have good character and good examples for our community.

And, yes, let me thank them for the service they've given to the young kids in Houston, Texas. From the foundation of No. 80 and the many individual acts of kindness, we appreciate the Houston Texans.

So, tonight, you may not be in the Super Bowl, but you are our winner. We thank you for being the kind of young men that are modeling yourselves to be the kind of leaders that middle school boys and girls and others can have as a shining example. Go, Texans. Maybe not this year, but I

know you're on your way. But most of all, you have served yourself well in the area and the arena of professional sports. We can truly be proud of you. Congratulations, young men. Do well in the off season, and we're ready for you to come back.

Houston loves you.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. RIVERA). The Chair will remind Members that remarks in debate must be addressed to the Chair and not to others in the second person.

KEYSTONE XL PIPELINE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTI) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. LATTI. Mr. Speaker, this is a very important hour tonight because we are talking about the security of this country, and we are talking about having a secure source of oil and energy into the future. And as Americans around the country know, it hasn't been too long, they just go out and look at what the gas pump says, and I know when I left Bowling Green, my hometown in Ohio this morning, gas was \$3.49 a gallon. And you know, we only have to go back to January of '09 when President Obama took office and gasoline was \$1.78. So we've seen a dramatic increase in the price of gasoline.

What we need to do is we need to talk not only about the security but where we are getting our oil from, because oil runs our manufacturing and it's very, very important. I serve on the Energy and Commerce Committee. And earlier this year, manufacturing jobs in this country on just our committee alone, on Energy and Commerce, we had 1,729,250 manufacturing jobs on our committee alone, according to National Manufacturers. Today, that number has dropped to 1,526,941, or a loss of 202,309 jobs in manufacturing.

And when I'm out talking to my folks in manufacturing, small and large, one of the things that really hits them is what the cost of energy is and where it's going to be coming from. And when we've got the problems over in the Middle East and with Iran, and there is a question as to whether we're going to have a secure source in that region of the world, it pushes up the price of energy, and it affects the jobs in this country.

But we have a unique opportunity in this country, and the President does. And what the President can do is to get this Keystone XL pipeline going; and we've urged him in committee, and we're urging him in Congress, to make that decision to get this going.

Let me just go through a few facts, if I may. First of all, a lot of people might not realize this, but the Canadians are the largest folks up there to the north to provide energy to us in the form of oil. We get 13 percent of our

current U.S. energy, our oil needs come from Canada, and 23 percent of all U.S. petroleum imports come from Canada. A lot of people might think they come from over in the Middle East. They don't. They come from our friends up north, our good neighbors up north. Another statistic that I think is really important to point out is that when we send a dollar to Canada for Canadian products, we're getting 90 percent back from the Canadians on purchases they make of U.S. goods and services.

So it's a very, very great relationship that we have with the Canadians because it's a great relationship, our largest partner to the north, and when it comes to trading.

But Canada is only second to Saudi Arabia for proven recoverable oil reserves with over 170 billion barrels in the form of the oil sands—170 billion barrels. And, again, as the largest supplier of oil to the U.S., Canada provides consistency and stability with nearly 2 million barrels per day, which is currently more than, again, of the 20 percent of U.S. imports. And approximately 56 percent of all Canadian exports of oil to the U.S. flow into the northern Midwest region. That's Ohio, Illinois, Indiana, Minnesota, and Wisconsin. Ninety-four percent of all those imports into the region come from Canada, and 76 percent of this oil is from the oil sands. Forty percent of all the oil refined in this region also comes from that area of the oil sands.

A report that was issued by the Canadian Energy Research Institute, the CERI, states that U.S. jobs supported by Canadian oil sands development could grow from 21,000 jobs today to 465,000 jobs by 2035. It's also important to note that we are looking at about 20,000 jobs right now, and another 100,000 jobs on ancillary if this pipeline gets approved and gets moving. So it's incumbent that the President takes action so we can get these jobs in the United States; but also, more importantly, along with those job is to make sure that we have a secure source of oil in this country.

2,400 American companies in 49 States are involved in development of Canadian oil sands. That's important, because it's just not the Canadians up there that are doing this. It's American companies, American jobs making sure that we have that stable source.

So when it comes right down to it, we need to have the President act immediately and favorably on this to get America moving on jobs, but also, at the same time, to make sure that we have a stable and a secure source of energy in this country.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. TERRY) is recognized for the remainder of the hour.

Mr. TERRY. Mr. Speaker, why are many of us on the House floor tonight after regular business talking about

the Keystone Pipeline? Because it's a win-win—20,000 immediate contracting support jobs for the construction of a 1,700-mile pipeline from Alberta, Canada, down to our refineries in south Texas and then over to Louisiana. Beginning when this pipeline is finished, it will bring about 600,000, 700,000 barrels of oil to the United States from our good friend, Canada.

□ 1920

Now, just to put that amount in perspective, \$700,000, they expect that by the time it's fully operational it will be \$1 million.

To put it in context, today we are importing 900,000 barrels from Venezuela. We import 1.2 million from Saudi Arabia. So take it which way you want, but our friends from Canada, Alberta, just a few hundred miles north of our border, will produce enough oil to almost completely offset the heavy crude from Venezuela or Saudi Arabian oil. The reality, my friends, is that we have enough energy resources in the United States and Canada to be free of OPEC oil.

Now, we talk about 20,000 direct jobs from a \$7 billion project that is sitting waiting to go. They have their project labor agreement sitting. There are union folk ready to go to work. All it has to do is be approved, the permit for this, approved by the President. Once he says yes, 20,000 people go to work and we put ourselves on a path to greater energy security.

That's one of the reasons why I fought so hard to get onto the Energy and Commerce Committee—to set us on a path to energy security where we don't have to send our money, U.S. consumers' dollars, to buy the energy necessary to propel our economy. But a funny thing happened on the road to energy security. The environmentalists said that this is heavy crude, and it is going to expel in the process too much CO₂. They want to stop fossil fuels. So instead of using the most energy-efficient refineries in the world that would have the least emissions of CO₂, I guess the environmental community would rather it go to China, where they have few pollution and carbon controls on their refineries. And by the way, China just bought half of the oil sands just a week ago; they'd be glad to buy the other half if we don't. So it's going to be refined.

The President has until February 21 to say yes or no to this. That was by act of Congress, setting that deadline, because the original application was filed September of 2008, 3 years and 4 months ago. The average is 18 months for a transcontinental pipeline. This administration has been dragging its feet because they don't want to irritate the environmental community, which has been heightened now since we're into an election year. I wish we could have done this before we got into 2012, where it could be based on the merits and not the politics, but politics is what we're dealing with right now. The

President said several times in the last few weeks that, geez, because Congress has forced my hand on making a decision before February 21, that's not enough time, so I may just have to deny it. Well, that's complete bull.

Here's a document. I apologize to the gallery and maybe our C-SPAN viewers because the print is rather small, but this is an administration document from their agency dated July 25, Executive Office of the President, July 25. Let me read the important sentence here, the significant sentence in their document, the bill that we had then on July 25. They say it's unnecessary because the Department of State—who makes the recommendation to the President—has been working diligently to complete the permit decision process for the Keystone XL pipeline and has publicly committed to reaching a decision before December 31, 2011.

Two other documents from the State Department have said that they have all the information they need, they're working diligently, and they will have the recommendation to the President by December 31, 2011, which of course they have not made. And the President says, geez, Congress, no reason for you to get involved because we're working diligently and we have all the information we need, and we will make a decision. Then, just prior to December 31, they're starting to say we want more information, or you're putting us in a box where we're going to have to say no. Bull. This is all politics. Stop playing politics, Mr. President, and put us on a road that we can be energy independent. And at a time of high unemployment, where these tradespeople are standing around waiting for work, put them back to work now, Mr. President.

I yield back the balance of my time.
ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will remind Members to address their remarks to the Chair.

Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SHIMKUS) is recognized for the remainder of the hour.

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, it is important that as soon as we get back here today, it is our first day back, that we get back on the focus of creating jobs in this country. And not jobs that government says we can create, but sustainable jobs that are created by the private sector; private capital assuming risk, hoping for a return to get economic growth. There's no better opportunity to do that than with the Keystone XL pipeline.

This is what we're talking about. Here's the oil up here in Edmonton. There's already a pipeline that goes down into my district actually, Patoka, a refinery in Wood River, and a new refinery also in the central eastern part of the State of Illinois.

The Keystone XL would be this blue line, which will bring more crude. Why do we need another pipeline, a bigger pipeline? Because there's so much crude oil up there in Canada, and they

really don't have the ability to refine it, they really don't have the ability to market it. Let's get this crude to U.S. refineries so that we can then access it to our markets.

The great thing about the folks from the Midwest, as you had Mr. TERRY, you had Mr. LATTA, we already understand the benefits of the Keystone pipeline because we're already receiving the product to our refineries.

This is the oil sands. It's just oil that coats sand. And they boil it off, they recover the froth, they turn it into a liquid product called bitumen. And then it eventually gets turned into synthetic crude, and that's what we're talking about.

The third-largest oil reserves in the world are right here. How do you get it? A lot of times you do it through surface mining. Here's an example. Now the trucks are actually a little bit bigger in the mining operation, they're about seven stories tall—the tires are at least one story tall—built by a U.S. company called Caterpillar, located in Illinois. And that's where many—50 percent—of all these heavy dump trucks go, to mining operations around the world. One of their bigger markets right now is right in Canada.

Robinson Oil Refinery is the other refinery in Illinois. It's receiving the oil sands product, moving it into a product to meet to the market. So these are real jobs at a real time that will create real jobs—20,000 immediately, and as my colleagues have said, ancillary jobs.

You have pumping stations. You need to build the pumps. You've got to have the electricians that operate it. So this is something—private capital, return on investment, energy security. The President says he believes in the free flow of oil when he's trying to address Ahmadinejad in Iran and the Strait of Hormuz. There's no better free flow of oil than permitting the Keystone XL pipeline.

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

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The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. SCALISE) is recognized for the remainder of the hour.

Mr. SCALISE. Mr. Speaker, you are going to be hearing a lot, and we're all going to be talking a lot, about the Keystone pipeline. And the reason that we're talking a lot about it is that between now and February 21, President Obama has a decision to make. President Obama has been tasked by this Congress to make a decision by February 21 on whether or not to approve the Keystone pipeline.

Now, the President, frankly, should have approved this project months ago when, back in August, the State Department, which was tasked by the President to make a recommendation, was getting ready to actually make a recommendation to move forward on

the Keystone pipeline. And of course what we're talking about is creating jobs in America. There will be 20,000 American jobs created if the President moves forward with the Keystone pipeline. But also American energy security is at stake here.

The President has continued to punt this issue. In fact, just a few months ago, the President tried to push this issue off until after the election. Just right after the State Department was getting ready to say, Let's go forward with the Keystone pipeline, all of a sudden, some of the radical environmental groups came forward. And these radical environmental groups, who are against any form of American-created energy that doesn't involve wind and solar power—whether it's oil, gas, nuclear—they're against all American energy.

So these radical environmental groups went and had a protest over at the White House. And they intimidated this President enough to where President Obama said, okay, he's going to push it off until after the election, thinking that he could just hide behind radical environmentalists and say, Oh, well, we've got to look at the environmental issues.

Well, this has nothing to do with whether or not it's good for the environment because, frankly, the State Department looked at the environmental issues already. President Obama knows that. The State Department looked at these environmental concerns and said they're not there. In fact, if the President approved Keystone tomorrow and said yes to those American jobs, the Canadian Government and the company that would be building the pipeline would still have to comply with the environmental laws of every single State that that pipeline would go through.

So it's not a question of whether or not Keystone would comply with the environmental laws. They have to comply with all the environmental laws. But what is at stake is whether or not we're going to take these 20,000 jobs in America or whether those jobs are going to be shipped to China because China's already said that they want the Keystone oil, they want the oil that would be created by these oil sands in Canada.

So the question is, Are we going to have that oil from Canada sent into America, or is that oil going to go to China? And of course what that really means is, Are we going to take the 20,000 jobs in America, or is President Obama going to send those 20,000 jobs to China? What does President Obama have against the creation of 20,000 American jobs?

The President loves to give all these speeches, talking about the middle class. And, Mr. Speaker, when the President talks about the middle class, he can't say that he supports the middle class if he rejects the Keystone pipeline because he'll be turning down 20,000 American jobs that will be com-

ing down with over \$7 billion of private investment that's coming from one of our best partners in the world, Canada. Canada is a great trading partner with America.

If the Keystone pipeline is built in America and we start partnering with and taking about 700,000 barrels a day of oil from Canada, that's oil that we don't have to get from Middle Eastern countries who don't like us. So look at the policy. First of all, if they do this, they have to comply with the environmental laws not only in the United States but in every State that it goes through. So the environmental issues don't exist that the President raises.

But what is at stake is whether or not we are going to get 20,000 American jobs and whether or not we're going to get oil from our friend Canada or are we going to get oil from Middle Eastern countries who don't like us. So that is what this debate is about.

Between now and February 21, the President has got to decide whether or not he's going to say yes to American jobs or is he going to side with his radical environmentalist friends who went over to the White House and threatened him and all of this kind of foolishness and said that they want to send that oil to China.

The good news is that the President doesn't really have to decide whether or not that's going to happen because he can just go look at what his own State Department said. The State Department said that they think those jobs should stay in America. But the President has got to decide whether he is going to side with the radical environmentalists or whether he's going to side with American families and workers who just want jobs and want American energy security.

And, frankly, if we've got a choice—because our demand for oil hasn't gone down—it's a question of whether or not we want oil from Canada who's a friend or from Middle Eastern countries who are not and if we want to create 20,000 American jobs. So that is what is at stake between now and February 21.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I urge, first of all, the President to side with America in the creation of 20,000 jobs and to approve the Keystone pipeline.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. SCALISE. I yield to the gentleman from Tennessee.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. I want to go back to something that Mr. SCALISE said, which I think gets to the heart of the issues that we are talking about. And I would like to highlight this with our colleagues.

Mr. SCALISE, who knows this issue so very well because he is from Louisiana, he has constituents who work in this industry every day. He said, what the President had done was to choose, to make a conscious decision to push off making a definitive pronouncement on the Keystone pipeline. Mr. Speaker, I think that is so important. And what Mr. SCALISE is saying gets to the heart of this.

The President made that decision. Usually—and Mr. SCALISE can illuminate us on this issue a bit—but it is my understanding that, generally, a Presidential permit requires anywhere from 18 to 24 months to secure, and that currently the Keystone pipeline is in its 40th month of trying to get a permit from this administration, from the President; and that if the President has his way on this, he is going to push that, and it would be another 12 months.

Mr. SCALISE. The gentlelady from Tennessee is correct. In fact, when you look at the timeline for Keystone—as you said, it's been 40 months. And the thing here is that the State Department has done the review. The President right now is trying to give some indication that now February 21 might not be enough time for him when, in fact, he's had much longer than the normal process for any review. But he's also got the approval from the State Department because there is one other big factor here. There is also the fact that China is out there saying they want the oil. So as America, through President Obama, is saying that he doesn't want to do it or he wants to delay it until after the election, where Canada has indicated they can't wait until after the election in November, they've got to make a decision. And they want to send the oil to the United States of America because we're great trading partners.

But if President Obama keeps saying no, China right now is saying they want the oil. So we don't have an unlimited amount of time for the President to keep kowtowing to his radical environmentalist friends and try to kick the can down the road. A decision needs to be made; and February 21 is that date that's currently available, and we're trying to push the President to make that decision in the affirmative way and say yes to those 20,000 jobs that would be created here.

With that, I will be happy to yield to the gentlelady from Tennessee.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. The gentleman's point, I think, is so important to make. The President has already taken twice as long as most Presidents would take to enter into this decision. So he has already had twice as much time. But he is asking for half again as much time to make this decision.

And while he can't make a decision—it's like voting "present" when you come to the floor to cast a vote, not being able to make a decision, being indecisive on this—while that is transpiring, the United States is looking at 20,000 direct American jobs and an additional 118,000 private sector jobs that would be linked to this project, if the information is correct that I have received. So you are talking about a total of 138,000 direct and indirect American jobs, good-paying jobs that are American products that will produce energy that is right here that we would be getting from Canada and bringing in about 700,000 barrels of oil a

day so that we could begin to break the ties that are existing with OPEC and Middle Eastern oil.

And I think that it's so important for us to look at this. This is not an issue of taking more time or additional time.

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The time is now because we've already spent twice as much time as is generally needed to do the due diligence and to check the process and to make that decision that will move us toward energy independence.

Mr. SCALISE. I thank the gentlelady from Tennessee. I think it's been clear what's been laid out, the decision that should be made by President Obama. Unfortunately, he continues to drag his feet, tries to punt on this issue; but ultimately a decision's going to have to be made if we're going to be able to get those 20,000 jobs here in America or whether or not they're going to go to China, who's also asking for them.

With that, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. HARPER) is recognized for the remainder of the hour.

Mr. HARPER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The President has spent a lot of time during the last 3 months traveling around the country these many months demanding that Congress put aside party differences and pass the bill, referring to his \$447 billion so-called jobs bill. But if the President were to get off the campaign trail and focus on the facts, he would realize that House Republicans have been advancing a pro-growth agenda that creates jobs without expanding the Federal Government's role.

The House of Representatives has voted numerous times this year in the 112th Congress to increase American oil production, which would put Americans back to work, reduce our country's dependence upon foreign oil, and lower prices at the pump. And I ask you to think back to when the President took office. The average price for a gallon of gas in this country was \$1.83. We can only barely remember such a time. These are steps that we can take that can turn that around.

Those bills that we did pass out of the House would speed up the permitting process for drilling in the Gulf of Mexico, require the Secretary of the Interior to conduct more offshore oil and gas leases, direct the Department of the Interior to proceed with exploration and production in the areas estimated to contain the most oil and gas, and eliminate this administration's bureaucratic delays that have stalled offshore energy production in the Outer Continental Shelf.

Further, the House has voted multiple times to push for a final decision on the Keystone XL pipeline. The Keystone XL pipeline application was filed

more than 3 years ago, and a final decision on whether to let the pipeline go forward is long, long overdue.

In his first term in office, the President has talked about the need for energy independence. Keystone XL could help provide the United States with the certainty of almost a million barrels of oil a day; and that oil comes from our friends and largest trading partner, Canada, not the Middle East.

At a time when the President has tasked three aircraft carriers and strike groups with protecting the Strait of Hormuz, wouldn't approving this new source of friendly oil be just good, plain common sense.

The President has struggled with turning the economy around since taking office 3 years ago, and his speeches often center on the subject of jobs. If approved today, the Keystone XL project would create 20,000 construction jobs and an estimated 100,000 indirect jobs during the life of its operation for Americans who desperately need them.

Look at these 20,000 jobs that are there that are held up. You know, I think back to my late father. His first job as a petroleum engineer was in Tinsley Field in Yazoo County, Mississippi. Those jobs matter to families. It's time to move forward and approve this.

Instead of issuing the necessary permits to begin construction of the pipeline and putting American families and Americans to work, the administration is in the third year, almost 4 years now, of dragging its feet through bureaucratic delays and indecision. It can only be for political reasons.

Pro-business groups like Americans for Prosperity and the Chamber of Commerce are supporting Keystone XL to give a much needed boost to the economy. Even pro-labor groups are supporting Keystone XL because they know it will create jobs. Americans across the country are asking this President to approve this project. They realize its importance, and they deserve to be answered.

The Keystone XL pipeline is just one example of how House Republicans have been working to promote job creation without the need for stimulus money. Today it is the most pressing. Every day that the President kicks the can down the road is another day without the jobs, and another day without the relief from Middle Eastern oil, and another day that Americans should be asking this administration and this White House, Where are the jobs?

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. GARDNER) is recognized for the remainder of the hour.

Mr. GARDNER. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for the opportunity to address the House on the issue of the Keystone XL pipeline.

There are pipe dreams and pipelines out there that people talk about. Ap-

parently, when it comes to jobs, maybe the pipeline is apparently a pipe dream.

We have an opportunity, in this country, to secure our energy future with North American energy, to create American jobs on a project that is a 1,700-mile-long pipeline.

You know, I hear all the time from constituents in Colorado about: Hey, what's the deal with this pipeline? Why can't we get forward moving creating jobs, American energy independence using North America's great resources to help our country create jobs and a more secure energy future? And the conversation then really revolves around commonsense ideas.

Here's a President who, the President has said in the past that we need to support shovel-ready projects, that the stimulus bill that passed in 2009 was all about shovel-ready projects. And if you go back to last summer, I believe the President had said, well, I guess shovel-ready wasn't as shovel-ready as we thought it was.

Well, here's a shovel-ready project. Here is a pipeline, a privately funded pipeline that's ready to be built, 1,700 miles, 20,000 American jobs. We could get started on that today.

It's been years since this pipeline was actually first—the permit process first started, and yet here we are waiting once again. This isn't a surprise to anybody. It shouldn't shock anybody that the issue of the pipeline came up.

