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House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: God of all Creation, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

On this day, the people's House concludes its business. Members return to their congressional districts. An election to determine those who would serve this Nation as Members of Congress lies before us all.

There are many energies which divide this House. There are many voices throughout our Nation vying for the attention of any who would listen.

Please bless our Nation and those who leave this Chamber for the oncoming and ongoing campaign. Grant that there be more light than heat, more charity than enmity, more graciousness than ugliness, more wisdom than ignorance. Our great Nation has perished for over two centuries, with many fits and starts, but many triumphs as well.

In the weeks that come, may Your grace descend upon all citizens engaged in the affairs of our time. May we be mindful of needs beyond our own and united in a commitment to work together for a better future for these United States.

Bless us this day and every day, and may all that is done be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY)

come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY 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.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to five 1-minute requests on each side of the aisle.

A TIME FOR CHOOSING

(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, as we enter the final stages of this election cycle, the American people have a choice for change—promoting limited government with expanded freedom or big government with power to politicians. A key issue is job creation.

I support the bipartisan initiatives of John F. Kennedy's and Ronald Reagan's of cutting taxes, which enable the private sector to create jobs. President Obama has enacted failed policies of borrow, tax, and spend, producing 43 months of unemployment of over 8 percent.

New jobs could be created with an all-of-the-above energy policy, but President Obama promised skyrocketing energy costs—doubling gas prices. A better course would be to develop the Keystone pipeline with our number one ally, Canada. The contrast on national defense is clear—that we should stand for peace through strength: Ronald Reagan. President Obama's policies to hollow out our military reveal weakness.

My constituents are heartbroken at the Internet tragedy of our Ambassador to Libya being murdered and his body desecrated by terrorists.

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

THE FAILURE OF THE REPUBLICAN LEADERSHIP

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

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, later today, the House is scheduled to adjourn for 6 weeks with no plans to come back into session until November.

On behalf of the hardworking Rhode Islanders whom I serve, I rise to express my deep disappointment that the House Republican leadership is choosing to adjourn and to abandon the middle class when so much work is left to be done.

In my home State, nearly 60,000 men and women cannot find work. More than 50,000 homes have mortgages that are under water, but instead of working to pass a comprehensive jobs plan, provide relief to homeowners, or strengthen families by passing the middle class tax cuts, House Republicans want to take the next 6 weeks off.

Today's action by the Republican leadership is a failure of their responsibility to lead, and I urge them to reconsider and agree to remain here and commit to working together in a bipartisan way to address the urgent issues facing our country.

LET'S STAY IN WASHINGTON AND FINISH THE JOB

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

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, Americans continue to look for work, to put food on the table, and to ensure their

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

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



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children have proper school supplies as fall comes into full swing. Yet the House is set to leave Washington today with many items on its to-do list.

While Congress finishes up the work to pass a budget to fund the Federal Government, catastrophic cuts loom on the horizon, set to hit in January of 2013. Leaving these cuts unresolved is unconscionable. Not only is this the wrong message to send to the American people, it's simply not the right thing to do. Our all-volunteer force is at war, and these cuts threaten our national security. Furthermore, they threaten over 200,000 jobs in Virginia.

Nine days remain before the new fiscal year begins. Congress should do the right thing and stay in Washington instead of ignoring the reality and delaying tough decisions. It's time to put governing over politics. Let's stay in Washington and finish the job that we were elected and expected to do.

CONGRESS MUST STAND UP AGAINST UTILITY CUTS ACROSS THE MIDWEST

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

Mr. KUCINICH. The Stop the War on Coal Act is up today. It is the coal industry which is waging war on our mountains by leveling them, war on our lungs by burning dirty fuel, war on healthy children by being the single largest source of mercury exposure, war on our rivers and streams by filling them with toxic waste, war on groundwater through poisonous ash fills, war on its workers through conditions which continue to kill, war on families by breaking unions and by relentlessly reducing jobs, war on our national debt by taking in billions of subsidies, and now war on ratepayers of municipal utilities across the Midwest. Time to stop this war.

Peabody Coal's Prairie State coal plant in southern Illinois has brokered a series of shady deals that puts 217 local utilities here, across the Midwest, on the hook for billions of dollars for energy they may never even get while paying twice the market price—a corrupt boondoggle that will raise utility rates and saddle many publicly owned utilities with crushing debt obligations.

Congress must stand up for the utility cuts in this areas.

HONORING OUTSTANDING ATHLETE STEVEN FOX

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

Mr. FLEISCHMANN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an outstanding student athlete from the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. Competing at the U.S. Amateur Championship in Colorado, UTC student Steven Fox came from behind to win the first USGA Championship for the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga.

Down by two holes on the par 5 17th hole, Steven made a clutch birdie and managed to make a great par on the final hole, putting the match into sudden death after 36 grueling holes. At the first playoff hole, Steven sank a critical 18-foot putt to secure his victory. Steven's victory is an inspiration to the entire UTC community and, indeed, to all Tennesseans.

No mention of this victory is complete without mentioning the great UTC golf team, which has achieved national success under the leadership of Coach Mark Guhne. Thanks to his hard work and the support of former Athletic Director Steve Sloan and Chancellor Roger Brown, UTC qualified for this past year's NCAA championship in Los Angeles.

On behalf of all east Tennesseans, I extend my congratulations to Steven Fox. I look forward to watching him roam the fairways at Augusta National soon. I also look forward to many future successes at UTC.

Go Mocs!

□ 0910

BIPARTISAN DEFICIT REDUCTION

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

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Our Nation is facing serious economic and fiscal challenges. We have seen economic recovery over the last 4 years, but we have work to do.

The fiscal policies that expire at the end of the year, known as the "fiscal cliff," present a rare opportunity to set aside politics and find common ground to reduce our Nation's deficit in a balanced and fiscally responsible manner.

Actions we take must be based on our priorities and our values. It means strengthening the middle class and building economic opportunity. It means spending cuts and new revenues.

We will need to make tough choices, but there is a path forward if we are fair, if we are committed to our obligations to our seniors and our children, and if we recognize the importance of strategic investments to grow our economy now and into the future.

I was proud to be one of just 38 Members to support a bipartisan proposal by Representatives COOPER and LATOURETTE that included tax reform and spending cuts to reduce the Nation's deficit.

Let's move our country forward by taking responsible, meaningful, and timely action.

HOLD THE IRS' FEET TO THE FIRE

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

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it's time for Americans to know the truth about the abuse of

their hard-earned taxpayer dollars, especially at a time when the President is calling for tax increases.

The issue I'm talking about is IRS action that puts billions of taxpayer dollars at risk. Currently, the IRS allows individuals without a Social Security number to get cash benefits—like the \$1,000 refundable child tax credit which is costing American taxpayers billions of dollars—by obtaining an individual taxpayer identification number, or ITIN.

A recent IG report revealed a shocking scandal within the IRS that encouraged employees to fast track ITIN approval without regard to preventing fraud. The ITIN has become a ticket to get cash from Uncle Sam, and this is wrong.

I'm introducing the ITIN Reform Act to hold the IRS' feet to the fire to better protect the American taxpayer, and I urge all my colleagues to support this bill.

HONORING DR. DENTON A. COOLEY

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on August 3, 1962, a life changing decision was made by Dr. Denton Cooley in the founding of the Texas Heart Institute.

As I listened to the words said this morning, he chose wisdom over ignorance with respect to diagnosing cardiovascular disease, the most devastating killer of Americans, killing a life every 33 seconds, 2,600 lives each day, and nearly 1 million lives each year.

Dr. Cooley was honored this past week with tributes from President George Bush and President William Jefferson Clinton, joined by his wife and extended family. Over the years, he has been able to help men and women and children. He has done a magnificent job with respect to the amount of surgeries that have been performed. He performed more than 118,000 open-heart operations, 258,000 cardiac catheterizations, and 1,270 heart transplants.

The Texas Heart Institute, along with St. Luke's Hospital, continues to serve the world and continues to do research to improve the lives of those who suffer from heart disease. Dr. James Willerson is the new CEO. His demeanor and temperament, his research abilities, and his leadership has taken this great institution to the 21st century.

What a great honor to be with those who honor Dr. Denton Cooley for his wisdom and his ability to challenge medical profession science to be able to save lives. Today, children live, families are reunited, and we are stronger in our health because of the existence of the Texas Heart Institute. It is my privilege to congratulate them for 50 years of saving lives.

POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY

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

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the more than 83,000 Americans still listed as missing in action or prisoners of war. Today is National POW/MIA Recognition Day.

I would like to bring to the attention of my House colleagues the efforts made by the joint POW/MIA Accounting Command to recover and return home to their families our unaccounted for servicemembers.

Also, let us recognize groups such as Rolling Thunder, the Vietnam Veterans of America, the American Ex-Prisoners of War, the National League of POW/MIA Families, and numerous others who ensure those who remain missing are never forgotten, and that our Nation remembers their sacrifice.

This includes Army Private First Class Ithiel Whatley of Escambia County, Florida, who was last seen on July 12, 1950, in Korea and who is remembered every day of the year by his brother Nat.

We salute our POWs and MIAs who have given to this Nation more than we can ever repay. The United States will not rest until each is home and has received the proper burial on American soil they deserve.

Please offer a prayer for those who remain on the battlefields of the past and of the present, and let us pledge that not one is left behind.

VOTER SUPPRESSION

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

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, this is Constitution Week, when we celebrate our fundamental rights as Americans. Today, one of the most cherished rights, the right to vote, is under serious attack.

Recent efforts to suppress voter participation are designed to silence the voice of American voters, especially seniors, people of color, the poor, and young adults.

In Florida, new restrictions on voter registration led the League of Women Voters to suspend their efforts until the law was halted by the court. Republican legislatures have passed strict voting requirements, although Pennsylvania could not provide even one example of voter fraud. Even elderly veterans, who risked their lives for our country, may be turned away from the polls because they lack the proper IDs. Five million Americans could be disenfranchised.

Anyone who values our Constitution should encourage voting, not erect barriers based on false claims of voter fraud.

STOP THE WAR ON COAL ACT OF 2012

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 3409.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FLEISCHMANN). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Kentucky?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 788 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 3409.

Will the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. YODER) kindly take the chair.

□ 0918

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 3409) to limit the authority of the Secretary of the Interior to issue regulations before December 31, 2013, under the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977, with Mr. YODER (Acting Chair) in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Acting CHAIR. When the Committee of the Whole rose on Thursday, September 20, 2012, amendment No. 7 printed in House Report 112-680 offered by the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HARRIS) had been disposed of.

□ 0920

AMENDMENT NO. 8 OFFERED BY MS. JACKSON LEE OF TEXAS

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 8 printed in House Report 112-680.

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Strike section 503 of the committee print.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 788, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas.

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Chairman, this is an amendment, I believe, that common sense would allow us to work together and pass.

This amendment would simply maintain the current deadline that existed under the previous administration of 90 days under the Clean Air Act by striking section 503 of the bill which artificially limits agency comment periods on water quality permits to 30 days with no possibility of extension. This existed under President Bush's administration.

Why, then, would my friends on the other side of the aisle not join with me to say let's have regular order? Let's ensure that we give everyone a reasonable opportunity for a response on their quality of life.

On the surface, the intent of H.R. 3409 appears to be to prevent the Interior Department from revising a Bush administration midnight regulation that significantly weakened mountaintop protections on the destructive practice of mountaintop removal mining. Let me remind you, they did not alter the comment period. Mountaintop removal mining, as many of us know, is a very challenging, environmentally difficult process. For many, they say, it creates jobs.

What we are trying to do is to ensure that there is a balance between that industry and, as well, the fairness of allowing those to be able to comment. As it's presently drafted, this bill would reach, in fact, it would make it much more difficult, if you will, to deal with the question of rulemaking.

The people in the State of Texas and the city of Houston appreciate the ability to drink cool, fresh water. So does everyone else. The idea of not being able to comment on the impact of this particular process is challenging.

I ask my colleagues to consider the importance of coming together and extending, or going back to, the 90-day comment period to balance, if you will, the timeframe and to ensure that all are heard on any aspects that would impact the environment, impact the environment of this particular procedure.

With that, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GIBBS. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Ohio is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. GIBBS. Mr. Chairman, I object to the amendment.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Chairman, may I ask how much time remains.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentlewoman from Texas has 2½ minutes remaining.

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DEUTCH).

Mr. DEUTCH. I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong support of the gentlelady's amendment to yet another bill that will never become law, another bill that feeds into the biggest problem we have here.

The 112th Congress has actually set a sad new low for our democracy. We all know that President Harry Truman famously dubbed the 80th Congress in 1948 as the "do-nothing Congress." Yet the do-nothing Congress of 1948 has nothing on this one. That Congress passed over 900 laws, while the 112th Congress has passed just over 100.

Among the countless laws blocked by the Republican majority is the American Jobs Act, which economists say

would create over 2½ million jobs. It's a sad day when the main drag on America's economy is the U.S. House of Representatives.

Most Americans actually have to earn their vacation days, Mr. Chairman. The only thing the Congress has earned are abysmal approval ratings. The 112th Congress puts Harry Truman's do-nothing Congress to shame. At a time when our economy should come first, that, Mr. Chairman, is shameful.

I rise in strong support of the gentleman's amendment to a bill that prevents us from actually accomplishing the real work the American people expect from us.

Mr. GIBBS. I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Chairman, let me just clarify what is happening with this legislation. It eliminates the EPA's authority to apply minimum Federal water quality standards sufficient to protect human and aquatic life, and it is weaker than State standards in many places. It strips the EPA's authority to object to the State discharge permits that fail to meet Clean Air Act requirements.

Now, this is not about creating jobs, Mr. Chairman. I ask, on the names of our children yet unborn, to be able to have a quality of life, quality of water and quality of air that the requirements that they are trying to eliminate in this bill, the proponent of this bill, to the extent that they will narrow the comment period to 30 days rather than 90 days.

Why is that not a simple request if my good friend could not say, Congresswoman, we support the amendment. I hope that's what he will say. The difficulty that I have is I would rather, Mr. Chairman, be doing Medicare, tax breaks, jobs, urgent priorities that are needed.

I just ask for a little bit of consideration on recognizing that the Nation is better when we have provided a quality of life for all Americans. Who are we to speak of the needs of the people who have coal in their region? What we have asked is that we put in the four parameters of common sense and reasonableness.

My amendment is that. It expands back to its regular order the existing comment period, Mr. Chairman, to 90 days. It strikes the provision, and this bill that limits it to 30 days.

The Acting CHAIR. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. I ask my colleagues to support the Jackson Lee amendment that speaks to the health and good quality of life for all Americans and America's children.

I yield back the balance of my time.

CLEAN WATER ACT DEADLINE STUDY AMENDMENT

I rise today and ask my colleagues to support my amendment to H.R. 3409 which would simply maintain the current deadline of 90 days under the Clean Water Act, by striking Section 503 of the bill which artificially limits agency comment periods on water quality per-

mits to 30 days with no possibility of extension.

On the surface the intent of H.R. 3409 appears to be to prevent the Interior Department from revising a Bush Administration midnight regulation that significantly weakened protections on the destructive practice of Mountaintop Removal Mining. Mountaintop Removal Mining is one the most environmentally destructive practices on earth, which has fouled water quality and destroyed nearly 2,000 miles of Appalachian streams since 1992.

However, H.R. 3409 is drafted so that its reach would in fact be much broader than just this one rulemaking. The people in the State of Texas and the city of Houston appreciate the ability to drink cool fresh water which, at its core, is what the Clean Water Act is designed to do. This legislation goes all the way back to 1948 because pollution of the nation's surface waters was a very serious problem. And Mr. Speaker, it still is today.

Title V of H.R. 3409 eliminates EPA's authority to apply minimum federal water quality standards sufficient to protect human health and aquatic life, if weaker state standards are in place. It strips EPA's authority to object to state discharge permits that fail to meet Clean Water Act requirements.

And it limits EPA's ability to protect waterways from harm from mountaintop removal coal mining, repealing EPA's authority to veto a "valley fill" permit based on environmental concerns and limiting the time environmental agencies have to comment to the Army Corps of Engineers on the environmental impacts of a proposed valley fill.

H.R. 3409 would prevent the Secretary of the Interior from issuing any regulation under the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act (SMCRA) through December 31, 2013, if the regulation would, among other things, prohibit coal mining in any area, reduce employment in coal mines, or reduce coal production.

The principal law governing pollution of the nation's surface waters is the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, or Clean Water Act. Originally enacted in 1948, it was totally revised by amendments in 1972 that gave the act its current shape. The 1972 legislation spelled out ambitious programs for water quality improvement that have since been expanded and are still being implemented by industries and municipalities. In fact Mr. Chairman I would dare say that most Americans take clean water for granted.

The Clean Water Act consists of two major parts, one being the provisions which authorize federal financial assistance for municipal sewage treatment plant construction. The other is the regulatory requirements that apply to industrial and municipal dischargers. The act has been termed a technology-forcing statute because of the rigorous demands placed on those who are regulated by it to achieve higher and higher levels of pollution abatement under deadlines specified in the law.

Early on, emphasis was on controlling discharges of conventional pollutants, for example, suspended solids or bacteria that are biodegradable and occur naturally in the aquatic environment, while control of toxic pollutant discharges has been a key focus of water quality programs more recently.

My colleagues Mr. MARKEY of Massachusetts and Mr. WAXMAN of California have done an excellent job detailing many of the harms that H.R. 3409 would do. It bears repeating

though, that Title V of H.R. 3409 contains H.R. 2018, which severely limits EPA's authority to apply minimum national standards to protect the nation's waters from pollution.

Title V prevents EPA from strengthening weak state water quality standards, unless the state concurs, even if the water quality standard is insufficient to protect human health or aquatic life. It also strips EPA's authority to enforce discharge limits by prohibiting the agency from objecting to state discharge permits that fail to meet the requirements of the Clean Water Act. According to EPA, this title would "overturn almost 40 years of Federal legislation by preventing EPA from protecting public health and water quality."

In addition, the title limits EPA's ability to protect waterways from the devastating effects of mountaintop removal coal mining. Mountaintop removal coal mining involves removing mountaintops to expose coal seams and disposing of the material in adjacent valleys, a process known as valley fills. This bill removes EPA's authority to veto a valley fill permit based on environmental concerns, unless the state concurs with the veto. The bill also limits the amount of time EPA, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and other agencies have to provide comments to the Army Corps of Engineers on the potential environmental impacts of a proposed valley fill operation.

Under this act, federal jurisdiction is broad, particularly regarding establishment of national standards or effluent limitations. Certain responsibilities are delegated to the states, and the act embodies a philosophy of federal-state partnership in which the federal government sets the agenda and standards for pollution abatement, while states carry out day-to-day activities of implementation and enforcement.

To achieve its objectives, the act is based on the concept that all discharges into the nation's waters are unlawful, unless specifically authorized by a permit, which is the act's principal enforcement tool. The law has civil, criminal, and administrative enforcement provisions and also permits citizen suit enforcement.

The people in the state of Texas have had a severe drought and water has become an even more sensitive topic. Indeed, in the West, Southwest, and Rocky Mountain states water management is a more prominent issue than it is in many other parts of this great nation. Given our situation in Texas I think that it is clear that we must be very careful not to upset the careful balance which scientists, engineers, and the American people have developed when managing our nation's water.

The deadlines that the Majority would like to shorten are not arbitrary but represent realistic, reasonable, and business-friendly deadlines which prudent Americans have learned to adhere to and Mr. Speaker, we do nothing by modifying those deadlines today, so I ask my colleagues to support the Jackson Lee Amendment, keeping the comment period deadlines at 90 days.

Mr. GIBBS. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in opposition to the gentleman's amendment because it strikes an important provision in the bill that streamlines the section 404 permit process, not just for coal operations, but also for billions of dollars of economic activity in this Nation.

One of the loudest complaints we hear in Congress is how long it takes

the Federal Government to reach determination on permit requests. The Army Corps of Engineers is the lead Agency responsible for concluding the section 404 permit determinations. But the Clean Water Act requires the Corps to seek consultation with other Agencies like the National Marine Fisheries Service and the Fish and Wildlife Service.

Sadly, all too often, this consultation is where the needless delays occur, not because of the Corps' inaction, but because of the failure of the other agencies to provide timely information. This section, title V, simply sets a more reasonable timeframe for Federal agencies to get information to the Corps so a permit decision can be made in a timely manner.

To many of us, it is strange to see this amendment from those who purport to extol the virtues of Big Government since this amendment makes it clear they don't believe Big Government is competent enough to reach a decision in a reasonable amount of time.

This section of title V, the language which has already passed the House in a resounding bipartisan majority, will streamline the time for the consuming permit application process and ensure that \$220 billion in annual economic activity associated with section 404 activities does not grind to a halt. Time is money, and this is about jobs. The slower the time it takes to get these permits done, it holds up economic job activity and the creation of jobs all across America in all sectors. I urge all Members to oppose the amendment.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Texas will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 9 OFFERED BY MR. MCKINLEY

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 9 printed in House Report 112-680.

Mr. MCKINLEY. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 75, line 8, before the closing quotation marks insert the following:

“(3) Following the date of issuance of a permit by the Secretary in accordance with this section, the Administrator may not take any action under paragraph (1) to retroactively invalidate the permit.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 788, the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. MCKINLEY) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from West Virginia.

□ 0930

Mr. MCKINLEY. Mr. Chairman, this amendment will prohibit the EPA from retroactively invalidating permits after they have been issued. On January 13, 2011, the EPA took unprecedented action by retroactively revoking a lawfully issued section 404 permit for the Spruce No. 1 surface mine in Logan County, West Virginia. This permit had been issued 4 years earlier after an extensive 10-year environmental review, including a 1,600-page environmental impact statement in which the EPA fully participated and agreed to all the terms and conditions included in the authorized permit.

But this amendment is intended to address far more than coal mines. If the EPA can retroactively revoke a water permit for this industry, they can do the same to any other manufacturer, refinery, municipality, farm, or other government agency. Imagine an entrepreneur contemplating making an investment requiring an EPA permit but then stopping once they learn that the EPA could first grant the permit, allow the business to proceed, and then invalidate the permit, crushing the investment. Or, imagine a lending institution contemplating whether or not to loan money to someone subject to an EPA regulation. Should any of us be critical of them for being reluctant once they, too, become aware that their loan could go into default once the EPA retroactively revokes the permit on which the loan was granted?

All of us in Congress should be concerned about the chilling effect these actions by the EPA have had and will have if they continue this threat to the creation of jobs by exceeding their statutory authority. At a time when our country is facing economic uncertainty and our families are struggling to make ends meet, I'm appalled by this continued assault on American businesses and families that the EPA has taken. Our job creators need a consistent and predictable regulatory program that will protect jobs we have and create new ones in an environmentally responsible manner. Remember, this amendment is not just for coal mining but rather it addresses virtually every business in America which requires certainty in their regulatory environment.

I urge your support, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Chairman, I rise to claim time in opposition to Mr. MCKINLEY's amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from New Jersey is recognized for 5 minutes.

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

Mr. Chairman, this amendment would take away the EPA's authority under the Clean Water Act to retroactively deny permits to fill streams and wetlands in order to protect drink-

ing water supplies, recreational waters, and fish and wildlife habitat. Now EPA has used this authority to veto permits after they were issued responsibly only three times in 40 years. All of these were extremely rare cases and these vetoes were necessary to protect critical water resources.

In 1981, EPA revoked a permit for a solid waste landfill because it was leaking toxics into Biscayne Bay. In 1989, after objecting to a permit before it was issued, it overturned a permit to destroy 1,200 acres of flood plain wetlands in Georgia. And in 2010, which Mr. MCKINLEY mentions, EPA denied a permit for one of the largest mountaintop removal mines in Appalachia that would have buried more than six miles of West Virginia streams and polluted downstream waters with mining waste, causing permanent damage to ecosystems and streams. The veto was not a surprise—and I stress that. EPA consistently expressed its concerns about water quality impacts of this mine beginning from 2002 to 2006, when the Corps issued the permit.

Let me stress this was an extremely rare action taken by EPA. And the first time it was used, it used the Clean Water Act to overturn an approved mining permit. The surface mining in the steep slopes of Appalachia has disrupted the biological integrity of an area about the size of Delaware, buried approximately 2,000 miles of streams with mining waste, and contaminated downstream areas with toxic elements. People have been drinking the byproducts of coal waste from mountaintop removal for more than two decades. Rather than clean and clear water running out of their faucets, the people of Appalachia are left with orange or black liquid instead.

This is not just about the environment, Mr. Speaker; it's about public health. The health problems caused by exposure to these chemicals and heavy metals include cancer, organ failure, and learning disabilities. Not only that, but there are multiple cases of children suffering from asthma, headaches, nausea, and other symptoms likely due to toxic contamination from coal dust. This is an environmental justice issue. My colleagues on the other side of the aisle will claim EPA is killing jobs. I disagree with Mr. MCKINLEY. What the EPA is doing is protecting the people of Appalachia from exposure to toxic chemicals that are harming them.

Now to put this in perspective, each year the Army Corps of Engineers processes about 60,000 permits to fill waters and grants 97 percent of them. Over 40 years, the EPA has vetoed only three of these permits retroactively. On the very rare occasion one of these permits threatens to permanently destroy our Nation's critical water resources, the EPA should have the authority to stop it. This is authority that the EPA has used very rarely, and there is no evidence that the EPA has abused this authority.

This amendment is completely unnecessary. I urge Members to oppose it and to protect EPA's authority to safeguard our waters and our drinking water sources.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCKINLEY. Mr. Chairman, I ask how much time remains.

The Acting CHAIR. Both gentlemen have 2 minutes remaining.

Mr. MCKINLEY. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. GIBBS).

Mr. GIBBS. I rise in strong support of the amendment. I chair the committee. We had the hearings on this issue. And let's get straight what this issue is. His amendment stops a revocation of a permit after it's been issued. And what the gentleman just referred to is a permit. During the application process the law allows the EPA to veto a permit. But after it's been approved, this amendment takes care of not being able to revoke it years later, in the instance that it was done.

Keep in mind, the revocation that occurred was not because they were in violation of the permit. It was nothing but political theater. There was no violation of the permit. The State of West Virginia EPA stated that and the Army Corps said there was no violation of permit. This is revocation that sets a bad dangerous, precedent to economic growth in our country.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Chairman, I want to point out that, in addition to this being a terrible amendment, it's also an amendment that's going nowhere. And it really frustrates me that on the last day of the session before the election, this do-nothing Congress continues to bring up bills that are going nowhere—and they know are going nowhere.

For 2 years, the House Republicans have picked millionaires over Medicare and the middle class. Now they plan to leave town today without entering into law any responsible deficit reduction, any middle class tax cuts, the American Jobs Act. They have no jobs bill. The farm bill they have neglected. The Violence Against Women Act. These are all urgent priorities that we should be working on right now rather than trying to pass amendments or bills that are going nowhere.

The American people can't afford a do-nothing Republican Congress that refuses to act on issues critical to middle class families, to small businesses, to farmers, and to women. I urge the Republican leadership to just stay in town and complete our work. Don't waste our time on bills like this that are going nowhere. The Senate is never going to take this up.

Now here are a few of the things that the do-nothing Republican Congress has found time to do:

Voted to end Medicare as we know it and increase costs on seniors by \$6,400.

Republicans chose millionaires over the middle class, giving more tax breaks to the wealthiest.

Republicans vote for corporations that ship jobs overseas over passing the American Jobs Act.

Republicans voted to restrict women's access to health services.

It is amazing to me that we sit here hour after hour on the last day because they refuse to continue to work and talk about bills going nowhere, when all these other major priorities need to be addressed.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCKINLEY. Do I have the right to close?

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from New Jersey has 30 seconds remaining. The gentleman from West Virginia has 1¼ minutes. The gentleman from New Jersey has the right to close.

Mr. MCKINLEY. Mr. Chairman, briefly, let me just underscore here how people try to distract attention away from the argument. We've heard all these other arguments. I've heard the opponents talk about this is the first time or the third time or whatever that is. Let's go back to what the courts have said. Perhaps we need to have on the other side a little bit more education. Because the Federal courts have already struck down that initial reading. Shame on you—anyone—for not having read all this.

The Federal court said the EPA's interpretation of the act is not reasonable. Neither the statute nor the memorandum of agreement between the EPA and the Corps makes any provision for a post-permit veto, and this agency was completely unable to articulate what the practical consequences of its actions would be.

□ 0940

In addition, the court went on to say that the Clean Water Act does not give the EPA the power to render a permit invalid once it has been issued by the Corps.

We ought to put this to rest, codify it, and move on.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Chairman, I'm very much aware that the EPA's veto was challenged by the mining company, and the EPA has appealed this ruling. I'm hoping that the Court of Appeals will see the light and understand that the EPA should be able to protect the health of the people of Appalachia.

Again, this amendment is completely unnecessary, and it's part of a process where this Republican House does absolutely nothing but waste our time. We shouldn't be leaving today. We should be staying and doing our work.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. MCKINLEY).

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

Mr. MCKINLEY. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further pro-

ceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from West Virginia will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 10 OFFERED BY MR. MARKEY

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 10 printed in House Report 112-680.

Mr. MARKEY. I have an amendment at the desk, Mr. Chairman.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the Rules Committee Print, add the following new title:

TITLE VI—COMBINED EFFICIENCY AND RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY STANDARD
SEC. 601. COMBINED EFFICIENCY AND RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY STANDARD.

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

(1) DISTRIBUTED RENEWABLE GENERATION FACILITY.—The term “distributed renewable generation facility” means a facility that—

- (A) generates renewable electricity;
- (B) primarily serves 1 or more electricity consumers at or near the facility site; and
- (C) is no greater than 2 megawatts in capacity.

(2) ELECTRIC CONSUMER.—The term “electric consumer” has the meaning given that term in section 3 of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2602).

(3) ELECTRIC UTILITY.—The term “electric utility” has the meaning given that term in section 3 of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2602), except that, for the purposes of this section, such term does not include any agency, authority, or instrumentality of the United States Government.

(4) ELECTRICITY SAVINGS.—The term “electricity savings” means reductions in electricity consumption, relative to business-as-usual projections, achieved through measures implemented after the date of enactment of this section.

(5) FEDERAL RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY CREDIT.—The term “Federal renewable electricity credit” means a credit, representing one megawatt hour of renewable electricity, issued pursuant to subsection (e).

(6) RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY.—The term “renewable electricity” means electricity generated (including by means of a fuel cell) from a renewable energy resource.

(7) RENEWABLE ENERGY RESOURCE.—The term “renewable energy resource” means each of the following:

- (A) Wind energy.
- (B) Solar energy.
- (C) Geothermal energy.
- (D) Renewable biomass.
- (E) Biogas or biofuels derived from renewable biomass.

(F) Hydropower generated by a hydroelectric facility placed in service after January 1, 2001.

(G) Marine and hydrokinetic renewable energy, as that term is defined in section 632 of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (42 U.S.C. 17211).

(H) Such other energy resources as the Secretary determines appropriate.

(8) RETAIL ELECTRIC SUPPLIER.—The term “retail electric supplier” means, for any given year, an electric utility that sold not less than 1,000,000 megawatt hours of electric energy to electric consumers for purposes other than resale during the preceding calendar year.

(9) RETAIL ELECTRIC SUPPLIER'S BASE AMOUNT.—The term “retail electric supplier's base amount” means the total amount of electric energy sold by the retail

electric supplier, expressed in megawatt hours, to electric customers for purposes other than resale during the relevant calendar year, excluding—

(A) electricity generated by a hydroelectric facility that was placed in service prior to January 1, 2001;

(B) electricity generated by the combustion of municipal solid waste;

(C) electricity generated by a nuclear generating unit placed in service after the date of enactment of this section; and

(D) the proportion of electricity generated by a fossil-fueled generating unit that is equal to the proportion of greenhouse gases produced by such unit that are captured and geologically sequestered.

(10) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Energy.

(11) TOTAL ANNUAL ELECTRICITY SAVINGS.—The term “total annual electricity savings” means electricity savings during a specified calendar year from measures implemented since the date of the enactment of this section, taking into account verified measure lifetimes or verified annual savings attrition rates, as determined in accordance with such regulations as the Secretary may promulgate and measured in megawatt hours.

(b) ANNUAL COMPLIANCE OBLIGATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—For each of calendar years 2014 through 2040, not later than March 31 of the following calendar year, each retail electric supplier shall submit to the Secretary an amount of Federal renewable electricity credits and demonstrated total annual electricity savings that, in the aggregate, is equal to such retail electric supplier’s annual combined target as set forth in subsection (d), except as otherwise provided in subsection (g).

(2) DEMONSTRATION OF SAVINGS.—For purposes of this subsection, submission of demonstrated total annual electricity savings means submission of a report that demonstrates, in accordance with the requirements of subsection (f), the total annual electricity savings achieved by the retail electric supplier within the relevant compliance year.

(3) RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY CREDITS PORTION.—Except as provided in paragraph (4), each retail electric supplier must submit Federal renewable electricity credits equal to at least three quarters of the retail electric supplier’s annual combined target.

(4) STATE PETITION.—Upon written request from the Governor of any State (including, for purposes of this paragraph, the Mayor of the District of Columbia), the Secretary shall increase, to not more than half, the proportion of the annual combined targets of retail electric suppliers located within such State that may be met through submission of demonstrated total annual electricity savings, provided that such increase shall be effective only with regard to the portion of a retail electric supplier’s annual combined target that is attributable to electricity sales within such State.

(c) ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall promulgate regulations to implement and enforce the requirements of this section.

(d) ANNUAL COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENT.—

(1) ANNUAL COMBINED TARGETS.—For each of calendar years 2014 through 2040, a retail electric supplier’s annual combined target shall be the product of—

(A) the required annual percentage for such year, as set forth in paragraph (2); and

(B) the retail electric supplier’s base amount for such year.

(2) REQUIRED ANNUAL PERCENTAGE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—For each of calendar years 2014 through 2040, the required annual percentage shall be as follows:

Year	Required annual percentage
2014	8
2015	10
2016	12
2017	14
2018	16
2019	18
2020	20
2021	22
2022	24
2023	26
2024	28
2025	30
2026	32
2027	34
2028	36
2029	38
2030	40
2031	42
2032	44
2033	46
2034	48
2035 through 2040	50

(B) ADJUSTMENTS PERMITTED.—The Secretary may adjust the required annual percentages described in subparagraph (A) if the Secretary finds that such percentages are not technically or economically feasible or pose a threat to electric reliability.

(e) FEDERAL RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY CREDITS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The regulations promulgated under this section shall include provisions governing the issuance, tracking, and verification of Federal renewable electricity credits. Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, the Secretary shall issue to each generator of renewable electricity, 1 Federal renewable electricity credit for each megawatt hour of renewable electricity generated by such generator after December 31, 2013. The Secretary shall assign a unique serial number to each Federal renewable electricity credit.

(2) CREDIT MULTIPLIER FOR DISTRIBUTED RENEWABLE GENERATION.—The Secretary shall issue 3 Federal renewable electricity credits for each megawatt hour of renewable electricity generated by a distributed renewable generation facility.

(3) TRADING.—The lawful holder of a Federal renewable electricity credit may sell, exchange, transfer, submit for compliance in accordance with subsection (b).

(4) BANKING.—A Federal renewable electricity credit may be submitted in satisfaction of the compliance obligation set forth in subsection (b) for the compliance year in which the credit was issued or for any of the 3 immediately subsequent compliance years.

(f) ELECTRICITY SAVINGS.—

(1) STANDARDS FOR MEASUREMENT OF SAVINGS.—As part of the regulations promulgated under this section, the Secretary shall prescribe standards and protocols for defining and measuring electricity savings and total annual electricity savings that can be counted towards the compliance obligation set forth in subsection (b).

(2) REPORTING SAVINGS.—The regulations promulgated under this section shall establish requirements governing the submission of reports to demonstrate, in accordance with the protocols and standards for measurement and verification established under this subsection, the total annual electricity savings achieved by a retail electric supplier within the relevant year.

(g) ALTERNATIVE COMPLIANCE PAYMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—A retail electric supplier may satisfy the requirements of subsection (b) in whole or in part by submitting in accordance with this subsection, in lieu of each Federal renewable electricity credit or

megawatt hour of demonstrated total annual electricity savings that would otherwise be due, a payment equal to \$25, adjusted for inflation on January 1 of each year following calendar year 2014, in accordance with such regulations as the Secretary may promulgate.

(2) PAYMENTS.—Payments made under this subsection shall be deposited into the general fund of the Treasury and shall be available, subject to appropriations, to the Secretary for the administrative costs of implementing this section.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 788, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Massachusetts.

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

My amendment is going to call for 25 percent of the electricity in the United States being generated by renewables by the year 2035.

The United States, excluding hydro, is already up to 7 or 8 percent of all of our electricity generated by renewables here in 2012. So, 23 years from now, the goal would be to reach 25 percent.

Now, why do I feel compelled to bring this amendment out here? Well, while the Republicans say that there’s a war on coal, so far in this first year and 9 months that they have controlled the United States Congress, they have declared war on solar; they have declared war on wind; they have declared war on all renewables. That’s why I bring this amendment down here to the House floor.

They are going to kill the production tax credit for wind energy that is going to send the wind industry off a cliff next year.

Already, 2,367 jobs have been lost in the wind industry because of Republican action. Forty thousand jobs will be lost next year because of Republican action. They are out to deliberately kill these jobs. How many will be lost? Three thousand to 4,000 jobs in Pennsylvania will be lost; 4,000 to 5,000 jobs in Colorado will be lost; 5,000 to 6,000 wind jobs will be lost in Ohio; 6,000 to 7,000 wind jobs will be lost in Iowa if the Republican policy is allowed to be put on the books.

They have declared war on wind. They have declared war on solar, on geothermal, on biomass.

Ladies and gentlemen, what my amendment does is say let’s have a plan for everything else because it’s not going to be a part of the Republican plan.

So, by the year 2035, 25 percent of all electricity in our country must come from renewables.

Now, how do we know this is possible? There were 12,000 new megawatts of wind installed in the United States this year; 3,200 new megawatts of solar installed in the United States this year.

So, geothermal, biomass, it’s all growing. What’s their goal? Kill it. That’s their problem. Natural gas is

rising. It hurts the coal industry. It's the marketplace.

Wind and solar are growing, geothermal and biomass are growing. They don't want a level playing field. They want to pick winners and losers. They want to pick favorites. That's what it's all about.

So far in their control of the Congress in just a year and 9 months, they have voted to slash research and development for wind and solar, they have voted to end loan guarantees for wind and solar, they have voted to kill the transmission wires to carry wind and solar to our homes and our offices.

The Republicans are so opposed to Americans having access to clean energy that even when it is built they don't even want to have the transmission lines to get it to American homes.

It's a war on solar and wind. My amendment ensures that there is a pathway to the future for the most abundant American energy source, wind and solar, geothermal and biomass. It's all here in America.

At this point, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WHITFIELD. I rise to claim time in opposition.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Kentucky is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. WHITFIELD. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MARKEY. I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Kentucky has the right to close.

The gentleman from Massachusetts has 1¼ minutes remaining.

Mr. MARKEY. If I may inquire from the Chairman, is the majority saying that there is only one speaker remaining on their side?

The Acting CHAIR. Yes.

Mr. MARKEY. Then I will yield myself the balance of my time.

Wind and solar is the most abundant source of energy in the United States—when we capture it. Einstein won his Nobel Prize in 1921, the only one that won a Nobel Prize, and that's on how to capture the power of the sun. And now we're on the cusp of doing this successfully as the price per kilowatt hour drops and drops—and then it's all American.

And who is now looming over our shoulder, even though we invented these technologies, even though we're producing these technologies, are the Chinese, the Indians, and others who will pounce on this global opportunity to create the jobs here in the United States, to export this technology around the world even as we deploy the technology here in our country that backs out the energy sources from around the rest of the world. This is what they fear.

They fear the innovation. They fear the change. They fear our ability to capture wind and solar to be able to power the vehicles which we drive in our country, to be able to send up a

cleaner source of energy up into the sky that does not pollute. That's what this battle is all about.

We do not want special advantage. All we want is a level playing field. The Republicans continue this war against wind and solar.

Vote "aye" for the Markey amendment, 25 percent renewable electricity by the year 2035.

I yield back the balance of my time. Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Chairman, we haven't declared war on wind or solar or anything else. We simply don't believe that when you have a \$16 trillion Federal debt that the Federal Government should use taxpayers' money to serve as venture capital for risky ventures like Solyndra that received \$538 million and now is bankrupt. If this technology is so good, let the free market develop it. It does not need taxpayer support.

Yet, on the other hand, this administration has adopted policies that you can't even build a new coal-powered plant in America because there's no technology available to meet the new emissions standards of the Obama EPA.

On this particular amendment, on page 7 of the amendment, it says that by the year 2035 that 50 percent of the electricity would have to be produced from renewables. The gentleman in his comments said 25 percent, but this amendment says 50.

□ 0950

Mr. MARKEY. Will the gentleman yield? That is not accurate.

Mr. WHITFIELD. Well, I'm just reading from page 7.

Anyway, this amendment simply creates a national renewable electricity standard. We've seen it before. It was in the Markey-Waxman cap-and-trade bill in the last Congress, which was rejected by the Congress.

This amendment does nothing more than determine for the American people where their electricity will come from and that they are going to be paying more for it.

So I urge people to vote against the Markey amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Massachusetts will be postponed.

Amendment No. 11 Offered by Mr. DEFAZIO

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 11 printed in House Report 112-680.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the Rules Committee Print, add the following title:

TITLE VI—REPORT ON FUGITIVE COAL DUST

SEC. 601. REPORT.

Not later than 6 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency and the Secretary of Transportation shall submit to Congress a joint report on the health, environmental, and public safety impacts of fugitive dust emissions from coal transport.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 788, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oregon.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Well, today, the do-nothing Congress will slink out of town. It's going to be the earliest adjournment in an election year since 1960; but, you know, I guess the Nation has no problems and there's no work undone, so it's just time to go home and campaign. It's pretty extraordinary. We've enacted one-quarter the number of bills into law of Harry Truman's do-nothing Congress, 1947-48. So I guess this is the "do-nothing-er" Congress.

So here we are again today. We are going to consider today—the only work today will be four bills that have previously passed the House. Someone hasn't read their civics textbooks. If you pass a bill and send it to the Senate, it's there; they'll consider it or they won't consider it. If you pass it again and send it again, it doesn't make any difference. In fact, it's somewhat repetitive and wasteful of everybody's time when we could be doing postal reform to ensure the future of the post office. We could be doing a farm bill; there are a lot of people suffering a horrible drought. We could be dealing with the sequestration, which there's concern on both sides of the aisle on that. But we're not. We're considering four bills previously passed and one new one.

Well, I have a reasonable amendment to an unreasonable bill, which is now before us, which is the one new bill before us. My amendment would ask that within 6 months—that's not very long—the Department of Transportation and the EPA submit a report to Congress on fugitive coal dust. Now, it seems a couple of extraordinary letters have been sent out saying, my God, this will stop projects and exports that are going forward—undue delay. I'm not aware of anything that would be delayed by this. It says a study will be done; it doesn't delay any ongoing applications or projects at all. But what it would do is potentially avert a tremendous amount of litigation down the road. If we find that fugitive coal dust is not a problem—which the coal industry says—then that would relieve a lot

of people in gateway ports and large cities in the West where coal dust is being proposed to transit through those cities, including cities in my district.

People are very concerned about this. They want to know, is it a problem. How far from the loading point does fugitive coal dust get emitted from the car? Are there ways to deal with the fugitive coal dust? Does the surfactant work? Is that a solution? Should the cars be covered? Is that a solution? What are the problems? What are the problems at its destination in terms of whether or not there would be coal dust at the port destinations? If the coal is stored outside, how is it transported onto the ship? Et cetera, et cetera. So if we had these answers, we could talk about the safe and clean transport and allay a lot of concerns that are ultimately going to lead to a lot of litigation unless we know.

Now, the industry says, oh, it's been studied. Well, no, it hasn't. In fact, one railroad has pursued action against the coal industry because fugitive coal dust has caused safety problems on the railroad. It gets into the ballast; it blocks the ballast from draining. The ballast destabilizes, the tracks destabilize, and trains can derail. Now, that seems to me like a problem that should be dealt with. And there may be some very, very simple ways to deal with it. Some say surfactants; some say covered cars. There are other potential solutions out there. Wouldn't it be good to know? Wouldn't it be good to know? That's all I'm saying. A 6-month study and a report to Congress won't delay anything at all. It just would give us some knowledge. And I would hope that we legislate around here with a little bit of knowledge and not just off the cuff.

With that, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Chairman, I rise to claim time in opposition.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Kentucky is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. WHITFIELD. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Does that mean there's only one speaker on their side?

The Acting CHAIR. That is correct.

Mr. DEFAZIO. May I inquire of the Chair how much time I have remaining?

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Oregon has 1 minute remaining.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Again, we will hear apocryphal denouncements from the other side of the aisle—this will cost millions of jobs and billions of dollars and stymie our exports. No, it's a study. It's a study that would take 6 months. It's a study that, if it agrees with the industry's conclusions, would assure the American public that there won't be problems with these trains transiting through their hometowns.

It's something we should know. It's something the government should look at. Apparently, there are some prop-

riety studies that we aren't allowed to see that say there's no problem. Well, if that's true, then the railroads and the industry should let the American public see those propriety studies. Really, not too many people are willing to take someone at their word when it comes to an issue of public health.

So it's a very simple amendment. It won't delay anything; it will take 6 months. It will cost very little, and it will give us the information and knowledge we need to figure out how to safely transport coal.

And with that, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WHITFIELD. We have great respect for our friends on the other side of the aisle. I think we all recognize that we do have basic differences in our philosophy about the way energy is produced in America. It's quite clear that many people on the other side of the aisle are very much opposed to coal. Not only do they not want us to burn coal in America; they don't want us to export coal to other countries even though it would help our trade deficit and would preserve jobs in the coal industry.

This particular amendment on fugitive dust is really unnecessary because fugitive dust from the transport of coal is already regulated at the Federal and State level under the Clean Air Act, as well as State fugitive dust laws and regulations. EPA already is required to study the environmental and health impacts from particulate matter from all sources, including fugitive sources, and of all compositions, including coal dust. The most recent summary of that science was published by EPA in 2009 and supplemented in 2010. In fact, this week the Army Corps of Engineers also announced that it will conduct an environmental assessment of the proposed coal terminal in the sponsor's district.

So I would say that we already have adequate protection. There's no need for this amendment, although I'm sure it's offered with the very best of intentions.

So I would urge our Members to oppose this amendment and would yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Oregon will be postponed.

□ 1000

AMENDMENT NO. 12 OFFERED BY MR. FLAKE

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 12 printed in House Report 112-680.

Mr. FLAKE. Mr. Chair, I rise as the designee of the gentleman from North Dakota to offer amendment No. 12

made in order by the rule providing for consideration of H.R. 3409.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the Rules Committee Print, add the following new title:

TITLE VI—REGIONAL HAZE REGULATORY RELIEF

SEC. 601. IMPLEMENTATION PLANS.

Section 110 of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7410) is amended—

(1) in subsection (c), by striking “(c)(1) The Administrator” and all that follows through the end of paragraph (1) and inserting the following:

“(c) FEDERAL PLANS.—

“(1) PLANS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (C), unless the conditions described in subparagraph (B) are met, the Administrator shall promulgate a Federal implementation plan at any time after the date that is 2 years after the date on which the Administrator—

“(i) finds that a State has failed to make a required submission or finds that the plan or plan revision submitted by the State does not satisfy the minimum criteria established under subsection (k)(1)(A); or

“(ii) disapproves a State implementation plan submission.

“(B) CONDITIONS.—The conditions described in this subparagraph are that, before the date on which the Administrator promulgates a Federal implementation plan—

“(i) a State corrects a deficiency in a State implementation plan or plan revision submitted by the State; and

“(ii) the Administrator approves the plan or plan revision.

“(C) VISIBILITY PROTECTION PLANS.—In the case of a Federal implementation plan promulgated after the date of enactment of this subparagraph in place of a State implementation plan under section 169A—

“(i) the Administrator shall promulgate such Federal implementation plan only if the Administrator makes a finding that the State submitting the State implementation plan failed to consider the factors described in paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 169A(g) in preparing and submitting the plan; and

“(ii) compliance with the requirements of such Federal implementation plan shall not be required earlier than 5 years after the date of promulgation.”; and

(2) in subsection (k)—

(A) by striking paragraph (3) and inserting the following:

“(3) FULL APPROVAL AND DISAPPROVAL.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraphs (B) and (C), in the case of any submission for which the Administrator is required to act under paragraph (2), the Administrator shall approve the submission as a whole if the submission meets all of the applicable requirements of this Act.

“(B) REVIEW.—In reviewing any State implementation plan submitted pursuant to section 169A, the Administrator shall limit the review only to a determination of whether the State submitting the State implementation plan considered the factors described in paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 169A(g) in preparing and submitting the plan.

“(C) VISIBILITY PLANS.—The Administrator shall approve as a whole any implementation plan submitted pursuant to section 169A that was prepared and submitted after consideration of the factors described in paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 169A(g).”;

(B) in paragraph (5)—

(i) in the first sentence, by striking “Whenever” and inserting the following:

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Whenever”; and
(ii) by adding at the end the following:

“(B) VISIBILITY PLANS.—Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), with respect to an implementation plan approved pursuant to section 169A, the Administrator shall only find that such a plan is substantially inadequate to meet standards for air pollutants that cause or contribute to the impairment of visibility, or any other applicable standard or requirement, under that section if the Administrator makes a finding that, in preparing the plan, the submitting State failed to consider the factors described in paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 169A(g).

“(C) EXISTING VISIBILITY PLANS.—

“(i) REQUEST FOR REVOCATION.—At any time after the date of enactment of this subparagraph—

“(I) a State may request that the existing Federal or State implementation plan for the State regarding visibility, or any determination made in calendar year 2012 or 2013 of best available retrofit technology pursuant to section 169A, be revoked; and

“(II) upon receipt of such a request, the Administrator shall revoke the implementation plan.

“(ii) SUBMISSION OF NEW OR REVISED PLAN.—Upon a revocation under clause (i)(II), the State that requested the revocation shall, not later than 2 years after such revocation, submit to the Administrator a new or revised visibility plan in accordance with this Act.”.

SEC. 602. VISIBILITY PROTECTION FOR FEDERAL CLASS I AREAS.

Section 169A of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7491) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(2), in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “as may be necessary” and inserting “as the State determines, at the sole discretion of the State after considering factors described in this section and providing adequate opportunity for public comment, may be necessary”; and

(2) in subsection (g)—

(A) by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the following:

“(1)(A) in determining reasonable progress, there shall be taken into consideration—

“(i) the costs of compliance;

“(ii) the time necessary for compliance;

“(iii) the energy and nonair quality environmental impacts of compliance;

“(iv) the remaining useful life of any existing source subject to requirements under this section;

“(v) the degree of improvement in visibility that may reasonably be anticipated to result from measures described in the applicable implementation plan; and

“(vi) the economic impacts to the State (including people of the State);

“(B) in consideration of costs of compliance pursuant to subparagraph (A)(i), the State may use source-specific cost estimations developed by a licensed professional engineer as an alternate to other methods of estimation approved by the Administrator; and

“(C) in consideration of the degree of improvement in visibility pursuant to subparagraph (A)(v), the State may use alternate modeling techniques or methods than those prescribed by the Administrator in the Agency’s ‘Guideline on Air Quality Models’ under appendix W to part 51 of title 40, Code of Federal Regulations, and, where available, measured emissions and monitoring data shall be used;”;

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) by striking “(2) in determining best available retrofit technology the State” and inserting the following:

“(2) in determining the best available retrofit technology—

“(A) the State”;

(ii) in subparagraph (A) (as designated by clause (i)), by inserting “the economic impacts to the State (including people of the State),” after “life of the source;”;

(iii) by striking “technology;” and inserting “technology; and”; and

(iv) by adding at the end the following:

“(B) in consideration of the costs of compliance pursuant to subparagraph (A), the State may use source-specific cost estimations developed by a licensed professional engineer as an alternate to other methods of estimation approved by the Administrator;

“(C) with respect to consideration of the degree of improvement in visibility pursuant to subparagraph (A)—

“(i) the State may use alternate modeling techniques or methods than those prescribed by the Administrator in the Agency’s ‘Guideline on Air Quality Models’ under appendix W to part 51 of title 40, Code of Federal Regulations;

“(ii) the State may consider the degree of improvement in visibility in the mandatory class I Federal area that is most affected by emissions from the source without considering the degree of improvement in visibility in any other such area; and

“(iii) the Administrator (in any case in which the Administrator has authority to determine emission limitations which reflect such technology) may not consider the degree of improvement in visibility in any area other than the mandatory class I Federal area that is most affected by emissions from the source; and

“(D) the determination of best available retrofit technology by the State for any source shall be subject to review by the Administrator, an administrative entity, or a Federal or State court only pursuant to a clearly erroneous standard of review;”;

(C) in paragraph (4), by striking “(or the date of promulgation of such a plan revision in the case of action by the Administrator under section 110(c) for purposes of this section)”.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 788, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

Mr. FLAKE. I thank the Chair, and I’ll immediately yield 1 minute to the gentleman from North Dakota (Mr. BERG).

Mr. BERG. I thank the gentleman for yielding and joining me in this amendment. I rise to support our amendment to ensure States continue to have control over regional haze regulations.

When Congress first established EPA’s Regional Haze Program, it acknowledged that regional haze and visibility regulation has to do purely with aesthetic value and not public health. For that very reason, Congress emphasized that the States, not EPA, should be the decisionmakers when it comes to regulations of regional haze.

Instead of empowering States to do what’s best for their citizens, the Obama administration has, again, imposed another costly one-size-fits-all regulation for the producers of energy, who are the most critical job creators in my State and across the country.

Our amendment will limit EPA’s availability to override States’ management of regional haze, and it em-

powers States to implement their own regional haze management plans, the plans that best fit their individual needs.

It’s time to stop the war on coal, and I urge my colleagues to support our amendment on the underlying bill.

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Chairman, I seek to claim the time in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from California is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Chairman and my colleagues, I oppose this amendment. It would make a terrible bill even worse.

Our Nation’s environmental laws are founded on cooperative federalism. This is how it works:

The Federal Government sets minimum standards to assure that every American has a basic level of protection so no one is forced to breathe dirty air or drink dirty water. Then the States decide how to meet those standards, or set stronger standards if they choose. The States also implement the programs they adopt. Finally, if a State fails to act, EPA can step in and do the job itself.

This approach has worked well for over 40 years. It means that there is a healthy give-and-take between the States and the Environmental Protection Agency. The States receive Federal funds, and they run their own programs. But EPA has the tools to encourage the States to do more, where necessary.

Before Congress adopted the Clean Air Act in 1970 and the Clean Water Act in 1972, both signed by President Nixon, it was up to the States to control pollution. The problem was that many of them didn’t do it. We had rivers catch on fire, smog so thick you couldn’t see nearby mountains, and a tremendous toll on public health and lives.

It wasn’t that States didn’t want to clean up pollution, but if there are no minimum standards, States are forced into a race to the bottom. If a State wants to reduce pollution from oil refineries, the oil industry can threaten to build its new refineries in another State with looser requirements. The result is that States were afraid to require industry to clean up to the levels needed to protect the public.

This amendment, like other provisions already in the bill, overthrows the principles of cooperative federalism that have guided us for 40 years. Instead, it would leave various pollution control decisions almost entirely up to the States.

The proponents of this amendment claim that it is about EPA’s Regional Haze Program. Every Member should understand that this amendment is not limited to regional haze.

The first part of the amendment is remarkably broad. It applies to all of the criteria air pollutants regulated by the States—smog, NO_x, fine particulates—and it applies in every area that is not meeting the health-based air quality standards.

This amendment says that even when a State fails to act, fails to control air pollution, EPA can no longer provide a backstop. EPA must wait at least 2 years before they can fill in for the States' failures. And there's no deadline for EPA ever to act, allowing unhealthy air quality to persist indefinitely. Citizens of that State would no longer have any recourse.

The second part of this amendment effectively eliminates minimum national criteria to protect air quality in our national parks.

The Clean Air Act has special provisions to protect air quality in the pristine lands that the Nation has set aside for all Americans to enjoy—our national parks, national monuments, and wilderness areas. After all, we go to the Grand Canyon to see the view. There's little point in protecting these lands if we allow their air and water to be polluted.

This amendment targets those Clean Air Act provisions. It says that when it comes to protecting the air quality of the national parks that belong to all Americans, the State where a park is located has sole discretion to decide how much, if any, pollution control would be required. EPA would no longer be able to require a minimum level of pollution reductions, and if the State failed to act entirely, as some have done, EPA would no longer be able to step in and set pollution controls.

The practical effect of this amendment would be to allow some of the oldest and dirtiest power plants in the country to continue polluting without standard pollution controls. I urge my colleagues to oppose this amendment.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FLAKE. I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR).

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Chairman, I would like to support and thank my colleagues, Congressmen JEFF FLAKE and RICK BERG, and support this amendment.

I represent the areas where two of the Arizona plants threatened by the EPA's heavy-handed regulations are located, the Coronado Generating Station in St. Johns and the Cholla plant near Joseph City. The third plant, the Apache Generating Station, near Wilcox, is just 100 miles away and serves a good portion of my constituents in the southern part of my district. These are bedrock to our local communities. They provide high-paying jobs where unemployment is already over 10 percent.

Over the August recess, the Environmental Protection Agency held public hearings in Phoenix, Holbrook, and Benson on their Federal plan. Each of the hearings in rural Arizona had over 300 people present. That is an incredible turnout in these relatively small towns. That is how important this issue is to my constituents.

The EPA refused to hold a hearing in St. Johns, despite being a community directly impacted by the regulations,

so I hosted a meeting to facilitate the submission of public comments. On a night where the local high school had their first football game and the county fair was taking place, we still had over 100 people show up.

Listen, everybody wants clean air and good-paying jobs. The fact of the matter is the EPA is acting well beyond its authority and under public law in my State and many others across the country.

Vote "yes" for our amendment.

Mr. WAXMAN. I urge Members to oppose this amendment and yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. FLAKE. I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD).

Mr. LANKFORD. Well, this is an interesting conversation when you deal with how this all came about.

In January of 2009, the Sierra Club and several other organizations sued the EPA to expand their authority, to expand what was the law. The EPA ruled out of court in a settlement with them, and what was taken to a judge is a consent decree to expand what was the policy, what was the law.

So several questions have to be answered here. One is: Does the executive branch have the authority to be able to change a law through an agreement with the Sierra Club or any other organization?

Number 2 is: What is this all about? If you're dealing with visibility issues, you're dealing not with health issues specifically stated in the air quality—and all that happened with regional haze was this is not about health; this is about visibility.

In my State, there's one of the national parks that will change 2 deciviews with the Federal implementation plan rather than the State implementation plan.

□ 1010

That will cost ratepayers in Oklahoma millions and millions of dollars for something that cannot be seen by the human eye. This is about jobs, and this is about who makes the decision. I do not like the assumption that only people in Washington, D.C., care about the people of Oklahoma. The people of Oklahoma care about the health and safety of the people of Oklahoma.

I would vote "yes" for this amendment.

Mr. FLAKE. I thank the gentleman from Oklahoma, the gentleman from Arizona, and the gentleman from North Dakota for cosponsoring this amendment.

As the gentleman mentioned, what we are talking about here is regional haze. This is not a health issue. It is a visibility issue.

As for the implementation plans being considered by the Federal Government, let me just take the Navajo Generating Station in northern Arizona. What is being considered is likely an SCR fix, selective catalytic reduction, which would cost \$1.1 billion.

That would cause the owners of the Navajo Generating Station to simply shut it down. They can't produce economically with these kinds of burdens.

The benefits of that, we are told by the EPA, are that there would be no perceptible improvements in visibility—none. Manmade sources make up, at best, 5 percent of all regional haze in Arizona. This is 5 percent at best. So you require a fix costing \$1.1 billion. For what? For no perceptible improvement in visibility at the Grand Canyon.

Why are we doing this?

The costs to Arizona are immense: 85 percent of the power generated—or used—by the Central Arizona Project to pump water for farmland and whatever else comes from the Navajo Generating Station. If you shut down that station, farmers will have to go back to groundwater where they can. What does that do? That depletes our underground resources, causing environmental havoc. This is madness what is going on.

What this amendment seeks to do is to force the EPA to actually follow the law. The law requires that the EPA set the standard, and then the State offers a State Implementation Plan, or a SIP. The problem is that the EPA is ignoring what the State submits and then entering into negotiations with third-party groups—environmental groups or others—and ignoring the State.

We can't allow this to happen anymore. That's why this is a good amendment. I urge its adoption.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE).

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

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 13 OFFERED BY MR. GOSAR

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 13 printed in House Report 112-680.

Mr. GOSAR. I have an amendment made in order under the rule.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the Rules Committee Print, add the following:

TITLE VI—NO REGIONAL HAZE REGULATION ON THE COAL-POWERED NAVAJO GENERATING STATION

SEC. 601. LIMITATION ON AUTHORITY TO ISSUE REGULATIONS.

The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency shall not promulgate any Federal implementation plan pursuant to section 169A or 169B of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7491, 7492; relating to visibility protection) that would—

(1) adversely impact employment at the coal-powered Navajo Generating Station or

other coal-fired power plants and coal mines on tribal lands in northern Arizona;

(2) directly or indirectly diminish the revenue received by the Federal Government or any State, tribal or local government by reducing through regulation the amount of coal that is available for mining on Navajo and Hopi Reservation lands;

(3) cause a reduction in coal-based revenue to meet financial obligations required by federally authorized Indian water rights settlements, pursuant to section 403(f) of the Colorado River Basin Project Act (43 U.S.C. 1543(f));

(4) reduce the amount of coal, or increase the cost of coal, available for the Navajo Generating Station's Federal responsibility to deliver water and power, as authorized by the Colorado River Basin Project Act (43 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.); or

(5) expose the United States to liability for taking the value of tribally-owned coal in northern Arizona through regulation.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 788, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Today, I am pleased to put forth an amendment to protect the residents of Arizona from the EPA's attacks on the Navajo Generating Station, which is located near Page, Arizona. The uncertainty surrounding proposed EPA regulations and their effects on the Navajo Generating Station were some of the first issues brought to my attention when I was sworn into Congress.

The overreaching regulations would effectively shut down this critical and unique plant. A closure would dramatically increase the cost of water and power for my constituents, and it would eliminate thousands of tribal and nontribal jobs—all for no discernible improvement in visibility. Again, according to the Federal Government, itself, no discernible improvement in visibility.

You see, this plant is unique because it is owned by six entities, including the Federal Government. It was part of a plan created by visionaries so that we could provide power to move water from the Colorado River, through the largest aqueduct system ever constructed in the United States, to the people of Arizona. You can see it across here. In fact, the CAP delivers water to up to 80 percent of my State's population. This includes 45 percent of Phoenix's water, which is the fifth largest city in the United States, and 80 percent of the water to the 32nd largest city in the United States, which is Tucson.

The Arizona we know today would, without a doubt, not exist if it were not for this plant. The Navajo Generating Station and the associated coal mine directly employ over 1,000 Arizonans, who are mostly Native Americans. Additionally, according to an Arizona State University study, the plant will indirectly account for more than \$20 billion in gross State product and

will indirectly provide for 3,000 jobs annually over the next 40 years.

I also want to point out a complicated but important part of this issue. The Federal Government is actually working against itself with these regulations. Revenues from the sale of excess power generated by the plant are used to repay the Federal Government's debt for the construction of the CAP project. They are also used to help pay for the costs of congressionally authorized Indian water rights settlements between the Federal Government, tribes, and entities within Arizona. So, without these revenues, the Federal Government will be undermining its own legal agreements with Native Americans and the people of Arizona.

Let's put an end to this insanity. Vote for my amendment, and stop the EPA from issuing far-reaching regulations that threaten jobs, Arizona's water supply, affordable electricity, and tribal rights established with Congress.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Chairman, I rise to claim the time in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from California is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. WAXMAN. This amendment is narrower than many of the provisions in this bill.

Instead of providing a blanket get-out-of-jail-free card for many polluters, like most of the provisions in this bill, this amendment provides a blanket get-out-of-jail-free card for one polluter—the Navajo Generating Station in Arizona. The amendment prohibits EPA from requiring pollution controls if it would adversely impact employment at the Navajo Generating Station or at other coal plants or coal mines on tribal lands in northern Arizona.

Now, if you listened to the debate on the last amendment, you might have thought this is another dispute about whether EPA or the States should set the standards; but Arizona has no authority to control air pollution on tribal lands, and the tribe has not established its own program to set the standards. That means, by barring EPA from requiring pollution controls, this amendment would have the effect of ensuring modern pollution controls are not installed on this plant.

And that's a problem.

The Navajo Generating Station is a huge power plant—over 2,000 megawatts. It's also old. The Navajo Generating Station began operating almost 40 years ago, and it was built without standard pollution controls. And it's dirty. This plant spews almost 20,000 tons of nitrogen oxides, or NO_x, each year. This is a dangerous air pollutant. NO_x forms small particles that penetrate deep into the lungs, causing emphysema, bronchitis and other respiratory diseases, heart attacks, and premature deaths.

The Navajo Generating Station is the fifth highest emitter of NO_x pollution

in the United States, and this plant harms the air quality at 11 national parks and wilderness areas. These are some of our Nation's most treasured and popular national parks. Almost 12 million Americans visit these parks each year. They travel there because it's part of our natural heritage of the Nation and because it belongs to all of us—but not if this amendment passes.

This amendment says that polluters' interests in continuing to pollute trumps Americans' interests in having clean air in their national parks. This amendment would remove EPA's authority to protect clean air in the national parks, so I urge my colleagues to stand up for clean air and to oppose this amendment.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Chairman, I yield 90 seconds to my friend from Arizona (Mr. FRANKS).

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Chairman, this amendment is offered by Mr. GOSAR from Arizona, and it confronts a stunning example of environmentalism run amuck. If the Navajo Generating Station is forced to close due to the EPA's nonsensical actions, it would be devastating to the economies of the surrounding region, including those of the Hopi and Navajo Tribes.

As the sole remaining buyer of coal from the Hopi Tribe, shutting down the Navajo Generating Station would cut nearly 90 percent of the tribe's income, and it would effectively shut down the Hopi Tribe as a functioning government in addition to putting hundreds of Arizonans, including hundreds of members of the Navajo Tribe, out of work and affecting hundreds of thousands of Arizonans' current ability to receive water and electricity.

□ 1020

In exchange for all of the difficulties created, the only "benefit" yielded would be a slight change in visibility, so slight as to not even be detectable without specialized equipment that is significantly more sensitive than the human eye. In other words, Mr. Chairman, the supposed environmental benefit is functionally nonexistent. This is far beyond the pale of environmental stewardship.

Mr. Chairman, I commend Mr. GOSAR for offering this amendment, and I sincerely encourage my colleagues to support it.

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Chairman, the EPA is not going to shut down the power plant; but if this amendment passes, they can do nothing to get some reductions in pollution and work with the power plant to accomplish that goal.

I now yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN).

Mr. LUJÁN. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

This amendment is being offered under the guise of protecting tribal sovereignty when we have seen the

complete opposite from the majority during this Congress. We have seen time and time again the majority's willingness to ignore tribal issues that are important to Indian country. A case in point is a bill the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) sponsored, H.R. 1904, entitled the Southeast Arizona Land Exchange. This was a giveaway of a sacred site of the San Carlos Apache Tribe in Arizona to a copper mining company.

When the bill was considered, we heard desperate pleas from tribes across the country asking us to stop a foreign-owned mining company from bulldozing their sacred sites in the name of profit. I offered an amendment to protect the sacred sites. It was straightforward and still would have allowed the mining to take place, but it would have protected those sacred sites. The Republican majority defeated the amendment.

Another example is a refusal by some Members who are on the floor today to cosponsor the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act. My bill would address years of suffering by those negatively impacted by uranium mining on the Navajo Nation. To this day, members of the Navajo Nation are sick and suffering from the legacy of uranium mining: cancer, kidney disease, and, in severe cases, even death. When I visited with Navajo elders and talking with people impacted by exposure, they asked me, Are people in Congress waiting for us to die for the problem to go away? Maybe someone should answer that question.

The Acting CHAIR. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Chairman, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentleman from New Mexico.

Mr. LUJAN. Mr. Chairman, my Republican colleagues come down here to say they are supporting and protecting tribal sovereignty with this amendment. Let's take a hard look at their track record on these issues. They seem to only want to support tribal sovereignty when it's convenient, as Mr. GOSAR's amendment clearly demonstrates. Before offering this amendment, did the gentleman from Arizona even consult with the Navajo Nation on this amendment?

What we should be doing is encouraging government-to-government consultation between the tribe and EPA to solve this issue, not by forcing an amendment.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Chairman, I yield the balance of my time to my good friend, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, from Arizona.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman.

This is one of those moments of wondering where you begin with some of the absurdity that we hear. I think this might be one. I skipped the last set of comments because they had nothing to do with this amendment.

The agreement is already there to spend the \$45 million to do the high-temperature NO_x incineration. As this

is way outside of my expertise, that's my understanding. The EPA is coming back and pushing and pushing and pushing to spend \$1.1 billion for an almost statistically insignificant improvement.

What you're really observing here is the classic case that we see over and over on this sort of issue of an environmental political feeder up against reality. The math isn't reality.

I used to chair the Indian Affairs Committee at my State legislature. I've spent more time on Native American lands in Arizona than I bet anyone in this body. The fact of the matter is if the EPA gets their way here, it's going to bust a number of the water compacts and a bunch of our agreements with those Indian communities.

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Chairman, this is an amendment that would do more harm than good, and I urge my colleagues to oppose it.

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

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR).

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

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona will be postponed.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, proceedings will now resume on those amendments printed in House Report 112-680 on which further proceedings were postponed, in the following order:

Amendment No. 1 by Mr. MARKEY of Massachusetts.

Amendment No. 3 by Mr. WAXMAN of California.

Amendment No. 4 by Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania.

Amendment No. 5 by Mr. MARKEY of Massachusetts.

Amendment No. 8 by Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas.

Amendment No. 9 by Mr. MCKINLEY of West Virginia.

Amendment No. 10 by Mr. MARKEY of Massachusetts.

Amendment No. 11 by Mr. DEFAZIO of Oregon.

Amendment No. 12 by Mr. FLAKE of Arizona.

Amendment No. 13 by Mr. GOSAR of Arizona.

The Chair will reduce to 2 minutes the minimum time for any electronic vote after the first vote in this series.

AMENDMENT NO. 1 OFFERED BY MR. MARKEY

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 174, noes 229, not voting 26, as follows:

[Roll No. 592]

AYES—174

Andrews	Gutierrez	Olver
Baca	Hahn	Owens
Baldwin	Hanabusa	Pallone
Barber	Hastings (FL)	Pascrell
Becerra	Heinrich	Pastor (AZ)
Berkley	Higgins	Perlosi
Bishop (NY)	Hinchev	Perlmutter
Blumenuauer	Hinojosa	Peters
Bonamici	Hirono	Pingree (ME)
Boswell	Hochul	Polis
Brady (PA)	Holt	Price (NC)
Bralley (IA)	Honda	Quigley
Brown (FL)	Hoyer	Rangel
Butterfield	Israel	Reyes
Capps	Jackson Lee	Richardson
Capuano	(TX)	Richmond
Carnahan	Johnson (GA)	Rothman (NJ)
Carney	Johnson (IL)	Roybal-Allard
Carson (IN)	Johnson, E. B.	Rush
Chu	Jones	Ryan (OH)
Ciulline	Kaptur	Sánchez, Linda
Clarke (MI)	Keating	T.
Clarke (NY)	Kildee	Sanchez, Loretta
Clay	Kind	Sarbanes
Cleaver	Kissell	Schakowsky
Clyburn	Kucinich	Schiff
Cohen	Lamborn	Schrader
Connolly (VA)	Langevin	Schwartz
Conyers	Larsen (WA)	Scott (VA)
Cooper	Larson (CT)	Scott, David
Costa	Lee (CA)	Serrano
Courtney	Levin	Sewell
Crowley	Lewis (GA)	Sherman
Cuellar	Lipinski	Sires
Cummings	LoBiondo	Slaughter
Davis (CA)	Loebsock	Smith (NJ)
Davis (IL)	Lofgren, Zoe	Smith (WA)
DeFazio	Lowey	Stark
DeGette	Lujan	Sutton
DeLauro	Lynch	Thompson (CA)
Deutch	Maloney	Thompson (MS)
Dicks	Markey	Tierney
Dingell	Matsui	Tonko
Doggett	McCarthy (NY)	Towns
Doyle	McCollum	Tsongas
Edwards	McDermott	Turner (OH)
Engel	McGovern	Van Hollen
Eshoo	McIntyre	Velázquez
Farr	McKeon	Vislosky
Fattah	McNerney	Walz (MN)
Fitzpatrick	Meeks	Wasserman
Frank (MA)	Michaud	Schultz
Fudge	Miller (NC)	Waters
Garamendi	Miller, George	Watt
Gibson	Moran	Waxman
Gonzalez	Murphy (CT)	Welch
Green, Al	Nadler	Wilson (FL)
Green, Gene	Napolitano	Woolsey
Grijalva	Neal	Yarmuth

NOES—229

Adams	Bono Mack	Coffman (CO)
Aderholt	Boren	Cole
Alexander	Boustany	Conaway
Altmire	Brady (TX)	Costello
Amash	Brooks	Cravaack
Amodei	Broun (GA)	Crawford
Austria	Buchanan	Crenshaw
Bachmann	Bucshon	Critz
Bachus	Buerkle	Culberson
Barletta	Burgess	Denham
Barrow	Burton (IN)	Dent
Bartlett	Calvert	DesJarlais
Barton (TX)	Camp	Diaz-Balart
Bass (NH)	Campbell	Dold
Benishek	Canseco	Donnelly (IN)
Berg	Cantor	Dreier
Biggert	Capito	Duffy
Bilbray	Carter	Duncan (SC)
Bilirakis	Cassidy	Duncan (TN)
Bishop (GA)	Chabot	Ellmers
Black	Chaffetz	Emerson
Blackburn	Chandler	Fincher
Bonner	Coble	Flake

Fleischmann LaTourette Roby
 Fleming Latta Roe (TN)
 Flores Lewis (CA) Rogers (AL)
 Forbes Long Rogers (KY)
 Fortenberry Lucas Rogers (MI)
 Foxx Luetkemeyer Rohrbacher
 Franks (AZ) Lummis Rokita
 Frelinghuysen Lungren, Daniel Rooney
 Gardner E. Ros-Lehtinen
 Gerlach Manzullo Roskam
 Gibbs Marino Ross (FL)
 Gingrey (GA) Matheson Royce
 Gohmert McCarthy (CA) Runyan
 Goodlatte McCaul Scalise
 Gosar McClintock Schilling
 Gowdy McHenry Schmidt
 Graves (GA) McKinley Schock
 Graves (MO) McMorris Schweikert
 Griffin (AR) Rodgers Scott (SC)
 Griffith (VA) Meehan Scott, Austin
 Grimm Mica Sensenbrenner
 Guinta Miller (FL) Sessions
 Guthrie Miller (MI) Shuler
 Hall Miller, Gary Shuster
 Hanna Mulvaney Simpson
 Harper Murphy (PA) Smith (NE)
 Harris Myrick Smith (TX)
 Hartzler Neugebauer Southerland
 Hastings (WA) Noem Stearns
 Hayworth Nugent Stivers
 Heck Nunes Stutzman
 Hensarling Nunnelee Terry
 Herger Olson Thompson (PA)
 Herrera Beutler Palazzo Thornberry
 Holden Paul Tiberi
 Huelskamp Paulsen Tipton
 Huizenga (MI) Pence Turner (NY)
 Hultgren Peterson Upton
 Hunter Petri Walberg
 Hurt Pitts Walden
 Issa Platts Walsh (IL)
 Johnson (OH) Poe (TX) Webster
 Johnson, Sam Pompeo West
 Jordan Posey Westmoreland
 Kelly Price (GA) Whitfield
 King (IA) Quayle Wilson (SC)
 King (NY) Rahall Wittman
 Kingston Reed Wolf
 Kinzinger (IL) Rehberg Womack
 Kline Reichert Woodall
 Labrador Renacci Yoder
 Lance Ribble Young (AK)
 Lankford Rigell Young (FL)
 Latham Rivera Young (IN)

NOT VOTING—26

Ackerman Gallegly Moore
 Akin Garrett Pearce
 Bass (CA) Granger Ross (AR)
 Berman Himes Ruppberger
 Bishop (UT) Jackson (IL) Ryan (WI)
 Castor (FL) Jenkins Shimkus
 Ellison Landry Speier
 Farenthold Mack Sullivan
 Filner Marchant

□ 1049

Messrs. HARPER, YOUNG of Indiana, and GARY G. MILLER of California changed their vote from “aye” to “no.”

Messrs. THOMPSON of California, LOBIONDO, TOWNS, and RUSH changed their vote from “no” to “aye.”

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Chair, on rollcall 592, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted “aye.”

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Chair, on rollcall No. 592, had I been present, I would have voted “aye.”

Mr. BILBRAY. Mr. Chair, during today's vote on H.R. 3409, the Stop the War on Coal Act, I inadvertently voted “no” on Congressman ED MARKEY's amendment No. 13, the first amendment voted on the bill. I would have voted “aye” on Mr. MARKEY's amendment, rollcall No. 592.

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Chair, I inadvertently voted “no” on rollcall 592. I would like to be recorded as voting “aye.”

Stated against:

Mr. GARRETT. Mr. Chair, on rollcall No. 592, I was unable to be in attendance for this vote as I was attending the funeral of a family member. Had I been present, I would have voted “no.”

AMENDMENT NO. 3 OFFERED BY MR. WAXMAN
 The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. WAXMAN) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 178, noes 229, not voting 22, as follows:

[Roll No. 593]

AYES—178

Andrews Fudge Napolitano
 Baca Garamendi Neal
 Baldwin Gibson Olver
 Barber Gonzalez Owens
 Barrow Green, Al Pallone
 Bass (NH) Green, Gene Pascrell
 Becerra Grijalva Pastor (AZ)
 Berkeley Gutierrez Pelosi
 Bishop (GA) Hahn Perlmutter
 Bishop (NY) Hanabusa Peters
 Blumenauer Hastings (FL) Pingree (ME)
 Bonamici Heinrich Polis
 Boswell Higgins Price (NC)
 Brady (PA) Himes Quigley
 Braley (IA) Hinchey Rangel
 Brown (FL) Hinojosa Reyes
 Butterfield Hirono Richardson
 Capps Hochul Richmond
 Capuano Holt Dreier
 Carnahan Honda Roybal-Allard
 Carney Hoyer Rush
 Carson (IN) Israel Ryan (OH)
 Castor (FL) Jackson Lee Sánchez, Linda
 Chandler (TX) Johnson (IL) T.
 Chu Johnson, E. B. Sanchez, Loretta
 Cicilline Clarke (MI) Sarbanes
 Keating Schakowsky
 Kildee Schiff
 Kind Schrader
 Kucinich Schwartz
 Langevin Scott (VA)
 Larsen (WA) Scott, David
 Larson (CT) Serrano
 Lee (CA) Lee (CA) Sewell
 Levin Sherman
 Lewis (GA) Sires
 Lipinski Slaughter
 Loeb sack Smith (WA)
 Lofgren, Zoe Stark
 Lowey Sutton
 Luján Thompson (CA)
 Lynch Thompson (MS)
 Maloney Tierney
 Markey Tonko
 Matheson Towns
 Deutch McCarthy (NY) Tsongas
 Dicks McCollum Van Hollen
 Dingell McCollum Velázquez
 Doggett McDermott Visclosky
 Dold McGovern Walz (MN)
 Donnelly (IN) McIntyre Wasserman
 Doyle McInerney Schultz
 Duncan (TN) Meeks Waters
 Edwards Michaud Watt
 Ellison Miller (NC) Waxman
 Engel Miller, George Welch
 Eshoo Moore Wilson (FL)
 Farr Moran Woolsey
 Fattah Murphy (CT) Yarmuth
 Frank (MA) Nadler

Adams Goodlatte Olson
 Aderholt Gosar Palazzo
 Alexander Gowdy Paul
 Altmore Graves (GA) Paulsen
 Amash Graves (MO) Pence
 Amodei Griffin (AR) Peterson
 Austria Griffith (VA) Petri
 Bachmann Grimm Pitts
 Bachus Guinta Platts
 Barletta Guthrie Poe (TX)
 Bartlett Hall Pompeo
 Barton (TX) Hanna Posey
 Benishek Harper Price (GA)
 Berg Harris Quayle
 Biggert Hartzler Rahall
 Bilbray Hastings (WA) Reed
 Bilirakis Hayworth Rehberg
 Bishop (UT) Heck Reichert
 Black Hensarling Renacci
 Blackburn Herger Ribble
 Bonner Herrera Beutler Rigell
 Bono Mack Holden Rivera
 Boren Huelskamp Roby
 Boustany Huizenga (MI) Roe (TN)
 Brady (TX) Hultgren Rogers (AL)
 Brooks Hunter Rogers (KY)
 Brown (GA) Hurt Rogers (MI)
 Buchanan Issa Rohrbacher
 Buehson Johnson (OH) Rokita
 Buerkle Johnson, Sam Rooney
 Burgess Jones Ros-Lehtinen
 Burton (IN) Jordan Roskam
 Calvert Kelly Ross (FL)
 Camp King (IA) Royce
 Campbell King (NY) Runyan
 Canseco Kingston Scalise
 Cantor Kinzinger (IL) Schilling
 Capito Kissell Schmidt
 Carter Kline Schock
 Cassidy Labrador Schweikert
 Chabot Lamborn Scott (SC)
 Chaffetz Lance Scott, Austin
 Coble Lankford Sensenbrenner
 Coffman (CO) Latham Shuler
 Cole LaTourette Shuster
 Conaway Latta Simpson
 Costello Lewis (CA) Smith (NE)
 Cravaack LoBiondo Smith (NJ)
 Crawford Long Smith (TX)
 Crenshaw Luetkemeyer Southerland
 Culberson Lummis Stearns
 Denham Lungren, Daniel Stivers
 Dent E. Stutzman
 DesJarlais Manzullo Terry
 Diaz-Balart Marchant Thompson (PA)
 Dreier Marino Thornberry
 Duffy McCarthy (CA) Tiberi
 Duncan (SC) McCaul Tipton
 Ellmers McCaul Turner (NY)
 Emerson McHenry Turner (OH)
 Farenthold McKeon Upton
 Fincher McKinley Walden
 Fitzpatrick Flake Walsh (IL)
 Fleischmann Meehan Webster
 Fleming Mica West
 Flores Miller (FL) Westmoreland
 Forbes Miller (MI) Whitfield
 Fortenberry Miller, Gary Wilson (SC)
 Foxx Mulvaney Wittman
 Franks (AZ) Murphy (PA) Wolf
 Frelinghuysen Myrick Womack
 Gardner Neugebauer Woodall
 Gerlach Noem Yoder
 Gibbs Nugent Young (AK)
 Gingrey (GA) Nunes Young (FL)
 Gohmert Nunnelee Young (IN)

NOT VOTING—22

Ackerman Jackson (IL) Ruppberger
 Akin Jenkins Ryan (WI)
 Bass (CA) Johnson (GA) Sessions
 Berman Landry Shimkus
 Filner Lucas Speier
 Gallegly Mack Sullivan
 Garrett Pearce
 Granger Ross (AR)

□ 1055

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Chair, on rollcall 593, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted “aye.”

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Chair, during rollcall vote No. 593, I mistakenly recorded my vote as “no” when I should have voted “aye.”

Stated against:

Mr. GARRETT. Mr. Chair, on rollcall No. 593, I was unable to be in attendance for this vote as I was attending the funeral of a family member. Had I been present, I would have voted “no.”

AMENDMENT NO. 4 OFFERED BY MR. KELLY

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. KELLY) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 242, noes 168, not voting 19, as follows:

[Roll No. 594]

AYES—242

Adams	Cuellar	Holden
Aderholt	Culberson	Huelskamp
Alexander	Denham	Huizenga (MI)
Amash	Dent	Hultgren
Amodei	DesJarlais	Hunter
Austria	Diaz-Balart	Hurt
Bachmann	Dold	Issa
Bachus	Donnelly (IN)	Johnson (IL)
Barletta	Dreier	Johnson (OH)
Bartlett	Duffy	Johnson, Sam
Bass (NH)	Duncan (SC)	Jones
Benishkek	Duncan (TN)	Jordan
Berg	Ellmers	Kelly
Biggert	Emerson	King (IA)
Bilirakis	Farenthold	King (NY)
Bishop (UT)	Fincher	Kingston
Black	Fitzpatrick	Kinzinger (IL)
Blackburn	Flake	Kissell
Bonner	Fleischmann	Kline
Bono Mack	Fleming	Lamborn
Boren	Flores	Lance
Boswell	Forbes	Lankford
Boustany	Fortenberry	Latham
Brady (TX)	Fox	LaTourette
Brooks	Franks (AZ)	Latta
Broun (GA)	Frelinghuysen	Lewis (CA)
Buchanan	Gardner	LoBiondo
Bucshon	Gerlach	Loeb
Buerkle	Gibbs	Long
Burgess	Gibson	Lucas
Burton (IN)	Gingrey (GA)	Luetkemeyer
Calvert	Gohmert	Lummis
Camp	Goodlatte	Lungren, Daniel
Campbell	Gosar	E.
Canseco	Gowdy	Manzullo
Cantor	Graves (GA)	Marchant
Capito	Graves (MO)	Marino
Carter	Griffin (AR)	Matheson
Cassidy	Griffith (VA)	McCarthy (CA)
Chabot	Grimm	McCaul
Chaffetz	Quinta	McClintock
Chandler	Guthrie	McHenry
Coble	Hall	McIntyre
Coffman (CO)	Hanna	McKeon
Cole	Harper	McKinley
Conaway	Harris	McMorris
Costa	Hartzler	Rodgers
Costello	Hastings (WA)	Meehan
Cravaack	Heck	Mica
Crawford	Hensarling	Miller (FL)
Crenshaw	Herger	Miller (MI)
Critz	Herrera Beutler	Miller, Gary

Mulvaney	Rigell
Murphy (PA)	Rivera
Myrick	Roby
Neugebauer	Roe (TN)
Noem	Rogers (AL)
Nugent	Rogers (KY)
Nunes	Rogers (MI)
Nunnelee	Rohrabacher
Olson	Rokita
Owens	Rooney
Palazzo	Ros-Lehtinen
Paul	Roskam
Paulsen	Ross (FL)
Pence	Royce
Perlmutter	Runyan
Peters	Scalise
Peterson	Schilling
Petri	Schmidt
Pitts	Schock
Poe (TX)	Schrader
Pompeo	Schweikert
Posey	Scott (SC)
Price (GA)	Scott, Austin
Quayle	Sensenbrenner
Rahall	Sessions
Reed	Shuster
Rehberg	Simpson
Reichert	Smith (NE)
Renacci	Smith (NJ)
Ribble	Smith (TX)

Southerland
Stearns
Stivers
Stutzman
Terry
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Towns
Turner (NY)
Turner (OH)
Upton
Walberg
Walden
Walsh (IL)
Webster
West
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Young (AK)
Young (IN)

□ 1100

Mr. GUTIERREZ changed his vote from “aye” to “no.”

Messrs. PAUL, JONES, and BARTLETT changed their vote from “no” to “aye.”

So the amendment was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. GARRETT. Mr. Chairman, on rollcall No. 594 I was unable to be in attendance for this vote as I was attending the funeral of a family member. Had I been present, I would have voted “aye.”

Stated against:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Chair, on rollcall 594, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted “no.”

AMENDMENT NO. 5 OFFERED BY MR. MARKEY

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 164, noes 246, not voting 19, as follows:

[Roll No. 595]

AYES—164

NOES—168

Altmire	Gonzalez
Andrews	Green, Al
Baca	Green, Gene
Baldwin	Grijalva
Barber	Gutierrez
Barrow	Hahn
Barton (TX)	Hanabusa
Becerra	Hastings (FL)
Berkley	Hayworth
Bilbray	Heinrich
Bishop (GA)	Higgins
Bishop (NY)	Himes
Blumenauer	Hinche
Bonamici	Hinojosa
Brady (PA)	Hirono
Braley (IA)	Hochul
Brown (FL)	Holt
Butterfield	Honda
Capps	Hoyer
Capuano	Israel
Carnahan	Jackson Lee
Carney	(TX)
Carson (IN)	Johnson (GA)
Castor (FL)	Johnson, E. B.
Chu	Schakowsky
Cicilline	Schiff
Clarke (MI)	Kildee
Clarke (NY)	Kind
Clay	Kucinich
Cleaver	Labrador
Clyburn	Langevin
Cohen	Larsen (WA)
Connolly (VA)	Larson (CT)
Conyers	Lee (CA)
Cooper	Levin
Courtney	Lewis (GA)
Crowley	Lipinski
Cummings	Lofgren, Zoe
Davis (CA)	Lowe
Davis (IL)	Lujan
DeFazio	Lynch
DeGette	Maloney
DeLauro	Markey
Deutch	Markey
Dicks	Matsui
Dingell	McCarthy (NY)
Doggett	McCollum
Doyle	McDermott
Edwards	McGovern
Ellison	McNerney
Engel	Meeks
Eshoo	Michaud
Farr	Miller (NC)
Fattah	Miller, George
Frank (MA)	Moran
Fudge	Murphy (CT)
Garamendi	Nadler

Napolitano
Neal
Olver
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Pelosi
Pingree (ME)
Platts
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rangel
Reyes
Richardson
Richmond
Rothman (NJ)
Roybal-Allard
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sanchez, Linda
T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Kaptur
Schiff
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Swell
Sherman
Shuler
Lee (CA)
Sires
Slaughter
Smith (WA)
Stark
Sutton
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Tonko
Tsongas
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz (MN)
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watt
Waxman
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Woolsey
Yarmuth
Young (FL)

Andrews	Doyle	Lee (CA)
Baca	Edwards	Levin
Baldwin	Ellison	Lewis (GA)
Barber	Engel	Lipinski
Becerra	Eshoo	Loeb
Berkley	Farr	Lofgren, Zoe
Bishop (NY)	Fattah	Lowe
Blumenauer	Frank (MA)	Lujan
Bonamici	Fudge	Lynch
Brady (PA)	Garamendi	Maloney
Braley (IA)	Gonzalez	Marky
Brown (FL)	Green, Al	Matsui
Butterfield	Green, Gene	McCarthy (NY)
Capps	Grijalva	McCollum
Capuano	Gutierrez	McDermott
Carnahan	Hahn	McGovern
Carney	Hanabusa	McNerney
Carson (IN)	Hastings (FL)	Meeks
Castor (FL)	Heinrich	Michaud
Chu	Higgins	Miller (NC)
Cicilline	Himes	Miller, George
Clarke (MI)	Hinche	Moore
Clarke (NY)	Hinojosa	Moran
Clay	Hirono	Murphy (CT)
Cleaver	Hochul	Nadler
Clyburn	Holt	Napolitano
Cohen	Honda	Neal
Connolly (VA)	Hoyer	Olver
Conyers	Israel	Owens
Cooper	Jackson Lee	Pallone
Costa	(TX)	Pascrell
Courtney	Johnson (GA)	Pastor (AZ)
Crowley	Johnson, E. B.	Pelosi
Cummings	Kaptur	Perlmutter
Davis (CA)	Keating	Peters
Davis (IL)	Kildee	Pingree (ME)
DeFazio	Kind	Polis
DeGette	Kissell	Price (NC)
DeLauro	Kucinich	Quigley
Deutch	Langevin	Rangel
Dicks	Larsen (WA)	Reyes
Doggett	Larson (CT)	Richardson

NOT VOTING—19

Ackerman	Granger	Ruppersberger
Akin	Jackson (IL)	Ryan (WI)
Bass (CA)	Jenkins	Shimkus
Berman	Landry	Speier
Blener	Mack	Sullivan
Gallegly	Pearce	
Garrett	Ross (AR)	

Richmond
Rothman (NJ)
Roybal-Allard
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda
T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Scott, David

Serrano
Sewell
Sherman
Sires
Slaughter
Smith (WA)
Stark
Sutton
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Tonko
Towns
Tsongas

Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz (MN)
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watt
Waxman
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Woolsey
Yarmuth

NOT VOTING—19

Ackerman
Akin
Bass (CA)
Berman
Bilirakis
Filner
Gallegly
Garrett
Granger
Jackson (IL)
Jenkins
Landry
Mack
Pearce

Lynch
Maloney
Markey
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McNerney
Meeks
Michaud
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Moore
Moran
Murphy (CT)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Olver
Owens
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Pelosi

Peters
Pingree (ME)
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rangel
Reyes
Richardson
Richmond
Rothman (NJ)
Roybal-Allard
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda
T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schultz
Schiff
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell

Sherman
Sires
Slaughter
Smith (WA)
Stark
Sutton
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Tonko
Towns
Tsongas
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watt
Waxman
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Woolsey
Yarmuth

NOES—246

Adams
Aderholt
Alexander
Altmire
Amash
Amodei
Austria
Bachmann
Bachus
Barletta
Barrow
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Bass (NH)
Benishkek
Berg
Biggert
Billbray
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boren
Boswell
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Brooks
Broun (GA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Buerkle
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Canseco
Cantor
Capito
Carter
Cassidy
Chabot
Chaffetz
Chandler
Coble
Coffman (CO)
Cole
Conaway
Costello
Cravaack
Crawford
Crenshaw
Critz
Cuellar
Culberson
Denham
Dent
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Dold
Donnelly (IN)
Dreier
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Ellmers
Emerson
Farenthold
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Flake
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gardner

Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grimm
Guinta
Guthrie
Hall
Hanna
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (WA)
Hayworth
Heck
Hensarling
Herger
Herrera Beutler
Holden
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Issa
Johnson (IL)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
Kelly
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kline
Labrador
Lamborn
Lance
Lankford
Latham
LaTourette
Latta
Lewis (CA)
LoBiondo
Long
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel
E.
Manzullo
Marchant
Marino
Matheson
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul
McClintock
McHenry
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinley
McMorris
Rodgers
Meehan
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Mulvaney
Murphy (PA)
Myrick
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent

Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Palazzo
Paul
Paulsen
Pence
Peterson
Petri
Pitts
Platts
Poe (TX)
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Quayle
Rahall
Reed
Rehberg
Reichert
Renacci
Ribble
Rigell
Rivera
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross (FL)
Royce
Runyan
Scalise
Schilling
Schmidt
Schock
Schrader
Schweikert
Scott (SC)
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shuler
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Southerland
Stearns
Stivers
Stutzman
Sullivan
Terry
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Turner (NY)
Turner (OH)
Upton
Walberg
Walden
Walsh (IL)
Webster
West
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Murphy (PA)
Yoder
Young (AK)
Young (FL)
Young (IN)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR
The Acting CHAIR (during the vote).
There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1104

Mr. SCHRADER changed his vote from “aye” to “no.”

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Chair, on rollcall 595, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted “aye.”

Stated against:

Mr. GARRETT. Mr. Chair, on rollcall 595, I was unable to be in attendance for this vote as I was attending the funeral of a family member. Had I been present, I would have voted “no.”

AMENDMENT NO. 8 OFFERED BY MS. JACKSON
LEE OF TEXAS

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 164, noes 247, not voting 18, as follows:

[Roll No. 596]

AYES—164

Andrews
Baca
Baldwin
Barber
Becerra
Berkley
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Boswell
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown (FL)
Butterfield
Capps
Capuano
Carnahan
Carney
Carson (IN)
Castor (FL)
Chu
Cicilline
Clarke (MI)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Clever
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Cooper
Courtney
Crowley
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
Deutch
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle
Edwards
Ellison
Engel
Eshoo
Farr
Fattah
Fitzpatrick
Frank (MA)
Fudge
Garamendi
Gonzalez
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hahn
Hanabusa
Hastings (FL)

Heinrich
Higgins
Himes
Hinches
Hinojosa
Hiron
Hochul
Honda
Hoyer
Israel
Jackson Lee
(TX)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Kaptur
Keating
Kildee
Kind
Kucinich
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
Loebsock
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Luján

Adams
Aderholt
Alexander
Altmire
Amash
Amodei
Austria
Bachmann
Bachus
Barletta
Barrow
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Bass (NH)
Benishkek
Berg
Biggert
Billbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boren
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Brooks
Broun (GA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Buerkle
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Canseco
Cantor
Capito
Carter
Cassidy
Chabot
Chaffetz
Chandler
Coble
Coffman (CO)
Cole
Conaway
Costa
Costello
Cravaack
Crawford
Crenshaw
Critz
Cuellar
Culberson
Denham
Dent
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Dold
Donnelly (IN)
Dreier
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Ellmers
Emerson
Farenthold
Fincher

NOES—247

Flake
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gardner
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grimm
Guinta
Guthrie
Hall
Hanna
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (WA)
Hayworth
Heck
Hensarling
Herger
Herrera Beutler
Holden
Holt
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Issa
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
Kelly
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kissell
Kline
Labrador
Lamborn
Lance
Lankford
Latham
LaTourette
Latta
Lewis (CA)
LoBiondo
Long
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel
E.
Manzullo
Marchant

Marino
Matheson
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul
McClintock
McHenry
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinley
McMorris
Rodgers
Meehan
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Mulvaney
Murphy (PA)
Myrick
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Palazzo
Paul
Paulsen
Pence
Perlmutter
Peterson
Petri
Pitts
Platts
Poe (TX)
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Quayle
Rahall
Reed
Rehberg
Reichert
Renacci
Ribble
Rigell
Rivera
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross (FL)
Royce
Runyan
Scalise
Schilling
Schmidt
Schock
Schweikert
Scott (SC)
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shuler
Shuster
Simpson

Smith (NE) Tiberi Westmoreland
 Smith (NJ) Tipton Whitfield
 Smith (TX) Turner (NY) Wilson (SC)
 Southernland Turner (OH) Wittman
 Stearns Upton Wolf
 Stivers Walberg Womack
 Stutzman Walden Woodall
 Sullivan Walsh (IL) Yoder
 Terry Walz (MN) Young (AK)
 Thompson (PA) Webster Young (FL)
 Thornberry West Young (IN)

Duncan (SC) Kissell Ribble
 Duncan (TN) Klaine Rigell
 Ellmers Labrador Rivera
 Emerson Lamborn Roby
 Farenthold Lance Roe (TN)
 Fincher Lankford Rogers (AL)
 Flake Latham Rogers (KY)
 Fleischmann LaTourette Rogers (MI)
 Fleming Latta Rohrabacher
 Flores Lewis (CA) Rokita
 Forbes LoBiondo Rooney
 Fortenberry Long Ros-Lehtinen
 Foxx Lucas Roskam
 Frank (MA) Luetkemeyer Ross (FL)
 Frank (AZ) Lummis Royce
 Frelinghuysen Lungren, Daniel
 Gardner E. Runyan
 Gerlach Marchant Scalise
 Gibbs Marino Schilling
 Gibson Matheson Schmidt
 Gingrey (GA) McCarthy (CA) Schock
 Gohmert McCaul Schrader
 Goodlatte McClintock Schweikert
 Gosar McHenry Scott (SC)
 Gowdy McIntyre Scott, Austin
 Graves (GA) McKeon Sensenbrenner
 Graves (MO) McKinley Sessions
 Green, Gene McMorris Shuster
 Griffin (AR) Rodgers Simpson
 Griffith (VA) Meehan Smith (NE)
 Grimm Mica Smith (NJ)
 Guinta Miller (FL) Smith (TX)
 Guthrie Miller (MI) Southerland
 Hall Miller, Gary Stearns
 Hanna Mulvaney Stivers
 Harper Murphy (PA) Stutzman
 Harris Myrick Sullivan
 Hartzler Neugebauer Terry
 Hastings (WA) Noem Thompson (PA)
 Hayworth Nugent Thornberry
 Heck Nunes Tiberi
 Hensarling Nunnelee Tipton
 Hergert Olson Turner (NY)
 Herrera Beutler Owens Turner (OH)
 Hochul Palazzo Upton
 Holden Paul Walberg
 Huelskamp Paulsen Walsh (IL)
 Huizenga (MI) Pence Walz (MN)
 Hultgren Peterson Webster
 Hunter Petri West
 Hurt Pitts Westmoreland
 Issa Platts Whitfield
 Johnson (OH) Poe (TX) Wilson (SC)
 Johnson, Sam Pompeo Wittman
 Jones Posey Wolf
 Jordan Price (GA) Womack
 Kelly Quayle Woodall
 King (IA) Rahall Yoder
 King (NY) Reed Young (AK)
 Kingston Rehberg Young (FL)
 Kinzinger (IL) Renacci Young (IN)

Napolitano Rush Thompson (CA)
 Neal Ryan (OH) Thompson (MS)
 Olver Sánchez, Linda Tierney
 Pallone T. Tonko
 Pascrell Sanchez, Loretta Towns
 Pastor (AZ) Sarbanes Tsongas
 Pelosi Schakowsky Van Hollen
 Perlmutter Schiff Velázquez
 Peters Schwartz Vislosky
 Pingree (ME) Scott (VA) Wasserman
 Polis Scott, David Schultz
 Price (NC) Serrano Waters
 Quigley Sewell Watt
 Rangel Sherman Waxman
 Reichert Shuler Welch
 Reyes Sires Slaughter
 Richardson Smith (WA) Woolsey
 Richmond Stark Yarmuth
 Rothman (NJ) Sutton
 Roybal-Allard

NOT VOTING—18

Ackerman Garrett Pearce
 Akin Granger Ross (AR)
 Bass (CA) Jackson (IL) Ruppersberger
 Berman Jenkins Ryan (WI)
 Filner Landry Shimkus
 Gallegly Mack Speier

Frank (MA) Luetkemeyer Ross (FL)
 Frank (AZ) Lummis Royce
 Frelinghuysen Lungren, Daniel
 Gardner E. Runyan
 Gerlach Marchant Scalise
 Gibbs Marino Schilling
 Gibson Matheson Schmidt
 Gingrey (GA) McCarthy (CA) Schock
 Gohmert McCaul Schrader
 Goodlatte McClintock Schweikert
 Gosar McHenry Scott (SC)
 Gowdy McIntyre Scott, Austin
 Graves (GA) McKeon Sensenbrenner
 Graves (MO) McKinley Sessions
 Green, Gene McMorris Shuster
 Griffin (AR) Rodgers Simpson
 Griffith (VA) Meehan Smith (NE)
 Grimm Mica Smith (NJ)
 Guinta Miller (FL) Smith (TX)
 Guthrie Miller (MI) Southerland
 Hall Miller, Gary Stearns
 Hanna Mulvaney Stivers
 Harper Murphy (PA) Stutzman
 Harris Myrick Sullivan
 Hartzler Neugebauer Terry
 Hastings (WA) Noem Thompson (PA)
 Hayworth Nugent Thornberry
 Heck Nunes Tiberi
 Hensarling Nunnelee Tipton
 Hergert Olson Turner (NY)
 Herrera Beutler Owens Turner (OH)
 Hochul Palazzo Upton
 Holden Paul Walberg
 Huelskamp Paulsen Walsh (IL)
 Huizenga (MI) Pence Walz (MN)
 Hultgren Peterson Webster
 Hunter Petri West
 Hurt Pitts Westmoreland
 Issa Platts Whitfield
 Johnson (OH) Poe (TX) Wilson (SC)
 Johnson, Sam Pompeo Wittman
 Jones Posey Wolf
 Jordan Price (GA) Womack
 Kelly Quayle Woodall
 King (IA) Rahall Yoder
 King (NY) Reed Young (AK)
 Kingston Rehberg Young (FL)
 Kinzinger (IL) Renacci Young (IN)

NOT VOTING—19

Ackerman Granger Ross (AR)
 Akin Jackson (IL) Ruppersberger
 Bass (CA) Jenkins Ryan (WI)
 Berman Johnson (IL) Shimkus
 Filner Landry Mack
 Gallegly Speier
 Garrett Pearce

□ 1113

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR
 The Acting CHAIR (during the vote).
 There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1110

Mr. LEVIN changed his vote from “no” to “aye.”

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Chair, on rollcall 596, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted “aye.”

Stated against:

Mr. GARRETT. Mr. Chair, on rollcall No. 596, I was unable to be in attendance for this vote as I was attending the funeral of a family member. Had I been present, I would have voted “no.”

AMENDMENT NO. 9 OFFERED BY MR. MCKINLEY

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. MCKINLEY) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 247, noes 163, not voting 19, as follows:

[Roll No. 597]

AYES—247

Adams Bonner Chaffetz
 Aderholt Bono Mack Chandler
 Alexander Boren Coble
 Altmire Boswell Coffman (CO)
 Amash Boustany Cole
 Amodi Brady (TX) Conaway
 Austria Brooks Costa
 Bachmann Broun (GA) Costello
 Bachus Buchanan Cravaack
 Barletta Bucshon Crawford
 Barrow Buerkle Crenshaw
 Bartlett Burgess Critz
 Barton (TX) Burton (IN) Culberson
 Benishek Calvert DeFazio
 Berg Camp Denham
 Biggert Campbell Dent
 Bilbray Canseco DesJarlais
 Bilirakis Cantor Diaz-Balart
 Bishop (GA) Capito Dold
 Bishop (UT) Carter Donnelly (IN)
 Black Cassidy Dreier
 Blackburn Chabot Duffy

NOES—163

Andrews Davis (L)
 Baca DeGette Johnson (GA)
 Baldwin DeLauro Johnson, E. B.
 Barber Deutch Kaptur
 Bass (NH) Dicks Keating
 Becerra Dingell Kildee
 Berkley Doggett Kind
 Bishop (NY) Doyle Kucinich
 Blumenauer Edwards Langevin
 Bonamici Ellison Larsen (WA)
 Brady (PA) Engel Larson (CT)
 Braley (IA) Eshoo Lee (CA)
 Brown (FL) Farr Levin
 Butterfield Fattah Lewis (GA)
 Capps Fitzpatrick Lipinski
 Capuano Fudge Lofgren, Zoe
 Carnahan Garamendi Lowey
 Carney Gonzalez Luján
 Carson (IN) Green, Al Lynch
 Castor (FL) Grijalva Maloney
 Chu Gutierrez Manzullo
 Cicilline Hahn Markey
 Clarke (MI) Hanabusa Matsui
 Clarke (NY) Hastings (FL) McCarthy (NY)
 Clay Heinrich McCollum
 Cleaver Higgins McDermott
 Clyburn Himes McGovern
 Cohen Hinchey McNERNEY
 Connolly (VA) Hinojosa Meeks
 Conyers Hirono Michaud
 Cooper Holt Miller (NC)
 Courtney Honda Miller, George
 Crowley Hoyer Moore
 Cuellar Israel Moran
 Cummings Jackson Lee Murphy (CT)
 Davis (CA) (TX) Nadler

Johnson (GA)
 Johnson, E. B.
 Kaptur
 Keating
 Kildee
 Kind
 Kucinich
 Langevin
 Larsen (WA)
 Larson (CT)
 Lee (CA)
 Levin
 Lewis (GA)
 Lipinski
 Lofgren, Zoe
 Lowey
 Luján
 Lynch
 Maloney
 Manzullo
 Markey
 Matsui
 McCarthy (NY)
 McCollum
 McDermott
 McGovern
 McNERNEY
 Meeks
 Michaud
 Miller (NC)
 Miller, George
 Moore
 Moran
 Murphy (CT)
 Nadler

So the amendment was agreed to.
 The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Chair on rollcall No. 597, I inadvertently voted “no” on Mr. MCKINLEY’s amendment. Had I voted correctly, I would have voted “aye.”

Mr. GARRETT. Mr. Chair, on rollcall No. 597, I was unable to be in attendance for this vote as I was attending the funeral of a family member. Had I been present, I would have voted “aye.”

Stated against:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Chair, on rollcall 597, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted “no.”

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Mr. Chair, on rollcall No. 597, I was off the floor and inadvertently missed the vote. Had I been present, I would have voted “present.”

AMENDMENT NO. 10 OFFERED BY MR. MARKEY

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 160, noes 250, not voting 19, as follows:

[Roll No. 598]

AYES—160

Andrews Bilbray Butterfield
 Baca Bishop (NY) Capps
 Baldwin Blumenauer Capuano
 Barber Bonamici Carnahan
 Bass (NH) Brady (PA) Carney
 Becerra Braley (IA) Carson (IN)
 Berkley Brown (FL) Castor (FL)

Chu	Israel	Polis	Marino	Posey	Smith (NE)	Capps	Hinchey	Pelosi
Cicilline	Jackson Lee	Price (NC)	Matheson	Price (GA)	Smith (NJ)	Capuano	Hinojosa	Perlmutter
Clarke (MI)	(TX)	Quigley	McCarthy (CA)	Quayle	Smith (TX)	Carnahan	Hirono	Peters
Clarke (NY)	Johnson (GA)	Rangel	McCaul	Rahall	Southerland	Carney	Hochul	Pingree (ME)
Clay	Johnson, E. B.	Reyes	McClintock	Reed	Stearns	Carson (IN)	Holt	Polis
Cleaver	Kaptur	Richardson	McHenry	Rehberg	Stivers	Castor (FL)	Honda	Price (NC)
Cohen	Keating	Richmond	McIntyre	Reichert	Stutzman	Chu	Hoyer	Quigley
Connolly (VA)	Kildee	Rothman (NJ)	McKeon	Renacci	Sullivan	Cicilline	Israel	Rangel
Conyers	Kind	Royal-Allard	McKinley	Ribble	Sutton	Clarke (MI)	Jackson Lee	Reyes
Cooper	Kucinich	Rush	McMorris	Rigell	Terry	Clarke (NY)	(TX)	Richardson
Courtney	Langevin	Ryan (OH)	Rodgers	Rivera	Thompson (MS)	Clay	Johnson (GA)	Richmond
Crowley	Larsen (WA)	Sánchez, Linda	Meehan	Roby	Thompson (PA)	Cleaver	Johnson (IL)	Rothman (NJ)
Cuellar	Larson (CT)	T.	Mica	Roe (TN)	Thornberry	Clyburn	Johnson, E. B.	Royal-Allard
Cummings	Lee (CA)	Sanchez, Loretta	Miller (FL)	Rogers (AL)	Tiberi	Cohen	Jones	Rush
Davis (CA)	Levin	T.	Miller (MI)	Rogers (KY)	Tipton	Connolly (VA)	Kaptur	Ryan (OH)
Davis (IL)	Lewis (GA)	Sarbanes	Miller, Gary	Rogers (MI)	Turner (NY)	Conyers	Keating	Sánchez, Linda
DeFazio	Lipinski	Schakowsky	Mulvaney	Rohrabacher	Turner (OH)	Cooper	Kildee	T.
DeGette	Loeb sack	Schiff	Murphy (PA)	Rokita	Upton	Courtney	Kind	Sanchez, Loretta
DeLauro	Lofgren, Zoe	Schrader	Myrick	Rooney	Walberg	Crowley	Kucinich	Sarbanes
Deutch	Lowey	Schwartz	Neugebauer	Ros-Lehtinen	Walden	Cuellar	Langevin	Schakowsky
Dicks	Luján	Scott (VA)	Noem	Roskam	Walsh (IL)	Cummings	Larson (CT)	Schiff
Dingell	Lynch	Scott, David	Nugent	Ross (FL)	Walz (MN)	Lee (CA)	Lee (CA)	Schrader
Doggett	Markey	Serrano	Nunes	Royce	Webster	Davis (IL)	Levin	Schwartz
Doyle	Matsui	Sewell	Nunnelee	Runyan	West	DeFazio	Lewis (GA)	Scott (VA)
Edwards	McCarthy (NY)	Sherman	Olson	Scalise	Westmoreland	DeGette	Lipinski	Scott, David
Ellison	McCollum	Shuler	Owens	Schilling	Whitfield	DeLauro	LoBiondo	Serrano
Engel	McDermott	Sires	Palazzo	Schmidt	Wilson (SC)	Deutch	Loeb sack	Sewell
Eshoo	McGovern	Slaughter	Paul	Schock	Wittman	Dicks	Lofgren, Zoe	Sherman
Farr	McNerney	Smith (WA)	Paulsen	Schweikert	Wolf	Dingell	Lowey	Sires
Fattah	Meeks	Stark	Pence	Scott (SC)	Womack	Doggett	Luján	Slaughter
Frank (MA)	Michaud	Thompson (CA)	Peterson	Scott, Austin	Woodall	Doyle	Lynch	Smith (NJ)
Fudge	Miller (NC)	Tierney	Petri	Sensenbrenner	Yoder	Edwards	Maloney	Smith (WA)
Garamendi	Miller, George	Tonko	Pitts	Sessions	Young (AK)	Ellison	Markey	Stark
Green, Al	Moore	Towns	Poe (TX)	Shuster	Young (FL)	Engel	Matsui	Sutton
Grijalva	Moran	Tsongas	Pompeo	Simpson	Young (IN)	Eshoo	McCarthy (NY)	Terry
Gutierrez	Murphy (CT)	Van Hollen				Farr	McCollum	Thompson (CA)
Hahn	Nadler	Velázquez	Ackerman	Gohmert	Ross (AR)	Fattah	McDermott	Thompson (MS)
Hanabusa	Napolitano	Visclosky	Akin	Granger	Ruppersberger	Frank (MA)	McGovern	Tierney
Hastings (FL)	Neal	Wasserman	Bass (CA)	Jackson (IL)	Ryan (WI)	Fudge	McNerney	Tonko
Heinrich	Olver	Wasserman	Berman	Jenkins	Shimkus	Garamendi	Meeks	Towns
Higgins	Pallone	Schultz	Filner	Landry	Speier	Gerlach	Michaud	Tsongas
Himes	Pascrell	Waters	Watt	Galleghy	Mack	Gibson	Miller (NC)	Van Hollen
Hinchey	Pastor (AZ)	Watt	Waxman	Garrett	Pearce	Gonzalez	Miller, George	Velázquez
Hirono	Pelosi	Waxman	Welch			Green, Al	Moore	Visclosky
Hochul	Perlmutter	Wilson (FL)	Wilson (FL)			Green, Gene	Moran	Wasserman
Holt	Peters	Woolsey	Yarmuth			Grijalva	Murphy (CT)	Schultz
Honda	Pingree (ME)	Platts				Gutierrez	Nadler	Waters
Hoyer						Hahn	Napolitano	Watt
						Hanabusa	Neal	Waxman
						Hastings (FL)	Olver	Welch
						Heinrich	Pallone	Wilson (FL)
						Higgins	Pascrell	Woolsey
						Himes	Pastor (AZ)	Yarmuth

NOT VOTING—19

□ 1119

So the amendment was rejected.
The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Chair, on rollcall 598, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

Stated against:

Mr. GARRETT. (Mr. Chair), on rollcall No. 598, I was unable to be in attendance for this vote as I was attending the funeral of a family member. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

AMENDMENT NO. 11 OFFERED BY MR. DEFASIZO

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFASIZO) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 168, noes 243, not voting 18, as follows:

[Roll No. 599]

AYES—168

NOES—250

Adams
Aderholt
Alexander
Altmire
Amash
Amodei
Austria
Bachmann
Bachus
Barletta
Barrow
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Benishkek
Berg
Biggert
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boren
Boswell
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Brooks
Broun (GA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Buerkle
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Canseco
Cantor
Capito
Carter
Cassidy
Chabot
Chaffetz
Chandler
Clyburn
Coble
Coffman (CO)
Cole

Hall
Hanna
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (WA)
Hayworth
Heck
Hensarling
Herger
DesJarlais
Hinojosa
Holden
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Issa
Johnson (IL)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
Kelly
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kissell
Kline
Labrador
Lamborn
Lance
Lankford
Latham
LaTourette
Latta
Lewis (CA)
LoBiondo
Long
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel
E.
Maloney
Manzullo
Marchant

Andrews
Baca
Baldwin
Becerra

Berkley
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bonamici

Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown (FL)
Butterfield

Adams
Aderholt
Alexander
Altmire
Amash
Amodei
Austria
Bachmann
Bachus
Barber
Barletta
Barrow
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Bass (NH)
Benishkek
Berg
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boren
Boswell
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Brooks
Broun (GA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Buerkle
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Canseco
Cantor
Capito
Carter

NOES—243

Cassidy
Chabot
Chaffetz
Chandler
Coble
Coffman (CO)
Cole
Conaway
Costa
Costello
Cravaack
Crawford
Crenshaw
Critz
Culberson
Denham
Dent
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Dold
Donnelly (IN)
Dreier
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Ellmers
Emerson
Farenthold
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Flake
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxy
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gardner
Gibbs
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Goodlatte

Gosar
Gowdy
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grimm
Guinta
Guthrie
Hall
Hanna
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (WA)
Hayworth
Heck
Hensarling
Herger
Herrera Beutler
Holden
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Issa
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jordan
Kelly
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kissell
Kline
Labrador
Lamborn
Lance
Lankford
Larsen (WA)
Latham
LaTourette

Latta
Lewis (CA)
Long
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel E.
Manzullo
Marchant
Marino
Matheson
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul
McClintock
McHenry
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinley
McMorris
Rodgers
Meehan
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Mulvaney
Murphy (PA)
Myrick
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Owens
Palazzo
Paul

Pausen
Pence
Peterson
Petri
Pitts
Platts
Poe (TX)
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Quayle
Rahall
Reed
Rehberg
Reichert
Renacci
Ribble
Rigell
Rivera
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross (FL)
Royce
Runyan
Scalise
Schilling
Schmidt
Schock
Schweikert
Scott (SC)

Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shuler
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Smith (TX)
Southernland
Stearns
Stivers
Stutzman
Sullivan
Thompson (PA)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Turner (NY)
Turner (OH)
Upton
Walberg
Walden
Walsh (IL)
Walz (MN)
Webster
West
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Young (AK)
Young (FL)
Young (IN)

NOT VOTING—18

Ackerman
Akin
Bass (CA)
Berman
Filner
Gallegly

Garrett
Granger
Jackson (IL)
Jenkins
Landry
Mack

Pearce
Ross (AR)
Ruppersberger
Ryan (WI)
Shimkus
Speier

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (during the vote).
There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1123

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Chair, on rollcall 599, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

Stated against:

Mr. GARRETT. Mr. Chair, on rollcall 599, I was unable to be in attendance for this vote as I was attending the funeral of a family member. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

AMENDMENT NO. 12 OFFERED BY MR. FLAKE

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 228, noes 183, not voting 18, as follows:

[Roll No. 600]
AYES—228

Adams
Aderholt
Alexander
Amash
Amodei
Austria
Bachmann
Bachus
Barletta
Barrow
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Benishek
Berg
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boren
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Brooks
Broun (GA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Buerkle
Jones
Burton (IN)
Calvert
Camp
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kissell
Kline
Labrador
Lamborn
Lance
Coble
Coffman (CO)
Cole
Conaway
Costa
Costello
Cravaack
Crawford
Crenshaw
Culberson
Denham
Dent
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Dreier
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Eilmers
Emerson
Farenthold
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Flake
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxy
Franks (AZ)
Gardner
Gibbs
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert

Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grimm
Guinta
Guthrie
Hall
Hanna
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (WA)
Heck
Hensarling
Herger
Renacci
Ribble
Rigell
Rivera
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross (FL)
Royce
Scalise
Schilling
Schmidt
Schock
Schweikert
Scott (SC)
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Smith (TX)
Southernland
Stearns
Stivers
Stutzman
Sullivan
Terry
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Turner (NY)
Turner (OH)
Upton
Walberg
Walden
Walsh (IL)
Webster
West
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Young (AK)
Young (FL)
Young (IN)

NOES—183

Altmire
Andrews
Baca
Baldwin
Barber
Bass (NH)
Becerra
Berkley
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Boswell
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown (FL)
Butterfield

Capps
Capuano
Carnahan
Carney
Carson (IN)
Castor (FL)
Chandler
Chu
Cicilline
Clarke (MI)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly (VA)
Conyers

Cooper
Courtney
Critz
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
Deutch
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Dold
Donnelly (IN)

Doyle
Edwards
Ellison
Engel
Eshoo
Farr
Fattah
Frank (MA)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Garamendi
Gerlach
Gibson
Gonzalez
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hahn
Hanabusa
Hastings (FL)
Hayworth
Heinrich
Higgins
Himes
Hinchee
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hochul
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Israel
Jackson Lee
(TX)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Kaptur
Keating
Kildee
Kind
Kucinich
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)

Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loeb sack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lujan
Lynch
Maloney
Markey
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McNerney
Meeks
Michaud
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Moore
Moran
Murphy (CT)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Oliver
Owens
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters
Pingree (ME)
Platts
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rangel
Reyes
Richardson

Richmond
Rothman (NJ)
Roybal-Allard
Runyan
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schradler
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell
Sherman
Shuler
Sires
Slaughter
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Stark
Sutton
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Tonko
Townsend
Tsongas
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Vislousky
Walz (MN)
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watt
Waxman
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Woolsey
Yarmuth

NOT VOTING—18

Ackerman
Akin
Bass (CA)
Berman
Filner
Gallegly

Garrett
Granger
Jackson (IL)
Jenkins
Landry
Mack

Pearce
Ross (AR)
Ruppersberger
Ryan (WI)
Shimkus
Speier

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (during the vote).
There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1127

So the amendment was agreed to.
The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:
Mr. GARRETT. Mr. Chair, on rollcall No. 600, I was unable to be in attendance for this vote as I was attending the funeral of a family member. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

Stated against:
Mr. FILNER. Mr. Chair, on rollcall 600, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

AMENDMENT NO. 13 OFFERED BY MR. GOSAR

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 226, noes 181, not voting 22, as follows:

[Roll No. 601]

AYES—226

Adams Goodlatte Olson
Aderholt Gosar Palazzo
Alexander Gowdy Paul
Amodei Graves (GA) Paulsen
Austria Graves (MO) Pence
Bachmann Griffin (AR) Peterson
Bachus Griffith (VA) Petri
Barletta Grimm Pitts
Bartlett Guinta Poe (TX)
Barton (TX) Guthrie Pompeo
Bass (NH) Hall Poss
Benishek Hanna Price (GA)
Berg Harper Quayle
Biggart Hartzler Rahall
Bilbray Hastings (WA) Reed
Bilirakis Hayworth Rehberg
Bishop (UT) Heck Reichert
Blackburn Hensarling Renacci
Bonner Ribble Herrera Beutler
Bono Mack Holden
Boren Huelskamp Rivera
Boustany Huiuzenga (MI) Roby
Brady (TX) Hultgren Roe (TN)
Brooks Hunter Rogers (AL)
Broun (GA) Hurt Rogers (KY)
Buchanan Issa Rogers (MI)
Buechson Johnson (IL) Rohrabacher
Buerkle Johnson (OH) Rokita
Burgess Johnson, Sam Rooney
Calvert Jones Ros-Lehtinen
Camp Jordan Roskam
Campbell Kelly Ross (FL)
Canseco King (IA) Royce
Cantor King (NY) Runyan
Capito Kingston Scalise
Carter Kingzinger (IL) Schilling
Cassidy Kissell Schmidt
Chabot Kline Schock
Chaffetz Labrador Schweikert
Chandler Lamborn Scott (SC)
Coble Lance Scott, Austin
Coffman (CO) Lankford Scott, David
Cole Latham Sensenbrenner
Conaway Latta Sessions
Costello Long Shuster
Cravaack Lucas Simpson
Crawford Luetkemeyer Smith (NE)
Crenshaw Lummis Smith (NJ)
Critz Lungren, Daniel Smith (TX)
Culberson E. Southerland
Denham Manzullo Stearns
Dent Marchant Stivers
DesJarlais Marino Stutzman
Diaz-Balart Matheson Sullivan
Dold McCarthy (CA) Terry
Dreier McCaul Thompson (PA)
Duffy McClintock Thornberry
Duncan (SC) McHenry Tipton
Duncan (TN) McIntyre Turner (NY)
Ellmers McKeon Turner (OH)
Emerson McKinley Upton
Farenthold McMorris Walberg
Fincher Rodgers Walden
Fitzpatrick Meehan Walsh (IL)
Flake Mica Webster
Fleischmann Miller (FL) West
Fleming Miller (MI) Westmoreland
Flores Miller, Gary Whitfield
Forbes Mulvaney Wittman
Fortenberry Murphy (PA) Wolf
Foxy Myrick Womack
Franks (AZ) Neugebauer Woodall
Gardner Noem Yoder
Gibbs Nugent Young (AK)
Gingrey (GA) Nunes Young (FL)
Gohmert Nunnelee Young (IN)

NOES—181

Altmire Brady (PA) Clarke (NY)
Amash Braley (IA) Clay
Andrews Brown (FL) Cleaver
Baca Burton (IN) Clyburn
Baldwin Butterfield Cohen
Barber Capps Connolly (VA)
Barrow Capuano Conyers
Becerra Carnahan Cooper
Berkley Carney Costa
Bishop (GA) Carson (IN) Courtney
Bishop (NY) Castor (FL) Crowley
Blumenauer Chu Cuellar
Bonamici Cicilline Cummings
Boswell Clarke (MI) Davis (CA)

Davis (IL) Kind
DeFazio Kucinich
DeGette Langevin
DeLauro Larsen (WA)
Deutsch Larson (CT)
Dicks LaTourette
Dingell Lee (CA)
Doggett Levin
Donnelly (IN) Lewis (CA)
Doyle Lewis (GA)
Edwards Lipinski
Ellison LoBiondo
Engel Loebsack
Eshoo Lofgren, Zoe
Farr Lowey
Fattah Lujan
Frank (MA) Lynch
Frelinghuysen Maloney
Fudge Markey
Garamendi Matsui
Gerlach McCarthy (NY)
Gibson McColm
Gonzalez McDermott
Green, Al McGovern
Green, Gene McNerney
Grijalva Meeks
Gutierrez Michaud
Hahn Miller (NC)
Hanabusa Miller, George
Hastings (FL) Moore
Heinrich Moran
Higgins Murphy (CT)
Himes Nadler
Hinchey Napolitano
Hinojosa Neal
Hirono Olver
Hochul Owens
Holt Pallone
Honda Pascrell
Hoyer Pastor (AZ)
Israel Pelosi
Jackson Lee Perlmutter
(TX) Peters
Johnson (GA) Pingree (ME)
Johnson, E. B. Platts
Kaptur Polis
Keating Price (NC)
Kildee Quigley

NOT VOTING—22

Ackerman Granger Ross (AR)
Akin Harris Ruppertsberger
Bass (CA) Herger Ryan (WI)
Berman Jackson (IL) Shimkus
Black Jenkins Speier
Filner Landry Wilson (SC)
Gallegly Mack
Garrett Pearce

□ 1131

So the amendment was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. GARRETT. Mr. Chair, on rollcall No. 601, I was unable to be in attendance for this vote as I was attending the funeral of a family member. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

Stated against:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Chair, on rollcall 601, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. WEST). The question is on the amendment in the nature of a substitute, as amended.

The amendment was agreed to.

The Acting CHAIR. Under the rule, the Committee rises.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. YODER) having assumed the chair, Mr. WEST, Acting Chair of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3409) to limit the authority of the Secretary of the Interior to issue regulations before December 31, 2013, under the Surface Mining Control and Rec-

lamation Act of 1977, and, pursuant to House Resolution 788, he reported the bill back to the House with an amendment adopted in the Committee of the Whole.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the rule, the previous question is ordered.

Is a separate vote demanded on any amendment to the amendment reported from the Committee of the Whole?

If not, the question is on the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute, as amended.

The amendment was agreed to.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

MOTION TO RECOMMIT

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I have a motion to recommit at the desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is the gentlewoman opposed to the bill?

Mrs. CAPPS. Yes, I am opposed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the motion to recommit.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mrs. Capps moves to recommit the bill H.R. 3409 to the Committee on Energy and Commerce with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith, with the following amendment:

At the end of title II of the bill, insert the following new section:

SEC. 203. ENSURING CONSUMERS PAY LESS FOR GAS AND THAT FUEL EFFICIENT AUTOMOBILES CONTINUE TO BE MADE IN AMERICA.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds as follows:

(1) The standards of the national program to improve fuel efficiency and reduce pollution for light-duty cars and trucks will provide major economic and consumer benefits to the United States.

(2) The standards will save families more than \$1.7 trillion in fuel costs and reduce America's dependence on oil by more than 2 million barrels per day in 2025, which is equivalent to one-half of the oil which our Nation currently imports from OPEC countries each day.

(3) As a result of the standards, a family with a model year 2025 vehicle will save more than \$8,000 in fuel costs over the life of the vehicle compared to a 2011 year vehicle.

(4) As a result of the standards, average net savings for the owner of a 2025 vehicle will be equivalent to a drop in fuel prices of \$1 per gallon.

(b) PRESERVATION OF RULE.—Section 330 of the Clean Air Act, as added by section 201 of this Act, shall not apply with respect to the final rule issued by the Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Transportation on August 28, 2012, relating to standards for pollution control and fuel efficiency for model year 2017 and later light-duty vehicles, and such rule shall take effect on the effective date specified in the rule, if nullification of such rule would result in—

(1) consumers, on average, paying more for gasoline over the life of their motor vehicles; or

(2) the loss of jobs in the United States automobile manufacturing industrial sector or a negative impact on the overall United States economy.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from California is recognized for 5 minutes.

□ 1140

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, there are many times when we come to this floor and engage in heated debate, and we've heard some heated debate on this bill. But my final amendment offers us the opportunity to come together to do something extraordinarily important, and that is to ensure our constituents' hard-earned cash is redirected away from the gas pump and back into their wallets. I want to be clear, the passage of this amendment will not prevent the passage of the underlying bill. If it's adopted, my amendment will be incorporated into the bill and the bill will be immediately voted upon.

Now I make no apologies for opposing this bill. Regardless of how you feel about the bill, my amendment should be something we could all agree on.

My amendment preserves new fuel efficiency standards issued last month if their repeal would mean higher prices at the pump for our constituents or lost jobs for our workers. These new standards raise fuel efficiency to 54.5 miles per gallon. That's roughly twice the mileage our cars are getting today.

By 2025, these standards will save consumers \$1.7 trillion at the gas pump, and they will cut our oil imports by 2 million barrels per day. That's one half our current imports for OPEC. They also represent a new chapter for American ingenuity.

Mr. Speaker, if U.S. engineers made it possible for every car to include a computer more powerful than the one that sent a man to the Moon, then surely they can produce cars that go further on a gallon of gas. The good news is they can and they are.

There are now 57 fuel-efficient models available in showrooms today, up from 27 models in 2009. Car makers have retooled some of their most popular models to boost efficiency, and the improvements keep coming.

The first half of this year set the record for highest-ever fuel efficiency for new vehicles. Consumers are rewarding these breakthroughs. Fuel efficiency is the top concern for car buyers by far, and this is according to Consumer Reports.

Consumers support these new standards. Families will save an estimated \$8,000 in gasoline costs over the lifetime of their car, and that's equivalent to lowering the price of gasoline by \$1 per gallon. These new standards also provide something consumer trends cannot: long-term certainty. And that's why three major automakers—General Motors, Ford, and Chrysler—all support them.

Strong standards tell carmakers exactly what goal they need to reach by when so they can invest in innovation, deploy new technologies, and build cars right here in America. When they do that, they hire more workers. More than 150,000 Americans have jobs making parts for and assembling more efficient cars in America today. Car makers are moving production to our shores also.

One car maker alone, Honda, recently announced plans to move all global Civic hybrid manufacturing to Indiana from Japan, creating 300 jobs by the end of the year.

This onshoring of jobs is because of our commitment to making more efficient cars and components in America. That's why GM's CEO, Dan Akerson, called these standards, "a win for American manufacturers for the very first time."

Mr. Speaker, everybody wins when more efficient cars hit the road. American workers win, drivers win, and automakers. These standards demonstrate the best of America, how creating jobs goes hand-in-hand with protecting the environment and health, how drivers can save billions in gasoline costs, how the American auto industry can compete with any country in the world. That's why we must preserve these historic standards and the enormous benefits that come with them by voting for my final amendment.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask that all colleagues weigh this simple proposition: Do you want your constituents to pay less at the pump and drive more efficient cars made in America? If your answer is yes, then vote for my amendment. It ensures that our constituents will save thousands of dollars every year at the gas pump, and it makes sure that American workers will find jobs building the cars of the future right here in America.

Today we have the opportunity to speak with one voice, to save these landmark car efficiency standards. It's up to us. Support this final amendment to the bill.

I yield back the balance of my time. Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the motion to recommit.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, this motion is nothing more than a distraction from the underlying legislation that we're considering today, and the journey that we began in January of 2011 to cut government spending, to create jobs and, today, to stop the administration's war on the coal industry.

We, all of us in this Chamber, sat here a little over a year ago, and we heard an address by the Prime Minister of Australia. She started her speech off by saying, you know, I remember being a young girl, sitting on the floor of my living room watching as Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin landed on the Moon.

She went on to talk about that era of innovation in America, what that meant and how that inspired the rest of the world. Do we need to be reminded that it was the coal industry that fueled America's innovative engine and powered America's innovative wheels during that period of innovation? I don't think so. Today's underlying legislation, it's about the thou-

sands of jobs that have already been cut from the coal industry, the thousands more that are in jeopardy to be cut from the coal industry.

It's about the millions of Americans and America's businesses that are paying skyrocketing prices, 23 million Americans underemployed, and yet we've got an administration that wants to attack the very reliable energy source that would fuel a resurgence in manufacturing and put America back to work.

Ladies and gentlemen, I implore to you, defeat this motion to recommit. Vote on the final passage of this legislation today. Let's get America back to work and stop the administration's war on coal.

I yield back the balance of my time. The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the previous question is ordered on the motion to recommit.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to recommit.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the noes appeared to have it.

RECORDED VOTE

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, the Chair will reduce to 5 minutes the minimum time for any electronic vote on the question of passage.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 173, noes 233, not voting 23, as follows:

[Roll No. 602]

AYES—173

Altmire	DeFazio	Kind
Andrews	DeGette	Kissell
Baca	DeLauro	Kucinich
Baldwin	Deutch	Langevin
Barber	Dicks	Larsen (WA)
Barrow	Dingell	Larson (CT)
Becerra	Doggett	Lee (CA)
Berkley	Doyle	Levin
Bishop (GA)	Edwards	Lewis (GA)
Bishop (NY)	Ellison	Lipinski
Blumenauer	Engel	Loebsock
Bonamici	Eshoo	Lofgren, Zoe
Boswell	Farr	Lowey
Brady (PA)	Fattah	Lynch
Bralley (IA)	Frank (MA)	Maloney
Brown (FL)	Fudge	Markey
Butterfield	Garamendi	Matsui
Capps	Gonzalez	McCarthy (NY)
Capuano	Green, Al	McCollum
Carnahan	Green, Gene	McDermott
Carney	Grijalva	McIntyre
Carson (IN)	Gutierrez	McNerney
Castor (FL)	Hahn	Meeks
Chandler	Hanabusa	Michaud
Chu	Hastings (FL)	Miller (NC)
Ciilline	Heinrich	Miller, George
Clarke (MI)	Higgins	Moore
Clarke (NY)	Himes	Moran
Clay	Hinchee	Murphy (CT)
Cleaver	Hinojosa	Nadler
Clyburn	Hirono	Napolitano
Connolly (VA)	Hochul	Neal
Conyers	Holt	Olver
Cooper	Honda	Owens
Costa	Hoyer	Pallone
Costello	Israel	Pascarell
Courtney	Jackson Lee	Pastor (AZ)
Critz	(TX)	Pelosi
Crowley	Johnson (GA)	Perlmutter
Cuellar	Johnson, E. B.	Peters
Cummings	Kaptur	Pingree (ME)
Davis (CA)	Keating	Polis
Davis (IL)	Kildee	Price (NC)

Quigley
Rangel
Reyes
Richardson
Richmond
Rothman (NJ)
Roybal-Allard
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda
T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schrader

Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell
Sherman
Shuler
Sires
Slaughter
Smith (WA)
Stark
Sutton
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Tonko

NOES—233

Adams
Aderholt
Alexander
Amash
Amodi
Austria
Bachmann
Bachus
Barletta
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Bass (NH)
Benishak
Berg
Biggert
Billbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boren
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Brooks
Broun (GA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Buerkle
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Cansco
Cantor
Capito
Carter
Cassidy
Chabot
Chaffetz
Coble
Coffman (CO)
Cole
Conaway
Cravaack
Crawford
Crenshaw
Culberson
Denham
Dent
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Dold
Donnelly (IN)
Dreier
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Ellmers
Emerson
Farenthold
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Flake
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gardner
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)

Olson
Palazzo
Paul
Paulsen
Pence
Peterson
Petri
Pitts
Platts
Poe (TX)
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Quayle
Rahall
Reed
Rehberg
Reichert
Renacci
Ribble
Rigell
Rivera
Robby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross (FL)
Royce
Runyan
Scalise
Schilling
Schmidt
Schock
Schweikert
Scott (SC)
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Southernland
Stearns
Stivers
Stutzman
Sullivan
Terry
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Turner (NY)
Turner (OH)
Upton
Walberg
Walden
Walsh (IL)
Webster
West
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Young (AK)
Young (FL)
Young (IN)

Towns
Tsongas
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Vislosky
Walz (MN)
Wasserman
Cohen
Finler
Gallegly
Garrett

Ackerman
Akin
Bass (CA)
Berman
Cohen
Finler
Gallegly
Garrett

Granger
Issa
Jackson (IL)
Jenkins
Landry
Luján
Mack
McGovern

Pearce
Ross (AR)
Ruppersberger
Ryan (WI)
Shimkus
Smith (TX)
Speier

Long
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel
E.
Manzullo
Marchant
Marino
Matheson
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul
McClintock
McHenry
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinley
McMorris
Rodgers
Meehan
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Mulvaney
Murphy (PA)
Myrick
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Palazzo
Paul
Paulsen

Pence
Peterson
Petri
Pitts
Platts
Poe (TX)
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Quayle
Rahall
Reed
Rehberg
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Ribble
Rivera
Robby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross (FL)
Royce
Runyan
Scalise
Schilling
Schmidt
Schock
Schweikert
Scott (SC)

NOES—175

Andrews
Baca
Baldwin
Barber
Bass (NH)
Becerra
Billbray
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown (FL)
Butterfield
Capps
Capuano
Carnahan
Carney
Carson (IN)
Castor (FL)
Chu
Cicilline
Clarke (MI)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Cooper
Courtney
Crowley
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
Deutch
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Dold
Doyle
Edwards
Ellison
Engel
Eshoo
Farr
Fattah
Fitzpatrick
Frank (MA)
Fudge
Garamendi
Gibson
Gonzalez
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva

Gutierrez
Hahn
Hanabusa
Hastings (FL)
Hayworth
Heinrich
Higgins
Himes
Hinchee
Hinojosa
Richardson
Hirono
Hochul
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Israel
Jackson Lee
(TX)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Kaptur
Keating
Kildee
Kind
Kucinich
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Luján
Lynch
Maloney
Markey
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McNerney
Meeks
Michaud
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Moore
Moran
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Oliver
Owens
Pallone
Pascarell
Pastor (AZ)

Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters
Pingree (ME)
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rangel
Reichert
Reyes
Richardson
Richmond
Rigell
Rothman (NJ)
Roybal-Allard
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda
T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell
Sherman
Shuler
Sires
Slaughter
LoBiondo
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Stark
Sutton
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Tonko
Towns
Tsongas
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Vislosky
Walz (MN)
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watt
Waxman
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Wittman
Wolf
Woolsey
Yarmuth

□ 1159

Mr. HENSARLING changed his vote from “aye” to “no.”

So the motion to recommit was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall 602, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted “aye.”

Stated against:

Mr. GARRETT. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 602, I was unable to be in attendance for this vote as I was attending the funeral of a family member. Had I been present, I would have voted “no.”

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the passage of the bill.

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

RECORDED VOTE

Mrs. CAPPs. Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 233, noes 175, not voting 21, as follows:

[Roll No. 603]

AYES—233

Adams
Aderholt
Alexander
Altmire
Amash
Amodi
Austria
Bachmann
Bachus
Barletta
Barrow
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Benishak
Berg
Berkeley
Biggert
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boren
Boswell
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Brooks
Broun (GA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Buerkle
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Cansco
Cantor
Capito
Carter
Cassidy
Chabot

Chaffetz
Chandler
Coble
Coffman (CO)
Cole
Conaway
Costa
Costello
Cravaack
Crawford
Crenshaw
Critz
Cuellar
Culberson
Denham
Dent
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Donnelly (IN)
Dreier
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Ellmers
Emerson
Farenthold
Fincher
Flake
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Fox
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gardner
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gossar
Gowdy

Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grimm
Guinta
Guthrie
Hall
Hanna
Harper
Harris
Hartzer
Hastings (WA)
Heck
Hensarling
Herger
Herrera Beutler
Holden
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Issa
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
Kelly
Kissell
Kline
Labrador
Lamborn
Lance
Lankford
Latham
LaTourette
Latta
Lewis (CA)
Loeback

NOT VOTING—21

Ackerman	Granger	Pearce
Akin	Jackson (IL)	Ross (AR)
Bass (CA)	Jenkins	Ruppersberger
Berman	Landry	Ryan (WI)
Filner	Mack	Sessions
Gallegly	Miller, Gary	Shimkus
Garrett	Murphy (CT)	Speier

□ 1208

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. GARRETT. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 603, I was unable to be in attendance for this vote as I was attending the funeral of a family member. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

Stated against:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall 603, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I mistakenly voted "aye" on rollcall No. 603. My intention was to vote "no."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, during the course of the week, I was absent for legislative business; had I been present, I would have cast the following votes:

Rollcall 585—H.R. 5044—On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended—"yes."

Rollcall 586—H.R. 5912—On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended—"yes."

Rollcall 587—H. Res. 788—On Ordering the Previous Question—"yes."

Rollcall 588—H. Res. 788—On Agreeing to the Resolution—"yes."

Rollcall 591—H.R. 5987—On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended—"no."

Rollcall 592—H.R. 3409—On Agreeing to the Amendment—"no."

Rollcall 593—H.R. 3409—On Agreeing to the Amendment—"no."

Rollcall 594—H.R. 3409—On Agreeing to the Amendment—"yes."

Rollcall 595—H.R. 3409—On Agreeing to the Amendment—"no."

Rollcall 596—H.R. 3409—On Agreeing to the Amendment—"no."

Rollcall 597—H.R. 3409—On Agreeing to the Amendment—"yes."

Rollcall 598—H.R. 3409—On Agreeing to the Amendment—"no."

Rollcall 599—H.R. 3409—On Agreeing to the Amendment—"no."

Rollcall 600—H.R. 3409—On Agreeing to the Amendment—"yes."

Rollcall 601—H.R. 3409—On Agreeing to the Amendment—"yes."

Rollcall 602—H.R. 3409—On Motion to Re-commit with instructions—"no."

Rollcall 603—H.R. 3409—On Passage—"yes."

ADJOURNMENT TO TUESDAY,
SEPTEMBER 25, 2012

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to

meet at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, September 25, 2012.

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

There was no objection.

VOICE OF TEXAS: PAM FROM
LIBERTY, TEXAS

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I have heard from many Texas business owners who built their own business without government help. Here's what Pam from Liberty, Texas, has to say:

We are college educated, taxpaying citizens who have a lifetime of hard work under our belts. We have stayed up nights trying to figure out how we were going to pay our taxes, insurance, employees, and bank notes. We started from scratch, owning convenience stores, car washes, mini storage businesses, a clothing business, and also operated/owned two small-town movie theaters that were built by my husband's grandparents and parents. The latest is a real estate business.

There's not much that anyone can tell us about the sacrifices that have to be made when you start up your own business. We have done it all, including working full-time jobs for someone else to make ends meet. No government agency has ever helped us with one thing, but the government certainly has made our work harder and more expensive to run/operate our businesses.

Mr. Speaker, people—not the government—make America's businesses successful.

And that's just the way it is.

CONGRESS SHOULD STAY AND
WORK

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

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, one of my constituents wrote very emphatically: How could Congress possibly leave when they know that we the people face the deep, dark abyss of uncertainty—uncertainty about our unemployment, uncertainty about the jobs that we need, the uncertainty that comes when your mortgage is under water, the uncertainty that comes when you know that you have to educate your children, and yet Congress leaves without addressing the basic needs of the people that we're sworn to serve.

For the last week, we've heard an awful lot about work requirements. The primary work requirement that should be asked is of this United States Congress, for it to stay and do the work of the people. There is a jobs bill that's out there. There are tax cuts that can be achieved. Let's stay and do that work.

STAND UP FOR COAL

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

Mr. STUTZMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the men and women who have worked tirelessly to make Indiana the best place to do business in the Midwest.

Coal produces the electricity that powers everything from manufacturing mainstays to small business startups. Mr. Speaker, coal-fired electric power plants provided 83 percent of Indiana's net electricity generation in 2011.

Rising energy prices are squeezing small businesses, entrepreneurs, and families. Unfortunately, President Obama's EPA has waged a war on coal. Unelected bureaucrats have proposed a series of sweeping regulations that would destroy jobs and decrease domestic energy production. As a result of Washington's overregulation, the Energy Information Administration expects the pace of coal-fired power plant shutdowns to increase fourfold in the next 5 years.

Today we have an opportunity to stand up for the American coal industry and the families and businesses that rely on the electricity it provides. We can ensure that regulations are sensible and not overbearing. We can make sure that coal keeps lighting homes, stores and factories in Indiana.

CONGRATULATING HOLLIS F.
PRICE MIDDLE COLLEGE

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

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I want to take this moment to congratulate a high school in my district, the Hollis F. Price Middle College, for receiving the U.S. News & World Report Bronze recognition as one of 2012's Best High Schools in the country.

U.S. News & World Report ranked nearly 22,000 public high schools across the country, and I'm proud that one of Memphis City Schools was recognized. This school was named after the fourth president of LeMoyne-Owen College, an Historically Black College and University in Memphis. Hollis-Price is a collaborative effort between Memphis City Schools and LeMoyne-Owen to improve graduation rates and provide accessibility for students to attend college.

I want to commend Principal Daphne Beasley, all the faculty, and the staff for their hard work and dedication. And surely the students I want to congratulate, too, and their parents on their great achievement. I was proud to speak at their graduation a few years ago. It's a great school. Continue to make Memphis proud.

PUTTING PEOPLE BEFORE
POLITICS

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

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, from day one my focus in Congress has been on

jobs and the economy. I believe that the best thing Congress can do is to find common ground to move our country forward. This week, I'm happy to say, we did just that.

On Wednesday evening, the House of Representatives passed a bipartisan jobs bill—which I am pleased to say I championed—which would encourage global investment here in our country. This means jobs in our local communities. Companies in the 10th District like Astellas and Takeda and Siemens are able to invest here in America and put people to work.

This bill passed with broad bipartisan support. And I certainly want to thank Representatives ROSKAM, PETERS, and BARROW for reaching across the aisle and coming together and helping to pass a commonsense bill that helps businesses to grow right here at home. When we put people before politics and progress before partisanship, we can get things done for the American people.

□ 1220

RECOGNIZING THE BRAVE DISSIDENTS IN CUBA

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

Mr. RIVERA. Mr. Speaker, last week I took to this floor to discuss the brave dissidents inside Cuba that went on a hunger strike to protest the jailing of one of their own. The end of that hunger strike came this week when the Castro dictatorship announced the pending release of that dissident. This was a victory for the heroes of the opposition movement inside Cuba, but there is still much to be done.

The international community must continue to denounce the human rights abuses occurring inside Cuba, the lack of civil liberties and democratic rights, and continue to support the heroic opposition struggling for a free and democratic Cuba inside the island.

WE WILL NOT SUPPORT RADICALISM

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

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, recently we passed a continuing resolution to take care of the funding of the government until next March. And one of the things that concerned a lot of us was: Is any of that money in that continuing resolution going to go to help the Government of Egypt or Libya or any of the other countries where we see all that civil unrest and all the horrible acts of murder taking place?

And I never did get an answer, so I would just like to say to my colleagues who are going to be here—I'm retiring at the end of this year—we should not give one dime, not one penny, to any

country that tries to undermine the United States' interests around the world, and we should not give one penny to anybody that constantly tries to spread radical fundamentalist Muslim beliefs in this world.

Shari'a law is something we can't live with, and we need to let them know very clearly that if they want to work with the United States, fine, but they're not getting any money from us if this continues.

This world is in a terrible state because of these radicals, and we must not let them win this battle.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. REED). The Chair would remind Members to refrain from trafficking the well while a Member is under recognition.

AMERICA SHOULD STOP TRYING TO RUN THE WORLD

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

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, Americans do not want, forever, permanent wars that last three or four times longer than World War II. And they especially do not want to spend hundreds of billions on people who hate or don't at least appreciate what we've done for them.

Probably half the spending we have done over the years in Iraq and Afghanistan has been pure foreign aid. And we have poured many, many billions into Egypt, Pakistan, and other countries throughout the Middle East.

Our own Nation is \$16 trillion in debt. We are borrowing all this money to send to countries that are exploding with anti-American rage.

Fifty-one American soldiers have been murdered over the past several months by Afghan police and soldiers who they were training. Now we have had our Ambassador and three other Americans killed in Libya.

We should have gotten out of Afghanistan years ago. We need to get out now and not take too long to do it.

We need to stop trying to run the whole world, creating so much resentment, and start putting our own country first once again.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER
PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will recognize Members for Special Order speeches without prejudice to the resumption of legislative business.

DO-NOTHING CONGRESS

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

Mr. HOYER. And so this 112th Congress convulses to an ugly end of its time before the national elections. All of us must be sad, and the American people are angry and sad that this Congress has been so inattentive to the needs of the American people.

Mr. Speaker, today House Republicans are leaving town and will not return until after the November elections.

Two very respected political scientists—not Democrats or Republicans; one a representative of the more conservative think tank and another a more liberal think tank—have written a book about the dysfunction they have seen in this Congress. Mr. Mann and Mr. Orenstein—quoted by many reporters from many journals, from all different perspectives—they said this:

We have been studying Washington politics in Congress for more than 40 years, and never, never have we seen them as dysfunctional. In our past writings, we have criticized both parties when we believed it was warranted. Today, however, said these two respected political scientists and observers of Washington, today, however, we have no choice but to acknowledge that the core of the problem lies with the Republican Party.

They went on to say that the GOP has become an insurgent outlier in American politics. It is ideologically extreme; scornful of compromise; unmoved by conventional understanding of facts, evidence, and science; and dismissive of the legitimacy of its political opposition. That is the nub of the problem.

Our Republican colleagues are leaving without getting their work done. I said, "their work done." Without getting our work done, the work of the American people.

Comprehensive jobs bills, middle class tax cuts have not been extended, farmers are left on their own to face the worst drought in decades—the worst drought in decades—and a farm bill reported out of the Republican committee lays unconsidered by this floor. Reported out of their committee, from their majority, and they haven't brought it to the floor, while farmers remain in trouble. We've not reauthorized the Violence Against Women Act, and we have not passed the postal reform bill.

I am glad to take this Special Order, Mr. Speaker, to say to the American people that we're prepared to stay. We're prepared to stay and work on these bills. And I'm going to talk about some of these bills, but my colleagues are here as well.

I first want to yield to the former president of the Senate of Vermont for his observations as we leave this town, my friend, Mr. WELCH from Vermont.

Mr. WELCH. I thank the gentleman.

You know, on the farm bill, we've got the worst drought we've had in 50 years. We've got people who need nutrition programs. We've got farmers who need certainty about what the price

support programs are going to be, what their future is going to be. We've got livestock farmers that are in desperate straits because of the drought.

And we've got a Senate that's passed a farm bill. We've got a House Agriculture Committee that's passed a farm bill, on a bipartisan basis, Democrats and Republicans working together to pass that bill. And the House leadership, who has the authority to bring this bill to the floor, won't do it. That's the first time in the history of the House of Representatives where a farm bill passed by the Agriculture Committee has not been brought to the floor for a vote.

Mr. Speaker, we could defend, each and every one of us on both sides of the aisle, a vote of conscience, whether it was "yes" or "no," on the farm bill. None of us can defend not even taking a vote on the farm bill.

That decision is not within the authority of any individual Member of Congress. That is the decision that the majority leader and the Speaker of the House have the authority to make, and their refusal to bring this bill to the floor will be absolutely an indictment of Congress' inability to do its job.

America needs a farm bill. This Congress needs to do its job. We've got the time to do it. We should act. That bill should be brought to us for a vote.

□ 1230

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, that is a sample of the dysfunction and inability and unwillingness to compromise on which Mr. Ornstein and Mr. Mann spoke.

I now yield to my friend from New York (Mr. TONKO).

Mr. TONKO. Thank you, Minority Whip HOYER. You have led us so expertly well on this floor.

You cite the many failings of this do-nothing Republican Congress. It is tragic that we will leave for home now and not get the work of the people done and will not respond to the needs of America. That is such an unjust outcome.

We know that a middle class tax cut has been passed in the Senate and that the President has said he would sign it. We need that measure. We need that measure done so as to provide for confidence in the American economy. What we need right now is that sort of boost. That booster shot can do a lot for growing sales for businesses out there. The aggregate demand for goods and services, driven by relief for the middle class via a tax cut, is important. The Violence Against Women Act that was reauthorized in the Senate failed to come to this floor. Postal reform—overwhelmingly approved by the Senate—fails to come to this floor. There is also the farm bill, which is important to all of upstate New York, and I know our members from the upstate delegation, from the New York delegation, are greatly disturbed by the do-nothing Republican Congress.

Minority Whip HOYER, thank you for leading us in this discussion. We have

not earned a 6-week recess until election day without having done the people's business. We need to stay here and get the people's work done—build America's economy, go forward with progress—and provide for the results that America so desperately needs. It's a shame that this do-nothing Republican Congress has now called a halt to all business on this floor for the next several weeks.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman for his comments. He is absolutely right.

Mr. Speaker, just for the knowledge of all of our Members, the Senate did pass a middle class tax cut, making sure that 98 percent of our taxpayers would not get any increase in their taxes on the 1st of January. That bill is over here. It has not been brought to the floor, notwithstanding the fact, I believe, that every one of us believes that those taxpayers ought not get an increase. So there is overwhelming support for that bill, bipartisan support, but it won't be brought to the floor.

On the Violence Against Women Act, to ensure that women and families are not subjected to dangerous domestic violence, it passed 68-31 through the United States Senate; not passed here. Postal reform passed 62-37 in a bipartisan vote in the United States Senate; not paid attention to here. The farm bill, which passed with 64 votes—almost 2-1 in the United States Senate on a bipartisan vote with 16 Republican Senators voting for it—has not been brought to this floor. Yet we walk away. We walk away from the American people.

I now yield to my friend from Illinois, the gentlelady from Illinois, JAN SCHAKOWSKY.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. I thank the gentleman so much for yielding and for pointing out how languishing in the House of Representatives are many pieces of legislation that have passed the United States Senate in a bipartisan way with a Democratic majority. Yet here in the House, where we have a Republican majority—and as you pointed out, some of these bills have actually passed their own committees led by Republicans—are still not being considered on the floor today.

So we are going to adjourn and will not meet again for almost 2 months—the earliest adjournment before an election in over 50 years. Republicans are going to turn off the lights in this Chamber, shutting down debate on matters of serious consequence to Americans and the economy. Shame on them. We should be staying and dealing with those bills.

They have voted, for example, time after time to repeal ObamaCare and to protect tax cuts for the wealthy and rich corporations, but have taken no action on preserving tax cuts for the middle class—for 98 percent of American taxpayers.

They've not taken any action on the Violence Against Women Act, which passed the Senate by a bipartisan vote

of 68-31. For the many years that the Violence Against Women Act has been enacted, it has always had bipartisan support.

We haven't passed the wind production tax credit, which, again, would mean jobs for Americans in an industry that has just been developing right now and that is so important to our environment and for people, for instance, in my State of Illinois as well as in Iowa and other Midwestern States.

We haven't passed the doctor fix, making sure that Medicare reimbursements to doctors don't drop by 27 percent.

We haven't dealt with sequestration, which would have a devastating impact on investments that create jobs and protect low-income people.

There has been no action on the post office reform or the farm bill, which has been mentioned. In southern Illinois, where we have a serious drought, our farmers are waiting for some drought relief, but they're not going to get it from this Congress.

Most importantly, while Republicans have found the time to vote again and again to end the Medicare guarantee—making it harder for seniors to choose their own doctors and raising the costs of health care for seniors by over \$6,000 a year—they still haven't found the time to bring a comprehensive jobs bill to the floor or one that deals with making it in America, which is an industrial policy that would actually put Americans back to work right here at home.

Millions of hardworking American people are still looking for more than just talk about jobs. Over a year ago, I introduced the Emergency Jobs to Restore the American Dream Act in order to create more than 2 million jobs and to put people back to work in the most straightforward of ways—by hiring them. My bill would put people to work in critical areas to our communities and our economy—people like teachers, cops and firefighters, health care workers, school construction and maintenance workers.

Over a year ago, President Obama sent to Congress the American Jobs Act, which incorporated parts of my bill and also would provide tax credits to small businesses—yet another tax credit—and assistance to State and local governments in order to prevent the layoffs of critical workers. Independent experts estimate that President Obama's American Jobs Act would create up to 2.6 million jobs.

But the Republican do-nothing Congress brought neither of these jobs bills to the floor. No. They are, every day, sabotaging every effort to actually help create jobs and to Make It in America. Democrats truly do want to stay to fight for jobs, for the economy, for farmers, for taxpayers, for battered women. It's time for the Republicans to join us.

Thank you, Mr. Minority Whip, for leading us in this effort, and I urge all of the Republicans to join us in staying here.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the distinguished Member from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY) for her comments. Nobody fights harder for working people and seniors in this Congress than JAN SCHAKOWSKY, and no one is sadder that we have been so lacking in attention to the issues of concern to those folks.

I now want to recognize ALLYSON SCHWARTZ from the State of Pennsylvania, who has also been a great leader and a member of the Ways and Means Committee and who is trying to work on behalf of jobs and growing our economy. I yield to my friend from Pennsylvania.

Ms. SCHWARTZ. I thank you, Mr. Minority Whip.

You have spoken out every week both on the floor of Congress and around this country. You've spoken out on the actions we ought to be taking in order to strengthen our Nation, protect our seniors, grow our economy, and make sure our children have a great future. You speak eloquently about that every week, so I really am pleased to be able to just join you in calling attention to the fact that we do have serious economic and fiscal challenges in this Nation.

Instead of coming together and trying to find common ground—trying to find that agreement so we can solve these problems that the American people are asking us to do, which is to solve these problems—the Republicans have been doing nothing. They're trying to roll us back, move us backward. In fact, the Republicans, as we know, just decided to recess and head home. We know the Republicans, yet again, have made their choices, their priorities, their values very clear not only to us and to our constituents but, really, to all Americans, who are seeing more clearly what the Republicans' choices have been. They are determined to dismantle the progress we have made. They continuously try and roll back our accomplishments that we have made so as to take our country back to a failed economic agenda that has hurt so many Americans.

The Republicans' goals are stunning, and we have seen them every week on the floor of Congress for the last year and a half, almost 2 years: repealing health care reform and eliminating the benefits for seniors and access to affordable coverage for millions of Americans; repealing the financial regulatory system; eliminating those consumer protections with regard to environmental regulations, thus threatening clean water and clean air; ending Medicare as we know it. Reducing the Federal Government at any cost, that has been their goal.

□ 1240

I want to mention just quickly two things that you're going to talk some more about and some of my colleagues. I fought so hard on Medicare. We all have. The Republicans have been absolutely clear on this, their willingness to undue Medicare for all seniors. I've

said this before that whether you're 65 and expecting Medicare and living under Medicare right now, you'll see a reduction in your benefits. Whether you're 55 or 45 or 35 and you're paying into Medicare and want Medicare to be there in the future, they are threatening that promise of Medicare. They are deliberately working and have voted to end Medicare as we know it. We've seen that time and again. It's not just the Republican leadership, not just Mr. RYAN. There are many. Most of the Republicans, not all of them have voted for this. Rather than guarantee benefits under Medicare, the Republicans will leave seniors on their own to buy benefits that they can afford or not. The voucher will be inadequate to buy Medicare benefits that exist now, costing our seniors about \$6,400 more per year.

They threaten our fellow seniors as well in nursing homes by voting for a third of a cut in Medicaid that affects, really, the costs of our seniors in nursing homes. Any of us who have loved ones or visit nursing homes know that these are people who require a great deal of care. This is the agenda of the Republicans.

Instead of tackling what we're willing to do together such as middle class tax cuts, they're holding it hostage to tax breaks for the wealthiest 1 percent or 2 percent. They won't move forward on that sort of certainty or on many of the issues facing us at the end of the year as we're on a fiscal cliff that many of us talk about and are really not doing the kind of work that needs to get done to create that certainty, to be able to protect Medicare, to be able to make the strategic investments, to make sure the tax policy is fair, and we do fiscal policy for our Nation in the right way, in a fair way, in a responsible way, and an achievable way.

I thank you for this Special Order, and I'm calling on the Republicans to meet these challenges for our Nation, and to do that together.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentlelady for her comments. No one works harder on health care and is more focused on the delivery of affordable care to all of our people, but particularly concerned about health care for our seniors. How ironic it is that the pledge that the Republicans made was to repeal and replace. I'm going to talk a little bit about that. But there has been no replacement. On the one hand, they want to eliminate the guarantee that Medicare gives to people to have the security that health care will be available to them; and on the other hand they offer nothing to replace it, no alternative, except to increase substantially the cost of those seniors when they are in need of health care.

I thank the gentlelady for her work, and I thank her for her leadership on this very critical issue.

I'm now pleased to yield to the distinguished minority leader, the former Speaker of the House, who has been instrumental in ensuring affordable

health care is available to all of our people, NANCY PELOSI of California.

Ms. PELOSI. Thank you very much, Mr. HOYER. I appreciate your yielding and your leadership in bringing us together on the floor of the House. We are after-hours, and it is only 12:40, but it's after-hours on a Friday afternoon. That is in the context that we left here on August 3. We're not due back until November 14, and yet we have had only 8 legislative days of work in that period of time.

I thank you for calling that dereliction of duty to the attention of the American people because we have work to do. It's not as if our work is finished. As you have indicated, there is critical legislation that is expiring that has passed even in the Senate; yet Republicans have blocked the vote in the House, whether it's middle income tax relief, postal reform, violence against women, the farm bill and then, of course, initiatives proposed by President Obama to create jobs for our economy.

I was so pleased to hear what our colleague, Congresswoman SCHWARTZ, had to say about Medicare, because our names are all on the ballot in this year's election. But what is really at stake is Medicare. Medicare, Medicare, Medicare. As you said, Mr. HOYER, they offered nothing except to raise costs to seniors for getting less as they phase out Medicare.

I wanted to talk about another subject because it's a larger issue as I hear this question bandied about. You hear people say, Are you better off now than you were 4 years ago? The Republicans have the nerve to pose that question that when you look back to 4 years ago, this very week, Mr. Speaker, you would know that we are indeed fundamentally and unquestionably better off as a country today. This week, 4 years ago, September 18 to be exact, but this week, there was a meeting in my office when I was Speaker of the Democratic and Republican leadership of the House and of the Senate gathered together to hear a report from the administration that was very alarming.

Mind you, September 18, 2008, the Secretary of the Treasury, Hank Paulson, described for us a financial system in imminent danger of total collapse. Chairman Bernanke at that same meeting, the chairman of the Fed, told us if we did not act immediately, we would not have an economy by Monday. This was a Thursday evening. You remember, Mr. HOYER. You were there. If we do not act immediately, we will not have an economy by Monday. How on Earth can people who perpetrated that situation on our country have the nerve to turn around and ask that question? At the end of the meeting, we all went out in a bipartisan way and spoke to the press. I said at the time, Time is of the essence and that Congress would act. I was trying to lift confidence in our financial situation.

Despite there being a Presidential election 7 weeks away at that time, it was no time for partisanship. The crisis demanded that Democrats and Republicans work with President Bush to rescue our economy from depression or, as Chairman Bernanke said, from our not having an economy 4 days later.

In the days ahead, our country confronted the worst financial crisis since the Great Depression. The costs were staggering: more than \$8 trillion lost in household wealth, more than 8 million jobs lost, and more than 4 million families losing their homes to foreclosure. Nonetheless, the Democrats voted with President Bush to restore confidence in our markets, and the Republicans even walked away from their own President.

In the 2 years after that September 18 meeting, we continued to take actions to reduce spending and to address what was inevitable from the policies of the 8 years previous to the November 2008 election. When we took the majority and with President Obama in office, we took action to reduce spending, create jobs, keep people in their homes, and passed Dodd-Frank, the toughest Wall Street reforms in generations. With it—the most historic for the first time—protections for American consumers in that bill. All of it was fought vigorously against by the Republicans.

Now we have President Obama, and we have a Republican Congress. Under President Obama's leadership, we have added private sector jobs for 30 straight months, compared to losing 700,000 jobs a month as he entered office; the auto industry, which was facing extinction, and the loss of over 1 million jobs in that industry is again competitive and hiring and thriving; the Dow Jones average, which is one reflection of the security of tens of millions of American investors and pension funds, has already doubled; and housing prices are slowly rising again. We need much more progress there. Imagine, from that time the Dow Jones has doubled.