The bill that we passed in December said you've got to make a decision. The President has said he would make a decision, and yet we still have no decision.

I find it difficult to understand what is really the tough part of this decision. We can create jobs right now with a truly shovel-ready project.

Earlier this year, back in February, actually, back in February of last year, we had testimony before the Energy and Commerce Committee that talked about the development of the Alberta oil sands and what it would mean to jobs in the United States. Now, the Keystone pipeline is part of that. According to the testimony we received in that committee, between 2011 and 2015, 6,000 jobs could be created in Colorado, alone, because of the development of the Alberta oil sands.

The Fourth Congressional District of Colorado that I represent has two counties. When you look at the true unemployment rates, the unemployment rates that take into account people who have just given up work—who've given up looking for work, who have just decided that they can't find work so they've stopped looking, two counties in my district have over 19 percent unemployment when you look at it through the lens of people who have stopped looking for work.

A project like the Keystone pipeline, 20,000 direct jobs, 100,000 jobs indirectly created, development of the Alberta oil sands creating 6,000 jobs in Colorado over the next 3 years, next 4 years,

these are good-paying American jobs with North American energy that we could be putting to the benefit of this country.

We know there are willing partners out there. We know there are other people who have said: Go ahead, we'll take the business; we'll partner with you; we're not afraid. China has more than once said that this is something that they would look at.

Canada has made it very clear that they won't just stop if we say no. Shovel-ready projects. Here it is, our opportunity to create American jobs.

Three years ago the application was filed to build the pipeline. Most Americans at town meetings that I attend, they all know about this pipeline. They know where it's going. They know what's happening with it.

It's been our goal in this 112th Congress to look out for the economy, to advance projects that make sense when it comes to American energy and North American energy and American job creation.

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That ought to be the goal of every single one of us in this Congress. Every action we take should be looked at through the same lens that we look at the Keystone pipeline—creating jobs.

I'm continuously awed at the energy resources that we have in North America and how simple it would be to advance policies that would make us more energy independent, and yet we still can't move forward because no decision has been made.

I'm baffled at how difficult this administration has made it when it comes to weaning ourselves off of overseas oil while at the same time creating more jobs right here at home.

The administration has done everything it can to stand in the way of a project that can help Americans get back to work, a \$7 billion private sector infrastructure project, when construction jobs around Colorado, around this country have been some of the hardest hit by the recession. This project provides a lifeline to thousands of construction workers seeking ways to get back on their feet.

But the inaction of this administration has led us down a path of insecurity and dependence on other countries that have great animosity towards us. It's simply unacceptable. Not only do we have the resources in our own backyard in North America, but we have the ability to utilize friendly and willing neighbors like Canada to import that oil.

Mr. Speaker, our unemployment rate as a Nation has hovered around 9 percent for far too long. There's no reason that the Federal Government should not be supporting a private sector solution done with private capital at a time like this. With rising gas prices, the threat of the Strait of Hormuz being blocked, and unemployment hovering so high, we simply cannot afford not to act.

Mr. Speaker, the President has had plenty of time to make a decision. The studies have been submitted. The conversations have taken place. The de-

bate has occurred. But what's winning this debate is the fact that the American people understand how many jobs would be created with the North American Energy Project.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back my time and thank you for the opportunity tonight.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. POMPEO) is recognized for the remainder of the hour.

Mr. POMPEO. In 36 days, the President will have an opportunity to do a great thing for America. He'll have an opportunity to allow private industry with private funds to build a pipeline to carry petroleum all across the country to lower the price for consumers driving their cars, for manufacturers who use these products, and to do so in a way that is environmentally friendly.

It is indeed my hope that the President will take this opportunity to do just that.

Today we've got oil at over \$100 a barrel. It was not all that long ago in the history of our country that we stared at North American energy production and wondered: Will we have enough natural gas, will we have enough oil here domestically so that we don't have to depend on the Middle East?

I remember when I was much younger sitting in a car with lines of cars waiting to get gasoline. We could only get gas on even days because that was the license plate that we had on our car.

Today, technology and innovation, American-style, has led us to a place where we have got an abundance of energy. All we're asking is that we permit a pipeline to carry their product safely all across the country so we can get that energy to the places we need it at prices Americans can afford.

We know, too, that we suffer much like we did back in the late 1970s. At the same time we had this perceived shortage of fossil fuels, we also had enormously high unemployment. We had a misery index in the low twenties. Today, we have a similar phenomenon. We've got far too many people out of work. Unemployment is officially at 8½ percent. But if you go around Kansas' Fourth Congressional District, you know that it's much higher in the place that matters, the place that folks would really rather work more hours, would rather work for higher pay, or, frankly, we've got a lot of folks who've just found the workplace so unappealing to them in terms of their job prospects that they've given up. Yet here we sit with a project that everyone agrees will create 20,000 jobs.

Most of those jobs are with trade unions—folks that are building and welding and riveting and who will make this pipeline safe and secure. And yet we've got a President that continues to reject this as an option for our country.

We need this capacity. We have found oil in North Dakota. We are finding oil in south central Kansas. We've got to make sure that this product can get to the markets, the places that it needs to be. This pipeline would do that.

Now, I can't figure out, for the life of me, why this pipeline has become the cause celebre of the left. We have tens of thousands of miles of pipelines all across this country. This product is transported safely. It is highly regulated. Indeed, this year, in a year when there was lots of bickering between the parties, we passed a piece of pipeline safety legislation which will continue to further improve the way we transport fossil fuels around our country. This pipeline can be done safely, too.

The objection that there are risks to groundwater and to environmental harm is greatly overblown. Industrial accidents certainly happen, but we know, to make America move forward, we've got to do it in a way that is responsible and safe. Everything about the way this pipeline has been engineered and developed meets that mark.

This President has shared this notion of energy independence as we all do. We see the need for it. Yet he's taken an approach that is so different from what we are trying to do with the Keystone XL pipeline. This approach has private citizens meeting real demand in the real marketplace, folks who want products.

The President's approach has been very different. He has spent hundreds of millions of dollars of taxpayer money trying to subsidize energy sources that America does not want. It's not that America wouldn't like solar energy or wind energy. It's simply that today they can't be provided in a cost-effective manner, so we force taxpayers to subsidize those energies to try and bring them to market. We've seen what happens when you do that. You get things that happen like Solyndra. We don't need to do that. The energy is available.

The risk will be taken by private industry. They'll provide the capital. They'll provide the hard work. They'll provide the innovation. They'll provide energy for America at a time we so desperately need it.

I just returned to Washington, D.C., today. I was in the airport in Wichita, Kansas. I talked with half a dozen folks. Each of them talked about jobs being the most pressing issue that they wanted me to take care of when I came back to Washington, D.C.

I spent a lot of time over the break, as well, talking with folks who provide energy. We have lots of independent drillers and E&P companies and folks who provide field services to the oil patch in Kansas and in Oklahoma and Nebraska, all around. We need these products. Consumers need these products. I hope that the President, 36 days from now, will decide that he agrees, affordable American energy coming from North America, provided safely, so that the Keystone XL pipeline can move forward.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) is recognized for the remainder of the hour.

Mr. LANKFORD. I will tell you, living in Oklahoma City, and if you come through Oklahoma at all, you'll drive around and you'll see our beautiful land, and you'll drink our beautiful water and breath our beautiful air; but you'll also realize that there are thousands of miles of pipeline underneath your feet, because, you see, Oklahoma is the center of pipeline movement through a lot of the United States.

In fact, just north and east of my house in Oklahoma City is a small town called Cushing, Oklahoma. And if you know anything about pipeline and about oil, you know about Cushing, Oklahoma, because there's a large storage facility there for a lot of petroleum products, and it is the hub for everything that moves as far as oil and all pipelines running through the Midwest. Cushing, Oklahoma, is part of that connection for the Keystone pipeline.

When you talk to people in Oklahoma about pipelines, we're very familiar with what they are, how they move energy, and how important they are to our economy.

Let me just touch base on a couple of things, though.

While we're talking about Keystone, it's interesting to me in several ways. One is I'm 43 years old, and for my entire life, I've heard people say in politics we need to have a national energy policy. We need to be dependent on energy from our soil or from our nearest neighbors, Canada and Mexico. We need to have a North American focus of energy, and I would have to say I completely agree. But we've never had a time in our life when we are closer to that than right now.

The rising alternative of fuel options, whether it be solar and wind, and I hope all of them come to be, we're still decades away from them being able to be fully established and out there. We're very dependent on oil, gas, and coal.

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But we're finding new reserves in North America of oil, gas, and coal that are solving a lot of the energy issues that we currently have right now. Many people don't know that in the last quarter of 2011, 58 percent of the oil consumed in the United States was found domestically in the United States—58 percent. You go back just 20 years ago, 60 percent of all oil was coming from overseas; now almost 60 percent of all oil is in the United States, coming from the United States.

We are making progress. Hydraulic fracturing, horizontal drilling, finding new well sites, great new technology in geology, all the ways that we're finding these new sources of energy, doing it cleaner and doing it less expensive than we've ever done it before. That's a good thing for us. We are now close to providing our own energy sources.

The second-largest reserve of oil in the world is now from this area where the Keystone Pipeline originates in Canada, the second-largest oil reserve

in the world. This is a key time for us now, getting better technology in the United States to be able to use our own energy to now partner up with Canada and continue drawing even more energy from Canada from this huge reserve that is there. We need to continue to draw from them in that sense.

Now you would think this would be a simple thing—focus on our own national security. Why wouldn't we continue to focus on it and say we are this close to being energy independent, and we are not dependent on energy from the Middle East. Why wouldn't we continue to take the steps on that?

In addition to that, why wouldn't we continue to expand on our pipelines? You see, this is not the first time for Keystone to do a pipeline coming from Canada to the United States—it was just a very few years ago. In fact, that Keystone that they did a few years ago took 24 months to permit. From the exact same area to the same area, 24 months for the total permitting process. That pipeline is functional and active and running right now.

They want to double up the capacity. So you would think this would be a slam dunk. Let's just add a second line there. They run through the permit process to the same system, but instead of 24 months this time, we're now at 42 months of permitting and still climbing.

Where the same pipeline crossing over the border, drawing oil from the exact same area, took 24 months a few years ago, now that pipeline takes 42 months and climbing. We're not sure how much longer it's going to take. In addition to that, Keystone is running there, that's one company.

There's also another company, Enbridge, which draws oil from that exact same area in Canada and takes it through the United States. That pipeline is also currently running and hasn't had any issues with permitting and through the process of construction that it did years ago.

You see, this is not some new oil discovery that's up there that we've never tapped into. The United States uses that oil and has used that oil for a long time. It is a reserve that is from a reliable neighbor next door in Canada that's consistent, that we're not having to deal with issues in the Strait of Hormuz and wondering about the flow of oil coming from the Middle East.

We're dealing with the United States, now 58 percent of our oil usage coming from our own home country, and we're dealing with reliable neighbors dealing with our pipelines, like Canada and Mexico. It's the right thing to do for our national security. It's the right thing to do for jobs. We're talking about immediately, private jobs. No government participation other than the permitting being finished. Private money begins to sink in the billions of dollars to be able to run almost 1,700 miles of pipeline.

We're talking pipefitters, which are based often in Oklahoma, by the way,

union jobs, right-to-work areas and other job areas. You're dealing with steel manufacturers for that pipe, pipe manufactured, most of it done in Arkansas. People digging the ditches, running the tractors, driving the trucks. All of the different areas that are attached to that, thousands of jobs that begin immediately across the entire central part of the United States and many manufacturing areas.

We need to be able to open that up and let those jobs run and let's get those going on that. And then the third thing on this, not only national security and jobs, but just basic common sense. That oil will be sold somewhere. It's not a matter that we can argue and complain about it and say that Canada is not going to use their own resources. When the second-largest discovery of oil in the world is underneath your feet, they're going to sell that oil.

So just shutting it down and saying Americans aren't going to take it, we're going to let them sell it off, and they'll send it west over into Asia, and that will make things a lot better, doesn't make common sense, number one.

Number two is we should provide as much national security as we can for this. That's basic common sense with reliable neighbors.

Number three in the common sense is this basic simple thing: It's new pipeline. Now we can argue about pipeline safety, and there are areas we need to work on pipeline safety, and we in this Congress as Republicans and Democrats together have passed pipeline safety initiatives, and we should do that. This will be the newest pipeline in the country. It will have the highest standards for safety, it will have the highest level of technology and of monitoring of any pipeline in the country. It is the best possible way to do it.

The alternative is to be able to put it on trucks and trains, which have a higher incidence for accidents. This is the safest way to be able to do this. And as I mentioned before, it's not as if we're not already drawing this oil already. This just increases our capacity and increases our ability to not be dependent on Venezuela and OPEC countries for our oil.

There are pipelines from Enbridge and Keystone running from that exact same area all the way down to the gulf already. We need to continue to increase our capacity so that we are providing for our own energy long term.

I would submit to this Congress, and I would submit to the President and ask for his prompt approval, even early would be great, of approval of this to be able to move forward and say let's get this off our back, let's get the jobs going, let's continue to move forward with our national security, providing for our own energy, and let's continue to work through this process so that we don't have to deal with issues like this again.

Far be it from us, in the days to come, that manufacturers would say I

don't want to do manufacturing and construction in the United States because I'm afraid the President will slow down a jobs project. I'm afraid Congress will slow down a jobs project. I'm afraid that that country is not open for business. We should do it better than the rest of the world. We can and we do.

This is a simple project. Approve the Keystone Pipeline. It's been approved through these States, and Nebraska is working through its system of its approval process. We need just to approve that 50 feet crossing the border from Canada to the United States, and let's get this project going.

With that, I yield back the balance of my time.

MAKE IT IN AMERICA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentleman from California (Mr. GARAMENDI) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, it's good to be back and wishing you and all of our colleagues the best of this new year and happy new year, and I hope yours and the other 433 Members of this august body had a great holiday season.

For many Americans that was not the case, however. Unemployment remains high and, unfortunately, just before we broke for the Christmas holidays, we did pass a piece of legislation that extended the unemployment insurance, and that's really important, and also extended for 2 months the reduction in the payroll tax, and that put money into the pockets of working men and women around this Nation.

We have much work to do this year. We just heard a presentation on the Keystone Pipeline, which will add a few jobs, some 6,000 jobs, temporary, building the pipeline, and that's good. The rush to judgment on it, however, should be very cautiously approached. Pipelines can be dangerous. You only need to look in California, where a gas pipeline exploded and the recent Yellowstone contamination that was caused by a broken oil pipeline.

Haste can make waste, and it can cause problems, so I would urge us to be circumspect. I suspect someday this pipeline will be built, but it ought to be built properly and in the right locations.

But the subject of tonight's discourse is really about jobs. I'll be joined a little later by my friend PAUL TONKO from the great State of New York, and perhaps MARCY KAPTUR from Ohio will be here. But what we want to talk about is jobs, not just temporary jobs building a pipeline, but rather solid, American jobs in the manufacturing sector. For more than a year, we've been talking about making it in America, rebuilding the great American engine of wealth, the great American engine that created the biggest middle

class anywhere in the world, and the great American engine that over the last 20 years has seen an incredible decline, often caused by policy, governmental policy.

□ 2010

A couple of examples to give you: outsourcing. Outsourcing doesn't just happen. It happens because the economics of the situation have changed.

When I arrived here in November 2009, a debate was under way about how to rebuild the American economy. One of the things that we took up was the issue of taxes. It turns out that American corporations receive somewhere between \$12 billion and \$15 billion a year in tax reductions. That is you and I, all of us, get to pay corporations for doing, what, sending jobs offshore—offshoring American jobs.

Fortunately, in December of 2010, without any support at all from our Republican colleagues, we passed legislation that terminated \$12 billion of those subsidies, providing a positive encouragement—or eliminating a positive encouragement—for corporations to offshore jobs. We can do more, and that's what the Make It in America agenda is all about.

There are many, many pieces in this. Economists who look at the American economy and where we are today will note that we have seen significant growth in jobs. The unemployment rate is down to 8.5 percent, and that's a good thing; but it is still far too high. We have seen some 330,000 manufacturing jobs created just this last year; and that's good, but it's not enough. On the other hand, we have also seen layoffs.

The government sector, despite what you might hear, has actually seen a very significant decline in employment. State governments and local governments all across this Nation have been laying off people. In California, 42,000 teachers have lost their jobs in the last 2 years. An incredible statistic. At a time when we need a more highly educated workforce, to layoff teachers seems to be a real serious no-brainer. Why would we do that? Well, we did it. And we have layoffs like that occurring across this Nation. We need to turn that around, and we can. We need to turnaround the decline that occurred over the last 20 years in the manufacturing sector, and we have made a start.

But there is much more to be done. We have lost perhaps 45 percent of all of our manufacturing jobs, from some 19 million down to just over 11 million in the last 20 years. Coming back, 330,000 this year. More to be done.

Fortunately, we have an ally in the White House. That ally is President Barack Obama who, as he said just last week, wakes up every day thinking about how can we, Americans, solve this crisis in our economy. What can we do to put men and women back to work? How can families know they have a secure future?

Way back in September, President Obama proposed the American Jobs Act. It wasn't the first thing that was done to get Americans back to work, but it's a very, very important step. The first thing that was done by President Obama and the Democratic majority in this House way back in January of 2009 when the new administration took office was to create the American Recovery Act. Some people call it the stimulus. No matter what else you hear, the stimulus works; and it's working today.

In my district out in California, you can't go very far down a highway, across a bridge, see a levee, see a new manufacturing facility in place without knowing or seeing a sign that says the American Recovery Act. Bridges are being built. Highways have been repaired. The Caldecott Tunnel on the East Bay in the Oakland Hills has now been drilled through the mountain. It'll be completed, almost totally financed by local government and a larger majority of the money from the American Recovery Act. We can rebuild jobs in America. That was step one.

Along the way, we've seen tax policy changes. We've seen a tax policy that the President proposed and enacted by the Democrats with some Republican help in 2010 that actually gave companies a 100 percent write-off for every capital investment that they made. The result of that, some of the greatest capital investment in the last 20 years has been made just in 2011. We're putting people back to work. We have a long way to go. We're not nearly where we need to be.

And for employers, an incentive in the American Jobs Act that the President proposed last September has now become law, with both Democrat and Republican support, bipartisanship really does exist; and that proposal, now law, gives employers a tax reduction, a credit, for every returned veteran from America's wars. They can go all of the way back to the Vietnam war. An employer that takes a long-term unemployed veteran can get a \$2,500 reduction in their taxes for every veteran they keep on for a full year. For a disabled veteran, injured in the line of service, a \$9,600 reduction in the employer's taxes. That's a very, very powerful incentive to hire those veterans who have sacrificed so much for this Nation, for the very safety and the freedom we enjoy. That's one part of the American Jobs Act.

A couple of other pieces of the American Jobs Act still have to be put in place, and the one that I like is called the infrastructure bank. We know that we are not flush with cash. We know the Federal Government has a serious deficit, and we know that we need to solve that. We also know that we're not going to solve it unless we actually put people back to work. And the infrastructure bank is a very good way to deal with two problems simultaneously, putting people back to work,

building infrastructure, perhaps pipelines, certainly those kinds of projects that have a cash flow—sanitation systems, water systems, toll roads, toll bridges—all of those things where there is a cash flow where we pay a fee for using that particular piece of infrastructure.

The infrastructure bank would be started with a loan from the Federal Government. The President recommended \$10 billion. I say go the whole route, let's put in \$20 billion, \$25 billion of Federal money, and then reach out to the pension funds around the Nation and give them an opportunity to invest in this. Right now a government bond, it's less than 2 percent return. An infrastructure bank could probably give you a 5, 6 percent return. So the pension funds would have a place to invest both public and private pension funds. Most who have looked at this believe we could generate anywhere from \$70 billion to \$100 billion of loan capability that could immediately be used to build projects.

I know in my district that we have sanitation projects that need to be built. We have water projects. We have levees. We have dams, and we have other infrastructure that needs to be built. Those that are cash-flow possible can use the infrastructure bank; and in so doing, we free up those other infrastructure projects for which there is not a cash flow; for example, the levees that I just mentioned. And there are many other projects, highway projects, universities, laboratories, research facilities that you can then use the general fund, as we have done for more than a century, to build these infrastructure projects.

So the American Jobs Act, as proposed by the President, has an infrastructure bank in it. It also has a major infrastructure project tandem to it. So those two things together would put men and women to work across this Nation.

And even more can be done if this particular piece of legislation were to pass. This is the real Make It in America piece of legislation. I happen to be the author of it. I wasn't the first to think of it. For some time we have had what we think as Buy America, but it has been routinely ignored over the years. So the Buy America provisions, while ignored, need to be strengthened; and that's what this piece of legislation does.

What it does, it says that our tax money, gasoline tax, 18½ cents, diesel tax of 25 cents a gallon goes into the transportation fund. Is that money being used to buy American buses and railroad and high-speed rail, the transit facilities? Is it? Often, it is not. But if this bill passes—and it is now before the Transportation Committee here in the House—were it to pass, it would require that all of our tax money spread out over a 5-year phase-in process would be used to buy American-made equipment.