We still have work to do to continue the American recovery. If the Republicans had cooperated at all with President Obama in the last 2 years, we would be much farther down the road to recovery. We cooperated with President Bush; but they would not offer an ounce of cooperation to President Obama, and our economy has paid the price. We have reaped the benefits of some of what happened in the 2 years when we were in the majority and President Obama was in the first 2 years of his term. But so much more could have been done with some cooperation from the Republicans.

We get back to the question: Are we better off this week in September than we were this week 4 years ago? You be the judge.

□ 1250

I know America's families are hurting. We want to do more to create jobs, et cetera, and we have to have bipartisan cooperation to do that. The Re-

publicans have resisted that. From that standpoint, yes, we can do better.

But from the standpoint of this country when there was a financial crisis, we were on the verge of a total collapse where the chairman of the Fed told us that if we did not act immediately, we wouldn't have an economy by Monday. Yes, we are fundamentally as a country better off and, therefore, the prospects for the future are better for all of America's families, and that's what we are here to work on, the future.

Too bad our Republican colleagues have cut and run from town, but we stand ready to welcome them back to work in a bipartisan way to make concessions to get the job done for the American people.

I thank you, Mr. HOYER, for giving us all the opportunity to express our views on the subject today.

Mr. HOYER. Madam Leader, thank you for your comments and your leadership.

You are so correct in studying the statistics of the Dow, having doubled. It's actually up now probably about 105, 110 percent. The Standard & Poor's is up more than double, and the NASDAQ is up more than double over those years. In January of 2009, I'm sure most people tragically remember, we lost 818,000 private sector jobs that month. Last month we gained 92,000 jobs.

Is there anybody who could say a loss of 818,000 jobs isn't a lot worse than the gain of 92,000 jobs—92,000 jobs is not enough. We need to do more. The President offered a jobs bill. It has not been brought to this floor, notwithstanding the fact in the Pledge to America they said this is a transparent Congress that would be allowed to work its will. That bill has not been brought to the floor.

For the last 30 months we have gained, straight, more jobs, 4.6 million jobs to be exactly correct, while 4.4 million jobs were lost in 2008 alone. Are we better off gaining 4.6 million as opposed to losing 4.4 million jobs?

We have had 12 straight quarters of economic growth. The last four quarters of 2008 in the last administration was a net 13 percent decrease in GDP. Yes, Mr. Speaker, the leader is correct. We're better off today, but we could be much better off. We ought to be better off if we hadn't walked away from a jobs bill, hadn't walked away from investing in an infrastructure bill that gave certainty.

We didn't even bring that bill to the floor. We walked away from making sure that the health care bill works properly, walked away—and I'm going to recognize Mr. COSTA—walked away from the farmers of America, walked away this day as we have walked away in the past.

Mr. COSTA is from farm country. He understands the pain being experienced in farm country, and he knows how terrible it is to have simply walked away, walked away from the House-passed bill out of committee and walked away from a bipartisan Senate bill. My

friend is such a strong voice on this floor, such an active member of the Agriculture Committee and such a proponent of farm country, not only California, which he represents but through this country.

I yield to my friend.

Mr. COSTA. I thank the gentleman from Maryland for yielding, because we ought to be about doing the people's business. Walking away as we are for the next 46 days to focus on elections when we ought to be focusing on the people's business is a very sad commentary, a very sad commentary to the people of our land.

I appreciate all the good work that my colleague Congressman HOYER and my other colleagues do in trying to address the critical challenges that we face in our Nation today. As was stated, our House Republican colleagues have left town to focus on the election. In the meantime we have unfinished business. We have unfinished business on comprehensive jobs, big and balanced budget solutions to the deficit, tax cuts for the middle class, the farm bill—which I want to speak to—and the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act, as a cochair of the Victims' Rights Caucus, is especially disheartening.

Let me say that the folks who farm and put the food on America's dinner table are wondering why, just why, we can't get a farm bill. It is one of the most bipartisan things we ever do here in Congress.

In 2008 we had a bipartisan farm bill when we had the majority. President Bush vetoed it, we overrode his veto twice. Today we have a farm bill that passed with overwhelming bipartisan support in the Senate by a vote of 64–35. It made cuts because we have to make cuts, and we have to be fiscally responsible, \$23.5 billion less than the farm bill of 2008.

In the House, as a Member of the House Agriculture Committee, we voted a comprehensive bill out, 35–11. We made cuts because we have to make cuts. In a number of the areas we made similar cuts to the Senate's, \$20 billion in farm programs. We made additional cuts in nutritional programs, which are part of what would normally be worked out if regular order was allowed to take place.

Mr. HOYER. The gentleman may know this better than I because he works so closely with the ag community, but over 70 farm organizations and farmer-focused organizations came to town a week or two ago and all said pass the Senate bill, not because they believed it was perfect, but because they believed it was a bipartisan bill that would bring relief to farm country and give some certainty to the farming community. I think I'm correct on that.

Mr. COSTA. The gentleman is correct. We had over 70 farm organizations from the American Farm Bureau, the National Farmers Union to the, as we say, the "barnyard coalition" that represents all of the poultry and pork and

dairy and beef cattle industries, because they understand that a farm bill is a safety net. Without it, we don't have a farm policy, we don't have a food policy for not just American farmers, ranchers, and dairymen but for the consumers who, each night, enjoy the highest-quality food produced with the safest quality anywhere in the world.

Let me just close by saying two things. The dairy industry is hurting. We have had a drought in the Midwest that has devastated a whole host of the farm country. And yet, what is one of the ways that farmers, ranchers, and dairymen are able to produce next year's crops? Well, they get loans. They get loans from banks and production credit associations.

What are those loans made of? They are based upon the value of their farm and how much they were leveraged, but they are also based upon a farm bill, a farm bill that provides the ability to ensure that there is a safety net and that there is crop insurance. Without any farm bill, we don't have any crop insurance. Without a farm bill, we don't have that safety net.

With the overwhelming bipartisan support that we have in the Senate, the bipartisan bill that was voted out of the House Agriculture Committee, it seems to me that we ought to let the process work. I would urge my colleagues to come back. Come back and let's do the people's business on all of these issues. The Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act. The Victims' Rights Caucus every day is focusing on protecting women and their families throughout this country, and that is also a bipartisan piece of legislation that we always act on. Again we're not doing the people's business.

The gentleman from Maryland, my colleague, is so correct in bringing this to the attention of the House. Ladies and gentlemen, we ought to be about doing the people's business.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman from California for his leadership, not only for farm country but for all of the people in this country on behalf of getting people back to work, making jobs available, and making sure our farmers are secure, and particularly for making sure that we address the epidemic of violence perpetrated against family members. I thank the gentleman for his leadership.

I yield to somebody who is as strong a voice as we have in this House on behalf of the working men and women in this country, the gentlewoman from California, LYNN WOOLSEY.

Ms. WOOLSEY. I thank the gentleman for leading this Special Order.

Mr. Speaker, yesterday we were debating work requirements under the TANF program. Well, after we've all listed the issues that the Republicans have refused to address in this Congress, we can say that we know a bunch of people who should be subjected to a work requirement.

□ 1300

They take home a lot of Federal dollars. They're actually on the public

dole, but they don't seem to be doing very much work. And I'm talking about the do-nothing Republicans in this Congress. I don't blame them for wanting to hurry home for their campaigns because a lot of their jobs must be in jeopardy. On the other hand, when they get there, they might find their constituents pretty frustrated that they haven't done their jobs and they have not met their responsibilities.

Every single day that we're here, my colleagues across the aisle put forward bills that have no hope of becoming law and exist only to promote Republican talking points. Time and time again, they have chosen gridlock and confrontation over progress and cooperation. They haven't lifted a finger to pass the President's jobs package, even though it contains many, many ideas that the Republicans supported in the past. They want to destroy health care reform instead of building on it. They have refused to work with Democrats on education issues, failing to invest in our children, who are 100 percent of our future. They haven't done a thing to support the middle class and give them hope for the future. It's no wonder the Congress has record-low approval ratings.

But, Mr. Speaker, most disappointing of all to me is the Republican Congress's failure to lead on issues of national security and war and peace. While we're on recess, the war in Afghanistan will turn 11 years old. Eleven years—and more. More than 2,000 Americans are dead, thousands more are wounded, and taxpayers are out more than half a trillion dollars, all for a policy that continues to undermine our national security goals instead of advancing them. The brave servicemembers who are putting life and limb on the line in Afghanistan don't get a recess.

When we adjourn, they will continue to be very much "in session." Their "district work period" is in districts in Afghanistan, where the Taliban is poised to strike—some at the most dangerous places imaginable. The war isn't just morally reprehensible; it's fiscally irresponsible. And the very same Members who want to cut every domestic program to the bone have barely blinked an eye when it comes to billions and billions of dollars in misplaced war appropriations.

When is the Congress going to catch up with the American people? Certainly not between now and the election, because we've gone home. The people we work for know that it makes no sense to continue military occupation, that it's doing more harm than good, creating more terrorists than it's defeating, making us less safe, not more. The American people have made it abundantly clear: they want us to be here. They want us to be debating this war. They're done with this war. They want us to vote to bring our troops home safely.

The country faces huge challenges. Our people are crying out for leader-

ship, and the Majority wants to turn out the lights. Actually, they have gone home. Americans desperately want the Congress to do something to create jobs and jump-start the economy, something to create peace and security; but the Republicans in Congress have gone home. They have left the work site. They're gone.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentle lady for her comments, and I yield to my friend, SUZANNE BONAMICI, who was such an effective State legislator. She was overwhelmingly elected in a special election. And every day since that election, she has been working hard on behalf of hardworking men and women not only in Oregon, but throughout this country. And I know that she's disappointed that we're walking away from our responsibilities.

I yield to my friend.

Ms. BONAMICI. Thank you very much, Mr. HOYER, for bringing to the country's attention the work left undone.

When I arrived in Congress just a little more than 7 months ago, I brought a pretty strong message from my constituents back in Oregon, and that's that they want us to overcome the gridlock, they want us to get our economy back on track and support policies that create new jobs. Of course, no one expects this to be an easy task, but I was really encouraged by so many people who said, That's why we're here. Let's work together for job creation. Unfortunately, these conversations have now been kicked down the road for another day—actually, another month—while too many of our constituents back home are facing unemployment, their homes are underwater, their child care costs are rising.

Several of my colleagues have talked about the failure to pass the farm bill. This typically bipartisan legislation became a staging ground for a fight over nutrition assistance to people who are struggling. Now the bipartisan Senate bill has some amendments that were added that will help farmers in my district and across this country. We should be able to vote on that bipartisan bill that passed the Senate.

As others have mentioned, we're going to go back to our districts and face our constituents, who are expecting so much from us. But we did not extend the production tax credit for wind energy. Now, that's a problem in my district. I have companies that are waiting for that. They may now be facing additional layoffs. That policy has long been a bipartisan policy supported by many to develop the wind industry in this country. That's going to be hard for us to explain to our constituents.

So, Mr. HOYER, thank you. There's so much that we can do and should be doing to get our economy back on track, but Congress is not doing our job. This failure to pass bipartisan, commonsense legislation is something everyone in America should know

about. We should be staying here representing the best interests of our constituents, helping to put this country back to work.

So thank you again, Mr. HOYER, for yielding and for bringing this important issue to everyone's attention.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentlelady for her comments.

I want to now recognize the distinguished gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CARNAHAN), who's been such a leader on so many of these issues.

Mr. CARNAHAN. Thank you. I want to thank the gentleman from Maryland for his leadership on this issue as this Congress shuts down.

It was Harry Truman from Missouri who coined the term the "do-nothing Congress" in 1948. But that Congress was 10 times more productive than this Republican Congress of 2012. To call this Congress a do-nothing Congress is an insult to the do-nothing Congress of 1948. So we're leaving today, the earliest this Congress has ever left for a campaign in an election year in 52 years.

Look at how disconnected this Congress has been from the urgent needs of the American people. Thirty percent of the bills passed were for the purpose of attaching someone's name to a building. We voted to repeal the Affordable Care Act 33 times. The Republicans passed 30 jobs message bills that didn't do a thing to create jobs. They voted so often to restrict women's freedom and access to health care that one female Republican lawmaker said, Are you kidding me? How many times are we going to vote for this? And we have voted on the Romney-Ryan plan to end the Medicare guarantee and increase cost to seniors by \$6,400. It's no wonder this Republican Congress has the lowest approval rating ever.

There are urgent priorities on the table that many have talked about here today: the middle class tax cuts, the farm bill, the Violence Against Women Act, responsible deficit reduction, and President Obama's jobs bill. This Republican wall of obstruction is wreaking havoc on this country. It's leaving a trail of dysfunction. And now Republicans are running for the exit door to cut their own political losses. They're shutting down this people's House without getting the work done. This Congress should be here. Our Democratic leaders have made it clear we're ready to do that work. People will be the judge.

I thank the gentleman from Maryland for his leadership on this order.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman for his comments.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include therein extraneous materials on the topic of this Special Order.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. HOYER. I yield to my friend from New Jersey (Mr. HOLT), an effective Member of this House.

Mr. HOLT. I thank the gentleman.

As we've heard the gentleman from Maryland say many times, "Representative" is not just a title. It's our job description. We need to hear from our constituents. And our constituents have told us over and over again this year what they want. They want middle class tax relief.

□ 1310

They want a farm bill. They want the postal service fixed so it can pay its bills. They want passage of the Violence Against Women Act. It's a long list of things that they feel we can do to help Americans.

We've had an opportunity to hear from people because the leadership sent us home a month and a half ago where we could hold town meetings while they allowed us to do nothing here. We heard from our constituents very clearly—not just from a small segment, not just from a few special interests, not just from a few percent for whom everything seems just fine, thank you. But we heard from all sorts of Americans who say, Help. Please. Get to work.

You've heard this is the least productive Congress in a generation, in a long generation; and that's by design. The majority sets the schedule. They scheduled very few days in session, very few committee hearings, very few markups.

So even the do-nothing Congress, as my friend from Missouri said, even the Congress that Harry Truman called the do-nothing Congress was much more productive than this one.

So why did the majority close up shop and head home until after the election? Well, the answer I think is pretty clear: they want to campaign. They've decided with their dismal record they need a little more time to campaign, a little time to explain why they cast 302 votes to limit protections for clean air and clean water and good land. They need a little more time to explain why the farm bill, to help the areas that have been hit by drought, to help the farmers that need crop insurance, hasn't been passed. To be sure, it's going to be hard to campaign on the record that they've compiled, and maybe they need a little extra time.

We don't need extra time to hear from our constituents about their needs and what they want us to do.

I stand with my friend Mr. HOYER and all of us on this side of the aisle, to return to Washington any day, any night to do the work that the American people hired us to do—to be their representatives.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman for his very compelling comments.

I know that, Mr. Speaker, you've heard us speak and the Members have heard us speak, and one might say, well, these are Democrats speaking about the non-productivity and non-at-

tention to the people's business of this Congress.

But some years ago, just a few years ago, 4 years ago, the Republican Party, our friends on that side of the aisle, nominated JOHN MCCAIN to be their President. What does JOHN MCCAIN say of this Congress? "The worst since 1947 statistically, the worst ever as far as I'm concerned," Senator JOHN MCCAIN told reporters Wednesday when asked to assess this Congress. That was September 19, 2012, just a few days ago. Bipartisan observation.

This walkaway Congress is the least effective in which I've served, and I've been here for 31 years.

I want to yield to my friend who came to Congress the same year I did, who unfortunately is leaving, one of the great leaders of this Congress and responsible for putting the referee back on the field so that we will not have another financial meltdown that plunged this country almost into depression, the distinguished Member from Massachusetts, BARNEY FRANK.

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. I thank the Democratic whip, and I thank him for the leadership he provided during his years as majority leader when we were able to do some things.

You know, we're talking about what this Congress didn't do. I suppose in some ways we ought to be happy because some of what they said they wanted to do would have been totally destructive.

This is the party that let the financial community run riot for years when they had both the White House and both Houses of Congress, did no regulation, so that we got the worst recession in 80 years, a near depression, because of their irresponsibility. They were threatening to undo it. Unfortunately, they were able to accomplish one thing.

One of the things we did was to give the Federal regulatory agencies the power to regulate derivatives, a serious, obscure, powerful instrument that was a major cause of our crisis. While they were not able to repeal the rules, they were able to reduce the funding of the agencies that have to deal with this complex matter to a level where they have not been very effective.

So that's one of the things they were able to do—undo by financial stealth what we tried to get done.

But I want to come to their defense to some extent, Mr. Whip, because there may be some implication that they're not willing to work hard. No, let's be very clear. The reason we have such a dismal record here is not because they are lazy, our Republican colleagues. It's more because of a word that rhymes with "lazy," which the House rules will prohibit me from using.

The problem is this: in 2010, a significant number of Republicans were elected who do not understand the importance of governance in a free enterprise society in which there has to be a vigorous private sector creating goods and

services and a public sector that works with it.

That's why we have no postal bill, although the Senate passed one; why we have no agricultural bill; why they couldn't pass a highway bill and had to be dependent on the Democratic Senate to pass one, so they could catch on to it.

They simply do not understand the importance of our coming together and doing things in this complex economic society that cannot be done by the private sector.

It is an extremism. It is not laziness. It is extremism that grips the Republican Party so they are not able to discharge the normal functions of government.

By the way, there is one particular inaction that I want to stress. It has to do with Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac. When my Republican friends are out of power, they know exactly what to do about housing. When they're in power, they forget. It's a peculiar form of amnesia.

From 1995 until 2006, they controlled the Congress and did nothing about Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac. We came into office in 2007. At the request of Henry Paulson, George Bush's Secretary of the Treasury, we took action and put them in a conservatorship and stopped them from losing money.

The next step was to go forward with replacing them. We said that we would do that. We did financial reform first. The Republicans said, in 2009 and 2010, you must do reform of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, and we thought financial reform came first because we already stopped the bleeding. Then they came to power in 2011, and they've done nothing.

The reason they've done nothing about Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, and the reason they've done nothing about the post office and agriculture and couldn't do anything about the highways is very simple: they are a party torn between extremists and people who are afraid of extremists. People who will not take them on. A Speaker who will not bring an agriculture bill to the floor that might very well pass because he's intimidated by his own Tea Party extremist wing which rules him.

They could not come forward with housing legislation because what a majority knows should be done to put in some kind of Federal-private cooperation without the mistakes we've made in the past, they couldn't get the votes for it because their extremists had a veto over it.

Last point, Mr. Whip. I want to talk a little bit about bipartisanship.

In 2007, things began to buckle in our financial system. I, as the chairman of the committee, worked closely with Mr. PAULSON to deal with it. In 2008, the Bush administration came to us, and you know what they wanted? You remember, a stimulus. That terrible word "stimulus." George Bush, that radical, and Ben Bernanke, his ap-

pointee, the Chairman of the Fed, and Hank Paulson, his Secretary of Treasury, said, Let's do a stimulus.

This Democratic leadership worked with them. Then-Speaker PELOSI negotiated with them. We did a bipartisan stimulus.

Then later on when the economy began to collapse because of financial dissolution, Hank Paulson came to us and asked for cooperation, and we gave him cooperation.

From 2007 through 2008, we had a very bipartisan approach in the economic crisis. Then one thing happened: Barack Obama became President and bipartisanship disappeared because extremism took over the Republican Party, first when they were in the minority and now when they are in the majority. That's why nothing has happened.

I thank the whip.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman for his very cogent comments. I would remind him the Leader talked about that, and he's talked about it.

Mr. Speaker, I think you will recall—George Bush, Republican President of the United States; Hank Paulson, Republican Secretary of the Treasury; and Ben Bernanke, who I think is neither Republican nor Democrat but appointed by the Republican President.

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. He was a registered Republican but was three times appointed by George Bush to high economic positions.

Mr. HOYER. President Bush came to us and said: The country's in trouble, at risk of going into depression. We need you to act.

Who acted? The Democrats, in a bipartisan response to President Bush. Who walked away? Two-thirds of the Republican Party, the President's party. Two-thirds of them walked away. As a result, we failed the first time. We came back and added another 30 Democrats, 172, and the Republicans couldn't even get to 100 to support their own President to keep this country out of depression.

Ladies and gentlemen, 2 years ago as the previous election approached, Republicans unveiled a long list of pledges. Their Pledge to America reads, and I quote:

A plan to create jobs, end economic uncertainty, and make America more competitive must be the first urgent domestic priority of our government. So, first we offer a plan to get people working again.

That's what they said. We are still waiting for that plan, and we have walked away.

□ 1320

Twenty-one months later, Republicans have not offered a comprehensive plan to create jobs and boost competitiveness. Nor have they allowed Democrats to bring major items of our Make It in America—expand manufacturing, create jobs, give good-paying jobs with good security to Americans that will then redound to the benefit of all agencies and job creators and small

businesses that service those manufacturers.

When President Obama proposed his plan, the American Jobs Act—which economists say would have expanded by 1 million or 1.5 million jobs—Republicans blocked it outright, not brought to the floor, not given a vote. Instead of making jobs their priority, it seems to have been last on their to-do list, at a time when it remains the first concern for millions and millions of Americans and for our side of the aisle.

Mr. Speaker, let me read another excerpt from the Republican pledge:

With common-sense exceptions for seniors, veterans, and our troops, we will roll back government spending, putting us on a path to balance the budget and pay down the debt.

However, over the last 21 months Republicans have torpedoed every serious attempt to reach agreement on deficit reduction. Why? No revenues from the very wealthy in America. Not because we don't like the very wealthy, not because we want to penalize the very wealthy, but because we need to keep our country on a financially secure path, and those of us on this floor can contribute a little more to that effort.

Pushed to the extreme by their Tea Party wing, House Republicans early on embraced an "our way or no way" that made compromise impossible, refusing to accept any solution that included revenues or that ended unnecessary tax breaks for the wealthiest in our country. That's why the middle class tax cut passed overwhelmingly in the United States—well, passed by a majority—in the United States Senate languishes here unconsidered, which would keep 98 percent of America from any concern about having their taxes increased on January 1. Why? To protect the 2 percent. How sad.

In pursuit of their extreme budget agenda, they pushed our country to the brink of default, leading to—for the first time ever in the history of our Nation—the most creditworthy nation on Earth being downgraded by the Standard & Poor's rating agency. To avert that default, Republicans insisted on creating the sequester that so many of them now lament. It was their creation. In fact, in their cap, cut, and balance bill, what is the default position they take? Sequester.

Meanwhile, led by Chairman PAUL RYAN, Republicans passed two budgets that would end Medicare as we know it, end the guarantee, end the security that it gives to people who are seniors and going to be seniors; guts social programs that keep millions out of poverty; and doesn't balance over the next 30 years.

SUSAN COLLINS, Republican Member of the United States Senate—I showed you JOHN MCCAIN, Mr. Speaker—she says:

It is very frustrating to have worked on legislation that really matters to our country, like the cybersecurity bill and legislation to save the postal service, and just have them gather dust.

In other words, she worked in the Senate across the aisle with Democrats

and sent that bill here—both those bills—and we have not acted. We have walked away.

Mr. Speaker, we have made our point: Walking away has been the practice of this Congress. Not getting the work done has been the practice of this Congress. How lamentable it is for the American people. But as President Obama said: They have a choice. May they make it well.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Republican leadership in the House on their two greatest accomplishments this Congress: 1) thanks to their leadership, we have had the least productive Congress in modern history and 2) thanks to their leadership Congress has the lowest approval rating ever.

Time and time again, the House Republicans showed Americans that they would rather play politics by putting messaging bills on the Floor that never stood a chance of passing in the Senate than work with us and the Senate on legislation our country desperately needs.

House Republicans found time to vote to repeal the Affordable Care Act 33 times but we can't find the time to extend the Farm Bill.

In fact, halfway through 2012, the House Majority Leader ERIC CANTOR declared that "serious legislating is all but done until after the election."

This is not what Americans want and the majority should be ashamed of themselves for creating an environment where compromise is avoided at all costs.

Mr. Speaker, I have served many years in the House of Representatives and am proud of the fact that I often work with my colleagues across the aisle to find solutions that make sense for my constituents, industry and the environment.

But this Congress, it's been different. Their mentality is that you're either with us or against us. But Mr. Speaker, that is no way to lead a chamber that represents various constituencies around the country.

PERSPECTIVE

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

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, well, my head is spinning a bit after hearing my friends across the aisle. I heard our former Speaker ask about whether we're better off now than we were 4 years ago, and actually ask how can people who perpetuated this economic disaster ask that question. And it was amazing, because former Speaker PELOSI and I were on exactly the same wavelength. She was asking: Are we better off now than we were 4 years ago? And I was thinking the same thing that she was: How could people who perpetuated this economic disaster ask that question? But she asked it anyway.

You heard our friends talk about the economic disaster. Some of us remember back into the early point of the

21st century when there was an effort by first-term President Bush, George W. Bush, calling for reform of Fannie and Freddie, and I seem to recall my friend from Massachusetts who resisted such reform. In fact, there were people here on the Democratic side of the aisle that resisted such reform; they prevented such reform. There were Members on the Republican side—not all of them, but there were Members who were calling for reform of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, but it didn't happen. In fact, our friends across the aisle were in control of the House and Senate for 4 years.

In 2005 and 2006, as a freshman, I often heard our colleagues across the aisle asking how we could do such a terrible, terrible thing of spending 100 to \$200 billion more than we had coming in. And they were right, they were right: we should not have been spending \$160 billion more than we had coming in. The Democrats were right. And because Republicans did not stay true to what we had promised—our leadership just wouldn't dig in and stop it, even though we had a Republican President, you know, well, we've got a Republican President, don't want to hurt his feelings—we spent \$160 billion more than we had coming in.

So, the American public sounded like they weren't thrilled with what they heard from the Democrats, but they figured they'd give them a chance. So, November 2006, Democrats—who had promised to end the deficit spending—took over and the deficit spending, rather than coming under control, went out of sight.

□ 1330

They passed the Dodd-Frank bill. It has historic overregulation of community banks.

Now, why would a group who is so upset with Wall Street pass legislation that devastates community banks that are closest to the community, know the borrowers the best, that have been the real foundation of this country? Why would they strangle out community banks with this massive overregulation that really doesn't hurt the massive, big banks?

Well, someone said years ago, follow the money. And if you look at the money that has been contributed to campaigns for many years, you find out that the Wall Street executives and their immediate family normally donate about four times more to Democrats than they do to Republicans.

Now, the Wall Street executives have to endure being called fat cats by a Democratic President, but they know, perhaps it's a wink and a nod, I'll call you fat cats, but I'm going to destroy your competition. We'll get rid of community banks. We'll strangle them with overregulation. They can't make loans. We'll threaten them through the FDIC and the regulators to prevent them from making loans that they know are to good, reliable people who have never missed a payment. We'll

threaten them not to do that, and we'll choke them out. And the only people to be left are the big investment banks on Wall Street that got us into the big mess in the first place.

So if you follow the money and you follow the contributions, you find out, gee, Democrats talk about Wall Street as if they're Republicans, but there are four times more Democrats on Wall Street as executives than there are Republicans. What a shock. Because they talk a good game, I thought for so long that Wall Street executives must be Republicans, the way the Democrats talk. Not so. President Obama got four times more contributions from executives and their immediate family than did a guy named JOHN McCAIN.

So, we look on further. What about jobs?

How about when we have a disaster, by British Petroleum, who has been allowed to operate in the gulf coast with 800 or so egregious safety violations, but that's okay. According to the Obama administration, they didn't want to step in.

I read an account that at the very time *Deepwater Horizon* had blown out, and this administration, Obama administration, should have been all over them, the executives of British Petroleum were negotiating with the Democrats to be the one big oil company that rolled out support in favor of cap-and-trade.

I said I wouldn't use the term "crap-and-trade" anymore, so I'll avoid saying that.

But they had a big oil company that was willing to come out and support cap-and-trade. So certainly this administration and the Democrats in the House and Senate wouldn't want to do anything too detrimental to British Petroleum because they're going to come out on our side. That meant that they ended up actually believing BP when they said, Oh, we'll get it under control.

Well, they didn't get it under control.

So then there was this bipartisan group of experts peer-reviewing what was going on in the gulf coast, and they came back with a report that made recommendations of what should be done. One of those recommendations was not to have a moratorium on drilling, not only of the deep water, but also the very shallow water. They didn't recommend it. And yet this administration goes through and changes the report the way it's printed and put out so that it makes it sound like these experts recommended a moratorium. They did not. But that's the way this administration wanted to manipulate what the American public believed so that the President could sign off on a moratorium.

Other than those precious lives that were lost and those who were harmed out there on the *Deepwater Horizon* rig because this administration had allowed them to continue to operate, the biggest damage to the people in the gulf area was from the President's moratorium.

There were people who were making \$75,000 in salary working on rigs—and that was the minimum, basically, from what I was told by people that worked on rigs—and that income stopped, and those families had nothing because this President perverted a report into making people believe that it said we should cut off drilling in the gulf coast, and it devastated so many in the gulf coast region.

If you want to look at what the President really thinks about big oil companies, it's very similar to what is said and done about Wall Street. They call the Wall Street executives all kinds of names—wink, wink, nod, nod. We're going to pass legislation that eliminates your competition, and then you'll be in charge, and then maybe you can make eight times as many contributions to Democrats as you do to Republicans in both Wall Street and among Big Oil.

How would that happen?

Well, if you read the bill that President Obama put together—and it was the second American Jobs Act that was filed, because I filed the first one, because he ran around the country for weeks saying, Pass the American Jobs Act. There wasn't one filed. I figure if he's going to run around America saying, Pass the American Jobs Act, there ought to be one. So I put a two-page bill together that would have eliminated the 35 percent tariff we put on every American-made good by any company in America.

If we eliminate that 35 percent tariff, also called a corporate tax, you would see companies flocking into America. You would see people with jobs. They wouldn't be standing in line trying to get food stamps, standing in line trying to get more government help. They would have a job and all the pride that comes from that, of doing a good job and making your own money and making your own way.

But we have a group in this Congress, in both ends. They're in the majority down in the Senate, in the minority down here; and it's certainly not all of my Democratic friends, but they think the best way to help a country is just to give away more of other people's money.

If you look at the President's proposal in his so-called American Jobs Act, he told people, I'm going to just really take after Big Oil.

Well, I was one who actually read all 135 or 138 pages, whatever it was, and in the last part is where he got around to Big Oil, except it doesn't hurt Big Oil. It absolutely devastates and would eliminate all the small independent oil companies operating in America. And those small independent oil companies happen to drill and operate nearly 95 percent of all the oil and gas wells in America.

He takes away deductions of the normal cost of doing business that anybody in business is allowed to take as a deduction. Why not? It's the cost of doing business. It's not profit. That

way, you only tax the profit. And it eliminates deductions that actually do not help big oil companies. They can't take those deductions. Only the small companies can take that deduction.

So the President's plan, when you really look at it, instead of looking at what he says, look at what he did. What he did was provide the elimination of the independent oil and gas companies in America.

And you don't have to have been to an Ivy League school. In fact, you're better off maybe in figuring this out if you didn't, because he had a Harvard economic advisor at the time. And of course, Art Laffer, I think the world of him. I think he's maybe the best economic advisor any President's ever had, despite his Harvard education. But you don't have to have an Ivy League education to understand that if this President had been successful in eliminating every independent oil and gas company, as his bill would have done, not only will you eliminate millions of jobs, including those who derive jobs from the independent oil and gas business as well as the business itself, not only would you do that, you would eliminate most of the production in America.

What does that do? That drives the price of oil and gasoline way up, dramatically up. Natural gas, oil, all of that goes dramatically up, because the major oil companies in the world are not interested in coming in and operating smaller wells. They go for the big ones.

□ 1340

That means there is no competition to the massive oil and gas companies in the world. I was shocked to find out in our Natural Resources Committee that, if you look at all of the big oil companies in the world and if you see them listed just by how much they've got in reserves, the American companies like Exxon are way down the list. The biggest oil companies are those operating as single companies in OPEC nations.

And what would this President do?

He would do what he has done repeatedly—he would help foreign countries. He would help the bigger folks, the bigger oil companies. I'm sure it would have benefited the fat cats, as he calls them, on Wall Street, but it would have put out of business 94, 95 percent of the oil and gas wells in America. That meant everybody's price went up. How sad is it that one of the few promises that he kept—I don't know, it may be the main promise—was to drive up the cost of energy in America. Boy, has he done that.

Now, I love having quotes from people who talk about the Congress being the worst Congress that they can recall, especially Republicans, when the body at the other end of the Hall has not fulfilled the obligation that they are required by law to do, and that's to pass a budget. Not in over 3 years. So how are we going to get anything done in Congress?

We've got a Senate down there, controlled by Democrats, who say, We're not going to do our job, and we're going to leave over and over on recess, and we're never going to do our job because, if people saw what our budget really is, they'd get mad at us, so we don't want a budget. We just want to keep spending at these ridiculously high levels. If we work through a budget, we might have to do like the House did when they worked through a budget, and we may actually have to cut some things.

How incredibly disingenuous for anyone in America to stand up and say, Gee, we really want to bring down our spending, and yet everything they propose, except for the military, creates more spending. How disingenuous for anybody in America who stands up and says, These Republicans want to cut Medicare; they're going to destroy Medicare, if they've been awake during any of the actual bills that have been passed by the Democrats, especially during that whole long ordeal when the Democrats had the House and they had the Senate and they had the White House, and when America made it clear we do not want ObamaCare. They said, We don't care. We want it. It's going to be more government control.

It really was about the GRE, the government running everything, not just health care. By the passage of ObamaCare without one single Republican vote—not a one; it was completely done with Democratic votes, this \$716 billion in cuts to Medicare—the Democrats voted that in. The Democratic President signed it in. It devastates Medicare more than anything that has ever been done to Medicare, and it was without one single Republican vote.

So how in the world could somebody come in here or anywhere and blame Republicans for wanting to cut Medicare? Now, I blame my leadership. Anybody who is around can find it.

We should never have agreed with the Democrats to that stupid supercommittee, deficit ceiling bill. We should not have. I was assured, No, no, no. They don't want \$300 billion or \$400 billion—\$500 billion in cuts in Medicare, which would be a sequester. They will come together, and we'll reach an agreement. I pointed out that these are the same people who cut \$716 billion out of Medicare in ObamaCare. So, of course. I pointed out, if they don't have this supercommittee structure and refuse to let there be any agreement, then there is no one in the country who can be blamed for cutting Medicare except the Democrats.

But if they get this bill passed on the deficit-raising bill and if it requires a supercommittee to reach an agreement—if they can get that through and get us to go along with it, thinking that they're going to actually reach an agreement—then they can stonewall and not reach an agreement no matter what we offer, and then they get a twofer. They get hundreds of billions in

cuts to our national security at a time when our national security has not been in this kind of jeopardy since 9/11. Actually, on 9/11 it wasn't in the kind of jeopardy we are in right now, today.

Under this administration, we have seen a win in Iraq turned into a loss because of just the total abandonment of what we created in the way of a friend in Iraq. Maliki—now, he's no friend of mine. He says I can't come back in the country. Yet if I put myself in Maliki's situation, who is the leader of Iraq—and I know Obama has said we're leaving and we're not leaving anybody or anything; we're leaving—and if you see America is pulling out and if you see all this radical stuff going on across the border in Iran, well, you realize America is not going to be around to keep any stability, and I'm going to have to start doing what Iran says.

So what did we do?

We created a country. We had a victory. Even though President Obama, as a Senator, was against the surge, everybody said it worked, that we'd won. Then he pulled us out in such a way that he snatched defeat out of the jaws of victory. Now you've got Iraq that is under heavy influence by Iran. Thank you, President Obama. We've got Syria that is run by a tyrant. Perhaps Syria was the only place we should have intervened, and this President still hasn't gone in and helped there—oh, no. Because the 57 States that make up the Organization of the Islamic Conference were all for us going into Egypt and going into Libya and taking out two people with whom this administration had agreements. They loved the idea of America taking out and helping take out people that were allies of ours. They loved that.

Some of us in this body were saying, Don't do this. We don't know who's going to take over. These could be some radicals who will even empower the radicals more. I mean, you look across at Tunisia and Libya and Egypt and Iraq and Iran and Syria and Lebanon. You look at these countries and come on over to Afghanistan—that this President is losing as we speak—and Pakistan, which has been harming us all they could while still taking our money. Thank you, Secretary of State Clinton and President Obama. You look, and you go, oh, my gosh. This is the makings. This is the massive beginning of a new Ottoman Empire that President Obama can take great credit for. Yes, we're in big trouble here in America, but, wow, look what he has helped do in the Middle East. It's a new Ottoman Empire. Thank you, President Barack Hussein Obama. This will be quite a legacy for you.

I'm not one of those who says he is not a Christian. All I know is that's between him and God. What I do know is he has helped jump-start a new Ottoman Empire and left our friend and ally Israel so vulnerable in this sea of radicalism that he has helped bring to the surface.

How could any of us who were around in '79 not be reminded of President Car-

ter? He has got to be happy—thank you. Now I'm not the worst President in the world. But at the time, he thought we'll just turn our backs on the Shah—not a nice guy, but he was creating some form of stability. When he was gone, President Carter called Ayatollah Khomeini a man of peace.

What a welcome thing.

He came in, and he was the supreme leader when our Embassy was attacked, which is an act of war—just as it was in Libya, just like it is in Cairo. It's an act of war. Any commander would make it clear, except President Carter and President Obama, that you've attacked American soil. You've attacked us. Under everybody's form of international law, you either straighten it out, or we're coming in because we have a right under international law to protect ourselves, and if it means taking your government out because of what you've done or have allowed to be done or have helped foment, then we do it.

□ 1350

In Egypt, this administration helped bring about what they thought would be a great thing, an Arab Spring. It's turned into an American winter. At the same time, this administration was blessing and loving the Occupy Wall Street movement, even though they were clearly a bunch of Democrats, a bunch of kids with iPads, iPhones out there. There was rape, drugs, all kinds of illegality and immorality out there abounding. This administration is saying this is a good thing.

You see the signs all over the place. Let me show you. At the Occupy movement, you would see signs like this: ACAB, all cops are—some people said “bad,” but I've been corrected. The B stands for something to do with fatherless children. ACAB, that's at the Occupy Oakland movement. You can look at pictures and see all these Occupy movements and see ACAB everywhere.

Well, I was a little shocked when my staff points out, Look at that. This was on a wall in Egypt, and I need somebody to explain how, among all this Arabic writing by the radicals that have charged our Embassy in Egypt, how in the middle of all this Arabic do we get ACAB? Who's doing that? There were rumors of some type of collusion, but who among those radicals in Egypt is writing ACAB, which is what you see at all the Occupy movements in America? Somebody has got some explaining to do, I would think, but not to this administration, because this administration thinks both the Occupy movement and the Arab Spring are a great thing, even though it's brought to power radicals who want to destroy America, who want to destroy Israel. How frustrating for our friend Israel.

When we had friends come in here in the last hour, they were talking about Fannie and Freddie. On a personal basis, I like BARNEY FRANK. He is a brilliant guy. But it's not that hard to go back and find quotes from him

about the wonderful condition that Fannie and Freddie were in, and it's not hard to find people here on Capitol Hill that can explain how he stood in the way of the reforms that some here on Capitol Hill wanted to do.

We also heard from him that in 2010, that there was a bunch elected that don't understand Congress and a free society. They were called “extremists.” These freshmen that came in saying, You know what? Everybody should pay their fair share. It shouldn't be 51 percent of Americans paying for everybody else just because Democrats want to keep people beholden to them so they'll keep voting for them. Once they get more than half of all the voters who are getting more than they're putting in, we've lost the country. It will be in complete demise. It may be 10 years or so, but once we get to that point, historically, you do not get that country back. We would not either, absent a miracle of God.

We were told during the conventions that the Republicans do not have a franchise on God. Everybody at the Democratic convention was saying, We love God; we worship God; we love Israel; we like Jerusalem as a capital. We heard all this stuff until there was a vote, and, holy cow, we saw plain and clear that everybody in the Democratic convention does not want God mentioned. They don't want to hear about God. They don't want to hear about Jerusalem being the capital of Israel. They don't want it. They apparently side more with the Palestinians than they do those who were possessing and in that land 1,600 years before there was a man ever talked about named Muhammad is all you can figure. King David was there in Hebron, which now we're told, Oh, do the Israelis have history in this land? It's where David ruled for 7 years, about 16 to 17 centuries before anybody had ever heard of Muhammad. How would they not have a history in that land?

I was talking to Prime Minister Netanyahu about the history in the land. He mentioned the story of Ben-Gurion, who led the ragtag forces to fight their way back to Jerusalem after overwhelming forces had driven them out. The story was—and this was the first I had heard it, was when the Prime Minister mentioned it to me, but I've heard it a number of times since. He said Ben Gurion was challenged with, What is your voucher for claiming this land? And Prime Minister Netanyahu used the word, “Bible.” I'm sure it was a Torah. He said that Ben Gurion held up a Bible and yelled, This is my voucher.

Do they have a history in the land? How blind do you have to be to not see it?

With cap-and-trade legislation, thankfully, we had just a handful of enough friends on the Democratic side of the aisle that we were able to stop that, or it would have tripled or quadrupled the price of gasoline. It would have devastated industry. Industry

would have had to leave in even bigger numbers from this country.

We were told about the Bush stimulus, that they got bipartisan votes on the Bush stimulus. I guess so. Any time either party talks about giving away other people's money, we're going to get a bunch of Democrats to go along with the Republicans that mistakenly agree to that.

While standing right here in this aisle as he came by, I asked President Bush a question. We had found out that \$40 billion of the \$160 billion Bush stimulus was going to go to people as rebates, even though they didn't pay an income tax. Standing right up there, that's when I asked the question: Mr. President, how do you give a rebate to somebody that didn't put any bait in? It's not a rebate. It's welfare. Call it what it is.

My friends across the aisle in the last hour said they couldn't even get 100 votes to support President Bush's effort to save the economy. He's talking about TARP. I would have supported President Bush's efforts to save the economy, but unfortunately that really good man, smarter than most people around here give him credit for, witty, clever, just a joy to be around, but the problem there was he listened to Hank Paulson and his cronies who were going to bail out their buddies who give four to one to Democrats over Republicans. That's what happened.

Paulson did get his way, but we didn't have 100 people on the Republican side of the aisle vote for that because there was a former FDIC Chair named Isaac. He and a bunch of economists had some recommendations. These were free market recommendations. The projection was even then that we have at least \$700 billion in banks overseas that American companies and American individuals had earned overseas. They know that if they bring it into the U.S., they'll have to pay 40 to 50 percent tax with all of the interest and penalties, so they just leave it in banks overseas. They'd love to bring it in here, but we're the only country that double taxes because we don't let people bring in money without hammering the heck out of them, even though they've done a favor, done a good thing and earned money overseas that they'd like to bring here into America.

Proposal-wise, all you have to do is say that instead of borrowing 41 cents to 42 cents out of every dollar and coming up with \$700 billion to give away to Hank Paulson so he can enrich his friends under that bill—I read it. It was a disaster. I couldn't vote for that, because I read it. It would let him give money to anybody he wants to, loan money to whoever he wants to, pay more than fair market value if, in his mind somehow, some way, some day, it might have some possible way of helping our economy.

We don't do that in America, and that bill did it. That's why you didn't have 100 votes on this Republican side

of the aisle for it. Our leadership made a mistake in supporting it on that Friday. I just call them like I see them. That was a mistake, but that's where we are.

□ 1400

We heard, in the last hour, about Republicans who say my way or the highway. Are you kidding me? We reached across the aisle during ObamaCare, saying, look, there's a bunch of these things we can agree on, insurance for people in your household under 26. We could do it for insurance across State lines. There were a number of things we could agree on.

Insurance companies shouldn't be able to punish people for having a pre-existing condition when the insured has acted in good faith all along the way and the insurer messes them around. We were willing to work things out. They said, we've got the votes. We don't need your votes, we don't want them.

Well, the truth is we want Democratic votes on the Republican side, but we don't want to keep taking other people's money to give it away. I have heard in here so many times, well, you know, Jesus talked about helping other people, the orphans and widows. Well, a lot of us belong to churches, and we believe in doing that, that that is what Jesus said to do.

But I can't find anywhere in the Bible where it says, go ye, therefore, take somebody else's money—because you don't want to do your own—take somebody else's money and help the widows and orphans and other people. He said you do it, you help them. When you do that, I can personally tell you, when you do that you're individually blessed. That's why Jesus said he knew it would bless the giver more even than the one who received the gift.

In fact, you want a real example, what did Zacchaeus do after he met Jesus? He went and cut taxes. We don't even have to get into the fact that he was going to give a 4-1 rebate, did, to the people that he had wronged. You don't hear that around here.

To continue to hear our friends talk about ending Medicare as we know it, that disastrous ObamaCare bill will end Medicare forever when you cut \$716 billion. When you create this ObamaCare monstrosity, it's a government takeover of so many things, and it's disastrous.

Yes, we're having to leave here, and I'm not happy about it. I didn't want another CR passed. We should have demanded that this Democratic majority at the other end of the hall stick around until they got a budget as the law requires them to do and don't leave until you do it, and let's stay here and get it.

I can promise my friends across the aisle that all we have to hear is any inclination that the Democrats, controlled by HARRY REID in the Senate, as dictated by President Obama down Pennsylvania Avenue, if they want to

work a budget out together, and we can work these things out together, we will come back in a heartbeat. We will be ready to go.

We saw with that supercommittee, just as I predicted in July of last year, they didn't want an agreement. Apparently my friends who were talking in the last hour didn't know, but PAT TOOMEY and some others made a proposal that would have caused more taxes to have to be paid by the wealthiest in the Nation. The top 1 percent paid 39 percent of the taxes. Well, if they get 39 percent of the income they should, but they only get 13 percent of the income.

They wanted them to pay more. There was a proposal in good faith by Republicans, we'll raise revenue, and it was reported here locally that, gee, some of the Democrats said, you know, this may do the trick. We may get to an agreement now. This is great. Thanks for doing this. Since you're willing to raise revenue on the rich, we can reach an agreement.

Then they go away, and they must have talked to HARRY REID and President Obama, and you can see the game playing. You have got to go back and tell them we're not going to reach an agreement because our best hope for winning the Presidency again and having control in the Senate is if we tell America the Republicans won't reach an agreement, they are a do-nothing group. I hope and pray people will look beyond that and see who really is the do-nothing.

We have got jobs bills down the hall. This ought to be a day of renaissance. This ought to be a day when the economy is booming. We now know we could be exporters of energy. We could be energy independent and export energy. But this President has a war against all of the below—that means all of the energy below the ground—that we could be using and exporting. He has got a war against it. All he is in favor of—as he said, he is for all of the above—that means wind and solar.

Well, guess what? The sun doesn't always shine, the wind doesn't always blow. So if that's what you want for energy it means you are going to have a coal plant, a natural gas plant, something, a hydroelectric plant, and then you are going to have two or three times as many transmission lines.

When you mandate wind and solar, and they don't provide energy all the time, they can't, then you are going to have a source from somewhere. Now we are doubling and tripling and going to force the price of energy to go up because we're going to demand Solyndras and that kind of thing so this administration can reward their cronies.

We're at trouble within and without. I just want to remind my friends, this was reported in The New York Times, December 9, 2008, "5 Charged in 9/11 Attacks Seek to Plead Guilty".

At the start of what had been listed as routine proceedings Monday, Judge Henley said he had received a written statement from

the five men dated November 4 saying they planned to stop filing legal motions and “to announce our confessions to plea in full.”

They were pleading guilty. We got the transcript. Khalid Sheikh Mohamed admitted guilt. He admitted. He confessed to all kinds of heinous kinds.

Then this administration, President Obama and Eric Holder announced they want a New York City show trial that would have endangered New York yet again, as if they hadn't had enough trauma, and would have put a trial in there. Immediately these guys withdraw their plea. We're not going to plead guilty, we can get a show trial in New York. These guys who are running things here don't know what they're doing. What a disaster that would have been.

As far as the great contribution, the great work that's being done in Afghanistan, we took a war where we were making progress, and here are the actual DOD numbers. You see that under Commander in Chief Bush there were 625 Americans, our precious, priceless men and women, who were killed from October of 2001 to the end of 2008, 625 precious lives.

Bush goes out, President Obama comes in, January of 2009, and by the end of August there had been a subtotal of 1,474 additional American men and women killed under Commander Obama. Not only that, 14,817 people had been wounded, Americans had been wounded, lose arms, lose legs, disastrous disabilities, under Commander Obama as compared to the 2,638 terrible wounds that were inflicted on Americans under Commander Bush.

Our President has been in command of 70 percent of the deaths in Afghanistan, though he has been commanding half the time, and has 84 percent of the wounds.

The parents of one of the SEAL Team 6 that was killed on the Chinook August 6 of 2011, they were in the briefing. They have said this publicly, that's why I will say it again. One of the parents asked, “If this was so terrible, this was such a hotbed, you knew it was a hotbed, a lot of aircraft, American aircraft have been fired on recently, why would you allow this Chinook to go in? Why wouldn't you send in a drone?”

The answer from the general who was doing the briefing, they said was, because we're trying to win the hearts and minds in Afghanistan. You're letting our SEAL team be killed when you are trying to win the hearts and minds? That's not the job of the military. The military's job is to go in, defeat an enemy, and come out, and we've got to get back to that.

This President has presided over 70 percent of the deaths in Afghanistan, a disastrous job. It's time to bring the President home, as well as bringing our military home. We could just say what President Bush did in October of 2001. We are going to provide embedded troops. We are going to let the enemy of our enemy be our friend. Not to this administration; they are the enemy.

The enemy of our enemy is our enemy to Obama. But I have met with them a couple of times this year. They are our friends.

□ 1410

They're Muslim. They're our friends. They don't want to live under the tyrannical rule of the Taliban. And they're willing to fight, as they have, and die with Americans for that freedom. And so we don't let a renegade group like the Taliban that wants to destroy America be out.

Make no mistake, the Blind Sheik was the object of release by a candidate named Morsi in Egypt. He said, I want the Blind Sheik released. When I'm elected president, I'm going to demand and I'm going to get it.

Just a day before 9/11 this year, last week, you had the brother of the al Qaeda leader, Zawahiri, saying he was ready to broker a deal that would prevent lots of violence. He also knew the day before that there was an obscure video nobody had ever seen and wasn't going to inflame anybody, but he knew that his buddies, the Muslim Brotherhood, the Egyptian Government, the Egyptian television stations would convert that, translate that into a language that they would inflame people that they would do violence in the Middle East. And they did. The second day of that broadcasting here is Zawahiri saying, Hey, I can broker a deal. Just release the Blind Sheik, some other murdering thugs, and we'll work a deal out.

This administration has offered to release other murdering thugs of the Taliban and to buy them an office in Qatar if they'll just sit down and talk. That's not the way you do foreign diplomacy. You reward our friends so others want to be our friends and you punish our enemies so they don't want to be our enemies. This President has it backwards. He said, They'll look at me different because I'm the first President to have ever grown up in a Muslim country—the years he spent in Indonesia. Well, I wonder if that might be true. Maybe they will. Maybe they'll want to be friends.

Well, the proof is in. The approval rating of the United States in those Muslim countries where we've been was 33 percent—which was terrible—under President Bush in 2008. And now under this President we see a report it's now 15 percent, under this guy who was going to be our President and the Muslim countries would love us. They don't. Because in Muslim countries the real people, the people that we really need to reach out to, not the leaders that hate us and want to destroy us but the real people, they respect a country who understands who's their enemy and who's their friend. They have no respect for a country that tries to do what would be the equivalent of a child—and I've been there on the schoolyard, picked on by bullies. I was little growing up. But I can tell you, I had my nose bloodied many a time.

You don't win respect nor love from a bully by giving him your lunch money or begging him to be nice to you. Not only do they not love you, not respect you; they gain even more contempt for you. And that's what we're seeing happen.

This President is trying to buy affection from people who were bullies, who are radical Islamists that want to destroy us. You're not going to get love and affection. You get contempt. It helps other people join in the fight against us. This President is doing great damage to us. And it's time to bring his Presidency to a peaceful, law-abiding end with the election.

Things look tragic around the world unless we have a new Commander in Chief and a new leader who wants to rein in the spending. And one thing I'll promise my colleagues across the aisle, if you want to go back to that runaway spending that was too much in 2008, that Speaker PELOSI presided over and HARRY REID had in the Senate and that ended in the last day of September, you want to go right back to that total amount being spent, I'm with you. I'll vote. I'll do it bipartisan and I'll bring a bunch of people with us and we'll bring down a trillion dollars a year in spending. How about that? That's pretty bipartisan, isn't it? Go back to a Democratic budget of 2008. Well, I offer that. Let's see how many Democrats are bipartisan enough to take us up on it.

I yield back the balance of my time.

RHETORIC VERSUS REALITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 5, 2011, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FRANKS) for 30 minutes.

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona. Mr. Speaker, nearly 4 years ago, Barack Obama was swept into office by the strength of his rhetoric; but the profound difference between Mr. Obama's rhetoric and the reality Americans have actually lived under in his Presidency is something every American has a profound responsibility to understand.

Mr. Obama's rhetoric on jobs and the economy 4 years ago was:

We have to have a President who understands that the essence of the American Dream is a good job.

But the reality under Mr. Obama's Presidency is the highest sustained unemployment since the Great Depression. The percentage of people participating in America's labor market under this Presidency has fallen to 63.5 percent. That is the lowest rate since Jimmy Carter was President 31 years ago. Manufacturing unemployment has fallen to its lowest levels since 1941. The number of unemployed Americans eclipsed 15 million for the first time in history. The number of people forced to work part-time for economic reasons eclipsed 8 million for the first time in history.

Under Mr. Obama's Presidency, the average time it takes Americans to find a job reached the highest total in the history of the statistics being measured. And for the first time in history, Mr. Speaker, over 4 million Americans have stopped looking for work altogether.

Mr. Obama's rhetoric on government spending and debt 4 years ago was:

America has a debt problem and a failure of leadership. That's irresponsible. That's unpatriotic.

But the reality under Mr. Obama's Presidency is that he had in the first year he was in office the first \$1 trillion deficit in history. He's done that 4 years in a row now. Mr. Obama always loves to blame his predecessor. However, the deficit for all of 2007 was \$161 billion, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Obama increased the debt by that much in just 1 month. In 2007, America's debt to GDP ratio was 62 percent. According to IMF, it will hit 100 percent this year.

Mr. Obama spent nearly \$1 trillion on a failed stimulus bill shortly after being reelected and then shoved a government takeover of our health care industry down the throats of the American people, which is now projected to cost well over \$2 trillion. He spent \$3 billion on a Cash for Clunkers program that went bankrupt the first week. He spent \$29 million to bail out Bear Stearns, \$300 to bail out Citigroup, \$85 to bail out AIG, \$10 billion to bail out union pension plans, and \$50 billion to bail out General Motors.

Mr. Speaker, under the budgets Barack Obama has already submitted to the Congress, he will add more to America's debt than all of the outstanding debt of all of the other 43 Presidents in American history combined. Mr. Speaker, I wonder if we all understand where America is headed under this President.

Mr. Obama's rhetoric on health care 4 years ago was:

We'll work with your employer to lower your premiums by \$24,500 per family, per year.

But the reality under Mr. Obama's Presidency was that the cost of American family health insurance per year has gone from \$12,680 per year to over \$20,000 per year in 2012. And that's before the enormous increases Americans will inevitably see under ObamaCare.

Mr. Speaker, the European socialist health care system is a nightmare, a bureaucracy, rationing, and substandard health care. Yet it is Mr. Obama's model for America.

Mr. Obama's rhetoric on energy 4 years ago was:

Creating a new energy economy isn't just a challenge to me, it's an opportunity to seize—an opportunity that will create new businesses, new industries, and millions of new jobs.

That sounded good, but the reality under Mr. Obama's Presidency is that his much-touted green jobs economy never materialized. The administration forced through a \$535 million loan for Solyndra, a solar company backed by a

major Obama supporter and praised by Mr. Obama himself. The company filed for bankruptcy 15 months later, after the administration intervened on the company's behalf, leaving taxpayers on the hook.

But far from learning his lesson, a few months later the administration was again doling out billions more in loan guarantees to more solar companies, many of which later held massive layoffs and went bankrupt.

□ 1420

All told, of the \$9 billion the President has spent so far on green jobs, 910 new, long-term jobs have been created. That's \$9.8 million per job charged to the American taxpayer, Mr. Speaker. So much for his millions of green jobs.

Meanwhile, the President has opposed actual progress in the energy sector, including his continued efforts to block new domestic drilling, the administration's seizure and closing of millions of acres of uranium-rich land in my own district and the Keystone Pipeline project that would have immediately created 20,000 jobs, in addition to attracting billions of dollars in new investments to a struggling Obama economy.

Perhaps none of this should be surprising coming from a President whose own Energy Secretary said:

Somehow, we have to figure out how to boost the price of gasoline to the levels of Europe.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Obama's rhetoric on poverty 4 years ago was:

Poverty is not an issue I just discovered for the purposes of a campaign. It is the cause that led me to a life of public service for almost 25 years.

But the reality under Mr. Obama's Presidency is that the income gap between rich and poor reached its highest level in over 40 years. In 2008, just before the President took office, there were about 39.8 million Americans living in poverty. Today, that number is nearly 50 million. Under Mr. Obama's policies, the American poverty rate hit the highest level in the 52-year history of the statistic being measured.

According to a report in the Washington Examiner, the number of able-bodied adults on food stamps doubled since Mr. Obama suspended the work requirement. More than 46 million Americans are now receiving food stamps. That's an increase of 44 percent since January of 2009. And it is higher than at any other time in American history.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Obama seems to believe that a dependent population will also be an obedient population. And so dependency and deception have become the core essence of his Presidency.

President Obama's rhetoric on foreign policy and national security 4 years ago was many different things, but the reality, under Mr. Obama, was that he has broken promises to trusted allies and told the Kremlin that he will have more "flexibility" to do what they want him to do after he's reelected, after the election.

Iran publicly proclaims their anxiety to share the nuclear technology that they are so rapidly working to develop. If Iran successfully gains nuclear weapons, they will give them to terrorists the world over, Mr. Speaker, and you and I and our children, and perhaps our children's children, will live in the shadow of nuclear terrorism. Yet President Obama is actively working against efforts to secure even America's porous southern border, which is currently an incredibly inviting target for terrorists looking to smuggle a weapon of mass destruction into the United States.

Mr. Obama pledged "unshakeable commitment" to Israel's security. Yet he turned down a meeting with the Prime Minister of Israel to appear instead on David Letterman, and he refuses to even acknowledge Jerusalem as Israel's capital.

Mahmoud Ahmadinejad recently said Israel's existence is "an insult to all humanity," and Iran's Ayatollah Khamenei has called Israel a "cancerous tumor" that must be wiped out. Yet Mr. Obama has expressed more open rebuke toward Israel for building houses in their own capital city than he has toward Iran for building nuclear weapons with which to threaten the entire human family.

Mr. Speaker, I literally don't have time to thoroughly cover all of this administration's broken promises.

He promised to hold televised debate forums over ObamaCare. That never happened. He promised lobbyists "won't find a job in my White House," but that happened at least a dozen times within the first month of his administration. He appointed more czars in his administration in America than all of the czars that ever existed in the history of Imperial Russia.

He promised to eliminate income taxes for seniors making less than \$50,000. He never even tried.

He promised he wouldn't "sign any nonemergency bill without giving the American public an opportunity to review and comment on the White House Web site for 5 days." A little over a month into his term, that section of the White House Web site was completely removed.

Mr. Obama said the Federal Government was "not living up to its own responsibilities," while his own campaign has actually sued to make it more difficult for our men and women in uniform to even vote.

Mr. Obama gave lip service to enforcing immigration laws, and then sued my State of Arizona for enforcing immigration laws his administration refused to enforce.

While forcing through government loans to failed green energy companies led by his friends like Solyndra, he has stood in the way of domestic energy production, seizing hundreds of thousands of acres of resource-rich land and blocking domestic drilling for oil, including in areas that were already open to drilling.

The day he took office, a gallon of gas was \$1.89. It is almost \$4 a gallon today.

Mr. Speaker, if America produced its own energy and did not buy so much oil from the Middle Eastern countries, terrorists wouldn't have enough money to buy a box of sparklers to hurt this country.

Mr. Speaker, I have tried to lay out the difference between the rhetoric and the reality of this administration.

You know, I've often heard it said in recent days that America faces a crossroads in the approaching election, but I'm afraid that's no longer the case, Mr. Speaker. No, I'm afraid America took the wrong fork in the road back when we elected Barack Obama 4 years ago, and we are now heading rapidly and precisely the wrong direction.

He has nominated judges who contemptuously ignore the Constitution. He has proudly served as the most pro-abortion President in history. He has forced government-run healthcare down the throats of unwilling Americans. He oversaw the first downgrade of America's AAA credit rating. He has increased unemployment, increased the number of Americans on food stamps. He has thrown hundreds of billions of dollars at failed programs. He has weakened our military. He has blatantly attacked religious freedoms in America. He has allowed Iran to advance their nuclear weapons program; and while abroad, he has continually apologized for America, betrayed our friends, and emboldened our enemies. I'm afraid we see the results of some of that even in these recent days.

I would suggest to you that his promise to fundamentally transform America was no bluff, Mr. Speaker. If this is what Mr. Obama has done in his first 4 years, how much more radical will his agenda be if he secures a second term and no longer has to worry about reelection?

Mr. Speaker, for the sake of our children and our children's children, and for all of America's most noble dreams and ideals, it is absolutely vital that we elect a President who will stand up and arrest this national freefall into which Mr. Obama and his radical leftist ideology have hurled America.

May God give us all the wisdom and the courage to remember who we are as Americans and that there is still hope and time to be all that we were called by God to be as a Nation.

We must not fail, Mr. Speaker.

I yield back the balance of my time.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 31 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1610

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at 4 o'clock and 10 minutes p.m.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. BERMAN (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today on account of attending a funeral.

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the House stands adjourned until 10 a.m. on Tuesday next.

There was no objection.

Accordingly (at 4 o'clock and 11 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Tuesday, September 25, 2012, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

7963. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Flumioxazin; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2011-0593; FRL-9358-3] received September 20, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

7964. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Cyazofamid; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2011-0906; FRL-9361-8] received September 20, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

7965. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Didecyl Dimethyl Ammonium Carbonate and Didecyl Dimethyl Ammonium Bicarbonate; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2011-0950; FRL-9359-5] received August 21, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

7966. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Pesticide Tolerance Crop Grouping Program III; Revisions to General Tolerance Regulations [EPA-HQ-OPP-2006-0766; FRL-9354-3] (RIN: 2070-AJ28) received August 21, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

7967. A letter from the Associate General Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting the Department's final rule — Federal Housing Administration (FHA): Section 232 Healthcare Facility Insurance Program-Strengthening Accountability and Regulatory Revisions Update [Docket No.: FR-5465 F-02] (RIN: 2502-AJ05) received September 18, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

7968. A letter from the Acting Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Affairs, Consumer Product Safety Commission, trans-

mitting the Commission's final rule — Revisions of Safety Standards for Durable Infant or Toddler Products: Infant Bath Seats and Full-Size Cribs received September 18, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7969. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — protection of Stratospheric Ozone: Listing Substitutes for Ozone-Depleting Substances — Fire Suppression and Explosion Protection [EPA-HQ-OAR-2011-0111; FRL-9729-5] received September 18, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7970. 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-2012-0596; FRL-9731-3] received September 18, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7971. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Revisions to the Nevada State Implementation Plan; Stationary Source Permits [EPA-R09-OAR-2012-0141; FRL-9728-6] received September 18, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7972. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Mississippi: New Source Review-Prevention of Significant Deterioration; Fine Particulate Matter (PM_{2.5}) [EPA-R04-2012-0081; FRL-9728-2] received September 18, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7973. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Arizona; Nogales PM₁₀ Nonattainment Area Plan [EPA-R09-OAR-2012-0458; FRL-9730-8] received September 18, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7974. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; New Mexico; Albuquerque/Bernalillo County: Infrastructure and Interstate Transport Requirements for the 1997 and 2008 Ozone and the 1997 and 2006 PM_{2.5} NAAQS [EPA-R06-OAR-2009-0648- FRL-9728-7] received September 18, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7975. 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; Maryland- Revision for the Control of Volatile Organic Compounds Emissions from Vehicle Refinishing [EPA-R03-OAR-2012-0468; FRL-9731-7] received September 20, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7976. 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; Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; Section 110(a)(2) Infrastructure Requirements for the 1997 8-Hour Ozone and the 1997 and 2006 Fine Particulate Matter National Ambient Air Quality Standards [EPA-R03-OAR-2010-0159; FRL-

9731-9) received September 20, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7977. 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; Pennsylvania; Adhesives and Sealants Rule [EPA-R03-OAR-2011-0617; FRL-9731-6] received September 20, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7978. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Disapproval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; State of Utah; Revisions to Open Burning Regulations [EPA-R08-OAR-2007-1034; FRL-9732-1] received September 20, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7979. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Regulation of Fuels and Fuel Additives: 2013 Biomass-Based Diesel Renewable Fuel Volume [EPA-HQ-OAR-2010-0133; FRL-9678-7] (RIN: 2060-AR55) received September 20, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7980. 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 (SCAQMD) [EPA-R09-OAR-2012-0236; FRL-9711-2] received August 31, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7981. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Revisions of Five California Clean Air Act Title V Operating Permits Programs [EPA-R09-OAR-2011-0955; FRL-9724-2] received August 31, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7982. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Standards of Performance for Petroleum Refineries; Standards of Performance for Petroleum Refineries for Which Construction, Reconstruction, or Modification Commenced After May 14, 2007 [EPA-HQ-OAR-2007-0011; FRL-9672-3] (RIN: 2060-AN72) received August 31, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7983. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs); Revisions to Manifesting Regulations [EPA-HQ-RCRA-2011-0524; FRL-9703-1] (RIN: 2050-AG71) received August 31, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7984. 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; Delaware; Section 110(a)(2) Infrastructure Requirements for the 2008 Lead National Ambient Air Quality Standards [EPA-R03-OAR-2012-0376; FRL-9725-3] received September 5, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7985. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — LAND DISPOSAL RE-

STRICTIONS: Site Specific Treatment Variance for Hazardous Selenium-Bearing Waste Treated by U.S. Ecology Nevada in Beatty, Nevada [EPA-HQ-RCRA-2010-0851; FRL-9715-3] received August 21, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7986. 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; West Virginia; Section 110(a)(2) Infrastructure Requirements for the 2008 Lead National Ambient Air Quality Standards [EPA-R03-OAR-2012-0436; FRL-9725-1] received September 5, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7987. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Nonconformance Penalties for On-highway Heavy-Duty Diesel Engines [AMS-FRL-9716-5] received September 5, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7988. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutant Emissions: Hard and Decorative Chromium Electroplating and Chromium Anodizing Tanks; and Steel Picking—HCl Process Facilities and Hydrochloric Acid Regeneration Plants [EPA-HQ-OAR-2010-0600; FRL-9709-9] (RIN: 2060-AQ60) received August 21, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7989. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Significant New Use Rules on Certain Chemical Substances [EPA-HQ-OPPT-2011-0941; FRL-9357-2] (RIN: 2070-AB27) received September 18, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7990. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Alabama: General and Transportation Conformity & New Source Review Prevention of Significant for Fine Particulate Matter (PM2.5) [EPA-R04-OAR-2012-0079; FRL-9731-5] received September 20, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7991. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Initial Test Program of Condensate and Feedwater Systems for Light-Water Reactors [Regulatory Guide 1.68.1] received September 18, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7992. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Model Safety Evaluation for Plant-Specific Adoption of Technical Specifications Task Force Traveler TSTF-522, Revision 0, "Revise Ventilation System Surveillance Requirements to Operate for 10 Hours per Month", Using the Consolidated Line Item Improvement Process [Project No. 753; NRC-2012-XXXX] received September 18, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7993. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — NRC Procedures for Placement and Monitoring of Work with Federal Agencies other than U.S. Department of Energy

(DOE) Laboratory Work received September 20, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7994. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Addition of Certain Persons to the Entity List; Removal of Person from the Entity List Based on Removal Request; and Implementation of Entity List Annual Review Changes [Docket No.: 120813330-2330-01] (RIN: 0694-AF74) received September 13, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

7995. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Updated Statements of Legal Authority for the Export Administration Regulations [Docket No.: 120820369-2369-01] (RIN: 0694-AF78) received September 13, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

7996. A letter from the Program Manager, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Privacy Act; Implementation [Docket Number: NIH-2011-0001] received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7997. A letter from the Program Manager, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Privacy Act, Exempt Record System [Docket No. FDA-2011-N-0252] received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7998. A letter from the Senior Procurement Executive/Deputy Chief Acquisition Officer, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; Federal Acquisition Circular 2005-61; Introduction [Docket FAR: 2012-0080, Sequence 6] received September 13, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

7999. A letter from the Director, Office of Surface Mining, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Montana Regulatory Program [STATS No.: MT-034-FOR; Docket ID No. OSM-2011-0018] received September 13, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

8000. A letter from the Director, Office of Surface Mining, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Texas Regulatory Program [STATS No.: TX-064-FOR; Docket ID: OSM-2012-0005] received September 13, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

8001. A letter from the Chief, Branch of Listing, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Determination of Endangered Status for the Chupadera Springsnail and Designation of Critical Habitat [Docket No.: FWS-R2-ES-2011-0042] (RIN: 1018-AV86) received September 19, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

8002. A letter from the Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFIS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources of the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic; 2012-2013 Accountability Measure and Closure for Gulf King Mackerel in Western Zone [Docket No.: 001005281-0369-02] (RIN: 0648-XC160) received September 12, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

8003. A letter from the Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish Fisheries; Closure of the 2012 Trimester 2 Directed Longfin Squid Fishery [Docket No.: 110707371-2136-02] (RIN: 0648-XC098) received September 19, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

8004. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Snapper-Grouper Fishery of the South Atlantic; 2012 Recreational Accountability Measure and Closure for South Atlantic Golden Tilefish [Docket No.: 0907271173-0629-03] (RIN: 0648-XC025) received September 19, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

8005. A letter from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Marine Recreational Fisheries of the United States; National Saltwater Angler Registry and State Exemption Program [Docket No.: 12018050-2049-01] (RIN: 0648-BB49) received September 19, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

8006. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Reef Fish Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico; 2012 Commercial Accountability Measure and Closure for Gulf of Mexico Gray Triggerfish [Docket No.: 120417412-2412-01] (RIN: 0648-XC076) received August 24, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

8007. 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; Reallocation of Pacific Cod in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area [Docket No.: 111213751-2102-02] (RIN: 0648-XC202) received September 19, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

8008. A letter from the Acting Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, transmitting the 2011 annual report on the activities and operations of the Public Integrity Section, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 529; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

8009. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Carbon Dioxide Fire Suppression Systems on Commercial Vessels [USCG-2006-24797] (RIN: 1625-AB44) received August 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8010. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Ocean Dumping; Designation of Ocean Dredged Material Disposal Sites Offshore of Yaquina Bay, Oregon [EPA-R10-OW-2012-0197; FRL-9724-7] received September 5, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

8011. 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 — Sharing Information Between the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Department of Defense (RIN: 2900-AN95) received September 5, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C.

801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

8012. A letter from the Director, Regulation Policy and Management; Office of the General Counsel, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting the Department's final rule — Guide and Service Dogs (RIN: 2900-AN51) received September 5, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

8013. A letter from the Chief, Trade and Commercial Regulations Branch, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Extension of Import Restrictions Imposed on Archaeological Material from Mali [CBP Dec. 12-14] (RIN: 1515-AD91) received September 19, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

8014. A letter from the Chief, Trade and Commercial Regulations Branch, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Technical Corrections Relating to the Rules of Origin for Goods Imported Under the NAFTA and for Textile and Apparel Products [CBP Dec. 12-15] received September 19, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

8015. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Revenue Procedure Modifying Rev. Proc. 2011-14 and Rev. Proc. 97-27 (Rev. Proc. 2012-39) received September 19, 2012; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

8016. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Examination of returns and claims for refund, credit, or abatement; determination of tax liability (Rev. Proc. 2012-40) received September 19, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

8017. A letter from the Director, Acquisition Policy and Legislation Branch, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Homeland Security Acquisition Regulation (HSAR); Revision Initiative [HSAR Case 2009-002] [Docket No.: DHS-2009-0085] (RIN: 1601-AA28) received September 4, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Homeland Security.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. ISSA: Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. H.R. 6016. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide for administrative leave requirements with respect to Senior Executive Service employees, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 112-686). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. SMITH of Texas: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 4369. A bill to amend title 11 of the United States Code to require the public disclosure by trusts established under section 524(g) of such title, of quarterly reports that contain detailed information regarding the receipt and disposition of claims for injuries based on exposure to asbestos, and the filing of such reports with the Executive Office for United States Trustees; with amendments (Rept. 112-687). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. SMITH of Texas: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 2572. A bill to amend title 18,

United States Code, to deter public corruption, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 112-688). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. ISSA: Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. A Citizen's Guide On Using The Freedom Of Information Act And The Privacy Act Of 1974 To Request Government Records (Rept. 112-689). 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 Energy and Commerce discharged from further consideration. H.R. 3674 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

TIME LIMITATION OF REFERRED BILL

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XII, the following action was taken by the Speaker:

[Omitted from the Record of September 20, 2012]

H.R. 3283. Referral to the Committee on Agriculture extended for a period ending not later than November 30, 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:

By Mr. CHAFFETZ (for himself, Mr. POLIS, Mr. ISSA, and Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California):

H.R. 6480. A bill to adopt fair standards and procedures by which determinations of Copyright Royalty Judges are made with respect to webcasting, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. LATHAM (for himself and Mr. MCINTYRE):

H.R. 6481. A bill to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to issue loan guarantees for purposes of financing improvements to school lunch facilities, training school food service personnel, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BURGESS (for himself, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. WOMACK, Mrs. MYRICK, Mr. LANCE, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. GINGREY of Georgia, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas, Ms. GRANGER, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. RICHARDSON, Ms. MOORE, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, and Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD):

H.R. 6482. A bill to amend the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 respecting the scoring of preventive health savings; to the Committee on the Budget.

By Ms. BONAMICI (for herself, Mr. GRUJALVA, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. CLARKE of Michigan, Mr. FILNER, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. SARBANES, and Ms. CHU):

H.R. 6483. A bill to amend the Truth in Lending Act to address certain issues related to the extension of consumer credit, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. GARAMENDI (for himself, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr.

THOMPSON of California, Mr. MCNERNEY, and Ms. MATSUU):

H.R. 6484. A bill to amend the Calfed Bay-Delta Authorization Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to provide assistance to non-Federal interests for levee stability improvements located within the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta related to Bureau of Reclamation Central Valley Project water deliveries, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. CHAFFETZ (for himself and Mr. TIERNEY):

H.R. 6485. A bill to establish requirements relating to the provision of certain products to the Government of Afghanistan, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MCKINLEY (for himself, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mr. RAHALL, and Mr. GARDNER):

H.R. 6486. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to decrease the annual effect on the economy that a rule must have to be a major rule from \$100,000,000 to \$50,000,000 for the purpose of increasing the number of rules for which Congress can use the resolution of disapproval procedure to disapprove a major rule, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MCKINLEY (for himself, Mr. CRITZ, Mr. RAHALL, and Mr. RUSH):

H.R. 6487. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide incentives for the expansion of manufacturing in the United States; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. DENHAM (for himself, Mr. MCKEON, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. WALZ of Minnesota, Mr. WEST, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. RIGELL, Mr. CRAVAACK, Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois, and Mr. FARENTHOLD):

H.R. 6488. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to extend military commissary and exchange store privileges, without time-period limitation, to members of the Armed Forces who are involuntarily separated with a service-connected disability and also to extend such privileges to their dependents; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. HALL (for himself and Mr. BOREN):

H.R. 6489. A bill to reauthorize the National Integrated Drought Information System; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. PRICE of Georgia (for himself, Mr. ALTMIRE, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. TIBERI, Mr. BRALEY of Iowa, Mr. LATHAM, Mr. BARROW, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. KELLY, Mr. LATOURETTE, and Mrs. ELLMERS):

H.R. 6490. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to establish a market pricing program for durable medical equipment, prosthetics, orthotics, and supplies (DMEPOS) under part B of the Medicare program; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CULBERSON (for himself, Mr. WOLF, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Mr. POSEY, Mr. OLSON, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. WEST, Mr. MACK, Mr. FARENTHOLD, Mr. CARTER,

Mr. THORNBERRY, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. MCCAUL, and Mr. WITTMAN):

H.R. 6491. A bill to preserve American space leadership, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, and in addition to the Committee on the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CLARKE of Michigan:

H.R. 6492. A bill to provide for the establishment, in the Office of Pavement Technology of the Federal Highway Administration, of the position of Recovered Mineral Component Ombudsman; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. CLARKE of Michigan:

H.R. 6493. A bill to create jobs by attracting global investment to economically distressed urban areas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. THOMPSON of California (for

himself, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. CLAY, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. BOSWELL, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. DINGELL, Mr. RAHALL, Mr. LUJAN, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Ms. CHU, Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ of California, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. STARK, Mr. MATHESON, Mr. MORAN, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. KIND, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. NADLER, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California, Mr. FARR, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. FALCOMA VAEGA, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. NORTON, Mr. DEFazio, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. PINGREE of Maine, Ms. ESHOO, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. KUCINICH, and Mr. REICHERT):

H.R. 6494. A bill to award posthumously a Congressional Gold Medal to Stewart Lee Udall, in recognition of his contributions to the nation; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. AMASH (for himself and Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina):

H.R. 6495. A bill to prohibit the payment of surcharges for commemorative coin programs to private organizations or entities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. AMODEI:

H.R. 6496. A bill to reauthorize grants to enhance State and local efforts to combat trafficking in persons; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. AMODEI:

H.R. 6497. A bill to provide for the conveyance of certain public lands under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management in and around historic mining townsites in Nevada, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mrs. BACHMANN:

H.R. 6498. A bill to amend section 1932 of the Social Security Act to require independent audits and actuarial services under Medicaid managed care programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BARROW:

H.R. 6499. A bill to amend part C of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 to include the pay of Members of Congress within the coverage of the Act; to the Committee on the Budget.

By Mr. CLARKE of Michigan (for himself, Mr. CLAY, and Ms. NORTON):

H.R. 6500. A bill to establish the Detroit Jobs Trust Fund and to temporarily provide a zero percent capital gains rate for certain new investments in Detroit, Michigan; to the

Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BERG:

H.R. 6501. A bill to prohibit the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency from finalizing certain proposed rules under the Clean Air Act if a State regulatory authority gives notice that such a rule will lead to a 3 percent or greater increase in the price of electricity for end-use consumers; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BILBRAY (for himself, Mrs. MALONEY, and Ms. DELAURO):

H.R. 6502. A bill to amend title V of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to provide for extensions of marketing exclusivity periods for drugs in certain combinations of such drugs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BILBRAY:

H.R. 6503. A bill to promote the development of renewable energy on certain Federal land, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committees on Agriculture, and Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CHABOT (for himself, Mrs. ELLMERS, and Mr. CICILLINE):

H.R. 6504. A bill to amend the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 to provide for increased limitations on leverage for multiple licenses under common control, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. CICILLINE:

H.R. 6505. A bill to provide for the establishment of a Commission on the Advancement of Social Enterprise; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. COURTNEY (for himself, Mr.