□ 2020

Do you want to travel up to San Francisco? You ought to. We could use your tax dollars out there. Come and visit. But as you travel from Oakland to San Francisco, you'll travel on the old Oakland-San Francisco Bay bridge. Just adjacent to it is a new, magnificent bridge being built. But it's not being built with American steel. And most of the welding was done not by Americans, but by Chinese. In an effort to save 10 percent, the State of California decided that they would buy Chinese products, Chinese steel. Thousands of jobs were created in China, virtually none in America. Chinese engineers came to see that the steel was properly erected. Where were the American engineers?

This piece of legislation has now been adopted by the State of California. It's the law there now. And I dare say that if this type of legislation were the law when the San Francisco-Oakland Bay bridge was put out to bid, that steel would have been made in America, American steelworkers would be employed, American welders would have done the welding, and there would not have been the quality problems that were found in the Chinese product and their Chinese workmanship. Let's make it in America. Let's use our tax money to buy American-made equipment.

We just had a long discussion about oil, and we're going to use oil for a long time. That discussion also talked about natural gas, which many people see as a transition away from the dependency on oil to a dependency on renewable and green energy systems of the future. So we're probably going to be in a transition period for several years. But in order to get to that place where we are totally independent of the oil dictators around the world, where we are no longer using oil for transport but rather using electricity or natural gas, we're going to need assistance to move to that.

For many years now, starting way back in the 1970s, the United States has had a policy of implementing what are known as green energy systems, principally solar. And I think all of us are familiar with solar and similarly the wind turbines that are now being found on hilltops across this Nation.

So where are those things made? Where do we make those? Where do those solar cells come from? Where are the wind turbines manufactured? Until very, very recently, not in America. But your tax money and my tax money is used to subsidize this new industry. And as that money is being spent, it must be spent on American-made equipment so that Americans can have those jobs. We're going to continue to import. If you want to go buy a solar system for your house, you can buy whatever you want. But if this bill passes, if you want that tax subsidy, then it's going to have to be an American-made solar system. No more outsourcing American dollars to China or

Europe or wherever. Bring those dollars home. Put Americans back to work at home.

These are things that can be done. It is a policy direction. And this Congress and the Senate should be moving quickly to make sure that things are made once again in America, particularly those things that use our tax dollars, whether it's a bus, a rail line, a bridge, a solar cell, or a wind turbine. All of this is possible. All we need is a law that says that our tax money will be used to buy American-made equipment. That is just one part of what we call Make It in America.

This initiative has many other pieces. Some of it deals with education. We know—anybody that looks at any economy around the world knows that if you're going to have a strong economy, you have to have a very well-educated workforce.

So where are we in America? Are we the best educated workforce in the world? We used to be, but not today. Not today. Earlier, I mentioned 42,000 teachers were laid off in California. President Obama had a solution to that. In the American Jobs Act introduced last September, President Obama said, let's hire teachers. Some 280,000 teachers could have been hired across this Nation for the fall semester if our Republican colleagues had brought that bill to the floor and we had found the sufficient votes here and in the Senate. That's not a bad thing to put 280,000 teachers back to work.

And, by the way, what kind of a facility will they be working in? If you were to look across our Nation at the schools, you will see many that are rundown, old, the laboratories either in disuse or very ancient equipment, not up-to-date—even in Kansas City. So what are we going to do about this? The President said, let's invest in refurbishing our schools, putting men and women back to work, painting, fixing up the school grounds, repairing the toilets, building the new laboratories that are necessary for today's educational system.

It hasn't happened yet. I would ask our Republican colleagues if they care so mightily about the economy, they ought to care about the most fundamental investment that any society can make in its economy, and that is education.

The American Jobs Act has many pieces to it: infrastructure, transportation, infrastructure bank, tax credits for hiring the unemployed and a tax reduction for every American working through the payroll tax reduction. A good program. We're now in the middle of January. By the end of February, Congress will have to face the reality of terminating the payroll tax reduction and raising taxes on every American or continuing it. For me, we ought to continue it, and we also ought to continue the unemployment benefits because the jobs are not yet there. Had we passed the American Jobs Act, there would be far more jobs available. That has not yet happened.

And so we will face some very tough sledding ahead as we debate how shall we pay for this; how shall we pay for the February 29 extension of the payroll tax reduction and the unemployment insurance. Our Republican friends have basically said we ought to pay for it by taxing the middle class and by reducing those programs that the middle class depends upon, from health care to jobs to education. The Democrats have a different plan. We think President Obama is correct that we ought to ask those that have been so extraordinarily successful in the last two decades, the super-rich in America, the top 1 percent, to pay their fair share in keeping Americans in their jobs and providing them with enough food that they can eat and pay their rent through the unemployment insurance.

Let me just show you a chart here of why those superwealthy, those whose annual income is over \$1 million a year, why they can pay just a little bit more. The bottom three lines here are the bottom three-quarters of the population. The low, those in poverty, low, middle and middle class. The top line are those in the very top, the top 10 percent. They've seen their wealth grow by extraordinary numbers, some 350 percent increase in theirs, while

down here at the bottom, very, very little. In fact, most of this comes from two, from the husband and wife both working, two members of the family working.

There's plenty of opportunity here. The President has suggested a very small tax increase of 3½ percent of that amount over \$1 million. It's not going to bust anybody's bank. They're still going to have plenty of money to go to their golfing and buy whatever they need to buy. But what will happen is Americans will continue to have an unemployment check if that job is not available to them, and Americans will also be able to see a reduction in their payroll tax so that they, too, can participate in this American economy.

So with that, I think we'll wrap it up for the evening. And we want to keep in mind that America can make it when we make it in America. Federal policy is critical if we're going to succeed. There are many things we can do. We have reviewed some of them here tonight, and we'll be talking more about it as this week and next week goes on and we approach that February 29, once-every-3-year opportunity for this Nation to do what's right for those men and women and working families out there and for those who are unemployed.

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

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. FARR (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today and January 18 on account of illness.

Mrs. NAPOLITANO (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today.

Mr. REYES (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today on account of illness in the family.

Mr. MARINO (at the request of Mr. CANTOR) for today on account of illness.

Mr. CULBERSON (at the request of Mr. CANTOR) for today on account of illness.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 8 o'clock and 31 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, January 18, 2012, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXPENDITURE REPORTS CONCERNING OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL

Reports concerning the foreign currencies and U.S. dollars utilized for speaker-authorized official travel during the fourth quarter pursuant to Public Law 95-384 are as follows:

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, BARRY JACKSON, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN NOV. 23 AND NOV. 30, 2011

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
Barry Jackson	11/23	11/24	Georgia		594.00		3,233.50				3,827.50
	11/24	11/25	Lithuania		243.00		(³)				243.00
	11/25	11/30	Egypt		1,330.00		7,689.00				9,019.00
Committee total											13,089.50

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.

BARRY JACKSON, Dec. 22, 2011.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 1 AND DEC. 31, 2011

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 do 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. JOHN KLINE, Chairman, Jan. 3, 2012.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, JOINT COMMITTEE ON TAXATION, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 1 AND DEC. 31, 2011

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 was 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. DAVE CAMP, Chairman, Jan. 6, 2012.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS,
ETC.

Under clause 2 of Rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

4458. A letter from the Secretary, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Registration of Foreign Boards of Trade (RIN: 3038-AD19) received December 19, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

4459. A letter from the Program Development and Regulatory Analysis, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standards and Specifications for Timber Products Acceptable for Use by Rural Utilities Service Electric and Telecommunications Borrowers received December 14, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

4460. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Review Group, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Farm Loan Programs Loan Making Activities (RIN: 0560-AI03) received December 13, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

4461. A letter from the Acting Administrator, Rural Business-Cooperative Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amending 7 CFR Part 4290, Rural Business Investment Program, and 7 CFR Part 1940, General (RIN: 0570-AA80) received December 19, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

4462. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Extension of Tolerances for Emergency Exemptions (Multiple Chemicals) [EPA-HQ-OPP-2011-0972; FRL-9329-9] received December 22, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

4463. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Isoxflutole; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2010-0845; FRL-8885-8] received December 7, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

4464. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Butyl acrylate-methacrylic acid-styrene polymer; Tolerance Exemption [EPA-HQ-OPP-2011-0732; FRL-9327-6] received December 14, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

4465. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Hexythiazox; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2010-0916; FRL-9327-7] received December 14, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

4466. A letter from the Acting Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting authorization of Captain Colin J. Kilrain, United States Navy, to wear the authorized insignia of the grade of rear admiral (lower half); to the Committee on Armed Services.

4467. A letter from the Acting Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Vice Admiral Michael C. Vitale, United States Navy, and his advancement to the grade of vice admiral on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

4468. A letter from the Acting Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting

proposed test and evaluation (T&E) budgets for FY 2012 that have not been certified as adequate by the Director of the Defense Test Resource Management Center (TRMC); to the Committee on Armed Services.

4469. A letter from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Utilization of Domestic Photovoltaic Devices (DFARS Case 2011-D046) (RIN: 0750-AH43) received December 9, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services.

4470. A letter from the Chief Counsel, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Suspension of Community Eligibility [Docket ID: FEMA-2011-0002] [Internal Agency Docket No.: FEMA-8207] received December 13, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

4471. A letter from the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting the Commission's "Major" final rule — Net Worth Standard For Accredited Investors (RIN: 3235-AK90) received December 29, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

4472. A letter from the Acting Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Services, Department of Education, transmitting the Department's "Major" final rule — Race to the Top Fund Phase 3 [Docket ID: ED-2011-OS-0008] (RIN: 1894-AA01) received December 30, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

4473. A letter from the Chief, Branch Policy, Regulations and Procedure Division of Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Programs, Department of Labor, transmitting the Department's final rule — Regulations Implementing the Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act: Recreational Vessels (RIN: 1240-AA02) received December 30, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

4474. A letter from the Program Manager, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's "Major" final rule — Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act; Establishment of Consumer Operated and Oriented Plan (CO-OP) Program [CMS-9983-F] (RIN: 0938-AQ98) received December 12, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4475. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; New Mexico; Albuquerque/Bernalillo County; Prevention of Significant Deterioration; Greenhouse Gas Tailoring Rule Revisions [EPA-R06-OAR-2011-0032; FRL-9613-3] received December 22, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4476. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Disapproval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Texas; Infrastructure and Interstate Transport Requirements for the 1997 Ozone and the 1997 and 2006 PM2.5 NAAQS [EPA-R06-OAR-2008-0638; FRL-9613-7] received December 22, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4477. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Oklahoma; Interstate Transport of Pollution [EPA-R06-OAR-

2007-0314; FRL-9613-2] received December 22, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4478. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of State Plans for Designated Facilities and Pollutants; State of Florida; Control of Hospital/Medical/Infectious Waste Incinerator (HMIWI) Emissions from Existing Facilities [EPA-R04-OAR-2011-0006(a); FRL-9611-8] received December 22, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4479. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's "Major" final rule — National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants from Coal- and Oil-fired Electric Utility Steam Generating Units and Standards of Performance for Fossil-Fuel-Fired Electric Utility, Industrial-Commercial-Institutional, and Small Industrial-Commercial-Institutional Steam Generating Units [EPA-HQ-OAR-2009-0234; EPA-HQ-OAR-2011-0044, FRL-9611-4] (RIN: 2060-AP52; RIN: 2060-AR31) received December 22, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4480. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Virginia; General Conformity Requirements for Federal Agencies Applicable to Federal Actions [EPA-R03-OAR-2011-0872; FRL-9504-7] received December 7, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4481. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Regulation of Fuels and Fuel Additives: Identification of Additional Qualifying Renewable Fuel Pathways Under the Renewable Fuel Standard Program [EPA-HQ-OAR-2011-0542; FRL-9502-2] (RIN: 2060-AR07) received December 7, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4482. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Mandatory Reporting of Greenhouse Gases: Technical Revisions to the Petroleum and Natural Gas Systems Category of the Greenhouse Gas Reporting Rule [EPA-HQ-OAR-2011-0512; FRL-9501-9] (RIN: 2060-AR09) received December 7, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4483. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; State of Missouri [EPA-R07-OAR-2011-0822; FRL-9505-8] received December 14, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4484. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans and Designation of Areas for Air Quality Planning Purposes; Kentucky; Redesignation of the Kentucky Portion of the Cincinnati-Hamilton, OH-KY-IN 1977 Annual Fine Particulate Matter Non-attainment Area to Attainment [EPA-R04-OAR-2010-0937-201164; FRL-9506-3] received December 14, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4485. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental

Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Kentucky; Visibility Impairment Prevention for Federal Class I Areas; Removal of Federally Promulgated Provisions [EPA-R04-OAR-2011-0867-201157(a); FRL-9507-3] received December 14, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4486. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of State Implementation Plans; Oregon [EPA-R10-OAR-2008-0155; A-1-FRL-9248-1] received December 14, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4487. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Protection of Stratospheric Ozone: Extension of the Laboratory and Analytical Use Exemption for Essential Class I Ozone-Depleting Substances [EPA-HQ-OAR-2010-0672; FRL-9507-6] (RIN: 2060-AQ39) received December 14, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4488. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Protection of Stratospheric Ozone: Listing of Substitutes for Ozone-Depleting Substances — Hydrocarbon Refrigerants [EPA-HQ-OAR-2009-0286; FRL-9507-7] (RIN: 2060-AP54) received December 14, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4489. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Revisions to the California State Implementation Plan, South Coast Air Quality Management District [EPA-R09-OAR-2011-0897; FRL-9499-9] received December 14, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4490. A letter from the Secretary, Federal Trade Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Business Opportunity Rule (RIN: 3084-AB04) received December 14, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4491. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Criteria for Preparation and Evaluation of Radiological Emergency Response Plans and Preparedness in Support of Nuclear Power Plants (RIN: 3150-AI10) received December 9, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4492. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Criteria for Development of Evacuation Time Estimate Studies (RIN: 3150-AI10) received December 9, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4493. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Interim Staff Guidance Emergency Planning for Nuclear Power Plants (RIN: 3150-AI10) received December 9, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4494. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Commerce, transmitting a certification of export to China; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

4495. A letter from the Assistant Secretary For Export Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendments to the Export Ad-

ministration Regulations: Facilitating enhanced public understanding of the provisions that implement the Comprehensive U.S. Sanctions Against Syria pursuant to the Syria Accountability and Lebanese Sovereignty Restoration Act of 2003 [Docket No.: 110627356-1475-01] (RIN: 0694-AF29) received December 9, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

4496. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report in accordance with Section 3 of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

4497. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report on progress toward a negotiated solution of the Cyprus question covering the period August 1 through September 30, 2011 pursuant to Section 620C(c) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 as amended; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

4498. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting three reports related to the Global Fund; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

4499. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting as required by section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), and section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Belarus that was declared in Executive Order 13405 of June 16, 2006; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

4500. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 19-248, "Comprehensive Military and Overseas Voters Accommodation Temporary Act of 2011"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

4501. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 19-262, "Receiving Stolen Property and Public Safety Amendment Act of 2011"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

4502. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 19-247, "Closing of a Portion of the Public Alley in Square 5052, S.O. 10-00603, Act of 2011"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

4503. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 19-263, "Oak Hill Conservation Easement Temporary Act of 2011"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

4504. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 19-242, "Electrician Equality Act of 2011"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

4505. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 19-246, "Uniform Foreign-Country Money Judgments Recognition Act of 2011"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

4506. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 19-252, "Ward Redistricting Temporary Amendment Act of 2011"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

4507. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 19-251, "Clarification of Personal Property Tax Revenue Reporting Temporary Act of 2011"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

4508. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting

Transmittal of D.C. ACT 19-245, "William O. Lockridge Way Designation Act of 2011"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

4509. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 19-250, "Income Tax Withholding Statements Electronic Submission Temporary Act of 2011"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

4510. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 19-243, "Executive Service Compensation Amendment Act 2011"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

4511. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 19-249, "Economic Development Special Account Revival Temporary Amendment Act of 2011"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

4512. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. ACT 19-244, "Workforce Intermediary Establishment and Reform of First Source Amendment Act of 2011"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

4513. A letter from the Associate General Counsel for General Law (Acting), Department of Homeland Security, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

4514. A letter from the Deputy General Counsel for Operations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting fifteen reports pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

4515. A letter from the Deputy General Counsel for Operations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

4516. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, Office of General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

4517. A letter from the Deputy Secretary, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's semiannual report from the office of the Inspector General for the period April 1, 2011 through September 30, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act), section 5(b); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

4518. A letter from the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's semiannual report from the Office of the Inspector General during the 6-month period ending September 30, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) section 5(b); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

4519. A letter from the Chief Financial Officer, Farm Credit System Insurance Corporation, transmitting the Corporation's consolidated report addressing the Federal Managers' Financial Integrity Act and the Inspector General Act Amendments of 1978, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act), section 5(b); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

4520. A letter from the President, Federal Financing Bank, transmitting the Annual Report of the Federal Financing Bank for Fiscal Year 2011, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 9106; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

4521. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting the

semiannual report on the activities of the Office of Inspector General for the period April 1 through September 30, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act), section 5(b); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

4522. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Trade Commission, transmitting the semiannual report on the activities of the Office of Inspector General for the period from April 1, 2011 through September 30, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act), section 5(b); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

4523. A letter from the Chairman, National Credit Union Administration, transmitting the Inspector General's semiannual report to Congress for the reporting period April 1, 2011 through September 30, 2011; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

4524. A letter from the Chairman, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting the Commission's fiscal year 2011 Performance and Accountability Report; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

4525. A letter from the Chief Administrative Officer, transmitting the quarterly report of receipts and expenditures of appropriations and other funds for the period October 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011 as compiled by the Chief Administrative Officer, pursuant to 2 U.S.C. 104a Public Law 88-454; (H. Doc. No. 112-80); to the Committee on House Administration and ordered to be printed.

4526. A letter from the Clerk, U.S. House of Representatives, transmitting a list of reports pursuant to clause 2(b), Rule II of the Rules of the House of Representatives, pursuant to Rule II, clause 2(b), of the Rules of the House; (H. Doc. No. 112-79); to the Committee on House Administration and ordered to be printed.