TIERNEY, Mr. TONKO, Ms. NORTON, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. BRALEY of Iowa, and Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut):

H.R. 6506. A bill to amend the Higher Education Opportunity Act to add disclosure requirements to the institution financial aid offer form and to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to make such form mandatory; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. CRAVAACK:

H.R. 6507. A bill to provide that any State implementation plan submitted pursuant to the Clean Air Act to address impairment of visibility shall apply for such State until 2022 with respect to emissions from taconite ore processing facilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mrs. DAVIS of California (for herself, Ms. RICHARDSON, and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY):

H.R. 6508. A bill to direct the Federal Trade Commission to promulgate rules requiring an Internet merchant to disclose the use of a price-altering computer program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. DELAURO (for herself, Mr. PALONE, and Mrs. LOWEY):

H.R. 6509. A bill to establish limitations on the quantity of total arsenic in rice and rice products under chapter IV of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. DEUTCH (for himself, Ms. CAS-TOR of Florida, and Mr. ANDREWS):

H.R. 6510. A bill to require holders of Federal student loans and private education loans to apply prepayment amounts toward loans with the highest rates of interest; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina (for himself, Mr. WEST, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Mrs. BLACK, Mr. MARINO, Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas, Mr. GOWDY, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. FINCHER, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. KISSELL, Ms. BUEKLE, Mr. HARRIS, and Mr. ROGERS of Michigan):

H.R. 6511. A bill to require investigations into and a report on the September 11-13, 2012, attacks on the United States missions in Libya, Egypt, and Yemen, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Intelligence (Permanent Select), 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. FITZPATRICK:

H.R. 6512. A bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to require nationally recognized statistical rating organizations to certify that they monitor the accuracy of each credit ratings issued by the organization; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN (for himself, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. GERLACH, Mr. GARRETT, Mr. HINCHEY, Ms. HAYWORTH, Mr. PASCRELL, and Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut):

H.R. 6513. A bill to extend the authorization of the Highlands Conservation Act through fiscal year 2024; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GIBSON:

H.R. 6514. A bill to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to promulgate regulations regarding the authorship, content, format, and dissemination of Patient Medication Information to ensure patients receive consistent and high-quality information about their prescription medications and are aware of the potential risks and benefits of prescription medications; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. GRIMM:

H.R. 6515. A bill to stop excessive toll hikes which harm our local economies, small businesses, and hard working families; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. HOCHUL (for herself and Mr. HIGGINS):

H.R. 6516. A bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the members of the Tuscarora Nation who fought to protect the residents of Lewiston, New York, from the British invasion during the War of 1812; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. HONDA (for himself, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Mr. SIRE, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. POLIS, and Ms. MATSUI):

H.R. 6517. A bill to direct the Secretary of Education to make grants to State-based STEM networks to expand STEM education; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. HUELSKAMP (for himself, Mr. BROUN of Georgia, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. JORDAN, and Mr. KING of Iowa):

H.R. 6518. A bill to replace certain Federal nutrition programs with a block grant to the

States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, and Education and the Workforce, 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. HUNTER (for himself, Mr. BILBRAY, Mr. DREIER, Mr. CAMPBELL, and Mrs. BONO MACK):

H.R. 6519. A bill to provide an expedited permit process to authorize private landowners to conduct limited vegetation removal activities on National Forest System land or Bureau of Land Management land adjacent to their private property to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire that would threaten residential structures on the private property, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. HURT:

H.R. 6520. A bill to prohibit the use of appropriated funds for publicity, propaganda, or certain lobbying purposes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. ISRAEL (for himself, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Mr. SERRANO, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. OWENS, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. BISHOP of New York, and Mr. DEUTCH):

H.R. 6521. A bill to provide payment for patient navigator services under title XIX of the Social Security Act; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. ISRAEL:

H.R. 6522. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend and modify the American Opportunity Tax Credit, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas:

H.R. 6523. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require that ITIN applicants submit their application in person at taxpayer assistance centers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. KING of New York (for himself, Mr. GRIMM, Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan, Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California, and Mr. CAMPBELL):

H.R. 6524. A bill to make improvements to provisions of the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956 relating to proprietary trading by banking entities; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois (for himself, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. WALSH of Illinois, Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois, Mr. COOPER, Mr. ALTMIRE, Mr. BOSWELL, Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. MATHESON, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. SCHILLING, and Mr. SCHOCK):

H.R. 6525. A bill to increase the long-term fiscal accountability of direct spending legislation; to the Committee on the Budget, and in addition to the Committee on Rules, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. LANDRY:

H.R. 6526. A bill to provide that an Order of the Federal Communications Commission adopting a methodology for establishing certain benchmarks for Universal Service Fund high-cost loop support shall have no force or effect and to require the Commission to prepare a report on alternatives to such meth-

odology; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. LARSEN of Washington (for himself, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. RANGEL, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. KISSELL, Mr. FILNER, and Ms. BONAMICI):

H.R. 6527. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the assistance provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs to women veterans, to improve health care furnished by the Department, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. LEE of California (for herself, Mr. STARK, Ms. CLARKE of New York, and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY):

H.R. 6528. A bill to reduce by 5 percent the discretionary budget authority of any Federal agency for a fiscal year if the financial statement of the agency for the previous fiscal year does not receive an unqualified audit opinion by an external independent auditor, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California:

H.R. 6529. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, with respect to disclosures to governments by communications-related service providers of certain information consisting of or relating to communications, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Intelligence (Permanent Select), for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California:

H.R. 6530. A bill to combat trade barriers that threaten the maintenance of an open Internet, that mandate unique technology standards as a condition of market access and related measures, and to promote online free expression and the free flow of information; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on Foreign Affairs, the Judiciary, and Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MARKEY:

H.R. 6531. A bill to amend the Solid Waste Disposal Act to require a refund value for certain beverage containers, and to provide resources for State pollution prevention and recycling programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. MCCLINTOCK:

H.R. 6532. A bill to provide for the conveyance of certain Federal land under the administrative jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management in El Dorado County, California, to the Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. MICHAUD (for himself, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. GRIMM, Mr. NEAL, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. WELCH, Mr. HIGGINS, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Ms. PINGREE of Maine, Mr. GUINTA, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. NADLER, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. TONKO, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. TIERNEY, Mr. COURTNEY, and Mr. OLVER):

H.R. 6533. A bill to establish minimum levels of assistance for certain States under the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Education and

the Workforce, 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. MICHAUD (for himself, Mr. OLVER, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. WELCH, and Ms. PINGREE of Maine):

H.R. 6534. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a registry of certain veterans who were stationed at or underwent training at Canadian Forces Base Gaagetown, New Brunswick, Canada, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. NADLER (for himself and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY):

H.R. 6535. A bill to amend the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 to repeal the sequestration added by the Budget Control Act of 2011, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Budget, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. NUNES:

H.R. 6536. A bill to authorize the President to seek to conduct negotiations with the European Union for purposes of entering into a trade agreement with the European Union, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. NUNES:

H.R. 6537. A bill to amend the Trade Act of 1974 to make improvements to the Generalized System of Preferences, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. NUNES:

H.R. 6538. A bill to establish trade negotiating objectives with respect to the application of sanitary and phytosanitary measures to agricultural products, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. NUNES:

H.R. 6539. A bill to establish United States-Brazil Joint Commission on Commerce and Trade, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. POSEY:

H.R. 6540. A bill to amend title 51, United States Code, to authorize the Director of the Kennedy Space Center to convey excess property at the Kennedy Space Center to a State or political subdivision, municipality, or instrumentality of a State for the development and operation of a spaceport; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. REED:

H.R. 6541. A bill to direct the Secretary of Transportation to conduct a study of economically beneficial uses of the rights-of-way associated with certain highways, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. RICHMOND:

H.R. 6542. A bill to improve assistance after a hurricane or major disaster; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. SCHWARTZ:

H.R. 6543. A bill to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to define care coordination, include care coordination as a fully restorative service, and detail the care coordination

functions of the Assistant Secretary, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Ms. SCHWARTZ:

H.R. 6544. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a deduction for patent box profit from the use of United States patents; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. SENSENBRENNER:

H.R. 6545. A bill to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to use the commercially available volume of cellulosic biofuel in setting requirements for the renewable fuel program under the Clean Air Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. SENSENBRENNER (for himself and Mr. CONYERS):

H.R. 6546. A bill to amend the Office of National Drug Control Policy Reauthorization Act of 2006 to increase congressional oversight of the United States Anti-Doping Agency; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. SHIMKUS (for himself and Mr. BUCSHON):

H.R. 6547. A bill to amend the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977 to require greater experience of mine safety inspectors under that Act; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. SHULER (for himself and Mrs. DAVIS of California):

H.R. 6548. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide coverage under the Medicare program for diabetes prevention services; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. STARK (for himself, Mr. PETERS, and Mr. LEWIS of Georgia):

H.R. 6549. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the enhanced charitable deduction for corporate contributions of computer inventory for educational purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. SULLIVAN:

H.R. 6550. A bill to establish an advisory committee on national security telecommunications; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. SULLIVAN:

H.R. 6551. A bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to ensure that security is taken into account in certain efforts related to the interconnectivity of telecommunications networks, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. SULLIVAN:

H.R. 6552. A bill to continue an advisory committee considering the optimal security, reliability, and interoperability of communications systems; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. SULLIVAN:

H.R. 6553. A bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to add an additional purpose to section 1 of such Act; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. TIERNEY (for himself and Mr. MARKEY):

H.R. 6554. A bill to limit the period in advance of a nuclear reactor licence renewal that the application for such renewal may be submitted to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. TURNER of Ohio (for himself, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. BROOKS, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, and Mr. FLEMING):

H.R. 6555. A bill to direct the Secretary of Defense to use the Armed Forces to protect certain nuclear material of the National Nuclear Security Administration; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ:

H.R. 6556. A bill to amend the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. WELCH:

H.R. 6557. A bill to establish the Higher Education Regulatory Reform Task Force, to establish procedures for the presentation and expedited consideration by Congress of the recommendations of the Higher Education Regulatory Reform Task Force, to establish requirements for college cost reduction, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committee on Rules, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. WELCH:

H.R. 6558. A bill to simplify the process for determining the need and eligibility of students for financial assistance under the Higher Education Act of 1965, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. FITZPATRICK (for himself, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. LANGE, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Mr. LANDRY, Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ of California, Mr. WALSH of Illinois, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. PETERS, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. SHERMAN, and Mr. POSEY):

H. Con. Res. 139. Concurrent resolution condemning President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad and the leaders of the Islamic Republic of Iran for addressing the United Nations on Yom Kippur; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. BUERKLE:

H. Con. Res. 140. Concurrent resolution expressing the disappointment and concern of the Congress on the failure of the United States to properly investigate the Pan Am 103 bombing and the failure of Libya to grant permission for United States Pan Am 103 criminal investigators to investigate and gather evidence in Libya regarding the Pan Am 103 bombing; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. CHU:

H. Res. 802. A resolution commemorating the 71st anniversary of the creation of the "Special Air Unit" of the 1st American Volunteer Group (AVG), which became known as the Flying Tigers; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. LEE of California (for herself, Mr. NORTON, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. RUSH, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. CONYERS, Ms. MOORE, Ms. RICHARDSON, Mr. GONZALEZ, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Ms. CHU, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. FILNER, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. FATTAH, Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. WATT, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. CLEAVER,

Mr. FARR, Mr. POLIS, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. DINGELL, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. COHEN, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. EDWARDS, and Ms. WATERS):

H. Res. 803. A resolution recognizing National Emancipation Day, marking the 150th anniversary of the end of slavery in areas of rebellion, and the significance of the Emancipation Proclamation in the struggle for the equal rights and freedoms afforded to all United States citizens; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. LUMMIS (for herself and Mr. BISHOP of Utah):

H. Res. 804. A resolution recognizing the importance of animal-based protein as a component of the balanced diet of most individuals in the United States; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. YODER:

H. Res. 805. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that in order to create certainty in the United States economy so that small businesses and job creators can invest and hire, Congress should enact long-term, predictable tax policy and, in the event that Congress and the President choose to raise taxes, they should give United States citizens at least one year after the enactment or expiration of the legislation to prepare for and adjust to any impact that such increase in taxes may have; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

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.

By Mr. CHAFFETZ:

H.R. 6480.

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

This bill is enacted pursuant to Article 1, Section 8, Clause 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. LATHAM:

H.R. 6481.

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

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

By Mr. BURGESS:

H.R. 6482.

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

Congress has the authority under Article I, Section 9, Clause 7, "No Money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in Consequence of Appropriations made by Law." It is within Congress' power to regulate the appropriation of money from the Treasury and this bill is directly related to this authority to ensure cost saving calculations are taken into account into the budgeting and appropriation of such funds.

By Ms. BONAMICI:

H.R. 6483.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

By Mr. GARAMENDI:

H.R. 6484.

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

Commerce clause found in Art. 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. CHAFFETZ:

H.R. 6485.

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 Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States;

By Mr. MCKINLEY:

H.R. 6486.

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

According to Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution: The Congress shall have power to enact this legislation 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.

By Mr. MCKINLEY:

H.R. 6487.

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

According to Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the Constitution: The Congress shall have power to enact this legislation to regulate commerce with foreign nations, among the several states, and with the Indian tribes.

By Mr. DENHAM:

H.R. 6488.

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

Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

By Mr. HALL:

H.R. 6489.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3—To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes; and

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18—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.

By Mr. PRICE of Georgia:

H.R. 6490.

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

Current law has created a health care program called Medicare that is operated by the federal government. This bill would improve the efficiency and fairness of the operation of parts of that program, especially the purchase of goods and services, while affecting interstate commerce, which Congress has the power to regulate under Article I, Section 8, Clause 3.

By Mr. CULBERSON:

H.R. 6491.

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

General Welfare Clause

Article I, Section 8

The Commerce Clause.

Necessary and Proper Clause

By Mr. CLARKE of Michigan:

H.R. 6492.

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

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 and Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. CLARKE of Michigan:

H.R. 6493.

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

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 4 and Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. THOMPSON of California:

H.R. 6494.

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

Article 1, Section 8, Clauses 12-14, and Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. AMASH:

H.R. 6495.

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

Article I, Section 8, clause 5 of the U.S. Constitution empowers Congress "To coin Money, [and] regulate the Value thereof." Congress currently authorizes the minting of commemorative coins, and this bill directs the proceeds of the minting.

By Mr. AMODEI:

H.R. 6496.

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

The constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of Congress to regulate interstate and foreign commerce, as enumerated in Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution, to define and punish felonies committed outside of U.S. borders and offenses against the Law of Nations, as enumerated in Article I, Section 8, Clause 10, and to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying into execution all other powers vested in the federal government and its departments and officers, as enumerated in Article I, Section 8, Clause 18.

By Mr. AMODEI:

H.R. 6497.

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

The constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of Congress to make rules for the government and regulation of the land and naval forces, as enumerated in Article I, Section 8, Clause 14 of the United States Constitution.

By Mrs. BACHMANN:

H.R. 6498.

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

Article 1 Section 8 Clause 18: 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.

By Mr. BARROW:

H.R. 6499.

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

Article I Section VI of the Constitution.

By Mr. CLARKE of Michigan:

H.R. 6500.

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

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. BERG:

H.R. 6501.

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

Article 1 section 8 clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. BILBRAY:

H.R. 6502.

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

Article 1, Section 8, To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes; Congress has the authority under this section to regulate commerce and FDA products.

By Mr. BILBRAY:

H.R. 6503.

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

Article 1, Section 8, To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes; Congress has the authority under this section to regulate commerce and renewable fuels.

By Mr. CHABOT:

H.R. 6504.

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

Article I Section 8 clause 3 "To regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states and with the Indian tribes;"

By Mr. CICILLINE:

H.R. 6505.

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

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. COURTNEY:

H.R. 6506.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 (relating to the power of Congress to provide for the general welfare of the United States) and Clause 18 (relating to the power to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying out the powers vested in Congress)

Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2 (relating to the power of Congress to dispose of and make all needful rules and regulations respecting the territory or other property belonging to the United States).

By Mr. CRAVACK:

H.R. 6507.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3. The Congress shall have Power to regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.

By Mrs. DAVIS of California:

H.R. 6508.

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

Article I, Section 8

By Ms. DELAURO:

H.R. 6509.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. DEUTCH:

H.R. 6510.

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

The constitutional authority of Congress to enact this legislation is provided by Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution, which grants Congress the power to regulate commerce among the several States.

By Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina:

H.R. 6511.

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

"This bill follows the Constitutional prerogatives of Congress under Article I, Section 8, pertaining to the clauses to 'provide for the common Defense' and 'make Rules for the Government.'"

By Mr. FITZPATRICK:

H.R. 6512.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

By Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN:

H.R. 6513.

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

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. GIBSON:

H.R. 6514.

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

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the Constitution gives Congress the power to regulate commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.

By Mr. GRIMM:

H.R. 6515.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

By Ms. HOCHUL:

H.R. 6516.

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

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

By Mr. HONDA:

H.R. 6517.

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

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. HUELSKAMP:

H.R. 6518.

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

This legislation is introduced under the authority of Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 and the Tenth Amendment to the United States Constitution. This bill restores the proper balance of power between the federal and state governments as intended under the Tenth Amendment to the United States Constitution by devolving the responsibility of providing food assistance for low income citizens to the states. It reinforces the founding constitutional principle that state governments are properly situated with attending to their citizens' health, safety, and general welfare.

By Mr. HUNTER:

H.R. 6519.

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

The constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of Congress to make needful rules and regulations regarding the territory of the United States, as enumerated in Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. HURT:

H.R. 6520.

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

The principal constitutional authority for this legislation is clause 7 of section 9 of article I of the Constitution of the United States (the appropriation power), which states: "No Money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in Consequence of Appropriations made by Law . . ." In addition, clause 1 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution (the spending power) provides: "The Congress shall have the Power . . . to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States . . ." Together, these specific constitutional provisions establish the congressional power of the purse, granting Congress the authority to appropriate funds, to determine their purpose, amount, and period of availability, and to set forth terms and conditions governing their use.

By Mr. ISRAEL:

H.R. 6521.

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

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

By Mr. ISRAEL:

H.R. 6522.

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

Article I, Section 8 and the 16th Amendment of the United States Constitution

By Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas:

H.R. 6523.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

By Mr. KING of New York:

H.R. 6524.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3:

The Congress shall have Power . . . To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.

By Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois:

H.R. 6525.

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 the Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. LANDRY:

H.R. 6526.

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

Clause 3 of section 8 of Article I of the Constitution

By Mr. LARSEN of Washington:

H.R. 6527.

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

As described in Article 1, Section 1 "all legislative powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress."

By Ms. LEE of California:

H.R. 6528.

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 of the United States Constitution and its subsequent amendments, and further clarified and interpreted by the Supreme Court of the United States.

By Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California:

H.R. 6529.

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

Clauses 3 and 18 of Section 8 of Article 1 of the U.S. Constitution.

By Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California:

H.R. 6530.

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

Clauses 3 and 18 of Section 8 of Article 1 of the U.S. Constitution.

By Mr. MARKEY:

H.R. 6531.

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

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. MCCLINTOCK:

H.R. 6532.

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

U.S. Constitution, Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2 (the Property Clause), which confers on Congress the power to dispose of property belonging to the United States.

By Mr. MICHAUD:

H.R. 6533.

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

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. MICHAUD:

H.R. 6534.

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 the Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. NADLER:

H.R. 6535.

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

Clause 1 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution, clause 18 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution, and clause 7 of section 9 of article I of the Constitution.

By Mr. NUNES:

H.R. 6536.

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

US Constitution, Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 provides Congress the power to regulate commerce with foreign nations and among the various states.

By Mr. NUNES:

H.R. 6537.

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

US Constitution, Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 provides Congress the power to regulate commerce with foreign nations and among the various states.

By Mr. NUNES:

H.R. 6538.

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

US Constitution, Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 provides Congress the power to regulate commerce with foreign nations and among the various states.

By Mr. NUNES:

H.R. 6539.

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

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article I, Section 8, provides Congress the power to regulate commerce with foreign nations.

By Mr. POSEY:

H.R. 6540.

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

Article 1, section 8, clause 1; Article 1, section 8, clause 8; Article IV, section 3, clause 2

By Mr. REED:

H.R. 6541.

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

Article 1 Section 8

By Mr. RICHMOND:

H.R. 6542.

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

This bill is introduced pursuant to the powers granted to Congress under the General Welfare Clause (Art. 1 Sec. 8 Cl. 1) and the Necessary and Proper Clause (Art. 1 Sec. 8 Cl. 18).

Further, this statement of constitutional authority is made for the sole purpose of compliance with clause 7 of Rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and shall have no bearing on judicial review of the accompanying bill.

By Ms. SCHWARTZ:

H.R. 6543.

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

Article 1, Section 8

By Ms. SCHWARTZ:

H.R. 6544.

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

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. SENSENBRENNER:

H.R. 6545.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the Constitution of the United States

By Mr. SENSENBRENNER:

H.R. 6546.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the Constitution of the United States

By Mr. SHIMKUS:

H.R. 6547.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3: To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among

the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.

By Mr. SHULER:

H.R. 6548.

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

Article 1 Section 8 Clause 1 gives Congress the authority to "provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States."

Article I Section 8 Clause 3—The Congress shall have power***To regulate commerce with foreign nations and among the several states, and with the Indian tribes.

By Mr. STARK:

H.R. 6549.

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

Clause I of Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution

By Mr. SULLIVAN:

H.R. 6550.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. SULLIVAN:

H.R. 6551.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. SULLIVAN:

H.R. 6552.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. SULLIVAN:

H.R. 6553.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. TIERNEY:

H.R. 6554.

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

Article I, section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. TURNER of Ohio:

H.R. 6555.

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

Clauses 1, 14, and 18 of Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution

By Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ:

H.R. 6556.

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

Article I, Section VIII

By Mr. WELCH:

H.R. 6557.

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

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 16, to make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying to execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers vested by this Constitution in the government of the United States, or in any Department or Office thereof.

By Mr. WELCH:

H.R. 6558.

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

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 16, to make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying to execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers vested by this Constitution in the government of the United States, or in any Department or Office thereof.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

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

H.R. 100: Mrs. ROBY.

H.R. 127: Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia.

H.R. 212: Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia.

H.R. 360: Mrs. EMERSON.

H.R. 390: Mr. BARBER.

H.R. 574: Mr. KUCINICH.

H.R. 615: Mr. YODER.

H.R. 718: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.

H.R. 719: Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio.

H.R. 791: Mr. CARNEY.

H.R. 835: Mr. CULBERSON.

H.R. 860: Mrs. ROBY, Mr. SHERMAN, and Mr. CANSECO.

H.R. 904: Mr. LATHAM.

H.R. 905: Mr. PETERSON.

H.R. 1054: Mr. PETERSON and Mr. MORAN.

H.R. 1057: Mr. BARBER.

H.R. 1063: Mrs. BLACK and Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois.

H.R. 1116: Mr. CLYBURN.

H.R. 1127: Ms. MCCOLLUM.

H.R. 1195: Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia and Mr. MCNERNEY.

H.R. 1219: Mr. MCNERNEY.

H.R. 1244: Mrs. BIGGERT, Ms. BONAMICI, and Mr. STIVERS.

H.R. 1322: Ms. WOOLSEY.

H.R. 1370: Mr. ROONEY, Mr. CHANDLER, Mr. RUNYAN, and Mr. YOUNG of Alaska.

H.R. 1397: Mr. Barber.

H.R. 1418: Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ of California.

H.R. 1426: Ms. BALDWIN.

H.R. 1462: Mr. GONZALEZ.

H.R. 1489: Mr. DOGGETT.

H.R. 1513: Mr. RIVERA and Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California.

H.R. 1537: Ms. EDWARDS.

H.R. 1639: Mr. SCHRADER.

H.R. 1675: Mr. MARINO and Mr. LANCE.

H.R. 1676: Ms. WOOLSEY.

H.R. 1687: Mr. LATHAM.

H.R. 1744: Mr. CAMPBELL.

H.R. 1802: Mr. STARK and Mr. PETERSON.

H.R. 1845: Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.

H.R. 1867: Mr. DINGELL.

H.R. 1876: Mr. FARR and Mr. HOLDEN.

H.R. 1936: Ms. DEGETTE.

H.R. 1968: Mr. HANNA.

H.R. 2016: Mr. KUCINICH.

H.R. 2020: Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut.

H.R. 2030: Mr. COURTNEY and Mr. DINGELL.

H.R. 2069: Ms. MATSUI and Mr. COURTNEY.

H.R. 2088: Mr. POLIS and Mr. NEAL.

H.R. 2256: Mr. TIERNEY.

H.R. 2267: Ms. HOCHUL.

H.R. 2359: Ms. SPEIER.

H.R. 2364: Mr. HASTINGS of Florida.

H.R. 2382: Mr. NEAL and Ms. HIRONO.

H.R. 2402: Mr. HUELSKAMP.

H.R. 2485: Ms. BUERKLE.

H.R. 2492: Mr. RIVERA and Mr. TERRY.

H.R. 2499: Mr. DEUTCH.

H.R. 2557: Mr. PETERSON.

H.R. 2563: Mr. JONES.

H.R. 2600: Mr. DONNELLY of Indiana, Mr. MARINO, and Mr. ROONEY.

H.R. 2669: Mr. PALLONE and Mr. GUTIERREZ.

H.R. 2672: Mr. NEAL.

H.R. 2698: Mr. PAULSEN.

H.R. 2746: Mr. COURTNEY and Ms. DEGETTE.

H.R. 2787: Ms. HOCHUL.

H.R. 2885: Mrs. ROBY.

H.R. 2925: Mr. DINGELL.

H.R. 2969: Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. SIRES, and Mr. PETERSON.

H.R. 2985: Mr. WITTMAN.

H.R. 3056: Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Ms. WATERS, Ms. RICHARDSON, Mr. TOWNS, and Ms. WOOLSEY.

H.R. 3097: Mr. GIBSON.

H.R. 3238: Mr. GARAMENDI, Mrs. MALONEY, Mr. WAXMAN, and Mr. DINGELL.

H.R. 3359: Mrs. CAPPS.

H.R. 3381: Mr. CONYERS, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia, Mr. LANGEVIN, Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California, Ms. NORTON, Ms. LEE

- of California, Ms. CHU, Mr. RANGEL, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. SPEIER, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, and Mr. BISHOP of Georgia.
H.R. 3395: Mr. PRICE of North Carolina.
H.R. 3423: Mr. MACK, Mr. NUGENT, Mr. ELLISON, and Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 3458: Mr. PETERSON.
H.R. 3466: Mr. HEINRICH.
H.R. 3481: Mr. GARDNER.
H.R. 3485: Mr. NEAL and Ms. EDWARDS.
H.R. 3489: Mr. MORAN.
H.R. 3497: Mr. BURTON of Indiana.
H.R. 3506: Mr. BISHOP of New York.
H.R. 3510: Ms. HOCHUL.
H.R. 3515: Mr. BISHOP of Georgia and Mrs. CAPPS.
H.R. 3522: Mr. BRALEY of Iowa and Mr. COHEN.
H.R. 3591: Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.
H.R. 3664: Mr. CASSIDY.
H.R. 3677: Mr. KIND.
H.R. 3713: Mr. BROUN of Georgia and Mrs. BACHMANN.
H.R. 3767: Mr. WELCH.
H.R. 3790: Mr. GARAMENDI.
H.R. 3798: Mr. RICHMOND.
H.R. 4017: Mr. PRICE of North Carolina.
H.R. 4103: Mr. POE of Texas.
H.R. 4115: Mr. BOSWELL.
H.R. 4122: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. MCGOVERN, and Mr. NEAL.
H.R. 4137: Mr. KIND and Mr. BACHUS.
H.R. 4169: Mr. BOSWELL and Mr. PRICE of North Carolina.
H.R. 4173: Mr. MCDERMOTT.
H.R. 4202: Mr. COSTA.
H.R. 4209: Mr. BISHOP of New York and Ms. BONAMICI.
H.R. 4238: Ms. MCCOLLUM.
H.R. 4256: Mr. ROSKAM.
H.R. 4290: Mr. LYNCH, Ms. CHU, and Ms. WATERS.
H.R. 4322: Mr. LUETKEMEYER.
H.R. 4336: Mr. COBLE and Mr. GARDNER.
H.R. 4378: Ms. PINGREE of Maine, Mr. BISHOP of New York, Mr. PETERSON, and Mr. BARROW.
H.R. 4379: Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas.
H.R. 4385: Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas.
H.R. 5741: Mr. CHANDLER.
H.R. 5796: Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. HANNA, and Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas.
H.R. 5817: Mr. POSEY, Mr. BENISHEK, Mr. KISSELL, Mr. PETERS, Mr. DOLD, Mr. SHULER, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. KIND, and Mrs. MILLER of Michigan.
H.R. 5839: Mr. HARRIS, Mr. CARNAHAN, and Mr. CHANDLER.
H.R. 5840: Mr. PETERS, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. BRALEY of Iowa, Mr. CRITZ, Mr. REICHERT, and Mr. FATTAH.
H.R. 5846: Mr. POSEY and Mr. CARTER.
H.R. 5879: Mr. BLUMENAUER and Mr. TERRY.
H.R. 5914: Mr. BOSWELL and Mr. HALL.
H.R. 5925: Mr. WITTMAN.
H.R. 5943: Mr. MANZULLO.
H.R. 5953: Mrs. ROBY.
H.R. 5969: Mr. BENISHEK.
H.R. 5970: Mr. BENISHEK.
H.R. 5996: Mr. BARBER.
H.R. 5998: Ms. BUERKLE.
H.R. 6015: Mr. HOLT and Ms. DELAURO.
H.R. 6033: Mr. HEINRICH.
H.R. 6038: Ms. PINGREE of Maine and Mr. MICHAUD.
H.R. 6043: Mr. MATHESON, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Mr. CASSIDY.
H.R. 6046: Mr. HASTINGS of Florida.
H.R. 6098: Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts and Mr. STARK.
H.R. 6110: Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.
H.R. 6119: Mr. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 6125: Mr. PETERS.
H.R. 6128: Mr. FARR, Mr. KUCINICH, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. STARK, and Mr. POLIS.
H.R. 6134: Mr. SERRANO.
H.R. 6140: Mr. YODER.
H.R. 6144: Mr. HANNA.
H.R. 6150: Mrs. CAPPS.
H.R. 6154: Mr. BILBRAY and Mr. BLUMENAUER.
H.R. 6155: Mr. BISHOP of New York, Mrs. CAPPS, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. ALTMIRE, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, and Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey.
H.R. 6157: Mr. FILNER, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. WOOLSEY, and Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut.
H.R. 6159: Mrs. LOWEY and Mr. DINGELL.
H.R. 6171: Mr. PETERSON.
H.R. 6179: Mr. ISRAEL.
H.R. 6200: Mr. KUCINICH and Mr. NADLER.
H.R. 6242: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY and Mr. SHERMAN.
H.R. 6248: Mr. JONES.
H.R. 6273: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
H.R. 6280: Mr. JONES.
H.R. 6284: Mr. KUCINICH.
H.R. 6289: Mr. YODER.
H.R. 6291: Mr. DEFazio.
H.R. 6292: Mr. NADLER.
H.R. 6293: Mr. JONES and Ms. HIRONO.
H.R. 6302: Mr. STARK.
H.R. 6304: Mr. KLINE, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, and Mr. KING of New York.
H.R. 6310: Mr. DOYLE and Mr. CICILLINE.
H.R. 6312: Mr. DENT.
H.R. 6326: Mrs. BLACKBURN.
H.R. 6328: Ms. BORDALLO.
H.R. 6352: Mr. SHULER.
H.R. 6373: Ms. HOCHUL.
H.R. 6374: Mr. BROUN of Georgia.
H.R. 6385: Mr. LATTA.
H.R. 6388: Mr. GRIMM, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. PETERS, Mr. JONES, Mr. DEFazio, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. HIMES, Mr. CAMPBELL, and Mr. PRICE of North Carolina.
H.R. 6397: Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 6398: Mr. KIND and Mr. BLUMENAUER.
H.R. 6404: Ms. KAPTUR.
H.R. 6411: Ms. CHU.
H.R. 6413: Mr. ALTMIRE and Mr. LOEBSACK.
H.R. 6415: Mrs. BLACKBURN.
H.R. 6418: Ms. BUERKLE and Mr. POMPEO.
H.R. 6419: Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. SERRANO, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. COHEN, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. WOOLSEY, and Mr. COSTA.
H.R. 6420: Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina.
H.R. 6421: Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Ms. WOOLSEY, and Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 6426: Ms. LEE of California, Ms. CHU, Mr. COHEN, Mr. HINCHEY, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. CICILLINE, and Mr. WAXMAN.
H.R. 6428: Mr. TOWNS, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, and Ms. HIRONO.
H.R. 6436: Mr. CARNAHAN.
H.R. 6438: Mr. PLATTS, Mr. GIBSON, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. LATHAM, Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado, Ms. HAYWORTH, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. BENISHEK, Mr. OWENS, and Mr. CRAVAACK.
H.R. 6439: Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. MCINTYRE, Mr. BOUSTANY, Mr. FINCHER, Mr. SCHRADER, and Mr. PETERSON.
H.R. 6441: Mr. KIND.
H.R. 6444: Mr. BARTON of Texas.
H.R. 6452: Mr. AKIN, Mr. HUELSKAMP, and Mr. DUFFY.
H.R. 6456: Ms. HANABUSA, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. FINCHER, Mr. COSTELLO, and Mr. CRAVAACK.
H.R. 6460: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY and Mr. MORAN.
H.R. 6462: Mr. BISHOP of Utah and Mr. SIMPSON.
H.R. 6467: Mr. BLUMENAUER and Ms. HIRONO.
H.J. Res. 47: Mr. SMITH of Washington.
H.J. Res. 78: Mr. WAXMAN.
H.J. Res. 90: Mr. WAXMAN.
H.J. Res. 106: Mr. BILBRAY.
H.J. Res. 115: Ms. HIRONO.
H. Con. Res. 107: Mr. BROOKS.
H. Con. Res. 116: Mr. KELLY, Mr. CARTER, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. PETERSON, Mr. KING of New York, and Mrs. LUMMIS.
H. Con. Res. 129: Mr. BARTON of Texas.
H. Res. 111: Mrs. CAPPS.
H. Res. 134: Ms. BONAMICI and Ms. HIRONO.
H. Res. 298: Mr. PETERSON.
H. Res. 319: Mr. CICILLINE.
H. Res. 387: Mr. PETERS, Mr. GARAMENDI, and Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey.
H. Res. 415: Mr. SIRES.
H. Res. 704: Ms. SLAUGHTER.
H. Res. 733: Mr. FARR.
H. Res. 734: Mr. SHULER and Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut.
H. Res. 736: Ms. HIRONO and Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey.
H. Res. 745: Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, and Mr. CANSECO.
H. Res. 759: Ms. WOOLSEY.
H. Res. 760: Mr. GONZALEZ, Ms. HAHN, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. CUMMINGS, and Mr. GARAMENDI.
H. Res. 763: Mr. CALVERT and Mr. BURTON of Indiana.
H. Res. 774: Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. CARTER, Ms. PINGREE of Maine, Mr. DEFazio, Mrs. BIGGERT, Mr. BARTON of Texas, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee, Mr. LANGEVIN, and Mr. COSTELLO.
H. Res. 776: Mr. ROGERS of Michigan, Mr. MARINO, Mr. BONNER, and Mr. GRIMM.
H. Res. 785: Mr. GARAMENDI and Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut.
H. Res. 790: Mr. HARRIS and Mr. BURTON of Indiana.
H. Res. 793: Mr. HANNA, Mr. RIVERA, Mr. WEST, Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. RICHMOND, Ms. CHU, Mr. LANDRY, Mr. WALSH of Illinois, and Mrs. ELLMERS.

DISCHARGE PETITIONS— ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS

The following Members added their names to the following discharge petition:

Petition 5 by Mr. BRALEY on House Resolution 739: Walter B. Jones, John D. Dingell, Tom Latham, Lynn C. Woolsey, Allyson Y. Schwartz, Charles B. Rangel, Earl Blumenauer, Brian Higgins, Jerry F. Costello, Ben Ray Lujan, Mazie K. Hirono, Daniel Lipinski, Henry C. "Hank" Johnson Jr., Brad Sherman.



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 112th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 158

WASHINGTON, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2012

No. 129

Senate

The Senate met at 12 noon and was called to order by the Honorable RICHARD BLUMENTHAL, a Senator from the State of Connecticut.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, we praise Your Name for all those who answer the call to serve You and country. We confess that we often pay honor to people who labored for liberty long ago, but we sometimes neglect to appreciate those who sacrifice for freedom today. Forgive us when we resist those in our own time and in our own associations who, for our own good and for the good of the Nation, challenge our rigid ideas of thought and patterns of action.

Make our lawmakers, this day, open to greater creativity in their convictions so that they may become partners with You in these challenging times by paying the price for unity.

We pray in Your merciful Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable RICHARD BLUMENTHAL led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

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

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. INOUE).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,

PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,

Washington, DC, September 21, 2012.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby

appoint the Honorable RICHARD BLUMENTHAL, a Senator from the State of Connecticut, to perform the duties of the Chair.

DANIEL K. INOUE,

President pro tempore.

Mr. BLUMENTHAL thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SPORTSMEN'S ACT OF 2012— MOTION TO PROCEED

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I move to proceed to Calendar No. 504.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the motion. The legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 504, S. 3525, a bill to protect and enhance opportunities for recreational hunting, fishing, and shooting, and for other purposes.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, the next hour will be equally divided between the two leaders or their designees. The majority will control the first half and the Republicans the final half.

As I think we should know, and I am happy to restate it, the next rollcall vote will occur about 1 a.m. this morning, an hour after we come in. I am, of course, hopeful we can work something out in order to complete our work. We can either do it all tonight, tomorrow, or, if that doesn't work out, as the Presiding Officer knows, under the rules of the Senate we will have that vote at 1 a.m., and then we would have another vote on the CR. Final passage of that would be around 7:30, 8 o'clock in the morning on Sunday. Then we would immediately follow to the motion to proceed on the sportsmen's package.

We continue to have discussions. We are working to see if we can schedule

these votes at a more convenient time for Senators. Everyone should know we would finish by Sunday morning. We are not going to go into next week.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 3607

Mr. REID. Mr. President, S. 3607 is at the desk and due for a second reading.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will read the bill by title for the second time.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3607) to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline.

Mr. REID. I object to any further proceedings with regard to this bill.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection having been heard, the bill will be placed on the calendar.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, over the past week I have listened to my Republican colleagues come to the floor and lament how little the Senate has accomplished during the 112th Congress. I, above all, share that concern. In fact, it is a wonder we have gotten anything done at all, considering the lack of cooperation Democrats have gotten from Republican colleagues.

I have said before, and it bears repeating: In my time as the majority leader, I have faced 382 Republican filibusters. That is 381 more filibusters than Lyndon Johnson faced during his 6 years as majority leader.

Time and time again my Republican colleagues have stalled or blocked perfectly good pieces of legislation to score points with the tea party, and they have done nothing but hurt the middle class in this process. Even the most noncontroversial, consensus matters—items that would have passed by unanimous consent in the past—have been obstructed or stalled.

Take, for example, the bipartisan sportsmen's bill. The junior Senator from Montana, Mr. TESTER, has assembled a broad package to support the needs of sportsmen across the country. Just so everyone understands I am not making this up, there are more than 50 groups—50 organizations in this country—who support this legislation. It is

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



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S6559

a wide range of organizations, including the National Rifle Association, Ducks Unlimited, American Sports Fishing Association which, by the way, has more than 2 million members, Boone and Crockett Club, National Shooting Sports Foundation, Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership, The Nature Conservancy, the National Wildlife Federation, Trout Unlimited. If we put labels on just these 10 organizations I have mentioned, it goes from the more conservative, many would say, National Rifle Association, to the more progressive Trout Unlimited.

I ask unanimous consent that a list of these organizations I have referred to, as well as others, be made a part of the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

American Fisheries Society
 American Fly Fishing Trade Association
 American Sportfishing Association
 Archery Trade Association
 Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies
 B.A.S.S., LLC
 Berkley Conservation Institute
 Boone and Crockett Club
 Bowhunting Preservation Alliance
 Campfire Club of America
 Catch-A-Dream Foundation
 Center for Costal Conservation
 Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation
 Conservation Force
 Costal Conservation Association
 Dallas Safari Club
 Delta Waterfowl Foundation
 Ducks Unlimited
 Houston Safari Club
 Isaac Walton League
 International Game Fish Association
 Mule Deer Foundation
 National Marine Manufacturers Association
 National Rifle Association
 National Wildlife Refuge Association
 National Wildlife Federation
 National Shooting Sports Foundation
 National Trappers Association
 National Wild Turkey Federation
 North American Bear Foundation
 North American Grouse Partnership
 Orion—the Hunter's Institute
 Pheasants Forever
 Pope and Young Club
 Public Lands Foundation
 Quail Forever
 Quality Deer Management Association
 Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation
 Ruffed Grouse Society
 Shimano Sport Fisheries Initiative
 Texas Wildlife Association
 The Conservation Fund
 The Nature Conservancy
 Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership
 TreadLightly!
 Trout Unlimited
 Trust for Public Lands
 U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance
 Wild Sheep Foundation
 The Wilderness Society
 Wildlife Forever
 Wildlife Management Institute

Mr. REID. Mr. President, this measure combines about 20 bills important to the sportsmen's community—bills that promote hunting, fishing, and recreation. They would foster habitat conservation through voluntary programs and, as I have indicated, more than 50 national sportsmen and con-

servation groups support this bill unequivocally.

This legislation should be passed like that. As I indicated yesterday, I have read Capitol Hill newspapers where Republican Senators said: What a great piece of legislation; I will vote for it.

We should pass this in a matter of seconds. We shouldn't be spending all this time on it. It is one of those things where there shouldn't be a fight and there has been a fight.

So I hope, as we try to get back to working on campaigns and doing the work things we have to do at home, that we can move along and get this done.

In the process, though, we are holding up a lot of other things. I am hopeful we can get something done on the Iran containment resolution, which is something LINDSEY GRAHAM, Senator LIEBERMAN, Senator MENENDEZ, and many others, have pushed very hard to get done. I hope we can confirm our Ambassadors to Iraq and Pakistan, and the continuing resolution to fund the government for 6 months.

Republicans say this Congress has been unproductive, but if Republicans want to know why it has been unproductive, they should take a look in the mirror. Benjamin Franklin once said: "Well done is better than well said." Well done is better than well said.

So it is time Republicans stop talking about how much they want to get things done and start working with us to actually get things done.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Republican leader is recognized.

ADDRESSING CHALLENGES

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, yesterday dozens of Republican Senators came to the Senate floor one after the other to register their complete frustration with the way Democrats are running this place. Never before—never—has a President and a majority party in the Senate done so little to address challenges as great as the ones our Nation faces right now—never.

I mean, we have a \$16 trillion debt and they haven't bothered to put together a budget in 3 years. They haven't passed a single appropriations bill. They haven't passed a Defense authorization bill for the first time in a half a century. These things are usually about as standard as turning the lights on. They haven't done any of them. It is a disgrace.

Think about it: The Middle East is in turmoil, we are fighting a war in Afghanistan and against al-Qaida, and they can't even bother to pass a Defense authorization bill.

We are fed up with the way this place is being run. No legislation, no amendments, no action on taxes, no action on Defense cuts. Nothing. Now we are at it again. All Republicans want to do is extend government funding for a few months, and the majority leader won't even do that unless he can squeeze in yet another political vote.

Democrats have treated the Senate floor like an extension of the Obama campaign for 2 years. Now they are holding the CR hostage for no other reason than to help one of their incumbents on the campaign trail.

Well, we are ready to vote on three bills—the same ones the majority leader asked for votes on earlier this week.

We have responsibilities to meet. Let's meet them, and leave the politics of the campaign trail where it belongs.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the following hour will be equally divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees, with the majority controlling the first half.

The Senator from Illinois.

STRATEGY OF OBSTRUCTION

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I listened to the statement made on the floor by the Republican leader. It was a statement similar to one that was made yesterday. I responded to it yesterday and I wish to make a response today.

I am disappointed that this session of Congress has been so unproductive, but I know the reason why. It isn't for lack of effort. We have tried to bring to the floor time and time again legislation to help create more jobs in America, create a more positive business climate, create more consumer confidence in middle-income families, and we have consistently run into the same problem over and over.

In the last 6 years, since HARRY REID of Nevada has been the majority leader on the Democratic side, the Republicans have created 382 filibusters. How does this compare with previous years? There is no comparison. We have never, ever, in the history of the U.S. Senate, run into such a consistent strategy of obstruction by one party in the Senate.

It was no surprise, because the Senator from Kentucky who just spoke announced 4 years ago exactly what his strategy would be. He said his No. 1 goal was to make sure that Barack Obama was a one-term President.

I have served in the House and in the Senate with Republican Presidents, and certainly I supported their opponents whenever they ran for election, but I felt a moral and civic obligation to do my best to work with those Presidents to achieve some good for this country.

I would say that President George W. Bush is a classic example. He and I saw the world so differently, and yet when it came to specific issues I was prepared to stand and not only praise his work but join him in trying to pass important legislation.

President George W. Bush may not be remembered for this, but he should be: He spoke in favor of immigration reform. When is the last time you heard

a Republican leader speak about immigration reform? But George W. Bush understood it, and I admired him for it and complimented him for it, as I do today.

He stood and said the United States should lead the world in eradicating the HIV/AIDS epidemic, and he put his money and the money of the American taxpayers where his promises were, and I supported him for it. He was right to do it.

President George W. Bush stood up after 9/11 and reminded America we are not at war with people of the Muslim religion. George W. Bush told us it is a good and peaceful religion. Those who would corrupt it, those extremists in the name of Islam, are not a credit to that religion and do not reflect it, and I admired him for that. At a time when America was so angry over 9/11 and the loss of all those innocent lives, he showed real leadership.

What a contrast with those who come to the floor of the House and Senate and say our No. 1 goal is to make sure this President fails no matter what he tries. That is not good for America, and that is one of the reasons we have been as unproductive as we have been. But there have been exceptions. Let me tell you some of those exceptions.

We passed the Violence Against Women Act—an important piece of legislation. Go to a domestic violence shelter. I am sure the Acting President pro tempore did as attorney general of the State of Connecticut and as U.S. Senator, as I did, and sit across the table from a victim of domestic violence—a poor woman with two black eyes crying her heart out, saying: I just had to get out of that house.

Go to a domestic violence center in Little Village or in Pilsen in the city of Chicago where immigrant women come in, holding their children close by, for fear that drunken husband is going to take another swing at them or at her and tell me we could not agree, Democrats and Republicans, to put the resources together to protect those people.

Well, we passed it over here. We passed it in the Senate—a bipartisan bill—and it died in the House of Representatives.

The same thing happened on important legislation such as transportation. That used to be the easiest bill to pass. Who in the world, elected in the House and the Senate, does not want to see better highways and bridges and runways and ports across America? We know it is key to our economic development. We passed it on a bipartisan basis. What happened? It died in the House of Representatives. They ended up sending us a shell of a bill so we could go to conference and finally come up with something.

Then the farm bill. This one troubles me. I say to the Acting President pro tempore, I know Connecticut has some farmers. We have a few more in Illinois. My farmers have been through a pretty tough time of it. This summer

has been exceptional when it comes to weather. Virtually every county in my State has been declared a disaster area because of drought.

It used to be routine on the Fourth of July to have shoulder-high corn, to watch in August as it just grew even more and was ready for harvest. It was a magnificent scene. I have seen it every year of my life. This year it was a sad scene in too many places in Illinois. The farmers—many of them will get through; 80 percent of them bought crop insurance—but they want to know what the farm bill is going to be next year so they can get ready.

Well, we told them in the Senate. We passed a bipartisan farm bill in the Senate. Senator DEBBIE STABENOW of Michigan—what a great example of leadership. She not only put a good farm bill together, she brought PAT ROBERTS, a Republican from Kansas on her committee, with her to the Senate floor and passed it with 64 votes—a bipartisan bill. It not only wrote the farm programs for the next 5 years, it saved \$23 billion, cut it off the deficit. Pretty good work. I am proud of her.

So what happened to that important bill we sent to the House of Representatives 3 months ago? It died. The House announced this week they were unable to pass a farm bill. Do you know why? For the same reason they have been unable to pass major legislation through the course of the last 2 years. They insist it be passed only with Republican votes.

Two of the bills I mentioned—transportation and the farm bill—have traditionally been the most bipartisan bills to come to the Congress. Why? Because we all share the concern about the infrastructure of America and the agricultural sector of America, Democrats and Republicans. But those bills have died in the House of Representatives.

When the Senate Republican leader comes to the floor and talks about how unproductive we have been, he fails to mention 382 Republican filibusters—an all-time record of obstruction. He fails to mention his promise to make sure his guiding principle would be the defeat of this incumbent President. And he fails to mention that graveyard of important legislation across the Rotunda in the House of Representatives. That is the reality, and the reality is a troubling one.

Yesterday, I did satellite radio and television feeds back to Illinois, and a number of the reporters said: Well, what can we do about it? I said: You get your chance November 6. Decide. Decide what you want. Decide if you want to send Democrats and Republicans to this Capitol with an awesome responsibility and also with the spirit of consensus and cooperation.

We have had one Senate candidate in the Midwest who announced: I am not going to compromise with anybody when I get to Washington. I hope the people of Indiana remember that on November 6. If that is what they want, that is what they will get.

But I sense the American people want more from us. They want us to work together. There have been instances, examples where that has happened. President Obama created a deficit commission called the Simpson-Bowles Commission. Eighteen people were appointed to it. Senator HARRY REID asked me to join the commission, and I did. I did not think much would come of it, to be honest with you. There have been a lot of commissions around here. They spend taxpayers' dollars and a lot of time and generate reports that are quickly forgotten. This was an exception simply because Erskine Bowles and Alan Simpson came together and did an extraordinarily good job.

We spent a year looking at this budget and realizing that this deficit is unsustainable and unacceptable. We borrow 40 cents for every \$1 we spend in this town. Whether we are spending it on food stamps, on missiles, on foreign aid, or on agricultural programs, we borrow 40 cents of it. And who is our No. 1 creditor in the world? The same nation that is our No. 1 competitor in the world, China. How about that? We are borrowing money from China. Borrowing that money, of course, is at the expense of interest payments which continue to grow because of the costs we are faced with across the board.

So we talked in the Simpson-Bowles Commission about coming up with a way to reduce the deficit in a responsible fashion. I was certain, when I walked in the door, that we were not going to get much done there, and I was even certain that I was not going to vote for it because I thought there were some issues I just could not see my way through. But I came to a different conclusion. I voted yes on the Simpson-Bowles bipartisan deficit commission, and out of the six Senators who sat on the commission—three Democrats and three Republicans—five of us voted yes. We believe it showed the path to a responsible reduction of the deficit.

Well, it did not go any further, unfortunately, because the commission did not have 14 votes, which it needed, and it did not have the power of law, which it needed. It turns out that the original legislation creating the commission had failed on the floor of the Senate when seven Republicans switched their votes and voted against it. After co-sponsoring it, they voted against it.

Thank goodness the ideas behind Simpson-Bowles are still alive and continue to be alive. We have continued to meet. We have had Democratic and Republican Senators meeting almost non-stop for a long time trying to push forward this concept of reducing the deficit in a responsible way while still growing our economy and creating jobs.

We are going to have our chance soon to put on the table whatever we can come up with. Right after the election, on December 31, we face what is known as the cliff. At that point, many important pieces of legislation and laws will

expire and automatic spending cuts will go into place. It is a pretty serious outcome. This is our chance to come up with a bipartisan answer to it. We cannot get to it until after the election, which I think is understandable. It is such a highly charged political atmosphere until November 6. But after the election, it is a test—a test of the House and Senate as to whether the Democrats and Republicans can put the campaign behind them and work together to solve some of this Nation's problems.

The path that Simpson-Bowles laid out is a pretty direct one and a pretty obvious one. We need to do two things to reduce our deficit. We need more revenue and we need to reduce spending. Those are the two things that reduce the deficit. I think we can do that. I think we can achieve that in a fair way. I have tried to work and continue to work toward that goal.

I would say despite the statement of the Republican leader just a few minutes ago, I am more hopeful, even for the rest of this session. If we can put these filibusters behind us for a moment, if we can come to the floor and work together, I think we can achieve something. We did with the farm bill, we did with the Transportation bill, we did with the Violence Against Women Act, and we did with postal reform—bipartisan bills, important bills that passed the Senate and died in the House. I hope if we show some leadership over here the House will follow in a bipartisan fashion to deal with these same issues. We know we have major problems facing us in this country, problems that will not be resolved unless we work together.

SUPER PACS

Mr. President, I would like to make a statement about another issue, which I think relates directly to the performance of Congress and what is going on in American politics today.

Across the street, the U.S. Supreme Court reached a decision known as *Citizens United*. It was a decision which has had a dramatic impact on the way campaigns are waged in America. We have seen unprecedented—unprecedented—influence buying by corporations and wealthy individuals in a way we have never seen in the history of the United States.

There are about 16 or 17 multimillionaires who are investing millions and millions of dollars—hundreds of millions of dollars—into our election process. The same thing holds true for major corporations.

Let me tell you some of the numbers to compare.

In the 2006 congressional midterm elections, outside groups spent \$70 million to influence the result, Mr. President. 2006, \$70 million.

Four years later, in 2010, outside groups raised the \$70 million figure to \$294 million—four times the amount they spent in 2006.

In the current Presidential election cycle outside special interest groups

and wealthy individuals have already broken the record of 2010. These outside groups—and these are not the campaigns of any candidates or even political parties—have already spent, with 7 weeks to go, \$350 million, breaking all records for outside money.

How is this money being spent? Turn on your television in a battleground State and try to get around the television ads. They have spent \$50 million more than they did in 2008—and we are just entering the end of this campaign when the expenditures will skyrocket.

If there was ever any doubt that the *Citizens United* decision would lead to a flood of campaign cash from wealthy individuals and corporations, we have our answer.

At the end of 2010, there were 84 active super PACs. Two years later, there are now 657 super PACs prepared to spend hundreds of millions of dollars to persuade voters.

The only thing worse than this unprecedented amount of money from special interest groups and wealthy individuals flooding our airwaves is the fact that ordinary Americans often have no idea where this money is coming from.

In 2006, only 1 percent of all outside spending came from secret donors. In 2010, after *Citizens United* and the rise of super PACs, secret donors rocketed to 46 percent of the outside spending in campaigns, which means when we see the ads on television, we have no idea, generally—in half the cases at least—who is paying for it.

As I have said before, these are not just super PACs, these are outside groups pouring money into elections. They are super secret PACs in many instances because the public has shockingly little information about the sources of the money. These super secret PACs and the wealthy individuals and corporations behind them are drowning out the voices of average citizens, and many times the voices of the candidates themselves.

Our representative democracy values transparency, participation, and open debates. Unfortunately, nonpartisan reports indicate that as the amount of money flooding into campaigns increases, core democratic principles are diminished.

The little that we have been able to learn about the major donors to these super PACs is very disturbing. Mr. President, 17 percent of all funds raised by super PACs came from for-profit businesses. It is safe to say that their primary goal is generally not advancing the public interest but, rather, enhancing their corporate bottom line.

Mr. President, 80 percent of funds given to super PACs during this Presidential election—80 percent of all the \$350 million that I mentioned—came from 196 people—196 people who want to control our campaign process.

Moreover, there is an ultra-elite club of 22 millionaires and billionaires who provided half of all super-PAC money being spent in this Presidential elec-

tion—22 Americans. I do not begrudge anyone their success in life or in business. I applaud it. The voices of business leaders, wealthy individuals, and special interests should be heard as part of the public debate. They are an important part of our country, and they need a seat at the policymaking table. Their voices, however, are not the only voices and opinions that matter. They should not occupy every seat at the policymaking table or buy control of what is served on that table.

A Las Vegas casino magnate, Sheldon Adelson; billionaire oil tycoons, two brothers, Charles and David Koch; and the multimillionaire head of a retail empire, Art Pope, may have achieved laudable business success, but their economic success does not entitle them to secretly use their virtually unlimited resources and impose their political will and their political agenda on America. Unfortunately, after the *Citizens United* case, that is exactly what they are trying to do.

The Las Vegas casino magnate Sheldon Adelson is reportedly the most generous super-PAC donor. He has contributed \$36 million and threatens to spend even more. His first spend was on a candidate named Newt Gingrich. When he did not make it to the finish line, Mr. Adelson said that he is now going to give it to the Republican nominee for President. That is a lot of money and a lot of influence and probably more, but for this particular super-PAC donor, that \$36 million contribution, when you look at his wealth, is equivalent to \$168 from the average American.

The terms of the political debate and, I fear, the outcome of many elections are not being set by 314 million Americans whose lives, jobs, safety, and health are impacted by the decisions of the people they elect; instead, it is the 22, 22 wealthy individuals pouring money into super PACs that have outsized influence on the terms of our political debate and the outcome of our elections.

Our fellow Americans may not know the intricate details of campaign finance laws, but they know their voices are being drowned out by these corporations, special interests, and wealthy individuals. Many people are losing confidence in this democracy as a result. According to a recent survey, three out of four Americans believe corruption has increased over the last 3 years. Well, in some part, we can thank the *Citizens United* decision for that.

The time to fix our broken campaign finance system is now. I am a realist. I understand that most Americans view this flood of spending by special interest groups and wealthy individuals on political campaigns the same way they view gangland slayings: Let them shoot one another as much as they want. As long as the bullets do not hit us, as long as we do not have to watch, let them have their fun.

But it is more serious than that. If our political process is stolen away

from the average American, even the average candidate, by these special interest groups and wealthy individuals, it will diminish our democracy, there is no question. So here is an idea, one I have been pushing for a long time. I introduced the Fair Elections Now Act, which would create a public financing system that would free candidates from the dangerous reliance on super PACs once and for all. Under Fair Elections, viable candidates who qualify for Fair Elections programs would raise campaign funds in small amounts from individual donors—small amounts. Once they have raised a certain threshold number of small donations, they could receive matching funds and grants sufficient to run a competitive campaign. Fair Elections would fundamentally reform our broken system and put the average citizens back in control of their elections and their country.

I wonder what the American people would think of shorter campaigns directed to the issues, actual debates between the candidates? Would they miss us if they did not see all of those ads on television? I do not think they would miss us.

I also support the DISCLOSE Act. The Supreme Court got it wrong in Citizens United, but this bill we have tried to pass would require super PACs and other big spenders to disclose all donors who give \$10,000 or more to influence an election. What is wrong with transparency and disclosure when it comes to our democratic political process?

I chair the Judiciary Committee's Subcommittee on the Constitution, Subcommittees on Human Rights.

I will tell you that when it comes to constitutional amendments, I have been pretty picky as a Member of the House and Senate. I think the Constitution which I have sworn to uphold and defend as a Member of the Senate and the House is an extraordinary document. I am not so bold or bigheaded to think I have a great idea that ought to be parked right in the middle of that fantastic and sacred document. I have been skeptical of those who have offered amendments over the years. As I have said, I do not believe we should take a roller brush to a Rembrandt. It is an amazing work of political art, and we should take care not to amend it except in the most extraordinary situations.

During the most recent hearing I chaired on the impact of Citizens United, our subcommittee received 1,959,063 petition signatures from Americans representing every State in the Union, almost 2 million Americans. These Americans support the constitutional amendment that would stop the pernicious influence of secret corporate and special interest money.

I see on the floor Senator UDALL of New Mexico, who has been a leader on this issue on this constitutional amendment. As I have said, I am very selective in the constitutional amendments to which I will add my name. I

have joined him because I think he is right.

Citizens United has corrupted this political process. The likelihood that Congress can change it is a long shot. If it is going to be changed, it needs to be changed in a meaningful way so that we can reclaim our political process for the people of this country and take it away from the 22 multimillionaires and billionaires who are trying to take control of this political process.

I stand with these 2 million Americans, and I stand with Senator UDALL and so many others because the way we finance our campaigns in this country is in urgent need of reform.

This will be the last day or two the Senate meets before the elections. I wanted to come to the floor and speak to this issue before the election, whatever the outcome may be. America is not a better and stronger nation when we give up our political process to the wealthy and politically articulate. The strength of America is when every person has a voice and a vote and they are not going to be overshadowed or outdistanced because of someone who happens to be very wealthy and very successful and wants to buy their way into our political system.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from New Mexico.

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. President, before my colleague, Senator DURBIN, leaves the floor, let me just say that this whole issue, as he has pointed out, of campaign finance is a pressing issue. It is one that is before us now. We are seeing it play out in the campaign. I am sure that at the end of this campaign, citizens across this country are going to demand reform, they are going to demand change. The Senator has outlined several pieces of legislation that I believe really do that. This constitutional amendment is one. The DISCLOSE Act, a piece of legislation the Senator has offered and fought for, I think both in the House and the Senate, really brings transparency to the process. They bring disclosure to the process, and we need to do it. So I really appreciate the Senator's leadership and look forward to working with the Senator very closely on this issue as we get into the next Congress.

TRIBUTE TO RUSSELL TRAIN

I rise today to pay tribute to a gentleman by the name of Russell Train. On Monday of this week, our Nation lost a great friend of the environment. I was saddened to learn of the passing of Russell Train. Russ was a true pioneer in the history of environmental protection. He was a part of that great generation of bipartisan leaders, that remarkable group of men and women, Democrats and Republicans, who put the environment center stage, who championed conservation. My father, who knew and admired Russ, was also a part of that generation. They leave very big shoes to fill. Their legacy is monumental.

Russ Train's life parallels so much of the history of the environmental movement in this country because he was part of that history because he did so much to make it happen. In 1965, when he was 45, Russ left his position as U.S. Tax Court judge. He decided to devote himself full time to conservation and became president of the Conservation Foundation. His midlife career change may have been a loss for the Tax Court, but it was a huge gain for the environment.

Brilliant, tenacious, committed, he dedicated the rest of his life to the environment. Along with Rachel Carson, the celebrated author of "Silent Spring," Russ helped raise environmental issues to the national level. He served as Under Secretary of Interior from 1969 to 1970. He was the first Chairman of the White House Council on Environmental Quality from 1970 to 1973. He was instrumental in the creation of the Environmental Protection Agency and headed it from 1973 to 1977. During those years, he oversaw landmark legislation: the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, the Endangered Species Act, the Toxic Substance Control Act. All bore the imprint of Russell Train.

Perhaps his most lasting achievement was the National Environmental Policy Act of 1970. He helped see that groundbreaking legislation through the Nixon White House and through Congress. For over 40 years now, NEPA has required Federal agencies to prepare environmental impact statements for any major projects. NEPA is justly regarded as the foundation for U.S. environmental protections.

But what began as a bipartisan triumph was later subject to partisan divide. While in the House in 2005, I served as the ranking member of a task force whose stated purpose was to review and improve NEPA. But there were those who wanted to destroy it—with 1 swift blow or by 1,000 cuts but destroy it all the same. Many of us fought very hard not to let that happen. As I said at that time, where critics of NEPA saw only delay, we saw deliberation. Where they saw postponed profits, we saw public input. NEPA was then and is now an antidote to the potential arrogance of government power. It listens to the community, it addresses opposition early on, and in the long run it minimizes conflict and protects the environment. It trusts the American people to take part in managing their public resources. And it remains one of Russell Train's greatest legacies.

Russ himself stated it best at the 40th anniversary of NEPA. He said:

NEPA is America's most-imitated environmental legislation around the globe. What we launched in 1970 has become a contribution to the planet not less than to our citizenry . . . NEPA's legacy is that what the people know has great value to a government that seeks their knowledge and takes it seriously.

After leaving the government, Russell led the U.S. branch of the World

Wildlife Fund for many years. He did so with his usual passion and commitment, always engaged, always pragmatic and reasonable but ever the visionary for a better world.

In 1991 President Bush awarded Russ the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Russell Train was a remarkable man. Jill and I have been honored to call him and his wonderful wife Aileen our friends. We extend our sincere condolences to Aileen and their children and hope they will take comfort in knowing the world is a better place for Russell's life and work.

NEW MEXICO'S CENTENNIAL

On January 16, 1912, President Taft signed the proclamation making New Mexico the 47th State. So it is with great pride that I join Senator BINGAMAN in submitting a resolution recognizing the centennial anniversary of our State.

For those of us who are blessed to call New Mexico home, we are imprinted by its remarkable history and its awesome beauty. We are part of the rich diversity of its people.

One hundred years ago, the population of New Mexico was 327,000 people. Now it is over 2 million. But the mix of Native American, Hispanic, and European tradition has long been a part of our State. New Mexico is a land of deep roots. We are enriched by this mosaic of culture. It has informed our history, our art, and our sense of who we are as a people. Our State is rightly called the Land of Enchantment. It is also a land of courage. From the Civil War to Teddy Roosevelt's Rough Riders, from the Navajo Code Talkers to Bataan and Corregidor, and from Korea and Vietnam to the brave men and women who have served in Iraq and Afghanistan, when our Nation has called, New Mexico has always stood ready to answer that call.

The story of New Mexico is a long and proud one. It goes back well over 10,000 years to the Clovis people. It goes back to Santa Fe, founded in 1610, the oldest capital city in the United States. In 1920, Route 66 connected New Mexico to California and to the Midwest. This and other interstate projects that followed brought jobs and more people to our State, and today we need a new commitment to investing in the infrastructure that is essential to renewed prosperity.

In the 1920s and 1930s, New Mexico was part of an oil boom that fueled the rest of the Nation, and today we are on the cutting edge of clean energy technology, helping to reduce our Nation's dependence on foreign oil. In the 1940s and 1950s Sandia and Los Alamos National Labs became legendary centers of scientific innovation and research. Today they continue to play a vital role in our Nation's security. Our State is also promoting STEM education—science, technology, engineering, and math—so that our graduates can get good jobs, so they can compete in a global economy.

How we address these issues will shape the next 100 years in our State,

but I am sure of one thing: We have a blend of cultures and backgrounds like nowhere else. It has helped bring us where we are today. It will help take us where we need to go tomorrow. The vitality and creativity of our people is as strong as ever. Working together, we will continue to meet the challenges of our State and our Nation. In this year of our centennial, we look back to our unique history and we look forward to a bright future.

I thank the Senator from Kentucky, Mr. PAUL, for allowing me to finish my statement. I appreciate very much his courtesy. With that, I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Kentucky.

FOREIGN AID

Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, I am going to tell you the story today of a love affair. It is a story that is a steamy one. It is a story of illicit behavior, of treachery, and of gluttony. It is a story that involves intrigue and deception. It is a story of unintended consequences, and it is a story of anger and violence. It is the story of American foreign aid.

Joseph Sambaï Mukendie never sleeps at home anymore. Mukendie's sleep is interrupted by dreams. He feels unsafe even a continent away from his attackers. Mukendie was arrested at home one night. He was taken to an underground cell at Camp Kongolo—a military base in Kinshasha, Zaire. The secret police of Mobutu stripped him naked, stretched him out on the floor, and then he was beaten with a large stick with nails protruding from the end.

Mobutu received billions of dollars in foreign aid from our country. Over his 30-year bloody dictatorship, he received billions of our taxpayer dollars. As his people starved, his wife went to Europe, spent millions of dollars on spending sprees. Zaire has very little running water and sporadic electricity. It rotted under Mobutu's rule, and yet he received billions of American dollars. Mobutu stole the lion's share of this. He became one of the richest men in the world. Enough was stolen that his wealth was estimated to be in the billions. They called his wife Gucci Mobutu. Her shoe collection rivaled Imelda Marcos'. She was capable of spending \$1 million in one day in Europe.

Jean Nguza Karl-i-Bond was an ally of Mobutu who fell out of his favor. Mobutu accused him of trying to seduce the First Lady. Many believed his only crime was that he was mentioned in the foreign press as a possible successor to Mobutu. Nguza was subjected to physical and electric torture to the genitals—too horrific to even repeat. The administration of Jimmy Carter, who ostensibly were champions of human rights, nevertheless continued the steady flow of foreign aid, for foreign aid is a bipartisan project. There is a consensus in the United States and in the Senate. We must send it no matter what the behavior of the recipients.

Not only did our leaders turn a blind eye to Mobutu's graft and human

rights abuses, they bestowed upon him inexplicable and personal friendship. Mobutu was known as a personal friend of the first President Bush and vacationed at his personal residence. When Mobutu traveled to Europe, he would stop by the Central Bank of Zaire. Early in his reign, he would come by with a Louie Vuitton bag and would get about \$50,000 in cash. Toward the end of his career, he was getting \$500,000 in cash for these trips to Europe. One of his many foreign residences was in Switzerland. He apparently had the time and money to vacation there, and even had his own brandy being made at our taxpayers' expense.

It is sad to contemplate what despots and dictators have done and are doing to their people. It is sadder still to realize they are being subsidized in this horrific behavior by taxpayer money. And it continues. We are having a debate now over foreign aid because they still want to send more. Many people think the answer is to send more; maybe they will behave better if they get more of our money.

Apologists for foreign aid don't deny foreign aid has often been stolen by corrupt leaders, and there is evidence the humanitarian outcomes are scant and don't occur. Nevertheless, the advocates of foreign aid justify the continuing aid with the argument we must often choose the lesser of two evils. As many have pointed out, the lesser of two evils is still evil.

Throughout the Cold War, the perceived threat of Soviet expansionism, though, clouded the minds of many leaders. American leaders would pick one dictator over another if he or she were a pro-American dictator. We didn't care what they were doing to their people. We turned a blind eye.

We gave money to dictators from Saddam Hussein, who was once our ally, receiving billions of our tax dollars, to the mujahedin, who were radical jihadists. But at the time, we didn't mind if they were a radical jihadist if they were our radical jihadist because they were opposing the Soviet Union. But the mujahedin actually, eventually, became the Taliban, who are now our enemies. We despise jihad now, and we fight against radical Islamic jihad. But at one time we subsidized jihad. In fact, there were several weapons left over from the time period when we were giving weapons to the mujahedin.

We subsidized Qadhafi before we fought Qadhafi. We gave Qadhafi foreign aid. He was our friend. In the year preceding his overthrow, there were Senators from this body speaking with Qadhafi's family about sending more money to Qadhafi. Where does the insanity end?

U.S. foreign aid has continued to flow despite a long string of abuses well-known to most of those who are dispensing the aid. They simply turn a blind eye. Except for Libya, Egypt, and Tunisia, where many are saying let's

send the money to secularists; now there is a question as to whether some of that money may be going to radical Islamists.

With the end of the Cold War, some were finally cut off. Mobutu, whom I mentioned, who committed these atrocious acts of torture, finally was cut off, but only after 30 years of receiving our taxpayer money, torturing his own people, and stealing everyone blind.

Foreign aid from developed countries in 2006 totaled \$100 billion a year. Over the past 50 years, we have given \$2 trillion to developing countries in foreign aid. Over the past 42 years, Easterly states that although \$568 billion has flowed into Africa, per-capita growth in income in Africa has been flat. In fact, in some countries, such as Zimbabwe, where Mugabe was in charge for several decades, the growth rate has actually been negative.

So for those who say: I just simply want to help people; I want to help poor people around the world by sending them money, it is stolen by their leaders. It doesn't get to the poor people, and, besides, some may have heard we are \$1 trillion short in our budget. How can we send more money overseas?

Some academics have argued that with the Arab spring, the emerging democracies will require even more foreign aid. Hillary Clinton is on Capitol Hill today asking for more money to go to Egypt. As they burn our flag, as the hordes gather by the tens of thousands, she is asking to send Egypt more money. There were no Egyptian policemen or soldiers who showed up when our Ambassador was attacked, and Hillary Clinton is asking for more money to go to Egypt.

According to Coyne and Ryan, the world's worst dictators have received \$105 billion under the guise of official developmental assistance. Instead of helping the poor, the assistance is aiding the ability of the dictators to remain in power. In fact, it keeps them in power long enough that it inflames the populace so that we end up having to go back in because of war because the populace is so inflamed against the dictator that we have propped up against popular rule.

Some academics argue emerging democracies will require more aid. Professors Bruce Bueno de Mesquita and Alastair Smith argue:

Democracy would make the price much higher. Democracy in Egypt comes at a big price for U.S. voters. Good or bad—that is up to the observer, but it will be costly, no doubt.

The professors' argument is that democracy is messy and costs more to subsidize because the ballot box gives voice to the minorities that dictators would not hear, that they would silence or imprison.

I think the real question and the image we have to have in our mind is when we see 10,000 people outside the Embassy in Pakistan burning the U.S. flag, imagine that we would send them

more money. Imagine we would not ask for restrictions on this money. I have been asking for 6 weeks to place restrictions on foreign aid. I am not even asking that it end, although I would, but I am asking to simply place restrictions on it. Everyone should watch this vote. If I get this vote, just watch. The vast majority of the Senate is going to vote for unlimited, unrestricted foreign aid. I will probably lose this vote, but when we ask our friends, when we go home and ask our friends: Should we be sending money to countries that disrespect us, to countries that burn our flag, I think most will find that 80 to 90 percent of the American people wouldn't send another penny. That may be why Congress has about a 10-percent approval rating. They don't get it. Ninety percent of the folks up here are going to vote to continue sending taxpayer money with no restrictions to countries that burn our flag and disrespect us. Is it any wonder that only 10 percent of America approves of Congress?

In fact, many people who claim to be conservatives are for foreign aid. Big government conservative advocates, such as John Guardiano, try to couch their support in feigned opposition. He says:

Now, I don't like foreign aid any more than the next conservative. Most foreign aid is probably economically wasteful and counterproductive. But the point of foreign aid is not economics. It is geopolitics.

That is what most of them will admit around here. Continuing his quote:

It is intended to shape a recipient country's behavior and, quite literally, buy American influence.

To his mind he says it does that. But if foreign aid is meant to shape a country's behavior, advocates have a lot of explaining to do. From Mobutu to Mugabe, from Mubarak to Hussein to Qadhafi, from the current Egypt to the current Pakistan that is holding a gentleman who helped us get bin Laden, to the current Pakistan that seemed somehow to let bin Laden live for 7 years in their midst with no knowledge he was there—they have some explaining to do. For those who advocate foreign aid, saying it is shaping the behavior of these countries, they have some explaining to do because it doesn't appear as if these countries respect America. It doesn't appear as if they even like us. And it also doesn't appear that if they want to be our ally they are acting like it.

That is all I am asking. If a country wants to be an ally of our country, they should act like it. If they want to receive and cash an American check, they need to act like our ally at the very least.

There is some question about whether the aid works when it is sent for poverty or humanitarian purposes.

Doug Bandow asked this question and argues that foreign aid actually encourages poverty and starvation because African nations use displays of poverty and starvation to seek more

aid. Why get rid of your problem? Why cure your problem if that is what you are showing the world you have so you can get more aid? We don't seem to care about results because we continue to give it to some of these dictators for decades, who produce no results and we know are stealing the money.

Brautigam and Knack illustrate the existence of a moral hazard problem surrounding foreign aid. They contend that aid allocation may actually encourage impoverishing policy because as the damaging policies create misery, the more likely the donors are to grant more aid.

Herb Werlin maintains that American foreign aid is undermined by tariffs and subsidies, including a \$3 billion-a-year subsidy lavished on 25,000 cotton farmers. Because of high subsidies, America is able to export corn at two-thirds the cost of production, making it impossible for African farmers to compete. So our trade policy makes it harder for African countries to become self-sufficient. Peanuts are protected by a tariff up to 164 percent, thereby making Africa's peanut-producing nations, such as Uganda, even more dependent on aid.

But it is not just rich people in poor countries getting foreign aid; we also continue to shift our dollars to rich countries.

Michael Tennant reports:

According to a report from the Congressional Research Service, in fiscal year 2010 the United States' top creditor nations received millions of dollars in aid.

So the countries we are borrowing money from, we are sending them foreign aid. China, to whom we owe over \$1 trillion, still gets \$27 million in aid. Russia, to whom we owe \$127 billion, still gets \$71 million in aid. To add insult to injury, China gets economic development assistance from the U.S. taxpayer.

It just amazes me. But you mark my words, you listen to the debate, and you watch the vote today—the vast majority does not want any change to foreign aid other than that they would increase it. If we are not getting the behavior we want, they would increase it.

Hillary Clinton is on Capitol Hill today asking to increase aid to Egypt—not to put restrictions on the aid, to increase it. We currently do have some restrictions on aid to Egypt. Hillary Clinton has waived those and said they are doing fine.

When the marauders, when the horde came to the Embassy in Egypt last week, there was a phone call made to our Embassy saying: The mob is coming. But no soldiers came. No one came to protect our Embassy. In the civilized world, the host nation protecting the guest nation's Embassy is of primary concern. It is something every civilized nation is expected to do. In the case of Egypt, no one came. We were lucky that we escaped death in Egypt. We weren't so lucky in Libya.

The report on China that found out we were borrowing money and then

giving foreign aid to countries we borrow from was commissioned by Senator TOM COBURN, who has been watching out for your money. He demanded this report, and he said:

Borrowing money from countries who receive our aid is dangerous for both the donor and the recipient. If countries can afford to buy our debt, perhaps they can afford to fund their own assistance programs without relying on the American taxpayer.

Michael Tennant goes on to say this:

We give China 3.9 million to enforce the rule of law and human rights, neither of which are thought to be China's selling points.

The one that really burns, though, is that \$700,000 in economic development assistance. It just boggles the mind that the U.S. taxpayer is asked to send money to China—which is outcompeting us in virtually every sector—to send money to subsidize their economic development assistance.

One would think that with all this evidence that foreign aid doesn't reach the intended beneficiaries and often winds up in the hands of dictators, this information would make it easy to defeat foreign aid.

When you look at the polls of the American people, you find that nearly 80 percent of the American people think foreign aid in general is a bad idea. We have roads in our country that are crumbling and need repair. We have bridges that are crumbling. In my State alone, we had a bridge out 6 months last year. We have two bridges in Kentucky that are older than I am and need to be replaced. We don't have the money, but we somehow have billions of dollars to send to people who disrespect us and burn our flag. I don't understand how we can send our money to these countries that disdain us, disrespect us.

In Pakistan, they hold the doctor who helped us get bin Laden. We fought a 10-year war in Afghanistan to get bin Laden and his followers. We finally got him—no help from Pakistan. He lived in Pakistan for many years. Pakistan is now mad that we got him. In fact, they riot over there and burn the American flag because we killed bin Laden. What do we do? Here is some more money. If we give you some more money, will you behave. If we give you more money, will you let our supplies go across your northern frontier.

But we don't ask them the real question: Are you our friend? If you are our friend, act like it. If you are our ally, act like it.

Anytime this question is broached over foreign aid, the vast majority of career politicians complain bitterly and quash any debate. I have been trying to have this vote for 6 weeks. I am still hopeful we will get it, but they don't want to vote on this because they know they are voting against the popular will, they are voting against the wishes of their constituents.

There is not one Senator from any one of the 50 States up here who, when they vote against these limitations on

foreign aid, won't be voting against the will of their State—they won't be voting against the will of their people. You can go to Massachusetts or Maine or to conservative Texas and ask the taxpayers, ask the voters: Are you in favor of sending money to these countries where tens of thousands of people are gathering and burning our flag? Are you in favor of sending hard-earned taxpayer money to countries that disrespect us? Are you in favor of sending money to these countries when we have so many problems at home that we can't handle? And in every State in the Union, you will find that a majority of voters—sometimes a vast majority of the voters—think it is a mistake. So what is happening here is that the will of the people is not being transmitted by this body because this body, when it votes on this issue, will vote in direct defiance of the will of the people.

It is often said that it is difficult to determine whether a recipient is a friend or a foe. Libya is an example. One day Libya came in from the cold. A longtime pariah among nations, rivaling Iran as a model for extreme thuggishness, Libya came in from the cold. Libya and her Colonel Qadhafi phoned the West and said they would change their ways, they would stop developing weapons of mass destruction and become good neighbors to all. This is before the recent Libyan revolution. This is the Qadhafi, whom we helped to overturn, who was by all accounts a horrible dictator, but about 2 or 3 years ago he came in from the cold and wanted to be a friend to America because he wanted our assistance.

With an alacrity sped by naivete, the West welcomed Qadhafi back into the bosom of respected nations. Delegations of U.S. Senators—ones who are still in this body—went to meet with Qadhafi, to meet with Qadhafi's family, to offer Qadhafi money. Prime Minister Tony Blair gushed with praise for his new friend Colonel Qadhafi. President Bush concluded that Libya was no longer a sponsor of terror. Three Senators met with Qadhafi's son and, according to leaked cables, offered him aid. Fast-forward barely a year later into the Arab spring, and these same Senators who were offering Qadhafi aid were back in Libya offering the rebels aid.

We should scratch our heads and say: My goodness. Maybe we should question the judgment of these people who tell you foreign aid should be given to everyone all the time, and if they misbehave, give them more, because you have Senators from this body going and offering aid to Qadhafi and a year later offering it to the rebels to overthrow Qadhafi and saying Qadhafi is a terrible dictator. He was. He always was. But he played a game, and we accepted the game because we are always willing to play the game with your money.

Egypt. Egypt is a pile of contradictions. In the words of former CIA Agent Robert Baer, "If you want a seri-

ous interrogation, you send a prisoner to Jordan. If you want them tortured, you send them to Syria. But if you want them to disappear—never to see them again—you send them to Egypt."

This was the Egypt under Mubarak, who—when we felt someone needed to be tortured or disappeared and we didn't want there to be any repercussions coming back on us, that is where they sent them—to Egypt.

Over the past 30 years, we bought this sort of regime there to do our bidding when we wished. It became very unpopular with the people. So you wonder about the Arab spring and you wonder, why are these people so unhappy? Well, they hated Mubarak because he was a dictator, he was an autocrat, and they didn't have freedom of speech, they didn't have freedom of association, and they were beaten with billy clubs if they tried to gather. Their political parties were outlawed. They hated Mubarak because he was antidemocrat. He didn't allow voting. But he was our guy. We paid for him.

So you have to think this through. Why is there such widespread anti-Americanism? Because we have propped up and given money to so many despots, to so many dictators. Over the past 30 years, the United States sent over \$30 billion to Egypt to help finance a police state ruled by an emergency decree that lasted several decades.

Khaled Said became the face of that foreign aid, as pictures of his bloody beating at the hands of the Egyptian police spurred the youth of Egypt to take to the streets in the Arab spring of 2011.

On June 6, 2010, Said had been sitting on the second floor of a cyber cafe. Two detectives from the Sidi Gaber police station entered the premises and arrested him. Multiple witnesses testified that Said was beaten to death by the police, who reportedly hit him and smashed him against objects as he was led outside to their police car.

The owner of the Internet cafe in which Said was arrested stated that he witnessed Said being beaten to death in the doorway of the building across the street after the detectives took him out of the cafe at the owner's request.

Another young man, Wael Ghonim, a young Egyptian living in Dubai, found the photos of Said after he was beaten to death by police, and he started a Facebook page. It is called "We are all Khaled Said." It was moderated by Wael Ghonim. It brought attention to his death, and it became a phenomenon and spread across the Middle East as people saw the death of this man, beaten to death by the police.

So we have to think, why are we seeing people burning the American flag? Why are we seeing such great unrest in 30 different countries? Because our foreign aid and our military aid have propped up dictators who become, over decades, despotic, autocratic, who torture their people and prevent freedom from occurring, and then there is a

backlash. What we are seeing is the backlash of 30 years of foreign aid and propping up military dictatorships simply because they were predisposed to like us as opposed to someone else.

“We are all Khaled Said” was the rallying cry that brought hundreds of thousands of people to the streets in Egypt. Ghonim’s Facebook, where he posted “We are all Khaled Said,” spawned a revolution.

As hundreds of thousands of protesters filled Tahrir Square, the police beat them back.

David Reiff of the New Republic reports:

U.S. military aid to Egypt, which averages \$1.3 billion annually, allowed the Egyptian police and paramilitaries to bombard protestors with volley after volley of tear gas made by a company in Pennsylvania.

Why are they angry? They know this. They know their protests are beaten down by autocrats supported by the United States who are spraying tear gas on them that is made in the United States. We have to understand the dynamic if we are ever to try to improve the situation.

The protest in Egypt escalated day after day. An unemployed man by the name of Salah Mahmoud, who had moved to Cairo in search of work to save enough money to own a home and marry but instead had been living on small day’s wages, set himself on fire in the middle of the street before being put out by bystanders.

The U.S. military aid and tactical training given to Libya, Egypt, and Tunisia to fight terrorism was used to fight against free association and freedom of speech of their people.

When we hear about the Arab spring, we need to understand where the Arab spring comes from. The Arab spring was a rising up for democracy. There is nothing wrong with that. But why would a rising up for democracy take on anti-American tones? I am as offended as anybody else by people burning our flag. But we have to understand why did the Arab spring that seemed to be a search for freedom and democracy—why did it get transformed into an Arab winter? Why did it get transformed into an anti-American protest? Because the tear gas that rained down on them for decades was made here, because the police batons were paid for with our money, because Mubarak, who stole millions of dollars and whose family lived with such wealth and abundance, with homes in London and Paris and secret Swiss accounts, got that at our expense. So when they hated Mubarak, they hated us also. They hated us because we were Mubarak. They hated us because we were Ben Ali in Tunisia. They hated us because we were at one time Saddam Hussein’s friend.

If we do not understand this, we are never going to figure out a way to make things better. There are many and ample fiscal reasons to oppose foreign aid, but Thomas Eddlem puts it succinctly when he writes: “Foreign

aid has historically been used to suppress freedom and has reduced the moral influence of the example of the U.S. Constitution.”

It is hard for us to imagine, because we have such a great Constitution and such great freedom here, why they don’t appreciate that. Why don’t they appreciate and look to the shining example we set? We do set a great example in our country for freedom and tolerance and association. Why can’t the folks in the Middle East see that? Because they see the truncheon, they see the police baton, they see the jail cells, they see trial without jury from the autocrats we have supported. We have to understand why this anti-Americanism comes. It has come because, largely, our foreign aid for decade upon decade has been given to despots throughout the Middle East. Those despots have run roughshod on their people and their people are unhappy.