4527. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Interior, transmitting a draft bill and summary for a proposal to "[a]mend the Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp Act to provide for a price increase for the Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp, popularly known as the Duck Stamp"; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

4528. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Special Regulations; Areas of the National Park System, Yellowstone National Park (RIN: 1024-AD92) received December 9, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

4529. A letter from the Director Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Greenland Turbot in the Bering Sea Subarea of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area [Docket No.: 101126521-0640-02] (RIN: 0648-XA821) received December 5, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

4530. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Ocean Perch in the Bering Sea Subarea of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area [Docket No.: 101126521-0640-02] (RIN: 0648-XA820) received December 5, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

4531. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, Na-

tional Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act Provisions; Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Sea Scallop Fishery; Closure of the Hudson Canyon Access Area to General Category Individual Fishing Quota Scallop Vessels [Docket No.: 070817467-8554-02] (RIN: 0648-XA789) received December 5, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

4532. A letter from the Director Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Western and Central Pacific Fisheries for Highly Migratory Species; 2011 Bigeye Tuna Longline Fishery Closure [Docket No.: 090130102-91386-02] (RIN: 0648-XA780) received December 5, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

4533. A letter from the Director Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Herring Fishery; Sub-ACL (Annual Catch Limit) Harvested for Management Area 3 [Docket No.: 0907301205-0289-02] (RIN: 0648-XA649) received December 5, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

4534. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Northeast Multispecies Fishery; Correction to Cod Landing Limit for Handgear B Vessels in the Common Pool Fishery [Docket No.: 0910051338-0151-02] (RIN: 0648-XA732) received December 5, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

4535. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Skates in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area [Docket No.: 101126521-0640-2] (RIN: 0648-XA731) received December 5, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

4536. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; "Other Rockfish" in the Aleutian Islands Subarea of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area [Docket No.: 101126521-0640-2] (RIN: 0648-XA734) received December 5, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

4537. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Operations, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act Provisions; Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Northeast (NE) Multispecies Fishery; Framework Adjustment 46 [Docket No.: 110627355-1539-02] (RIN: 0648-BB08) received December 13, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

4538. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; North and South Atlantic Swordfish Quotas [Docket No.: 110527309-1508-

02] (RIN: 0648-BA90) received December 13, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

4539. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Operations, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Snapper-Groupers Fishery Off the Southern Atlantic States; Amendment 15B [Docket No.: 110620342-1659-03] (RIN: 0648-BB55) received December 13, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

4540. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Operations, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Crab Rationalization Program [Docket No.: 0812081573-1645-03] (RIN: 0648-AX47) received December 13, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

4541. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Operations, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Northeast Skate Complex Fishery; Secretarial Emergency Action [Docket No.: 110818511-1641-03] (RIN: 0648-BB32) received December 13, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

4542. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Operations, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area; Limited Access Privilege Program [Docket No.: 100819383-1652-02] (RIN: 0648-BA18) received December 13, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

4543. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — List of Fisheries for 2012 [Docket No.: 110207104-1536-02] (RIN: 0648-BA76) received December 13, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

4544. A letter from the Federal Liaison Officer, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Changes to Implement the Prioritized Examination for Requests for Continued Examination [Docket No.: PTO-P-2011-0070] (RIN: 0651-AC65) received December 19, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

4545. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's determination on a petition on behalf of workers from the Ames Laboratory at Iowa State University in Ames, Iowa, to be added to the Special Exposure Cohort (SEC), pursuant to the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act of 2000 (EEOICPA); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

4546. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's determination on a petition on behalf of workers from the Y-12 facility in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, to be added to the Special Exposure Cohort (SEC), pursuant to the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act of 2000 (EEOICPA); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

4547. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's determination on

a petition on behalf of workers from Vitro Manufacturing in Canonsburg, Pennsylvania, to be added to the Special Cohort (SEC), pursuant to the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act of 2000 (EEOICPA); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

4548. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's determination on a petition on behalf of workers from W.R. Grace and Company in Curtis Bay, Maryland, to be added to the Special Exposure Cohort (SEC), pursuant to the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act of 2000 (EEOICPA); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

4549. A letter from the Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's report on "data-mining" activities pursuant to Section 804 of the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007 from January 1, 2008 to September 30, 2009; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

4550. A letter from the Rules Administrator, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's final rule — Literacy Program [BOP-1036-F] (RIN: 1120-AA33) received December 9, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

4551. A letter from the Attorney, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Mississippi River, Mile Marker 230 to Mile Marker 234, in the vicinity of Baton Rouge, LA [Docket No.: USCG-2011-0841] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received December 13, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4552. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Security Zones, 2011 Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Conference, Oahu, HI [Docket No.: USCG-2011-0800] (RIN: 1625-AA87) received December 13, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4553. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Security Zone; Columbia and Willamette Rivers, Dredge Vessels Patriot and Liberty [Docket ID: USCG-2011-0939] (RIN: 1625-AA87) received December 13, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4554. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Truman-Hobbs alteration of the Elgin Joliet & Eastern Railroad Drawbridge, Morris, Illinois [Docket No.: USCG-2011-0961] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received December 13, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4555. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; The Old Club Connonade, Lake St. Clair, Muscamoot Bay, Harsens Island, MI [Docket No.: USCG-2011-0907] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received December 13, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4556. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Special Local Regulations for Marine events, Wrightsville Channel; Wrightsville Beach, NC [Docket No.: USCG-2011-0885] (RIN: 1625-AA08) received December 13, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4557. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmit-

ting the Department's final rule — Special Local Regulations; Line of Sail Marine Parade, East River and Brunswick River, Brunswick, GA [Docket No.: USCG-2011-0830] (RIN: 1625-AA08) received December 13, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4558. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Security Zones; Captain of the Port Lake Michigan Zone [Docket No.: USCG-2011-0489] (RIN: 1625-AA87) received December 13, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4559. A letter from the Attorney — Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zones; Fireworks Displays in Captain of the Port Long Island Sound Zone [Docket No.: USCG-2011-0870] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received December 13, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4560. A letter from the Attorney, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Monte Foundation Fireworks Extravaganza, Aptos, CA [Docket No.: USCG-2011-0805] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received December 13, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4561. A letter from the Attorney, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; IJSBA World Finals; Lower Colorado River, Lake Havasu, AZ [Docket No.: USCG-2011-0838] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received December 13, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4562. A letter from the Attorney — Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; 2011 Head of the South Regatta, Savannah River, Augusta, GA [Docket No.: USCG-2011-0861] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received December 13, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4563. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Mainardi/Kinsey Wedding Fireworks, Lake Erie, Lakewood, OH [Docket No.: USCG-2011-0848] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received December 13, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4564. A letter from the Attorney — Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; The Florida Orchestra Pops in the Park Fireworks Display, Tampa Bay, St. Petersburg, FL [Docket No.: USCG-2011-0834] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received December 13, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4565. A letter from the Attorney — Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Passaic River, Harrison, NJ [Docket No.: USCG-2011-0268] (RIN: 1625-AA09) received December 13, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4566. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Waverly Country Club Fireworks Display on the Willamette River, Portland, OR [Docket No.: USCG-2011-0899] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received December 13, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4567. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Bear Creek, Sparrows Point, MD [Docket No.: USCG-2011-0816] (RIN: 1625-AA09) received December 13, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4568. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Apponagansett River, Dartmouth, MA [Docket No.: USCG-2011-0335] (RIN: 1625-AA09) received December 13, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4569. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Special Local Regulation for Marine Events; Chesapeake Bay Workboat Race; Back River, Messick Point, Poquoson, Virginia [Docket No.: USCG-2011-0934] (RIN: 1625-AA08) received December 13, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4570. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Regulated Navigation Area; Saugus River, Lynn, MA [Docket No.: USCG-2011-0857] (RIN: 1625-AA11) received December 13, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4571. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Security Zone; Potomac River, Georgetown Channel, Washington, DC [Docket No.: USCG-2011-0929] (RIN: 1625-AA87) received December 13, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4572. A letter from the Attorney — Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Rotary Club of Fort Lauderdale New River Raft Race, New River, Fort Lauderdale, FL [Docket No.: USCG-2011-0589] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received December 13, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4573. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zones; Annual Firework Displays within the Captain of the Port, Puget Sound Area of Responsibility [Docket No.: USCG-2010-0842] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received December 13, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4574. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Regulated Navigation Area; Route 24 Bridge Construction, Tiverton and Portsmouth, RI [Docket No.: USCG-2011-0868] (RIN: 1625-AA11) received December 13, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4575. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; M/V DAVY CROCKETT, Columbia River [Docket No.: USCG-2010-0939] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received December 13, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4576. A letter from the Attorney — Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Swim Around Charleston, Charleston, SC [Docket No.: USCG-2011-0575] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received December 13, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4577. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Shipping and Transportation; Technical, Organizational, and Conforming Amendments [Docket No.: USCG-2011-0618] (RIN: 1625-AB77) received December 13, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4578. A letter from the Senior Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; ATR-GIE Avions de Transport Regional Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2011-0721; Directorate Identifier 2010-NM-217-AD; Amendment 39-16861; AD 2011-23-10] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received December 16, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4579. A letter from the FMCSA Regulatory Ombudsman, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Drivers of CMVs: Restricting the Use of Cellular Phones [Docket No.: FMCSA-2010-0096] (RIN: 2137-AE65) received December 16, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4580. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's thirteenth report to Congress and the eleventh report to the President entitled, "The National Initiative for Increasing Safety Belt Use: The Buckle Up America Campaign"; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4581. A letter from the Senior Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Modification of Class E Airspace; Blythe, CA [Docket No.: FAA-2011-0585; Airspace Docket No. 11-AWP-9] received December 16, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4582. A letter from the Senior Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class E Airspace; Luray, VA [Docket No.: FAA-2011-0785; Airspace Docket No. 11-AEA-20] received December 16, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4583. A letter from the Administrator, Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Corporation's annual financial audit and management report for the fiscal year 2011, in accordance with OMB Circular A-136; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4584. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Alternate Passenger Rail Service Pilot Program [Docket No.: FRA-2009-0108; Notice No. 2] (RIN: 2130-AC19) received December 14, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4585. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's report entitled, "Department of Energy FY 2010 Methane Hydrate Program Report to Congress", pursuant to Section 968 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

4586. A letter from the Director of Regulation Policy and Management, Office of the General Counsel, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting the Department's final rule — Medical Benefits for Newborn Children of Certain Woman Veterans (RIN: 2900-AO05) received December 15, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

4587. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, trans-

mitting the Department's FY 2009 annual report on the Child Support Enforcement Program; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

4588. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — William & Sharon Norris v. Commissioner, T.C. Memo. 2011-161 received December 12, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

4589. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Employer's Annual Federal Tax Return and Modifications to the Deposit Rules [TD 9566] (RIN: 1545-BK82) received December 12, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

4590. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Sample Plan Amendment for Section 436 [Notice 2011-96] received December 12, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

4591. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Targeted Populations Under Section 45(e)(2) [TD 9560] (RIN: 1545-BE89) received December 12, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

4592. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting an additional legislative proposal that the Department of Defense requests to be enacted during the first session of the 112th Congress; jointly to the Committees on Armed Services and Transportation and Infrastructure.

4593. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's report entitled, "Second Biennial Report to Congress Responding to the Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Technical Advisory Committee (HTAC) Findings and Recommendations during Fiscal Years 2008 and 2009", pursuant to Public Law 109-58, section 807(d)(2); jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Science, Space, and Technology.

4594. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Diversion Control, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's final rule — Schedules of Controlled Substances: Placement of Ezogabine Into Schedule V [Docket No.: DEA-354] received December 15, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and the Judiciary.

4595. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting pursuant to section 7(a) of the Jerusalem Embassy Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-45), a copy of Presidential Determination No. 2012-03 suspending the limitation on the obligation of the State Department Appropriations contained in sections 3(b) and 7(b) of that Act for six months as well as the periodic report provided for under Section 6 of the Act covering the period from December 2, 2011 to the present, pursuant to Public Law 104-45, section 6 (109 Stat. 400); jointly to the Committees on Foreign Affairs and Appropriations.

4596. A letter from the Program Manager, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Medicare Program; Availability of Medicare Data for Performance Measurement [CMS-5059-F] (RIN: 0938-AQ17) received December 6, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); jointly to the Committees on Ways and Means and Energy and Commerce.

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:

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN: Committee on Foreign Affairs. H.R. 2059. A bill to prohibit funding to the United Nations Population Fund (Rept. 112-361). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California: Committee on House Administration. House Resolution 496. Resolution adjusting the amount provided for the expenses of certain committees of the House of Representatives in the One Hundred Twelfth Congress (Rept. 112-362). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. ISSA: Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. H.R. 2309. A bill to restore the financial solvency of the United States Postal Service and to ensure the efficient and affordable nationwide delivery of mail; with an amendment (Rept. 112-363, Pt. 1). Ordered to be printed.

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin: Committee on the Budget. H.R. 3521. A bill to amend the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 to provide for a legislative line-item veto to expedite consideration of rescissions, and for other purposes; with amendments (Rept. 112-364, Pt. 1). Ordered to be printed.

Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 515. Resolution addressing a motion to proceed under section 3101A of title 31, United States Code (Rept. 112-365). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. BACHUS: Committee on Financial Services. H.R. 1221. A bill to suspend the current compensation packages for the senior executives of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac and establish compensation for such positions in accordance with rates of pay for senior employees in the Executive Branch of the Federal Government, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 112-366, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform discharged from further consideration. H.R. 1221 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, and ordered to be printed.

TIME LIMITATION OF REFERRED BILL

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XII the following actions were taken by the Speaker:

[Omitted from the Record of January 6, 2012]

H.R. 901. Referral to the Committee on Energy and Commerce extended for a period ending not later than January 20, 2012.

[Submitted January 17, 2012]

H.R. 2309. Referral to the Committee on Rules extended for a period ending not later than March 1, 2012.

H.R. 3521. Referral to the Committee on Rules extended for a period ending not later than February 3, 2012.

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:

[Submitted January 10, 2012]

By Mr. GIBSON (for himself and Mr. REED):

H.R. 3769. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the amount of the low-income housing credit that may be allocated in States damaged in 2011 by Hurricane Irene or Tropical Storm Lee; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. BLACK (for herself, Mrs.

ADAMS, Mr. AKIN, Mr. AUSTRIA, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BONNER, Mr. BROOKS, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado, Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. CRAVAACK, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee, Mrs. ELLMERS, Mr. FINCHER, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. GARRETT, Mr. GERLACH, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. HARPER, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan, Mr. HULTGREN, Ms. JENKINS, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. JONES, Mr. King of Iowa, Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois, Mr. LABRADOR, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. LANDRY, Mrs. LUMMIS, Mr. MARINO, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. MCCOTTER, Mr. MCHENRY, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. MULVANEY, Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania, Mr. NUGENT, Mr. NUNNELEE, Mr. PALAZZO, Mr. PAUL, Mr. PITTS, Mr. POMPEO, Mrs. ROBY, Mr. ROSS of Florida, Mrs. SCHMIDT, Mr. SCHOCK, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. TIBERI, Mr. WALSH of Illinois, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. WOMACK, Mr. YOUNG of Florida, Mr. SCALISE, Mr. CANSECO, and Mr. QUAYLE):

H. Res. 509. A resolution disapproving of the President's appointment of four officers or employees of the United States during a period when no recess of the Congress for a period of more than three days was authorized by concurrent resolution and expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that those appointments were made in violation of the Constitution; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

[Submitted January 13, 2012]

By Mr. LANDRY (for himself, Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina, Mr. ROSS of Florida, Mrs. BLACK, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. GRIFFITH of Virginia, Mr. STEARNS, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. GOWDY, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. BROOKS, Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania, Ms. JENKINS, Mr. SCALISE, and Mr. BARLETTA):

H.R. 3770. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide that payment for services may not be made to an individual appointed during a recess of the Senate to fill a vacancy in an existing office, if the vacancy existed while the Senate was in session and was by law required to be filled by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committees on Education and the Workforce and Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CONYERS (for himself, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr.

JACKSON of Illinois, Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas, Mr. COHEN, Ms. RICHARDSON, and Ms. LEE of California):

H.R. 3771. A bill to promote long-term, sustainable rebuilding and development in Haiti, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi:

H.R. 3772. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 150 South Union Street in Canton, Mississippi, as the "First Sergeant Landres Cheeks Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Ms. LEE of California (for herself,

Ms. BASS of California, Ms. BORDALLO, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. CAPUANO, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. HONDA, Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. MOORE, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. RUSH, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. WATERS, Ms. WILSON of Florida, and Ms. WOOLSEY):

H. Res. 510. A resolution recognizing the anniversary of the tragic earthquake in Haiti on January 12, 2010, honoring those who lost their lives, and expressing continued solidarity with the Haitian people; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

[Submitted January 17, 2012]

By Mr. OLSON (for himself, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. PITTS, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. GONZALEZ, and Mr. COSTA):

H.R. 3773. A bill to amend the Renewable Fuel Program in section 211(o) of the Clean Air Act to allow domestic alternative fuel to be used to satisfy a portion of the required applicable volume of renewable fuel; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois:

H.R. 3774. A bill to reduce the salaries of Members of Congress and the amounts available for the salaries and expenses of offices of Members, committees, and the leadership of Congress by 50 percent, to provide for further reductions in the salaries of Members of Congress to the extent that Congress is in session for more than 60 days during any session of a Congress, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration, and in addition to the Committees on Oversight and Government Reform, Rules, and Ethics, 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. PITTS:

H.R. 3775. A bill to provide dollars to the classroom; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. GRIJALVA (for himself, Mr. HOLT, and Ms. WOOLSEY):

H.R. 3776. A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 regarding school libraries, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. YOUNG of Alaska:

H.R. 3777. A bill to resolve title issues involving real property and equipment acquired using funds provided under the Alaska Kiln Drying Grant Program; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. SCHWEIKERT:

H.J. Res. 99. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to require that an increase in the Federal debt requires approval from a majority of the legislatures of the several States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CANTOR:

H. Res. 511. A resolution electing the Sergeant-at-Arms of the House of Representatives; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. CANTOR:

H. Res. 512. A resolution providing for a committee to notify the President of the assembly of the Congress; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. CANTOR:

H. Res. 513. A resolution to inform the Senate that a quorum of the House has assembled; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. CANTOR:

H. Res. 514. A resolution providing for the hour of meeting of the House; considered and agreed to.

MEMORIALS

Under clause 4 of rule XXII, memorials were presented and referred as follows:

173. The SPEAKER presented a memorial of the House of Representatives of the State of Michigan, relative to House Resolution No. 145 urging the Congress and the Department of Labor to amend proposed work regulations that would limit youth employment on farms; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

174. Also, a memorial of the General Assembly of the State of California, relative to Assembly Joint Resolution No. 13 urging the President and the Congress to provide resources to increase the supply of physicians in California; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

175. Also, a memorial of the General Assembly of the State of California, relative to Assembly Joint Resolution No. 18 recognizing September 2011 as Sickle Cell Awareness Month in California; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

176. Also, a memorial of the General Assembly of the State of California, relative to Assembly Joint Resolution No. 17 urging the Congress and the President to increase funding for these law enforcement and crime prevention programs and to pay the full costs of incarcerating undocumented criminals; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

177. Also, a memorial of the General Assembly of the State of California, relative to Assembly Joint Resolution No. 15 urging the government to consider the California jobs and economic stimulus provided by the California floriculture industry when advancing free trade agreements; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

178. Also, a memorial of the Senate of the State of Michigan, relative to Senate Resolution No. 95 expressing support for the continued efforts of the Michigan Attorney General to oppose the Implementation of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act; jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Appropriations, Ways and Means, Education and the Workforce, the Judiciary, Natural Resources, House Administration, and Rules.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

[Submitted January 10, 2012]

By Mr. CHRISTOPHER P. GIBSON:
H.R. 3769.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

The Congress shall have Power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defense and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.

[Submitted January 13, 2012]

By Mr. JEFFREY M. LANDRY:

H.R. 3770.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 as well as Article I, Section 5, Clauses 2 and 4 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. JOHN CONYERS, JR.:

H.R. 3771.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi:

H.R. 3772.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 7 of the United States Constitution.

[Submitted January 17, 2012]

By Mr. OLSON:

H.R. 3773.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18—The Congress shall have Power To . . . make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof. (Necessary and Proper Regulations to Effectuate Powers)

By Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois:

H.R. 3774.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 5 states that "Each House may determine the Rules of its proceedings"

By Mr. PITTS:

H.R. 3775.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution.

By Mr. GRIJALVA:

H.R. 3776.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Sections 1 and 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. YOUNG of Alaska:

H.R. 3777.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

By Mr. SCHWEIKERT:

H.J. Res. 99.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 5 of the Constitution states: The Congress, whenever two thirds of both houses shall deem it necessary, shall propose amendments to this Constitution, or, on the application of the legislatures of two thirds of the several states, shall call a convention for proposing amendments, which, in either case, shall be valid to all intents and purposes, as part of this Constitution, when ratified by the legislatures of three fourths of the several states, or by conventions in three fourths thereof, as the one or the other

mode of ratification may be proposed by the Congress; provided that no amendment which may be made prior to the year one thousand eight hundred and eight shall in any manner affect the first and fourth clauses in the ninth section of the first article; and that no state, without its consent, shall be deprived of its equal suffrage in the Senate.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

[Submitted January 10, 2012]

H.R. 104: Mr. CRAWFORD.
H.R. 361: Mr. FARENTHOLD, Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania, Mr. BARLETTA, and Mr. PALAZZO.

H.R. 456: Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey.
H.R. 529: Mr. PAULSEN.
H.R. 721: Mrs. BLACK.
H.R. 750: Mr. GARDNER and Mr. AMASH.
H.R. 965: Ms. WATERS.
H.R. 996: Mr. CONYERS, Mr. MORAN, and Mr. JACKSON of Illinois.

H.R. 1058: Mr. KISSELL.
H.R. 1148: Mr. MCCOTTER and Mr. GIBSON.
H.R. 1244: Mr. GOODLATTE.
H.R. 1653: Mr. CRENSHAW.
H.R. 2077: Mr. LONG.
H.R. 2412: Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi.
H.R. 3187: Ms. SLAUGHTER and Mr. CRAWFORD.
H.R. 3307: Mrs. MALONEY.
H.R. 3309: Mr. LATTA, Mr. KLINE, and Mr. STEARNS.

H.R. 3332: Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan.
H.R. 3626: Mr. ISRAEL.
H.R. 3676: Mr. REHBERG, Mr. DOGGETT, and Mr. BROOKS.

H.R. 3702: Mr. DOGGETT.
H.R. 3766: Mr. PLATTS.
H.J. Res. 80: Mr. JACKSON of Illinois.
H.J. Res. 86: Mr. BLUMENAUER.
H.J. Res. 88: Ms. NORTON.
H. Con. Res. 87: Mr. WALZ of Minnesota.
H. Res. 134: Mr. SHIMKUS.
H. Res. 137: Mr. WATT.
H. Res. 304: Mr. VAN HOLLEN.
H. Res. 489: Mr. LOBIONDO and Mr. GUTHRIE.

[Submitted January 13, 2012]

H.R. 26: Mr. HIMES.
H.R. 104: Mr. CONYERS and Mr. BARTLETT.
H.R. 178: Mr. VAN HOLLEN.
H.R. 181: Mr. PETRI.
H.R. 476: Mr. HINOJOSA.
H.R. 654: Mr. MCDERMOTT.
H.R. 1085: Mr. BACA.
H.R. 1219: Ms. SEWELL, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. CARTER, and Mrs. SCHMIDT.

H.R. 1259: Mr. MEEHAN.
H.R. 1370: Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado.
H.R. 1564: Mr. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 1738: Mr. MEEHAN, Ms. NORTON, Mr. GRIMM, Mr. COURTNEY, and Mr. BERMAN.
H.R. 2310: Mr. HASTINGS of Florida.
H.R. 2404: Mr. FILNER.
H.R. 2492: Mr. RUNYAN, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. ROSKAM, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. GIBSON, and Mr. ROONEY.
H.R. 2757: Mr. WELCH.
H.R. 2954: Mr. BACA.
H.R. 3059: Mr. SABLAN and Mr. BISHOP of New York.
H.R. 3283: Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York.
H.R. 3313: Mr. JACKSON of Illinois and Mr. CAPUANO.

H.R. 3324: Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas.
H.R. 3435: Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 3527: Mr. KING of New York.
H.R. 3589: Mr. STIVERS and Mr. RIVERA.
H.R. 3608: Mr. YOUNG of Alaska.
H.R. 3618: Mr. MCDERMOTT.

H.R. 3627: Mr. PLATTS.

H.R. 3702: Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. MORAN, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. BLUMENAUER, and Mr. DeFAZIO.

H. Res. 475: Ms. JENKINS and Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania.

H. Res. 507: Mr. COHEN.

H. Res. 509: Mr. BARLETTA, Mr. BERG, Mr. BOUSTANY, Mr. BROUN of Georgia, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. CARTER, Mr. FORBES, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. GOODLATTE, Mr. GRIFFITH of Virginia, Mr. HERGER, Mr. HUELSKAMP, Mr. LANCE, Mrs. MYRICK, Mr. ROONEY, Mr. WEST, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. STEARNS, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. BRADY of Texas, Mr. BUCSHON, Mr. GOWDY, Mrs. MILLER of Michigan, Mr. PRICE of Georgia, Mr. TIPTON, Mr. WOLF, and Mr. WOODALL.

[Submitted January 17, 2012]

H.R. 32: Mr. HOLT.
H.R. 100: Mr. PALAZZO.
H.R. 115: Mr. KIND.
H.R. 121: Mr. BISHOP of Utah.
H.R. 178: Mr. INSLEE.
H.R. 205: Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. PALLONE, and Mr. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 361: Mr. BERG and Mr. TURNER of Ohio.
H.R. 401: Mr. YARMUTH.
H.R. 413: Mr. GRIJALVA and Mr. JACKSON of Illinois.
H.R. 419: Mr. COHEN.
H.R. 453: Mr. COHEN.
H.R. 456: Mr. MICHAUD.
H.R. 466: Mr. CLARKE of Michigan.
H.R. 494: Mr. FILNER.
H.R. 520: Mrs. MALONEY.
H.R. 587: Mrs. CAPPS.
H.R. 591: Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, and Mr. BLUMENAUER.
H.R. 640: Ms. ESHOO and Mr. GONZALEZ.
H.R. 645: Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 735: Mr. FORTENBERRY.
H.R. 814: Mr. KISSELL.
H.R. 835: Mr. UPTON and Mr. RUNYAN.
H.R. 931: Ms. JENKINS and Mrs. HARTZLER.
H.R. 938: Mrs. HARTZLER and Mr. HASTINGS of Florida.
H.R. 998: Mr. RANGEL and Ms. KAPTUR.
H.R. 1085: Mr. TIERNEY.
H.R. 1130: Mr. KIND and Mr. ISRAEL.
H.R. 1148: Mr. GOWDY and Mr. COSTELLO.
H.R. 1173: Ms. JENKINS and Mr. ADERHOLT.
H.R. 1175: Mr. PETERSON and Mr. NUGENT.
H.R. 1182: Mr. GOSAR.
H.R. 1294: Mr. MCDERMOTT.
H.R. 1295: Mr. MCDERMOTT.
H.R. 1311: Mr. KEATING.
H.R. 1350: Mr. GUTIERREZ.
H.R. 1375: Mr. SERRANO.
H.R. 1385: Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 1418: Mr. CHABOT.
H.R. 1543: Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut.
H.R. 1564: Mr. FILNER and Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York.
H.R. 1579: Ms. DELAURO.
H.R. 1681: Mr. ENGELL.
H.R. 1746: Ms. LEE of California.
H.R. 1810: Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. PLATTS, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. LATOURETTE, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, and Ms. SLAUGHTER.
H.R. 1811: Mrs. HARTZLER.
H.R. 1845: Mrs. BONO MACK.
H.R. 1897: Ms. WATERS.
H.R. 1901: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.
H.R. 1964: Mr. BARLETTA.
H.R. 1978: Ms. SLAUGHTER.
H.R. 2026: Mr. WALZ of Minnesota.
H.R. 2077: Mr. PAUL.
H.R. 2085: Ms. CHU and Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas.
H.R. 2086: Mr. CAPUANO.
H.R. 2123: Ms. SCHWARTZ.
H.R. 2139: Mrs. SCHMIDT, Mrs. MALONEY, Mr. CAPUANO, and Mr. GIBSON.

- H.R. 2140: Mr. McDERMOTT.
H.R. 2168: Ms. HIRONO.
H.R. 2179: Mr. BONNER, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. MARCHANT, and Mr. LONG.
H.R. 2207: Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut.
H.R. 2215: Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York.
H.R. 2229: Mr. FILNER.
H.R. 2284: Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan.
H.R. 2336: Mr. SHERMAN.
H.R. 2412: Mr. ENGEL and Mr. CICILLINE.
H.R. 2418: Mr. ROSS of Arkansas, Mr. OWENS, Mr. HOLDEN, and Mr. PETERSON.
H.R. 2437: Ms. SCHWARTZ and Mr. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 2487: Mr. MORAN.
H.R. 2499: Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. BACA, Mr. FILLNER, and Mr. LOEBACK.
H.R. 2514: Mr. STUTZMAN, Mr. ROSS of Florida, and Mr. QUAYLE.
H.R. 2542: Mr. BROOKS.
H.R. 2547: Mr. CLARKE of Michigan.
H.R. 2689: Mr. CICILLINE.
H.R. 2900: Mr. BISHOP of Utah.
H.R. 2970: Ms. BALDWIN and Mr. BUTTERFIELD.
H.R. 3032: Mr. ALEXANDER.
H.R. 3059: Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas.
H.R. 3083: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.
H.R. 3126: Mr. RUSH.
H.R. 3156: Mr. MULVANEY.
H.R. 3200: Ms. SLAUGHTER and Mr. STARK.
H.R. 3236: Mr. DEFAZIO.
H.R. 3269: Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. MACK, Mr. DOYLE, Mr. PALAZZO, and Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas.
H.R. 3324: Mr. TIERNEY.
H.R. 3400: Mr. FINCHER and Mr. HULTGREN.
H.R. 3401: Mr. ISSA.
H.R. 3418: Mr. GONZALEZ, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. CONYERS, and Mr. HINCHEY.
H.R. 3425: Mr. LARSON of Connecticut.
H.R. 3440: Mr. HUELSKAMP, Mr. AUSTRIA, and Mr. GOSAR.
H.R. 3485: Mr. LEVIN.
H.R. 3506: Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York.
- H.R. 3521: Mr. BERG.
H.R. 3568: Mr. PETERSON, Mr. CONYERS, and Mr. HONDA.
H.R. 3573: Mr. PAYNE.
H.R. 3581: Mr. WESTMORELAND.
H.R. 3594: Mr. AUSTRIA, Mr. GRAVES of Georgia, Ms. JENKINS, and Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 3596: Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. RAHALL, Mr. HIGGINS, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. PASTOR of Arizona, Mr. OWENS, Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. KEATING, and Ms. CLARKE of New York.
H.R. 3608: Mr. ROKITA, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, and Mrs. BLACK.
H.R. 3625: Mrs. CHRISTENSEN and Ms. BROWN of Florida.
H.R. 3627: Mr. MARKEY.
H.R. 3632: Mr. STARK.
H.R. 3634: Mr. NADLER.
H.R. 3636: Mr. COURTNEY.
H.R. 3639: Mr. GOWDY.
H.R. 3643: Mr. ALTMIRE.
H.R. 3648: Mr. YOUNG of Alaska.
H.R. 3676: Mr. MANZULLO, Mrs. LUMMIS, Mr. AMODEI, and Mr. PEARCE.
H.R. 3702: Mr. KEATING and Mr. CAPUANO.
H.R. 3704: Mr. FARR.
H.R. 3713: Mr. FILNER, Mr. COURTNEY, and Ms. SPEIER.
H.R. 3770: Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. MANZULLO, Mr. FARENTHOLD, and Mr. MULVANEY.
H.J. Res. 88: Mr. HINCHEY and Mr. SMITH of Washington.
H.J. Res. 98: Mr. STEARNS, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. GARRETT, Mr. POSEY, Mr. GINGREY of Georgia, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mrs. SCHMIDT, Mr. JORDAN, Mr. GIBSON, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina, Mr. GOWDY, Mr. HUELSKAMP, Mr. MACK, Mr. GUINTA, Mr. HULTGREN, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. PRICE of Georgia, Mr. FARENTHOLD, Mr. AUSTRIA, Mr. BERG, Mr. LATTA, Ms. JENKINS, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. MANZULLO, Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois, Mr. GOODLATTE, Mr. PALAZZO, Mr. BARLETTA, Mr. MULVANEY, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mr. SOUTHERLAND, Mr. BROOKS, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. AKIN, Ms. BUERKLE, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. NUGENT, Mr. AMODEI, Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas, Mr. ROSS of Florida, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. FORBES, Mr. COBLE, Mr. REHBERG, Mr. JONES, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. POE of Texas, Mr. CHAFFETZ, Mr. TERRY, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. GOHMERT, Mrs. LUMMIS, Mr. PAULSEN, Mr. NUNNELEE, Mrs. BIGGERT, Mr. CANSECO, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. GRAVES of Georgia, and Mr. STUTZMAN.
H. Con. Res. 60: Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas.
H. Con. Res. 85: Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Ms. CHU, Ms. BASS of California, and Mr. SERRANO.
H. Res. 20: Ms. WATERS and Mr. LEVIN.
H. Res. 282: Mr. ISSA.
H. Res. 378: Mr. STARK.
H. Res. 403: Mr. POSEY.
H. Res. 460: Mr. COSTELLO, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. ROSS of Arkansas, Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas, and Mr. HASTINGS of Florida.
H. Res. 475: Mr. NUGENT and Mr. ROKITA.
H. Res. 507: Mr. BUCHANAN.
H. Res. 509: Mr. LATHAM, Mr. GINGREY of Georgia, Mr. FARENTHOLD, Mr. MANZULLO, Mr. FORTENBERRY, and Mr. MCCAUL.

DELETIONS OF SPONSORS FROM
PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were deleted from public bills and resolutions as follows:

- H.R. 1161: Mr. SCHRADER.
H.R. 3261: Mr. QUAYLE.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES PRIOR TO SINE DIE ADJOURNMENT OF THE 112TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION

BILLS PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House reports that on November 19, 2011 she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bills:

H.R. 3321. To facilitate the hosting in the United States of the 34th America's Cup by authorizing certain eligible vessels to participate in activities related to the competition, and for other purposes.

H.R. 674. To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the imposition of 3 percent withholding on certain payments made to vendors by government entities, to modify the calculation of modified adjusted gross income for purposes of determining eligibility for certain healthcare-related programs, and for other purposes.

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House also reports that on December 2, 2011 she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bill.

H.R. 394. To amend title 28, United States Code, to clarify the jurisdiction of the Federal courts, and for other purposes.

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House also reports that on December 7, 2011 she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bill.

H.R. 2192. To exempt for an additional 4-year period, from the application of the means-test presumption of abuse under chapter 7, qualifying members of reserve components of the Armed Forces and members of the National Guard who, after September 11, 2001, are called to active duty or to perform a homeland defense activity for not less than 90 days.

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House also reports that on December 13, 2011 she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bills.

H.R. 2061. To authorize the presentation of a United States flag on behalf of Federal civilian employees who die of injuries incurred in connection with their employment.

H.R. 470. To further allocate and expand the availability of hydroelectric power gen-

erated at Hoover Dam, and for other purposes.

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House also reports that on December 16, 2011 she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bill.

H.J. Res. 94. Making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes.

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House also reports that on December 17, 2011 she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bill.

H.J. Res. 95. Making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes.

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House also reports that on December 19, 2011 she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bills.

H.R. 2867. To reauthorize the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3421. To award Congressional Gold Medals in honor of the men and women who perished as a result of the terrorist attacks on the United States on September 11, 2001.

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House also reports that on December 21, 2011 she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bills.

H.R. 1540. To authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2012 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2055. Making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3672. Making appropriations for disaster relief requirements for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes.

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House also reports that on December 23, 2011

she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bills.

H.R. 3765. To extend the payroll tax holiday, unemployment compensation, Medicare physician payment, provide for the consideration of the Keystone XL pipeline, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1801. To amend title 49, United States Code, to provide for expedited security screenings for members of the Armed Forces.

H.R. 1059. To protect the safety of judges by extending the authority of the Judicial Conference to redact sensitive information contained in their financial disclosure reports, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2056. To instruct the Inspector General of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation to study the impact of insured depository institution failures, and for other purposes.

H.R. 515. To reauthorize the Belarus Democracy Act of 2004.

H.R. 1264. To designate the property between the United States Federal Courthouse and the Ed Jones Building located at 109 South Highland Avenue in Jackson, Tennessee, as the "M.D. Anderson Plaza" and to authorize the placement of a historical/identification marker on the grounds recognizing the achievements and philanthropy of M.D. Anderson.

H.R. 2422. To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 45 Bay Street, Suite 2, in Staten Island, New York, as the "Sergeant Angel Mendez Post Office".

H.R. 789. To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 20 Main Street in Little Ferry, New Jersey, as the "Sergeant Matthew J. Fenton Post Office".

H.R. 1892. To authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2012 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2845. To amend title 49, United States Code, to provide for enhanced safety and environmental protection in pipeline transportation, to provide for enhanced reliability in the transportation of the Nation's energy products by pipeline, and for other purposes.



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Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 112th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 158

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2012

No. 5

Senate

The Senate met at 10:15 and 2 seconds a.m., and was called to order by the Honorable KIRSTEN E. GILLIBRAND, a Senator from the State of New York.

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 bill clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, January 17, 2012.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable KIRSTEN E. GILLIBRAND, a Senator from the State of New York, to perform the duties of the Chair.

DANIEL K. INOUE,
President pro tempore.

Mrs. GILLIBRAND thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL FRIDAY,
JANUARY 20, 2012, AT 2 P.M.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned until 2 p.m. on Friday, January 20, 2012.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 10:15 and 30 seconds a.m., adjourned until Friday, January 20, 2012, at 2 p.m.

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



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EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE 2012 CONGRESS-BUNDESTAG/BUNDESRAT EXCHANGE

HON. JOHN A. BOEHNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 17, 2012

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, since 1983, the U.S. Congress and the German Bundestag and Bundesrat have conducted an annual exchange program for staff members from both countries. The program gives professional staff the opportunity to observe and learn about each other's political institutions and interact on issues of mutual interest.

A staff delegation from the U.S. Congress will be selected to visit Germany for ten days from May 18–27 of this year. During this ten day exchange, the delegation will attend meetings with Bundestag/Bundesrat Members, Bundestag and Bundesrat party staff members, and representatives of numerous political, business, academic, and media agencies.

A comparable delegation of German staff members will visit the United States for ten days April 14–22 of this year. They will attend similar meetings here in Washington. The U.S. delegation is expected to facilitate these meetings.

The Congress-Bundestag/Bundesrat Exchange is highly regarded in Germany and the United States, and is one of several exchange programs sponsored by public and private institutions in the United States and Germany to foster better understanding of the politics and policies of both countries. This exchange is funded by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs.

The U.S. delegation should consist of experienced and accomplished Hill staff who can contribute to the success of the exchange on both sides of the Atlantic. The Bundestag reciprocates by sending senior staff professionals to the United States.

Applicants should have a demonstrable interest in events in Europe. Applicants need not be working in the field of foreign affairs, although such a background can be helpful. The composite U.S. delegation should exhibit a range of expertise in issues of mutual concern to the United States and Germany such as, but not limited to, trade, security, the environment, economic development, health care, and other social policy issues. This year's delegation should be familiar with transatlantic relations within the context of recent world events.

In addition, U.S. participants are expected to help plan and implement the program for the Bundestag/Bundesrat staff members when they visit the United States. Participants are expected to assist in planning topical meetings in Washington, and are encouraged to host one or two staffers in their Member's district in April, or to arrange for such a visit to another Member's district.

Participants are selected by a committee composed of personnel from the Bureau of

Educational and Cultural Affairs of the Department of State and past participants of the exchange.

Members of the House and Senate who would like a member of their staff to apply for participation in this year's program should direct them to submit a resume and cover letter in which they state their qualifications, the contributions they can make to a successful program and some assurances of their ability to participate during the time stated.

Applications may be sent to the Office of Interparliamentary Affairs, HC-4, the Capitol, by 5 p.m. on Friday, February 24, 2012.

RECOGNIZING MR. WILLIAM LE'RON JACKSON FOR HIS SERVICE IN THE COMMUNITY

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 17, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable public servant, Mr. William Le'Ron Jackson. Mr. Jackson is a lifelong resident of Byram, Mississippi. He is the son of Mrs. Hollia Smith-Thompson, Henry Thompson, Jr., and Mr. William Smith. He is a graduate of Jackson State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice. Mr. Jackson is aspiring to obtain a law degree with an emphasis on Disability and Common law.

Mr. Jackson has been involved in numerous volunteer activities throughout the years. He is a dynamic role model who mentors people with and without disabilities throughout the state on the values of education and self-advocacy. Mr. Jackson has worked for Living Independence for Everyone, LIFE, of Mississippi and a children's medical program under the Mississippi Department of Health. He has also served as an AmeriCorps Volunteer. Mr. Jackson always finds time to give back to his community by giving statewide presentations and serving on various committees, such as the My Voice My Choice Board of Directors, Healthy Opportunities for Transition Advisory Council, Teen Empowerment Success Training Council, and the National Youth Leadership Network.

During 2010, Mr. Jackson expanded his volunteer service by beginning a three-year term as a Member of the Board of Directors for Disability Rights Mississippi, a non-profit agency that provides protection and advocacy services to people with disabilities statewide.

Mr. Jackson recently was selected in March 2011, to be a part of a committee, formed with the assistance of the Commissioner of the United States Administration on Development Disabilities, ADD, and other national self-advocacy organizations, to focus on improving self-advocacy throughout the state of Mississippi.

During April 2011, Mr. Jackson was awarded the Governor's Initiative for Volunteer Excellence, GIVE, Award, which is presented by

the Mississippi Commission for Volunteer Service in cooperation with the Office of the Governor to recognize individuals, organizations, or communities for volunteer efforts which have made a significant difference to the state or to local communities, establishing high standards for volunteer involvement and effectiveness, and multiplying resources for communities.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Jackson for his dedication to serving others and giving back to the community.

MEMORIES OF DAVID KATZ

HON. E. SCOTT RIGELL

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 17, 2012

Mr. RIGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to enter a statement into the RECORD on behalf of my constituent, Sam Katz. Mr. Katz asked me to enter the following remarks into the RECORD in remembrance of his father, David Katz. Mr. Katz's statement follows:

Today, we mourn the loss of a great man; a man who to us was simply known and loved as, "Daddy."

Daddy was first and foremost a loving, caring, and dedicated husband for nearly 59 years to the wonderful lady we simply know and love as, "Mommy." Daddy's love and support for Mommy is something every man should learn from.

We could not have asked for a more loving and dedicated father. Always a father, he was also our mentor, teacher, and when necessary, a friend. We were deeply blessed with a very peaceful and loving family life with two wonderful parents. We always believed our parents' love for each other was strong. However, throughout Daddy's illnesses this past year, it became beautifully and painfully clear that their marriage was sustained by true and genuine love. There were times in the hospital and in care facilities when Mommy would go to extremes just to give Daddy a kiss because it meant so much to her, and for as long as we can remember, Mommy was the glimmer in Daddy's eyes. This was not a marriage that lasted out of convenience or for the sake of their four children. This beautiful and long marriage endured better, worse, richer, poorer, sickness and health, and was still parted only by death.

We never heard a cross word spoken between Mommy and Daddy, and never even heard them call each other by their first names. Everyone should be so fortunate!

Growing up was a lot of fun. We went on regular summer vacations. Daddy traveled quite a bit and at times, would take one or more of us with him on the road. We traveled to family Bar and Bat Mitzvahs and spent as much time as possible together as a family.

Family dinners were very important to Daddy. We would wait for him to come home from work and the entire family would have dinner together and talk about our day. We spent evenings together watching our 19" black and white TV in the family room—the

• 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.

only TV in the house. This was very important to Mommy and Daddy. We didn't have TVs in our bedrooms and our parents didn't hide away in theirs watching TV.

There were lots of great moments that probably weren't so great for Daddy, such as: us kids learning to drive or taking apart cars in the garage. Through it all, Daddy was always a dedicated father with our best interests in his sights. He genuinely wanted each of us to succeed and to be our best.