It is not that they despise our Constitution. I think many of them would like to have the freedoms enshrined in our Constitution, but it is confusing to us because we think: Oh, they hate what America is all about. They hate America for our wealth and freedom. They don’t hate wealth and freedom. They probably don’t hate us in the abstract, but they hate us because when they see Mubarak, when they see the other end of a truncheon coming from the police of Mubarak or the police of Saddam Hussein or the chemical weaponry and the chemical gas Hussein sprayed on his people, they see where it came from and they see the money that came in to prop up these dictators.

From 1980 to 1988, there was a war. We have largely forgotten about it. It was between Iran and Iraq. In that war there were planes on both sides, American planes, because we had sold planes to both sides. At the time, Iran was still flying many F-4s, a couple hundred F-4 Phantoms, and on the other side we had advisers on the ground advising Hussein.

Hussein was our ally. We sent money to Hussein on a routine basis. There are some reports that said Hussein directly got money from our CIA. So we can understand the confusion over there and we can understand that even though Iraq was been liberated and there is a democracy there, that some of them still seem to hate us for some reason. We wonder why they would hate us if we freed them. Because some still remember Hussein and they fear there will be another Hussein.

One of the saddest stories that came up in the last week was a young soldier who was killed in Afghanistan. He was killed by the policeman, the Afghan policeman he was training. We have had over 50 deaths in Afghanistan this year from friendly fire, from our supposed allies. This one was particularly sad. This boy was to come home within a week or two. His brother was having a football game. He was supposed to make his brother’s football game. This

is a patriotic family, a military family. This boy proudly served, and he deserves nothing but our admiration. But he called his dad a week before and he said to his dad: I think the guy I am training is going to kill me. The Afghan policeman had been coming up to him for weeks saying, “We don’t want you here.”

These are the people we are sending our money to. We are sending our young men and women to die over there, but we are supporting people who it is not clear want to be our friends or want to be our allies. It is not clear we can win their friendship. The President of Afghanistan, Karzai, we basically helped get in power. He stays in power probably because of our presence there. Yet he is disdainful of us. They have said if there is a war with Pakistan—Karzai said he would side with Pakistan.

When there was a shooting recently where an Afghan policeman shot several of our officers in a government building where they should not have been armed—or were not armed—Karzai’s response was to talk about the burning of the Koran, as if there was justification for these deaths.

When the riots erupted in Egypt recently, what were the first words out of President Mursi’s mouth, from Egypt? The first words out of his mouth were: How dare America produce this film?

America didn’t produce the film, but those were the first words out of his mouth, not that “we should protect the Embassy” and that “there is no justification for attacking an embassy” regardless of any kind of discussion over this movie.

We have to figure out how do we get and retain valid allies? We do have allies around the world we do not give any money to. But too often through the years we have decided to choose one dictator over another, to choose the lesser of two evils. Ultimately, often we have had to go back in to fight against our own weapons. Hussein was our ally. We ended up going back to fight against him. The mujahedin, who became the Taliban, they were our ally, too, against Russia. We were, in fact, in favor of radical jihad when it was directed against the Soviet Union. Some of the weapons are left over. In fact, when we look at Taliban weapons captured now, many of them are American weapons because it is unclear whether we have a good handle on what we give to the Afghan police. We are not positive they don’t wind up in the hands of the Taliban.

It is a murky situation, but I don’t think it is a situation that should continue. I think it is time to come home from Afghanistan.

People on the other side say: You want to disengage. No; I want to have relationships with countries around the world. I want to have diplomatic relationships. I want to have trade. But I don’t think having diplomatic relationships or engaging with other countries means we have to bribe them.

There are some people who hate us enough that bribing them will not work and often is counterproductive.

Thomas Eddlem reports that even:

Rieff—[from the New Republic, who is] no opponent of foreign aid in theory—concluded of [foreign] aid to Egypt [that] “this is not only a moral scandal, it is a geo[political] strategic blunder of huge portions.”

Like so many authoritarian regimes, the prime beneficiary of the U.S. foreign aid of Egypt was the leader for life, Mubarak, and the end result of 30 years of supporting an unpopular dictator is we are now seeing uprising in the streets. Why are they anti-American? Because they see us as friends of Mubarak. Mubarak was not a friend of freedom.

Aladdin Elaasar, author of “The Last Pharaoh: Mubarak and the Uncertain Future of Egypt in the Obama Age,” said the Mubaraks owned several residences in Egypt, some inherited from previous Presidents and the monarchy and others he has built. “He had a very lavish lifestyle with many homes around the country.”

He estimates the family’s wealth between \$50 billion and \$70 billion. The gross national income is \$2,000 per family in Egypt. Do you think that might make people a little bit mad? The guy is worth \$50 to \$70 billion and the average income is \$2,000. The average income in Africa has not improved in decades and they have dictators worth billions of dollars. Do you think that makes those people harbor anti-American sentiments because the leaders, these dictators, have gotten American money? About 20 percent of the population in Egypt lives below the poverty line, according to a 2010 report.

It is not just Hosni Mubarak himself, it is his whole family who has been enriched. In 2001, they estimated his wealth at \$10 billion just in American banks, Swiss, British banks, Bank of Scotland, England, Credit Suisse of Switzerland. You wonder what it is worth today or if we found it all. You also wonder how much of that money in those secret bank accounts is actually just your money.

Egypt’s First Lady Suzanne Mubarak’s wealth just by herself is estimated at \$5 billion. How much of that is your money?

When we hear these numbers of billions of dollars the dictators have secreted away in Swiss bank accounts, listen to that and remember when we hear the plethora of Senators who will come to the floor and say that not one penny of foreign aid should ever be cut—ever. Not one penny of aid, they argue, should have conditions placed on it.

The amendment I will offer today places conditions on foreign aid, but it places conditions that have to pass the Senate, not that can be rubberstamped by Hillary Clinton. Hillary thinks human rights are going fine in Egypt. She rubberstamped and said: Give them 1 billion a couple months ago, no human rights abuses in Egypt.

She also approved an extra billion for Pakistan 1 month ago. We cannot rely on the purse strings to be transferred—particularly to this administration but even any administration, Republican or Democratic. The purse strings are to remain—were intended to remain and the Constitution says are to remain—in the legislature.

This is a real problem. My legislation makes it come back, and we have to vote on it here, that they are in compliance, that there are no human rights violations, that Egypt is not stealing the money and that they are willing and able—that they can and will protect our Embassy.

I think, at a very minimum, if they are going to cash our check, if they are going to have our foreign aid—which I am not a big fan of—but if they are going to get it, at the very least it should have strings attached to say: You have to protect the American Embassy.

One of Mubarak’s friends was Gamal Mubarak. He is the Assistant Secretary General of the ruling Democratic National Party in Egypt. His own wealth is estimated at \$17 billion, supposedly spread through several banking institutions in Switzerland, Germany, the United States, and Britain. You wonder how much of the \$17 billion is actually your money.

Alaa Mubarak, the daughter, her property has reached into nearly \$8 billion. She has properties on Rodeo Drive in Los Angeles, real estate in Washington State, New York, owns two royal yachts with a value of 1 million pounds. These are the yachts one can land a helicopter on. These are the yachts that have a swimming pool on them. How much of that \$8 billion, how much of the money that went to pay for these yachts for the Mubarak family is yours?

The thing is, you should be mad. I think Americans are mad. But it is this confusing situation. We should be mad about the foreign aid and so are the populations who are burning the American flag, they are mad—because they did not receive the foreign aid. The foreign aid went to Mubarak. So you should be mad that your Senators send this money to dictators and that the dictators live these lavish lifestyles in mansions throughout the world, throughout Switzerland, London, Paris. Some of the largest private homes in the world are owned by dictators, paid for with your money.

You should be angry. You should be frothing. You should be upset. You should tell your Senators, you should tell your Congressman: No more money to these dictators.

But at the same time you become angry, think it through and understand why the Arab world is angry. They don’t hate our freedom. They don’t hate our Constitution. They are angry at their own dictators, but they are angry we propped up their dictators for decade after decade. But it all has to do with foreign aid.

I have been arguing primarily about Pakistan, but the thing is, this is bigger than Pakistan. Pakistan is just the most egregious and one of the larger recipients of our aid—\$3 billion worth a year, maybe more. Right now they are holding Dr. Shakid Afridi, who is the doctor who helped us get bin Laden. They tortured him for a year, and he will be in prison for the rest of his life. That is not the way an ally acts.

I say no more money to Pakistan until they release this doctor. I don’t think that is too much to ask. We would find very few in this body who agree. Ask the American people and 80 to 90 percent agree no more money to Pakistan until the doctor is free. I will be lucky to get 20 percent of them to agree to not just cut off aid, but have restrictions on aid. That is how bad it is.

The Arab spring brought corruption and theft of U.S. aid to Libya and Egypt, but Africa is rife with stories of theft and dictator spoils.

Teodrin Obiang Nguema is the son of Equatorial Guinea’s dictator. He recently ran afoul of French customs who discovered that his chartered jet had 26 supercars on it, including seven Ferraris, five Bentleys, four Rolls Royces, and two Buggatis. Is anybody besides me mad that we are sending foreign aid to African dictators whose sons are importing Rolls Royces, Bentleys, Ferraris, and Buggatis to Africa, countries that have no electricity?

I don’t care if you are the biggest humanitarian in the world and you want to help people, it is not going to the people. The foreign aid is stolen by the leadership of these countries. This is not one example; this is example after example, decade after decade.

The learning curve around here is so slow we will get 10, maybe 20 Senators to place any restrictions on foreign aid. Seventy percent of the people living in Africa live under the poverty threshold of \$2 a day, and the son of a leader is importing Buggatis, Bentleys, Rolls Royces, and Ferraris on his own private charter jet. It has to be a pretty big jet to have 26 supercars on it. The rest of Africa lives on \$2 a day. It is our money given by our government to dictators in Africa. We have to get the connection. We need to be mad. There needs to be an “American spring” where we tell our leaders we are sick and tired of our money going to fund dictators—an American spring where we understand what happened in the Arab spring.

The Arab spring is a direct consequence of us sending foreign aid and lavishing it on people who don’t respect the freedom of their constituents and don’t allow constitutional freedoms. The Arab spring’s anger, as much as it is directed against America, is not against our Constitution. It is not because they don’t believe in freedom. It is because they are upset that we have been funding and subsidizing their dictators. The United States has given Guinea almost \$300 million over

the past 10 years despite Guinea having one of the worst human rights records on the planet. Torture is said to be commonplace.

The New York Times reported last spring: "Any policeman can arrest any citizen at any time."

Torture is a "current thing," "current," said Mr. Mico, a lawyer who is with an opposition party. He was recalling his own beating in the presence of high officials.

Gonzalo Ndong Sima, a pharmacist in the center of town, recounted his recent encounter with the police over a simple traffic mishap saying, "They beat me like an animal."

So what do we do? We give Guinea our money and people are beaten with police truncheons at traffic accidents. Who are they mad at? We need to begin to understand where the anger is coming from. When we prop up dictators in third-world countries who beat their subjects into submission, that is why they are angry. They don't care that we are wealthy or free. They are angry because we prop up dictators who beat them with truncheons.

Despite widespread reports of abuse, corruption, and ineffectiveness, foreign aid continues unabated. Despite polls that show over 70 percent of the American voters are opposed to foreign aid, it continues unabated.

Even when advocates of foreign aid are beaten down with stories such as I have been telling today of human rights abuses, starvation, and death threats, hangings, shootings, executions, these advocates trot forward their last defense: "Foreign aid is less than 1 percent of the whole budget." It is only \$30 billion.

Do you know how many times they use that argument? Every time I want to cut \$30 billion, it is only \$30 billion. They use it for \$300 million too. It is only \$300 million. If we don't get started somewhere, how are we ever going to balance our budget? We can't live on the \$1 trillion deficits.

They argue eliminating foreign aid would not balance the budget. No, it won't, but it is a start. We have to start somewhere, and why not start with something that is counterproductive? Why not start with eliminating something from the budget that is counterproductive and seems to create some of the anger—at least it is some explanation for the anger in the Arab world.

The final arguments for foreign aid are so flimsy one would not think they would be worth much to even try to refute. Proponents of the status quo use this argument over and over for any budgetary item. If we can't cut millions now or even billions, how will we ever get to trillions?

When conservatives argued for cutting small subsidies to little airports that sometimes subsidize one airline ticket for \$3,000, they argue it will only save \$300 million. It is not a valid argument, it is a weak argument, and we should not accept it.

Cutting \$30 billion worth of foreign aid would not balance the budget, but I am not even asking to cut the foreign aid. What I am asking for is that we place contingencies on it, rules of behavior. If they want to be our ally, act like it. If they want to be America's ally, act like it. If they want to cash our check, act like an ally and behave. At the very least shouldn't there be rules and restrictions on who gets it?

While there are reasons they are burning the American flag, I am an American and it upsets me. I am bothered by the fact that the American flag is being burned, but I am also bothered by the fact that we are sending money to countries where this is occurring. We are faced daily with tens of thousands of protesters in these Middle Eastern countries. We are faced with the tragic assassination of Ambassador Stevens.

With all the aid and all the evidence that foreign aid is not working, that it enables dictators and rarely buys the behavior we want, Republicans and Democrats still clamor for more. They will fight tooth and nail against any restrictions on the aid.

So one wonders, where are we going? In fact, we will find in this argument—and if we will read the paper, we will find that Secretary of State Clinton is arguing for more aid to Egypt. Their argument is if a country doesn't like us, if they behave illy toward America, if we give them more money, maybe they will act better.

I think the opposite. One, we are out of money. We are \$1 trillion short. I think if we give them less money, they would think more about their behavior. Perhaps if we gave less money or, in my mind, no money to Pakistan until Dr. Afridi is released, maybe he would be released.

It boggles the mind to think these Senators are in favor of no restrictions and increasing aid despite decades of evidence that aid is not working. Proponents of this aid continue to argue that these mobs will be more inflamed if we don't give them money. I think it is quite the opposite.

I think the other thing about it they don't quite get is that I don't think the people writing are writing and saying give us more aid. What they are writing for is they don't like what our aid did in the first place. They are writing against autocratic authoritarian governments that were propped up by our aid.

People arguing that taking away the aid will inflame the Arab world, turn on the television set. They are plenty inflamed. Taking it away doesn't make it better, but at least we have some consultation that we are trying to do something about the deficit and maybe we have problems at home that are more pressing than this and maybe we won't reward bad behavior.

To say that taking away the aid may inflame the Arab world, just turn on the television set because they are plenty inflamed already. If we don't

understand why they are inflamed, if we don't understand the Arab spring, if we don't understand why they are mad, that they are mad that we propped up dictators who kept them down and kept them from freedom, we will never understand or come to a resolution to make things better.

I, for one, will not vote for one more penny of foreign aid to anyone unless it has restrictions on it. I will only vote for it if the restrictions say they have to behave and it has to be approved by the Senate. We have tried it before. The other side may come to the floor and say foreign aid already has restrictions. Well, yes, they are not working because we gave them to the executive branch. Like so much in this body, we have been giving up power to the Presidency for 100 years. This is not a Republican-Democrat thing. This is just a legislative abdication of power, and we let the President do whatever he wants.

I am not arguing Republican or Democrat. I am arguing any President. The power should remain here with the purse strings. We should control them tightly, and we should say foreign aid only goes out under strict conditions. We should not let the final decision be made by an administration that doesn't seem to have the fortitude to make these tough decisions.

Enough is enough. We are running trillion-dollar deficits, and it is time to make a stand. I have been making a stand for the last week by filibustering this bill. It doesn't make me the most popular person here in Washington. People's travel schedules have been disrupted because of my filibuster. People's campaigning has been disrupted because of my filibuster. But this is not a new problem, and it is not a small problem.

We are talking about an aid program that has gone on decade after decade. We are talking about an enormous uprising in 30 countries, the Arab spring, and now maybe the Arab winter. We are talking about how we make things better. Until we fully understand what the Arab spring is about and also why the huge amount of anti-Americanism is running throughout the Middle East, we can't make it better.

I say throwing good money after bad is not the answer. This evening I think we will get to vote on my amendment. My amendment is to simply say to Libya, Egypt, and Pakistan that there are restrictions. All three will have to say that they will protect our embassy. There is a question of whether Egypt was forthcoming in protecting our embassy, and there is no question Libya was not.

In the case of Libya, I think there are elements there that like America, and there are also still elements that don't like America, but there is not really a government. I wonder if an embassy should be reopened in Libya. If we reopen the embassy in Libya and we put 50 marines in there, we may have a catastrophe like we had in Lebanon

when 200 marines were killed in the early 1980s. Without thousands of marines, I don't think we can protect an embassy in a large city in Libya.

It doesn't mean we don't have relations. When I argue for not putting the embassy back in, it is because I think long and hard about the danger to another ambassador and what their family will have to suffer if another ambassador is killed. I also think we can have probably an embassy in a neighboring country, and that is what I will recommend until things stabilize.

If Libya wants to have aid, they should keep cooperating with us with regard to finding the assassins. They should try to work where they can become stable enough to have an embassy. The bottom line with Libya that a lot of people forget—as I talk about foreign aid, so many people say we can't cut off aid to Libya; they want to be pro-American. They have oil.

When President Obama was bombing Libya, he kept saying: It will all be free. They will pay us for it later. It will be a free war. We heard that one before. Iraq was going to be a free war also. Iraqi oil was going to pay for it. It never ends up happening. That is what they told us about Libya.

With regard to Pakistan, I have one additional requirement. They have to prove to us they will protect our embassy, and they have to release Dr. Afridi. I think this is very little to ask. He is under death threats in prison. His family is under death threats in the countryside. They are hiding and living in fear because they helped us.

The other reason why this administration should take it personally is somebody leaked Dr. Afridi's name. His name should have never been known. I doubt it was someone with the CIA, but somebody who knew his name leaked this story. There were some stories about a month or two ago about how the President was doing a great job with terrorism. In those stories they talked about a doctor with a vaccine program and his name was found out. Somebody leaked it. Somebody very close to the President leaked it. I think that needs to be investigated. It is a crime and it should be punished. Not only is it a crime, but whomever in the administration leaked that information about Dr. Afridi, I hope they lie awake at night and worry about their soul in the sense that this man may well die. He is going to be in prison for the rest of his life because his name was leaked. That kind of behavior from high-ranking government officials is inexcusable.

This evening we will have this vote. I will encourage Senators to vote for this resolution. It doesn't end aid. I would prefer we end it. This is a moderate step in the sense that it attaches conditions to it. I think the American people expect that of us, at the very least, and I encourage my fellow Senators to vote for my resolution.

I thank the Chair.

Mr. President, I yield back the remainder of my time, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that I be allowed to address the Senate as in morning business, with a colloquy with the Senator from South Carolina, and perhaps other Senators who may wish to speak.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

IMMIGRATION

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, before I get into the issue concerning the amendment of the Senator from Kentucky, I was just informed that the President of the United States, while speaking to Hispanic television, alleged that the reason why immigration reform was not enacted in the last 4 years of his Presidency is because the Senator from Arizona walked away. Incredible. An incredible statement. I am not often in the business of accusing Presidents of the United States of not telling the truth. But facts are stubborn things.

First of all, it was then-Senator Obama who joined with Senator Kennedy and me when we were doing comprehensive immigration reform, and we pledged that we would take tough votes so the whole fragile coalition would not fall apart.

Instead of doing that, the then-Senator from Illinois, Barack Obama, proposed an amendment which would have destroyed the entire coalition we had together, and did so without telling Senator Kennedy or me or anyone else, by sunseting the provisions that called for temporary workers.

But, more importantly, in 2009, I was invited over to the White House. I went over there. It was a conversation with others about comprehensive immigration reform, and the President at that time stated they would be proposing legislation. I told him I would be glad to examine it and I would be glad to support any effort to comprehensive immigration reform that I could agree with. Nothing came from the White House—zero, not one word. Not one piece of legislation was proposed by the administration.

After the shooting and the tragedy in Tucson, the President gave a great speech. I wrote an article thanking him. I was invited over to the White House again. And when we discussed comprehensive immigration reform, I said: I am ready to sit down with you and move forward on it. He said: Of course. There was never a word. Was the President of the United States waiting for the Senator from Arizona

to bring forward comprehensive immigration reform? Is that how he thinks government works? So again we find a President who wants to blame everybody else no matter what it is.

My friend from South Carolina was involved in this issue as well, and I would be interested in his observation of this entire issue. I still stand ready to move forward with comprehensive immigration reform.

Mr. GRAHAM. I thank the Senator.

It was very difficult politics. It was a very fragile but robust coalition back in the day. President Bush sent over two Cabinet Secretaries every week and was personally involved in trying to get comprehensive immigration reform passed in 2006 and 2007. I saw firsthand the commitment by the White House, where Secretary Gutierrez and many others came over—the Homeland Security Secretary came over—and basically wrote the bill line by line—Senator KENNEDY, myself, MCCAIN, KYL—a bunch of people—SALAZAR. Senator Obama showed up on occasion.

But at the end of the day, the basic construct was that for a modern immigration system—merit-based immigration, a new way of doing business, better border security, better employer verification systems—Republicans would allow the 12 million to earn their way into lawful standing—a long and arduous way back to citizenship they would have to earn—and, in return, we would get a temporary worker program that would help American businesses supplement the labor force when they could not find an American worker, after paying a competitive wage.

The chamber, all businesses were for this because it gave the business community the certainty they needed regarding immigration. Part of the grand bargain was that the chamber would be able to access labor in a more modern, efficient way. The labor unions hated that part of the bill. A lot of people on the right hated the idea of an earned pathway to citizenship—coming out of the shadows and living under the law, paying taxes, and all the other things in the bill.

Senator Obama, out of nowhere, came to the floor and said: I have a commonsense amendment I would like to propose that we sunset the temporary worker program—\$400,000, I think it was, allocated to American businesses—after 5 years.

Well, what would have happened if I came to the floor and said: Let's terminate the pathway to citizenship or sunset it after 5 years?

That was the heart and soul of the deal. Thank God his amendment went down. But during the negotiations and during that critical time, I think he gave in to the pressure from the unions. But he did promise, in 2008, when he ran against Senator MCCAIN, that he would pass comprehensive immigration reform in his first year.

I looked at the interview last night and got bits and pieces of it. As I recall the first year of the Obama administration, it was all about ObamaCare and

the stimulus. I do not remember any effort, bipartisan or otherwise, to deal with comprehensive immigration reform because all the political capital was spent on ObamaCare and the stimulus.

At the end of the day, the only time President Obama has talked about immigration reform was when rallies were going to be held. And here, at the late hour of the election, he tries to do something with a dream act modified in a unilateral fashion.

So at the end of the day, the Senator is right, I say to Senator McCAIN. He can blame others, but I think the record speaks pretty loudly and clearly where his agenda lay in the first couple years of his administration, and immigration reform was not even a blip on the radar screen.

FOREIGN AID

Mr. McCAIN. Mr. President, on another subject, yesterday the Senate and, then later, the House were called together to get a briefing from key members of the administration, led by the Secretary of State; a high-ranking member of the FBI; our Director of National Intelligence, General Clapper; and the Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, to tell us ostensibly what happened in the tragic deaths of Ambassador Christopher Stevens and three other brave Americans.

We gathered down in the secret room, where everybody turns in their phones and BlackBerries, and we went in and listened to basically a description of America's military disposition in that part of the world—something which certainly does not warrant a super-secret briefing.

But, more importantly than that, when the Secretary and the others were asked exactly what happened—what happened here? What caused this tragedy? What was the sequence of events?—in fact, it was Senators and the ranking member of the Intelligence Committee: What happened?—the answer was: Well, that is still an ongoing investigation and we cannot tell you anything.

Now, we were supposed to be down there to hear what happened, to hear the administration's version of the events of what happened. We were told nothing. We were told absolutely nothing because there is an investigation going on.

This morning in the Wall Street Journal, entitled "Misjudgments Preceded Deadly Libya Attack," there is a tick-tock starting at 8 p.m. all the way through of the events that took place. Now, if that is not an incredible disrespect to the Members of the Senate, I don't know what is. Again, it is an example of the disdain with which this body is held by the administration, including, I am sorry to say, the Secretary of State. It is not that I am offended as a Senator, it is the disrespect to the institution of the Senate when we are called together ostensibly to receive information, that information they tell us they can't give us, and

then it appears on the front page of the Wall Street Journal and the New York Times. What does that mean about the attitude this administration has to this body? Obviously, it is not one that I think is of respect.

Does the Senator wish to say something?

Mr. GRAHAM. Just briefly. I was very disappointed in the briefing yesterday too. The bottom line is that we asked questions like: How many security people were at the Benghazi consulate?

We will have to get back with you.

And you pick up the New York Times and you get a blow-by-blow description of what supposedly went on. So it was very frustrating, like pulling teeth to get information yesterday. A lot of Senators are frustrated. You pick up major papers in the country and you find details not shared with you.

One of the things I am worried about is that we are trying to find out who committed these terrible acts of terrorism. They were acts of terrorism, not a spontaneous riot.

We said: What is the game plan? Will they be held as enemy combatants? Are they going to be held as common criminals? Will they be prosecuted in Libya? Will they be brought back to the United States? Do you have to read them Miranda rights?

There was absolutely not a whole lot of information. But at the end of the day, I think it was a lost opportunity to inform the Congress.

Can we now move to the Rand Paul amendment?

Mr. McCAIN. Mr. President, I would like to take what remaining time we have in order to discuss the Paul amendment. I would like to begin by asking unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the letter from retired military leaders urging opposition to the Paul amendment.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

RETIREED MILITARY LEADERS URGE OPPOSITION TO PAUL AMENDMENT

SEPTEMBER 21, 2012.

DEAR SENATOR: As co-chairs of the U.S. Global Leadership Coalition's National Security Advisory Council, a group of more than 110 retired three- and four-star generals and admirals, we believe that the International Affairs Budget—U.S. foreign assistance—is critical to America's national security.

Like all Americans, we are concerned about the recent events that have taken place in Cairo, Benghazi, and other parts of the Arab world. However, a wholesale suspension of U.S. assistance to nations in this region is not in America's security interests.

U.S. assistance is not a gift to recipient nations. It is not a tool to make other countries like us. It's a critical component, along with a robust military, of America's national security strategy. These programs pay dividends in terms of our national security and preventing another 9/11.

America must remain strongly engaged in the world. We urge opposition to the amendment offered by Senator Rand Paul to suspend U.S. assistance to several nations in the most volatile regions of the world.

Thank you for your consideration of our views.

Sincerely,

ADMIRAL JAMES M. LOY,
USCG (RET.),
Co-Chair, National Security
Advisory
Council.

GENERAL MICHAEL W.
HAGEE, USMC (RET.),
Co-Chair, National Security
Advisory
Council.

NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISORY COUNCIL

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Lt. General John B. Conway, USAF (Ret.), Chief, National Guard Bureau ('90-'93); General Donald G. Cook, USAF (Ret.), Commander, Air Education and Training Command, ('01-'05); General Bantz J. Craddock, USA (Ret.), Commander, U.S. European Command and NATO Supreme Allied Commander Europe ('06-'09); Lt. General John "Mark" M. Curran, USA (Ret.), Director Army Capabilities and Integration Center/Deputy Commanding General Futures, Army Training and Doctrine Command ('03-'07); General Terrence R. Dake, USMC (Ret.), Assistant Commandant, US Marine Corps ('98-'00); Lt. General Joseph E. DeFrancisco, USA (Ret.), Deputy Commander in Chief and Chief of Staff of United States Pacific Command ('96-'98); Admiral Walter F. Doran, USN (Ret.), Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet ('02-'05); Lt. General James M. Dubik, USA (Ret.), Commander, Multi National Security Transition Command and NATO Training Mission-Iraq ('07-'08); General Ralph E. Eberhart, USAF (Ret.), Commander, North American Aerospace Defense Command/Commander, U.S. Northern Command ('02-'04); Admiral Leon A. Edney, USN (Ret.), Supreme Allied Commander Atlantic/Commander in Chief, U.S. Atlantic Command ('90-'92); Admiral James O. Ellis, Jr., USN (Ret.), Commander, U.S. Strategic Command ('02-'04); Admiral William J. Fallon, USN (Ret.), Commander, U.S. Central Command ('07-'08); Admiral Thomas B. Fargo, USN (Ret.), Commander, U.S. Pacific Command ('02-'05); General Robert H. Foglesong,

USAF (Ret.), Commander, U.S. Air Forces in Europe ('04-'05); Admiral S. Robert Foley, USN (Ret.), Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet ('82-'85); General John R. Galvin, USA (Ret.), Supreme Allied Commander, Europe/Commander in Chief, U.S. European Command ('87-'92).

Lt. General Robert G. Gard, Jr., USA (Ret.), President, National Defense University ('77-'81); Admiral Edmund P. Giambastiani, Jr., USN (Ret.), Vice Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff ('05-'07); Lt. General Arthur J. Gregg, USA (Ret.), Army Deputy Chief of Staff ('79-'81); Vice Admiral Lee F. Gunn, USN (Ret.), Inspector General, U.S. Navy ('97-'00); General Michael W. Hagee, USMC (Ret.), Commandant, U.S. Marine Corps ('03-'06); General John W. Handy, USAF (Ret.), Commander, U.S. Transportation Command and Commander, Air Mobility Command ('01-'05); General Richard E. Hawley, USAF (Ret.), Commander, Air Combat Command ('96-'99); General Michael V. Hayden, USAF (Ret.), Director, Central Intelligence Agency ('06-'09); Admiral Ronald J. Hays, USN (Ret.), Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Command ('85-'88); General Richard D. Hearney, USMC (Ret.), Assistant Commandant, U.S. Marine Corps ('94-'96); General Paul V. Hester, USAF (Ret.), Commander, Pacific Air Forces, Air Component, Commander for the U.S. Pacific Command Commander ('04-'07); General James T. Hill, USA (Ret.), Commander, U.S. Southern Command ('02-'04); Admiral James R. Hogg, USN (Ret.), U.S. Military Representative, NATO Military Committee ('88-'91); Lt. General Patrick M. Hughes, USA (Ret.), Director, Defense Intelligence Agency ('96-'99); General James L. Jamerson, USAF (Ret.), Deputy Commander in Chief, U.S. European Command ('95-'98); Admiral Gregory G. Johnson, USN (Ret.), Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Europe/Commander in Chief, Allied Forces Southern Europe ('01-'04).

Admiral Jerome L. Johnson, USN (Ret.), Vice Chief of Naval Operations ('90-'92); General John P. Jumper, USAF (Ret.), Chief of Staff, U.S. Air Force ('01-'05); Admiral Timothy J. Keating, USN (Ret.), Commander, US Pacific Command ('07-'09); Lt. General Richard L. Kelly, USMC (Ret.), Deputy Commandant, Installations and Logistics ('02-'05), Vice Director for Logistics, Joint Staff ('00-'02); Lt. General Claudia J. Kennedy, USA (Ret.), Deputy Chief of Staff for Army Intelligence ('97-'00); General Paul J. Kern, USA (Ret.), Commanding General, U.S. Army Materiel Command ('01-'04); General William F. Kernan, USA (Ret.), Supreme Allied Commander, Atlantic/Commander in Chief, U.S. Joint Forces Command ('00-'02); Lt. General Donald L. Kerrick, USA (Ret.), Deputy National Security Advisor to The President of the United States ('00-'01); General Ronald E. Keys, USAF (Ret.), Commander, Air Combat Command ('05-'07); Lt. General Bruce B. Knutson, USMC (Ret.), Commanding General, Marine Corp Combat Command ('00-'01); General Leon J. LaPorte, USA (Ret.), Commander, United Nations Command, U.S. Combined Forces Command, U.S. Forces Korea ('02-'06); Admiral Charles R. Larson, USN (Ret.), Commander, U.S. Pacific Command ('91-'94); Vice Admiral Stephen F. Loftus, USN (Ret.), Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Logistics ('90-'94); General John Michael Loh, USAF (Ret.), Commander, Air Combat Command ('92-'95); Admiral T. Joseph "Joe" Lopez, USN (Ret.), Commander in Chief, U.S. Naval Forces Europe/Commander in Chief, Allied Forces Southern Europe ('96-'98); General Lance W. Lord, USAF (Ret.), Commander, U.S. Air Force Space Command ('02-'06).

Lt. General James J. Lovelace, USA (Ret.), Commanding General, U.S. Army Central Command ('07-'09); Admiral James M. Loy,

USCG (Ret.), Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard ('98-'02); General Robert Magnus, USMC (Ret.), Assistant Commandant, U.S. Marine Corps ('05-'08); General Barry R. McCaffrey, USA (Ret.), Commander, U.S. Southern Command ('94-'96); Lt. General Dennis McCarthy, USMC (Ret.), Commander, Marine Forces Reserve ('01-'05); Vice Admiral Justin "Dan" D. McCarthy, SC, USN (Ret.), Deputy Chief of Naval Operations, Fleet Readiness, and Logistics ('04-'07); General Stanley A. McChrystal, USA (Ret.), Commander, International Security Assistance Force in Afghanistan ('09-'10); Vice Admiral John "Mike" M. McConnell, USN (Ret.), Director of the National Security Agency ('92-'96); Lt. General Frederick McCorkle, USMC (Ret.), Deputy Commandant for Aviation, Headquarters ('98-'01); General David D. McKiernan, USA (Ret.), Commander, International Security Assistance Force in Afghanistan ('08-'09)/Commander, US Army Europe ('05-'08); General Dan K. McNeill, USA (Ret.), Commander, International Security Assistance Force in Afghanistan ('07-'08); Lt. General Paul T. Mokolashak, USA (Ret.), Inspector General, U.S. Army/Commanding General of the Third U.S. Army Forces Central Command ('00-'02); Vice Admiral John G. Morgan, Jr., USN (Ret.), Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Information, Plans and Strategy ('04-'08); Admiral John M. Nathman, USN (Ret.), Commander, U.S. Fleet Forces Command ('05-'07); Admiral Robert J. Natter, USN (Ret.), Commander in Chief, U.S. Atlantic Fleet/Commander, Fleet Forces Command ('00-'03).

Lt. General Gregory S. Newbold, USMC (Ret.), Director of Operations, J-3 Joint Staff ('00-'02); General William L. Nyland, USMC (Ret.), Assistant Commandant, U.S. Marine Corps ('02-'05); Lt. General Tad J. Oelstrom, USAF (Ret.), Superintendent, U.S. Air Force Academy ('97-'00); Lt. General H.P. "Pete" Osman, USMC (Ret.), Commanding General II MEF ('02-'04); Lt. General Jeffrey W. Oster, USMC (Ret.), Deputy Administrator and Chief Operating Officer, Coalition Provisional Authority, Iraq (2004); Deputy Commandant for Programs and Resources, Headquarters Marine Corps (ended in '98); Lt. General Charles P. Otstott, USA (Ret.), Deputy Chairman, NATO Military Committee ('90-'92); Admiral William A. Owens, USN (Ret.), Vice Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, 1994-1996; Admiral Joseph W. Prueher, USN (Ret.), Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Command ('96-'99); Lt. General Harry D. Radege, Jr., USAF (Ret.), Director, Defense Information Systems Agency ('00-'05), Commander, Joint Task Force for Global Network Operations ('04-'05); Vice Admiral Norman W. Ray, USN (Ret.), Deputy Chairman, NATO Military Committee ('92-'95); General Victor "Gene" E. Renuart, USAF (Ret.), Commander, North American Aerospace Defense Command and U.S. Northern Command ('07-'10); General Robert W. RisCassi, USA (Ret.), Commander in Chief, United Nations Command/Commander in Chief, Republic of Korea/U.S. Combined Forces Command ('90-'93); Lt. General Michael D. Rochelle, USA (Ret.), Deputy Chief of Staff, G-1 Headquarters, United States Army ('06-'09); Vice Admiral Ronald A. Route, USN (Ret.), Naval Inspector General ('04-'07), President, Naval War College ('03-'04); Lt. General John B. Sams, Jr., USAF (Ret.), Commander, 15th Air Force ('98-'99).

General Peter J. Schoemaker, USA (Ret.), Chief of Staff, U.S. Army ('03-'07); Lt. General Norman R. Seip, USAF (Ret.), Commander, 12th Air Force/Air Forces Southern ('06-'09); General Henry H. Shelton, USA (Ret.), Chairman, joint Chiefs of Staff ('97-'01); Admiral Leighton W. Smith, Jr., USN (Ret.), Commander in Chief, U.S. Naval Forces Europe/Commander in Chief, Allied

Forces Southern Europe ('94-'96); Admiral William D. Smith, USN (Ret.), U.S. Military Representative, NATO Military Committee ('91-'93); Lt. General James N. Soligan, USAF (Ret.), Deputy Chief of Staff for Transformation, Allied Command Transformation ('06-'10); General Carl W. Stiner, USA (Ret.), Commander in Chief, U.S. Special Operations Command ('90-'93); Vice Admiral William D. Sullivan, USN (Ret.), U.S. Military Representative to NATO Military Committee ('06-'09); Admiral Carlisle A. H. Trost, USN (Ret.), Chief of Naval Operations ('86-'90); Admiral Henry G. Ulrich, USN (Ret.), Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Europe/Commander, Joint Forces Command Naples ('05-'08); General Charles F. Wald, USAF (Ret.), Deputy Commander, U.S. European Command ('02-'06); Lt. General Joseph H. Wehrle Jr., USAF (Ret.), Assistant Vice Chief of Staff, Headquarters U.S. Air Force ('02-'03); General Charles E. Wilhelm, USMC (Ret.), Commander, U.S. Southern Command ('97-'00); General Michael J. Williams, USMC (Ret.), Assistant Commandant, U.S. Marine Corps ('00-'02); General Johnnie E. Wilson, USA (Ret.), Commanding General, U.S. Army Materiel Command ('96-'99); General Anthony C. Zinni, USMC (Ret.), Commander in Chief, U.S. Central Command ('97-'00).

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I do not think that our military leaders, retired and Active Duty, are infallible, but I think their views are very important given the vast experience so many of them on this list have. These are 110 retired three- and four-star generals and admirals. I think we should at least pay close attention to their views. They have earned it. They have earned our respect for their views.

In addition, I ask unanimous consent to have a letter from AIPAC printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

THE AMERICAN ISRAELI,
PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE,

Washington, DC.

MAJORITY LEADER HARRY REID and MINORITY LEADER MITCH MCCONNELL: We are writing to express our opposition to the Paul amendment cutting off U.S. foreign assistance to countries which host a U.S. diplomatic facility that is attacked any time after September 1, 2012. While we hope every effort is made to find and prosecute the terrorists who murdered the brave U.S. diplomats killed in the Embassy attacks in Benghazi, Libya, we do not believe the approach outlined in the Paul amendment is the way to respond to those horrific attacks.

For one, the amendment is broadly drafted so it would potentially affect aid to any American ally (including Israel) should terrorists decide to "attack, trespass or breach" U.S. diplomatic facilities there. Furthermore, at this time of turmoil and uncertainty in the Middle East, the United States government needs to be able to use all available tools to influence events in the region. U.S. foreign assistance programs are a critical part of that toolbox, and essential to ensuring continued strong American leadership in the world.

We urge you to oppose the Paul amendment.

HOWARD KOHR,
Executive Director.

MARVIN FEUER,
*Director, Policy &
Government Affairs.*

BRAD GORDON,
*Director, Policy &
Government Affairs.*

Mr. McCAIN. This letter is from the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, America's pro-Israel lobby. It is a letter addressed to majority leader HARRY REID and minority leader MITCH MCCONNELL.

All of us here are very familiar with AIPAC. It is a very well respected and highly regarded organization that is really responsible for informing us, for strengthening our ties between the United States and Israel, and I hope my colleagues will take this very strong letter of AIPAC into consideration.

There are so many things wrong with the Rand Paul amendment that it is hard to know where to begin. I would like to mention—because I know my colleague who plays a role on the Appropriations Committee and the ranking member of the Intelligence Committee wants to join in, I do not want to take too much time. I wish to mention two countries—Libya to start with.

Somehow to labor under the belief that the Libyan people are opponents of the United States of America is a fundamental misunderstanding of the Libyans and the Libyan people. They are grateful. They are grateful to the United States of America. They have condemned this attack and this heinous crime of the assassination of four brave Americans. They have said they will do everything in their power to bring these people to justice.

I was there on July 7 in Tripoli. I saw thousands of Libyans saying: Thank you, America. Thank you, United States. Thank you, Ambassador Stevens. Thank you. Because they were under the yoke of one of the most brutal dictators on the Earth, who, by the way, was responsible for the deaths of Americans on Pan Am 103 and the bombing of the disco in Berlin.

But there is a problem in this country. They have porous borders. They have militias running around. They have not had a government of their own in forever, literally. And they need our help. They need our help in providing border security, in bringing these militias under control and these weapons that have proliferated everywhere.

So our message with the Paul amendment is this: Adios. See you around.

That is not America's role in Libya. That is not America's role in the world. And nothing would be more welcomed in Libya today by the Islamists and al-Qaida who are there and other extremists—nothing would make them happier than to hear that the United States had cut off all assistance to Libya. Nothing would encourage them more. Nothing would allow them to gain more traction and support from the Libyan people.

This is a fight for the hearts and souls of the people of the Middle East. It is not a video—it is not a video that has caused this problem and these riots and demonstrations. It is the efforts of the Islamists who magnify and spread

an obscure video throughout the Arab world to stoke the fears and anger of the people of these countries when the fact is that it is a struggle for power. That is what is going on with these videos—a struggle for power.

So we are going to send a message to the Libyan people who lost thousands of their citizens in this recent struggle to oust Qadhafi from their country.

The second country I wish to mention very quickly is Egypt. Many of us are disappointed at some of the actions the Egyptians have taken. I will say that President Mursi condemned these attacks. He went to Tehran and condemned Bashar al-Asad. But in my view, Egypt is pretty much up for grabs. I don't how the Egyptians are going to go. There is a struggle internally between the Salafists and the extremists and those who want a modern and democratic society, and that struggle will continue.

But I would also remind my colleagues that one of the signal agreements of our time was the Egyptian-Israeli peace agreement that was consummated at Camp David by President Carter, Anwar Sadat, and Menachem Begin. This was a major step forward—peace between Egypt and Israel. Part of that deal was that the United States would provide aid to Egypt.

How are the Egyptians going to react if we cut off aid to them? I can tell you how they will react. They will react that we have breached an agreement that has gone on for a long time. And, believe me, Egypt and Israel's relations are vital in the Middle East. And, again, what would prove a better message to the extremists than to be able to tell their people: Not only do the American people dislike us, not only are they not in support of us, but they will not assist us and other countries.

There are many other examples. I believe the role of the United States in the world is important, and I believe also, as I mention as a footnote, that this debate has been going on all of the 20th century, now into the 21st century. Those who are isolationists, who want to fortress America—you can go back to post-World War I and the fight over the League of Nations and, prior to World War II, the isolationists, the Henry Fords, the Charles Lindberghs, the isolationists prior to World War II, past World War II, the Taft wing of the Republican Party and the Eisenhower wing, all the way up until this fight that will probably continue, and history will show that the greatest Nation in history was the United States of America, which, following World War II, restored Europe, turned back the tide of communism, and has been able, all over the world, with no greed, no selfish interest except for democracy and freedom, to aid these countries, which eventually redounds to the favor of the United States of America.

I urge, obviously, rejection of the Rand Paul amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from South Carolina.

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. President, I do see Senator CHAMBLISS here. I will ask him a question and get his thoughts.

To kind of follow on what Senator MCCAIN said and to begin with, RAND PAUL is a recently elected Senator who has come to the body with a lot of enthusiasm, and he is willing to make hard choices. I have worked with him on Medicare reform, on Social Security reform. I think he will take on the spending situation in this country very aggressively. I think he is very brave when it comes to entitlement reform. On that side of the ledger, I find myself very much in agreement with what he wants to do. But he does have a view of foreign policy that I think is ill-suited to the times and historically has not worn very well.

As Senator MCCAIN said, history is full of moments where America and other powers felt that now is the time to withdraw and let those people argue among themselves. The problem with letting "those people"—and you just fill in the blank who they might be—argue among themselves is that it ignores the fact of what goes on in one place in the world can affect us, and there is no better example than 9/11. The entire operation to attack our Nation cost less than \$1 million. The 20 or 21 terrorists who trained to attack us had about a \$1 million budget. The author of this attack lived in a cave in a far-away place called Afghanistan. So it does matter what happens in places such as Afghanistan. Radical Islamists have no desire for democracy in the Mideast or anywhere else, and they are a force within the Mideast and throughout the world.

But the good news for us is they are a minority force. The Taliban, which is a cousin of al-Qaida, basically, are very much rejected by the Afghan people. When traveling to Kabul today, one sees a city with electricity, with commerce, with cars, with movement, and with women in school. The average Afghan doesn't want to go back to the Taliban way of doing business, where there is no music, there is no interaction with each other except on terms set for them. So what we see on the television at night is a political struggle for the heart and soul of the Mideast. This has been going on for a long time and, finally, the lid blew.

Egypt was an authoritarian, corrupt dictatorship. Tunisia. Libya was ruled by Qadhafi, Syria by Assad. What we see are people who have seen another way of living and they are saying, enough already, I am not going to be part of that anymore. I am going to try to change my life and my children's lives.

Within that population there also are people who are dead set on making sure that nation in the Islamic world go backward, not forward. We have to take sides. If we don't take sides, if we sit on the sidelines, we will pay a price.

I think it is better to help people fight the Taliban than it is to ignore the Taliban. I think it is good to go

after al-Qaida in every country on the planet so they never know a moment of peace, but we can have a few moments of peace. I think it is better to fight these guys in their backyard than to stay home and let them come to our backyard. There is a reason we haven't been attacked in over 11 years. We have been on the offensive, and there are more ways to be on the offensive than just bombing people.

The biggest fear of the Taliban and al-Qaida, beyond having a bomb dropped on their head—and they do not mind dying; they really don't like living. They will die in a heartbeat to make sure others can't live their lives the way they like. It is absolutely of no consequence to them to sacrifice their own life and take someone with them. Their goal is: If we are going to live, we are going to live their way, not our way. But their big fear is that people will have the capacity to say no to them and the ability to fight back and win in the countries in question.

When we killed bin Laden, that was a moment of satisfaction and justice. But has that changed the war on terror? Have the terrorists given up? Have people said: Oh, the Americans killed bin Laden so we better not go over the wall in Egypt; we better not attack the consulate? No. This is a struggle between the modern world and forces of darkness, and the way America wins this war is to empower those in other countries to fight and win in their own country, without us having to be there with 100,000 troops all the time.

The biggest nightmare of the Taliban and al-Qaida is to see built a one-room schoolhouse where kids can get an education, for the people to have clean drinking water that they own and control, where people can go to a courtroom rather than a sharia court to have conflicts resolved, and to see commerce and interaction with the rest of the world. That is what they fear most.

Our foreign assistance budget—foreign aid—is 1 percent of the entire Federal budget. If we took it off the table, we would be left with the following way to affect the world: Do nothing or bomb people. You know what, those men and women in uniform have been at war for 11 years. How about having a tool in America's toolbox to fight the enemy without having to use military force? When we clear a village of the Taliban, how do we hold and build that village? We bring in a health care clinic, something with the most rudimentary standards. It is not something we would even think about sending our kids to, but they welcome it because they have never had anything. We build a basic one-room schoolhouse, with a chalkboard and a few books. That lights up people's lives like we cannot believe. That is how we hold and build, with the State Department and the Department of Agriculture teaching people to plant crops other than heroin. That is the al-Qaida and Taliban's worst nightmare—and Egypt

and Libya and Pakistan and Yemen, and fill in the blank, Afghanistan.

Here is where I am going to challenge the judgment, quite frankly, of my friend RAND PAUL. He has offered an amendment at one of the most critical times in the history of the Mideast that would break, that would sever all aid, all assistance to Libya, Egypt, and Pakistan. Why are we so upset by this thought process? Trust me, I know we are broke—\$16 trillion in debt—and that America is struggling more now than at any other time in my adult life and that we have to get our fiscal house in order. But how do we live in peace and prosperity with the rest of the world in flames? If we want to pay \$10 a gallon for gas, turn the Mideast over to these crazy nut jobs.

Here is my view of what we should do. We should stay in this fight and we should do more things than just bomb people. We should help them help themselves. The good news is most people appreciate our help. What we see on TV is the result not of a film but of radical Islamists taking advantage of a moment.

Yes, the cultures are different. It is hard for people in the Mideast to understand that a film could be made disrespecting Islam without the government approving of it, because in their world nothing gets done without the government approving it. So it is important for us to say: This has nothing to do with the United States Government or the American people. This is the result of some crazy group of people who have what we call freedom of speech. It is uncomfortable, but that is the way we are.

I think it is important to let the Mideast know, and Muslims in general, that this is the way we operate. We reject the disrespect shown to anyone's religion, and that is not who we are as a people, but freedom of speech does exist here. The reason we need to explain that is because in their world they can't imagine something being done like this without the government blessing it.

Having said that, there is no excuse in any society to do harm to another human being because of the way somebody speaks or acts unless it is an act of violence.

Senator PAUL is proposing disengagement in three of the most volatile areas of the Mideast at a time when it means the most. The way he has written this amendment should make everyone pause and evaluate how they want to vote. AIPAC, which most of us are familiar with, has indicated the way the amendment is written, if there is an act of violence against a U.S. interest in Israel, maybe we would have to withdraw our aid to Israel. But they have said they oppose the RAND PAUL amendment because they know what happens to Egypt if this were to ever pass and become law.

The treaty Senator MCCAIN referred to was the Camp David Accords. Israel and Egypt have been living under a

peace treaty for decades now. Part of the deal was that America would provide aid to Egypt and Israel, and if we broke the agreement with Egypt, that would break the treaty with Israel.

So do not tell me or anybody else you support Israel if you vote for this amendment, because one of two things is going on: Either you have no idea what it means to support Israel or you are trying to pull the wool over my eyes. It is impossible to support the security of the Israeli nation and vote for this amendment because it will lead to the breach of a treaty with one of their strongest neighbors—80 billion people living in Egypt. It will unravel a delicate balance that has existed for decades. And I will be recorded as having no part of that. Imagine if this amendment passed what the chatter would be on every Islamic Web site in the world. And by the way, if these people had a PAC, they would be supporting this amendment.

I know RAND PAUL is as patriotic as anyone in this body, but the fact of the matter is the crazy Islamic extremist terrorists who try to kill us all would love nothing more than this to pass. They know they cannot win if we stay engaged helping people, so they are trying to drive us out because that is their best hope of winning the day. So if we want to empower the terrorists who exist in this world, we should pass this amendment because they will go crazy with hope and excitement that their tactics are working. And if we want to destroy the hope of everybody in the Mideast who has been brave enough to stand up to these thugs and lose their family members, if we want to break their spirit, then vote to pass this amendment. If this amendment passes, good luck finding anybody anywhere in the world who will partner with us, who would be brave enough to stand up to these thugs and say: You will not have my children's future. If this amendment passed, America could never look anyone in the eye again in the Mideast and say: Stand with me. You can count on me.

Ladies and gentlemen of the United States, and my colleagues in the Senate, I wish the world were not as screwed up as it is. I wish it would change. I hate the fact we have been at war and we have spent so much money. But I am telling you this right now: These are historic times in which we live. And every time in history when good people were confronted with evil and they blinked, millions died, not thousands. The only reason millions haven't died in the war on terror is the nut jobs who want to kill us all can't get ahold of weapons to do it. If you don't want Iran to get a nuclear weapon, if that bothers you—that they may get a nuclear weapon and throw the whole region into a nuclear arms race or share that technology with a terrorist organization to use it against us—then vote against this amendment. Because if this passed, what would the Iranians think about America's resolve to deal with them?

The last thing I am going to talk about is the vision of the author of this amendment, who, honest to goodness, is a friend, but on this issue I think he is dead wrong. Senator PAUL had the guts to write a budget, and I give him credit for that, but look at the vision of this amendment when it comes to our role in the world. In his budget, the American military's budget was reduced by 16 percent in the first year. This foreign assistance account I was talking about, which gives us a tool other than killing people—staying engaged and trying to build up their lives so they can live in peace with us, and is about \$50 billion, or about 1 percent of the budget—under his proposal it goes down to \$5 billion after 2014 and is frozen there forever.

It is important to note that the author of this amendment believes we can gut the military—and that is exactly what he does with military spending—and then take all the assets we have to help people off the table and we will be safe. I don't know how in the world anyone can believe, given the times in which we live, it is a good idea to take military spending below historic levels, disengage from the world, and have absolutely no influence on nations other than trying to use military force.

I hope my colleagues will come to the floor and resist the temptation to do something that sounds good in a 30-second sound bite. I know people are frustrated and war weary, and I know we are broke, and we would like to leave everybody else alone, but they are not going to leave us alone.

Look how much money we have spent after 9/11. Look what 20 people can do to this Nation if we disengage from the world.

So now I would like to ask the question of my colleague, Senator CHAMBLISS, who is the ranking member of the Intelligence Committee—and I have asked this of the author—when you wrote this amendment disengaging from Libya, Egypt, and Pakistan, which is a nuclear-armed nation, did you ask anybody in the intelligence community? General David Petraeus? If there is ever an American hero of modern times, it is he. Have you ever asked him or Senator CHAMBLISS or anybody else: Oh, by the way, I am thinking about pulling the plug on our aid to Pakistan, Egypt, and Libya. What is your view of that? Have you been asked that question?

Mr. CHAMBLISS. I thank my friend from South Carolina, as well as my friend from Arizona, with respect to the debate they have been engaged in, for bringing this issue to the forefront, and being willing to stand up and say: Hey, if you talk about foreign aid in a coffee shop in Seneca, SC, or Phoenix, AZ, or Moultrie, GA, it is not the most popular topic. Most people back home think we can balance the budget if we eliminate foreign aid. But the fact is, as Senator GRAHAM said, it is a fairly minuscule amount in the overall context.

Right now we are at a critical juncture in our country with respect to our fiscal house and with respect to any number of domestic and foreign policies. As we go into the election, the American people are going to have a choice to make, but we are also at a crossroads with our foreign policy in this country.

All people have to do is pick up this morning's paper or turn on the TV and they will see what is happening in countries that are the subject of this particular amendment. There are tens of thousands of people protesting in Pakistan today. There are folks in Egypt who are still protesting. There are folks in Libya who are still protesting. We are 10 days away from the Ambassador to Libya from the United States of America having been killed.

We know that part of the world is in turmoil. We know that part of the world also has been very critical to our fight in the war on terror. When the President of the United States is asked if Egypt is an ally, and he can't answer that question affirmatively, that tells us what kind of foreign policy this particular President has. He doesn't know what his foreign policy is if he can't tell us whether Egypt is an ally.

Well, in spite of all that has happened in the last 10 days—and all of us still grieve for the loss of four very brave Americans who put their lives in harm's way as civilians to advocate what is in the best interests of our country. But I will assure you, if Ambassador Stevens were here today, he would say, absolutely, the direction in which the Paul amendment takes us is the wrong direction to go.

I know what the intelligence community thinks about this particular direction. I know the intelligence community thinks in spite of all of our problems with Pakistan—and we have had our very open and overt problems with Pakistan over the last several months and couple of years. But the fact is we have American soldiers in harm's way today in Afghanistan who are fighting to protect the freedoms of this country and who are fighting to make sure we remain the safest, most secure country in the world. We cannot decouple Afghanistan and Pakistan.

It is very important that we maintain a strong relationship with Pakistan. Even though it is difficult and even though it is fractured, it is of critical importance that we maintain that relationship. It is important because of what is happening in Afghanistan, but it is also very important for another reason.

We had a debate in this body about a year ago on what is called the START treaty, which is a treaty that we have with Russia for the elimination of certain nuclear weapons over a period of time.

During the course of that debate, we talked about the elimination of Russian nuclear weapons versus weapons in the United States. And that is good to a certain extent. But none of us in

this body who have any idea about intelligence around the world have a great fear of any country getting hold of an ICBM, a major intercontinental ballistic missile, sticking it into a sleeve somewhere, and shooting it toward the United States. What we do have a fear of is somebody getting hold of what we call tactical nuclear weapons, sticking them into a suitcase and bringing them to the United States or putting them in a position to kill and harm Americans.

Pakistan has tactical nuclear weapons. As long as we maintain a strong relationship with them and as long as they are our ally—however you characterize that—then we have the ability to at least dialogue with the Pakistanis with respect to their nuclear program.

Even today, with all that has happened over the last 10 days and all the condemnation around the world from democratic countries, and particularly within the United States the condemnation of what has happened and the consternation and appall at what is taking place from the standpoint of demonstrations in Pakistan and in Libya, the Libyan Government and the Pakistani Government have given us all the help they can possibly give us, particularly in Libya. That is a government in transition. It is a temporary government, and we need to make sure the people of Libya have the opportunity to, hopefully, have a democratic form of government one day.

If we sever ties with them today, folks, that is over. We can just make certain of the fact that we have one more territory, one more country where terrorists have the opportunity to be trained to kill and harm Americans.

With respect to Pakistan, the PAC government has sent the Palace Guard to guard the Embassy of the United States. That is their most elite troops. Again, our relationship is frayed and it is fractured, but they are doing their level best to try to make sure the Americans who remain in Pakistan are protected. If we all of a sudden decide that we are going to cut them off from financial aid, is that going to improve the situation? Is it going to give us some sort of satisfaction? It may from the standpoint of folks who don't like the idea of foreign aid period. But from a national security standpoint, it is simply the wrong thing to do.

There will be one country that will gain from this. The country that will gain from this is the most notorious terrorist-sponsoring nation in the world, and that is Iran. Iran has a very powerful presence in Pakistan today. They want to have a powerful presence in Libya. I assure you if we cut off the minimal amount of aid that is being talked about with this amendment, then we are simply fostering the ability of Iran to have a larger voice and a larger presence in countries that are very fractious and very vulnerable today.

So while in spirit I agree with my good friend Senator PAUL, this is not

the right time in the history of our country and not the right time in the history of the world to take action that is simply not in the best interest of the United States.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arizona.

Mr. McCAIN. Mr. President, in the last few days several interesting things have happened, and some of them tragic—of course, beginning with the tragic loss of our brave four Americans and Ambassador Chris Stevens, then the demonstrations that have taken place everywhere. But I also remind my colleagues there was a most sophisticated attack on one of the most heavily fortified installations in Iraq. It was professional. It was carried out in a professional fashion. It resulted in \$200 million worth of loss to the American taxpayer, the greatest single act of destruction since the Tet Offensive back during the Vietnam war.

In Afghanistan, because of the attacks of Afghan soldiers on American soldiers, we have had to suspend the operations between the military and police between the two countries. If there was ever an indicator of failure of our policy in Afghanistan, it is our now inability to even train with them to be ready to take over the responsibilities that we now hold.

There is no greater indication of the failure of the President of the United States to continue to tell the American people and the people of the world not that we need to succeed, not that we need to win, but that we need to withdraw. So countries in the region have taken the lesson and are making accommodations.

The fact is we are now facing a collapsed national security policy in the region, beginning of course with the assertion by the ambassador of the United Nations that what happened with Christopher Stevens and the three others was “spontaneous” and the President’s spokesperson saying the same thing.

We knew it wasn’t spontaneous. We know people don’t bring heavy weapons and mortars and rocket-propelled grenades to demonstrations spontaneously. This was a well-orchestrated, well-planned, well-executed act of murder of four brave Americans. Now we blame it on the video; it is the video.

It is not the video. The video is the vehicle of radical Islamists that they use. And don’t think there will not be other vehicles. There are people now, I am sure, all over the world who are making videos that Muslims may find offensive. I found it offensive when there was a picture—that I will not even describe now—back some years ago that was sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts. And we believe in freedom of speech. The first thing we should have said is Americans cherish and have fought for these freedoms, including freedom of speech.

Very briefly, because I know my colleagues want to talk, we have totally failed in Iraq. Today, as we speak, Ira-

nian aircraft are overflying Iraq to Syria and delivering weapons to Bashar Assad. We were supposed to leave a residual force there. We didn’t because then-Senator Obama, who said the surge would fail—where he was completely wrong—now has said he is now celebrating that we are out of Iraq.

They just sentenced their Vice President to death. The tensions between Sunni, Shia, and Kurd have never been greater, and al-Qaida is on the rise in Iraq. In the words of General Keane, the architect of the surge, we won the war and we have lost the peace.

In Syria, 25,000 people have now been massacred. When is the last time the President of the United States stood and spoke on behalf of these people? It is impossible for me to understand why the President of the United States wouldn’t at least speak out against the murder, rape, and torture that is going on, and continues to go on, and it is an unfair fight with Bashar Assad supplied with Russian weapons, Iranians on the ground—which they have acknowledged. Of course, every day that goes by more and more al-Qaida infiltrate the country.

In Afghanistan, of course they know we are leaving. Of course they are accommodating. There is a famous story of the Taliban prisoner and the American officer. The Taliban prisoner says: You have the watches; we have the time.

America is believed to be on the decline and weakening. So Mitt Romney was right. The statement issued by the Embassy in Cairo was a semi-apology, which later the administration itself repudiated.

This President does not believe in American exceptionalism, he does not believe in American leadership, and we have just paid a very heavy price for our lack of leadership. Leading from behind is not the role of America in the world, and appropriate lessons are being drawn from that all over the world.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Montana.

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I thank my friend from Arizona. I will be very brief because I know others want to speak.

This last conversation is extremely important. Northern Africa and other Arab countries are in a state of flux, to say the least. The Arab spring has caused lots of questions and profound implications that we don’t begin to now fathom. Those countries don’t have executive governments that have any experience. They have replaced tyrants who preceded them. These are Muslim countries.

Many of the people who live in these countries believe other parts of the world are more wealthy and they have been put upon. Add to that, these are countries which, in most respects, have very high unemployment. Add to that, most of the demographics of these countries are such that close to half of

the population is under the age of 25 or 30, maybe even younger than that. It is a powder keg, and these are countries which don’t have the history and culture of the first amendment freedom of speech we have.

I say all this because I urge all of us on both sides of the aisle to work together. It is an extremely complicated, complex situation.

It used to be not too many years ago that politics stopped at the water’s edge. It used to be not too many years ago that on foreign policy issues, because they are nonpartisan, we as a country worked together. We addressed the world with one voice. So I strongly caution my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to not make this a partisan issue; that is, U.S. policy in the Middle East, especially in this case, northern Africa—but, rather, we work together. It is so important.

There is probably a reason why politics used to stop at the water’s edge not too many years ago. Because it made us a lot more effective worldwide. I urge my colleagues not to be too critical of the other side of the aisle. It gets us nowhere. It is dividing and conquering, and that puts us at a great point of weakness.

SECOND BIG SKY HONOR FLIGHT TO DC

I rise on another matter and that is to recognize a very important event that is occurring this Sunday and Monday. What is that? Eighty-nine World War II veterans from the State of Nevada will take part in the Big Sky Honor Flight and come to Washington to visit their monument, the World War II Memorial. Their trip is hosted by the Big Sky Honor Flight Program. The mission is to recognize American veterans for their sacrifices and achievements by flying them to Washington, DC, to see their memorials at no cost. They raised money from Montanans all across the State to make this possible. I helped make this possible at steak fries, et cetera, and in today’s economy, Montanans’ generosity in paying for these flights is something special. Don’t forget it has to be two tickets, one for the vet and one for the person helping the vet, because these World War II vets have been around several years and they often need a little bit of assistance.

One of the passengers on Sunday’s flight is a 102-year-old. His name is Dr. McDonald W. Held of Billings, MT. Don has had a remarkable life. He has been a U.S. Air Force intelligence worker, a professor, an author, a minister, and a college president. Don was born in 1909. What was going on in 1909? That year President Taft was inaugurated as the 27th President. The U.S. Army received its first delivery from the Wright brothers. Congress passed the Homestead Act, which resulted in a large influx of settlers all across the West, including my State of Montana.

Don graduated from Baylor University in 1933 with a degree in speech. Although he earned his master’s and doctoral degrees from Northwestern University, Don’s heart remained at

Baylor. He wears a Baylor workout suit every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday when he exercises at the Billings YMCA. Remember, Don is 102 years old.

During World War II, Don served in the Air Force as an intelligence officer in the Philippines. After the peace treaty was signed he was stationed in Tokyo. He worked just a couple of buildings down from GEN Douglas MacArthur.

After the war, Don embarked on his career in academics at Howard Payne University, as a professor there from 1955 to 1964. He presided over the speech and theater department and served as academic dean. Don then worked for 7 years at Wayland Baptist University before moving to Billings, MT.

In Billings he became the first head of the speech and theater department at the Eastern Montana College, which we now know as Montana State University-Billings.

At age 74, Don was ordained as a Baptist minister in the Baptist church. He has ministered in three churches in Montana and also served as a president of the Yellowstone Baptist Bible Institute, now Yellowstone Baptist College.

Don and his wife Beverly have five children, five grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren so far. His son Don, Jr., a veteran of the Vietnam war, will escort him to Washington this Sunday.

This is a special weekend for this group of heroes. Believe me, I was here when the last honor flight came in. I cannot remember a time when I have been so touched by people. You see these World War II vets. Most of the men and women are just talking about their experiences. They are the "greatest generation," as has been mentioned before, especially by Tom Brokaw.

It is time to give them thanks for their courage, time to give them thanks for their sacrifice. They have done so much. It is time to reflect on all the sacrifices they made. Think of it, battles of Europe, Korea, the jungles of Vietnam, deserts of Iraq, and those who are currently fighting in the mountains of Afghanistan. We must not forget them.

Please join me in welcoming our Montana heroes to Washington this weekend. I am going to be down there. I know many others will too.

I yield the floor.

I thank again my good friend from South Carolina.

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak in morning business for the next hour.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MANCHIN). Without objection, it is so ordered.

IRAN'S NUCLEAR PROGRAM

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. President, we are going to have a nice discussion between Republicans and Democrats about an important issue. If you are looking for bipartisanship, your ship has come in. S.J. Res. 41 has 82 cosponsors. I am not

sure we could get 82 of us to agree that Sunday should be a day off, but we have done it when it comes to the concept of not allowing the Iranian ayatollahs to possess a nuclear weapon and trying to contain them. S.J. Res. 41 has 82 cosponsors. The Presiding Officer is one of them. To my Democratic colleagues, Senators BLUMENTHAL, COONS, MENENDEZ, CASEY—Senator CASEY was the first one to step up—Senator LIEBERMAN—it has been a real joy to work in a bipartisan fashion over something that matters, that if there is a time for the Senate to speak, it is now, regarding Iran's desire to get a nuclear weapon.

President Obama has rejected containing a nuclear-armed Iran as a national strategy. Mr. President, you are dead right on that. I know Governor Romney agrees.

What I wish to do is recognize my good friend from Georgia, Senator ISAKSON, and we have Senator AYOTTE here, to share their thoughts. I will be joining later, and certainly Senator BLUMENTHAL, who has been one of the leading voices on the Democratic side for this resolution.

At this time I wish to yield for Senator ISAKSON.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Georgia.

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, before he leaves, I wish to acknowledge that today may be one of the more important foreign policy debates that ever takes place in the Senate because whichever way the Paul amendment goes and this resolution goes is going to determine the direction of where America goes in terms of foreign policy. Are we engaged? Are we firm? Are we the greatest power on the face of this Earth? Or do we recede as we did prior to World War II and put our Nation in jeopardy again? I don't vote for receding. I think it is time to be strong. If there were ever an issue to be strong about, it is nuclear proliferation and the possibility of Iran possessing nuclear fissionable material to make a weapon. I will commend Senator GRAHAM for his leadership in the Armed Forces, for his leadership on this issue, for his leadership on the floor of the Senate. He is a beacon of hope in a body that needs it right now.

I also commend him for getting 82 cosponsors—I agree with him, we could not agree that Sunday is a day of rest if we had to have a vote on it—to come together and join to send a clear message not just to the Iranians but to the world that a nuclear-armed Iran is not acceptable. We need to have a policy of prevention. That is what this resolution does. It doesn't just say to Iran we want to prevent you from having nuclear fissionable material and weapons, it encourages the world to join together to prevent it.

Ten days ago I was in Germany, meeting with the EU Minister of Finance, meeting the German Minister of Finance, and meeting with the Defense Minister of Germany. Do you know

what the No. 1 question of all three of them was? It was not the problems with the EU, although they have them. It was Iran and what would happen if they ended up possessing fissionable nuclear materials and a weapon. So this resolution is an important statement of the United States of America, but moreover the world, and I think it will be replicated in parliamentary bodies around the world to send that united signal. We are close to a time when we have to fish or cut bait. The Iranians have continued to work. We have pretty good knowledge but not total knowledge. One of the problems the Germans have, the IAEA thinks they know where the centrifuges are and where they all are, but they are not sure. They think there hasn't been movement and in some cases they think there may have been movement.

We need clarity, and the only way to get clarity is for the Iranians to agree to the rules that we establish for them to disclose through the United Nations or through whatever body possible to see to it we have total transparency, and in the absence of that they need to understand that our goal is to prevent them from ever possessing a weapon that could destroy humanity.

The nation of Iran states clearly and often and tells the world it yearns for the day until it destroys the nation of Israel and the Jewish people. No entity, none whatsoever, deserves the ability to have enriched uranium or any other tool to actually carry out what it says is its stated goal.

So I rise today as one Georgian, but one of millions of Americans, to send a clear and unvarnished message to the people of Iran. We want the people of Iran to know freedom and democracy, to be released from the tyranny of the ayatollahs and the current totalitarian government but, most importantly, we will not stand 1 day, 1 minute, or 1 hour for Iran to possess fissionable material or a weapon that could destroy mankind.

I end by commending the Senator.

I yield the floor.

Mr. GRAHAM. I thank Senator ISAKSON, who is on the Foreign Relations Committee. He is a ranking member on the African subcommittee. He has, frankly, opened my eyes with what we are doing in Africa. A little money goes a long way in Africa, trying to prevent radical Islamists from taking over the continent of Africa, combating the Chinese who are trying to buy up all the resources, and using American taxpayer dollars to create an environment and create jobs back here at home and, frankly, save thousands if not millions of young children from certain death from AIDS and malaria. JOHNNY is everything right about being a Senator in that regard. I appreciate him coming down here today.

If the Senator from New Hampshire doesn't mind, can we go to our good friend Senator BLUMENTHAL? I have had the pleasure of going to Egypt with him and all these other hotspots and

enjoyed working with him on this resolution. This started with a meeting in our offices, an idea to try to back up what President Obama said about not containing a nuclear-armed Iran. The next thing we know we are on the floor of the Senate today with 82 cosponsors.

My good friend from Connecticut, Senator BLUMENTHAL.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Connecticut.

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, I want to begin by thanking my colleague and friend from South Carolina who has so eloquently and powerfully stated the case for this resolution. But even before discussing resolution 41, I thank him and our colleagues who spoke today on the floor about the RAND PAUL resolution.

I think this morning's debate—and I listened to it for all 3 hours, because I was presiding at the time—marked one of the finer moments of my brief time as a Member of the Senate. What I saw this morning was an articulate, thoughtful, and courageous statement against a resolution that would do grave harm to this Nation's national interests if it became law and if it bound the U.S. Government and cut off aid to these countries. I think the case stated was courageous because it very likely may prove unpopular with some elements of their own party—to put it very bluntly, the political reality here. But I think it was one of the finer moments of this body because it marked a point of clarity and a clear recognition for the need to come together as a nation when our national interests are threatened, when our national security is at stake, when the harm to this Nation requires acting together.

I am hoping this spirit of bipartisanship will also come together, as it has so far with 82 cosponsors, on the resolution we have sponsored, S.J. Res. 41. As Senator GRAHAM has rightly observed, it began with the leadership of a handful of Senators. He was one of the key leaders, as were Senator LIEBERMAN, Senator AYOTTE, Senator HOEVEN, Senator CASEY, and Senator MENENDEZ. I was proud to be among them. The spirit of bipartisanship and the strength of that spirit was really extraordinary.

Here is what we know. At a time of confusion and obfuscation, in many respects, where foreign policy is concerned, knowing with certainty some of the facts is very important. We all know from the International Atomic Energy Agency that as of November 2011, Iran had produced approximately 5,000 kilograms of uranium enriched up to 3.5 percent. We also know that this Iranian regime is the most active state sponsor of terrorism in the world, according to our Department of State. We know this regime has repeatedly expressed its desire to “wipe Israel off the map.” We know this regime has provided weapons training to Hamas, Hezbollah, and militias in Iraq who murder civilians and spread terror. We know it has already actively and consistently provided aid to the Assad re-

gime in Syria in its brutal and unconscionable repression of its own people. The torture and murders that have occurred have been directly linked to Iran. We know the Iranian Government is attempting to develop nuclear weapons. If it does, it will lead to an arms race in that part of the world that will be as threatening as any other potential harm to this Nation. We know Iran would create access for terrorists to these nuclear weapons, making the Middle East a nuclear tinderbox. We cannot trust this regime. We know that fact beyond any potential doubt.

Iran's nuclear program is of extraordinarily grave concern not only to nations in that part of the world but to all nations everywhere that want peace. That is why an international coalition has come together, with the leadership of the United States of America. Iran cannot be permitted to continue its nuclear program to a point where it is capable of making a nuclear weapon.

Despite repeated calls for it to suspend or stop this program, we know with certainty that Iranian leaders show no signs of waiting or wanting to halt their program to build nuclear weapons. In fact, recent intelligence shows they are continuing to enrich uranium and develop nuclear facilities.

That is why we need S.J. Res. 41. There is no question that the administration, under President Obama, has repeatedly affirmed his commitment to such a policy. The President has made his position and the position of the United States absolutely clear. I am quoting President Obama:

Iran's leaders should understand that I do not have a policy of containment; I have a policy to prevent Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon.

That is the message of S.J. Res. 41. That is the message we must convey as a nation together from all parties, all parts of the United States, and all interests, that time is limited. Time is limited to keep Iran from acquiring nuclear weapon capability.

This resolution calls for increased pressure on Iran to come into compliance with the U.S. security resolution. This resolution builds on the efforts of myself and others to call for successful P5+1 talks that would lead Iran to halt its nuclear program. This resolution says to the world that the United States and governments of other responsible nations have a vital, mutual interest in working together to prevent Iran from acquiring nuclear weapon capability. Let's underscore the words and recognize their importance: nuclear weapons capability.

Many of us have written multiple times to President Obama outlaying a framework that would lead to successful negotiations. My hope is that the combination of strict international sanctions and international condemnation of a nuclear-armed Iran will convince that government to desist and cease its program of nuclear weapons capability building. It is not in our in-

terest, it is not in the world's interest, and ultimately it is not in that regime's interest. If sanctions fail, we must be prepared to act.

This resolution expresses the resolution and the resoluteness of this body. I am hopeful that sanctions will work, but if the Government of Iran is unconvinced by this very compelling case, it must know that this issue is not a partisan one, it is not one on which we are divided. We stand together, we stand strong, and we are resolute and resilient. The United States and its allies will join together to prevent a nuclear-armed Iran.

Again, I thank the Senator from South Carolina and all 82 of my colleagues who have joined as cosponsors. We began with a handful, but I think the compelling power and persuasiveness of the need for this resolution is carrying the day.

I yield to the Senator from South Carolina, my good friend and the leader of this effort.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from South Carolina.

Mr. GRAHAM. I thank Senator BLUMENTHAL for those articulate words about the resolution and for his kind comments. Senator LIEBERMAN was on the ground floor of this, as he is with everything, including bills to construct foreign policy for the country.

One of the original partners we had trying to get this matter going was Senator AYOTTE, who is a freshman Senator but has quickly hit the ground running and has become a strong voice on national security.

With that, Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to yield to the Senator whatever time she needs.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Hampshire.

Ms. AYOTTE. Mr. President, I thank my colleague from South Carolina. He has really led the effort on this incredibly important resolution. I also thank my colleague from Connecticut, Senator BLUMENTHAL, for his leadership on this issue.

The bipartisan nature of this resolution tells us very clearly that this really is the policy of this Congress and how important this issue is for our country. This resolution will ensure that we give a clear message to Iran that it is not our policy and that the United States and the world will not accept Iran acquiring the capability of having a nuclear weapon. We understand that it would make the Middle East a more dangerous place than it is now and would cause an arms race in that part of the world. In addition, it would also cause us to be in a position in which one of our strongest allies in the Middle East, Israel, is threatened with annihilation because that is exactly what the Iranian regime has said.

Most importantly, it will endanger our own country if Iran acquires a nuclear weapon because Iran is incredibly hostile to the United States of America. Iran participates with various terrorist groups, including Hezbollah. One

of the greatest risks we face is that the regime itself wouldn't use the nuclear weapon; they would just give it to a terrorist group who could hit any one of our allies. They could use it to harm us and our country, and then, of course, the world changes. We cannot allow this to happen, and it is very important to have 82 Senators sponsoring this resolution.

I wish to talk briefly about the Paul amendment that is pending before this body. How we act on this amendment, as my colleague from Georgia so eloquently said, will define the foreign policy of the United States of America. I wish to state my strong opposition to the Paul amendment because I am very concerned that if we pass the Paul amendment, then we are sending the very message to the radical Islamists and the terrorists of the world that they want to hear from us, which is that we will withdraw.

Let's be clear on what their goal is when they attack us. They don't want us to be engaged. They would like the Middle East to become a seventh-century, Taliban-style government that is a threat to our country.

In my view, for us to withdraw now, we would put ourselves in a position where, for example, the amendment is so broadly drafted that even if one of our ally's embassies were attacked, such as Israel, we would have to withdraw aid and it would send the absolute wrong message. It would be to the detriment of the safety of the United States of America.

I understand that my colleague Senator PAUL is well intentioned, but every time we have withdrawn, people have died and the world has not become safer and the battle comes here. We don't want the battle to be here. We don't want any of these elements to be in our country. We can't forget what happened to us on September 11.

As my colleagues have eloquently stated before, our only tools can't be our military. The reason we have so many of our present and former military leaders standing up and saying they oppose the Paul amendment is because they understand that by engaging with these countries through the small foreign aid budget we have, we can prevent conflict. We can actually be in a position where we are engaged and we are sending the message to the radical Islamist terrorists that, no, the United States of America will not back off. They cannot put us in a position where they can bring the battle to our soil. We will not be defeated by them.

I think if we were to pass this amendment from my colleague, no matter how well intentioned it is, we would only be empowering those radical elements. I urge my colleagues to vote against the Paul amendment.

I also believe it very much relates to this containment resolution for the following reasons: We see Iran right now ignoring what the U.N. has asked of it, ignoring what the good people of the world want to have happen in Syria. In

fact, Iran is supporting Hezbollah. They are arming and training Assad's forces in Syria. They are providing weapons to insurgents in Afghanistan who are killing our troops. They are engaged with radical elements in Iraq. If we look at the whole course of events, we can imagine that Iran will cheer if we pass an amendment in which we say that we back off our commitment to Pakistan, our commitment to Egypt, and our commitment to Libya and other areas around the world. God forbid if one of our other allies' embassies were attacked.

Most importantly, as my colleagues have said, Iran would cheer if the Paul amendment passes because it would actually break the Camp David Accords in which we agreed as a country to provide aid to Egypt. It would also make Israel less safe, and there is nothing in the world that Iran wants more than to have Israel be less safe. In fact, they have stated very clearly that their goal is to annihilate Israel from the face of the Earth.

We cannot allow them to get nuclear weapons. They are marching closer and closer to this capability. Senator BLUMENTHAL told us about the enrichment of the uranium. This is not the level of enrichment used for a powerplant. It is being enriched to have the capability of having a nuclear weapon.

They have created more and more centrifuges despite us asking them to stop, despite the sanctions we have put in place, all for the possibility of having that nuclear weapon they could use that would change the world, not to mention what they have said about our friend Israel, that they would seek to annihilate Israel.

The world is a very dangerous place. If we allow Iran to acquire a nuclear weapon, this is a game changer for the world. That is why this resolution is so incredibly important.

I very much appreciate the leadership on both sides of the aisle in support of this resolution, and my colleague from South Carolina for bringing this forward, because we need to tell the world we are not going to allow this game changer to happen. Iran needs to hear a very clear message from us as a Congress, backing up our President, that we will not allow for the containment of a nuclear-armed Iran, for the safety of the world.

Finally, we need to let our friends in Israel know, when Prime Minister Netanyahu said on September 16 that "those in the international community who refuse to put red lines before Iran don't have a moral right to place a red light before Israel," I say to our friends in Israel: Please know that by passing this resolution, we stand with you. We will work with you to make sure the tyrannical regime in Iran never gets that weapon of mass destruction that could very much change the safety of the Middle East, the safety of your country, as well as our own country and the world.

With that, I yield for my colleague from South Carolina.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from South Carolina.

Mr. GRAHAM. Thanks to Senator AYOTTE for helping to get this whole process going, for being on the Senate floor and for getting this whole process started, and for her strong voice on national security.

Now I wish to recognize my friend, the Senator from Tennessee, Mr. CORKER. He is on the Foreign Relations Committee and is moving up the ladder to be chairman or ranking member, depending on how the election comes out. But no matter how it comes out, Senator CORKER will be there talking about constructive engagements and guarding the taxpayer dollar. I would like for him to give his thoughts about the Rand Paul amendment and the noncontainment of a nuclear-capable Iran.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Tennessee.

Mr. CORKER. Mr. President, I wish to thank the great Senator from South Carolina, the State where I was born. I do want to say the committee makes those decisions. I don't want anybody to be jumping the gun with the kind of statements made earlier about future situations.

First of all, I wish to speak to the resolution brought forward on Iran. I thank the Senator from South Carolina for that and for the tremendous work he has done to bring so many of us on as cosponsors. I think it is a strong signal to Iran, but also to people in the neighborhood, about our beliefs. So I thank the Senator from South Carolina for that.

I wish to speak mainly, though, about the Paul amendment. First of all, I wish to say to the Senator from Kentucky that I understand the sentiments that drive people to look at foreign aid the way a lot of people around this country are looking at it today. I wish to remind people that our total foreign aid budget is 1 percent of what we spend each year, but that doesn't mean we don't need to look at it in a very different way.

We haven't done an authorization bill on foreign aid since I have been here. I have been here almost 6 years now. I know the Senator from South Carolina is the ranking member on Foreign Operations, and I know they spend a lot of time looking at things in an appropriate way. But there is no question that as a body we should be looking more closely at how we generate foreign aid to other countries, and I hope we are going to be doing that in this next Congress when, hopefully, we will begin to function in a much better way.

I wish to say the purpose of foreign aid at the end of the day, in many cases, is to keep our men and women in uniform from having to be deployed in other places because of unrest that is against our national interests. So I would like to point that out.

In this particular case, regarding Libya, Egypt and Pakistan, I would

just like to point out three things: No. 1, the people of Libya are very thankful for our intervention. However, people have come in and created a travesty in Benghazi around our consulate, and these are people who are trying to undermine what we are doing there.

So the way the Paul amendment is drafted, if terrorists in any country we are aiding happen to do something at one of our embassies or consulates, then we withdraw aid. So what that means is that basically, terrorists—people such as al-Qaida, the Taliban, and other groups—are deciding what we are going to do as it relates to foreign aid. That would be a real big step for the Senate to say that in the future, everything we do relating to foreign aid will be determined by terrorists. I don't think that is what we want to do as a body.