Daddy lived his life the proudest man in the world. He always bragged about Mommy and us four children; he treasured the fact that we remained close through our adult lives. As we got older, each of us children chose a career path and moved out on our own. We stayed in touch and enjoyed many family gatherings where we grew up in Williamsville, NY, in New Jersey and for the past 17 years, in Chesapeake, Virginia. At times, we (the kids) would stay up all night talking and having fun. About the only thing that has changed over the years is that now we sometimes stay up as late as ten p.m.

Thanksgiving has always been a very special time for all of us to unite, and this past year was no different. It meant the world to Daddy to be home and with his family. With his health declining before our eyes over Thanksgiving weekend, he remained that proud and wonderful man: the Daddy that we all loved. We are all very proud to have given him this gift, and are convinced this time together has made his journey from this earth more peaceful.

Daddy's other loves: classical music and photography. Born of two concert musicians, he studied piano at the age of three, violin at five, and once arriving in the United States, composition at one of the finest music conservatories in New York. He performed under the batons of some of the greatest conductors in the world. While Daddy's ears are probably still ringing from the blasting rock and roll sounds from our teenage bedrooms, classical music of some fashion has touched all of our lives over the years. Daddy peacefully passed with classical music playing in his room.

A self-taught accomplished photographer, his one-person shows over the years were awe-inspiring and his natural creativity will never be duplicated. Those that share his passion for photography will never forget the lessons learned from him over many years. Thankfully, he was also the kindest critic.

In closing: Daddy didn't talk a lot about being a Holocaust survivor while we were growing up. We would get "sound bites." For example, when we would ask him to drive us somewhere close, he would respond with: "I walked 500 miles to the Swiss border when I was your age." We had no idea it was really true.

Over the years, we started to understand a little more about his survival, but he was never willing to document it. Thankfully, when he retired, he took the time, and now his story has been published in several books including a wonderful autobiography. His story is also presented in several Holocaust documentaries and with the Shoah Foundation.

Daddy was well known throughout the Tidewater community as he regularly spoke about his Holocaust years at schools, military installations, and many other organizations. His story will live on for those that will never have the opportunity to meet the great man, Daddy.

HONORING THE RECIPIENTS OF
THE KENNEBEC VALLEY CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE AWARDS

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 17, 2012

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding recipients of the 2012 Annual Kennebec Valley Chamber of Commerce Awards. The Kennebec Valley Chamber serves the people of Maine's Capital Region with distinction, working every day to strengthen and develop economic and community opportunity throughout the Kennebec Valley and the entire State.

Every year, the Kennebec Valley Chamber of Commerce honors some of the outstanding businesses individuals that are doing their part to make Maine a better place to work and live. These Mainers are to be commended for their outstanding service and commitment to growing the economy in the Capital Region.

This year's award recipients include the Pine State Trading Co., Business of the Year; John V. Finnegan, Business Person of the Year; and William H. Perry, Lifetime Achievement Award. Recipients of the President's Award include Keltie McCatherin Collins, Kennebec Dance Centre; John Reny, Renys Department Store; and Steve Barrows, Steve's Appliance Service and Sales. Community Service Awards recipients include Judy Lloyd, Johnson Hall Performing Arts Center; and, Carolyn Neighoff, currently a service learning mentor in Augusta. Tobias Parkhurst of Oakes & Parkhurst Glass earned the Young Professional Award.

These individuals and the business they represent are some of the best that Maine has to offer, and are stellar examples of the quality of people and businesses that serve as the economic and cultural engine of the Capital Area. They are to be commended for their meritorious service to their community.

Mr. Speaker, please join me again in congratulating the recipients of the 2012 Kennebec Valley Chamber of Commerce Awards on their outstanding achievements.

RECOGNIZING MR. WARREN SMALL
FOR HIS SERVICE TO OUR COUNTRY
AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO
THE COMMUNITY

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 17, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable veteran, Mr. Warren Small, Jr. Mr. Small has shown what can be done through hard work and lofty goals.

Mr. Small, a resident of Rolling Fork, Mississippi, was born on July 17, 1934, to Warren and Betty Small in Winona, Mississippi. He graduated from Kilmichael High School in 1953. After high school, he enlisted in the United States Army in 1955 where he served until 1958. He returned to the Army for one additional year in 1961. After serving in the Army twice, he attended Mississippi Valley State University where he earned a Bachelor's degree in 1962.

In 1968, Mr. Small obtained a Masters in Mathematics from Colorado College in Colorado Springs, Colorado. From 1960 to 1993, Mr. Small taught mathematics at different levels throughout the Sharkey County, Mississippi, School System. In 1973, Mr. Small joined the Army National Guard and served until 1994 when he retired.

In 1961, he married the late Joyce Love Small and to that union they had two children, Warren III and Toyce Michelle. He joined Mount Lula Missionary Baptist Church upon his move to Rolling Fork, Mississippi, in the early 1960s. There, he actively serves on the deacon board. Since 1993, he has held the Veteran Service Officer position for the counties of Sharkey and Issaquena. He is also employed with the Issaquena County Correctional Facility in Mayersville, Mississippi, as a Life Skills and Pre-Release Counselor.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing an honorable veteran, Mr. Warren Small, Jr., for his dedication and service to our great country as well as his contributions to the Sharkey County, Mississippi, community.

CELEBRATING BABY LOU'S
RETIREMENT

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 17, 2012

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure and sincere respect that I congratulate my good friend Mr. Loreto "Baby Lou" Gonzalez on his retirement from ArcelorMittal, formerly the Inland Steel Company. Mr. Gonzalez, a member of United Steelworkers Local 1010 for many years, has dedicated his life to the interests of his fellow tradesmen and the entire community in Northwest Indiana. For his lifetime of service, Baby Lou was honored at a retirement celebration at Club Ki-Yowga in East Chicago, Indiana, on January 7, 2012.

Baby Lou is the youngest of seven children born to Loreto and Carlota Gonzalez. Following his graduation in 1965 from East Chicago Washington High School, Baby Lou began working at Inland Steel in the slab yard. After years of service, he eventually moved to the 80" hot strip where he became a crane operator. Mr. Gonzalez has been one of the most active members of Steelworkers Local 1010, where he was a grievance steward for 30 years.

Baby Lou's dedication to his community has always been a focal point of his life's work. He has helped Local 1010 annually with its food and coat drive to assist families in need. Recognizing the importance of civic involvement, he has also assisted in voter registration and community outreach programs to help improve the lives of all residents of Northwest Indiana. Baby Lou Gonzalez has served as a board member for the Catherine House and the Northwest Indiana Catholic Youth Organization. Additionally, he has spent countless hours coaching and developing baseball players in the East Chicago Little League and Senior League, worked tirelessly as a precinct committeeman, and is currently a member of the Human Rights Committee for East Chicago.

While my friend has been a dedicated worker for the last 47 years, and a steadfast contributor to his community, he has been an even more dedicated husband to Irene, father to Louie, Irene, and Kurt, and grandfather to three wonderful grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, Loreto Gonzalez has given his time and efforts selflessly to the steelworkers with whom he has worked and to the people of Northwest Indiana for his entire life. He has been a true role model to his peers and a true friend to Northwest Indiana. I respectfully ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in commending Baby Lou for his outstanding contributions to Northwest Indiana and in wishing him well upon his retirement.

SHANNON MOODY

HON. FRANK C. GUINTA

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 17, 2012

Mr. GUINTA. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I congratulate Shannon Moody as she is recognized with the STAR Award by the Learn To Read Program for reading her 700th book to her daughter. The Student Achievement in Reading Award is given to one student per year who has shown exceptional dedication, commitment and persistence in reaching their literacy goal. Shannon worked towards this goal with the help of her volunteer tutor and utilized the vast resources available at the Manchester Public Library.

Shannon recognizes and appreciates the quality time she and her daughter share when they read together. As a parent, I know the importance of spending time with your children and she has set a fine example to her daughter on working hard towards a goal that is important to you. I'm sure Shannon's efforts have instilled a great love of reading into her daughter and she can be very proud of her achievements in the Learn To Read Program.

I congratulate Shannon and wish her all the best for continued success in the future.

RECOGNIZING MR. THEODORE McCURTIS FOR HIS HONORABLE SERVICE TO OUR COUNTRY

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 17, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable disabled veteran, Mr. Theodore McCurtis, who was born September 19, 1934, in Hinds County, Edwards, Mississippi. He was the fourth of eight children born to the late Herman and Mae Bell Lloyd McCurtis. Mr. McCurtis' early years of education began at Edwards Elementary School and continued on to Southern Christian Institute High School in Edwards, Mississippi. From there, he volunteered to go to the United States Air Force while in the 12th grade.

Mr. McCurtis entered the United States Air Force on October 22, 1952, where he served in the Korean War. He received basic training at Parks Air Force Base in Pleasanton, California.

Mr. McCurtis served at Castle Air Force Base in Merced, California, and was attached to a Strategic Air Command. He was later sent to England where he served in the Military Police and embarked on missions to set up radar around the world. After dutiful service, he became disabled and lost the use of both his hands.

Mr. McCurtis is a member of Friendship Missionary Baptist Church in Edwards, Mississippi, where he serves as a dedicated Trustee. His membership at Friendship Missionary Baptist Church began during childhood under the leadership of his grandfather, Sam Butler, who was the second minister of Friendship Missionary Baptist Church.

Mr. McCurtis is happily married to his wife of 45 years, Mrs. Christine E. McCurtis. They have four children: Theodore, Jr., Martin Lloyd, Andrea Denise, and Sharon Denise McCurtis.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Theodore McCurtis for his honorable service to our country.

RECOGNIZING CHESTER STANLEY LOBODZINSKI

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 17, 2012

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to stand before you and my colleagues today to recognize Chester Stanley Lobodzinski. Chester has dedicated his life to serving the community of Northwest Indiana. His outstanding dedication put forth toward public service has allowed him the opportunity to enrich the lives of countless individuals.

For his tremendous passion to serve those in need and to encourage others to do the same, Chester is a true leader and an inspiration. He has accomplished so much throughout his life and I am grateful for his numerous contributions to the community of Northwest Indiana. Chester, a retired steelworker, founded the American Steelworkers National Day, a day that honors steelworkers who have been committed to improving the quality of life for people in Northwest Indiana. Chester is also the founder of the local chapter of the Youngstown Sheet and Tube Old-Timers, an organization that brings people together through public service. Another project that Chester has organized and developed is the Hammond Tech Appreciation Society, which recognizes and honors the faculty and alumni of Hammond Tech High School. In addition to these wonderful organizations, Chester is also a member of American Legion Post 261 in Cedar Lake, Indiana, and has given much of his time to the Crown Point Little League and the Chester Stanley Lobodzinski Hope Foundation for cancer patients, among others. Chester's unwavering perseverance and his enthusiastic outlook when it comes to community service is to be admired, and he is worthy of our highest praise.

Chester's dedication to public service and the community of Northwest Indiana is exceeded only by his devotion to his amazing family. Chester and his lovely wife, Lurene, have been happily married for almost fifty years. They raised four beloved children: Cathy, Stan, Tim, and the late Anita, and have

two adoring grandchildren. Mr. Speaker, Chester Lobodzinski has always given his time and efforts generously and compassionately. I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring him for his exceptional charitable work. Chester continues to touch the lives of countless people, and for his unselfish, lifelong commitment, he is to be commended.

HONORING CHARLES T. "CHUCK" KENNEDY

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 17, 2012

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to honor Mr. Charles T. "Chuck" Kennedy on the occasion of his retirement with the National Security Agency, NSA, after 31 years of distinguished service.

As Chief of the Office of Contracting at NSA, Mr. Kennedy has been responsible for about 36,000 contracting actions per year. His expertise has been used in joint NSA initiatives with other countries and foreign contractors. Mr. Kennedy is also a member of NSA's Power, Space, and Cooling Triage Team. This cross-functional team, made up of leaders throughout the NSA Washington Enterprise, ensures that high-priority mission requirements receive the necessary power and cooling to function.

Mr. Kennedy is also a member of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence Procurement Executive Council. This interagency team examines procurement challenges, helps streamline processes and establishes contracts.

Mr. Kennedy spent his entire career in the contracting field, graduating from his internship in 1983. Over the years, Mr. Kennedy progressed through various management levels that included Chief of the Signals Intelligence Directorate/Research & Development Contracting Office, Chief of the Information Technology Enterprise Contracting Office, Chief of the Mission Support Contracting Office and Chief of the Cost and Economic Analysis Contracting Office.

Mr. Kennedy is a recipient of the Meritorious Civilian Service Award. This is NSA's second highest honorary award, given only to extraordinary individual achievements of major significance to NSA, the Department of Defense, or the United States Government.

Mr. Kennedy holds two Masters of Science Degrees, a Bachelors of Science Degree and is a graduate of the NSA Senior Cryptologic Course. His certifications include Defense Acquisition Workforce Improvement Act Certified Level 4—Acquisition Corps and NSA Logistician. He holds an unlimited Contracting Officer warrant.

Mr. Kennedy and his wife Patti have been married for 34 years. They have three sons and three grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join with me today to honor Mr. Kennedy. His long and dedicated service to the United States government is an inspiration to all of us. It is with great pride that I congratulate Mr. Kennedy on his retirement and wish him the best of luck in the future.

RECOGNIZING MR. CALVIN DICKERSON FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS AND SERVICE THROUGHOUT HIS COMMUNITY

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 17, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable and honorable man, Mr. Calvin Dickerson. Mr. Dickerson has shown what can be done through hard work, dedication, and a desire to serve. He is currently a 56-year-old resident of Rolling Fork, Mississippi, where he volunteers countless hours to the Mississippi Christian Family Services.

Mr. Dickerson is well known at Mississippi Christian Family Services and throughout the community for his hard work, dedication, reliability, and kind deeds. His work at Mississippi Christian Family Services includes making sure families in need of quality social services are provided for in a kindly, comforting, and proficient manner.

Mr. Dickerson volunteers with the Rolling Fork Fire Department, Police Department, and assists the security guards with the Sharkey County Sheriff Department at football and basketball games at the local public and private high schools.

He has the opportunity to serve as an assistant tour guide at the two most popular events that are held each year: the Great Delta Festival held in May and the Bear Festival held in October. He enjoys helping the tour guide show students from local schools the different bear carvings and the stations that are set up to inform students about how the event originated and other important features.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing a dynamic servant of the community, Mr. Calvin Dickerson for his dedication to service throughout his community.

KHAN ACADEMY PROJECT

HON. CHAKA FATTAH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 17, 2012

Mr. FATTAH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to draw the attention of the House to the recent innovative vision developed by the Khan Academy, a non-profit educational organization. The organization's mission aims to decrease the disparity of educational resources, by using the internet as a tool to revolutionize the way we approach knowledge. In their attempt to mobilize a free, world-class education, they have compiled over 2,700 videos in the subjects of math, biology, chemistry, physics, history and art. The production of these videos is helping adults and children fill in gaps of knowledge they either forgot or never learned. I know that the Khan Academy recognizes the importance of technology in education and I commend them for their effort to develop creative strategies to help our children learn.

Salman Khan is the founder and visionary of the Khan Academy project. After graduating from Massachusetts Institution of Technology,

he pursued a career in finance and quit his job in 2009. While he assisted his cousin with the subject of mathematics, he designed tutorial videos and eventually published them online. He received a successful response from over 20,000 users, which ultimately led to his interest in crafting a media tool that would help revamp traditional classroom techniques. Currently, the Khan Academy receives about \$2 million in support and continues to expand videos and programs. Most recently, the organization decided to make the material available in community colleges and charter schools in the United States.

By recognizing the importance of technology in education, we have a responsibility to make sure that more people have access to the internet. If we fail to pave the road for this access to pioneering technologies, we run the risk of furthering economic disparities and barriers to equal education. I encourage my colleagues to become familiar with the Khan Academy's website and use the fresh approaches in technology to elevate their knowledge about the world.

RECOGNIZING GEORGE THIEL

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 17, 2012

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I take this opportunity to recognize one of Northwest Indiana's most dedicated and selfless citizens, Mr. George Thiel, of Griffith, Indiana. After serving the people of Griffith as a firefighter for sixty years, the last twenty-nine of which he served as the department's Fire Chief, George retired from service at the beginning of 2012. In recognition of Mr. Thiel's service to his community, not only as a firefighter but also for his commitment to serving his community in many other capacities, a party was held in his honor on Sunday, January 8, 2012.

George was born March 20, 1926, in Saint John, Indiana, and learned the meaning of dedication and hard work on his family's farm. To this day, George still enjoys farming. After graduating from Dyer Central High School, George entered the Army, where he was quickly promoted to Sergeant for the 99th Infantry Division. During his military service, he participated in the Battle of the Bulge and earned a Purple Heart Medal. George was honorably discharged from the Army in 1945 and began his first career as a home builder, retiring from that position in 1990. Shortly after beginning his first career, George found his true love and married Peggy Vestal in 1951. He then found his other true love and joined the Griffith Fire Department in 1952. George and Peggy were blessed to have three children: Mike, Larry, and Sandy, who have given them six wonderful grandchildren. George remained dedicated to his family and his career and was promoted to Fire Chief in 1983, a post he retained until his retirement.

Of all the awards and highlights of a sixty-year firefighting career, George can be most proud of the public educational work he has accomplished and the countless lives he has saved. George has saved many lives simply through his initiative to provide Griffith residents with smoke detectors, carbon monoxide

detectors, and fire extinguishers at no cost to the resident. Additionally, George has passed on much of his knowledge and expertise to so many firefighters that Griffith will benefit for generations to come.

Aside from his incredible sixty years of service on the fire department, George's contributions to the Northwest Indiana community extend to numerous youth organizations that were fortunate to have George's coaching and mentoring skills. George continues to enjoy volunteering and watching all Griffith High School football and basketball games. George also remains an instrumental teacher to the people of Griffith by sharing his knowledge of the rich tradition and history of the town.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in commending Mr. George Thiel for his lifetime of leadership, service, and dedication to the residents of Griffith, Indiana. He has touched the lives of countless citizens, and his commitment to the safety of his community and to the improvement of the quality of life for the people of Griffith is to be admired.

RECOGNIZING MS. LELA BUIE FOR HER PERSISTENCE DESPITE DISABILITY AND DEDICATION TO SERVE OTHERS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 17, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable person with disability, Ms. Lela Buie. Born on June 26, 1938, in Jefferson County, Fayette, Mississippi, she is the youngest of four children to the late Eda and Jude Sims. Her early years of education began at Ledall Elementary School and she later attended Elcorn in Lorman, Mississippi, and received her General Education Diploma.

Ms. Buie was employed at the Mississippi Department of Labor for 17 years before retiring to take care of her children.

Ms. Buie has two daughters, Sarah and Shirley Buie, and four sons, G.C. Buie, Jr., Edward Charles, Jude, and Robert Ander.

Ms. Buie is happy to have seen her loving children grow up to be successful and has a host of nieces and nephews that love and care for her. Ms. Buie is a longtime member of Rosehill Church #2.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Ms. Lela Buie for her dedication to serving others in her disability.

RECOGNIZING THE SELECTION OF MR. TRACY HOWARD FOR THE ARMY ALL-AMERICAN GAME

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 17, 2012

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the accomplishments of Mr. Tracy Howard, Jr. of Miramar, Florida. Mr. Howard was selected to play in the 2012 Army All-American game on January 7, 2012. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate him on this great honor, and to recognize all of his extraordinary achievements.

Mr. Howard is a star cornerback for the Miramar High School Patriots. Thanks in part to his proficient coverage skills, the Patriots finished runner up in the Florida High School Athletic Association's Class 8A Football Finals. While the team is full of talented players, college football coaches across the country rate Mr. Howard as one of the best prospects in the country.

As an indication of his talents, Mr. Howard has received numerous honors and awards. He was recently named a first-team Sports Illustrated.com All-American. In addition to playing in the Army All-American game, he was a finalist for both the U.S. Army All-American Player of the Year and Defensive Player of the Year Awards.

Mr. Speaker, Tracy Howard is an extremely talented athlete. His success is just one example of how talent, hard work, and dedication can help people achieve their dreams. I am honored to commend Mr. Howard on his accomplishments, and wish him the best of luck as he continues his football and academic career at the collegiate level.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE MICHAEL
E. SMITH MIDDLE SCHOOL'S 50TH
ANNIVERSARY

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 17, 2012

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to acknowledge the 50th anniversary of the building of the Michael E. Smith Middle School in South Hadley, Massachusetts. The school was built in 1961 and was dedicated on January 14, 1962.

The school is celebrating this milestone with an assembly on the morning of January 18, 2012. The assembly will feature several important faculty members who will be speaking, including Principal Erica Faginski-Stark and Walter Morse, a teacher who has worked at the school for 40 years. In addition, Superintendent Sayer, Former Principal Noel, and State Representative John Scibak will all be speaking at this historic event.

The Michael E. Smith Middle School is a public school in the South Hadley school district of Massachusetts. The school has gone by several names, beginning with the South Hadley Intermediate School upon the building's completion in 1962. In 1978, the school's name was changed to the South Hadley Middle School. With this name change came two new grade levels. The fifth and sixth grades were added to the seventh and eighth grades to double the school's classes. In 2002, the school changed its name for the final time, commemorating the late Michael E. Smith, a past superintendent.