So let me set Libya aside and say this was obviously something that wasn't a popular movement. It was done by premeditated terrorists. It was terrible. We all loved Chris Stevens, and we thank him for the work he has done for our Nation. But this is not the way for us to react to a country that is trying to evolve into, hopefully, a functioning democracy and, hopefully, a country that in some way down the road will create even more stability in that part of the world.

Let's move to Egypt. I was just in Egypt and sat down with the military leaders. One of the things we continue to talk about is the Camp David Accords. The aid we send to Egypt is to reinforce, in many ways, the Camp David Accords. That is very important to Israel, which is one of our major allies, one of the biggest allies we have in the world. So I don't know why we would decide to cut off all aid, which would totally undermine the Camp David Accords, which would totally undermine the security of a country that is one of our biggest allies.

Now, do we need to take into account the response in Egypt to what happened at our embassy? I think we should, and I think it should affect the negotiations we have with them regarding our foreign aid. I mean, let's face it. We have had decades of relationships with their military, and even though there have been a lot of changes in the country, the military is still there and, candidly, they did respond exactly the way we would like for them to respond. They are a great ally.

The President was a little hesitant to respond. I understand the fine line he is walking. He had just been elected. I understand the country hasn't been through this process, and I understand he didn't respond exactly the way we would expect him to respond. He, since that time, has, but I still think it should affect our negotiations and we ought to go slowly.

It is my understanding that the Senator from South Carolina, working with his counterpart, has taken those things into account as it relates to this next year, and I thank them for that.

So in Egypt, it looks to me as if we are slowing this down a little bit. We are making sure the relationship we have with Egypt is appropriate under the circumstances, and I thank the Senator for helping to make that happen. But withdrawing all aid would basically totally undermine the Camp David Accords, which most of us in this body believe to be something that is very important.

So let me move to Pakistan. Pakistan is a place where probably most of us are most disappointed. We understand the relationship the intelligence agencies in Pakistan have with the Haqqani network, and that has been disappointing. We understand the trouble we have had trying to close down some of the ammonium nitrate plants that are there and that are actually helping to create some of the IEDs that are used to dismember and harm and kill our men and women in uniform in Afghanistan. So we are disappointed about a lot of things in Pakistan.

Obviously, one of the most disappointing things—or maybe one of the things that is most difficult for us to understand—is the treatment of this physician who aided us with Osama bin Laden. Yet there is a legal process that is underway there, and I think we sometimes forget that, and there is a court of law there and, hopefully, that will have an outcome that ends up showing that it has been handled in a judicious way.

Let me just speak to Pakistan. We are getting ready to leave Afghanistan. We are going to have all of our troops out of Afghanistan, or a big part of our troops out of Afghanistan, by 2014. I met yesterday with General Dempsey. He was telling me that in order to meet that timeline, we have to move a truckload of equipment out of Afghanistan every 7 minutes between now and the end of 2014—every 7 minutes. Well, what is the major route we use to move our equipment out of Afghanistan? Pakistan.

Now, if we want to cut our nose off to spite our face, I would say let's close off that route, let's create enmity between us, more enmity than already exists.

I think most of us realize we have a very transactional-oriented relationship with Pakistan. It is not quite the way those of us in America would like to see it be, but the fact is there are some valuable things there that have a lot to do, by the way, with the safety of our men and women in uniform. If we have to take another route out in getting all of this equipment and material out of there, we are probably going to take a route that doesn't work quite as well for our men and women in uniform.

So, again, I understand the sentiment. Our phone is ringing off the hook with people who share the same sentiment. I understand it. When we see on television people rising up in these nations against us—by the way, these countries are not monolithic. It is not

unlike here. We have groups, such as Occupy Wall Street, that are able to express themselves, but they don't represent my viewpoint. These countries are in some ways like ours. I mean, they have people who protest and do things. That doesn't mean the whole country feels that way. These are countries that have had strong men leading their countries in some places and aren't used to understanding what it means to be able to express themselves, and they don't understand how to operate in a society that is more open than it has been in the past.

So that certainly doesn't quell my strong feelings about what has happened in Benghazi, nor does it for anyone else here, I am sure. But the fact is we need to look at foreign aid in a different way. I think we have taken some steps to do that. We need to continue to improve. We need to make sure there is accountability.

What I do know is the Paul amendment is not the way to do it. Again, I appreciate the energy the Senator has brought to this body and the many good points he brings forth. But I know this: We do not want an amendment to pass that says if terrorists attack an embassy or consulate anyplace around the world, aid is taken from that country. I do not want a terrorist determining what our relationship is going to be with that country, and I think all of us know that our withdrawal from the Middle East will leave us in a world that is vastly unsafe for our citizens and for people around the world.

While I know our engagement needs to continue and evolve, I know this amendment is not the way to make that happen. I strongly oppose it, and I will vote against it if we ever get a vote on this amendment.

With that, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from South Carolina.

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. President, I thank Senator CORKER for his very good, country-by-country explanation; kind of a big picture, rational approach to what we are trying to do. I understand Senator PAUL's convictions. A lot of Americans are frustrated. We are broke but giving money to people overseas. They all hate us.

Well, they all don't hate us. Some do, some don't. Let's invest in the ones we can live with and stand up to the ones who want to kill us all.

Before I turn it over to Senator HOEVEN, one last thought about the world in which we live. We could get hit in the next minute. We could get hit today. We could get hit tomorrow. They are trying to get here as desperately as they can. Thank God for every day we have been able to survive without being attacked again in our homeland. But I would say this: One of the reasons we have been effective after 9/11 is that we are in their backyard. We are deployed over there—not just with military force but with assistance. We are making their lives more difficult by raising money and operating and being able to maneuver and

find allies. To get to America now to attack us is harder than it was on September 10, 2001, because we are engaged in the fight. If we withdraw aid, we take one of the most valuable tools off the table. There has to be more tools in the tool kit than just bombing people or disengaging from the world. So this 1 percent of the budget is a godsend to those in the military.

S.J. RES. 41

Now I will turn back to S.J. Res. 41. Senator HOEVEN of North Dakota was my first Republican cosponsor of the idea that we cannot contain a nuclear-capable Iran, and I cannot tell my colleagues how much I appreciate his leadership.

So I yield to Senator HOEVEN.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Dakota.

Mr. HOEVEN. Mr. President, I wish to thank the Senator from South Carolina for his leadership on this incredibly important issue and to also express my appreciation for the Senator from Tennessee and my agreement with his remarks. I thought he was right-on with what he said, and I support what he had to say.

I am very pleased to be a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 41 with Senator GRAHAM. He is knowledgeable on this issue. He has dedicated an incredible amount of time and commitment to this effort.

Recently I was with Senator GRAHAM and Senator MCCAIN and others. We were in Afghanistan, and then we were in Egypt, where we met with the Muslim Brotherhood. We were in Israel, where we met with Prime Minister Netanyahu. Then we were in Libya, where we met with a number of the militia groups who now control Benghazi and Mirsrata and, of course, Tripoli. And we were in Tunisia as well. I have to say that it is incredibly important that we had the opportunity to go to those countries. Senator GRAHAM has been there many times, as has Senator MCCAIN. But it is very important that we understand what is going on.

Some of the comments Senator CORKER expressed are so true. We have to understand what is going on in these countries. At the same time, we have to communicate with these countries as they try to build democracies. But we must be clear and consistent in our foreign policy that we support our friends, we support our allies, we will oppose our opponents, and that we demand safety for our embassies and for Americans abroad. We provide no less to the people who come to our country, and we expect the same in return.

S.J. Res. 41 is a bipartisan effort. And I want to express that again; that is so important. It is a bipartisan effort—80 Senators standing together and expressing their support, bringing this resolution to the Senate floor, and saying to the administration: We need to take a tough stand with Iran. We cannot allow Iran to develop nuclear weapons. It is not an option. Containment—a nuclear Iran contained is not an option. It does not work.

Look what is going on in the Middle East right now, in Egypt, in Libya, Tunisia, Yemen. Across the Middle East right now, you have extremist groups—fundamental Islamic extremist groups—that are undermining the democratic efforts in those countries. Look at the attacks on our Embassy. Look at the killing of our Ambassador. We cannot allow that and can only prevent that through strength—through strength.

So we have to stand for America's interests in all of these countries, and we have to prevent a nuclear Iran. Iran is helping the extremists throughout all of these countries, supporting Bashar Asad in Syria, supporting Hezbollah, Hamas—all these groups that are undertaking violence throughout the Middle East, not only against Americans but against their own people, undermining these nations' democracies. The way we help stop that and the way we help support freedom and democracy is through a strong, consistent foreign policy.

That is what the resolution, on a bipartisan basis, is all about—saying to the administration: We must stand up to Iran, and we must prevent Iran from getting nuclear weapons. And if Iran were to develop a nuclear weapon, that could also start a race for other countries in the Middle East to develop a nuclear capability. Look at the unstable situation there. It is certainly not a situation where nuclear weapons can be added to the equation as well.

We have worked in the Senate, in the House, to provide tools to the administration to put sanctions in place to prevent Iran from developing a nuclear weapon. The Kirk-Menendez legislation, which was passed as part of the Defense authorization bill, provides strong sanctions against Iran that still have not been fully implemented. The best way to stop Iran from getting a nuclear weapon is through sanctions. All options have to be on the table. We must support Israel in whatever action Israel determines it must take to protect itself. All options for the United States must be on the table as well. The best way to stop Iran, if we can, is with sanctions, but the only way that is going to work is if they are fully imposed to the full extent possible.

Let me use Kirk-Menendez as an example. What did that legislation provide? That legislation provided a tool to the administration that essentially barred any company or country that does business with Iran or its Central Bank from doing business with the central banking system in the United States. That is an effective tool because if Iran cannot sell its oil, it cannot continue to function.

We must fully impose those sanctions. We must stand strongly with our closest friend and ally Israel in the region. This resolution is a bipartisan message to our administration saying: Stand strong. We can and we must prevent Iran from getting nuclear weapons.

With that, Mr. President, I see the majority leader and the minority leader are on the floor, and I will turn the floor back to the esteemed Senator from South Carolina and thank him for his work.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from South Carolina.

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. President, before I turn this over, may I have just 2 minutes to wrap up.

I want to thank Senator REID and Senator MCCONNELL for scheduling this vote. Eighty-two Senators stand behind President Obama's statement that it is bad policy to contain a nuclear-capable Iran. Let me tell you right quickly why. If the Iranians get a nuclear weapon or nuclear capability, the Sunni Arab States will want one themselves to counter the Shia Persian influence, and you will have a nuclear arms race in the Mid East. That is not a good result. That is the road to Armageddon. Israel will never know a minute's peace. If the ayatollahs in Iran have a nuclear weapon, my God, what would living in Israel be like? Look at the threat you would live under the rest of your life. That is a no-go for the people of Israel.

The big concern I have above all else is that the ayatollahs will share that nuclear capability, that technology with a terrorist group. The only reason thousands have died in the war on terror and not millions is they just cannot get the weapons to kill millions of us. And if the ayatollahs had those nuclear weapons or that capability, they would share it with terrorists. That is why containment is not a good idea.

This is not an authorization to use force. It encourages sanctions. It encourages diplomacy. It says that all options are on the table. It is not authorizing force, but it is taking off the table the idea that the Iranians can get a nuclear weapon and we will try to contain them because that is just emptying Pandora's box.

One last thought. An Israeli soldier was killed today because the Sinai border between Egypt and Israel was breached. Part of our aid to Egypt has conditions that say: If you break the treaty with Israel, you lose the money. And you need to beef up the security in the Sinai.

The Egyptian Army is basically being driven out of the Sinai. They are moving back in. So if you really do care about the security of Israel, we cannot break relations with Egypt. It is a complicated relationship, but it is in our interest to be involved.

Again, we are all over the world in different fashions, and I would rather be helping people help themselves than having to send soldiers in every time there is a hot spot in the world. We cannot disengage from the world. It is our destiny to be the leader of the free world; we just need to do it smartly.

One percent of our budget is spent on foreign assistance. I think it makes sense.

With that, I will yield the floor and thank all of my colleagues for jumping

on board for a resolution that I think is timely. If the Senate of the United States ever needed to speak with one voice on a single topic, it is now, and that single topic is to the Iranian regime: You will not be allowed to get a nuclear weapon, period.

With that, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that at 11:30 p.m. this evening, there be 30 minutes of debate equally divided between the majority leader and Senator PAUL or their designees; that following the use or yielding back of that time, the Senate proceed to votes in relation to the following items in the order listed: passage of S. 3576, passage of S.J. Res. 41, cloture on H.J. Res. 117; that if cloture is invoked on H.J. Res. 117, the pending amendments be withdrawn and the Senate proceed to vote on passage of H.J. Res. 117; that immediately following that vote, the Senate proceed to the cloture vote on the motion to proceed to S. 3525; that if cloture is not invoked on H.J. Res. 117, the Senate proceed to the cloture vote on the motion to proceed to S. 3525; that the vote on passage of S. 3576 be subject to a 60-affirmative-vote threshold; that if S. 3576 does not achieve 60 affirmative votes, then it be returned to the calendar; that following the cloture vote on the motion to proceed to S. 3525, the majority leader be recognized; finally, that no amendments, motions, or points of order be in order during the consideration of these measures.

That all begins at 11:30. Mr. President, usually we have a 15-minute vote for the first one, but I think, with the time we are doing this, I would like all votes to be 10-minute votes, so I also ask unanimous consent that be the case and that between each vote there be 2 minutes equally divided so the sponsors and those opposing the passage of that legislation can speak on them.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, this agreement paves the way for the completion of our remaining business for this work period. It is going to be a very early morning or late night, however you look at it, but it is the right thing to do. I expect that upon the completion of the scheduled votes, the motion to proceed to the sportsmen's bill will be pending, postcloture. I am gratified that we are on track to attempt to move this measure when we get back. After we address that bill, when we return in November, I intend to move to Senator MENENDEZ's housing bill. But I will be in touch with the Republican leader several times before the election, I am sure, anyway.

Mr. President, before we leave here, everyone should understand that what we are going to try to do this evening—I have spoken with the Republican

leader—is that when people finish their talking—we hope it can be early this evening—we would go into recess—and hopefully we can do that at 5 or 6 o'clock tonight—until 11:30 tonight. I hope that can be done.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kentucky.

S.J. RES. 41

Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, we have before us a resolution on containment of Iran. I have voted for sanctions on Iran and do not think it is a good idea that Iran have nuclear weapons. However, I am very concerned about this particular resolution. I think a vote for this resolution is a vote for the concept of preemptive war. I know of no other way to interpret this resolution.

The resolution says that containment—the strategy of trying to prevent expansion or invasion of countries—will never be our policy with regard to Iran. While I think it unwise to announce that we will contain Iran—I do think it unwise to tell Iran: Oh, it is fine to get a nuclear weapon; we will contain you—I also think it is equally unwise to say: We will never contain you.

The reason I say this is that we woke up one day and Pakistan had nuclear weapons. We woke up one day and Russia had nuclear weapons—China and India and North Korea. Had we made the statement—the rash statement—that we will never contain any country that has nuclear weapons, what does that mean? I think that means that you have decided—right now, before anything happens, you have decided that you will preemptively go to war.

We have been at war for a decade now. We have been at war in Afghanistan. I supported going to Afghanistan, but I am ready to come home from Afghanistan. We were at war in Iraq for nearly 10 years. I am glad we are coming home from Iraq. But I do not want to automatically commit our country to a war in Iran.

So while I do think it is a mistake to say we will not contain them, I think it is also a mistake to say we will contain them. It is a mistake to have a policy that is explicit one way or the other.

President Reagan was once criticized and accused of having no foreign policy. He replied that it was not that he had no foreign policy; it was that he did not care to share it with everyone. Because if you give everyone—your potential enemies or friends—if you say to every country: If you do X, I will do X, or if you maybe do this, I will do that, you are exposing exactly what your plans are, and that may not be the best strategy. In other words, foreign policy is an ever-shifting battleground, and there should be a certain strategic ambiguity to foreign policy.

So when we announce to Iran or to the world that we will never, ever contain Iran, it is an announcement that the bombs will be dropping if we ever hear that they are a nuclear power. I do not think we should say automati-

cally we are willing to accept them as a nuclear power, but I do not think we should automatically say there will be a preemptive war with Iran.

Now, everybody has been bragging. They say: Oh, everybody in the Senate is for this. Everybody is not. I am not for this. I may be alone on this, but, interestingly, if you travel to Israel, there is a very spirited debate on this.

Meir Dagan, who was the head of the Mossad, cares deeply about Israel, would not be, by anyone's imagination accused of being a shrinking violet—he has done many things to prevent Iran from having a nuclear weapon. He is worried about what happens the minute the bombs start dropping on Iran. Where do you think the next set of bombs will go? They will be on Tel Aviv. They will not be on the United States. But if you live in Tel Aviv, you might have some concern over what happens and what Iran does.

The other thing about beginning a war is that historically in our country we have had defensive wars. Nobody messes with us, and I agree with that. You mess with the United States there will be significant repercussions. We will not let you invade other countries and we will not let you invade the United States. But the idea that we will have offensive war and not defensive war is a concept that is new in our history.

Preemptive war, going to war and saying we will go to war to prevent you from doing certain activities is a new concept in our lexicon of foreign policy. I think it is a dangerous one. Announcing to the world, as this resolution does, that containment will never be our policy is unwise. It is a recipe for perpetual war. A country that vows to never contain an enemy is a country that vows to always preemptively attack. To rule out containment as a strategy or as a strategic and sometimes militarily active form of defense is to admit we have become Orwellian. Yes, we have always been at war with East Asia or, yes, we have always been at war with Eurasia. It is an idea that we will always be perpetually at war.

I am proud of being for a strong national defense. I am proud of being for protecting our country. But I cannot accept a resolution that says we will completely get rid of the containment strategy that was a strategy that kept us safe for 60 years during the most aggressive and dangerous war we have ever encountered, the Cold War. The Soviet Union had 30,000 intercontinental ballistic missiles that could reach the United States and attack us and devastate our country.

If we would have had this concept that we rule out the idea of containment, we would have had an awful and devastating and maybe cataclysmic war with Russia. Now North Korea is more similar to Iran, a two-bit dictatorship that has trouble feeding their own people, has trouble having enough supplies of food and gasoline for their own people. There are similarities. But

when North Korea announced it had a nuclear weapon, did we immediately start dropping bombs? Did we say we will not contain them? We contained North Korea. Some would argue the leadership of North Korea is equally as irrational as the leadership of Iran, if not more so. So we were able to contain a two-bit socialist, very small and unproductive country such as North Korea. I see no reason why, if we had to, we could not contain Iran. I am not promoting that as a philosophy. We should not be telling Iran we will contain them. But for goodness' sake, we should not be saying: We will never contain you.

The people who vote for this resolution I think are well meaning, but I do not think they are thinking this through. We have had this before. When the resolution came up for the Iraq war, many voted for it and then some came back later and said: I voted for it before I voted against it. They wanted it both ways. Many come up to me now and say: I voted for the Iraq war, but it was a mistake. I voted for this concept of offensive war, of preemptive war to stop Iraq from having weapons of mass destruction, but I made a mistake.

I think the Iraq war was a mistake. I was not here, but I would have voted no. I fear we are pushing on. Every month there has to be a new and more bellicose resolution to ensure we will go to war and that at all costs we will go to war in Iran. I think it is a mistake. I think there should be some strategic ambiguity, meaning that we do not announce to our enemies exactly what we are going to do. We let them know firmly what our position is, but we do not announce to them our entire military strategy.

To do so, to rule out a strategy that we had for 60 years that worked, that kept us in a very difficult and uneasy peace with the Soviet Union, does anybody here argue we would have been much better if containment would not have been a strategy, if we would have said absolutely to Russia, if you do this, we are going to—the bombs will drop tomorrow.

That scares me. But what scares me more is that so many Members of this body are jumping up and down to embrace each other in the bipartisan desire that we will not have containment as a strategy, that we absolutely will go to war if we wake up and Iran has nuclear weapons. You know what, the other day Meir Dagan, the former head of the Mossad, said that you cannot bomb the nuclear knowledge out of the psyche. Nuclear knowledge, the knowledge to make nuclear weapons, is out there now. It is in Iran. We will not be able to stop that knowledge. We will not be able to eradicate the knowledge of nuclear weapons. That is something to think about. Because there may come a day—and this is the prelude to the next argument. The next argument we have on this floor will be one day when Iran announces, and am not for

this, I think we should do everything—I voted for sanctions. I think we should do everything to prevent Iran from having a nuclear weapon.

But my goodness this is a huge mistake. It may be unpopular for me at home to say this, but I will say it. I will say it loudly. To rule out any kind of defensive strategy that does not include an offensive war is a huge mistake for the country. I will vigorously oppose this resolution. I hope those who have glommed onto this resolution so quickly, because there is an incredible force behind this resolution, there is an incredible lobbying apparatus that says you have to go onto this or else. I hope they will reread this and reconsider. Think about the double and triple amputees who have come home to your town. Think about the soldiers who have committed suicide. Think about the hundreds of thousands of soldiers who are overseas now. Ask yourself, are we ready to send another 100,000 or 200,000 or 300,000 soldiers to Iran?

I am not asking that we do nothing. We just beefed up the sanctions a couple months ago. But there are other things to do besides saying we will always have to go to war. For example, who does Iran trade with? You know the reason why the sanctions probably will not ultimately work? Because Iran trades with China and Russia and India and Japan and they are exempt from the sanctions. We say there are sanctions, but then we give them exemptions and they sell all their oil somewhere else. We do not have the power to shut down Iran through sanctions.

If we were to convince somehow Russia and China to be on our side, we could have leverage, and I think Iran would listen. The sanctions have brought them back to the table. They are negotiating. I do not for 1 minute believe everything they say or think they are trustworthy. But it is better than war to have negotiations, even with a fallible and perhaps deceitful partner sometimes—but it is still better than war.

I think there is such an eagerness or such a lack of reluctance in this body to think through the issues of war. That is how we get into this. We get into it because everybody wants to be stronger than the next guy. Everybody wants to be more bellicose than the next guy. Everybody wants to say: Nobody pushes us around and we are not going to take it. But there are other ways. There are other ways.

We have to worry about and think about what ultimately are the repercussions. Our soldiers are not inanimate clay that we put on this master board of chess, this geopolitical chess game, to move around. These are young men and women who live in your neighborhood, who live in the neighboring town. When I think about war, I think about this resolution; I do not think about empty black and white words on a page. I think about those young men and woman and my com-

mitment, my real and strong commitment that I am not going to war without absolute provocation, without a threat to the national security, and for goodness' sake, without a debate over it.

The other side may say: This does not say anything about war. No, but it says some things that are very unwise; that we would rule out an entire form of defense strategy that we used for 60 years successfully to stay out of war. I think it is a mistake to say it is OK for Iran to be a nuclear country and we will contain them. But I think it is also a mistake to say we will never contain them.

I have another amendment that is coming up this evening. This is an amendment to place limitations on foreign aid. For the last hour or two, we have had a bit of the other side giving their response. That is fine. We discover the truth by hearing the debate on both sides of this. But Senator Moynihan, who used to serve up here who is deceased, once said: Everybody has the right to their own opinion, but you do not have the right to make up your own set of facts.

There was a Senator here earlier who said: Oh, that guy from Kentucky, he does not believe in a strong national defense. He would slash national defense. So anybody who is against foreign aid is not for national defense.

This particular Senator said: He would gut defense and he would cut it by 16 percent. That is just sort of making up your facts. That is not fair. He is entitled to his opinion, but he is not entitled to make up the facts. I do have a budget that I put forward that balances the budget in 5 years. I also have a priority within that budget that I think the most important thing our government does and that the Constitution mandates is a strong national defense. I think it is the most important thing we do in this country.

So in my budget I am able to cut a significant amount of spending, but I actually limit the military sequester. The military sequester was an automatic cut. I do it by cutting out other spending, real cuts in spending in the same year to reduce the size of government, but I do not have a 16-percent cut in military in 1 year.

In fact, under the military sequester, I actually restore \$50 billion that allows the first year not to have any cuts in military. Do I think there should be some cuts in military? Yes. But I make it a little bit easier on the cuts over time. To say I am proposing a 16-percent cut is untrue.

Others have said: Yes, the military sequester is so horrible. He is going to cut foreign aid. The country will be defenseless. The hordes will be over here. We will have to fight them over there. There is a certain irony to this because half these people, these Senators who are caterwauling about this military sequester, guess what they will not tell you. They voted for the military sequester. I voted against the military

sequester last year because I did not think there was going to be enough cuts to rescue us from this debt bomb that is ticking.

But the people who voted for the military sequester are now up here accusing me of wanting to gut defense and all the military cuts and they voted for the military sequester. Others have come to the floor and said: If we do not pay people to be our friend, if we do not give people foreign aid, then we are wanting to withdraw from the world, that we are going to withdraw into a little, tiny shell, into a closet and lock ourselves in a fortress and we are not going to engage the world.

Nothing could be further from the truth. We do not give any foreign aid to England. Have we withdrawn from England? We do not give any foreign aid to anybody in Europe. Have we withdrawn from Europe? We are incredibly connected with Europe. We are incredibly connected with China, despite our differences—incredibly connected with China. We do not have to give foreign aid to be connected to the world. We should trade with the world. That is the connection. The more we are interconnected through trade, the less likely we are to go to war.

The other side also says that if we do not have foreign aid we will have war. My goodness, has anybody been paying attention? We have had two pretty big wars for a decade. We are involved in the longest war in the history of our country. I do not see any evidence that foreign aid is preventing war.

Some might say: But foreign aid is humanitarian and we want to help poor people. I see zero evidence that foreign aid is helping poor people. It is helping rich people in poor countries. I went through an hour's worth of this earlier talking about how dictators are the ones stealing the money in Africa. Africans live on an average of \$2 a day. They did 30 years ago and they still do because foreign aid does not get to the people; it is stolen by the dictators.

The other point to make about foreign aid is: My goodness, if we do not have foreign aid, we will be fighting them on our shores. Because we have foreign aid, we have a great deal of antipathy. What they need to think through—and nobody is thinking through—is why are the Arabs mad? Why are they yelling and screaming and burning the American flag? That makes me mad, and that is one reason I don't want to send them any money, because they are burning our flag. But why are they mad?

They are mad because Mubarak, who was a dictator in Egypt—do you know what he did when the crowds were formed? He hosed them down with teargas made in Pennsylvania and bought with foreign aid. When the police came with truncheons and beat the crap out of people who were protesting in Egypt, they did it with money from the United States. They are not mad at us because we are rich, they are not mad at us be-

cause we drive cars and have nice clothes and have music they find distasteful. They are really not even ultimately mad at us because of that movie. They do not like it, and I understand there are sensibilities on this, but that is not ultimately why they are mad. But they get really mad when they are hit over the head with a police truncheon paid for with foreign aid.

So it is exactly the opposite of what the other side says. The other side says without foreign aid we will have more war. I say because of the foreign aid we have more war. There is no objective evidence. Is there any objective evidence we have had less war with foreign aid? None. Zero. There is a lot of evidence we are out of money, though. We are \$1 trillion in the hole every year, and they all come down and pay lip service to it, but then say: Oh, well, \$30 billion won't make a difference. I say we have to start somewhere, and foreign aid is a great place to start.

These Senators are disconnected from the public. I defy any Senator who votes to continue foreign aid with no limitations to go home and ask their people. I will bet 90 percent of the people at home—it routinely polls in the 70s—are in favor of not sending money overseas, particularly if asked whether they want to send money overseas to people who despise us or if they would want to send money overseas to people who are burning our flag; would they want to send money overseas to a country that has tortured a man who helped us get bin Laden; to a country that allowed bin Laden to live within its midst for 6 or 7 years unmolested; to a country that is mad at us now because we got bin Laden; to a country where a third of the population would vote for bin Laden for president.

I say far from destabilizing the world, what would happen if we were to remove foreign aid is we would remove the impetus to the Arab spring becoming the Arab winter. What I see is people recognizing that people are angry, but I see no intelligent discussion about why they are angry. When people come to me and they say: Oh, it is because we are rich and we are a wealthy country, that doesn't make any sense to me.

Many of these people actually in the Arab spring do want freedom—a freedom like our freedom. It may be a little different, because it is a different culture and they believe in a different system of democracy than we do, but they still want some freedom. Some might ask: If they want freedom and we have freedom, why wouldn't they admire our system; why wouldn't they be sympathetic; why are they burning our flag; why are 20,000, 30,000, 40,000, 50,000 people rallying and burning our flag? It is because too often our foreign aid has gone to support dictators who have oppressed their people.

Mubarak got \$60 billion in Egypt. Estimates of his family's worth are up to \$50 billion. They repressed their people. No one could come into the street

without being beaten over the head with a police baton or sprayed with teargas made in Pennsylvania. They were mad at Mubarak, understandably, so that anger is transferred to us. The same with Ben Ali in Tunisia, and the same with Hussein.

Remember that Hussein was our ally before he was our enemy. In the Iran-Iraq war we had American planes on both sides. We had military advisers supporting Hussein against Iran, but we had F-4 Phantoms flying on Iran's side that were left there when we left. So this goes back a long way.

I remember being in high school and being perplexed as to why the Iranians hated us. Why were they burning our flag? Why were they burning our Embassy and jumping up and down like a bunch of idiots burning our flag? Why did they hate us so much? Because we kept in power a man—the shah—whom they didn't like, whom they despised, and who was autocratic and had a very significant police force that didn't allow dissent.

It is the opposite of what the other side argues for. The other side is arguing that without foreign aid we will have war. I am arguing that because of foreign aid we have war. Because of foreign aid and because of the misapplication of foreign aid, because of the theft of foreign aid, and because foreign aid is given to people who repress their people, the Arab spring, which has a healthy element to it, has become the Arab winter. If we don't understand that, we are never going to get beyond that.

We have to also go back to the specifics of what I am asking for in this amendment. In this amendment, what I am asking for is that there simply be restrictions. I am asking that in order to get our foreign aid, a country has to act like an ally; they have to significantly and believably pledge to protect our Embassy. In Libya's regard, they have to promise to turn over the people who assassinated our Ambassador.

I think that is the minimum of what we should do. Frankly, I think we probably shouldn't be sending aid at all, but I think this is a first step in the right direction; to say, for goodness sakes, if we are going to send aid to people, at least send it to people who are acting like our allies.

When we see the American flag being burned in public by tens of thousands of the horde around our Embassies around the world, we should ask ourselves if we want to send good money after bad to that country. Do we believe it is working? And when we think about whether our money should go to African despots and dictators, we should ask if that money is getting to the poor people in Africa or is our foreign aid going to rich people in poor countries. That is the history of it. It is the history of repression, it is the history of human rights abuse, it is the history of theft and more corruption than anyone can ever imagine.

I will probably lose this vote, but I have fought long and hard. I have

fought for 6 weeks to get this vote, and so we are going to have this vote at midnight. People aren't too happy with me now, but we are going to have a vote tonight at midnight, and I think it is an important vote. I think it is an important first step whether we win or lose. Because every Senator who votes on this tonight will have to go home and they will have to engage their constituents and explain to their constituents why they are still willing to send money to countries that are burning the American flag; why they are still willing to send money to countries where there is ample evidence of corruption and thievery; why they are still willing to send foreign aid to countries that are openly disdainful of us.

Does everyone realize the President of Afghanistan, or senior advisers, have said that if there is a war with Pakistan—between the United States and Pakistan—they will side with Pakistan? Pakistan's senior advisers have said if there is a war with Iran, they will side with Iran. These are the people we are sending billions of dollars to and saying: Please be our friends. They laugh and snigger at us and turn away and say: Fools. That is what they say about us.

I say what we need in this country is an American spring—an American spring where we wake up and say: Look, to make our country great again, to retain American greatness, we have to figure out how to grow at home. And I think that means leaving more money at home. I hope the Senate will consider this when they vote this evening.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

REPORT ON OPERATION FAST AND FURIOUS

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, on Wednesday, the inspector general of the Department of Justice issued his report on ATF's Operation Fast and Furious. This report is a significant milestone for the family of Border Patrol Agent Brian Terry. He was killed in a firefight with illegal aliens who were armed with illegal guns from Fast and Furious.

Attorney General Holder delayed any discipline for the officials responsible for Fast and Furious until after this report was released. The time for accountability has come. There are no more excuses for inaction.

The inspector general's nonpartisan review confirmed virtually everything I heard from whistleblowers over the last year and a half. The Justice Department tried to push all the blame on the ATF and officials down in Phoenix, AZ, but the inspector general confirmed that senior officials in Washington ignored red flag after red flag.

Senior officials in both the Justice Department and ATF knew or should have known that Operation Fast and Furious was putting guns into the hands of criminals. But they ignored the risk and failed to take steps to pro-

tect the public safety. The Inspector General also confirmed that there were major information-sharing failures between law enforcement agencies.

We are still going through the nearly 500-page report, as well as 309 pages of new documents the Justice Department produced late Wednesday. However, I was surprised to learn from the report that Attorney General Holder testified that he doesn't remember the conversation with me about Fast and Furious in my office on January 31, 2011. That is when I handed the first letters to the Attorney General opening the investigation of Fast and Furious.

I happen to remember that conversation. My staff told the Attorney General that day what whistleblowers had told us. Remember, whistleblowers got involved in coming to Congress because for months they were sending reports up from Phoenix to main Justice that selling guns illegally or encouraging our gun dealers to sell guns illegally was not a very smart thing for our Justice Department to do. And when they weren't listened to, these whistleblowers started coming to this Senator.

Specifically, at that meeting with Holder, we discussed that two weapons the ATF let go in Fast and Furious were found at the murder scene of Border Patrol Agent Terry. I emphasized I was personally bringing it to his attention—meaning the attention of the Attorney General—because these were very serious and credible allegations, not just some run-of-the-mill letter that I send to departments generally.

Yet even after that meeting, the Department didn't take this case seriously. The inspector general's independent report says so explicitly.

We do not believe that the gravity of this allegation was met with an equally serious effort by the Department to determine whether ATF and the U.S. Attorney's Office had allowed the sale of hundreds of weapons to straw purchasers.

The Justice Department claimed its process for writing letters to Congress was sound. But its response to me, in its February 4, 2011, letter, was false. That letter came back only 4 or 5 days after I first handed the letter to the Attorney General. The February 4, 2011, letter was false because DOJ later withdrew it and claimed it relied on bad information from the ATF and the U.S. Attorney's Office. However, the inspector general agreed with me that the Justice Department's response was seriously flawed—and not just the initial response. The inspector general also found that the Justice Department knew its initial reply wasn't true when it reaffirmed the denial of the whistleblower allegations in a May 2, 2011 letter to me.

Instead of acknowledging it was wrong, the Department repeatedly doubled down on its denials.

For example, Attorney General Holder said on multiple occasions since November 2011 that the wiretap evidence

authorized by the Justice Department headquarters did not put senior leadership on notice that the ATF was walking guns.

Most recently, on June 7 of this year, the Attorney General went before the House Judiciary Committee. At this point, many Members of Congress had obtained and read the affidavits, even though the Justice Department did not want us to see them. Members who reviewed them said that the affidavits contained evidence of gunwalking. But Attorney General Holder testified:

I've looked at these affidavits, I've looked at these summaries. There's nothing in those affidavits as I've reviewed them that indicates gunwalking was allowed.

The inspector general has read these same wiretap affidavits. Since the inspector general is independent and nonpartisan, that independent, nonpartisan conclusion is at odds with the quote I just gave you from the Attorney General, and that quote from the Attorney General comes from testimony before the other body.

I quote from his report:

[T]he affidavits described specific incidents that would suggest . . . ATF was employing a strategy of not interdicting weapons or arresting known straw purchasers.

In fact, much of the inspector general's report is redacted because those affidavits are still under seal. Chairman ISSA and I asked the Justice Department months ago to move to unseal them so the public could decide for themselves. Now the inspector general has joined Congressman ISSA and this Senator, and is also calling for the Department to ask for permission of the court to release the affidavits. The Justice Department should have filed that motion months ago. Unsealing the affidavits will allow the American people and the Terry family to see the whole story.

The details of those affidavits show that senior officials knew, or should have known, about gunwalking in Fast and Furious. The inspector general independently confirmed this point, quite contrary to Attorney General Holder's denials. Those denials by the Attorney General show either incompetence or lack of truthfulness. Congress created an explicit statutory duty for certain senior Justice Department officials to authorize all wiretap applications, not just those involved with Fast and Furious.

Deputy Assistant Attorney General Jason Weinstein, who served directly under criminal division head Lanny Breuer, was one of the officials who approved some of these affidavits. Senior officials such as Mr. Weinstein tried to claim that they shouldn't be held accountable because they only read memos summarizing the wiretaps, not the full wiretap applications, as I think is required under law. But the inspector general found that Justice Department officials should review more than just the cover memo. He said that under the statute, they have the responsibility to be fully informed before authorizing wiretap applications.

Yet the inspector general also found that even

. . . a reader of the . . . cover memorandum would infer from the facts that ATF agents did not take enforcement action to interdict the weapons or arrest [straw purchasers].

So the memo Mr. Weinstein admits he did read indicated that ATF had walked guns, according to the inspector general.

Back in September of last year, Attorney General Holder said at a press conference:

The notion that somehow or other this thing reaches the upper levels of the Justice Department is something that . . . I don't think is supported by the facts.

Maybe the Attorney General doesn't think someone who reports directly to the head of the criminal division is a senior official, but this Senator does.

As a result of the inspector general's findings, Deputy Assistant Attorney General Weinstein has resigned. Mr. Weinstein should be held accountable, but he shouldn't take the fall for more senior officials who are also culpable.

Mr. Weinstein reported directly to Assistant Attorney General Lanny Breuer. When the Justice Department sent its letter to me denying ATF ever walked guns, Breuer knew otherwise. He knew in 2010 about gunwalking in another case, Operation Wide Receiver. That was long before the allegations in Fast and Furious; yet he waited 9 months before e-mails about Wide Receiver were about to be produced to Congress before he publicly apologized for not doing more about gunwalking in the previous gun walking Wide Receiver.

I asked Breuer whether he had seen the draft of the February 4 false letter to me. Breuer testified:

I cannot say for sure whether I saw a draft of the letter that was sent to you.

Now I will explain why that was a false statement that he made to me.

A month after Breuer's testimony, the Justice Department released more documents showing that Breuer was sent five drafts of the letter before it was sent to me. He forwarded three of them to his personal e-mail account. Breuer still maintained in written responses that it was "highly unlikely" he had read the letter because he was in Mexico when it was sent. On this matter, the inspector general report contained a significant factual error.

By the way, there aren't many errors in this inspector general's report. I compliment him for a very good job that he did.

The report read:

The OIG found no e-mail messages from Breuer in which he proposed edits, commented on the drafts, or otherwise indicated he had read them.

That statement of the inspector general is not true. In response to one of the drafts that Breuer received, he commented to Weinstein that it was "great work."

That may not be a proposed edit, but it is certainly a comment. Thus, Breuer's statement to Congress is sim-

ply not credible. E-mails show that Breuer was very engaged in the process, asking for and receiving updates from Weinstein at every stage of the drafting of that letter of February 4, 2011 that 8 or 9 months later they withdrew because it was false. Breuer and Weinstein sent multiple e-mails to each other on the matter each day, with Breuer asking after a quiet period, "Jason, let me know what's happening with this."

So, quite obviously, he was involved before the letter was ever sent to me. Rather than holding him accountable for this evidence, the inspector general's report gives him a pass.

Worse, new e-mails produced Wednesday show that Breuer was in the weeds about his deputy Jason Weinstein coming to brief the Senate Judiciary Committee staff a week after the Justice Department's false letter was sent to me.

On February 13, 2011, Breuer sent an e-mail about such details as what specific questions my staff asked of Weinstein at this briefing. Breuer wrote:

The goal—and by all accounts it seems to have worked—was to communicate that ATF's work in the AZ case and others like it reflected sound judgment and investigative work.

It is clear that Breuer was in the weeds enough to know what the Justice Department was communicating to me was undermined by the gunwalking he knew about in Wide Receiver. He should have come forward in February 2011 and told Congress that he knew ATF had in fact walked guns. His failure to do so, coupled with his attempt to mislead Congress, is why I have called for him to resign or be fired. I made that request last fall on the floor of this Senate.

The Attorney General has been saying for months that he would hold off on any personnel action until the inspector general's report was released. We have been hearing that for almost a year, "Let the inspector general finish his work, and then we will decide what to do." So, Mr. Attorney General, it is time to hold people accountable.

I wish to close with language from a statement that the family of Border Patrol Agent Brian Terry issued. Agent Terry is the person where two guns that were walked were found at his murder scene.

From the family of Brian Terry:

The Department's failure chronicled in the report had deadly and tragic consequences for hundreds of innocent American and Mexican victims of violent crimes.

And our son, friend, relative and hero, Brian Terry, is dead.

Questions and concerns should have been raised before the weapons purchased in this failed government sting wound up in the hands of drug dealers and killers, including those who killed Brian.

The focus today should not be on political spin control nor on praise for the Department of Justice supervisors who chose to resign in light of the report's findings, but rather on the gross negligence of the Department documented in the report and the tragic consequences of that negligence.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. FRANKEN). The Senator from Iowa.

THE RYAN BUDGET

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, our Nation faces an absolutely fundamental choice in this year's election: Are we going to rescue, restore, and rebuild the middle class or are we going to continue to shift even more wealth and advantages to those at the top at the expense of the middle class?

As I have done every day we have been in session here, I want to point out to the American people what the blueprint is for this country under the Romney-Ryan budget. That is their budget. A budget is a blueprint of where you want to go, what you want to do, how you want to build something—how you want to build the future of our country. That is the Ryan budget. So I want to take a look again at the Ryan budget and what it does for the future of this country.

First of all, the very centerpiece of the Ryan budget is whopping new tax cuts, mostly for those at the top, the richest 2 percent. Those making \$1 million or more a year would receive \$265,000 a year in new tax cuts on top of the \$129,000 they would get from extending the old Bush tax cuts. That means now if you are in the top 2 percent and you are making over \$1 million a year, you get \$394,000 in new tax cuts.

We keep hearing about Mr. Romney and Mr. RYAN talking about entitlements. We have got to cut back on entitlements. Don't we? What about this? That is what they always talk about. They are talking about people who are lower income, who rely upon certain things such as nutrition assistance or job training programs, maybe Pell grants for students, for poor kids to go to college—cut back on those. What about this entitlement? This is an entitlement; you are entitled to it: If you make over \$1 million a year, you will be entitled to those tax cuts.

We don't hear them cutting back on that entitlement. No. They want to extend it. How do they pay for all these new tax cuts? The total is \$4.5 trillion over 10 years. They do not exactly say how, but the Republican budget, that Ryan budget, would offset these tax cuts by making very deep and Draconian cuts in programs that undergird the middle class—everything from education, student loans, grants, law enforcement, clean air, clean water, food safety, medical research, highways, bridges and other infrastructure, all cut in the Ryan budget.

The Ryan budget, as I will explain a little bit more in detail shortly, would end Medicare. We will hear a lot of people saying it will end Medicare as we know it. Well, if we end something as we know it, that means we end it.

The Romney-Ryan budget, since Mr. Romney called it marvelous—the Romney-Ryan budget would end Medicare and make it a voucher care system. That would force seniors to pay nearly

\$6,000 more per year out of their pockets for health care in the future.

Last, they offset these tax cuts by raising taxes on the middle class—actually raising taxes on the middle class. Mr. RYAN's budget is to use the deficit crisis as a pretext for dismantling Medicare, Medicaid, cutting education and environmental protection, workplace safety, and all the things I have said. What they do is double down on the theory that if we just give more and more to those at the top, it will trickle down to everybody else. That theory was tried under President George W. Bush, and it did not work out too well.

Today I want to focus on the devastating impact of the Romney-Ryan budget on Medicare and on health care generally. Since he first arrived in Congress, Representative RYAN has consistently pushed a very specific and radical health care program to end Medicare. Under his proposal, seniors would no longer have the guaranteed Medicare benefits they have enjoyed for decades. Instead, they would get a voucher from the Federal Government. They can then go out and buy individual private insurance or Medicare.

Again, they say: You can buy Medicare. You can stay in Medicare if you want or you can buy private insurance. Let's take a look at that. In 10 years the Ryan plan would eliminate Medicare, shift to vouchers, but the vouchers would not be enough to cover the health care costs so seniors' out-of-pocket costs would go up.

The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office has projected that the Ryan proposal could increase annual out-of-pocket costs for seniors by more than \$1,200 in 2030, almost \$6,000 in 2050. If we total all these years, if we add one year after the other that seniors would have to pay, seniors retiring in 2023, over their lifetime, would be paying almost \$60,000 more in total. For seniors retiring in 2030 it would be about \$125,000. When we get up to 2050, a senior retiring then would be spending about \$330,000 over their retirement years just for health care. That is what voucher care means.

In addition, the Ryan plan would leave the traditional Medicare system in a death spiral. Mr. Romney and Mr. RYAN, in extolling their budget, say: You know, we will give them a voucher. If you want to, you can go out and buy traditional Medicare or you can buy a private insurance plan.

What does that mean? That means if someone is a very healthy senior they might get a better deal by going out and buying a private insurance plan. So who stays in Medicare? The poorest and the sickest. Then the Medicare costs explode and it becomes unaffordable and we destroy the whole Medicare system. Do not buy that argument of Mr. RYAN, that someone can stay in Medicare if they want. No, it would destroy it.

Make no mistake, the Ryan plan is a radical break with the past. This is not

some little transition. This is not some little bit of experimentation or something. No, the Ryan budget is a radical break with what we have had in the past. It turns a successful, reliable comprehensive source of health care that seniors have depended on for decades, paid into over years of hard work—they turn it into an unpredictable, unreliable voucher care system.

Our approach is very different. President Obama has fought to strengthen Medicare, not end it. He believes Medicare is a sacred compact, and he has improved Medicare in the Affordable Care Act or what we now know as ObamaCare.

My friends on the other side of the aisle have been saying "ObamaCare" as though it is a pejorative. It has a bad connotation. I use it as a very good connotation because I want to tell you President Obama does care. He cares about the fact that kids can stay on their parents' policy until age 26. He does care that insurance companies can no longer put lifetime caps on real sick people any longer. President Obama does care if someone has a preexisting condition, they cannot be denied affordable health care insurance. So, yes, President Obama does care. That is why I think ObamaCare really does describe it well—Obama cares.

For example, in ObamaCare we eliminate gaps in coverage; that is, the doughnut hole. We close the doughnut hole. We reduce the cost of prescription drugs. According to Medicare's Actuary—not me, the Actuary—the Affordable Care Act extends the program's solvency by 8 years, from 2016 to 2024, by getting rid of wasteful subsidies to insurance companies, getting rid of fraud, waste, and abuse in the system. So our plan for Medicare is simple: Mend it, don't end it. That is just what we do.

The Ryan plan is bad news for those who depend on Medicare for their basic health care needs. It is disastrous for people who depend on the Medicaid Program. The Ryan budget would block-grant Medicaid, put the entire program under the States, and then cut it by \$810 billion over the next 10 years. That's right. The Medicaid Program, block-grant it to the States, cut it by \$810 billion over the next 10 years.

What does Medicaid do? Seniors, if they pay into the program, have Medicare when they retire. If they become disabled, if they have paid in the requisite amount of money, they can get disability coverage or survivors' benefits. I am talking about Medicaid, health care for low-income Americans and other populations.

The Medicaid Program is something we instituted over half a century ago now to tell all Americans that they are going to be able to have quality health care. Do you remember that debate? I remember watching one of the debates that the Republicans were having in their Presidential series. The question was asked: You know we take care of sick people in our country. Where do

they go? They can go to the emergency room. It costs a lot more money. But the question was asked—something about, do you just deny that? A lot of people would say just let them die, leave them out on the street.

Is that the kind of country we want to be? If we are sick and we do not have the wherewithal we cannot get health care? We moved beyond that. We have moved beyond that as a society.

The other population is Americans with disabilities. Almost one in every two Americans, almost 50 percent of Americans with disabilities depend on Medicaid for access to health services and support that span everything from hospital to home care. Services from the Medicaid Program allow our citizens with disabilities to live with dignity and with purpose in their homes and in their communities. Nearly 3 million seniors and people with disabilities use the Medicaid Program to avoid costly nursing home care. If we cut home and community-based care for this group of Americans, then they would have to turn to institutional care.

The short-term cuts, these cuts they are going to make in Medicaid, will lead to longer term expenses because we know that institutional care is more expensive than care at home or in the community. I guess, unless we just say to them: Tough luck, you are on your own. Tough luck. You have a disability? Cut your Medicaid. Can't live at home? Go live in an institution. Oh, the institution is no longer there because we cannot afford it—then I guess you have to go out on the street and beg.

Is that what we want to see? Like many third world countries where we see people with disabilities on the corners begging? Families with a child with a disability out in the street begging? Is that what we want? Do we want to walk down the street and see people who, through no fault of their own, are disabled and they are out there begging with a tin cup and a tin plate? Is that the kind of country we want to become?

To dismantle the Medicaid Program, as they would do under the Ryan budget, would dismantle our commitment to quality affordable health care for all. The Medicaid Program is a lifeline to hundreds of thousands of middle-class families—yes, middle-class families, working families who have children with lifelong disabilities such as Down syndrome or autism. Instead of cutting these families off from a critical lifeline, we should be strengthening the long-term viability of this program, Medicaid, reassuring these families that America is not going to turn its back on them when they need help the most.

You do not have to take my word for it about shredding this compact. I have said many times that we have a unique American social contract, a compact that evolved over our march from a society in which we had child labor,

which, if people were older and poor, they went to the county home; where children died in infancy; where, if people were disabled, they were put in dark places.

We evolved a social contract. We said, basically, in America we are going to provide a ladder of opportunity or ramp of opportunity. We are going to make sure we take care that we educate our young and take care of our elderly, a social safety net.

Here is the former Reagan economic adviser, Mr. Bruce Bartlett. Here is what he said:

Distributionally, the Ryan plan is a monstrosity. The rich would receive huge tax cuts while the social safety net would be shredded to pay for them.

Then again, we don't have to take those words. I think the bishops had something to say about that when the bishops said the Ryan budget fails the moral test. The Nation's Catholic bishops reiterated their demand that the Federal budget protect the poor and said the GOP measure "fails to meet these moral criteria." That is the Ryan budget.

At the centerpiece of the Ryan budget is its promise to repeal the Affordable Care Act or ObamaCare. Again, once we get past this political theater and look at what repeal of the Affordable Care Act or ObamaCare would actually mean, it is not a very pretty picture. Repeal would reopen the Medicare prescription doughnut hole, requiring seniors to pay about \$600 more per year on average for prescription drugs.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act or ObamaCare, about 86 million Americans received at least one free preventive service in 2011 and almost 1 million Iowans received at least one free prevention service in 2011. That would be repealed, and then they would be charged. Americans now get services such as mammograms, colonoscopies, and other cancer screenings. Eighty-six million Americans received free preventive services. This is in keeping with ObamaCare's goal that changes from a sick care society to a health care society. Rather than focusing all of our attention and money on emergency room care or when people get the sickest, we start to move it more upfront to preventive care. We would get to people early and prevent illness. We would keep people healthy and out of the hospital in the first place.

The Ryan budget shreds all of that. It is back to the old system we always had—no preventive care. When someone gets sick, they go to the emergency room, and that is busting us as a country. That is breaking our budget. We have to put more into prevention.

Mr. President, your mother was right, an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. I don't know why we have not learned that. We did learn it. We put that in ObamaCare.

The Ryan budget says, no, we want to get rid of that. The repeal of ObamaCare would allow insurance companies to deny people coverage be-

cause of a preexisting condition. Nearly half of Americans have some form of a preexisting health condition, and right now the Affordable Care Act covers all children. In 2014—just 1 year and a little over 2 months from now—everyone will be covered even if they have a preexisting condition.

This is Eleanor Pierce from Cedar Falls, IA. She was denied health insurance, when she lost her job, because of a preexisting condition of high blood pressure. Without coverage, she racked up \$60,000 in medical debts. If you repeal ObamaCare, more than 30 million people would be denied access to affordable and comprehensive health insurance. It would make insured Americans pay more than tens of billions of dollars of uncompensated care when they show up in emergency rooms.

Actually, repealing ObamaCare would cost American families an average of over \$1,100 extra in premiums annually right now that we are paying for uncompensated care when people show up in an emergency room. Repeal would kick more than 3 million young people off their parents' policy.

That hurts people like Emily Schlichting. She testified at one of our hearings. She is a young woman from Omaha. She said that "young people are the future of this country and we are the most affected by reform. We are the generation that is most uninsured. We need the Affordable Care Act because it is literally an investment in the future of this country."

She suffers from a rare autoimmune disorder. In the bad old days, that made her uninsurable. Thanks to the Affordable Care Act or ObamaCare, she is now covered under her parents' policy until age 26. Guess what. In 2014 her preexisting condition will mean nothing. She will be able to get affordable health insurance. The Ryan budget says, sorry, Emily, you are on your own.

These are just a few of the ways in which the Ryan plan to repeal ObamaCare would drag us backward to the bad old days when insurance companies were in the driver's seat and millions of Americans were one illness away from bankruptcy.

Over the last few weeks, Governor Romney and Representative RYAN have been saying that the President's health reform robs Medicare. I heard that he said that in Florida last night. I don't know how else to say this, but that is totally false. That is untrue. First of all, nonpartisan economists have certified that the President's health care plan or ObamaCare has strengthened the Medicare Program and extends its solvency by 8 years. If we were robbing the Medicare Program, how could it extend its solvency by 8 more years?

The Affordable Care Act doesn't rob Medicare, it makes the program more efficient and more reliable. It saves \$700 billion, not from beneficiaries, not from recipients who are on Medicare, but from overpayments to private insurance companies, providers, pharma-

ceuticals. It cracks down on fraud, waste, and abuse.

What is interesting is that the Ryan budget has exactly the same savings in his budget as ObamaCare has in the plan we passed here. It is the same and exact to the dollar. It is written the same way. As President Clinton said: "You gotta give [him] one thing—it takes some brass to attack a guy for doing what you did." RYAN put in his budget exactly what we had in ObamaCare, and now they are attacking President Obama for what they have in their budget. Go figure. In both of his budget proposals, Mr. RYAN keeps all of the Affordable Care Act's medical improvements that we put in the Affordable Care Act.

I heard Mr. Romney in Florida last night attacking President Obama for doing what Mr. Romney said was marvelous about Mr. RYAN's budget. In short, Mr. RYAN's Medicare plan would end Medicare.

There is something else that I hear them say all the time. They say they are going to protect everyone over age 55. Under the Ryan plan he says they are going to go to this voucher care, but anyone over age 55 is protected. I have to ask: Protected from what? I mean, if it is such a good deal, why don't we do it for everybody? Yet Mr. RYAN and Mr. Romney say, no, everyone over age 55 has the same Medicare system and they don't get the voucher program. It is only for those under age 55. There must be something wrong with it then. If it is so darn good, why don't they put everybody in there right away? Conversely, if they are protecting everyone over age 55, why don't they protect everyone under age 55? Got it? If they are aged 55 and over they are unprotected. Put them on a voucher program. That is the dirty little secret they are not telling us.

Again, by repealing the Affordable Care Act, ObamaCare, 439,000 Iowa seniors would be forced onto these vouchers, 60,000 Iowa seniors would be forced back into the doughnut hole and paying more money for their drugs, and 400,000 Iowa seniors would pay for preventive services that they now get at no cost. More than 30 million people will be denied coverage under the Ryan budget. ObamaCare insures more than 94 percent of all Americans. That is what would happen; they would be denied coverage.

I will close with this: The bottom line is President Obama and ObamaCare protects Medicare. It keeps it solvent. It keeps everyone covered. The Ryan budget shreds the social safety net for Medicaid and destroys Medicare by turning it into a voucher system. ObamaCare protects Americans from insurance company abuses, expands coverage, increases the quality of care, shifts more into prevention and keeping people healthy. The Ryan budget does away with all of that and would drag us backward to the bad old days.

When we look at the Ryan budget—or the Romney-Ryan budget, since Mr.

Romney called it marvelous—we have to shake our heads in disbelief that they would take America back that far after we have come so far in covering people and getting rid of preexisting condition clauses. ObamaCare takes off caps on lifetime coverage for those who have a serious illness so they don't go bankrupt. ObamaCare makes sure kids in America can stay on their parents' policies. We don't want to go back, and that is why this Ryan budget must be totally defeated.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, I want to congratulate my colleague, Senator HARKIN, for his remarks. I certainly agree with him. I want to amplify a point Senator HARKIN made. There was a frightening story in the New York Times today. I don't know that people have digested it, but the headline is "Life Spans Shrink for Least-Educated Whites in the U.S."

Generally speaking, the trend for life expectancy in the United States, and all over the world, has been going up. The goal of a good society and a strong health care system is to see that people live longer, healthier, and happier lives, but as a result of the devastating attacks in a variety of ways on the working class of this country, over a period of years—not just starting yesterday—this is where we are. Let me quote from this article. I hope people hear this because this is shocking stuff. I quote:

The steepest declines were for white women without a high school diploma, who lost five years of life between 1990 and 2008.

Their life expectancy went down by 5 years. This is astronomical. Going back to the article, it says:

S. Jay Olshansky, a public health professor at the University of Illinois at Chicago and the lead investigator on the study, published last month in Health Affairs.

What happened is between 1990 and 2008—an 18-year period—life expectancy for white women without a high school diploma declined by 5 years.

The article states:

White men lacking a high school diploma lost 3 years of life. Life expectancy for both blacks and Hispanics of the same education level rose, the data showed. But Blacks overall do not live as long as whites, while Hispanics live longer than both whites and blacks.

So let's digest what that means. As chairman of the Subcommittee on Primary Health and Aging, last year we held a hearing entitled "Poverty as a Death Sentence." What that hearing pointed out is that people who are in the top 20 percent live, as I recall, about 6 years longer than people in the bottom 20 percent. But what new evidence is suggesting is that people without a high school degree—the least educated people in America and often the poorest people in America—we are now seeing a significant decline in the life expectancies of both men and women. This is moving in exactly the wrong direction.

The authors of the study are not exactly sure why this is taking place. Many low-income, uneducated people are using drugs, cutting short their lives. Lack of health care is certainly one of the reasons. More and more low-income people can't access health care, which is why it is so important that we defeat the Romney-Ryan effort to devastate, as Senator HARKIN just said, Medicaid and throw millions and millions of people off health insurance. If life expectancy for low-income people is now going down, think of what it will mean if we throw millions more off Medicaid. It is a death sentence.

I also wish to say a word on the issue of Social Security, and I wish to thank the Presiding Officer and Senator WHITEHOUSE and Senator BEGICH for joining me yesterday in releasing a letter which had 29 signatures on it from Members of the Senate, and that letter was pretty simple. What it said is that Social Security has not added a nickel to the deficit because Social Security, of course, is funded by the payroll tax. It said Social Security has a \$2.7 trillion surplus and can pay out all the benefits to eligible Americans over the next 21 years. So it is absolutely wrong and bad public policy to be talking about cutting Social Security within the context of deficit reduction when Social Security has nothing to do with the deficit.

The reason we are in a deficit situation in a significant way—the reason we have gone a very long way in the wrong direction since January 2001 when Bill Clinton left office with a \$236 billion surplus—has nothing to do with Social Security. It has everything to do with Bush and those people who voted for two wars and forgot to pay for them, thereby adding to the deficit; those people who gave huge tax breaks, much of it going to the richest people in this country, forgot to pay for it; passed the Medicare Part D prescription drug program and forgot to pay for it; and a recession caused by Wall Street which resulted in lower revenue coming into the Federal Government. Those are the reasons why we are in a deficit, not because of Social Security.

I understand Republicans want to cut Social Security. That is what they do. They are not very sympathetic to Social Security. They have opposed Social Security for years. They don't believe the government should be involved in retirement security. They want to balance the budget on the backs of the elderly, the sick, the children and the poor and give tax breaks to the rich. I understand that. More and more Americans understand that.

But I will tell my colleagues what I am concerned about. I am concerned about President Obama. Four years ago, the President was very clear on this issue. When the President was running for election against Senator MCCAIN, this is what he told AARP and, ironically, he just spoke to AARP, I believe it was today. So 4 years ago, same venue. This is what he said 4 years ago:

John McCain's campaign has suggested that the best answer for the growing pressures on Social Security might be to cut cost-of-living adjustments or raise the retirement age. Let me be clear: I will not do either.

Candidate Barack Obama said that 4 years ago. Barack Obama is in the White House now.

We have people such as billionaire Pete Peterson, who has been pushing deficit reduction on the backs of working people for years now. He has been spending huge amounts of money to make sure we do deficit reduction not by asking the wealthiest people in this country to pay their fair share but by balancing the budget on the backs of the elderly, the children, the sick, and the poor. These guys have come up with a strategy called the chained CPI.

Nobody in America outside Capitol Hill knows what the chained CPI is. It is a new formulation as to how we determine cost-of-living adjustments—COLAs—for seniors. What these economists have decided—these rightwing economists—COLAs today are formulated in a way that are too generous—too generous for America's seniors and for disabled veterans. They want to reformulate how we come up with these COLAs. If they get their way—and I have a great deal of fear that unless some of us stop them, unless the American people stop them, they will, in fact, get their way—what this will mean is that if a person is 65 years of age today, by the time they are 75, they will lose about \$560 a year in their benefits. If a person is 65 years of age today, in 20 years, when that person is 85, they will lose \$1,000 a year.

Let me be very clear. I do not believe we should move to a deficit reduction on the backs of a senior citizen living on \$14,000 or \$15,000 a year and take \$1,000 away from them and then get on the floor of the Senate and talk about how we have to give more tax breaks to billionaires. I think that is not only morally inexcusable, I think it is bad economics.

While we are talking about this so-called chained CPI which will cut benefits for seniors, we are also talking about cutting VA benefits for disabled veterans. So I want to hear all these tough guys here who think we should balance the budget on the backs of the elderly and the children, let them get up here and tell us why, when somebody fought in a war to defend the United States—maybe they lost their legs or their eyes or their arms—they want to cut their benefits and then they want to give tax breaks to billionaires.

The American people don't want to do that. So I think we have to get on the phones right now. We have to call our Senators and we have to call Members of the House and we have to call President Obama: Mr. President, 4 years ago you told us you weren't going to cut Social Security. Is that still your position? Four years ago, you came up with an idea that is, in fact,

exactly the right idea. You made the point that multimillionaires are contributing the same amount of money into the Social Security trust fund as somebody making \$110,000, and 4 years ago you made the point that if we lift that cap—and we don't have to start at \$110,000; we can go up to \$250,000—if we lift that cap above \$250,000, we could bring in enough revenue to fund Social Security for the next 75 years. That was your position, Mr. President, 4 years ago. Is that your position today? Are you going to stand up to the Republicans and the Wall Street folks who want us to cut Social Security?

That is where we are right now.

My last point I wish to make is on the much discussed remarks of Governor Romney from the video released recently that has gone all over the Internet. There is a lot that can be said about it, and I suspect everybody has said a lot. I just want to pick up on one point. I feel strongly about this point because I am the son of a working-class family—of a father who never made a lot of money but worked hard his entire life and of a mother who raised her kids as best she could. So I take this kind of personally.

This is what Mr. Romney said in connection with the famous 47 percent of the people who don't pay taxes, which is not true, of course. As we know, they pay Social Security taxes and gasoline taxes, Medicare taxes. But be that as it may, that is not the issue I want to get to.

This is what Mr. Romney said:

My job is not to worry about those people. I will never convince them they should take personal responsibility and care for their lives.

Let me repeat that.

I will never convince them they should take personal responsibility and care for their lives.

He was talking about my parents. He was talking about the parents of millions of people who worked hard their whole lives who don't need advice from a multimillionaire who went to elite schools and had all the money and privileges his family could provide him. We don't need advice from him to families who have worked and struggled their whole lives to, in fact, take personal responsibility to make sure their kids did well. That is an incredibly arrogant statement from a guy surrounded by money, speaking to millionaires, who should not be making that statement.

People on Social Security, people on Medicare, in many cases, have worked their entire lives, have done the best they could to provide for their kids, have seen their kids go to college. Many of the people on Social Security, Medicare have fought in wars defending this country. They do not need advice from a multimillionaire about how they should take personal responsibility for their lives. That is an insulting remark and it would become Governor Romney to apologize for that remark.

With that, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah.

Mr. HATCH. Might I ask how much time I have?

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. TESTER). There is no controlled time. The Senator may consume as much time as he wishes.

Mr. HATCH. I thank the Chair.

Mr. President, I have to say I always enjoy my colleague from Vermont. He is a very sincere and dedicated man and I like him. There is no use kidding about it; you can't help but like him, in my eyes. But I don't know any Republican Senator who wants to cut Social Security. They want to save Social Security. I don't know anybody who wants to cut Medicare or Medicaid. We want to save Medicare and Medicaid. Anybody in their right mind who looks at this knows we have to do some things and change some things or we are not going to have Medicare and Medicaid for our people and we will not have Social Security continue.

With regard to Mitt Romney, yes, he may not have articulated his thoughts as well as he may have wished. But there is no way in this world Mitt Romney meant his comments to be taken the way they have been taken by the left in this country. All he is saying is there are too many people riding in the wagon and not enough people pulling the wagon and we are going to have to get jobs for those who should be outside the wagon, pulling the wagon, and help them to have the self-esteem that comes from working. That is what the whole welfare bill of 1996 was all about, in having a work requirement: We are going to help you, we are going to subsidize you, we are going to give you job training, but after a certain period of time, if you don't have a job, you are off the dole. Literally two-thirds, almost two-thirds of the people who have been on the dole, some for generations, went to work after incentives were realigned through Republican welfare reform. That is the Republican approach, to get people back to work, to provide efficient incentives, and to get this economy moving again; not to hurt anybody. So these things can be exaggerated to a point where sometimes it becomes confusing to the American people, and that is not right either.

I know Mitt Romney. I know how he cares for people. I know what he did when he was a bishop in the LDS Church, in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. I was a bishop when I was running for Senate, and I have to tell my colleagues I spent at least 30 hours a week of my own time and expense, because there is no paid clergy in the LDS faith, other than the general authorities and those are very few people, and we all volunteer our time. We help people from every walk of life.

FISCAL HISTORY OF THE 1990S AND 2000S

Mr. President, I am here today to talk about some very important things

that are related to what I have just been saying.

There has been much discussion by President Obama about the source of our current economic and fiscal challenges. The President seems to suggest we could easily return to the prosperity of the 1990s by adopting the policies of President Clinton, particularly by raising taxes to the level they were during his Presidency. At the recent Democratic National Convention, President Clinton himself made a similar argument. But the positive economic and fiscal history of the 1990s was not owing to higher taxes, and the economic and fiscal challenges we face today—in particular, our \$16 trillion national debt and exploding entitlement spending programs—cannot be fixed by higher tax rates.

During his convention speech, President Clinton claimed that President Obama inherited a damaged economy, put a floor under the crash, began the road to recovery, and laid the foundation for a modern, well-balanced economy. Tell that to the 12.5 million unemployed Americans who continue to struggle with unemployment. Tell that to Americans who have been suffering through unemployment rates above 8 percent for 43 consecutive months. Explain to Americans how redistribution, massive expansion of refundable tax credits, ballooned transfer payments, and an interventionist Federal Reserve represent a foundation for future growth of the economy. Explain how this economy is "well balanced" when government spending represents as much as 25 percent of GDP, debt is higher than an entire year's worth of the output of the economy, and we have an activist Federal Reserve that has increased its balance sheet by well over \$1 trillion.

President Clinton does admit that, under President Obama, we are not where we need to be. So, instead, he asks whether we are better off than when President Obama took office, and he answers in the affirmative. Putting aside the rhetoric and spin and considering the facts, this is a dubious claim at best.

Relative to the beginning of 2009 when President Obama took office, jobs are down by 261,000 and unemployment remains above 8 percent. But wait. Democrats say the President cannot be held responsible for bad things that happened during his Presidency; those things were inherited or due to Europe or caused by uncontrollable forces. All right, then. Let's look at the President's jobs record after the end of the recession, which the National Bureau of Economic Research says was June of 2009. Since then, job growth under President Obama has been only 73,600 jobs per month on average—far too weak to move the unemployment rate below 8 percent.

Democrats say the only reason we do not have more jobs is because Republicans will not agree to more Keynesian stimulus—never mind that the previous dose, which cost over \$800 billion

and was promised to deliver unemployment below 8 percent, failed to get unemployment down.

Remember those promised shovel-ready jobs that became a source of amusement to the President? Remember the promised infrastructure? Americans should ask themselves where all those things are. Where are the jobs? Well, the President makes claims of saving millions of jobs because of stimulus magic. And the Federal Reserve claims millions of jobs saved from its so-called quantitative easing. There you have it. The President's foundation of well-balanced economic growth rests on debt-financed Keynesian stimulus and Federal Reserve stimulus.

Absent anything but a dismal record on jobs, President Obama has decided to try to run on President Clinton's record. So let's consider President Clinton's rose-colored nostalgia—a revisionist history adopted by President Obama and his surrogates.

President Clinton's view goes like this: I came into office with a weak economy. I raised taxes. The economy boomed.

President Clinton's depiction of the roaring 1990s is missing a few chapters. In his first years in office, Democrats controlled Congress. He and the Democrats raised income taxes and gas taxes. He tried to impose a Btu energy tax, attempted a government takeover of health care—known as HillaryCare and proposed a \$31 billion stimulus while putting off welfare reform.

The first few years of the Clinton Presidency can fairly be characterized as prioritizing tax-and-spend economic policy. But HillaryCare failed, and American voters decided to make some changes. They faced uncertainty over taxes, health care, energy costs, deficits, and runaway government spending. After 2 years of complete Democratic control of Washington, American voters decided in 1994 that Republican control of the Senate and House was desirable.

Does this sound familiar? A new Democrat in the White House, complete Democratic control of Congress, prioritizing higher taxes, a government takeover of the Nation's health care system, and more spending, followed by a popular uprising that gave some Republican balance in Congress. It was the first Republican Congress in over 40 years.

But in contrast to President Obama's refusal to heed the message of the 2010 election, President Clinton listened to the American people and moved to the political center. He embraced a Republican goal of a balanced budget and, after two vetoes, signed GOP welfare reform legislation shortly before the 1996 election. In 1996 President Clinton was reelected, but Republicans retained control of Congress.

Now, President Obama claims these were the good old days because President Clinton raised taxes. Let's consider that tax landscape. President Clinton did raise the top income tax

rate in 1993, and Democrats credit that increase for shrinking the deficit and unleashing future economic growth. However, he also agreed with Republicans in 1997 to cut the capital gains tax rate to 20 percent from 28 percent, which contributed to revenue and economic growth. I know because it was the Hatch-Lieberman bill that they followed in doing that. JOE LIEBERMAN had the guts to stand up on that issue, as did I, and it happened. The Democrats said we would lose revenues. The revenues went up because people did not feel gouged anymore. Funny how that chapter gets left out of the Democrats' 1990s story.

In 2000 President Clinton left office with Federal receipts measuring 20.6 percent of GDP—well above the 17.5 percent seen in 1992 before he took office. But those receipts were boosted by capital gains realizations associated with the Internet stock bubble that formed toward the end of the Clinton Presidency.

But even more notable and something Democrats do not discuss in relation to the Clinton Presidency is that he left office with Federal outlays measuring 18.2 percent of GDP—significantly below the 22.1 percent seen in 1992 before Clinton took office. Significant reductions in Federal outlays as a share of GDP occurred once Republicans gained control of the Congress. In contrast, President Obama has presided over the largest spending spree since World War II, with outlays as high as 25.2 percent of the entire economy—something that has not happened since the years surrounding World War II.

In his 1996 State of the Union speech, President Clinton took credit for budget improvements and spending restraint imposed by Republicans in Congress. He famously stated that the era of big government is over. But in a nod to the Republicans' role in containing the budget, in that same speech, he said: "I compliment the Republican leadership and membership for the energy and determination you have brought to this task of balancing the budget." Compare that to the sentiment of President Obama: We tried it their way, and it did not work.

President Obama and those Democrats who embrace the history of the 1990s also conveniently neglect to give any credit to Ronald Reagan, whose ending of the Cold War led to a peace dividend which helped allow President Clinton to curtail growth in Federal defense outlays.

In summary, the Democratic nostalgia for the 1990s is based on a very limited recollection of events. They see that Clinton raised taxes, the economy grew, and the budget improved. Apparently, correlation is all that is necessary to establish causality in their world, particularly when it works in their favor.

What also gets left out of the standard Democratic history is a stock-price bubble that was actually the basis of

much of the growth in the 1990s. So let's consider the Clinton bubble further and ask what it could possibly mean for the recent financial crisis.

One of the charges levied by President Clinton, which echoes a familiar Democratic talking point, is that Americans should be wary of Republicans because we champion deregulation that "got us into this mess." But who generated the mess? The mess was a devastating financial crisis, and who sowed the seeds of that crisis?

First, consider the significant financial deregulation under the Bush administration. The fact is there was not any. So where did the deregulation in finance come from? Whose policies promoted financial markets prone to bubbles and irrational exuberance and bailouts?

It was under President Clinton's watch that warnings were ignored about the riskiness of derivatives. It was under his watch that risky derivatives led to the collapse of the hedge fund Long-Term Capital Management—or LTCM and to an eventual bailout arranged by the Fed. It was under his watch that the Fed left market participants with a belief that should there be significant market turbulence, the Fed would be there to bail them out. It was under his watch that the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act was signed into law, which many Democrats believe contributed to the crisis by repealing part of the Glass-Steagall Act of 1933. I think that they misunderstand the financial crisis by making that claim, but since they and President Obama appear to believe it, through their promotion of the so-called Volker rule, then the deregulation they decry came under Clinton.

As a basis for strong fundamental growth in the economy, President Clinton's stock bubble was lacking, and numerous companies crashed. A bursting stock bubble, along with corporate accounting scandals, which included the Enron debacle, left a mess for President Bush, who, by the way, did not whine about it for 4 straight years.

It was under President Clinton's watch that significant growth began in risky subprime mortgage lending, which ended up at the heart of the recent financial crisis. And warnings were ignored—even the warning by the Clinton-appointed Federal Reserve official Edward Gramlich. Clinton's presidency pushed financial deregulation, and it showed inattention to the beginnings of speculative excesses in housing and mortgage markets.

The financial crisis was indeed severe. Seeds of the crisis were sown during President Clinton's Presidency and then nurtured by many years of regulatory inattention. Failure of regulators to do their job during the Bush administration has nothing to do with deregulation. There was no deregulation. There were plenty of regulations to go around, but the regulators failed to use their authority as bubbles and irrational exuberance was tolerated by

the unaccountable regulators. To say that Republican deregulation caused the recent crisis is simply false.

We have faced crises before. President Obama is not unique in this respect. What is unique is how poorly he has handled our economic and fiscal crisis.

In February 2009 President Obama said his Presidency would be a “one-term proposition” if the economy did not recover within 3 years. Well, it has been over 3 years and the economy has not recovered; therefore, by the President’s own metric, his administration should be a one-time proposition. No, he wants 4 more years to do more of the same.

The President has no plan.

The President claims to want to get our deficit under control by raising taxes on the wealthy and keeping the tax burden on middle-class Americans where it is. But the President’s tax proposals do not work, as we learned from his Buffett tax, which fell over \$800 billion short of his plan to use the tax to pay for a long-term alternative minimum tax patch. The unpleasant fact facing the President is that there simply is not enough revenue from taxing the so-called rich to fill his desires of permanently larger government.

Taxing business owners who the President thinks are undeserving of their success will simply not pay for his redistribution dreams. Of course, contrary to President Obama’s disdain for business, Americans who own and operate businesses did build them, and they also paid taxes, which built the roads and bridges they use. And make no mistake, business owners and American workers did build America. They did build it.

Mr. President, let me go back just a little bit here. I made the comment, with regard to all of this media criticism of Governor Romney, that he was inarticulate in a private meeting, where no press was invited, and he is the first to admit that.

He certainly has tried to explain himself. But he is right. He is right. There are at least 47 percent of Americans who do not pay a nickel or a penny of income taxes. The standard answer by my friends on the other side is, well, they pay payroll taxes. Well, everyone does that. But those are unlike income taxes. With payroll taxes, workers pay into Social Security and Disability Insurance and the like. Which is to say, they pay in; but they also receive benefits. To equate the payroll tax system with the income tax system is simply misleading.

But in the income tax system, 23 million or so people get refundable tax credits which are more than they pay in payroll taxes, and a little less than 16 million get refundable tax credits that are more than they and their employers pay in payroll taxes.

Now, do Republicans want to tax the truly poor? Heavens no. This is a great country. We can take care of the truly poor. The question is, Are all of those

in the—according to Joint Tax Committee, recently the bottom 51 percent did not pay any income taxes—are all of those in the truly poor category? The answer is no.

Well, what does Governor Romney mean? He means that, as I said at the beginning, there are too many people who are riding in the wagon and not enough pulling. Many people simply have no skin in the game in the income tax system, which means they really don’t care much if income taxes on others are raised. And it is not their fault in many cases, except there are millions who will not find a job in the Obama economy, or they just become discouraged given the bleak labor market. I do not blame them, with the economy, but they ought to be looking for jobs anyway. I would do anything if it were me. I would do anything to be able to support my family other than be on Federal largesse. But that is the way it is today.

Governor Romney’s goal in this life is to pull us out of this mess, get spending down to no more than 20 percent of the GDP, which would be a remarkable downturn in spending compared to what we have today, and also to get people to work, get them to where they have the self-esteem that comes from working, which we did on welfare reform in 1996. I worked hard on that bill, as did so many others at that time. Give them the self-esteem that comes from supporting themselves. That is what he meant. That is what is meant here. He will create jobs, and a vibrant economy where all workers prosper and can find work.

Frankly, let’s just be honest, the mainstream media is not for Governor Romney. We all know that. Anybody with brains knows that. All you have to do is watch it. And that is the way it has been here ever since I have been in the Congress. Frankly, they are not going to treat Governor Romney fairly. But I will tell you this: Mitt Romney will put America to work. He knows how to do it. This man has been successful in everything he has ever undertaken to do. He does not need this job as President, but he is running because he knows this country is in trouble. He knows it is not following good economic practices. He knows this administration is a disaster from a jobs standpoint, among other things. He could have the most lovely life, and he is taking this kind of unmitigated barrage of assaults in trying to do that which he knows is right for this country.

I think we ought to be more fair in these Presidential elections. I wish the media was split 50/50. It is not. Everybody knows it. I care a great deal for my friends in the media, but there is no one with brains who does not understand that especially the mainstream media right here in Washington, DC, New York, Los Angeles, et cetera, is heavily stacked in favor of President Obama.

I like President Obama too. I have known him as a Senator. I have known

him as a friend. I have known him as a President. And what I am saying here is that he has not done the job. I do not believe he is going to do the job. I do not think he has the background to do the job, and for us to not put somebody who does in there may be catastrophic for the future of our country.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Mississippi.

Mr. WICKER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that my friend from Alabama and I be allowed to engage in a colloquy.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. PRYOR.) Without objection, it is so ordered.

THE BUDGET

Mr. WICKER. Mr. President, let me say from the outset that this Senate and this Nation are profoundly fortunate to have had the services of Senator ORRIN HATCH for decades and decades. The speech he just delivered to this body was profound in so many ways and true in so many ways. It was made at 10 minutes til 6 on a Friday night when perhaps Americans are looking elsewhere, but just so much of what the Senator said is absolutely the truth, and our country needs to hear it. I appreciate him coming and delivering it in such a talented way.

Mr. HATCH. I thank my friend and colleague. I really appreciate it. I enjoy serving with the Senator, as I do with everybody in this body.

Mr. SESSIONS. Senator WICKER just talked for a minute about this. What does the Senator think? Would it be great to have the chairman of the Finance Committee be named Senator ORRIN HATCH?

Mr. WICKER. Well, it would be. I think that with the leadership of people such as Senator HATCH, we would not be ignoring what we have out there facing us in America today, and that is nothing less than a financial crisis. The Senator from Utah is correct. The President of the United States is doing everything he can to change the subject from the central issue of our faltering economy. Yet the mainstream media is out there playing trivial pursuit, talking about everything that is not important, and that is a distraction. But you just can’t get around the facts. The facts are these: We have a \$16 trillion staggering debt in this country. This government has added \$6 trillion in 3½ short years. Just the facts. You can’t get around it.

You also can’t get around these absolute truths: We have had no appropriations bills come out of this Senate this year. Our Republican friends in the House—it is a different story. They have done their work, and they passed product after product, as they are supposed to do. And my hat is off to the chair, the gentleman from Kentucky, Chairman ROGERS, for getting the appropriations bills done. We have not done that in this Democrat-led Senate. We have not passed a defense bill—first time in half a century that we will

have gone through a whole session and not passed a defense bill, at a time when we have troops at war, troops in harm's way. Our men and women are putting themselves at risk and fighting and dying. We do not have a defense bill.

Mr. SESSIONS. It is amazing. We do not have a defense bill. The Senator serves on the Armed Services Committee, as I do. It came out of committee unanimously, bipartisan vote, and for some reason, the Democratic leadership has failed to bring the bill up to the floor for the first time in 50 years. Is that not amazing?

Mr. WICKER. No question about it. It does not make me comfortable to point fingers, but there is no getting around the fact that there is one person on this planet who can call up a bill before this Senate; that is, the majority leader of the Senate. He has not brought up the defense bill.

We also do not have a budget resolution. Again, our friends in the House, the Republicans in the House, under Speaker BOEHNER, have during the 2 years of their stewardship brought budget resolutions to the floor, passed them, sent them over here, only to be ignored.

The President has submitted budgets—did not get a single vote in the House of Representatives, did not get a single vote when we called it up as sort of a test vote here in the Senate. But this Senate, under the leadership of the Democratic majority, has not followed the statute that says you bring a budget resolution up every year—has not done it. We are into our fourth year now.

Beyond that, they do not have a budget deficit reduction plan. It is one thing to have a resolution that could say anything, but what the American people need, what our future generations are crying out for is a plan to reduce this debt.

I look forward to and hope to see the day when my friend from Alabama is chairman of the Senate Budget Committee. I would ask him to assure everyone within the sound of our voices today that under his leadership as chairman of the Budget Committee, we will see a budget resolution brought to the floor and debated according to statute.

Mr. SESSIONS. Senator WICKER asked a very good question, and every American needs to be thinking about that. I have given a lot of thought to it. We have not had a budget in 3 years—1,241 days. We have not had a budget passed on the floor of this Senate. They did not even report one from committee this year.