For the last decade, the school has undergone several renovations, including the completion of a new building and an extensive remodeling of the interior. Currently, 700 students in the South Hadley School District are educated at the Michael E. Smith Middle School, with a faculty and staff of 104. Ms. Erica Faginski-Stark is the current Principal of the school, and the Assistant Principals are Mr. Vincent Napoli and Ms. Brett Costello.

I wish to congratulate the Michael E. Smith Middle School on providing 50 years of quality

education. I wish them good luck in educating the children of South Hadley for years to come.

HONORING THE MAYOR OF THE
CITY OF GARY, KAREN FREEMAN-
WILSON

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 17, 2012

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride and the deepest respect that I rise today to honor one of Northwest Indiana's most distinguished citizens, the Mayor of the City of Gary, Indiana, Karen Freeman-Wilson. Born and raised in Gary, Karen is truly one of the most passionate and involved individuals that I have ever known, especially when it comes to serving the people of Gary. Mayor Freeman-Wilson's first term began this year, and in doing so, she took her place in history as the first female mayor of the City.

Karen Freeman was born in Gary, Indiana; her father, a steelworker, and her mother, the coordinator of a local community center. Both took great pride in their city and were heavily involved in their community, and it was through their example that Karen learned the importance of hard work and public service from a young age. Karen credits her parents with teaching her that "to whom much is given, much shall be required," and it is with this ideal in mind that she has accomplished so much throughout her distinguished career.

Following her graduation from Harvard Law School, Karen quickly realized that working in a law firm was not what she was meant to do. Rather, her calling was public service. Throughout her esteemed career, Mayor Freeman-Wilson has held many posts. From 1995 to 2000, she served as a presiding judge for the Gary City Court, during which time she established the first drug treatment court in the State of Indiana. In 2000, Governor Frank O'Bannon appointed Karen to serve as Attorney General for the State of Indiana. After leaving office, Karen continued to work for the public in various capacities. She has served as the Chief Executive Officer of the National Association of Drug Court Professionals, the Executive Director of the National Drug Court Institute, the Director of the Indiana Civil Rights Commission, and as a member of the board of directors for Hythiam, Inc. Mayor Freeman-Wilson has also been involved with numerous other organizations and charitable groups, including: the American Bar Association, the Indiana State Bar Association, Legal Services of Northwest Indiana, the Gary Chamber of Commerce, and the Second Chance Foundation, an organization aimed and combating substance abuse, for which she is a founding member. She is also very active in her church, Israel C.M.E. Church.

For her many contributions to her community, the State of Indiana, and beyond, the Mayor has received countless accolades. To name a few, she was recognized by Ebony magazine as a Leader of the Future, by the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority with the National Award for Achievement in Civil Rights, and is an inductee into the Stanley Goldstein Drug Court Hall of Fame. In addition, she is a recipient of the prestigious Sagamore of the Wa-

bash, awarded by former Indiana Governors Evan Bayh and Frank O'Bannon.

A devoted wife and mother, Karen's passion for serving the people of Gary is matched only by her love for her family. Karen and her husband, Carmen, are the proud parents of a daughter, Jordan. Karen and Carmen have reinforced the same sense of responsibility and civic pride in their daughter that Karen learned from her parents.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and all of my distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating Mayor Karen Freeman-Wilson as she begins her first term as the Mayor of Gary. She is to be commended for her leadership, dedication, and her love for the people of Gary. Karen serves as a true inspiration to those she serves, and I look forward working with her in the years to come.

RECOGNIZING REVEREND LARRY
WILLIAMS FOR HIS HONORABLE
SERVICE TO OUR COUNTRY

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 17, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable veteran, Reverend Larry Williams. Reverend Williams has shown what can be done through hard work, dedication and a desire to make a positive difference in doing God's will.

Reverend Williams, a resident of Mayersville, Mississippi, was born May 25, 1953, to Paul and Gracie Williams in Clarksdale, Mississippi. He enlisted in the United States Army December 7, 1972, and served until January 1993.

Reverend Williams completed his graduation through the Army Program while in Germany. Later, he attended the University of Maryland and earned his Associates Degree from Central Texas College.

He is married to Terry Williams. Together, they have one son, Dominique Williams. Reverend Williams was installed as Pastor at Saint Peter Missionary Baptist Church in December 2006. It is his passion to minister to those who are lost.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Reverend Larry Williams for his dedication and service to our great country.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL
DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 17, 2012

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, on January 26, 1995, when the last attempt at a balanced budget amendment passed the House by a bipartisan vote of 300-132, the national debt was \$4,801,405,175,294.28.

Today, it is \$15,236,323,396,400.44. We've added \$10,434,918,221,106.16 dollars to our debt in 16 years. This is \$10 trillion in debt our Nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
MEMORIAL BREAKFAST

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 17, 2012

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, as we celebrate the birth of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and reflect on his life and work, we are reminded of the challenges that democracy poses to us and the delicate nature of liberty. Dr. King's life, and, unfortunately, his untimely death, reminds us that we must continually work to secure and protect our freedoms. Dr. King, in his courage to act, his willingness to meet challenges, and his ability to achieve, embodied all that is good and true in the battle for liberty.

The spirit of Dr. King lives on in the citizens of communities throughout our nation. It lives on in the people whose actions reflect the spirit of resolve and achievement that will help move our country into the future. In particular, several distinguished individuals from Indiana's First Congressional District were recognized during the 33rd Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Breakfast on Saturday, January 14, 2012, at the Genesis Convention Center in Gary, Indiana. The Gary Frontiers Service Club, which was founded in 1952, sponsors this annual breakfast.

This year, the Gary Frontiers Service Club paid tribute to several local individuals who have for decades unselfishly contributed to improving the quality of life for the people of Gary. Mayor Rudolph Clay was honored with the prestigious Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Drum Major Award for 2012. The individuals recognized as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Marchers at this year's breakfast included: Attorney Arlene D. Colvin, Mr. Richard (Chappy) Woods, Pastor Dwight A. Gardner, Ms. Sandra Jean Irons, Colonel (Retired) Richard D. Ligon, and Bishop E. Bobby Warren. Yolkefellow James Piggee was selected as the 2011 Frontier of the Year. In addition, the club also inducted its first Honorary Member, Reverend Pharis D. Evans, Pastor of Clark Road Baptist Church in Gary, for his many years of service to the Gary Frontiers Service Club. Though very different in nature, the achievement of all these individuals reflect many of the same attributes that Dr. King possessed, as well as the values he advocated. Like Dr. King, these individuals saw challenges and faced them with unwavering strength and determination. Each one of the honored guests' greatness has been found in their willingness to serve with "a heart full of grace and a soul generated by love." They set goals and work selflessly to make them a reality.

Mr. Speaker, I urge you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in commending the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Breakfast Chairman Clorius L. Lay and the Gary Frontiers Service Club officers: President Oliver J. Gilliam, Vice President Sean Jones, 1st Vice President James Piggee, Recording Secretary Melvin Ward, Financial Secretary Sam Frazier, Corresponding Secretary Ferba Hines and Treasurer/Seventh District Director Floyd Donaldson, as well as the honorees and all other members of the service club for their initiative, determination, and dedication to serving the people of Northwest Indiana.

RECOGNIZING MS. KIMBERLY
SMITH FOR HER DESIRE AND
COMMITMENT TO EDUCATION

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 17, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a faithful and tenacious young woman, Ms. Kimberly Smith. She has shown what can be done through hard work, dedication, and a boundless desire to achieve.

Ms. Smith is a lifelong resident of Mayersville, Mississippi, and is the third of seven children born to Melvin and Emma Smith.

Ms. Smith was the salutatorian of her 1999 South Delta High School class. She attended Jackson State University, where she earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education. Graduating with honors from Jackson State in 2003, she began teaching at South Delta Elementary School. She taught both second and fourth grade during her short tenure.

In 2004, Ms. Smith was in a car accident that would change her life forever. After her accident, she decided the only thing to keep her going was her drive for education; for that reason, she pursued and obtained her Masters of Education degree. In 2008, she received her Masters of Education with "Honors" from Delta State University. Ms. Smith lives by the motto, "Saved by Grace, spared by Mercy."

Ms. Smith is an active member of Rising Star Seven Day Adventist, where she serves as Youth Director.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing a humble but dynamic servant, Ms. Kimberly Smith for her unwavering desire to education.

IN MEMORY OF MAYOR BOB
WASSERMAN

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 17, 2012

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the memory of the Mayor of Fremont, California, Bob Wasserman. The residents of Fremont and communities throughout California and beyond mourn the loss of this dedicated public servant who passed away on December 29, 2011.

Mayor Wasserman was born in Gary, Indiana, and moved to California and attended public schools in the Los Angeles area. He became a Police Officer in the City of Montebello, California, and was appointed to the position of Chief of Police in San Carlos, California in 1969 where he served for three years. He was appointed Chief of Police in Fremont in January 1976 and retired in 1992.

In 1992, Mayor Wasserman was elected to the Fremont City Council and served until 2004. He was elected Mayor in 2004 and currently held that position.

Mayor Wasserman's 40-year career in law enforcement included appointments in Southern California and a term as president of the

California Peace Officers' Association. He has been recognized by the California State Senate for outstanding public service and was the recipient of the Law Enforcement Executive of the Year Award.

His numerous affiliations include Past President of the California Peace Officer's Association, California Police Chief's Association, International Association of Chiefs of Police, Commission on Peace Officers Standards and Training and Police Executive Research Forum.

He received a Bachelor of Science degree in Police Science and Administration from California State University, Los Angeles and received his Master's degree in Public Administration from the University of Southern California.

Mayor Wasserman is survived by his wife of 53 years, Linda, and their two children, Dan and Jill. I join the community extending heartfelt sympathy to the family, colleagues and friends of Mayor Wasserman. He served with honor and distinction and his many positive contributions to make a difference in the lives of others have left an indelible mark and will never be forgotten.

TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF RUBEN
AYALA

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 17, 2012

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask Congress to pay tribute to a devoted public servant, Ruben Ayala. Ruben, a former State Senator from California passed away on January 4, 2012, at the age of eighty-nine.

Ruben was born and raised in segregated Chino, California, to Hispanic parents. During his youth, he attended Chino High School and was widely respected for his strong athletic ability. After high school, Ruben served honorably in the 1st Marine Division in the South Pacific during World War II.

After his service in the Marine Corps, Ruben attended the National Electronic Institute of Los Angeles, where he studied television repair. It was during this time that he met his beloved wife, Irene. Ruben worked in television repair in Chino, and later the insurance industry, until starting his political career in 1955 with his election to the school board.

In 1962, Ruben continued his career as a city councilman in Chino. Two years later, in 1964, Ruben became Chino's first elected mayor, where he began to leave his lasting impression on the community. From 1974 until 1998, Ruben served admirably as a State Senator, becoming the first Mexican-American to serve in the Senate since 1911.

I had the privilege of knowing Ruben and Irene personally. I also had the honor of serving with Ruben in the California State Legislature. During our service together, I quickly discovered that Ruben was widely respected by both Democrats and Republicans, who looked to him for advice and counsel because of his ability to lead and his hard working reputation. Ruben's success as a Senator opened doors for Latinos and Latinas in California. Ruben encouraged and inspired me to run for his Senate seat, when his career ended due to term limits.

In our time working together on important water and transportation issues, I saw firsthand Ruben's commitment to improving the quality of life for area residents. His immense passion and devotion for his hometown led him to create legislation to build the Peripheral Canal as well as to establish the California Conservation Corps. Through his commitment to public service, Ruben inspired hope for a better future for the next generation. Due to his remarkable service to Chino, a High School was named in his honor, as well as a park in Chino.

Ruben was preceded by the death of his wife, Irene in 2008. He is survived by his sons; Bud, Maurice, and Gary. He leaves with cherished memories a loving family of grandchildren and great-grandchildren. My thoughts and prayers, along with those of my wife, Barbara, and my children, Mayor pro tem Joe Baca Jr., Jeremy, Natalie, and Jennifer are with Ruben's family at this time. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring a beloved community member and tireless advocate, Ruben Ayala.

RECOGNIZING MR. KELVIN DASHUN BROWN FOR HIS DEDICATION AND SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 17, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable disabled individual, Mr. Kelvin Dashun Brown. Mr. Brown is a lifelong resident of the City of Mound Bayou in the Mississippi Delta.

He was born on September 21, 1977, with cerebral palsy and is a spastic quadriplegic. At birth his parents were told that he would not live beyond the age of two years old and if he did, he would be in a vegetative state.

Mr. Brown has proved the doctors incorrect. He started his education at the age of two at Delta House Child Development and the Bolivar County Demonstration Center in Cleveland, Mississippi. At the age of four, he was enrolled in the Mound Bayou Head Start Program. At the age of six, he was enrolled in the I.T. Montgomery Elementary School. Upon completing his education there, he enrolled at John F. Kennedy High School, where he remained until graduating in May of 1997. While a student at John F. Kennedy High School, he was a member of the Student Council and served as class representative and was elected vice-president during his junior year.

Mr. Brown worked for the City of Mound Bayou Police for eight years as a certified dispatcher and was promoted to Sergeant. Serving as Volunteer Youth Activities Coordinator for the City of Mound Bayou Police for the past seven years, he has coordinated and raised funds for annual back-to-school giveaways of school supplies, cookouts, toy drives, and monthly story hours for youths. He has held numerous preventative activities at the local school districts in the City of Mound Bayou and the City of Shelby to forge relationships with local school districts, youths and local police departments. Mr. Brown has received many accolades and awards for his youth and community endeavors.

He is an active member of Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church, where he serves with the Usher Ministry.

Mr. Brown is the oldest son of Eugene Brown and Joann Brown. He lives his life by this motto: "It is what it is". In other words, his condition cannot stop him from being an asset to society.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Kelvin Dashun Brown for his dedication to serving his community and youths in the Mississippi Delta.

HONORING UNITED STATES ARMY SERGEANT BRIAN LEONHARDT

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 17, 2012

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with immense gratitude and deep sadness that I wish to commend United States Army Sergeant Brian Leonhardt for his bravery and his willingness to fight for his country. Sergeant Leonhardt, a member of the Indiana National Guard assigned to the 713th Engineer Company, 81st Troop Command out of Valparaiso, Indiana, was killed in the Kandahar Province of Afghanistan, along with three other members of the Indiana National Guard, when their vehicle struck an improvised explosive device on Friday, January 6, 2012. The sacrifice of Sergeant Leonhardt, as well as that of his fellow Guard members, will be forever remembered by those they fought to protect.

Born in Crown Point, Indiana and a resident of Merrillville, Indiana, Brian graduated from Hammond Baptist High School in Hammond, Indiana. Friends and family remember him as an athlete who loved to play basketball and an avid fan of the Miami Heat. A man of faith, Brian attended services at First Baptist Church of Hammond.

After his graduation, Brian joined the Indiana Army National Guard and completed his basic training and advanced individual training at Fort Leonard Wood, where he was recognized as the honor graduate of his class. One of eight children, it is evident that Brian was raised with a deep sense of patriotism. In fact, three of his brothers are also military veterans. For Sergeant Leonhardt's unwavering love for his country, as well as his extraordinary skill and commitment as a member of the Indiana National Guard, he received numerous military awards and honors.

Sergeant Leonhardt leaves behind a loving family that will forever cherish his memory. He is survived by his devoted wife Dianne, adoring parents Marie and Robert, brothers Charles, Randall, Robert III, Anthony, and Trevor, and sisters Theresa and Jacqueline. He also leaves behind many other friends and family members, as well as a saddened but proud community and a grateful nation. While the loss of Sergeant Leonhardt is a tremendous tragedy, and there is much sadness for a brilliant future cut far too short, the impact he has had on his family, friends, and community will leave a lasting impression.

Mr. Speaker, at this time, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring a fallen hero, United States Army Sergeant Brian Leonhardt. Sergeant Leonhardt sacrificed his life in service to his

country, and his passing serves as an unfortunate, yet all too familiar reminder of the realities of war. Sergeant Leonhardt will forever remain a hero in the eyes of his family, his community, and his country. Thus, let us never forget the sacrifice he made to preserve the ideals of freedom and democracy.

RICHARD L. MAHACEK

HON. DENNIS A. CARDOZA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 17, 2012

Mr. CARDOZA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Richard Mahacek in the event of his retirement after four decades of service with Merced County and the University of California, Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources Cooperative Extension.

Richard began his youth development career in 1975 in the California Counties of Sonoma, Napa and San Benito as a 4-H Assistant implementing youth programs. Richard then moved on to Merced County where he became responsible for the development, implementation and evaluation of 4-H educational programs as the 4-H Youth Development Advisor. He has continued in this assignment for over 35 years. In 2005, he also assumed the role of Merced County Director for all Cooperative Extension programs.

In addition to his work with Merced County, Richard became the California statewide 4-H contact for Mechanical Science/Engineering project areas beginning in 1995. Richard's involvement and direction for the Mechanical Sciences and Engineering projects stems from his interest, degrees and credentials in Industrial Arts and Technology. His curiosity in technology was fostered in his youth by participating in electrical, woodworking and safety projects as a 4-H member in Sonoma County. His work over the years has included development of curriculum and activities in science processes, robotics, computers, GIS/GPS, biosecurity, and environmental issues such as watersheds and wildlife habitats. He has provided numerous workshops and training sessions on science processes, inquiry and experiential learning as implemented through various 4-H curricula locally, statewide and nationally.

Richard has partnered with other groups to extend technology programs including the California Girls Collaborative, Challenger Learning Centers, Merced County Office of Education, the California Division of Recycling, 4-H/Military Kids program, Society of Women Engineers, 21st Century Community Learning Centers and state supported after school programs. He serves on the executive board of the Challenger Learning Center of the San Joaquin Valley and is a member of the California Industrial and Technology Education Association and the International Technology and Engineering Educators Association.

Richard has been married to his beautiful wife Susan for over 32 years. Together they have three grown children. Their son Mark works for an office of education working in computer networking and technology support and his wife Marissa is a teacher in Planada. Paul is a mechanical engineer who is working on an ocean acidification research project in the South of France and his wife Lindsay is an

Accountant. Their daughter Anne is a mechanical engineer who is working on a Masters program in Mechatronics.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring Mr. Richard Mahacek for his years of dedication to the 4-H students and program.

HONORING THE RECIPIENTS OF
THE ANDROSCOGGIN COUNTY
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
AWARDS

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 17, 2012

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary recipients of the 2012 Androscoggin County Chamber of Commerce Awards. The Androscoggin Chamber has an outstanding record of creating and providing opportunities that promote economic and community growth in the communities that make up the heart of Central Maine.

Every year, the Androscoggin County Chamber of Commerce honors some of the outstanding individuals that work hard each and every day to make the Lewiston/Auburn region a better place to do business. Their efforts to strengthen opportunity and prosperity in Maine are remarkable, and the whole community benefits from the example of their success.

This year's award recipients include Agren Appliance and Baxter Brewing, Business Leadership Awards; Steve Closson of Androscoggin Bank, the Ray Geiger Award; L/A Cash Coalition and L/A Art Walk, Community Service Awards; Pike Industries, the Poland Business Award; Auburn Chief of Police and Acting City Manager Phil Crowell, the Public Service Leadership Award; Healthy Androscoggin, the Education Award; Industrial Roofing, the Cool Chamber Award; Lewiston Career Center, the Ken Addition Award for Business Advocacy; Center Street Dental, New Member of the Year; and, Northeastern Charter and Tours, and the Library Café, President's Awards.

These businesses, individuals, and organizations are among the very best that the Androscoggin County region has to offer. Thanks to the contributions of this year's award winners, Androscoggin County is a great place to work and live. I wish them all continued success going forward.

Mr. Speaker, please join me again in congratulating the recipients of the 2012 Androscoggin County Chamber of Commerce Awards.

RECOGNIZING REVEREND ELIJAH
EASON FOR HIS HONORABLE
SERVICE TO OUR COUNTRY AND
COMMITMENT TO THE COMMUNITY

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 17, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable veteran

and man of God, Reverend Elijah Eason. He has served his community through hard work and Christian leadership.

Reverend Eason, a resident of Rolling Fork, Mississippi, was born October 31, 1965, to Frank and Maggie Eason in Washington County, Mississippi. He was the youngest child born to this union.

Following his graduation from Rolling Fork High School in 1984, he enlisted in the United States Army, where he served for four years. After returning home from the military, he met and married Angelia Michelle Bush in 1992.