If we are blessed by the American people—we the Republican Senators—and have a majority in this body and if I am honored to have the opportunity to lead the Budget Committee, we will have a budget. Failure is not an option. It cannot be that we will not comply with the law. But more than that, Senator WICKER, we have to have a plan to

get us off the course to financial disaster, and the budget is the way you lay out that plan.

Does the Senator not agree that the difficulty our Democratic colleagues had is that anything they thought they could agree on and bring forth would not be popular with the American people? And they did not want to subject themselves to having it debated on the floor and having a vote on amendments, as the Budget Act allows, even though you can pass a budget with a simple majority, cannot be filibustered?

I guess what I will ask the Senator, when you do not write a budget because you cannot agree or are unwilling to step forward with a plan, what you are really doing is failing to provide leadership. We were elected to lead, to have a plan that we are willing to announce to try to get us on the right course, a budget. Would the Senator not agree to sort of have a plan to deal with the crisis we are facing? We have not seen one in this body.

Mr. WICKER. Well, it is one of our basic responsibilities. As I said, the discretionary part of it is the appropriations bills. Not one single appropriations bill has cleared this Senate during 2012. And yes, indeed, at a time when we are running a debt of \$6 trillion, when we are seeing our friends and allies across the ocean teetering on the brink, we are seeing all the warning signs.

We have time in this Capitol, in this Capital City, the shining city on the hill, to be an example to the world.

I can only answer the Senator's question by saying that the President's budget was so unpopular it did not get a single vote. There is not one single—even the most leftwing, left-leaning Senator would not step forward and embrace that budget. I can only assume that what they would have suggested would have been very much like that.

But when you are in the majority, you have a responsibility to lead. We all have a responsibility to lead, but in particular, when you are the only vehicle for bringing bills to the floor, you have a responsibility to lead in a time of crisis. That is what we have been lacking here in the Senate.

Of course, we do have the Federal Reserve, and the leader of the Federal Reserve announced the other day that he is going to print \$40 billion extra each month. Now, that is his solution. I would counsel against that. I think most Members on this side would counsel against that. But at least it is a plan. We have had no indication from the leader of the Senate whether they like that plan.

We do know this. We passed a stimulus bill over here that cost almost \$1 trillion. Unemployment has gone up under this bill that was supposed to jump-start the economy. It was supposed to do two things: jump-start the economy and keep the unemployment rate 8 percent or less. Of course, we

know that for 42 months now, the unemployment rate has been over 8 percent. And the last thing the stimulus bill did was jump-start the economy. It has been going downhill ever since. It is hard to put a pretty face on this situation. Of course, the result is that a staggering 23 million American citizens either do not have a job, are underemployed, or have stopped looking for work.

In addition, of course, the President promised in 2008—the Senator remembers that promise—that he would cut the deficit in half by the end of his first term. Well, this is the end of his first term. The deficit has mushroomed, not been cut in half. We are in a financial crisis, and everybody on television seems to be trying to paint a rosy picture and avoid the subject. So I am glad to join with my friend, the ranking member on the Budget Committee, to suggest that we will have a plan, as House Republicans had a specific plan, in black and white, to address this unbelievable financial crisis our country faces.

Mr. SESSIONS. Well, it is a challenge we have to face, and it is not easy. It will be a challenge and it will be difficult and it will force us to make difficult choices. But I feel very frustrated. We are from small towns in America. Where we grew up, if you had a tough choice to make, if somebody came up with an idea and defended it, you respected them, even if you didn't agree with it. If you didn't have a better plan, and all you did was criticize their plan, people wouldn't think much of you, would they?

Mr. WICKER. That is right.

Mr. SESSIONS. So what we did in this body, when the budgets were brought up—they brought up the House budget—called the Ryan budget—and we brought up the President's budget, and Senator TOOMEY and others had a budget, and every one of them was brought up—our Democratic colleagues voted against every one of them. And not in one instance did they set out before the people what they believed in, what they would advocate for, what they would fight for, what they believed would fix the American economy and put us on the right track. But they have invested a tremendous amount of effort in attacking Congressman RYAN and the House budget.

Let me say this about that budget. Any budget is going to be subject to some complaint here and there, but it was historic. It would change the debt course of America. It would reduce our deficit by \$3.5 trillion and it would create economic growth. It was designed not just to be a budget-cutting, frugal budget, but also to try to create growth and prosperity in this country and get this country moving again and get businesses hiring again.

It was a historic and good budget that would change the debt course of America and put us on the right path, yet all we have heard from our colleagues, without offering anything

themselves, is criticism of him. And I believe the House, as the Senator said, fulfilled their duty.

Mr. WICKER. I tell you what else it would do. It would tell the truth to the American people about what we are facing. I like what our young nominee for Vice President said. We have got time to fix this, but we need to fix it, and we don't have much time.

Speaking of telling the truth, I wish to pivot, if I could, to a question that has been raised on this floor in the last couple of days about this Senate's lack of compliance with the Budget Act. There is not a more learned expert on the federal Budget Act of 1974 than my friend from Alabama, and I would ask him to clarify, if he would, the statements and misstatements and charges and countercharges that have been made about the fact there has not been a budget resolution brought to this floor for consideration and amendment.

Mr. SESSIONS. I thank Senator WICKER for raising this point because we need to discuss this, and the American people need to ask themselves who is telling the truth about this and who is accurate about this.

A group of us spoke—40 or more Republicans—and we expressed frustration with the lack of action in this body, the likes of which we have never seen perhaps in our history, with regard to not passing an appropriations bill. Historic research has been done, and we have not passed a single appropriations bill only two times: 2010 and this year, both under this Democratic leadership. Those are the only times in history that no appropriations bill has passed.

Yesterday, however, Senator REID used this language. It kind of hurt my feelings, because I said we didn't have a budget, and I am the ranking member of the Budget Committee. Maybe 10 or 15 Republicans talked about our not having a budget, and Senator REID said: "It is a lie to say we don't have a budget."

I don't know if that violates the rules of the Senate about personal attacks, but I try not to use that word—lie. I try not to say a colleague is lying. Even if I ever would say something like that, I would want to be sure I had absolute proof to back it up. And that is a responsibility.

You know, we like HARRY REID. I consider him a friend, I really do. He has always treated me fairly on the floor. But I have to say, the majority leader shouldn't have said that. First of all, it is not accurate. For example, Senator REID announced unequivocally that he had no intention of passing a budget. This is what he said last year. He said: "There is no need to have a Democratic budget, in my opinion."

It is a statutory requirement. Unfortunately, it doesn't say you go to jail if you don't pass one. The people are crying out for a plan to get out of the financial condition we are in, but he said there is no need to have one, in his opinion.

He said at another time, "It would be foolish for us to do a budget." Foolish for us to do a budget. And they did not do one. There is no budget. So for him to say it is a lie when we say we don't have a budget, well, that is inaccurate.

I will point out, as Senator WICKER knows, the Budget Act, the United States Code, defines what a budget is. It lays out some of the things that have to be a part of the budget and the process by which one is produced. It has to be reported by the Budget Committee by April 1. It sets out the date as April 1. Then we have to have a floor vote by April 15. And when it comes to the floor, the rule says we have unlimited amendments, with 50 hours of debate, and it can't be filibustered. So 50 hours would mean about 1 week. It can be done in 6, 7 days at most.

Mr. WICKER. It is the one thing that can't be filibustered.

Mr. SESSIONS. Absolutely. The party with the majority, 53 Senators, ought to be able to pass a budget. We passed a budget with 51 senators one time. A budget allows us to control everything but Social Security. We can't touch Social Security but we can deal with Medicare, Medicaid, food stamps, pensions, as well as the discretionary accounts. So that was all avoided.

My friend has been around here and in the House for a number of years, but it seems to me it would have been a healthy thing indeed for the Democrats to have brought to the floor a budget, even if I didn't agree with it. We then could have had a national public debate about these difficult choices the Nation faces and Senators would have to vote as to whether they believed that balancing the budget was worth cutting some spending here, and how much they believed in taxes we ought to raise, and how much would they be cutting in spending. We could read the fine print and ask how much we are cutting and actually debate and vote on these things. But that is what the majority leader and his colleagues wanted to avoid.

Mr. WICKER. It is what every city council, every State legislature cannot avoid. They do not have a printing press down in Montgomery, AL, or Jackson, MS.

I know the Senator has seen the local delegations of county officials coming in and talking about economic development. They tell me: Senator, we have had to cut back on this, we have had to cut back on that, we have had to do this to our budget. We used to be able to afford these things and now we can't afford them anymore. They have had to make sensible decisions. Councils and legislatures, Republican and Democrat, have faced the hard choices, and it can't be any fun for them. They have to face the voters and say: we paid for this last year, we don't have the money this year. And families have had to do that as well.

Mr. SESSIONS. I couldn't agree more. In my hometown of Mobile, AL, they fell one vote short of raising the

sales tax because of the financial challenges they were facing, and they had a big debate about it, but they didn't duck the vote. They had the vote and they decided they didn't need to raise the taxes. But it wasn't a question of the city council being able to avoid a vote.

We in the great United States Senate, we travel the whole of our States over and over and over again and we ask for this tough job. My wife has a good phrase for it when I complain. She says: Don't blame me. You asked for the job. Well, we asked for this job. Nobody said it was going to be easy, and this is not easy because we have never faced a more fundamental financial crisis. Because of demographics and history and trends that are going on in our population, the situation is such that it is going to be difficult to meet these challenges.

Mr. WICKER. But we can meet these challenges.

I have grown children—32, 28, and 25. They may be about to age into the next year, and they wonder if they will even receive Medicare when it comes time to retire. That retirement for them will come sooner than they think, though it seems like forever. But they do not believe—that generation doesn't believe—Medicare will be there for them. If we tackle this problem, Medicare can be there for the next generation. It should be there for the next generation.

Mr. SESSIONS. Exactly.

Mr. WICKER. It won't look exactly like it does for my father, who is 88 years old today and depends on Medicare, but Medicare could be there. But not the way it is going now. We have to tackle these issues.

Mr. SESSIONS. My colleague is so right. We are not going to have to cancel these programs.

Mr. WICKER. No, sir.

Mr. SESSIONS. We can save these programs. It is just going to require us to confront reality and make some changes in how we do business.

I wish to say one more thing about this budget, before I forget. My Democratic colleagues claim the Budget Control Act was a budget, but it only dealt with discretionary spending. It didn't deal with all the other spending. It only set limits on expenditures and it didn't have any debate on the floor. It was a secret agreement. There was a budget limitation placed on spending as a result of Republicans insisting we had to reduce some spending before we would allow the President to raise the debt limit. That went on into the wee hours of the morning and they put together a horrible deal and now we are paying the price for it. It did cut some spending, and it limited how much spending we could do, but it didn't go through the budget process, it didn't cover all the government programs, and it doesn't have anything like the indices of a budget.

An attempt was made—and successfully—to bring up the President's budget for a vote. The motion was believed

to be legitimate because there was no budget, and we were going to have a vote on it. Our Democratic colleagues ran to the Parliamentarian to try to argue that this cap on spending that was agreed to last August was a budget. They picked the Parliamentarian. The majority hires the Parliamentarian. And very courageously and properly the Parliamentarian said: No, it is not a budget. So there was no budget in the Senate, and President Obama's budget was brought up and got zero votes.

I wanted to share that.

Mr. WICKER. Well, I appreciate the Senator's sharing his time with me.

Mr. President, I guess in a moment, Senator SESSIONS will yield the floor and we will go dark, subject to the call of the Chair for a vote at midnight, and then we will sort of slink out of town, with no appropriations bills, no defense bill, and no dealing with sequestration, which means meat axe cuts to defense and other programs.

But we will have gotten away under cover of darkness to face the voters, and in this country they are the ultimate arbiters.

I appreciate this opportunity to stand on the floor with a statesman such as my friend from Alabama and to thank him for his leadership on budget issues and to thank him for coming here and telling the truth to our colleagues and to the American people.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, Senator OLYMPIA SNOWE, who is not running again, is frustrated with this body and pointed out yesterday on the Senate floor that we voted in this body a few years ago up until November 1. We act like we have to be out by the middle of September. We aren't going to do any work during October, and we will come back maybe after the election in a lameduck circumstance and see how much junk can be shoved through here without real votes.

Isn't it true that we have had plenty of time since September to bring up the Defense authorization bill, to bring up a budget, to bring up some of the appropriations bills, at least some of them?

Mr. WICKER. Day after day, hour after hour in quorum calls. It is very frustrating, and frustrating to the people who sent us here to do a job.

Mr. SESSIONS. We have heard it said that 40 percent of what we spend every day is borrowed. Really, \$4 billion a day is what we borrow. People probably think that can't be true, that 40 cents of every dollar we spend and put out the door has to be borrowed from countries around the world and from others who will loan us the money, and we pay interest on it.

In a recent interview in July on CNBC, Mr. Erskine Bowles—President Clinton's Chief of Staff, appointed by President Obama to head the debt commission—said this about the state of our finances:

If you take last year, 100 percent of our revenue that came into the country, every

nickel, every single dollar that came into the country last year was spent on our—what's called mandatory spending and interest on the debt. Mandatory spending is principally the entitlement programs, Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security.

What that means is every single dollar we spent last year on these two wars, national defense, homeland security, education, infrastructure, high-value-added research, every single dollar was borrowed. And half of it was borrowed from foreign countries. That is crazy. Crazy. It's a formula for failure in any organization.

That is the man President Obama chose to head the debt commission, a businessman who understands the threat this Nation faces.

We can get off this path. Congressman RYAN laid out a plan that would get us off this path. We have to get off this path.

As we head out from this Senate to return to our States and visit with our constituents, and as we head into an election, I would just like to ask, Is there one Senator on the other side of the aisle who can defend to the good people of this country the decision of this body to withhold a budget, withhold a financial plan from the country? Can you defend that? Can you defend not even attempting to do the fundamental requirement of Congress, which is to appropriate the money to run the government—not even bring up a single bill—for the second time in the history of the Republic?

What about the Defense authorization bill? It came out of our Armed Services Committee unanimously. The leadership has refused to bring it up on the Senate floor. Can you defend that?

Really, can you defend failing to deal with the fiscal cliff, the deep defense cuts and huge tax increases that will occur January 1? Wouldn't the economy be better if that uncertainty had been removed? We could have already brought up those bills and voted on them.

Instead, you know how they are going to do it: The leadership will meet over here, and it will be December 23. The majority leader said we may be here until December 23. That is when they will bring it all up. That is when the health care bill was passed. Christmas Eve is when the health care bill was passed.

So that is the plan: Bring it up at the end. Everybody will have to vote for it, or the government will shut down and it will be a disaster. That is the kind of thing we should be avoiding.

I believe the complaints that have been made today are not just political rhetoric, not just talk, but represent a legitimate, honest criticism of the leadership of the Senate. I think the American people should weigh that as they go to the polls.

Mr. TOOMEY. Mr. President, today the Senate will vote on H.J. Res. 117, a continuing resolution to fund Federal agencies for the next 6 months. While I appreciate that this measure avoids the need to negotiate a spending bill during the lame duck session, after

careful consideration, I believe the promises I made to the people of Pennsylvania in 2010 compel me to oppose this bill.

H.J. Res. 117 establishes discretionary appropriations for fiscal year at \$1.047 trillion, an amount equal to the spending cap created by the Budget Control Act of 2011. Unfortunately, this figure is far above what is fiscally responsible, which is one of the reasons I voted against the Budget Control Act last year. Given that the Federal Government has now run deficits in excess of \$1 trillion for 4 consecutive years, it would be irresponsible to vote for a bill that increases discretionary spending by about \$8 billion.

Furthermore, H.J. Res. 117 employs a tired old accounting gimmick called "changes in mandatory spending programs" to make discretionary spending appear nearly \$20 billion lower. This gimmick does not eliminate mandatory spending; it only delays it, resulting in no actual budgetary savings.

The continuing resolution fails to restore recently undermined welfare-to-work provisions within the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families—TANF—Program. In 1996, a Republican led Congress and President Clinton enacted the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act—P.L. 104-193, a key component of which established work requirements, helping individuals provide for themselves and their families. On July 12, 2012, the administration unilaterally weakened reporting requirements for TANF, erroneously stipulating that waiver authority provided under section 1115 of the Social Security Act enabled the agency to modify work participation requirements, a provision explicitly outside the scope of waivable provisions. Welfare-to-work provisions have proven instrumental in transitioning millions off welfare. While TANF's work requirements have contributed towards declining welfare rolls, there remain additional opportunities to strengthen and reform the TANF program. By failing to engage in a dialogue, Congress missed a critical opportunity to restore the welfare-to-work requirements and assist more TANF recipients take steps towards independence.

Though I am unable to support this continuing resolution, I would note my support for one provision in the underlying legislation. I am happy that a technical correction was included that ensures that States that have not remediated all of their abandoned mine lands do not lose any payments from the Abandoned Mine Lands Trust Fund as a result of the recently enacted Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (Map-21). To pay for MAP-21, conferees inserted a provision intending to cap payments to States that have been certified by the EPA as having remediated all of their abandoned mine lands.

After enactment, there was some uncertainty about how this provision

would affect noncertified states like Pennsylvania because of the structure of the funding formula. This was clearly not the intent of Congress. The Congressional Budget Office scored the provision as capping payments to certified States only. Therefore, this technical correction ensures that Pennsylvania, the State with more abandoned mine lands than any other, continues to receive its baseline level of funding.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I rise today to discuss an important provision included in the continuing resolution. As parents sent their children off to school this fall, many were uncertain whether their child would be taught by teachers in training who are enrolled in alternative route programs. That is why I am pleased this legislation requires the Department of Education to provide Congress, and the parents of Washington State and the country, information on how frequently this is occurring. The data and report should be made public and available to parents and other interested parties. As a former teacher, a Parent Teacher Association member, a school board president, and most important a mom who actively participated in my two children's journey through the education system, I firmly believe that every parent deserves to know the qualifications of their child's teacher.

Specifically, the provision requires the Secretary of Education to report to Congress no later than December 31, 2013, on the extent to which students with disabilities, English learners, students in rural areas, and students from low-income families are being taught by alternative route teachers in training who are deemed highly qualified according to title 34 section 200.56(a)(2)(ii) of the Code of Federal Regulations. This regulation allows individuals who have not yet obtained regular State teacher certification but are participating in alternative route programs to be labeled "highly qualified." The provision included in this continuing resolution will require the Department of Education to gather and report the extent to which our most vulnerable students and those with the highest needs are being taught by teachers with the least amount of preparation. While we know many students are being taught by these teachers in training, we do not know if these teachers are equitably distributed among high need schools, in which States they are concentrated, or which student subgroups they are teaching. The report will provide this information and will be vital for developing policies to ensure every child in America receives a high-quality education.

The report should include data on the professional qualifications of teachers. In particular the number of teachers who have not met State qualification and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subjects areas in which the teacher provides instruction. Also, the report should include the number teaching under emergency or other

provisional status through which State qualification or licensing criteria have been waived, the baccalaureate degree major of the teacher and any other graduate certification or degree held by the teacher, and the field of discipline of the teacher's certification or degree. States and local education agencies are already required to collect this data according to the Parents' Right to Know provisions of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001.

I look forward to receiving this important report. Throughout my political career, from the school board to the Senate, I have been committed to doing everything I can to ensure every student has an opportunity to learn, and to succeed, to the best of his or her ability. This report will help us craft policy that supports this goal. Parents deserve to know who is teaching their child and it is our responsibility to ensure this information is provided.

FOREIGN AID

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I would like to speak in opposition to the Paul amendment, and to put this debate over foreign aid in some context.

As chairman of the Intelligence Committee, I see the threats this Nation faces around the world.

We are no longer in a world where we can focus on ballistic missiles from Russia or troops pouring into Europe through the Fulda Gap. Instead, we face asymmetric threats—terrorist attacks, the potential use of chemical weapons, and the thousands of attempted cyber intrusions that hit our networks every day.

In this environment, our partnerships with other nations are more important than ever, as attacks can emanate from anywhere, and the responses to those threats often require bilateral or multilateral support.

I agree with Senator PAUL that there are areas where other nations can and should do more to combat these threats; after all, terrorism and extremist ideologies are not U.S. problems, they are global problems.

On the subject of Pakistan, I strongly agree that Dr. Shakil Afridi should be released from prison.

He helped play an important role in making the intelligence case that Usama bin Laden was at that compound in Abbottabad, and his actions helped this Nation eliminate the world's most wanted target.

I had the opportunity to make this case directly to Pakistan's Foreign Minister Hina Rabbani Khar and Pakistan's Ambassador to the United States Sherry Rehman in a meeting on Wednesday.

But is the appropriate response to cut off all U.S. assistance to Pakistan—including economic and humanitarian assistance—because of Dr. Afridi? No, clearly, it is not.

I joined an effort by Senator GRAHAM on the Foreign Operations Appropriations bill to cut \$33 million in Foreign Military Financing for Pakistan in FY

2013—\$1 million for every year of Dr. Afridi's prison sentence. It was a targeted effort, and it enabled us to send a public message to Pakistan.

The United States and Pakistan have had a series of confrontations over the past couple of years, and the relationship has been sorely tested. There has been fault on both sides.

And we are now improving our coordination and partnership in key areas, including on counterterrorism. We absolutely need to continue to press Pakistan to do more, and to release Dr. Afridi—and we are.

But eliminating all foreign assistance without a national security waiver is a knee-jerk reaction that will cause the United States more harm than good.

The amendment would also cut off all foreign assistance to the nascent governments in Egypt and Libya because elements of their populace or foreign fighters attacked the U.S. Embassy in Cairo and the consulate in Benghazi.

Both of those governments have denounced the attacks, and both have increased the security they are providing to U.S. missions.

We are still learning who was behind these attacks, whether motivated solely by a stupid video put out by someone with no regard for religious tolerance or the safety of Americans overseas or by terrorist elements who used the protests as a pretext to carry out an agenda of violence against the United States.

But one thing is pretty clear: the anger and violence directed against the United States by the people of Libya, Egypt, and perhaps numerous other Middle Eastern countries will not be lessened by reducing American aid.

The Paul amendment goes even further, though. It would prohibit any direct U.S. assistance to any country in which a U.S. diplomatic facility was attacked, trespassed upon, breached, or attempted to be attacked, trespassed upon, or breached even if the host government provided every possible measure of security and support, and no matter how small the infraction.

I believe in a strategy of engagement. I believe that the United States should work with countries to root out terrorists and denounce extremism of all forms.

And I believe that we should use foreign aid—which, by the way, accounts for only 1 percent of the U.S. government's budget—to bring humanitarian relief, support democratization, and help other governments improve their own security and law enforcement efforts to defeat terrorism and extremism.

Indeed, at this time, we should look to the example set by Ambassador Chris Stevens, a man who dedicated himself to learning the language and the culture of the Middle East and promoting the universal values of democracy, human rights and the rule of law—from his time as a Peace Corps volunteer in Morocco, to tours as a

Foreign Service Officer in Jerusalem, Damascus, Riyadh, and Cairo, and, finally, as our Ambassador to a democratic Libya.

Ambassador Stevens worked tirelessly to help the people of Libya build a new country and new future after years of brutal dictatorship.

He knew that path would not be easy and there would be many challenges. But he also knew that the Libyan people could succeed and that leadership and support from the United States would be crucial.

This amendment will turn America away from the commitment to the Middle East that Ambassador Stevens championed and towards isolation.

It will harm America's interests, will harm our national security, and will promote anti-Americanism in precisely the parts of the world where we need to be more, not less, engaged.

I urge my colleagues to oppose the Paul amendment.

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, in every region of the world, the United States should search for ways to use foreign aid and humanitarian assistance to strengthen our influence, the effectiveness of our leadership, and the service of our national interests and ideals. When done effectively, in partnership with the private sector, with faith-based organizations, and our allies, foreign aid is a cost-effective way not only to export our values and our example but to advance our security and economic goals.

Foreign aid is a foreign policy tool used by the United States to work with other countries. In the case of Libya, Egypt, and Pakistan, each receives significant amounts of foreign aid from the U.S. taxpayers, and U.S. citizens expect these countries to meet the conditions we set upon this aid. In the wake of the uprisings across the Muslim world and the September 11, 2012, terrorist attack on the U.S. consulate in Libya, it is imperative that the United States receive the full cooperation of the host nations in investigating and prosecuting those responsible for the attacks on our diplomatic missions and the deaths of four brave Americans.

Senator RAND PAUL's legislation would affect aid for these countries by effectively eliminating it. The American people deserve to be outraged following these attacks. However, the situations in these three countries are very different.

In Egypt, the government has the security capabilities to protect our Embassy and failed to do so. It was unacceptable that their President didn't immediately condemn the attacks and instead focused on a YouTube video.

In Libya, there was a terrorist attack on our consulate which resulted in the death of four Americans, including the Ambassador. The Libyan people rejected Islamists in their recent election, but their pro-Western Libyan Government does not have the security capabilities of the Egyptians. So far,

the Libyans are trying to do the right thing by working with the United States to investigate these attacks and strengthen their own security capabilities. In fact, just yesterday thousands of Libyans fed up with terrorism took matters into their own hands by seizing control of the headquarters of several militias and demanding they be disarmed. Cutting off aid to Libya, which is trying to help us, is not the answer as it would weaken their ability to help us and undermine their efforts to defeat the terrorists in their country. It would also represent America's stunning rejection of what is clearly the Libyan people's will to reject extremists and terrorists trying to lead Libya back to darkness.

With Pakistan, I believe we should condition some if not all of the aid on the release of Dr. Afridi. He has been arrested on false charges. The time has finally come for Pakistan to decide if they are going to be a truthful ally of the United States.

Senator PAUL's legislation lumps in three different countries with three very different situations, and I could not support such a measure as drafted. Prior to the vote on this matter, I urged Senator PAUL to consider, at a minimum, restructuring his amendment to recognize that there are considerable differences between Libya, Egypt, and Pakistan. Since no changes were ultimately made, I opposed this measure. ●

Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECESS

Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate recess until 11:30 p.m. today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 6:22 p.m., recessed until 11:30 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. KERRY).

SPORTSMEN'S ACT OF 2012— MOTION TO PROCEED—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont is recognized.

FOREIGN AID

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, seeing the distinguished chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee in the chair, I have a feeling I may be preaching to the converted, but let me say we, all of us, were outraged by the video denigrating the Muslim faith but then by the mob violence—some of it encouraged by al-Qaida or other extremist

groups—against our embassies and diplomats in Egypt, Libya, Pakistan, and other countries around the world. Secretary of State Clinton said it well: "The United States rejects both the content and message of that video . . . and deplores any intentional effort to denigrate the religious beliefs of others."

The Secretary and President Obama have also said, repeatedly, that there is never any justification for the violent acts that have been perpetrated against our diplomats, and they have called on the governments of those countries to protect our embassies and consulates. And of course, they are right.

As far as I am aware we have received the condolences and support of the governments of these countries, as well as scores of other governments around the world.

The support and sympathy expressed, not only by foreign officials but by countless citizens of these countries who have denounced the attacks on United States personnel, needs to be recognized.

There is no evidence, that I am aware of, that any of these governments were responsible for, or had any involvement in, these violent demonstrations. They neither ordered nor condoned them. To the contrary, they have since taken steps to protect our facilities and personnel.

That is why I am mystified by the legislation offered by the junior Senator from Kentucky, Senator PAUL, which would cut off aid to key U.S. allies like Israel, Indonesia and Jordan where such protests have occurred, even peaceful demonstrations, as well as security partners like Egypt, Libya, and Pakistan.

On the one hand, there are some affirmations of our policy goals in the legislation that I agree with—for example, we all want those responsible for the deaths of Ambassador Stevens and the other Americans in Benghazi, as well as the destruction of property there and in Cairo and elsewhere, to be brought to justice. And already, dozens of people are under arrest in those countries.

But anyone who is inclined to support this legislation should read the fine print, because the way it is drafted is not only unworkable, it would serve to inflame an already dangerous situation, harming America's national security interests.

For example, all aid would be cut off to governments in countries where a demonstration occurred, even a peaceful demonstration, until the government arrests everyone who participated, and until the FBI has identified everyone involved and they are all in the custody of the United States, even if we do not have extradition treaties with those countries.

In other words, we would cut off aid to the governments of Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Libya, Pakistan, Indonesia, Morocco, Nigeria, Turkey, Lebanon,

Iraq, Afghanistan, Tunisia, Yemen, and India, among others, until every one of the thousands of people who participated in demonstrations in those countries has been identified by name, arrested, and brought to the United States and imprisoned.

I have seen unworkable, unwise legislation before, but this may win the prize. Not only would this be a colossal waste of FBI resources, it would be impossible to implement.

How is the FBI going to determine the identity of everyone who joined in these protests? Is that really what we want the FBI doing?

Are we, who believe in freedom of speech, really going to fill up our prisons with thousands of foreigners, including those who have engaged in peaceful demonstrations?

Does the author of this amendment have any idea how much that would cost U.S. taxpayers?

Are we really going to cut off aid to the Government of Egypt, which has reaffirmed its peace agreement with Israel, sent troops against Egyptian extremists in the Sinai, deployed police to protect the U.S. embassy, and is in the process of negotiating an agreement with the IMF—with U.S. and European support—to reform its economy?

Are we going to also cut off aid to Israel—which we would not do, of course?

Do we really want to cut off aid to the Government of Indonesia, the largest Muslim country in the world and a key U.S. ally in South East Asia?

And Libya, which we helped to liberate, and which has just emerged from a bloody revolution to overthrow a tyrant who posed a real threat to regional peace and security?

As I said before, we are all outraged and saddened by the tragic events in Benghazi, Cairo, and elsewhere. There is no justification for it. We expect to see those responsible for the violence to be brought to justice, and we have insisted that these governments fulfill their obligation to protect our embassies, as we protect theirs.

But this is no way to honor the patriotism and sacrifice of Ambassador Stevens and the others who lost their lives.

We are not talking about brutal kleptocracies like the Mobutu Government of the 1980s who the junior Senator from Kentucky spoke of today.

These are fledgling democracies whose people have been ruled and brutalized by corrupt dictators for decades. They are struggling to draft new constitutions, elect parliaments, reform their police, restructure their stagnant economies, and manage competing ethnic, religious and political factions, some of which have been in conflict with each other for centuries.

We can punish them by cutting off our aid, even though these governments had no more to do with organizing the protests than our government had to do with producing the

anti-Muslim video that is inciting the protests.

That might score political points for some back home.

Or we can support them in making decisions that will improve our relations and strengthen our security.

Withdrawal is not an option for the United States. Isolationism is not an option. Overreacting in ways that embolden violent extremists is not an option.

This amendment is poorly conceived, poorly drafted, and would have all sorts of unintended and dangerous consequences. The best message the United States Congress could send to the forces of democracy in these countries is to defeat it overwhelmingly.

I believe, like so many both Democrats and Republicans who have spoken against this, it makes no sense.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Who yields time? The Senator from South Carolina.

Mr. DEMINT. Mr. President, Americans are crying out for us to stop giving away hard-earned tax dollars to countries that are not our friends. I agree. We need to review all our foreign aid and make any aid conditional on the protection of Americans and of our interests. But when it comes to the bill offered by Senator PAUL, I have to say I do not like how some parts of it are worded. It has some flaws and Members on both sides of the aisle have some legitimate concerns. I have been working all day with Senator PAUL to improve the language to address concerns on our side.

Senator PAUL has been more than accommodating on this. He was willing to limit the scope of the bill to Libya, Pakistan, and Egypt. With respect to Libya and Egypt, he agreed to loosen restrictions so the funds would not turn off for 60 days, and only turn off if it was clear their governments were not cooperating with the investigation into the attacks and efforts to find the perpetrators. In short, he was willing to accept the legitimate concerns that have been raised by colleagues with respect to the potential unintended consequences of the bill.

Then Senator PAUL asked the majority leader if he could modify the bill. Senators do this all the time—or at least we used to. We work together, we have managers' amendments, we allow Senators to modify their legislation to fix issues raised by other Senators. So after all this work and this good faith accommodation by Senator PAUL who, to address the concerns of colleagues on both sides of the aisle, was agreeing to changes that narrowed the scope of the legislation far beyond what he personally wanted—after all this, the other side of the aisle decided to play gotcha. They would not let him modify his own amendment. His request was made 8 to 10 hours before the vote—plenty of time for Members to review the changes—but the normal rules of comity apparently do not apply anymore in the Senate.

This Senator is ashamed of the way the Senate is being run. We have had an entire Congress of gag rules, limited debate, limited votes, limited amendments, and the result has been no accomplishments. Over the last 2 years, the Senate has become a laughing-stock. I may not like the way Senator PAUL's bill is worded, his unmodified bill. I do not agree with the scope of the conditions in some cases, but I support the goals of providing accountability in our foreign aid, of freeing Dr. Afridi, and of ensuring that those we support with our precious dollars are defending our interests and our diplomats overseas.

I will vote yes on this bill in support of these principles. The bill will not pass, but the other side cannot hide from this issue forever. Senator PAUL will be back and I will be back with him. We will get the votes the American people are demanding.

Mr. KERRY. Will the Senator yield for a question?

Mr. DEMINT. Certainly.

Mr. KERRY. I ask the Senator this question. We all understand the normal rules of the Senate. This is a big policy, cutting off four countries' aid with a set of circumstances that is so rigid it may encompass countries such as Israel and others. The normal rules of comity are that something such as this would go through the appropriate committee. That is why we have committees.

The Senator from South Carolina is a member of the Foreign Relations Committee. This has never been to the Foreign Relations Committee. Does the Senator believe some policy as important as this doesn't deserve a hearing, doesn't deserve a process? I think the Senator knows that as the chairman I have never slowed down a process of our committee. The normal rules of comity ought to require this to go through the committee.

Mr. DEMINT. I say to the Senator, if that were true, I think he has to admit Senator TESTER has one that his side pushed this night that has not been through committee, violates the budget, and a number of other things.

The point is this. Senator PAUL has been working on this legislation for several months and has been working to try to get a vote on this floor for several months and he could not get it. He was turned down time and time again. This legislation has been out there. The issue of foreign aid has been out there. We have not taken it up as a committee as we should have. The fact that he is not given the opportunity to get a vote on the amendment of his choice, to modify his own amendment, does break the precedent of the Senate and does break the comity we should enjoy here. When a Member offers an amendment, they should be able to modify it.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Utah.

Mr. LEE. Mr. President, I stand tonight in support of the amendment of

Senator PAUL to provide limitations on the amount and scope of foreign aid the United States sends abroad. This is not a decision I have reached quickly, nor is it an issue I take lightly.

I appreciate that, as some of my colleagues have pointed out, conditions already exist on some of the foreign aid we send to Pakistan, Egypt, Libya, and Yemen. I respectfully submit, however, that these conditions are not producing the desired result nor are they yet fully enforced.

For example, is Pakistan cooperating with the United States on countering terrorism efforts and preventing terrorists from basing or operating in Pakistan, as is already required in section 7046 of Public Law 112-74? Are the programs and activities we support in Afghanistan sustainable, as is also required by section 7046? If the answer to these and to other questions regarding this aid could possibly be no, then we have an obligation to the American people to at least review this aid and inspect every single dollar we send abroad to ensure that the billions of dollars we send to Pakistan, to Egypt, and to Libya are well spent.

I support this amendment, if for no other reason than to begin the debate on the merit of sending billions of American dollars abroad each and every year. When will we stop sending this kind of money to nations that harbor terrorists and imprison those who, like Dr. Afridi, would defend our interests?

To be clear, I don't think the amendment of Senator PAUL is perfect. Many of my colleagues have legitimate concerns about this amendment's potential effect on some of our allies outside the Middle East. That is why I and several other Senators have asked our staffs to work with Senator PAUL and his office to narrow the scope of this amendment. Senator PAUL was responsive to our concerns and was willing to make the requested changes.

Unfortunately, the majority leader refused to allow Senator PAUL to modify his own amendment. I don't yet have 2 full years under my belt as a Member of this body, but I have been around just long enough to see that managers' amendments and modifications are routinely applied to their own legislation, and I am very sorry Senator PAUL was not given the courtesy that apparently is reserved only for other Members of this distinguished body.

In a Senate where the majority leader has recently announced "the amendment days are over," I guess I should not be surprised.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Massachusetts.

Mr. KERRY. I will just take 1 minute before I yield back. With respect to the question, first of all—I obviously do not run the Senate so I cannot speak about what happened with respect to these other pieces of legislation, but I am responsible for the Foreign Relations Committee. This particular

amendment was filed at the desk on September 19. We are here under rule XIV. That is not months of work. The first time I heard of it was when it came to the desk. So this could well have been a policy we amended in the committee, that we worked on appropriately, came up with some appropriate way of dealing with legitimate issues.

I am not denigrating the legitimacy of some of the issues the Senator from Kentucky raises. We had a very profound conversation with the Foreign Minister of Pakistan the other day. The Foreign Relations Committee met with her. We went into Dr. Afridi's situation in some detail, and there are other issues raised here. But just to come in out of the whole blue and file it at the desk and say let's change years of policy with a country that we, in the case of Egypt, desperately rely on with respect to the peace process in the Middle East, sustaining the peace agreement with Israel—it just defies rationale about how you make good foreign policy.

I will have more to say about it in a moment, but I just want to make it clear this did not come to the floor until September 19 at the desk and it is here under rule XIV.

Mr. MCCAIN. Will the Senator yield for a question?

Mr. KERRY. I don't know how much time we have.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Nine minutes.

Mr. KERRY. We will hold off and come back.

Mr. LEE. Will the Senator yield?

Mr. KERRY. Not on my time, no. I will do it on the Senator's time.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Who yields time?

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, parliamentary inquiry: Whose time is being—

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. If no one yields time, time will be charged equally to both sides.

The Senator from Utah.

Mr. LEE. Mr. President, I rise to respond to my friend and distinguished colleague, the Senator from Massachusetts.

In the first place, it is significant. Dr. Afridi has been in prison for more than a year. It is significant that this amount of time has elapsed. It is appropriate that we respond in some fashion. I don't know why exactly legislation has not emerged from the Foreign Relations Committee, on which I sit. The fact is it has not.

I respect the junior Senator from Kentucky for having the courage to bring forward this legislation. Regardless, the fact is that this legislation is now before us. We can argue about how it got here and about whether it should have gone through committee, but it is before us. The fact that it is now before us means the Senator from Kentucky who introduced it ought to have certain prerogatives—prerogatives to change it or modify it before it gets to

the floor. That is the point I was making, and that is the point I think bears some mention here. I think that is a point which was somehow lost in this discussion today, and that is most unfortunate.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Kentucky.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—S. 3576

Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the pending business be set aside and that S. 3576 be made pending; that the Paul substitute amendment No. 2849 to S. 3576 be adopted; and that at the appropriate time the Senate consider S. 3576 as amended under the terms of the earlier order.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there objection?

Mr. KERRY. Yes, I object.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection is heard.

Who yields time?

The Senator from Kentucky.

Mr. PAUL. It boggles the mind to think that Hillary Clinton was on Capitol Hill this week to ask for increasing aid to Egypt. It boggles the mind that last month President Obama found an extra \$1 billion to give to Pakistan.

Meanwhile, Dr. Shakil Afridi has been in prison for a year. He said directly in interviews that he has been tortured by the Pakistani Government. Now he has been imprisoned for life. The Foreign Relations Committee has had a year to act on this and has not been forthcoming in doing anything to address Dr. Afridi or get him freed or to attach any restrictions or limitations to foreign aid. The restrictions currently in place are for the administration, and they have been waived.

I say we don't give up the power of the purse. I say we keep the power of the purse and the restrictions with the legislature. This bill places restrictions on foreign aid to three countries. This bill does not end foreign aid, it adds restrictions. Some have argued that interrupting foreign aid now could inflame the Arab world. Does anyone think they are not already inflamed? They are inflamed because our foreign aid has incensed them. Our foreign aid bought Mubarak tear gas and police truncheons. We need to understand why the Arabs are angry.

Some have argued that aid to Israel could be ended by this bill. That is ridiculous. The bill requires the Secretary of State to allege that a country did not attempt to protect an embassy that was attacked. To imply that a Secretary of State, Republican or Democrat, is going to allege that Israel is not protecting our embassy is absurd. It boggles the mind to think that any Senator wants to send foreign aid without conditions to countries that are burning our flag. I, for one, will not vote for one more penny to be sent to the people who riot and burn the American flag. Enough is enough. We are running a trillion-dollar deficit, and Americans are tired of their tax dollars being sent to countries that are burning the American flag.

I urge a “yes” vote on placing restrictions on foreign aid.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Massachusetts. I yield the time to the Senator from Arizona.

Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, let me say quickly to the Senator from Kentucky, whom I asked the other day whether he has ever been to Pakistan or Egypt—I think if he had, he would know something more about the millions of people in those countries who aspire to democracy and who have invested in our values and are trying to have a different future.

I particularly—“resent” is not a particularly attractive word, but to hear him say that the Foreign Relations Committee has done nothing on Dr. Afridi does a disservice to the efforts we have been making in what is called a quiet and thoughtful diplomacy. Not all diplomacy is conducted by passing a fly-by-night amendment on the floor of the Senate, pretending that is going to improve relations or change the world. When we sit down with people and talk through problems, we can work out a resolution.

We had a long conversation just a day ago with the Foreign Minister of Pakistan about Dr. Afridi. That was not the first conversation. For months some of us have been talking with Pakistan about how we resolve this issue, which does, incidentally, have something to do with the law of another country, the politics of another country, and the political demands and needs of another country. It is not always the best way to resolve those things simply by racing to the floor of the Senate and saying: Here, do what we tell you. I am afraid that is not always how it works.

So I think the Senator from Kentucky has a lot to learn about how we get things done within the international community.

I yield 3 minutes to the Senator from Arizona.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Arizona.

Mr. McCAIN. Mr. President, I hope all of my colleagues will take note that AIPAC disagrees with the view of the Senator from Kentucky about the effect this legislation may have on aid to Israel.

Every Member of Congress and all Americans should know what happened today in Benghazi, Libya. The reports are that as many as 30,000 Libyans took to the streets in Benghazi, the city in which Ambassador Chris Stevens and three of his colleagues were tragically murdered 10 days ago. These demonstrators marched peacefully to the gates of the compound of Ansar al-Sharia, the militia that was responsible for the attack that killed Ambassador Stevens and his colleagues. The demonstrators conducted themselves peacefully. According to media reports, they carried signs that read “The Ambassador was Libya’s friend” and “No, no to militias.” When these brave

Libyans arrived at the gates of the compound, they told the militia that they and their violent, extremist agenda are not welcome in the new Libya. Do we want to send a message tonight, after the people of Libya told the militants no, that we don’t want to have anything to do with them, we won’t assist them, we won’t give them what they need to establish a democratic and free society?

Because of what happened in Benghazi today, somewhere Chris Stevens is smiling. He is smiling because this is the real Libya, the Libya he knew and loved so well. This is the Libya he wanted America to support and remain engaged with, the Libya of which he ultimately gave his life. These brave people in Libya are friends of America’s. They want our help, and they need our help. We must continue to provide it to them, which is exactly what Chris Stevens would have wanted.

If the Senate were to cut off all U.S. assistance to Libya now, as this amendment before us would do, it would abandon our friends to our terrorist enemies and destroy America’s moral standing in the world and do egregious harm to our national interests.

Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, how much time do we have remaining?

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Four minutes.

Who yields time?

Mr. KERRY. How much time is remaining altogether?

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Two minutes 20 seconds on Senator PAUL’s time; 4 minutes left to the Senator from Massachusetts.

Mr. KERRY. Does the Senator plan to use his time?

Mr. PAUL. I will reserve the remainder of my time.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. If no one yields time, time will be charged equally to both sides.

Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, I yield such time as I may use. I will be happy to have the Senator speak last if that is what he wants to do.

We have heard today from 110 retired generals and admirals that the suspension of U.S. aid is not in America’s interest and that assistance is a critical component of America’s national security strategy.

We have heard from Jewish Americans about the impacts this bill would have on our relationship with Israel at what they have called “a time of turmoil and uncertainty,” and “the U.S. government needs to be able to use all available tools to influence events in the region.”

It would affect Israel’s security if the United States were to suddenly pull out its assistance and change its relationship with Yemen and particularly change its relationship with Egypt.

I have heard from the State Department, which said this legislation “will weaken democracies” and “play into the hands of extremists.”

With respect to Libya, Senator McCAIN has just spoken eloquently

about Chris Stevens. He knew Chris Stevens. We knew him on our committee. He worked for Senator LUGAR, and we knew him as a Pearson fellow. There was no more dedicated person. We just confirmed him and sent him over this May. I guarantee that the last thing he would want is his death being used as an excuse for the United States to cut off Libya and to disengage.

The 30,000 people who marched today marched for America. They marched for themselves. They marched for democracy. They marched for what Chris Stevens was investing in. I don’t think we want to punish those people and that government because of what happened.

With respect to Egypt, the United States derives extraordinarily important security benefits from that relationship. Shutting down American military assistance to Egypt would jeopardize our nonproliferation initiatives. It would undermine efforts to stop the smuggling of weapons and interdicting of arms into Gaza, which affects the security of Israel. It would undermine the 1979 peace treaty between Israel and Egypt. Those of us who have traveled to Israel in recent months have heard concern from Israeli officials about the prospects of suspension of American military assistance to Egypt. They have already talked about it. They are nervous about it, and they think it would have a profound negative impact on their security and Israel.

These are the connections the Paul legislation just doesn’t face up to. Senator PAUL’s legislation would essentially shut down our ability to work with the new civilian government. And while we are working to build the same kind of alliance with them we have had previously, it would really interrupt that and say to them that the United States of America is not interested in having that kind of an alliance.

With respect to Pakistan, the reality is the United States has vital national security interests in Pakistan, all of which are at stake. They have a population of 190 million people, a troubled economy, pockets of extremism, and a robust nuclear arsenal. We can’t turn our backs on any of that, and I think we need to remember that our aid plays a critical role in supporting our interests and our values.

The Paul amendment would make us less secure, and it is in no one’s interest.

Whatever time we have, I reserve the remainder.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. WHITEHOUSE). The Senator from Kentucky.

Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, nothing in this bill refers to Israel, and nothing would apply to Israel. To imagine that any money could be removed from Israel, we would have to imagine that Secretary of State Hillary Clinton accuses Israel of not protecting the Embassy. It is a canard, and it is a typical one that has been used many times.

Nothing in the bill says we would have no aid to these countries. It simply says to these countries that if they protect our Embassy—Libya, if you continue to cooperate and send back terrorists and catch the assassins, you will continue to get our aid.

It conditions aid on behavior. Right now, aid is not being conditioned on behavior.

We have Pakistan, which has actually tortured a friend of America's. Dr. Shakil Afridi has been tortured for a year by the Pakistani Government.

The Foreign Relations Committee has done nothing to address that, and so we have Dr. Shakil Afridi now in prison for years—for the rest of his life, essentially. I don't see any action forthcoming from the Foreign Affairs Committee.

What I would say to my colleagues is this is a bill that places restrictions on foreign aid, it does not end foreign aid. It doesn't breach the Israel-Egypt treaty or the Camp David Accords. It is a canard. It is brought up routinely to try to prevent any changes or reform in foreign aid. We always hear it is going to end aid to Israel. It is a canard.

What I would say to my colleagues is this bill does not end foreign aid. It places restrictions on foreign aid. Ask the American people: Do you think these restrictions are appropriate? Do you think a host country should protect our Embassy? Do you think a host country such as Libya should be asked to continue to cooperate? Do you think a host country such as Pakistan should turn over a friend of America and not imprison and torture a friend of America?

I think these are very reasonable restrictions. I think these are restrictions we should have. I think these are restrictions anyone in America would say are very reasonable, and I urge adoption of the resolution.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. All time has expired.

Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, could we have order in the Senate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There is order in the Senate.

The Senator's time has expired.

Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, for such time as I have left, let me make it clear: The Paul legislation requires all identifiable persons associated with organizing, planning, participating in the attacks, trespass, breach, or attempted attack, have been identified by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Bureau of Diplomatic Security, or other United States law enforcement entity, and are in United States custody. We are talking about other countries. That is an absolutely impossible-to-fulfill requirement and that is why it would result in the cutoff of aid automatically, and that is why it is dangerous.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. All time has expired.

PROVIDING LIMITATIONS ON UNITED STATES ASSISTANCE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the clerk will report S. 3576.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3576) to provide limitations on United States assistance, and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the clerk will read the bill for the third time.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading and was read the third time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

There is a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) and the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) are necessarily absent.

Mr. KYL. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR), the Senator from Nevada (Mr. HELLER), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. KIRK), the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO), and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Nevada (Mr. HELLER) would have voted: "yea."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 10, nays 81, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 196 Leg.]

YEAS—10

Crapo	Moran	Shelby
DeMint	Paul	Toomey
Grassley	Risch	
Lee	Roberts	

NAYS—81

Akaka	Durbin	Lugar
Alexander	Enzi	Manchin
Ayotte	Feinstein	McCain
Barrasso	Franken	McCaskill
Baucus	Gillibrand	McConnell
Begich	Graham	Menendez
Bennet	Hagan	Merkley
Bingaman	Harkin	Mikulski
Blumenthal	Hatch	Murkowski
Blunt	Hoeven	Nelson (NE)
Brown (MA)	Hutchison	Nelson (FL)
Brown (OH)	Inouye	Portman
Cantwell	Isakson	Pryor
Cardin	Johanns	Reed
Carper	Johnson (SD)	Reid
Casey	Johnson (WI)	Rockefeller
Chambliss	Kerry	Sanders
Coats	Klobuchar	Schumer
Coburn	Kohl	Sessions
Cochran	Kyl	Shaheen
Collins	Landrieu	Snowe
Conrad	Lautenberg	Stabenow
Coons	Leahy	Tester
Corker	Levin	Thune
Cornyn	Lieberman	Udall (CO)

Udall (NM)	Webb	Wicker
Warner	Whitehouse	Wyden

NOT VOTING—9

Boozman	Heller	Murray
Boxer	Inhofe	Rubio
Burr	Kirk	Vitter

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The 60-vote threshold not having been achieved, the bill is rejected.

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING THE NUCLEAR PROGRAM OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the clerk will report S.J. Res. 41 by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A joint resolution (S.J. Res. 41) expressing the sense of Congress regarding the nuclear program of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The Senate proceeded to consider the joint resolution.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there is now 2 minutes equally divided.

The Senator from South Carolina.

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. President, this resolution has 83 cosponsors. Even I cannot lose this vote.

This resolution says it will not be the policy of the United States to allow the Iranian regime to get a nuclear weapon and try to contain them. President Obama has rejected containment. Governor Romney, 83 Senators have said that is a bad idea.

Very quickly, why will containment not work? If the Iranians get a nuclear weapon, every Sunni Arab state will want one themselves. Israel will never know a minute's peace. And my biggest fear: If we allow these people to get a nuclear weapon, they will share the technology with terrorists. The reason thousands have died in the war on terror—not millions—is because the terrorists cannot get the weapons to kill millions.

Senator CASEY has been terrific. My Democratic colleagues, thank you for working in a bipartisan fashion.

I yield now to Senator CASEY.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Pennsylvania.

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, I want to, first of all, thank all the Members who are cosponsors, led by Senator GRAHAM, Senator LIEBERMAN, and our team doing this.

This is bipartisan on a very important issue. I think it does three things. It adds a sense of urgency because of the threat posed by an Iranian nuclear program, it adds clarity, and also the resolve of the American people to stop them.

I thank the Chair.

Mr. FRANKEN. Mr. President, today I vote to support S.J. Res. 41, reinforcing President Obama's policy of preventing Iran from possessing a nuclear weapon rather than containing a nuclear Iran. I support this resolution, which explicitly states that nothing in

it should be construed as an authorization to use force, because its intention and its purpose is to echo and reinforce President Obama's policy toward Iran. It is particularly important to make that clear because there has been a lot of debate about the meaning of the term "nuclear weapons capability" in the resolution. But a brief examination of the issue shows that the resolution and its language support the President's policy of preventing Iran from developing or acquiring a nuclear weapon.

An authoritative definition of a nuclear weapons capability was offered in testimony by the Director of National Intelligence in 2009. He stated that there are three parts of an effective nuclear weapons capability: production of fissile material; effective means for weapon delivery; and design, weaponization, and testing of the warhead itself. According to this definition, the Senate and the President are articulating the same position: we are committed to preventing Iran from achieving all of those components of a nuclear weapons capability, which amounts to saying that Iran must not develop or acquire nuclear weapons.

That we are reinforcing the President's policy was one of the main themes in the debate on the resolution on the floor of the Senate. When this was debated in May, that is what both the sponsor, Senator GRAHAM, and the lead cosponsor, Senator LIEBERMAN, emphasized repeatedly. Senator LIEBERMAN stated, "This resolution's main focus is to essentially back up with a congressional statement the position President Obama has articulated: that no matter what happens, containment of a nuclear Iran is not an acceptable policy from the point of view of the security of the United States; that our policy is to prevent the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran from acquiring a nuclear weapons capability." And Senator GRAHAM stated, "We are intending to echo a policy statement made by President Obama that the policy of the United States will be—if you are listening in Tehran—not to contain Iran if they obtain a nuclear capability." Again, Senator GRAHAM stated, "We are not coming up with a new idea: we are just reinforcing an idea put on the table by our own President—we are not going to contain a nuclear-capable Iran as a policy."

Other leading voices on this issue in the Senate made the same point at the time. Senator MCCAIN stated, "So this resolution we are considering is no different in any way—in fact, it is less specific than what the President of the United States has said and what I believe most every Member of the U.S. Senate is on record one way or the other saying: that the development of a nuclear weapon by Iran would be an unacceptable situation." Senator MENENDEZ similarly characterized the resolution as "making the intentions or amplifying the intentions of the President crystal clear."

Those intentions are to prevent Iran from developing or acquiring a nuclear weapon. I share those intentions, and that is why I support the resolution today.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I will vote for this resolution which reaffirms current U.S. policy towards Iran.

In doing so, I want to emphasize that it is my understanding that this Resolution, which is non-binding, is in no way intended by its sponsors to endorse, authorize, or otherwise encourage the use of military force against Iran.

Secretary of Defense Panetta, Secretary of State Clinton, former Secretary of Defense Gates, and other top Pentagon officials have strongly advised against the use of pre-emptive military force. They said it would, at best, only temporarily halt Iran's nuclear program, it would drive their program further underground, and it could ignite a wider war in the Middle East that could spin out of control.

I am as concerned as anyone about Iran. But while this Resolution reaffirms that concern, that is the extent of what it does. The policy of the Administration, and of our allies is to support sanctions, to use diplomacy, to resort to military force only if all other options fail. This Resolution does not change that.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. All time in favor has expired.

Who yields time in opposition?

The Senator from Kentucky.

Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, a vote for this resolution is a vote for the concept of preemptive war. I know of no other way to interpret this resolution.

The resolution states that containment will never be our policy toward Iran. While I think it is unwise to say we will contain Iran, I think it is equally unwise to say we will never contain Iran.

We woke up one day and Pakistan was a nuclear power. We woke up one day and North Korea was a nuclear power—India, Russia, China. But if we would have announced preemptively that we were not going to contain anyone, then we would be at odds with these countries, and what would the solution be? Preemptive war.

Announcing to the world, as this resolution does, that containment will never be our policy is unwise. A country that vows to never contain an enemy is a country that vows always to preemptively strike.

I urge a "no" vote on this resolution.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. All time is expired.

The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the joint resolution.

The joint resolution was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading and was read the third time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The joint resolution having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the joint resolution pass?

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) and the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) are necessarily absent.

Mr. KYL. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR), the Senator from Nevada (Mr. HELLER), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. KIRK), the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO), and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Nevada (Mr. HELLER) would have voted: "aye."

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. NELSON of Florida). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 90, nays 1, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 197 Leg.]

YEAS—90

Akaka	Franken	Merkley
Alexander	Gillibrand	Mikulski
Ayotte	Graham	Moran
Barrasso	Grassley	Murkowski
Baucus	Hagan	Nelson (NE)
Begich	Harkin	Nelson (FL)
Bennet	Hatch	Portman
Bingaman	Hoeven	Pryor
Blumenthal	Hutchison	Reed
Blunt	Inouye	Reid
Brown (MA)	Isakson	Risch
Brown (OH)	Johanns	Roberts
Cantwell	Johnson (SD)	Rockefeller
Cardin	Johnson (WI)	Sanders
Carper	Kerry	Schumer
Casey	Klobuchar	Sessions
Chambliss	Kohl	Shaheen
Coats	Kyl	Shelby
Coburn	Landrieu	Snowe
Cochran	Lautenberg	Stabenow
Collins	Leahy	Tester
Conrad	Lee	Thune
Coons	Levin	Toomey
Corker	Lieberman	Udall (CO)
Cornyn	Lugar	Udall (NM)
Crapo	Manchin	Warner
DeMint	McCain	Webb
Durbin	McCaskill	Whitehouse
Enzi	McConnell	Wicker
Feinstein	Menendez	Wyden

NAYS—1

Paul

NOT VOTING—9

Boozman	Heller	Murray
Boxer	Inhofe	Rubio
Burr	Kirk	Vitter

The joint resolution (S.J. Res. 41) was passed, as follows:

S.J. RES. 41

Whereas, since at least the late 1980s, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran has engaged in a sustained and well-documented pattern of illicit and deceptive activities to acquire nuclear capability;

Whereas the United Nations Security Council has adopted multiple resolutions since 2006 demanding the full and sustained suspension of all uranium enrichment-related and reprocessing activities by the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran and its full cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) on all outstanding issues related to its nuclear activities, particularly those concerning the possible military dimensions of its nuclear program;

Whereas, on November 8, 2011, the IAEA issued an extensive report that—

(1) documents “serious concerns regarding possible military dimensions to Iran’s nuclear programme”;

(2) states that “Iran has carried out activities relevant to the development of a nuclear device”; and

(3) states that the efforts described in paragraphs (1) and (2) may be ongoing;

Whereas, as of November 2008, Iran had produced, according to the IAEA—

(1) approximately 630 kilograms of uranium hexafluoride enriched up to 3.5 percent uranium-235; and

(2) no uranium hexafluoride enriched up to 20 percent uranium-235;

Whereas, as of November 2011, Iran had produced, according to the IAEA—

(1) nearly 5,000 kilograms of uranium hexafluoride enriched up to 3.5 percent uranium-235; and

(2) 79.7 kilograms of uranium hexafluoride enriched up to 20 percent uranium-235;

Whereas, on January 9, 2012, IAEA inspectors confirmed that the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran had begun enrichment activities at the Fordow site, including possibly enrichment of uranium hexafluoride up to 20 percent uranium-235;

Whereas section 2(2) of the Comprehensive Iran Sanctions, Accountability, and Divestment Act of 2010 (Public Law 111-195) states, “The United States and other responsible countries have a vital interest in working together to prevent the Government of Iran from acquiring a nuclear weapons capability.”;

Whereas, if the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran were successful in acquiring a nuclear weapon capability, it would likely spur other countries in the region to consider developing their own nuclear weapons capabilities;

Whereas, on December 6, 2011, Prince Turki al-Faisal of Saudi Arabia stated that if international efforts to prevent Iran from obtaining nuclear weapons fail, “we must, as a duty to our country and people, look into all options we are given, including obtaining these weapons ourselves”;

Whereas top leaders of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran have repeatedly threatened the existence of the State of Israel, pledging to “wipe Israel off the map”;

Whereas the Department of State has designated Iran as a state sponsor of terrorism since 1984 and characterized Iran as the “most active state sponsor of terrorism”;

Whereas the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran has provided weapons, training, funding, and direction to terrorist groups, including Hamas, Hezbollah, and Shiite militias in Iraq that are responsible for the murders of hundreds of United States forces and innocent civilians;

Whereas, on July 28, 2011, the Department of the Treasury charged that the Government of Iran had forged a “secret deal” with al Qaeda to facilitate the movement of al Qaeda fighters and funding through Iranian territory;

Whereas, in October 2011, senior leaders of Iran’s Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) Quds Force were implicated in a terrorist plot to assassinate Saudi Arabia’s Ambassador to the United States on United States soil;

Whereas, on December 26, 2011, the United Nations General Assembly passed a resolution denouncing the serious human rights abuses occurring in the Islamic Republic of Iran, including torture, cruel and degrading treatment in detention, the targeting of human rights defenders, violence against women, and “the systematic and serious restrictions on freedom of peaceful assembly” as well as severe restrictions on the rights to

“freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief”;

Whereas President Barack Obama, through the P5+1 process, has made repeated efforts to engage the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran in dialogue about Iran’s nuclear program and its international commitments under the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, done at Washington, London, and Moscow July 1, 1968, and entered into force March 5, 1970 (commonly known as the “Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty”);

Whereas representatives of the P5+1 countries (the United States, France, Germany, the People’s Republic of China, the Russian Federation, and the United Kingdom) and representatives of the Islamic Republic of Iran held negotiations on Iran’s nuclear program in Istanbul, Turkey on April 14, 2012, and these discussions are set to resume in Baghdad, Iraq on May 23, 2012;

Whereas, on March 31, 2010, President Obama stated that the “consequences of a nuclear-armed Iran are unacceptable”;

Whereas in his State of the Union Address on January 24, 2012, President Obama stated, “Let there be no doubt: America is determined to prevent Iran from getting a nuclear weapon, and I will take no options off the table to achieve that goal.”;

Whereas, on March 4, 2012, President Obama stated “Iran’s leaders should understand that I do not have a policy of containment; I have a policy to prevent Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon”;

Whereas Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta stated, in December 2011, that it was unacceptable for Iran to acquire nuclear weapons, reaffirmed that all options were on the table to thwart Iran’s nuclear weapons efforts, and vowed that if the United States gets “intelligence that they are proceeding with developing a nuclear weapon then we will take whatever steps necessary to stop it”;

Whereas the Department of Defense’s January 2012 Strategic Guidance stated that United States defense efforts in the Middle East would be aimed “to prevent Iran’s development of a nuclear weapons capability and counter its destabilizing policies”;

Whereas, on April 2, 2012, President Obama stated, “All the evidence indicates that the Iranians are trying to develop the capacity to develop nuclear weapons. They might decide that, once they have that capacity that they’d hold off right at the edge in order not to incur more sanctions. But, if they’ve got nuclear weapons-building capacity and they are flouting international resolutions, that creates huge destabilizing effects in the region and will trigger an arms race in the Middle East that is bad for U.S. national security but is also bad for the entire world.”; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

That Congress—

(1) reaffirms that the United States Government and the governments of other responsible countries have a vital interest in working together to prevent the Government of Iran from acquiring a nuclear weapons capability;

(2) warns that time is limited to prevent the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran from acquiring a nuclear weapons capability;

(3) urges continued and increasing economic and diplomatic pressure on the Islamic Republic of Iran until the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran agrees to and implements—

(A) the full and sustained suspension of all uranium enrichment-related and reprocess-

ing activities and compliance with United Nations Security Council resolutions;

(B) complete cooperation with the IAEA on all outstanding questions related to the nuclear activities of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, including the implementation of the additional protocol to Iran’s Safeguards Agreement with the IAEA; and

(C) a permanent agreement that verifiably assures that Iran’s nuclear program is entirely peaceful;

(4) expresses the desire that the P5+1 process successfully and swiftly leads to the objectives identified in paragraph (3), but warns that, as President Obama has said, the window for diplomacy is closing;

(5) expresses support for the universal rights and democratic aspirations of the people of Iran;

(6) strongly supports United States policy to prevent the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran from acquiring a nuclear weapons capability;

(7) rejects any United States policy that would rely on efforts to contain a nuclear weapons-capable Iran; and

(8) joins the President in ruling out any policy that would rely on containment as an option in response to the Iranian nuclear threat.

SEC. 2. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.

Nothing in this resolution shall be construed as an authorization for the use of force or a declaration of war.

MAKING CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2012—Continued

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows.

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on H.J. Res. 117, a joint resolution making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2013, and for other purposes.

Harry Reid, Daniel K. Inouye, Patty Murray, Bernard Sanders, Jeanne Shaheen, Richard J. Durbin, Sheldon Whitehouse, Debbie Stabenow, Max Baucus, Mark Pryor, Christopher A. Coons, Jon Tester, Michael F. Bennet, Kay R. Hagan, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Richard Blumenthal, Ron Wyden, Barbara Boxer.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There is now 2 minutes equally divided prior to a vote on the motion.

The Senator from Hawaii.

Mr. INOUE. Mr. President, this CR funds the government for the next 6 months at a level agreed to by the Budget Control Act. It contains a minimum of anomalies and allows adequate funding for disaster relief. This is an inefficient way to fund our Federal Government, but it is better than shutting it down next week.

I urge a “yes” vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on H.J. Res. 117, a joint resolution making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2013, and for

other purposes shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) and the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) are necessarily absent.

Mr. KYL. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR), the Senator from Nevada (Mr. HELLER), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. KIRK), and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Nevada (Mr. HELLER) would have voted: "yea."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 62, nays 30, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 198 Leg.]

YEAS—62		
Akaka	Hagan	Mikulski
Alexander	Harkin	Murkowski
Baucus	Hoeven	Nelson (NE)
Begich	Hutchison	Nelson (FL)
Bennet	Inouye	Pryor
Bingaman	Johanns	Reed
Blumenthal	Johnson (SD)	Reid
Blunt	Kerry	Rockefeller
Brown (MA)	Klobuchar	Sanders
Brown (OH)	Kohl	Schumer
Cantwell	Kyl	Shaheen
Cardin	Landrieu	Stabenow
Carper	Lautenberg	Tester
Casey	Leahy	Udall (CO)
Cochran	Levin	Udall (NM)
Conrad	Lieberman	Warner
Coons	Lugar	Webb
Durbin	McCaskill	Whitehouse
Feinstein	McConnell	Wicker
Franken	Menendez	Wyden
Gillibrand	Merkley	

NAYS—30

Ayotte	Enzi	Paul
Barrasso	Graham	Portman
Chambliss	Grassley	Risch
Coats	Hatch	Roberts
Coburn	Isakson	Rubio
Collins	Johnson (WI)	Sessions
Corker	Lee	Shelby
Cornyn	Manchin	Snowe
Crapo	McCain	Thune
DeMint	Moran	Toomey

NOT VOTING—8

Boozman	Heller	Murray
Boxer	Inhofe	Vitter
Burr	Kirk	

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 62, the nays are 30. Three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn having voted in the affirmative, the motion is agreed to.

Under the previous order, the pending amendments are withdrawn.

The clerk will read the joint resolution for the third time.

The joint resolution (H.J. Res. 117) was read the third time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on passage of the joint resolution.

Mr. REID. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) and the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) are necessarily absent.

Mr. KYL. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR), the Senator from Nevada (Mr. HELLER), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. KIRK), and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Nevada (Mr. HELLER) would have voted: "yea."

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BROWN of Ohio). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 62, nays 30, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 199 Leg.]

YEAS—62		
Akaka	Hagan	Mikulski
Alexander	Harkin	Murkowski
Baucus	Hoeven	Nelson (NE)
Begich	Hutchison	Nelson (FL)
Bennet	Inouye	Pryor
Bingaman	Johanns	Reed
Blumenthal	Johnson (SD)	Reid
Blunt	Kerry	Rockefeller
Brown (MA)	Klobuchar	Sanders
Brown (OH)	Kohl	Schumer
Cantwell	Kyl	Shaheen
Cardin	Landrieu	Stabenow
Carper	Lautenberg	Tester
Casey	Leahy	Udall (CO)
Cochran	Levin	Udall (NM)
Conrad	Lieberman	Warner
Coons	Lugar	Webb
Durbin	McCaskill	Whitehouse
Feinstein	McConnell	Wicker
Franken	Menendez	Wyden
Gillibrand	Merkley	

NAYS—30

Ayotte	Enzi	Paul
Barrasso	Graham	Portman
Chambliss	Grassley	Risch
Coats	Hatch	Roberts
Coburn	Isakson	Rubio
Collins	Johnson (WI)	Sessions
Corker	Lee	Shelby
Cornyn	Manchin	Snowe
Crapo	McCain	Thune
DeMint	Moran	Toomey

NOT VOTING—8

Boozman	Heller	Murray
Boxer	Inhofe	Vitter
Burr	Kirk	

The joint resolution (H.J. Res. 117) was passed.

VOTE EXPLANATION

• Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I was unable to attend the roll call votes that occurred at midnight, September 22. Had I been present, I would have voted against S. 3576, related to foreign aid and voted in favor of S.J. Res. 41, the Iran Resolution. I would have also voted to support passage of H.J. Res. 117, the Continuing Appropriations resolution and would have voted against the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to S. 3525, the Sportsmen's Act. •

SPORTSMEN'S ACT OF 2012— MOTION TO PROCEED

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 504, S. 3525, a bill to protect and enhance opportunities for recreational hunting, fishing, and shooting, and for other purposes.

Harry Reid, Jon Tester, Joe Manchin III, Jeanne Shaheen, Sheldon Whitehouse, Debbie Stabenow, Ron Wyden, Max Baucus, Daniel K. Inouye, Kent Conrad, Mark Pryor, Christopher A. Coons, Michael F. Bennet, Kay R. Hagan, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Richard Blumenthal, Ben Nelson.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There are now 2 minutes equally divided.

The Republican leader is recognized.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I am going to proceed very briefly on my leader time. I ask consent that the next vote on cloture on the motion to proceed to S. 2535 be vitiated and the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 4089, which is at the desk and is the House-passed Sportsmen's Heritage Act, the bill be read a third time and passed with the motion to reconsider laid upon the table.

For the record, again, this will allow a bill to get to the President's desk immediately.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection? The majority leader.

Mr. REID. Reserving the right to object, Mr. President, the House bill is this big. It has three provisions. The bill we are going to vote on has 20, supported by over 50 groups—NRA, Ducks Unlimited, and more than 50 others, a wonderful piece of legislation that is robust, it is conclusive, and it is not partisan. It is a very good piece of legislation. It should be widely accepted. It is a fine piece of legislation supported by conservation groups, sportsmen's groups all over America.

I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard. The Republican leader.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, very briefly, we could have tonight passed the House-passed Sportsmen's bill. It would have gone straight to the President for signature. That having been thwarted by our friends on the other side, I certainly think it is appropriate to vote to proceed to the measure before us and I intend to vote aye. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There is now 2 minutes equally divided. The Senator from Montana is recognized.

Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, as the majority leader pointed out, this Sportsmen's Act is a compilation of 19 bills. Hunting season has already started. This bill benefits 90 million Americans who hunt, fish, and watch wildlife,

supported by 56 groups from the Nature Conservancy to the NRA. It reduces our deficit by some \$7 million due to net gain over 10 years. This is an economic driver of outdoor industry, some \$646 billion in direct spending to our economy. I urge a “yes” vote on the motion to proceed and since it is 20 after 1, I would like to have a voice vote on it.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I want to explain my vote in support of cloture on the motion to proceed to S. 3525, the Sportsmen’s Act of 2012. I am supporting cloture in an effort to move this important bill forward. It is a compilation of almost 20 different pieces of legislation that are important to the sportsmen’s community. The Sportsmen’s Act will increase habitat conservation while improving access to recreational fishing and hunting lands. The Senate deserves the chance to debate this bill, and I support invoking cloture on the motion to proceed in an effort to make it the pending business before the Senate.

However, I want to voice my opposition to a provision in this bill dealing with polar bears. The provision would allow hunters who killed polar bears in Canada before a ban was put in place to bring their remains into the United States. I believe this provision could encourage further hunting of polar bears, increase demand for polar bear trophies, and lead to a rise in poaching or illegal trade of polar bear parts. It could also stimulate demand for other exotic and endangered animal parts from around the globe.

Polar bears are currently listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act. Their habitat is being threatened by global warming. We need to do everything we can to curb the hunting of these creatures for sport and avoid the unintended consequence of putting polar bears and other endangered species at risk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Who yields time?

Mr. REID. I yield back all time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the motion to proceed to S. 3525, a bill to protect and enhance opportunities for recreational hunting, fishing, and shooting, and for other purposes be brought to a close?

The yeas are mandatory under the rule. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) and the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) are necessarily absent.

Mr. KYL. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR), the Senator from Nevada (Mr. HELLER), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN), the Senator from Illinois (Mr.

KIRK), and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Nevada (Mr. HELLER) would have voted: “yea.”

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. WHITEHOUSE). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 84, nays 7, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 200 Leg.]

YEAS—84

Akaka	Gillibrand	Moran
Alexander	Graham	Murkowski
Ayotte	Grassley	Nelson (NE)
Barrasso	Hagan	Nelson (FL)
Baucus	Harkin	Portman
Begich	Hatch	Pryor
Bennet	Hoeven	Reid
Bingaman	Hutchison	Risch
Blunt	Inouye	Roberts
Brown (MA)	Isakson	Rockefeller
Brown (OH)	Johanns	Rubio
Cantwell	Johnson (SD)	Sanders
Cardin	Johnson (WI)	Schumer
Carper	Kerry	Sessions
Casey	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Chambliss	Kohl	Shelby
Coats	Landrieu	Snowe
Cochran	Lautenberg	Stabenow
Collins	Leahy	Tester
Conrad	Lee	Thune
Coons	Levin	Toomey
Corker	Lieberman	Udall (CO)
Cornyn	Lugar	Udall (NM)
Crapo	Manchin	Warner
Durbin	McCaskill	Webb
Enzi	McConnell	Whitehouse
Feinstein	Merkley	Wicker
Franken	Mikulski	Wyden

NAYS—7

Blumenthal	McCain	Reed
DeMint	Menendez	
Kyl	Paul	

NOT VOTING—9

Boozman	Coburn	Kirk
Boxer	Heller	Murray
Burr	Inhofe	Vitter

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. WHITEHOUSE). On this vote, the yeas are 84, the nays are 7. Three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn having voted in the affirmative, the motion is agreed to.

The majority leader.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—S. 3254

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I have been asked on a number of occasions by Senator LEVIN and Senator MCCAIN what we are going to do on the Defense authorization bill.

I now ask unanimous consent that at a time to be determined by me after consultation with the Republican leader, the Senate proceed to Calendar No. 419, S. 3254, the Defense authorization bill; and that only relevant amendments be in order on the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, I am very disappointed in this request. Senator MCCAIN has been asking that the leader take up the Defense authorization bill for weeks. This evening he tried very hard to get agreement from the Senator from Michigan, the chairman of the committee, and others to try to work out a way that we could take up

this bill right after we come back or at some point after we come back after the election.

After he leaves the Chamber, and after virtually everybody is gone, at 1:40 in the morning the majority leader asks unanimous consent to take up the bill limited to relevant amendments. Now that would be fine with me, and I am sure it is fine with Senator MCCAIN, but everybody knows you can’t get unanimous consent of your colleagues when they are all gone at 1:40 a.m. in the morning without any advanced notice that the request was going to be made.

As a result—though I would be happy personally to agree to the request—we don’t know what our Members would agree to and whether they would agree to limiting this to relevant amendments. To me that is the only thing that seems to be out of order, but obviously we can’t agree to it because we can’t hotline this at this time of the evening and get consent from our Members.

What mostly bothers me is the implication, therefore, that the leader is all for taking it up and it is the Republicans who are objecting. I hope anyone who is aware of what has been going on here appreciates the fact that no one wants to go to the Defense authorization bill more than my colleague from Arizona, JOHN MCCAIN, and our leader, MITCH MCCONNELL.

With great regret and only because at this time of morning there is no way to survey our Members to see whether they would agree to the request, we have no option but to object.

I would certainly hope the leader would contact Senator MCCAIN. He left the Chamber now, but perhaps he could contact him tomorrow or the next day and ask if we can begin to work this out and allow us to talk to our Members so when we come back we can take up the Defense authorization bill. We should.

The Republican Members of this body want to do so, and I would hope we could work that out so it could be dealt with in the very early days after the election.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I said I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The majority leader.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, Senator LEVIN has consulted with JOHN MCCAIN in regard to this matter. Senator MCCAIN knew this was going to happen. That is what the chairman of the committee told me, and Senator LEVIN has never misled me ever. Again, it is obvious the bill is being held up. So I am not surprised. This has been going on for 6 months.

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, would the majority leader yield for one question from me?

Mr. REID. Of course.

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, my question is, Is the Senator saying that Senator

MCCAIN was aware the Senator was going to make this request tonight in the form it was made?

Mr. REID. Senator LEVIN gave this to me and said he already talked to Senator MCCAIN about this.

Mr. KYL. I know they talked all evening long, but I am not sure that Senator MCCAIN was made aware that the Senator would propose this tonight.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I first learned about this several hours ago from Senator LEVIN, so I take him at his word.

Mr. KYL. Thank you, Mr. President. Mr. REID. I note the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MERKLEY). Without objection, it is so ordered.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—S.J. RES. 41

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the preamble to S.J. Res. 41 be agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I note the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations: Calendar Nos. 456, 714, 880 through 908, and 910, and all nominations placed on the Secretary's desk in the Air Force, Army, Foreign Service, Navy, and Public Health Service; that the nominations be confirmed en bloc; the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order to any of the nominations; that any related statements be printed in the RECORD; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action and the Senate then resume legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The nominations considered and confirmed en bloc are as follows:

AMTRAK BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Albert DiClemente, of Delaware, to be a Director of the Amtrak Board of Directors for a term of five years.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Heidi Shyu, of California, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Army.

IN THE AIR FORCE

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. Christopher C. Bogdan

The following named officer for appointment in the Reserve of the Air Force to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203:

To be brigadier general

Col. Jon A. Weeks

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

To be major general

Brig. Gen. Andrew M. Mueller

The following Air National Guard of the United States officer for appointment in the Reserve of the Air Force to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., sections 12203 and 12212:

To be major general

Brig. Gen. Donald P. Dunbar

The following Air National Guard of the United States officer for appointment in the Reserve of the Air Force to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., sections 12203 and 12212:

To be brigadier general

Col. Gerard F. Bolduc, Jr.

The following Air National Guard of the United States officer for appointment in the Reserve of the Air Force to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., sections 12203 and 12212:

To be brigadier general

Col. Matthew P. Jamison

IN THE ARMY

The following Army National Guard of the United States officers for appointment in the Reserve of the Army to the grades indicated under title 10, U.S.C., sections 12203 and 12211:

To be brigadier general

Colonel David O. Smith

The following named officer for appointment in the Reserve of the Army to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203:

To be brigadier general

Michaelene A. Kloster

The following named officer for appointment in the Reserve of the Army to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203:

To be brigadier general

Col. Garrett S. Yee

The following Army National Guard of the United States officer for appointment in the Reserve of the Army to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., sections 12203 and 12211:

To be major general

Brig. Gen. Deborah A. Ashenhurst

The following Army National Guard of the United States officers for appointment in the Reserve of the Army to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., sections 12203 and 12211:

To be major general

Brig. Gen. Judd H. Lyons

Brig. Gen. Lee E. Tafanelli

The following Army National Guard of the United States officers for appointment in the

Reserve of the Army to the grades indicated under title 10, U.S.C., sections 12203 and 12211:

To be major general

Brig. Gen. Kendall W. Penn

To be brigadier general

Col. Keith A. Klemmer

The following named officer for appointment in the Reserve of the Army to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203:

To be major general

Brig. Gen. Michael R. Smith

The following named officer for appointment in the Reserve of the Army to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203:

To be major general

Brig. Gen. David J. Conboy

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. Frederick B. Hodges

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. Mark S. Bowman

The following named officer for appointment in the Reserve of the Army to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203:

To be brigadier general

Col. Ural D. Glanville

IN THE NAVY

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Navy to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be vice admiral

Rear Adm. (lh) James D. Syring

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Sharon English Woods Villarosa, of Texas, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Mauritius, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Seychelles.

Dawn M. Liberi, of Florida, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Career Minister, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Burundi.

Stephen D. Mull, of Virginia, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Career Minister, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Poland.

Walter North, of Washington, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Career Minister, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Papua New Guinea, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the

United States of America to the Solomon Islands and Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Vanuatu.

Richard G. Olson, of New Mexico, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.

Joseph E. Macmanus, of New York, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Representative of the United States of America to the Vienna Office of the United Nations, with the rank of Ambassador.

Joseph E. Macmanus, of New York, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Representative of the United States of America to the International Atomic Energy Agency, with the rank of Ambassador.

UNITED NATIONS

John Hardy Isakson, of Georgia, to be a Representative of the United States of America to the Sixty-seventh Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

Patrick J. Leahy, of Vermont, to be a Representative of the United States of America to the Sixty-seventh Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

The following-named Career Members of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Career Minister, for the personal rank of Career Ambassador in recognition of especially distinguished service over a sustained period:

William R. Brownfield
Kristie Anne Kenney
Thomas Alfred Shannon, Jr.

NATIONAL FOUNDATION ON THE ARTS AND THE HUMANITIES

Emil J. Kang, of North Carolina, to be a Member of the National Council on the Arts for a term expiring September 3, 2018.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Kevin K. Washburn, of New Mexico, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

NOMINATIONS PLACED ON THE SECRETARY'S DESK

IN THE AIR FORCE

PN1546 AIR FORCE nominations (2350) beginning ADAM D. AASEN, and ending MARK C. ZWYGHUIZEN, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 23, 2012.

PN1783 AIR FORCE nominations (33) beginning LANCE A. AIUMOPAS, and ending ROBERT S. ZAUNER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 25, 2012.

PN1784 AIR FORCE nominations (1236) beginning JAMES H. ABBOTT, and ending MARIO F. ZUNIGA, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 25, 2012.

PN1848 AIR FORCE nomination of Michael F. Wendelken, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of August 2, 2012.

PN1849 AIR FORCE nominations (2) beginning MICHAEL M. HOWARD, and ending PATRICK E. KNOESTER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of August 2, 2012.

PN1850 AIR FORCE nominations (3) beginning KARYN J. AYERS, and ending JOHN M. TUDELA, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of August 2, 2012.

PN1851 AIR FORCE nominations (4) beginning KIMBERLY A. DALE, and ending CHRISTOPHER B. VOGLER, which nominations were received by the Senate and ap-

peared in the Congressional Record of August 2, 2012.

PN1891 AIR FORCE nomination of Stephen P. Roberts, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 10, 2012.

PN1898 AIR FORCE nominations (3) beginning JEFFREY R. ALTHOFF, and ending GREGORY T. MCCAIN, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 10, 2012.

IN THE ARMY

PN1852 ARMY nomination of Gregory S. Ulma, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of August 2, 2012.

PN1853 ARMY nomination of Patrick P. Metke, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of August 2, 2012.

PN1854 ARMY nomination of Drew D. Dukett, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of August 2, 2012.

PN1855 ARMY nomination of David A. Cortese, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of August 2, 2012.

PN1856 ARMY nomination of Jeffrey T. Whorton, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of August 2, 2012.

PN1857 ARMY nomination of Charles J. Romero, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of August 2, 2012.

PN1858 ARMY nominations (2) beginning TANASHA N. BENNETT, and ending REIES M. FLORES, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of August 2, 2012.