In 2001, he devoted his life to Christ and was ordained a Baptist minister. For nine years, he led the flock of the Mount Lula Missionary Baptist Church and served there with great spiritual devotion. Reverend Eason always had a joke or a parable that would make you smile. He had true and genuine love for people.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Reverend Elijah Eason for his dedication to serving our great Country and his community

PHILIP D. PROVENCHER

HON. FRANK C. GUINTA

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 17, 2012

Mr. GUINTA. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I congratulate Philip Provencher of Dunbarton, New Hampshire, on receiving the French Legion of Honor. It is truly a prestigious distinction to be appointed a Chevalier of the French Legion of Honor by the President of France, Nicolas Sarkozy. Throughout history, France has been a strong ally to the United States and it is greatly appreciated that they continue to recognize the heroic acts of the brave men and women of our Armed Forces, and for the sacrifices and service performed to assist the French people during World War II.

As a member of the U.S. Army's First Infantry Division, Philip joined with allied forces on D-Day to help liberate France from the Germans by carrying a 50 lb. mortar on his back through the turbulent tides of the English Channel, to help support ground forces on Omaha Beach. As a translator for his unit, "Frenchy" then marched with his fellow soldiers through France, Belgium, and Germany. His valiant efforts during this campaign also earned him a Bronze Star for rescuing a wounded friend while under enemy fire.

These are but a few examples of the heroic and courageous acts Mr. Provencher performed in service to his country during WWII and I join with President Sarkozy and Governor Lynch in congratulating Philip on this esteemed recognition. On behalf of a grateful nation, I thank him for his dedicated service to our country.

IN HONOR OF THE RETIREMENT
OF SANDY HOPP FROM THE
COUNTY OF STANISLAUS

HON. DENNIS A. CARDOZA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 17, 2012

Mr. CARDOZA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mrs. Sandy Hopp in the event of her retirement from Stanislaus County.

Sandy Hopp has been an employee of the County of Stanislaus since January 2003. She was recruited to work as a Field Representative for Supervisor Jeff Grover, a position she held for eight years. She is currently the Field Representative to Supervisor Terry Withrow, representing Supervisorial District Three. After being hired, she quickly increased in responsibilities and exhibited a great skill in working with people in all walks of life. She is often the eyes, ears and voice of her elected Supervisor, and represents the Supervisor in venues such as the Salida Municipal Advisory Committee, the Weed and Seed Project and other community meetings and organizations.

Mrs. Hopp has a tremendous understanding of government operations and serves as an outstanding interface between the Supervisors' Office, County departments, the community and various state and federal organizations. In her role, Mrs. Hopp quickly developed a passion for the area of legislative and governmental affairs. She was selected as a liaison to a French delegation visiting Stanislaus County, she serves as the coordinator of Government Day for the elite Leadership Modesto program and she was a coordinator of the San Joaquin Valley Regional Association of California Counties Supervisors Association Annual Meeting.

Mrs. Hopp is an outstanding liaison with the offices of local, state and federal elected officials. A personal highlight of mine is when Stanislaus County officials visit Washington, D.C. to present projects and priorities. Mrs. Hopp coordinates extremely complex schedules for maximum efficiency of the trip and also serves as an outstanding liaison to Congressional offices. Visiting with Mrs. Hopp on these trips is always a highlight for my staff and for me personally.

Mrs. Hopp has a personal commitment to excellence and a strong faith which is central to whom she is as a person and to her service to her family, church and community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring Mrs. Sandy Hopp for her many years of dedication to the County of Stanislaus.

RECOGNIZING ELDER HENRY
SMILEY FOR HIS DEDICATION
AND SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 17, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable and honorable man, Elder Henry Smiley. A lifelong resident of Copiah County, Mississippi, he has shown what can be done through hard work, dedication, and a desire to achieve.

Elder Smiley graduated from Breckenridge Job Corps Center in Morganfield, Kentucky, in 1977. After graduation, he accepted God's call on his life to minister.

March 13, 1978, changed his life forever and provided a monumental challenge to his faith and his zeal for life. He suffered a devastating accident while working at a local saw mill. Although paralyzed from the waist down, he maintained a soaring spirit and even stronger love for the Lord.

He is a tireless and tenacious worker who lives a life of service to others and to his God. Elder Smiley has served on the "Spirit Team" at the Methodist Rehabilitation Center where he motivates and encourages others with spinal injuries. He is also a member of the Copiah Chapter of NAACP, Chaplain of the Hazlehurst Parent-Teacher Association and volunteers at high school football games in traffic control and gate security. From 2002 to 2005, he served as a role model and discussion leader at the Mississippi Job Corp Center and he is the Vice President of the Benevolent Fund of the Copiah County Ministerial Alliance and the Transportation Committee.

Elder Smiley and his wife, Cora, have four children. He is an Ordained Minister and Elder at New Cathedral of Worship in Hazlehurst, Mississippi. He serves as an officer on the Church's Executive Board with responsibility as Director of Maintenance, Property and Logistics.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing a humble but dynamic servant, Elder Henry Smiley, for his service to the community.

HONORING ERIC MERKELY

HON. JASON CHAFFETZ

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 17, 2012

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Eric Merkely, a 17-year-old student at Salem Hills High School. This remarkable young man was recently diagnosed with a form of cancer found in his leg called osteosarcoma. The cancer quickly spread into the surrounding muscle, bone, and nerves to the point that Eric had to undergo extensive surgery. While this surgery saved his life, it also took his leg.

For most people this experience would be considered a tragic loss. However, Eric has grown from the experience and greatly impacted his school and community. Even though many were concerned about his health, Eric turned his illness into an opportunity to give back to those less fortunate than himself. He raised money by selling wristbands and donated the proceeds to a children's hospital.

I invite my colleagues to join me in celebrating the accomplishments of a young man who turned his personal trials into an opportunity to give to those less fortunate and who is great example for the community.

IN HONOR OF THE PREMIERE OF THE "RED TAILS" MOVIE ABOUT THE TUSKEGEE AIRMEN

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 17, 2012

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to an upcoming celebration of the Tuskegee Airmen, which will be held on January 20th when the George Lucas film "Red Tails" makes its national debut.

The movie will highlight the heroic Tuskegee Airmen who served our country with honor and distinction even though they faced great challenges back at home. The Tuskegee Airmen flew over 15,000 missions and were awarded the Congressional Medal in 2007.

Across Tuskegee and Alabama, friends will honor this tribute by wearing red and hanging red ribbons across the community. There will be a red ribbon hanging in my Washington, DC office as well.

In 1998, the Tuskegee Airmen National Historic Site at Moton Field in Macon County was established. This site draws people from all over to come and visit.

It is with deepest appreciation and honor that we celebrate the Tuskegee Airmen for the film "Red Tails" filmed in their honor. This tribute should be another great way to help continue to tell their story for generations to come.

CONGRATULATING THE SANTA MARGARITA CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL EAGLES ON THEIR 2011 CIF STATE BOWL DIVISION AND 2011 CIF PAC-5 DIVISION CHAMPIONSHIPS

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 17, 2012

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Santa Margarita Catholic High School Eagles on their 2011 CIF State Bowl Division and 2011 CIF PAC-5 Division Championships. Their 42-37 victory on December 16, 2011, is an achievement that will be remembered forever.

Winning a state championship is a remarkable achievement. This championship is a legacy that both Santa Margarita High School and each 2010-2011 Eagle player will always cherish. The Eagles and Coach Harry Welch, along with assistant coaches John Carpenter, Sean Coen, Dave Frazier, Paul Gomes, Joe Griffith, Wyatt Hart, Rob Hendricks, Mike Johnson, Jay Noonan, Kevin Orton, Brian Pearsall, Adrian Peters, Marty Spalding, Mike Walcott, Butch Ward and Monterio Witherspoon, know that success comes with teamwork and perseverance. The coaches rely upon team managers for expert assistance. Managers Haley Davin, Lauren Haydon, Rachel Imburgia and Sydney Martin were instrumental in the victory.

It is an honor to pay tribute to Santa Margarita High School and the entire Eagles football squad. The House of Representatives salutes each of you: Houston Agan, Matt Andersen, Reid Andrew, Ryan Andrew, Nick Begg, Tony Bone, Zach Bonte, Erik Bunte, Justin

Cabrera, Josh Canty, Grant Clancy, River Cracraft, Dane Crane, Kendall Czech, Ian Dewert, Frank DiPietro, Sean Donegan, David Dotson, Chris Frost, Ryan Gardner, Sammy Gibbs, Hunter Graham, Grady Higgins, Duncan Hume, Konner Kafentzis, Patrick Kennelly, Jack Kerry, Ryan Kilander, Jonathan LaBonty, Brenden Linzmeier, Cole Luther, Michael Della Maggiore, Austin Maihen, RJ Mazolewski, Joseph McGill, John McGrory, Brady McGuire, Sean McGuire, Alec McNiff, James McQuitty, Andrew Mendonca, Cory Mendoza, Sean Modster, Connor O'Brien, Mack Pierson, Luke Poutre, Taylor Prenevost, Ben Prukop, Blaine Rieger, Drake Schwenke, Riley Sorenson, Will Sorenson, Gian Carlo Spinosi, Johnny Stanton, Luke Stinson, Alex Suchesk, Randal Swain, Kyle Sweet, Max Tuerk, Alex Ury, Ryan Wolpin and Bradley Ydens.

Congratulations again to the Santa Margarita High School Eagles.

IN RECOGNITION OF GARY JONES

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 17, 2012

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize FEMA Region 6 Deputy Regional Administrator Gary Jones as he retires from public service. Mr. Jones retired at the end of 2011 after forty-six years of state and federal service.

Earning a Bachelor's Degree in Education from the University of Arkansas and a Master's Degree in Public Health Administration from Tulane University, Mr. Jones began his public service with the State of Arkansas. This state career spanned thirteen years, including three years as the Director of Arkansas' Emergency Medical Services Program. He then went into federal service in 1977 with the U.S. Public Health Service where his role as Arkansas State Coordinator for Physician Recruitment to identify doctors, dentists and nurses for rural Arkansas communities federally designated as medically underserved.

In 1983 Mr. Jones joined FEMA and moved to Denton. By 1987 he was Branch Chief for Region 6 Technological Hazards Branch where he was responsible for the region's Radiological Emergency Preparedness, Radiological Defense, Hazardous Materials, Earthquake Preparedness, Hurricane Preparedness, Dam Safety and the Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness programs.

In 1994 Mr. Jones was promoted to his current position as the FEMA Region 6 Deputy Regional Administrator, during which he served on five separate occasions as the FEMA Region 6 Acting Regional Administrator for a span of time that exceeded four years.

During the seventeen years he served as Deputy Regional Administrator, he provided executive leadership and oversight in over three hundred federally declared disasters including his roles as Deputy Principal Federal Official for Hurricane Rita (2005) and Federal Coordinating Officer for Hurricanes Katrina (2005) and Georges (1998) as well as service in Hurricane Andrew, the Oklahoma City bombing, the Columbia Space Shuttle disaster, Tropical Storm Allison, and the duration of 2008 which featured Hurricane Ike and proved to be a record-breaking year for the region in presidentially declared disasters. Several of these disasters have directly impacted

the 26th District of Texas, and with each I and my staff have come to rely on his timely and thorough briefings during which he patiently shared the progress and challenges unique to each situation.

As Mr. Jones enters retirement, the region loses a reliable and dedicated public servant. I wish for him many well-earned years to spend time with his wife Mary, daughter Shea Hutchison, and his granddaughter. I am honored to represent Gary Jones and FEMA Region 6 in Washington, D.C., and on behalf of the constituents of the 26th District of Texas I rise to thank him for his service.

RECOGNIZING KENT CONINE AND HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE STATE OF TEXAS AND THE CAUSE OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 17, 2012

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, today I wish to recognize Kent Conine of Dallas, TX. Mr. Conine has spent his career working to provide affordable housing for the citizens of the great State of Texas. As a homebuilder, Mr. Conine has made significant and lasting contributions to his local community and the housing industry. President of Conine Residential Group, Mr. Conine has helped thousands of Texans fulfill their American Dream of homeownership.

However, his efforts extend beyond his personal business. Mr. Conine has served as Chairman of the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA), on the Board of Directors Federal Home Loan Bank of Dallas, and as President of the Texas Association of Builders, the National Association of State of Housing Boards, and the National Association of Homebuilders.

This evening in Austin, Texas the Texas Affiliation of Affordable Housing Providers is honoring Mr. Conine for his years of service and unwavering dedication to the people of Texas. I wish to join them in thanking Kent for everything he has done, and continues to do, to promote the American Dream of homeownership in Texas.

HONORING THE SAINT XAVIER UNIVERSITY COUGARS FOOTBALL TEAM FOR WINNING THE 2011 NAIA CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 17, 2012

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Saint Xavier University for winning the 2011 NAIA National Football Championship. I am very proud of Head Coach Mike Feminis and the SXU Cougars for defeating reigning champion Carroll College 24–20 and bringing back the Chicago area's first collegiate football national championship since 1913.

Congratulations are also in order for long-time Athletics Director Bob Hallberg, University President Christine Wiseman, and all the faculty, staff, and students at Saint Xavier, Chicago's oldest Catholic University, which is located in the Third District in the Mt. Greenwood neighborhood and in Orland Park.

The Cougars fielded a balanced team all year. They stifled opponents' offenses with an experienced defense and confused the opposition's defenses with a fast-paced spread offense. Senior captains Patrick Appino and Michael Prosser led one of the top defenses in the country, holding Carroll's running back, the NAIA player of the year, to only 57 yards rushing in the championship game. On offense, local standouts Shane Zackery and Wes Gastel combined for 13 receptions and 109 yards receiving. Zackery and Gastel also provided quarterback Jimmy Coy and the rest of the offense favorable field position on several occasions with four kick returns for 113 yards. This balanced attack has been Coach Feminis' recipe for success all season long.

I am proud to have the Cougars call my district home, not only because they are the best NAIA football team in the country, but also because they embody all the best attributes of true student-athletes. Coach Feminis is proud of the familial atmosphere he creates in the team's facilities and the emphasis he places on academics. I am certain the tradition of success Coach Feminis has established will continue for a long time at SXU.

Please join me in honoring these hard-working, dedicated, and honorable men for a memorable season and bringing a championship home to Chicago.

HONORING SGT. GUY MELLOR

HON. JASON CHAFFETZ

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 17, 2012

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the incredible service and dedication of Sgt.

Guy Mellor, a resident of Fayette, Utah and a real American hero. As he served his country as a member of the Utah Army National Guard, he set aside his personal aspirations of becoming a Civil Engineer to prepare for the Army's Best Warrior Competition Noncommissioned Officer for 2011. With much preparation he won the State, Regional, and National level competitions.

Sgt. Mellor had to compete against twelve Major Army Commands in a series of tests including physical fitness, marksmanship, battle drills, a written exam, and a board interview conducted by seven of the Army's top leaders. This is only the second time in the history of this competition that a National Guard Soldier has won this prestigious award.

I invite my colleagues to join me in celebrating the accomplishments of this valiant man who placed service to his country above that of his own ambitions. Sgt. Mellor is a great example of the men and women that are currently serving our country in various branches of the armed services. I am grateful to every one of them for the great sacrifice that they make every day.

IN MEMORY OF THE LIFE OF MR. JOCK SMITH

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 17, 2012

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to the life of Mr. Jock Smith who passed away on January 8, 2012.

Mr. Smith was born in Manhattan, New York, on June 10, 1948, and graduated from Tuskegee University and later the University of Notre Dame Law School. He returned to Alabama after receiving his law degree.

Mr. Smith was an attorney and senior partner at the National Law Firm of Cochran, Cherry, Givens and Smith, P.C. He also worked as a sports agent for Cochran Sports Management, Assistant Attorney General of the State of Alabama and as a professor of political science at Tuskegee University.

Mr. Smith was a member of Christian Life Church in Montgomery, Alabama. He was married to Yvette Smiley-Smith and had a daughter Janay Johnson.

We honor the memory of Mr. Jock Smith today.

Tuesday, January 17, 2012

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

The Senate met at 10:15:02 a.m. in pro forma session, and adjourned at 10:15:30 a.m. until 2 p.m., on Friday, January 20, 2012.

Committee Meetings

No committee meetings were held.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 9 public bills, H.R. 3769–3777; and 7 resolutions, H.J. Res. 99; and H. Res. 509–514 were introduced.

Pages H25–26

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages H27–28

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 2059, to prohibit funding to the United Nations Population Fund (H. Rept. 112–361); H. Res. 496, adjusting the amount provided for the expenses of certain committees of the House of Representatives in the One Hundred Twelfth Congress (H. Rept. 112–362);

H.R. 2309, to restore the financial solvency of the United States Postal Service and to ensure the efficient and affordable nationwide delivery of mail, with an amendment (H. Rept. 112–363 Pt. 1);

H.R. 3521, to amend the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 to provide for a legislative line-item veto to expedite consideration of rescissions, and for other purposes, with amendments (H. Rept. 112–364 Pt. 1);

H. Res. 515, addressing a motion to proceed under section 3101A of title 31, United States Code (H. Rept. 112–365); and

H.R. 1221, to suspend the current compensation packages for the senior executives of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac and establish compensation for such positions in accordance with rates of pay for senior employees in the Executive Branch of the Federal Government, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 112–366 Pt. 1).

Page H25

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Womack to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

Page H9

Recess: The House recessed at 2:01 p.m. and reconvened at 6:30 p.m.

Page H9

Call of the House: The Speaker called the House to order and ascertained the presence of a quorum (378 present, Roll No. 1).

Pages H9–10

Journal: The House agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal by voice vote.

Page H10

Resignation of the Sergeant-at-Arms of the House of Representatives: Read a letter from Wilson Livingood, in which he submitted his resignation as Sergeant-at-Arms of the House of Representatives, effective January 17, 2012.

Page H10

Electing the Sergeant-at-Arms of the House of Representatives: The House agreed to H. Res. 511, electing Paul D. Irving as Sergeant-at-Arms of the House of Representatives. Subsequently, Sergeant-at-Arms-elect Paul Irving presented himself in the well of the House and was administered the Oath of Office by the Speaker.

Page H10

Committee to Notify the President of the assembly of the Congress: The House agreed to H. Res. 512, authorizing the Speaker to appoint a committee on the part of the House to join with a committee on the part of the Senate to notify the President that a quorum of each House has assembled, and Congress is ready to receive any communication that he may be pleased to make. Subsequently, the Speaker appointed Representatives Cantor and Pelosi to the committee.

Page H10

Notifying the Senate That a Quorum of the House Has Assembled: The House agreed to H. Res. 513, authorizing the Clerk of the House to inform the Senate that a quorum of the House is present and that the House is ready to proceed with business. **Page H10**

Meeting Hour: The House agreed to H. Res. 514, providing for the hour of meeting of the House. **Pages H10–11**

Morning Hour Debate: Agreed by unanimous consent that the order of the House of January 5, 2011, providing for Morning Hour Debate, be extended for the remainder of the 112th Congress, except that H. Res. 514 shall supplant H. Res. 10. **Page H11**

Quorum Calls—Votes: One quorum call (Roll No. 1) developed during the proceedings of today and appears on pages H9–10.

Adjournment: The House met at 2 p.m. and adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

Committee Meetings

DOING BUSINESS WITH DOD

Committee on Armed Services: Panel on Business Challenges within the Defense Industry held a hearing on Doing Business with DOD: Unique Challenges Faced by Small and Mid-Sized Businesses. Testimony was heard from A. John Shoraka, Acting Associate Administrator for Government Contracting and Business Development, Small Business Administration; and public witnesses.

DISAPPROVAL OF THE PRESIDENT'S EXERCISE OF AUTHORITY TO INCREASE THE DEBT LIMIT, AS SUBMITTED UNDER SECTION 3101A OF TITLE 31, UNITED STATES CODE, AND JANUARY 12, 2012

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on a joint resolution relating to the disapproval of the

President's exercise of authority to increase the debt limit, as submitted under section 3101A of title 31, United States Code, and January 12, 2012. The Committee granted, by voice vote, a rule providing that a motion to proceed with regard to a joint resolution of disapproval specified in subsection (a)(2) of section 3101A of title 31, United States Code, may be offered even if the joint resolution has not been reported to the House as contemplated by subsection (c)(3) of such section and shall be in order only if offered by the Majority Leader or his designee.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2012

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

Committee on Financial Services, Subcommittee on Capital Markets and Government Sponsored Enterprises; and Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit, hearing entitled "Examining the Impact of the Volcker Rule on Markets, Businesses, Investors and Job Creation." 9:30 a.m., 21228 Rayburn.

Committee on Ways and Means, Full Committee, markup of H.R. 1173, the "Fiscal Responsibility and Retirement Security Act of 2011." 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, Subcommittee on Terrorism, HUMINT, Analysis, and Counterintelligence, hearing entitled "The Role of DHS in the IC: A Report by the Aspen Institute." 1 p.m., 340 Cannon.

Joint Meetings

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: to hold hearings to examine the Western Balkans and the 2012 NATO Summit, 2 p.m., B318, Rayburn Building.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

2 p.m., Friday, January 20

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Wednesday, January 18

Senate Chamber

Program for Friday: Senate will meet in a pro forma session.

House Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Consideration of H.J. Res. 98—Relating to the disapproval of the President's exercise of authority to increase the debt limit, as submitted under section 3101A of title 31, United States Code, on January 12, 2012.

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