PN1859 ARMY nominations (9) beginning BRAD D. BEKKEDAHL, and ending WILLIAM L. ZANA, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of August 2, 2012.

PN1893 ARMY nomination of George C. Sturges, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 10, 2012.

PN1894-1 ARMY nominations (615) beginning DAVID W. ACKER, and ending D003093, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 10, 2012.

PN1895 ARMY nomination of Joseph R. Newcomb, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 10, 2012.

PN1896 ARMY nomination of Morohunranti O. Oguntoye, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 10, 2012.

PN1897 ARMY nomination of August Seeber, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 10, 2012.

PN1899 ARMY nominations (15) beginning ERIC J. ALBERTSON, and ending D011234, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 10, 2012.

PN1900 ARMY nominations (7) beginning STUART N. BURRUSS, and ending ROBERT J. QUINKER, III, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 10, 2012.

PN1901 ARMY nominations (389) beginning ANDRE B. ABADIE, and ending G001060, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 10, 2012.

PN1902 ARMY nominations (329) beginning JOHN J. ACEVEDO, and ending D010397, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 10, 2012.

PN1903 ARMY nominations (7) beginning JEFFREY S. BELL, and ending MARK R. THORNTON, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 10, 2012.

PN1904 ARMY nominations (7) beginning STEVEN E. BATTLE, and ending LUZMIRA A. TORRES, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 10, 2012.

PN1905 ARMY nominations (14) beginning ANTHONY H. ADRIAN, and ending JOHN F. WOYTE, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 10, 2012.

PN1906 ARMY nominations (67) beginning FREDRIC N. AMIDON, and ending ANNE E. YOUNG, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 10, 2012.

PN1907 ARMY nominations (8) beginning ELIZABETH A. BAKER, and ending IAN J. TOLMAN, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 10, 2012.

PN1908 ARMY nominations (139) beginning PATRICK M. ARIDA, and ending ALI S. ZAZA, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 10, 2012.

FOREIGN SERVICE

PN1819 FOREIGN SERVICE nominations (328) beginning Joelle-Elizabeth Beatrice Bastien, and ending Kenneth R. Propp, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 12, 2012.

NAVY

PN1860 NAVY nomination of Alan T. Wakefield, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of August 2, 2012.

PN1861 NAVY nomination of Tassos J. Sfondouris, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of August 2, 2012.

PN1862 NAVY nominations (3) beginning GLEN CABARCAS, and ending RICARDO A. FERRA, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of August 2, 2012.

PN1863 NAVY nominations (9) beginning CHUCK J. BROWDER, and ending CHRISTOPHER K. TUGGLE, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of August 2, 2012.

PN1864 NAVY nominations (10) beginning DANIEL ARANDA, and ending CHAD J. STUEWE, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of August 2, 2012.

PN1865 NAVY nominations (12) beginning MATTHEW R. ALLEN, and ending BRIAN T. WIERZBICKI, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of August 2, 2012.

PN1866 NAVY nominations (14) beginning WILLIAM E. BLANKS, and ending JEREMY J. WAGNER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of August 2, 2012.

PN1867 NAVY nominations (21) beginning BRADLEY H. ABRAMOWITZ, and ending ERIC A. WEISS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of August 2, 2012.

PN1868 NAVY nominations (22) beginning CHARITY A. BREIDENBACH, and ending PHILLIP A. ZAMARRIPA, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of August 2, 2012.

PN1869 NAVY nominations (25) beginning HENRY L. BUSH, and ending STANLEY C. WARE, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of August 2, 2012.

PN1870 NAVY nominations (29) beginning KYLE R. ALCOCK, and ending SHEREE T. WILLIAMS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of August 2, 2012.

PN1871 NAVY nominations (47) beginning JEREMIAH P. ANDERSON, and ending AARON L. WOOLSEY, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of August 2, 2012.

PN1872 NAVY nominations (265) beginning MARK J. AID, JR., and ending BRIAN L. ZIMMERMAN, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of August 2, 2012.

PN1873 NAVY nominations (769) beginning BRYCE D. ABBOTT, and ending MAXWELL V. ZUJEWSKI, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of August 2, 2012.

PN1909 NAVY nominations (316) beginning DEMETRIA L. AARON, and ending AMY J. ZWETTLER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 10, 2012.

PN1910 NAVY nominations (3) beginning TIMOTHY M. FRENCH, and ending BRYAN E. WOOLDRIDGE, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 10, 2012.

PN1911 NAVY nominations (109) beginning CEDRIC J. ABRON, and ending CHADWICK Y. YASUDA, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 10, 2012.

PN1912 NAVY nominations (65) beginning AMY H. ADAIR, and ending DONAVON A. YAPSHING, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 10, 2012.

PN1913 NAVY nominations (10) beginning VINCENT M. J. AMBROSINO, and ending MARK VERHOVSHEK, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 10, 2012.

PN1914 NAVY nominations (35) beginning KORY A. ANGLESEY, and ending ADAM G. ZAJAC, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 10, 2012.

PN1915 NAVY nominations (34) beginning EVAN D. ADAMS, and ending HAROLD B. WOODRUFF, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 10, 2012.

PN1916 NAVY nominations (22) beginning WALTER B. BLACKWELL, and ending JAMES P. ZAKAR, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 10, 2012.

PN1917 NAVY nominations (151) beginning ELIZABETH A. ABAN, and ending ELIZABETH M. ZULOAGA, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 10, 2012.

PN1918 NAVY nominations (32) beginning THOMAS M. BROWN, and ending RALPH G. S. YOUNG, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 10, 2012.

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

PN1790 PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE nominations (600) beginning Melinda Astran, and ending Chelsea True, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 25, 2012.

PN1829 PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE nominations (1628) beginning Donald S. Ahrens, and ending Diamond E. Zuchlinski, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 25, 2012.

NOMINATIONS DISCHARGED

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the Commerce Committee be dis-

charged from further consideration of Presidential Nomination 1958, Kenneth T. Boyt to be Lieutenant Commander in the U.S. Coast Guard; and the Foreign Relations Committee be discharged from further consideration of Presidential Nomination 1879, Foreign Service nominations beginning with Michael Lewis and ending with Carolyn Shuckerow; Presidential Nomination 1880, Foreign Service nominations beginning with Bridget C. Bittle and ending with David J. Zanni; and Presidential Nomination 1923, Robert Stephen Beecroft, of California, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Iraq; that the Senate proceed to the nominations en bloc, that the nominations be confirmed; the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order to the nominations; that any related statements be printed in the RECORD; and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The nominations considered and confirmed en bloc are as follows:

COAST GUARD

To be lieutenant commander

Kenneth T. Boyt, 9174

FOREIGN SERVICE

The following-named Members of the Foreign Service to be Consular Officers and Secretaries in the Diplomatic Service of the United States of America:
Michael Lewis, of Virginia
George Lin, of Virginia
Scott Lindsay, of Michigan
Jared Ragland, of Maryland
Carolyn Shuckerow, of Virginia

For appointment as Foreign Service Officer of Class Four, Consular Officer and Secretary in the Diplomatic Service of the United States of America:
Bridget C. Riffle, of New York
Christopher Canellakis, of Massachusetts
Daniel Michael Pattarini, of Virginia
David A. Brock, of California
Donald Burton Cordell, of Virginia
Edward Howard Winant, of West Virginia
Holly D. Wilkerson, of Tennessee
Jennifer G. Handog, of Nevada
Kristina R. Hayden, of Virginia
Rebecca Catherine Alper, of Florida
Skye Spencer Justice, of West Virginia

The following-named Members of the Foreign Service to be Consular Officers and Secretaries in the Diplomatic Service of the United States of America:

Katie Marie Adamson, of Colorado
Ani A. Akinbiyi, of Maryland
Carlton B. Ammons, of Virginia
Laura Anikow, of Virginia
Benjamin D. Arterburn, of Kentucky
Oscar Alejandro Baez Mejia, of Massachusetts
Grover R. Battle, of North Carolina
Drew David Bazil, of Colorado
Daniel Alexander Boehmer, of Massachusetts
Evelina Bozek, of California
Diana Braunschweig, of California
Shannon S. Brown, of Florida
Elise Brumbach, of Pennsylvania
Sean Thomas Buckley, of the District of Columbia
Natalie Calvano, of Kentucky
Barrak Jeffrey Chaaban, of Virginia
Scott I. Cohen, of Virginia

James Trenton Core, of Utah
Sydney Alexis Cross, of Missouri
Thomas Louis Czerwinski, of Texas
Ranya Daher, of Virginia
Aleksander Daigle, of Virginia
Elon Michael Dando, of Minnesota
Quazi Rumman Dastgir, of the District of Columbia

James Davis II, of the District of Columbia
Paul W. Degennaro, of Virginia
Merrica Dominick, of Illinois
Alexander Fairbanks Douglas, of Virginia
Daniel A. Durazo, of California
Brian B. Duty, of California
Patrick R. Elliot, of Virginia
Christopher Frank Estoch, of Florida
Cavan Fabris, of California
Rebecca E. Fox, of Arizona
Destiny L. Freeman, of Virginia
Joseph Freeman, of Virginia
Katherine Diane Garry, of the District of Columbia

Jonas B. Gil, of Nevada
Brian Gilligan, of Virginia
Gayshiel Fayandy Grandison, of New York
Julia Groebacher, of Kansas
Joshua J. Hack, of Virginia
Matthew J. Harrier, of Missouri
Caitlin B. Hartford, of Washington
Thomas M. Hartman, of Virginia
Jeffrey W. Henry, of Virginia
Mark James Hitchcock, of California
Gregory Earl Holliday, of Virginia
Nina Elizabeth Horowitz, of Virginia
Phillip Christopher Hughey, of Virginia
Irina Itkin, of Indiana
Shayma Jannat, of Connecticut
Anton Philip Jongeneel, of California
Jehan Khaleeli, of the District of Columbia
Traci Thiessen Kidwell, of the District of Columbia

Daniel Edward Kight, of Ohio
Joseph Kim, of Michigan
Erin Leigh Kimsey, of North Carolina
Erica Samona King, of Texas
Kristine M. Knapp, of South Dakota
Leanne N. Koontz, of Virginia
Sheela E. Krishnan, of Virginia
Jon R. Larson, of the District of Columbia
James E. Laster, of Virginia
Kristin R. Laster, of Virginia
Joseph N. Leavitt, of Oregon
James S. Manlowe, of New Mexico
Michael John Marble, of Virginia
Michael Marcous, of Florida
Bria Mathews, of Missouri
Dwayne T. McDavid, of Nevada
Shaun M. McGuire, of Nevada
Sean P. McKeating, of Texas
Michael James Method II, of Alaska
Shay Suzanne Miller, of the District of Columbia

M D Mitchell, of Maine
Angela C. Mizeur, of the District of Columbia
Joseph M. Morbach, of Virginia
Khanh P. Nguyen, of Massachusetts
Kevin J. O'Connor, of California
Matthew D. Parry, of Alaska
Drew Nathaniel Peterson, of Vermont
Stephanie W. Peterson, of Minnesota
Richard T. Phillips, of South Dakota
Marissa Joy Polnerow, of New Jersey
Daniel Charles Rhodes, of the District of Columbia

Lois L. Ribich, of Virginia
Mirna S. Rivas, of Virginia
Amanda Roberson, of Arizona
William L. Romine, of Florida
Stephen V. Sass, of New Jersey
Bryan Scott Schiller, of Florida
Shiloh Anne Schlung, of Alaska
Jillian Schmitt, of Montana
Lynn Marie Segas, of California
Shan Shi, of Wisconsin
Colleen Smith, of Washington
Eric L. Smith, of Virginia
Marco Sherwood Sotelino, of Massachusetts
Hannah Taber, of Michigan

Jett Thomason, of Tennessee
 Michelle B. Thornburgh, of Virginia
 Ksharnika K. Tillery, of North Carolina
 Thao Ahn Nguyen Tran, of the District of Columbia
 Holly D. Turner, of the District of Columbia
 Melissa P. Tyborowski, of Connecticut
 Stephen E. Watson, of Virginia
 David Karl Wessel, of North Carolina
 James L. West, of Virginia
 Brad Michael Wilkinson, of Virginia
 Lisa Marie Wilkinson, of Virginia
 Anton Lee Wishik II, of Washington
 Angela Jean Wyse, of Michigan
 Duden Yegenoglu, of Georgia
 Matthew June Yi, of California
 Steven D. Zack, of Virginia
 David J. Zanni, of Virginia

Robert Stephen Beecroft, of California, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Iraq.

NOMINATION OF GONZALO P. CUIEL TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

NOMINATION OF ROBERT J. SHELBY TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF UTAH

Mr. REID. I now ask unanimous consent that the Senate consider the following nominations en bloc: Calendar Nos. 674, 675; that the Senate proceed to vote on the nominations in the order listed, without intervening action or debate; the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order to the nominations; that any statements related to the nominations be printed in the RECORD; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate then resume legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nominations.

The legislative clerk read the nominations of Gonzalo P. Curiel, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of California, and Robert J. Shelby, of Utah, to be United States District Judge for the District of Utah.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there any further debate?

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nominations of Gonzalo P. Curiel, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of California; and Robert J. Shelby, of Utah, to be United States District Judge for the District of Utah?

The nominations were confirmed.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, Senate Republicans' partisan obstructionism has reached a new low. There are 17 district court nominees pending before the Senate, and 12 of them would fill judicial emergency vacancies on our

Federal trial courts. In an unprecedented breaking from our tradition, Senate Republicans have decided that they will recess for the election and deny almost all of these consensus nominees confirmation. Worse, they have decided to extend the delays that Americans face in our overburdened Federal courts by denying new judges to those courts. We all know that justice delayed is justice denied. By denying confirmation votes to 15 of these 17 nominations, Senate Republicans are denying justice to the American people. By refusing to vote on these 15 nominations, Senate Republicans have declared that they are unconcerned about the millions of Americans who will continue to lack adequate access to our Federal courts and speedy justice.

Sadly this is just one more example of Senate Republicans putting partisanship ahead of the interests of the American people. The refusal to allow votes on consensus nominees has become standard operating procedure for Senate Republicans. They refused to vote on 10 judicial nominees at the end of 2009, left 19 judicial nominees pending at the end of 2010, and blocked votes on 19 judicial nominees pending at the end of 2011. It took through May of this year to clean up the backlog left from last year. Then in June Senate Republicans declared their shutdown of confirmations. I have served in the Senate for 37 years, and I have never seen so many judicial nominees, reported with bipartisan support, be denied a simple up-or-down vote for four months, five months, six months, even 11 months. I have never seen such twisted applications of their "Thurmond Rule" and never have I seen the Thurmond Rule used to block votes on consensus district court nominees. And if there was any doubt that Senate Republicans insist on being the party of "no", their current decision to deny votes on these highly-qualified, non-controversial district court nominees, supported by their home State Senators both Republican and Democratic, while our Federal courts still have almost 80 vacancies, shows that they care more about opposing this President's nominees than helping the American people.

Before the American people elected Barack Obama as our President, district court nominees were generally confirmed within a couple of weeks of being reported by the Judiciary Committee. This was true of those nominated by Republican Presidents and Democratic Presidents. Deference was traditionally afforded to home State Senators and district court nominees supported by home State Senators were almost always confirmed unanimously.

However, Senate Republicans have raised the level of partisanship so that district court nominees have now become wrapped around the axle of partisanship. And that is unfortunate. In just this year, the Majority Leader has

been forced to file cloture on 23 of President Obama's judicial nominees, including 19 district court nominees. Every single one of those 23 nominees had bipartisan support, and when the Senate was finally allowed to vote on them, all of the 22 who did receive an up-or-down vote were confirmed with votes from both Republican and Democratic Senators.

In spite of this unprecedented obstruction of President Obama's nominees, Senate Republicans are oblivious to their foot-dragging and the harm it is creating for Americans seeking justice from our Federal courts across the country.

There are currently 78 Federal judicial vacancies. Judicial vacancies during the last few years have been at historically high levels and have remained near or above 80 for nearly the entire first term of the President. Nearly one out of every 11 Federal judgeships is currently vacant. Vacancies on the Federal courts are more than two and one half times as many as they were on this date during the first term of President Bush. That is not what any objective observer would call "consistent progress."

The fact is that due to across-the-board obstruction by Senate Republicans, we remain well behind the pace we set during President Bush's first term. According to the Congressional Research Service, 95 percent of President Bush's district court nominees were confirmed in his first term. We would have had to confirm all 17 of the district court nominees the Majority Leader sought consent earlier this week, just to get close to parity with that level. Moreover, President Obama's district court nominees have been consistently stalled, being forced to wait nearly three times longer for a Senate vote once reported by the Judiciary Committee.

Nor has the Senate even been allowed to keep pace with the progress that Senate Democrats made on President Bush's district court nominees in 2008, the last year of his presidency. That year, the Committee reported 24 district court nominees and all 24 were confirmed. We continued holding hearings and the Committee reported and the Senate then confirmed nominees into September of that presidential election year. This year, the Senate has been allowed to confirm only 13 district court nominees reported this year. Because of Republican obstruction, the Senate has barely accomplished half of what we did in 2008.

Indeed, in September 2008, the Judiciary Committee held hearings on and then reported 10 district court nominees, all of whom were then confirmed by unanimous consent in that same month. Contrary to the assertion from the Republican leader, they were not backed up and long delayed. We did not do what Senate Republicans are now doing. We moved promptly on consensus trial court nominees. This year,

Republicans have backlogged consensus nominees who were reported in April, five months ago. None of these nominees has been pending for less than seven weeks. To date, the Senate has been allowed to confirm one district court nominee this September while 17 other Federal trial court nominees await Republicans agreeing to a vote so that they can be confirmed and get to work for the American people.

There are still far too many judicial vacancies and the Republican leader's efforts to slice and dice various numbers in ways most flattering to this obstruction do nothing to explain why we cannot make more progress. The Majority Leader is not "jamming" through nominees when he asks for votes that should have taken place before the Memorial Day, Fourth of July, and August recesses.

Despite the Republican filibuster against Caitlin Halligan to serve on the D.C. Circuit, Patty Shwartz of New Jersey to serve on the Third Circuit; their filibuster of Judge Barbara Keenan of Virginia to serve on the Fourth Circuit; their opposition to Justice Sonia Sotomayor, Justice Elena Kagan, Judge Jane Stranch of Tennessee to serve on the Sixth Circuit, Judge Susan Carney of Connecticut to serve on the Second Circuit, Judge Bernice Donald of Tennessee to serve on the Sixth Circuit, Judge Morgan Christen of Alaska to serve on the Ninth Circuit, Judge Stephanie Thacker of West Virginia to serve on the Fourth Circuit, Judge Jacqueline Nguyen of California to serve on the Ninth Circuit, Judge Nancy Freudenthal of the District of Wyoming, Judge Benita Pearson of the Northern District of Ohio, Judge Susan Hickey of the Western District of Arkansas, Judge Ali Nathan of the Southern District of New York, Judge Cathy Bissoon of the Western District of Pennsylvania, Judge Yvonne Rogers of the Northern District of California, Judge Sharon Gleason of the District of Alaska, Judge Cathy Bencivengo of the Southern District of California, Judge Margo Brodie of the Eastern District of New York, Judge Beth Phillips of the Western District of Missouri, Judge Gina Groh of the Northern District of West Virginia, Judge Ronnie Abrams of the Southern District of New York, Judge Susie Morgan of the Eastern District of Louisiana, Judge Miranda Du of the District of Nevada and Judge Mary Lewis of the District of South Carolina, there is one area in which we have been able to make progress in spite of Senate Republican obstruction. With the confirmation last week of Judge Stephanie Rose to the district court in Iowa, President Obama has already, in his fourth year in office, appointed as many women to the Federal bench as President Bush had in all eight years in which he was President. I hope that all Americans are proud of President Obama's outstanding effort to increase diversity in the Federal judiciary and

to ensure that it better reflects all Americans. Those commendable efforts are not preventing votes on the 17 Federal trial court nominees ready for final Senate action. Senate Republicans are preventing those votes.

I wish Senate Republicans approached this as something other than an ill-conceived game of tit for tat. This obstruction has real costs to the American people. Last week I inserted in the RECORD an article about the "Human Costs of Judicial Confirmation Delays." The author, Andrew Cohen, described the problems facing just one of our Nation's 94 district courts. In the Middle District of Pennsylvania, where there are two judicial emergency vacancies, a litigant had to wait nearly two months for an "urgent injunction hearing" because there "simply aren't enough federal judges in the Middle District of Pennsylvania to handle his case." In that District, senior judges have had to take on far more cases than they would otherwise. Four of those senior judges are at least 86 years old. The Chief Judge of that district called it an "absurdity." It is not fair to the senior judges, and it is not fair to the litigants who rely on the court to do justice. Two of the Federal trial court nominees being held hostage by Senate Republicans would fill judicial emergency vacancies in the Middle District of Pennsylvania.

This is just one example of the damage done to our courts by needlessly delayed confirmations. I have heard from judges around the country whose courts have vacancies, including in Illinois and Florida. They are working hard to keep their courts functioning, but they need help to ensure that all Americans have access to courts and to justice. There are also judicial emergency vacancies in California, New York and Illinois that we could have filled this week but Senate Republicans objected. Of the 17 district court nominees pending before the Senate a dozen would fill judicial emergency vacancies.

These longstanding vacancies are harming the American people, but it does not have to be this way. Americans seeking justice in Federal trial courts in California, Connecticut, and Utah should not have to wait five months for a judge because Senate Republicans will not proceed with nominations that have bipartisan support and have been considered and voted on by the Senate Judiciary Committee. Americans in Florida, Illinois, Maryland, Michigan, New York, Pennsylvania, and Oklahoma should not have to wait four and five extra months for their courtrooms to have judges. If we were keeping pace with what Senate Democrats did in President Bush's first term and as recently as 2008, those nominees would be confirmed. They would be hearing cases and providing justice today.

Some Senate Republicans have sought to justify their inaction on nominations by complaining that the

President has not sent us enough nominees. The fact is that there are 17 district court nominees who can be confirmed right now, including 12 who would fill emergency vacancies. The names of these 17 nominees have been printed in the Senate Executive Calendar every day for the last several months, every day since they were voted on by the Senate Judiciary Committee months ago. There is no excuse for not acting on them.

Today the Senate finally voted on the nomination of Gonzalo Curiel to fill a judicial emergency vacancy on the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of California. He has the support of his home State Senators, Senator FEINSTEIN and Senator BOXER. His nomination was reported with a virtually unanimous voice vote by the Judiciary Committee five months ago. The only objection came as a protest on another issue by Senator LEE.

Judge Curiel currently serves as a judge on the Superior Court of California in San Diego County. Prior to joining the State bench in 2006, Judge Curiel spent 17 years as a Federal prosecutor and 10 years in private practice. As a Federal prosecutor he rose to become Chief of the Narcotics Enforcement Section for the Southern District of California, and led the successful investigation and prosecution of a multi-billion dollar trafficking organization responsible for over 100 drug-related murders in the United States and Mexico.

The Senate finally voted on the nomination of Robert Shelby to fill a judicial emergency vacancy on the U.S. District Court for the District of Utah. He is currently a shareholder at the Salt Lake City law firm of Snow, Christensen & Martineau. After law school he served as a law clerk to Judge J. Thomas Greene in the District of Utah, the same court to which he is nominated. His nomination, which has the support of both of Utah's Senators, Senator HATCH and Senator LEE, was reported nearly unanimously by the Judiciary Committee by voice vote nearly five months ago.

Further delays on the 15 additional district court nominees still awaiting their confirmation votes do not help the American people. These nominees should be providing justice for the American people. Supreme Court Justice Anthony Kennedy said recently that this extreme partisanship erodes the public's confidence in our courts and "makes the judiciary look politicized when it is not, and it has to stop." He is right. If Senate Republicans have a good reason for why courts in California and Illinois and Michigan and New York and Pennsylvania should remain overburdened and unable to provide the quality and speedy justice Americans deserve, then I wish they would let the American people know what that reason is. The fact is, Senate Republicans have not explained their unprecedented obstruction of President Obama's consensus

nominees, they just try to pretend it does not exist. The American people know better, and they deserve better.

Americans are rightfully proud of our legal system and its promise of access to justice and speedy trials. This promise is embedded in our Constitution. When overburdened courts made it hard to keep this centuries-old promise, the Senate should work in a bipartisan manner to fill judgeships and to create and fill new judgeships. That is what Senate Democrats did when Ronald Reagan, George H.W. Bush, and George W. Bush were President. Since the American people elected President Obama, Senate Republicans have determined that they are no longer interested in whether or not our courts are able to meet this fundamental guarantee. They have decided that it is acceptable for hardworking Americans to wait two months for “urgent” hearings, and that the ten additional judicial emergency vacancies they could fill right now should remain vacant for no good reason. The American people deserve better.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now return to legislative session.

Mr. REID. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

EUROPEAN UNION EMISSIONS TRADING SCHEME PROHIBITION ACT OF 2011

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 484, S. 1956.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1956) to prohibit operators of civil aircraft of the United States from participating in the European Union's emissions trading scheme, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

S. 1956

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “European Union Emissions Trading Scheme Prohibition Act of 2011”.

SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON PARTICIPATION IN THE EUROPEAN UNION'S EMISSIONS TRADING SCHEME.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Transportation shall prohibit an operator of a civil air-

craft of the United States from participating in the emissions trading scheme unilaterally established by the European Union in EU Directive 2003/87/EC of October 13, 2003, as amended, in any case in which the Secretary determines the prohibition to be, and in a manner that is, in the public interest, taking into account—

(1) the impacts on U.S. consumers, U.S. carriers, and U.S. operators;

(2) the impacts on the economic, energy, and environmental security of the United States; and

(3) the impacts on U.S. foreign relations, including existing international commitments.

(b) PUBLIC HEARING.—After determining that a prohibition under this section may be in the public interest, the Secretary must hold a public hearing at least 30 days before imposing any prohibition.

SEC. 3. NEGOTIATIONS.

The Secretary of Transportation, the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration, and other appropriate officials of the United States Government—

(1) should, as appropriate, use their authority to conduct international negotiations, including using their authority to conduct international negotiations to pursue a worldwide approach to address aircraft emissions; and

(2) shall, as appropriate, take other actions under existing authorities that are in the public interest necessary to hold operators of civil aircraft of the United States harmless from the emissions trading scheme referred to under section 2.

SEC. 4. DEFINITION OF CIVIL AIRCRAFT OF THE UNITED STATES.

In this Act, the term “civil aircraft of the United States” has the meaning given the term under section 40102(a) of title 49, United States Code.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I would like to thank my colleague from Oregon, Mr. MERKLEY, for working with the Senator from Missouri, Mrs. MCCASKILL, and me today to address his concerns with our bipartisan bill, S. 1956, the European Union Emissions Trading Scheme Prohibition Act. The amendment, which he has filed for consideration and which is currently running through the hotline process, reconfirms that the Secretary of Transportation's responsibility to determine there is a public interest before taking any action does not end after the first determination. Instead, it is an ongoing responsibility.

The amendment that Mr. MERKLEY has filed, and which I support, clarifies that it is the Secretary's right to reassess the public interest determination. Additionally, the amendment clarifies that if the EU ETS is amended, if there is an international agreement on aviation emissions, or if a Federal public law is enacted that addresses aviation emissions, that the Secretary will again revisit the public interest determination.

Again, I would like to thank the Senator from Oregon for working with me, and I look forward to passage of S. 1956.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported amendment be considered, the Cardin and Merkley amendments at the desk be agreed to, the committee-reported amendment, as amended, be agreed to, the bill, as amended, be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid

upon the table, and any statements relating to this bill be printed in the RECORD.

I would also extend my appreciation to all Senators who have been involved in this contentious issue—for a while, at least—and especially Senator THUNE, who has helped us work through this and a number of other things.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendments were agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: To prohibit the use of taxpayer dollars to pay taxes and penalties imposed on United States air carriers pursuant to the European Union emissions trading scheme)

Beginning on page 5, strike line 14 and all that follows through page 6, line 2, and insert the following:

SEC. 3. NEGOTIATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Transportation, the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration, and other appropriate officials of the United States Government—

(1) should, as appropriate, use their authority to conduct international negotiations, including using their authority to conduct international negotiations to pursue a worldwide approach to address aircraft emissions, including the environmental impact of aircraft emissions; and

(2) shall, as appropriate and except as provided in subsection (b), take other actions under existing authorities that are in the public interest necessary to hold operators of civil aircraft of the United States harmless from the emissions trading scheme referred to under section 2.

(b) EXCLUSION OF PAYMENT OF TAXES AND PENALTIES.—Actions taken under subsection (a)(2) may not include the obligation or expenditure of any amounts in the Airport and Airway Trust Fund established under section 9905 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or amounts otherwise made available to the Department of Transportation or any other Federal agency pursuant to appropriations Acts, for the payment of any tax or penalty imposed on an operator of civil aircraft of the United States pursuant to the emissions trading scheme referred to under section 2.

(Purpose: To provide for the reassessment by the Secretary of Transportation of a determination that it is in the public interest to prohibit operators of civil aircraft of the United States from participating in the European Union's emissions trading scheme)

On page 5, between lines 13 and 14, insert the following:

(c) REASSESSMENT OF DETERMINATION OF PUBLIC INTEREST.—The Secretary—

(1) may reassess a determination under subsection (a) that a prohibition under that subsection is in the public interest at any time after making such a determination; and

(2) shall reassess such a determination after—

(A) any amendment by the European Union to the EU Directive referred to in subsection (a); or

(B) the adoption of any international agreement pursuant to section 3(1).

(C) enactment of a public law or issuance of a final rule after formal agency rulemaking, in the United States to address aircraft emissions.

The committee-reported amendment in the nature of a substitute, as amended, was agreed to.

The bill (S. 1956), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 1956

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “European Union Emissions Trading Scheme Prohibition Act of 2011”.

SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON PARTICIPATION IN THE EUROPEAN UNION'S EMISSIONS TRADING SCHEME.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Transportation shall prohibit an operator of a civil aircraft of the United States from participating in the emissions trading scheme unilaterally established by the European Union in EU Directive 2003/87/EC of October 13, 2003, as amended, in any case in which the Secretary determines the prohibition to be, and in a manner that is, in the public interest, taking into account—

(1) the impacts on U.S. consumers, U.S. carriers, and U.S. operators;

(2) the impacts on the economic, energy, and environmental security of the United States; and

(3) the impacts on U.S. foreign relations, including existing international commitments.

(b) PUBLIC HEARING.—After determining that a prohibition under this section may be in the public interest, the Secretary must hold a public hearing at least 30 days before imposing any prohibition.

(c) REASSESSMENT OF DETERMINATION OF PUBLIC INTEREST.—The Secretary—

(1) may reassess a determination under subsection (a) that a prohibition under that subsection is in the public interest at any time after making such a determination; and

(2) shall reassess such a determination after—

(A) any amendment by the European Union to the EU Directive referred to in subsection (a); or

(B) the adoption of any international agreement pursuant to section 3(1).

(C) enactment of a public law or issuance of a final rule after formal agency rule-making, in the United State to address aircraft emissions.

SEC. 3. NEGOTIATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Transportation, the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration, and other appropriate officials of the United States Government—

(1) should, as appropriate, use their authority to conduct international negotiations, including using their authority to conduct international negotiations to pursue a worldwide approach to address aircraft emissions, including the environmental impact of aircraft emissions; and

(2) shall, as appropriate and except as provided in subsection (b), take other actions under existing authorities that are in the public interest necessary to hold operators of civil aircraft of the United States harmless from the emissions trading scheme referred to under section 2.

(b) EXCLUSION OF PAYMENT OF TAXES AND PENALTIES.—Actions taken under subsection (a)(2) may not include the obligation or expenditure of any amounts in the Airport and Airway Trust Fund established under section 9905 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or amounts otherwise made available to the Department of Transportation or any other Federal agency pursuant to appropriations Acts, for the payment of any tax or penalty imposed on an operator of civil aircraft of

the United States pursuant to the emissions trading scheme referred to under section 2.

SEC. 4. DEFINITION OF CIVIL AIRCRAFT OF THE UNITED STATES.

In this Act, the term “civil aircraft of the United States” has the meaning given the term under section 40102(a) of title 49, United States Code.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

CHANGES TO THE SENATE RULES

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, the institution of the Senate is unique in its robust protections of the rights of the minority. In establishing our democracy, our Founders warned of the dangers of a tyrannical majority, and through our history as a country the Senate has stood, often alone, against that threat. One of the essential aspects of the Senate is the ability of 41 Senators, a minority, to defeat a measure if they are willing to talk and there are not 60 Senators who will vote to end the talking. Throughout the history of the Senate, the minority has usually used its right to thwart the will of the majority judiciously and only on measures of the greatest importance. Without that self-restraint, we would be exchanging a tyranny of the majority for a tyranny of the minority, and, indeed, that could mean a tiny minority.

That important quality of self-restraint is essential for the proper functioning of the Senate. With this quality, the Senate can debate, negotiate, and compromise; and without it, the result is gridlock. In a legislative body where extended debate is a central principle, self-restraint is what allows the gears of government to eventually turn. The Senate cannot operate without it.

It is that self-restraint that is too often missing in today's Senate. It is one reason for the low public approval of Congress. In fact, scholars of the Congress have noted an unprecedented change in the functioning of the Senate. In his testimony before the Senate Rules Committee on May 19, 2010, Norm Ornstein said:

The sharp increase in cloture motions reflects the routinization of the filibuster; it's used not as a tool of last resort for a minor-

ity that feels intensely about a major issue but as a weapon to delay and obstruct on nearly all matters, including routine and widely supported ones. It is fair to say that this has never happened before in the history of the Senate.

Wait, some might say, the Senate seems to have plenty of debate, perhaps too much. But the sad fact is, in today's Senate, a small minority of Senators routinely block the Senate from even beginning debate on legislation by filibustering or more accurately, perhaps, threaten to filibuster the motion to proceed to legislation. Without 60 votes to end debate on the motion to proceed, the Senate is routinely blocked from even beginning debate on critical legislation, making negotiation and compromise on legislation far more difficult.

Mr. Ornstein is right. The routine threat of a filibuster is an abuse of the rules. Just consider the number of filibusters of the motions to proceed. From the time the cloture rule was first extended to cover the motion to proceed in 1949 to 1990, 41 years, the Senate saw a total of 53 filibusters on the motion to proceed. During those years, Senate minorities would filibuster no more than a handful of motions to proceed during any single Congress. In recent years, the numbers of filibusters have exploded. Now, it is not uncommon for the Senate to see dozens of filibusters of the motions to proceed during any single Congress, as has been the case in the last 2 years. Where is the self-restraint?

Why is this so important? Why should the country care if a small group of Senators block the Senate from doing its work? What is at stake? In my opinion, the stakes could not be higher.

Over and over again, the Senate is forced to waste time just on the question of whether to begin debate on a bill. The process of threatening a filibuster and requiring cloture on every motion to proceed, including the mandatory postcloture debate time of 30 hours under the Senate rules, can consume a week of the Senate's time. That is a full week of the Senate's time consumed just by the question of whether to begin debate on a bill. Where is the self-restraint?

Does self-restraint mean that Senators must abandon long-held positions or violate principle? Of course not. Throughout the history of the Senate, Senators have fought fiercely for their positions and beliefs. Still, at some point, the fighting stopped and agreements were struck. That is the way of every legislative body. The majority's ability to act is what allows other legislative bodies to function. Self-restraint is what separates a functioning U.S. Senate from a broken one. It is what separates a Senate that is capable of doing the Nation's business from a Senate that is prevented from even beginning a debate on that business. The lack of self-restraint is the root of the problem the Senate faces.

In the Senate, a tension has always existed between the majority that wishes to enact legislation and the minority that wishes to amend or defeat it. That tension is not unique to today's Senate. The rules of the Senate have always provided the minority with an arsenal of parliamentary weapons to counter a determined majority. For instance, if a majority leader blocks the minority from offering amendments to a bill, then the minority can filibuster the legislation and deny it passage if it lacks 60 votes. The ability to extend debate and deny cloture are powerful tools that the minority can use to prevent the Senate from acting.

On the other hand, short of 60 votes, Senate rules do not provide a tool for the majority to counter an obstructionist minority. The majority leader could offer a minority days, weeks, or months of debate and endless amendments to a bill, but nothing in the rules of this body would allow the majority to even begin debate if a unified minority filibusters the motion to proceed, which it does now routinely.

Republicans insist that they filibuster motions to proceed because the majority leader fills the amendment tree and blocks consideration of minority amendments. That rationale could justify a filibuster of a bill after the Senate begins its consideration and the leader fills the tree. It does not justify the routine filibusters of the motion to proceed.

The Senate must strike a balance between protecting the rights of the minority and the need of the Senate to function better. To limit the consideration of the motion to proceed would not stifle debate; in fact, it would help ensure Senators have the opportunity to have a debate.

As a practical matter, we will have little chance of ending the filibuster on the motion to proceed unless we, at the same time, assure the minority opportunities to offer and vote on amendments, forcing them to filibuster the bill itself in order to gain that assurance.

According to the Senate rules, any change to those rules can be adopted by a simple majority vote. However, rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate requires an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the Senators present and voting in order to invoke cloture and end debate on a proposed change to the rules. This extraordinarily high threshold has prevented most attempts to amend the rules of the Senate.

Some of our colleagues believe the rules of the Senate can be changed outside the auspices of the Senate rules. They say the U.S. Constitution allows a simple majority to change the Senate rules. They call it "the constitutional option;" others call it "the nuclear option." Supporters of the constitutional option point out that the Constitution endows each House of Congress with the authority to establish its own rules of proceedings. Accordingly, at the be-

ginning of every Congress, the House of Representatives adopts rules by a majority vote. Those rules govern proceedings of the House for only the term of that Congress. Supporters of the constitutional option argue the Constitution empowers the Senate to do the same.

The mechanics of the constitutional option are fairly straightforward. One such approach to this option would occur as follows. At the beginning of a Congress, a Senator would offer a resolution adopting Senate rules. The resolution would be filibustered, and so cloture would be filed. Cloture would yield an affirmative vote of a simple majority, but not the two-thirds necessary to end debate as described in rule XXII. Supporters of the resolution would raise a constitutional point of order, which the Presiding Officer, presumably the Vice President, would sustain under this scenario. The chair's ruling would be appealed, and finally the appeal would be tabled by a simple majority vote. And just like that, the Senate could become a simple majoritarian body.

Historically, of course, the Senate has not adopted its rules at the beginning of a Congress as the House does. In fact, Senate rules explicitly address this. According to rule V of the Standing Rules of the Senate, "The rules of the Senate shall continue from one Congress to the next Congress unless they are changed as provided in these rules." Rule V makes clear that the Senate is a continuing body. Indeed, only one-third of its membership is up for election every 2 years while the other two-thirds of its membership continue their service into the new Congress, which is why a quorum in the Senate is continuously in being from Congress to Congress.

Both supporters and opponents of the constitutional option have compelling arguments, but none of them are new. This question has been debated for decades. Confronting the same question in 1949, Senator Arthur Vandenberg, one of my predecessors from Michigan, said:

I continue to believe that the rules of the Senate are as important to equity and order in the Senate as is the Constitution to the life of the Republic, and that those rules should never be changed except by the Senate itself, in the direct fashion prescribed by the rules themselves. One of the immutable truths in Washington's Farewell Address, which cannot be altered even by changing events in a changing world, is the following sentence: The Constitution, which at any time exists, until changed by an explicit and authentic act of the whole people, is sacredly obligatory upon all.' I respectfully submit as a basic explanation of my attitude, that I accept this admonition without reservation, and I think it is equally applicable to the situation which Senators here confront, though obviously the comparison cannot be literal. . . . [T]he Father of his Country said to us, by analogy, 'The rules of the Senate, which at any time exist, until changed by an explicit and authentic act of the whole Senate, are sacredly obligatory upon all.'

Senator Vandenberg continued:

I have heard it erroneously argued in the cloakrooms that since the Senate rules themselves authorize a change in the rules through due legislative process by a majority vote, it is within the spirit of the rules when we reach the same net result by a majority vote of the Senate upholding a parliamentary ruling of the Vice President which, in effect, changes the rules. This would appear to be some sort of doctrine of amendment by proxy. It is argued that the Senate itself makes the change in both instances by majority vote; and it is asked, What is the difference? Of course, this is really an argument that the end justifies the means.

Senator Vandenberg continued:

When a substantive change is made in the rules by sustaining a ruling of the Presiding Officer of the Senate—and that is what I contend is being undertaken here—it does not mean that the rules are permanently changed. It simply means that regardless of precedent or traditional practice, the rules hereafter, mean whatever the Presiding Officer of the Senate, plus a simple majority of Senators voting at the time, want the rules to mean. We fit the rules to the occasion, instead of fitting the occasion to the rules. Therefore, in the final analysis, under such circumstances, there are no rules except the transient, unregulated wishes of a majority of whatever quorum is temporarily in control of the Senate. That, Mr. President, is not my idea of the greatest deliberative body in the world. . . . No matter how important [the pending issue's] immediate incidence may seem to many today, the integrity of the Senate's rules is our paramount concern, today, tomorrow, and so long as this great institution lives.

Mr. President, the November elections are upon us. I believe it is important to lay out my position on the constitutional option now, before we know the outcome of the election and the makeup of the Senate next year. I believe one's position on this question is so essential to the nature and the future of the Senate that it should not be dependent upon the outcome of an election but upon the best interests of this institution.

I believe the so-called constitutional option to change the rules of the Senate, if actually implemented, would turn the Senate into a legislative body where the majority can, whenever it wishes, run roughshod over the rights of the minority. My frustration with the recent abuses of the rules does not overwhelm my duty to defend the uniqueness and integrity of this great institution.

With that in mind, I suggest a change to the Senate rules that would provide the majority leader with an additional procedural option that preserves his ability to control the floor while maintaining the necessary 60-vote threshold to end debate. This alternative procedure would avoid the filibuster on the motion to proceed, preserve the ability of the majority leader to fill the amendment tree, but at the same time ensure all Senators have the ability to offer and have votes on relevant, timely filed amendments prior to a vote on final passage of a measure.

Using this procedure, the majority leader could move to proceed to the consideration of a measure with only

relevant amendments in order. When a motion to proceed is made in such form, the consideration of that motion would be limited to 2 hours. If the Senate adopted that motion, then Senators would have until 1 p.m. the following session day to file relevant, first-degree amendments and until 1 p.m. the session day after that to file relevant, second-degree amendments.

This procedure would guarantee that any Senator who has a timely filed, relevant amendment could offer that amendment prior to final passage, even if the amendment tree is filled. For example, if the Senate is considering a bill under this procedure and the amendment tree is filled, following disposition of all pending amendments but prior to the third reading, it would be in order for any Senator with a relevant, timely filed amendment to call up that amendment. Once pending, that amendment would need to be disposed of before final passage.

While this procedure would expedite the process to begin consideration of a bill, it would not abandon the essential principle that a supermajority is necessary to bring debate to a close on a bill in the Senate. Nothing under this procedure would deny Senators his or her right to extended debate on a bill, unless, of course, 60 or more Senators vote to invoke cloture. Aside from the filing deadlines, the only substantive change from the current cloture process would be the application of a relevancy standard rather than the conventional germaneness standard. Only relevant amendments would be in order only if the majority leader opted to use this alternative approach to moving to proceed.

This procedure would not be needed or even appropriate for every bill that is placed on the calendar. But for some bills, the majority leader might view this alternative procedure as a useful tool that could help both the majority and the minority achieve their aims. And should this alternative procedure prove to be ineffective, the majority leader could always abandon it for regular order, and if the right to get votes on relevant amendments is abused by filing a dilatory number of relevant amendments, the majority leader would simply not utilize the option.

As I said, an election season is upon us. We will soon recess, and only after November 6 will we know who will hold a majority in this body. My support for ending the current motion to proceed process will be there after the election, regardless which party controls the Senate in the next Congress. My goal is not to gain partisan advantage but to protect the unique role of the Senate. Increasingly, after facing years of excessive obstruction, some Members on my side of the aisle see the filibuster as an archaic procedure that prevents the Senate from addressing the pressing needs of the Nation. I suspect that some of my friends in the minority today, if in the majority sometime in the future, will find the filibuster

equally frustrating to their own efforts. We face an increasing danger that, in order to end the gridlock that prevents either side from offering solutions to the challenges we face, pressure to severely reduce minority rights will become irresistible.

If we are to preserve the Senate's function as a check on haste, as a haven for minority views, we must ensure that protection of minority rights is no longer a barrier to any and all action. Limiting excessive filibusters on the motion to proceed is one modest change we can make that addresses this crisis without changing the Senate's fundamental character. I ask my colleagues to consider carefully whether a change in the present might be necessary to avoid more radical change in the future.

REMEMBERING NEIL A. ARMSTRONG

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I rise today in celebration of the life and career of Neil A. Armstrong. Americans and people around the world paused when Mr. Armstrong passed away on August 25, 2012, to recall his heroic accomplishments and historic legacy.

Neil Armstrong is remembered as a man who pushed the frontiers of space exploration and engineering. Over the course of his life and service to the Nation, he promoted the idea of never doubting what is possible. He inspired countless young men and women to pursue careers in science and engineering, many of whom became aeronautics workers at facilities like the Stennis Space Center in Mississippi.

Mr. Armstrong was born in Wapakoneta, OH, on August 5, 1930. He received a Bachelor of Science in Aerospace Engineering from Purdue University, a Master of Science in Aerospace Engineering from the University of California, and received honorary doctorates from multiple universities.

Mr. Armstrong embarked on a remarkable career that would involve his flying more than 200 different models of aircraft including jets, rockets, helicopters and gliders.

From 1949 to 1952, Mr. Armstrong served as a naval aviator, and in 1955 joined the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, now the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. From 1955 through 1972, he served as an engineer, test pilot, astronaut, and administrator for our Nation's ambitious space program.

Mr. Armstrong's transfer to astronaut status in 1962 led to his performing the first successful docking of two vehicles in space in March 1966 as the command pilot for Gemini 8. Mr. Armstrong subsequently became commander for Apollo 11, the first manned lunar mission, and was the first man to land a craft on the moon. At 10:56 p.m. ET on July 20, 1969, Neil Armstrong became the first man to step on the surface of the moon. It was one of the defining moments of the 20th century and

one of the proudest days for the American people.

Following his career with NASA, Mr. Armstrong was a Professor of Aerospace Engineering at the University of Cincinnati between 1971 and 1979. Mr. Armstrong was decorated by 17 countries and was the recipient of many special honors including: the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the Congressional Gold Medal, the Congressional Space Medal of Honor, the Explorers Club Medal, the Robert H. Goddard Memorial Trophy, the NASA Distinguished Service Medal, the Harmon International Aviation Trophy, the Royal Geographic Society's Gold Medal, the Federal Aeronautique Internationale's Gold Space Medal, the American Astronautical Society Flight Achievement Award, the Robert J. Collier Trophy, the AIAA Astronautics Award, the Octave Chanute Award, and the John J. Montgomery Award.

Mr. Armstrong will be remembered not only for his famous words as he stepped foot on the moon—"That's one small step for a man, one giant leap for mankind"—but more importantly for inspiring generations of people around the world to explore and push the boundaries of what they believe is possible. Neil Armstrong was a true American hero who will be missed by many, but never forgotten.

CAPACITY TO IMPLEMENT THE ACA

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, the Supreme Court decision on the Affordable Care Act has put the brakes on Medicaid expansion for now.

The Federal Government can no longer force States to expand their Medicaid programs.

With the expansion and the billions of dollars that States would have had to spend on hold, and as we look at solutions to address our 16 trillion dollar national debt, now is a good time for us to step back and ask what role health care should play for States in our Federal system.

Mr. President, as of today, the primary function of a state is health administration—not primary and secondary education, not public safety, not roads and bridges.

According to the National Association of State Budget Officers, Medicaid is the single largest spending line in state budgets at 23.6 percent.

The economic downturn and high unemployment have resulted in an increase in Medicaid enrollment as individuals lose job-based coverage and incomes decline.

Medicaid enrollment increased by 5.1 percent during fiscal 2011 and is estimated to increase by 3.3 percent in fiscal 2012.

In governors' recommended budgets for fiscal 2013, Medicaid enrollment would rise by an additional 3.6 percent.

This would represent a 12.5 percent increase in Medicaid enrollment over this three year period.

Medicaid enrollment surged during the economic downturn with enrollment rising by 7.2 percent from June 2009 to June 2010.

Although Medicaid enrollment is easing for now, the implementation of the Affordable Care Act would have greatly increased the individuals served in the Medicaid program in 2014 and thereafter.

The Affordable Care Act, as passed, required States to cover all childless adults beginning in 2014 under Medicaid that heretofore had not been covered.

The expansion to 138 percent of the poverty level was expected to cover 16 million people.

States would get 100 percent of the cost of new individuals enrolled paid for by the Federal Government for the first several years before the Federal payment levels for those new individuals would fall to approximately 92 percent.

The Supreme Court rejected the mandatory expansion.

Quoting from the Supreme Court ruling

The threatened loss of over 10 percent of a State's overall budget is economic dragooning that leaves the States with no real option but to acquiesce in the Medicaid expansion.

The Government claims that the expansion is properly viewed as only a modification of the existing program, and that this modification is permissible because Congress reserved the "right to alter, amend, or repeal any provision" of Medicaid.

But the expansion accomplishes a shift in kind, not merely degree.

The original program was designed to cover medical services for particular categories of vulnerable individuals.

Under the Affordable Care Act, Medicaid is transformed into a program to meet the health care needs of the entire nonelderly population with income below 133 percent of the poverty level.

A State could hardly anticipate that Congress's reservation of the right to alter or amend the Medicaid program included the power to transform it so dramatically.

The Medicaid expansion thus violates the Constitution by threatening States with the loss of their existing Medicaid funding if they decline to comply with the expansion.

As a result of the Supreme Court ruling, the Federal Government can no longer threaten the States with withdrawal of all Federal Medicaid funding if States do not expand their Medicaid programs.

States now have the option to expand coverage.

Several States have now suggested they will not expand in 2014.

The Congressional Budget Office now estimates that only one-third of the potential newly eligible population will reside in States that choose to fully extend coverage.

According to CBO, about one-half of the potential newly eligible population will reside in States that only partially extend Medicaid coverage.

The remainder, about one-sixth of the potential newly eligible population, will reside in States that do not extend Medicaid coverage at all in the next decade.

CBO's predicted Medicaid coverage under the Affordable Care Act has been reduced by 35 percent.

Clearly CBO accepts the proposition that if States are not forced to extend coverage to the ACA mandatory population, they will not.

Mr. President, right before the August recess my office released a report from the Government Accountability Office on State capacity to meet the Medicaid requirements under the ACA.

It shows why CBO's skepticism is appropriate.

The report discusses challenges States are facing with information technology, guidance from CMS, and the budgetary uncertainty of increased enrollment of those currently eligible for Medicaid.

The GAO surveyed the States and found that the vast majority expect to have additional costs related to administering their current program, developing eligibility systems, enrolling newly eligible individuals and enrolling additional individuals who are currently eligible.

The GAO focused particularly on the challenges faced by States in updating their eligibility systems.

In the report, GAO found four main deterrents to States as they consider the challenge of expanding their eligibility systems to meet the goal of Medicaid expansion.

First, many States face a lengthy procurement process as they look to upgrade their technology to handle expansion.

Second, designing new eligibility systems is complex and may involve the replacement of existing, outdated systems.

Third, States often have systems that operate across multiple programs further increasing the cost and complexity of upgrading.

Fourth, as States have fought against their own budgetary problems, many have reduced personnel resources to manage projects as complex as Medicaid expansion.

The GAO further found problems with the guidance CMS has been providing the States.

30 of the 36 responding to the GAO survey found that CMS guidance was only slightly useful or not useful at all.

Mr. President, many outside observers have treated the expansion of Medicaid as a foregone conclusion, that States couldn't possibly turn down so much supposedly "free money."

The evidence from CBO and GAO is crystal clear.

When the Federal Government is involved, there's no such thing as a free lunch.

States absolutely can turn down the option to expand and every State faces a difficult decision in how they choose to move forward.

However, Mr. President, the Medicaid expansion in the Affordable Care Act is not the only fiscal pressure States face from the health care administration.

One of the most expensive and complex populations receiving Federal health care services are those dually eligible for Medicare and Medicaid, commonly referred to as DUALS.

They are poorer, sicker and often in need of more extensive and expensive coordinated care.

The inefficiency created in the misaligned incentives of the Medicare and Medicaid programs is frequently cited as one of the areas in health care in greatest need of reform.

The Affordable Care Act created an office in CMS charged with creating demonstration projects to allow for greater coordination of dual eligibles.

Those demonstration projects have been moving forward at breakneck pace with as many as 26 States looking to participate.

Essentially all the demonstrations seek to give States greater control of the acute care of dual eligibles.

CMS has legal authority under the ACA to take these demonstrations nationally if they are successful.

Many outside groups are concerned about the size, scope and pace at which demonstrations are proceeding citing California's initial proposal to take control of one million dual eligibles as an example of the outsized nature of the demonstrations.

In July, Senator ROCKEFELLER wrote a strongly worded letter to CMS suggesting they should halt the demonstrations for similar reasons.

Mr. President, no one argues that the way Medicare and Medicaid coordinate for dual eligibles works.

Coordination today is akin to asking my wife and me to compose a letter with her writing the consonants and my writing the vowels.

Giving the States greater control of duals may be the right answer, but when you consider the fiscal challenges faced by States, this should be a decision considered by Congress examining all possible alternatives rather than something occurring through regulatory action.

Finally, the Affordable Care Act gives States broad leeway in creating State-based Exchanges.

These State exchanges are the mechanism where people with incomes above Medicaid eligibility will go to get health insurance.

It would be an understatement to say the States haven't moved very rapidly to get these Exchanges up and running.

I do acknowledge that many States may have been waiting for the Supreme Court ruling before moving ahead with their Exchanges.

However, I do think it remains equally plausible that States are moving cautiously as they look at one more role in health care where they are being asked to expand.

Mr. President, for the States, health care is a chaotic mess.

The Federal Government is asking the States to take greater roles in administering coverage for the uninsured in Medicaid, the dually eligible and the uninsured in the private sector.

As we move forward in 2013, we will revisit, perhaps repeal, the Affordable Care Act.

We will examine proposals to reign in the cost of our health care entitlements.

Mr. President, as we do so, I strongly recommend we step back and reconsider what is the appropriate role for health care in our Federal system.

In July, Robert Samuelson wrote in the Washington Post about a proposal often associated with my friend from Tennessee, Senator ALEXANDER, known as the “grand swap.”

In this proposal, the Federal Government would assume all responsibility for Medicaid and the States would assume all responsibility for education.

Samuelson raises the proposal because, in his words,

Only the federal government can devise a solution to control health costs; concentrating government health spending at the federal level would intensify pressures to do so.

States have tried mightily to control spending with at best partial success.

For example, Medicaid reimbursement rates average only 72 percent of Medicare levels.

The low rates have caused some doctors not to accept Medicaid patients.

Mr. President, Samuelson raises a significant question, which Congress needs to consider in entitlement reform.

Congress should consider what States should do in health care and what are reasonable expectations.

If Congress wants States to administer benefits for the aged, blind and disabled, and low income individuals along with managing the exchanges for individuals with incomes up to 400 percent of poverty, Congress can do so.

If health care is the primary responsibility of States, it is because of decisions made by Congress.

If States are being asked to do so while also overseeing education, public safety, roads and bridges and meet in most cases a balanced budget requirement, Congress should temper its expectations regarding the resources States will be able to devote to health care.

With significant restructuring of Medicare and Medicaid possible in 2013, we should use this as an opportunity to reconsider the role of the States in providing health care coverage inclusive of populations and services.

What we ask of the States should be thoughtfully considered in any reform discussion.

RECOGNIZING TAIWAN'S NATIONAL DAY

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the people and leaders of the Republic of China on Taiwan as they prepare to celebrate the

hundred-and-first anniversary of the founding of their country on October 10.

I would like to highlight Taiwan's economic successes over the last century—a success that has rightly been called a miracle. In just several decades, the people of Taiwan have transformed their economy from a recipient of American aid into one of our most important trade partners. The world economy relies upon Taiwan's computer chip foundries, and the whole world benefits from the entrepreneurial spirit and inventiveness of Taiwan's people.

Looking forward to the future of our relationship with Taiwan, I believe it will be essential to take bold new steps to strengthen the ties between us. In particular, it is past time for Washington to negotiate a free trade agreement with Taiwan. That would be the first and most important step we could take to demonstrate our continued dedication to this relationship.

I also wish to take this opportunity to congratulate Ambassador Jason Yuan, who has ably represented Taiwan in the United States for the past 4 years, on his new appointment to serve as Secretary-General of the National Security Council of Taiwan. I am deeply grateful for his hard work to further strengthen the ties between our two countries, and I wish Ambassador and Madame Yuan the very best of luck in their future endeavors.

In closing, I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating the people of Taiwan on their many successes, and to recommit ourselves to strengthening this essential relationship. As we look forward to Taiwan's national celebration, the people of both the United States and the Republic of China on Taiwan have much to celebrate.

TRIBUTE TO GENERAL NORTON A. SCHWARTZ

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, today I rise to honor GEN Norton A. Schwartz. General Schwartz will soon officially retire after 39 years as an Air Force officer, the last 4 spent as Chief of Staff. Throughout his career, on the front lines and in the “corporate” Air Force, General Schwartz served our Nation selflessly and ably, with dedication and distinction.

I came to know General Schwartz when he was appointed Chief of Staff of the Air Force in August 2008. He began his leadership at a very difficult time. Controversy surrounded the Air Force's acquisition activities and the control of our Nation's nuclear arsenal. The Air Force's attempt to acquire aerial refueling tanker aircraft had been mired in scandal and missteps, while the service had just come off two incidents of mishandling nuclear missiles and related materials.

General Schwartz established a command climate that helped the service make the changes needed to address these issues. For example, General

Schwartz insisted on fully restoring excellence and integrity to the Air Force's acquisition workforce and practices. He succeeded. After years of failed attempts to get the tanker replacement program under contract, the Air Force conducted a source-selection for the program, under full-and-open competition, that serves as a textbook example of how the Department of Defense should award contracts for its largest and most expensive weapon systems. Today, the Air Force's strategy to acquire these tankers is sound. It can certainly be said that under General Schwartz's leadership, this program is, for the first time in its checkered history, well-positioned for success.

Through his thoughtful temperament and purposeful humility, General Schwartz also helped restore Congress's confidence in the Air Force's acquisition practices and its management of the critical national security resources entrusted to it. For this, both the warfighter and the taxpayer will remain in his debt.

During public hearings before the Armed Services Committee and in our private meetings, I always appreciated General Schwartz's “straight talk” about Air Force programs and operations. Despite his unwavering dedication to the Air Force, General Schwartz was never afraid to talk about the hard truths, to propose solutions to problems, and to see those solutions through. Neither was he shy about lauding the many excellent people and accomplishments of the Air Force.

So I extend a grateful nation's thanks to GEN Norton A. Schwartz and his wife Suzie for their service to our Nation and wish them every success in the next chapter in their life together.

POSTAL REFORM

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, the Postal Service's financial crisis continues to escalate.

At the end of this month, the U.S. Postal Service will miss the deadline for the required \$5.6 billion payment toward its future retiree health care obligations. In fact, the Postal Service will have defaulted on more than \$11 billion in payments to fund health care for future retirees, raising concerns about its ability to keep promises to current workers about their future benefits.

Five months ago, the Senate passed by a strong bipartisan vote legislation to shore up the Postal Service. Yet the House has failed to act. And unfortunately, the House is about to adjourn without taking up either the Senate-passed postal bill or a House version.

I have implored House leaders to take up postal reform legislation—any postal reform legislation—so the conference process and the difficult negotiations involved in that process can begin in earnest.

No one should pretend this is not a crisis worthy of congressional action.

The Postal Service has lost more than \$13 billion during the past 2 years and is losing \$25 million each day. It will reach its credit limit of \$15 billion by the end of the year. Despite the fact that Congress has deferred or reduced the Postal Service's payments for future retiree health benefits multiple times, the Postal Service has still reported billions of dollars in deficits—clear evidence that its fiscal woes go far beyond this requirement.

The Senate bill passed in April ensures those promises to future retirees will be kept, while still providing financial relief by restructuring the payment plan in a responsible way.

Much is at stake. Without legislative reforms, the universal mail service that drives a trillion-dollar mail industry and supports more than 8 million jobs will be in jeopardy.

A key reason for the Postal Service's crisis is simply a changing world, where more and more communication is online rather than via traditional mail. First-class mail volume has fallen by 26 percent over the past 6 years and continues to decline. Reflecting that sharp drop in volume, the Postal Service's revenue has also plummeted from \$72.8 billion in 2006 to \$65.7 billion in 2011.

Nearly 80 percent of the Postal Service's costs are workforce-related, and so, as painful as it may be, finding a compassionate way to reduce these costs is simply unavoidable. In doing so, however, it is critical that the service on which many postal customers depend—customers the Postal Service desperately needs to keep—be preserved. The worst thing the Postal Service could do would be to drive more customers out of the mail, causing revenues to decline further and ensuring that the financial free fall continues. That would trigger a death spiral from which the Postal Service might never recover.

We need to help put the Postal Service back on solid financial footing, not only to help protect those who work in jobs related to mailing industry but also so that taxpayers are not left holding the bag.

The bill I coauthored along with Senators LIEBERMAN, CARPER, and SCOTT BROWN would do just that.

Our bill encourages the Postal Service to operate more like a business by cutting internal costs first instead of driving away customers with deep service cuts or steep price hikes.

Our bill would transfer to the Postal Service the nearly \$11 billion it has overpaid into the Federal Employee Retirement System and direct the Postmaster General to use a portion of this money for retirement and separation incentives in order to reduce the size of the workforce in a compassionate way.

Let me emphasize: This refund is not taxpayer money. It was contributed by the Postal Service using ratepayer dollars. It is an overpayment that was identified and confirmed by the actu-

aries at OPM and verified by the GAO. GAO recently confirmed OPM's assessment that this figure now has risen to nearly \$11 billion.

The Senate-passed bill also includes a new requirement that arbitrators rendering binding decisions in labor disputes consider the financial condition of the Postal Service. I know that it might defy belief that an arbitrator would not automatically consider the looming bankruptcy of the Postal Service when ruling on contract disputes. Some previous arbitrators, however, have discounted this factor in their decisions because the requirement to consider it was not explicitly listed in law.

For the first time in 35 years, the bill also brings sorely needed, common-sense reforms to the Federal Workers' Compensation Program, not only at the Postal Service but across the entire Federal Government. More than 45,500 people are on the long-term rolls for Federal workers' comp, and 40 percent of those are Postal Service employees. The reforms will help injured employees return to work and ensure that workers' comp is not a substitute for retirement benefits.

The Senate bill would also rationalize what has been an erratic and Draconian closure plan for thousands of rural post offices. While some post offices can and should be closed, curbing access for customers could well jeopardize revenue. Therefore, our bill would set up a new process that would involve the consideration of alternatives to closure, such as reducing hours, co-locating a post office at a nearby pharmacy, or renting out excess space to other government agencies. Perhaps most important, the process includes the requirement for the views of the affected community to be heard and responded to prior to any final decision.

Our bill would prevent the Postal Service from eliminating Saturday delivery for the next 2 years. Instead, it directs the USPS to embark on a period of aggressive cost-cutting and then would allow this reduction in service only if the Government Accountability Office and postal regulators both certify that elimination of Saturday delivery is still necessary to achieve solvency.

The Senate's bipartisan postal reform bill preserves the Postal Service and the critical economic activity it supports.

Now, the House must act. Failure to do so puts in peril American commerce and could harm our fragile economy.

I am confident that, for the good of our country, we will be able to come together with our House colleagues and work out our differences, no matter how significant those differences may be. No doubt more compromises will be required along the way, but it is critical that we get a bill to the President for his signature as soon as possible.

Our task is urgent. Postal employees, businesses who rely on the U.S. mail,

and the American people should not have to wait any longer.

WORLD ALZHEIMER'S ACTION DAY

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, today I wish to join my colleagues in bringing attention to Alzheimer's disease and dementia, which tragically affects so many people across our Nation, including in my home State of Hawaii. Today, the Alzheimer's Association recognizes World Alzheimer's Action Day as a way of raising awareness and reducing the stigma associated with Alzheimer's. Sadly, this disease has touched the lives of the families of so many of my friends, colleagues, and staff.

In 2010, 27,000 people in Hawaii were living with Alzheimer's disease. Their family members and loved ones sacrificed to help them with nearly \$800 million worth of unpaid care. Not only is this a devastating disease for the people afflicted with it, but the emotional and monetary costs to their families are enormous.

The reach of the disease continues to grow, and it is estimated that the cost of caring for people with Alzheimer's and other dementia in America will reach \$1.1 trillion by 2050. Despite the fact that Alzheimer's has affected so many, the disease itself remains poorly understood. Not only does it cause memory loss and confusion, but it is also the sixth leading cause of death nationwide.

During the last Congress, my colleagues and I worked together to pass the National Alzheimer's Project Act, which President Obama signed into law in 2011. This law created a national strategic plan to address the crisis of Alzheimer's disease and to make ending Alzheimer's a national priority. We have a plan in place to fight this disease, but finding a cure will require us to continue funding research into the disease. While we work towards a cure, we must also support caregivers and raise public awareness of the effects of this disease.

I would also like to express my profound gratitude to all those who are caring for family members who are afflicted with Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia. Many caregivers have one or more jobs and other family members to care for and it can often be a thankless job. So mahalo nui loa, thank you very much, for your sacrifices. I call on my colleagues to continue supporting Alzheimer's disease research and education so that we may find a cure and end this devastating disease.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT EPPLIN

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I rise to commemorate the distinguished public service of Robert Epplin, who served for nearly 20 years as staff in the Senate, and most recently for the past 3½ years as my legislative director. Rob's service in the Senate, as well

as his service in the executive branch, has typified what a dedicated public servant should be: he took pride in his work and faced challenges with determination and tenacity; he recognized what an honor it was to serve the people of this country and my constituents, in particular; and he had a respect for and an unparalleled understanding of the Senate as an institution. Because of these many fine qualities, Rob earned the respect and admiration of so many of his staff colleagues, as well as so many Senators.

Rob got his start in Washington in 1989 working as a research analyst at the Republican National Committee. In 1991 he went to work at the Department of Education, serving in the office of then-Secretary LAMAR ALEXANDER.

Rob began his work in the Senate in 1993 when he served as an adviser for budget, economic, foreign affairs, and defense issues for former Senator Bob Packwood of Oregon. At the time he accepted the position, I am sure he had little inkling that his work would lead to more than a decade of service to the Oregon congressional delegation. In 1994, Rob moved to the Senate Finance Committee, where he continued to work for Senator Packwood as a professional staff member responsible for pensions, benefits, social security, and economic issues. He then worked for the Office of Management and Budget before returning in 1997 to the Senate and Oregon delegation as a senior adviser, and later legislative director, to my friend and former colleague, Senator Gordon Smith.

During his career in public service, Rob left his mark on issues ranging from tax and national security to budget policy. But it was his long fight for the passage of historic civil rights legislation, including the repeal of the don't ask, don't tell law and hate crimes legislation, that gives him the most pride. America now welcomes the service of any qualified individual who is willing to put on the uniform, and we no longer dismiss brave, dedicated, and skilled service men and women simply because they are gay. In addition, those who commit hate crimes against individuals based on their sexual orientation can now be punished under Federal law.

As Rob leaves the Senate after nearly 20 years of hard work and dedicated public service, he also leaves behind an impressive list of accomplishments, and colleagues whose lives he touched because he was such an exceptional role model and mentor. I wish him continued success and every happiness in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO MONTFORD POINT MARINE

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, on the 25th day of June 1941, President Franklin D. Roosevelt issued Executive Order No. 8802 establishing the fair employment practice that began to erase discrimination in the Armed Forces.

In 1942, President Roosevelt established a presidential directive giving African Americans an opportunity to be recruited into the Marine Corps. These African Americans, from all States, were not sent to the traditional boot camps of Parris Island, SC and San Diego, CA. Instead, African American Marines were segregated—experiencing basic training at Montford Point—a facility at Camp Lejeune, NC. Approximately 20,000 African American Marines received basic training at Montford Point between 1942 and 1949.

In July of 1948 President Harry S. Truman issued Executive Order No. 9981 negating segregation. In September of 1949, Montford Marine Camp was deactivated, ending 7 years of segregation.

On April 19, 1974, Montford Point Camp was renamed Camp Johnson, in honor of the late Sergeant Major, Gilbert H. "Hashmark" Johnson. Johnson was one of the first African Americans to join the Corps, a Distinguished Montford Point Drill Instructor and a Veteran of WWII and Korea. The Camp remains the only Marine Corps installation named in honor of an African American.

The awarding of the Congressional Gold Medal came to fruition after the signing of H.R. 2447, Public Law 112-59 by President Obama on 23 Nov 11, which is the highest civilian honor for the distinguished achievement. The Congressional Gold Medal was presented to 366 Original Montford Point Marines, 27 June 2012 at the Capital Visitor's Center in Washington, DC. The next day, replicas of this medal were presented to these men at the Commandant of the Marine Corps' residence.

January of 2012 began the keeling of the USNS Montford Point, T-MLP-1, the lead ship of her class of Mobile Landing Platforms, MLP, a ship named in honor of the Original Montford Point Marines. Currently the Montford Point Marine Association Inc is raising funds to build the Montford Point Memorial at Camp Lejeune, NC.

Today, I would like to recognize the following Original Montford Point Marines from Louisiana:

Henry Leonard Bart, New Orleans
Winston Joseph Burns, Sr., New Orleans
Cleauthor Sanders, Shreveport
Otis O'Neal Stewart, Baton Rouge
Ruffin Dawson, Mandeville
Joseph Bastian, New Iberia
Alcee Chriss, Sr., Baton Rouge
Walter Duhon, Fenton
William Joseph Brashear, Morgan City

RECOGNIZING THE JUNIOR LEAGUE

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the Junior League of Washington, JLW, as this organization honors 100 years of community service and dedication to the greater Washington, DC, area. The Junior League has approximately 300 organizations across the world, including eight leagues in my home State of Louisiana.

I know that the women in these organizations make a profound impact on their communities, and in particular, I recognize the positive impact the women of the Junior League of Washington have made in communities throughout our Nation's Capital since 1912.

The Junior League of Washington, JLW, is an organization of women committed to promoting volunteerism, developing the potential of women, and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Its purpose is exclusively educational and charitable. Throughout their history, the JLW has provided millions of volunteer hours and more than \$5.4 million to the community.

It was one woman, Miss Elizabeth Noyes, and her sewing circle, that started the JLW in 1912. The League quickly grew to over 100 women working for the welfare of children and serving the helpless and sick. One hundred years later, the league is still going strong with over 2,300 members still striving to improve the lives of children and the poor.

The league continues this mission and in the late 1990s chose to focus its energies on literacy-related programs. The ability to read, write, and communicate affects far more than a person's knowledge of literacy masterpieces. It changes their access to jobs, health care, and transportation, and the way they raise their children. The JLW has adopted a broad approach to solving the literacy challenges their community faces by addressing the issue from many angles: adult, child, and cultural. The league is proud to partner with over 23 organizations throughout the area to achieve this laudable goal.

In addition, the league honors and celebrates diversity while focusing on shared values, and it strives to create an environment in which any woman committed to improving her community, regardless of race, religion, or national origin, will feel welcome and be encouraged to be part of the organization. The JLW is a vibrant presence in the lives of the women and children in the greater metropolitan area of the District of Columbia, serving as a resource throughout the community to effect positive change, seek common ground, and inspire hope.

In honor of their centennial year, the women of the JLW have created the Resolution Read Program, committing themselves to purchasing and distributing 100,000 new books to needy children in the greater Washington, DC, community. This is no small undertaking for a small group of women, but by meeting this goal, many children throughout the area will get a book to call their own. As such, JLW will continue to make a lasting impact in their community by fostering a passion for books and reading where it otherwise might not exist.

I would like to sincerely thank the volunteers of the Junior League of

Washington for their commitment to volunteerism, their community, and the District of Columbia. Their efforts are extraordinary and greatly appreciated. I congratulate the league on their 100 years of success and look forward to hearing about all the wonderful things the league will accomplish by their Bicentennial.

FEDERAL LONG TERM CARE INSURANCE

Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, 10 years have passed since the first consumer enrolled in the Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program, an insurance option for Federal employees, retirees and their loved ones created by the Long-Term Care Security Act. This law set a new standard regarding providing for the unique and important medical needs of seniors and individuals with disabilities. Participants in the program are now confident that they will receive help financing the care that they may require. I am pleased to recognize the 10th anniversary of the first enrollment in this important program, and I am proud that its administration is handled by Long Term Care Partners, LLC, which is located in my home State of New Hampshire.

Today, 1 in 10 Americans aged 55 and older carries a long-term care insurance policy; however, it is estimated that 70 percent of people over age 65 will eventually require long-term care. Our Nation's changing demographics and significant medical advances have contributed to an aging population, and addressing the issue of how best to care for seniors and individuals with disabilities should be part of our national discourse on how we support ourselves and our families. These services are critical for so many Americans who need assistance to continue living independently and actively in their communities.

The Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program was the first benefit offered to the Federal workforce that was completely employee-funded, coming at no cost to the taxpayer. The program is unique in that, at the time of its inception, it was the first benefit offered uniformly to all Federal employees, including military personnel and staff of the U.S. Postal Service. It is also the Nation's first successful large-scale, long-term care insurance program with consistent benefits, regardless of where the recipient lives.

With nearly 270,000 enrollees, the Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program has made a difference in the lives of so many in the Federal workforce. It is the largest group long-term care insurance program in the country and has already paid nearly \$215 million in claims. The program helps its beneficiaries stay where they are most comfortable, with more than 85 percent of these claims going to home and community-based services.

Every family needs to plan for retirement and how to best care for aging loved ones and those with disabilities.

Long-term care insurance is one way that millions of Americans get the support they need to remain independent and active in their communities. For Federal employees, the Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program is an important option that provides a sense of security and comfort in knowing that family members will be cared for in times of need.

I stand today to recognize the Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program's 10th anniversary and to wish the program continued success as it embarks on its second decade of assisting Federal employees and their families in planning for their retirements.

TRIBUTE TO PASTOR YUCEF NADARKHANI

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. President, I would like to take a few moments to share a rare piece of good news related to international religious freedom. On October 11 of last year I submitted for the RECORD the story of a Christian pastor in Iran who had been charged with apostasy and sentenced to death. Earlier this month, after almost 3 years of imprisonment, Pastor Youcef Nadarkhani has been released and is at home with his family.

The good news for Pastor Youcef comes after years of struggle, and we can only imagine the joy his own family feels after a long, difficult fight for his freedom. Many organizations and individuals, often risking their own lives, deserve thanks for their enduring commitment to Pastor Youcef's cause. Pastor Youcef's enduring faith in God saw him through this trying time and his experience is an inspiration to people of faith everywhere.

This moment of relief and thanksgiving comes as a reminder that the liberties we enjoy as Americans come at a high price to those who have fought and continue to fight for our freedoms. And too many people in countries like Iran, Iraq, Egypt, and Pakistan, to name a few, still do not enjoy the basic human rights you and I have here at home.

The persecution of religious minorities and Christians like Pastor Youcef abroad is unfortunately nothing new. That's why I introduced the Near East and South Central Asia Religious Freedom Act in June of last year. The bill came out of coordination with U.S. Congressman FRANK WOLF in the House and my colleague, U.S. Senator CARL LEVIN. It creates a special envoy on religious freedom in the State Department to monitor the status of religious minorities in these particularly vulnerable regions.

We can and we must do more to advance religious freedom abroad. I am sincerely committed to this effort and believe that it is essential to promoting the God-given right to liberty around the world. My colleagues and I are hopeful that the Senate can soon join the House in passing this important legislation.

RECOGNIZING THE CITY CLUB OF CLEVELAND

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize The City Club of Cleveland, the oldest continuously operating free speech forum in the country.

Often referred to as a "Citadel of Free Speech," The City Club offers an unbiased setting for dynamic discussions and exchange of ideas on important issues of interest to citizens and communities throughout Ohio and the United States. The City Club has succeeded in its mission to inform, educate and inspire citizens by presenting significant ideas and providing opportunities for dialog in a collegial setting, and has secured its place in history as an impartial, vital center for discussion of diverse topics.

The City Club forums encourage active debate and participation by the audience. Over the years, local, national and international leaders have been featured as speakers and have addressed a wide variety of subjects which have impacted our region, state and Nation. These sessions encourage nonpartisan, spirited debate and discussion about important topics. I have been honored to speak at the City Club on several occasions and have enjoyed the robust dialog.

I would like to congratulate The City Club of Cleveland on 100 years of success.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REMEMBERING JON HOLDER

● Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I would like to take a few moments to pay tribute to Mr. Jon Frederick Holder, a man who was instrumental in helping my staff prepare for a hearing the Senate Finance Committee held on private long-term disability benefits in September 2010.

Jon died unexpectedly last spring at the youthful age of 71. The world has lost a dedicated attorney, a civil rights activist who took part in the Selma-Montgomery march, and an advocate who specialized in disability law. Jon spent the last 30 years working alongside his wife Kathleen at their small law firm in Maine defending people whose voices are muffled in a process that can become mired in duplicative forms, draconian due dates, and burdensome record collection.

Jon worked with my staff as the Committee's hearing date neared, staying late into the evening to distill with witty anecdotes and a razor sharp understanding, ERISA's complex statutory law, its legislative history and the seminal judicial interpretations that dramatically changed it. He described the insurance industry's corporate structure and its goal to reduce the benefit ratio percentage. Then he put flesh on that structure as he described what achieving that reduction goal means to the individual whose disability check suddenly stops arriving.

A philosophy major-turned-lawyer, an avid bicyclist who loved the ocean,

a husband and a father, Jon approached life with passion and purpose questioning and challenging the status quo and always seeking for ways to change or improve it. He will be missed by those close to him, but his legacy of good works lives on.●

GREENBELT, MARYLAND

● Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the 75th anniversary of the city of Greenbelt, the first planned community in the United States built by the Federal Government. Greenbelt was envisioned as a social experiment by Rexford Guy Tugwell, a friend and adviser to President Franklin D. Roosevelt. The town was built under the authority of the Emergency Relief Appropriation Act. It was designed to provide low-income housing and drew 5,700 applicants for the original 885 residences. The first families arrived on October 1, 1937. They were chosen to meet income and other criteria, including a demonstrated willingness to participate in community organizations.

Most early residents were under 30 years of age and were from diverse religious backgrounds. They were blue and white collar workers, but due to the segregation at the time, no African Americans were able to purchase homes or live in Greenbelt. Physically, Greenbelt was designed as a complete city with homes, businesses, schools, roads, recreation facilities, and town government. Homes were clustered in "superblocks" with a system of interior walkways permitting residents to go from home to town center without crossing a major street. Streets were designed to separate pedestrians from vehicular traffic and community amenities and businesses were centrally located for easy access.

The first residents were pioneers in community engagement. They quickly formed a government—the first city manager form of government in the State of Maryland. They formed the first kindergarten in Prince George's County, started a journalism club that today continues to publish the weekly Greenbelt News Review, formed the Greenbelt Health Association, established police, fire and rescue squads, and opened the first public swimming pool in the Washington area in 1939. Greenbelt Consumer Services, Inc. operated the grocery store, gas station, drug and variety stores, barber and beauty shops, movie theater, valet shop, and tobacco shop, and over the years, as needs arose, citizens formed numerous cooperatives.

The Federal Government built an additional 1,000 homes in 1941 to accommodate families coming to Washington in connection with the defense programs of World War II. In 1952, Congress voted to sell off the Greenbelt towns, and citizens in Greenbelt formed a housing cooperative which purchased the homes. In 1997, when Greenbelt celebrated its 60th anniversary,

the U.S. Department of Interior recognized Historic Greenbelt as a National Historic Landmark.

Today, many of the original features of this planned community still exist, although the city itself has expanded to include additional shopping centers, high-rise office buildings, garden apartments, townhouses, and private development. Around a dozen original families still live in Greenbelt, passing on the cooperative spirit and sense of community that has made Greenbelt a thriving city and a special place to call home.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the residents and the city of Greenbelt on successfully nurturing 75 years of community planning, cooperation, and engagement.●

REMEMBERING AL ADAMS

● Ms. MURKOWSKI. I speak today to honor the memory of Al Adams, an Alaska Native leader. In the Alaska legislature for some 20 years, Al Adams was regarded as one of the most effective advocates for the interests of rural Alaska. Senator Adams died on August 13 after a long battle with cancer. Alaska's Governor ordered flags in the State lowered to half staff in honor of Adams' service to Alaska. His funeral, at ChangePoint Alaska in Anchorage, drew over 1,500 mourners. A second funeral was conducted in Al's hometown of Kotzebue.

Al Adams was born in Kotzebue, AK in 1942. He attended Mt. Edgecumbe High School in Sitka. Following high school, he attended the University of Alaska Fairbanks and RCA Technical Institute. There is a back story behind the RCA Technical Institute. Prior to enactment of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971, one of the better jobs that a Native person from rural Alaska could hope for was a job tracking satellites at the Gilmore Creek Satellite Tracking Facility near Fairbanks. Several of those who traveled with Al to Los Angeles for training at the RCA Technical Institute would later become leading players in the implementation of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act.

Over the course of his career, Al would serve as president of Kikiktatruk Inupiat Corporation and executive vice president of NANA Regional Corporation, but his service in the Alaska legislature left Al's most enduring legacies. Al served in the Alaska House of Representatives from 1980-1988 and in the Alaska Senate from 1989-2000. He was known as "Mr. Finance." Al chaired the powerful House Finance Committee. He served 18 years on the Legislative Budget and Audit Committee and 12 years on the Operating Budget Conference Committee. As a Representative and Senator from rural western Alaska he understood the unique problems that his communities faced and ensured that they received an equitable share of State funding.

Al's most enduring legislative accomplishment is the Power Cost Equalization Program. One of the greatest impediments to the viability of traditional Native communities in rural Alaska is the cost of electricity. Since rural Alaska largely lives "off the grid" electricity must be generated locally by burning diesel fuel which is transported long distances by barge. The Power Cost Equalization Program protects rural communities by setting a cap on the price that rural consumers pay for energy. It is a tremendously important program and rural Alaska has Al Adams to thank for it.

Following his service as a legislator, Al became a lobbyist. We do not commonly commend the work of lobbyists in the pages of the RECORD, but Al was a special kind of lobbyist. He lobbied selectively for the causes he believed in, representing the North Slope Borough and the Northwest Arctic Borough. During this period he used his vast legislative and political experience to educate his Native people on how they can be more effective in the political arena. Just one example, recognizing that rural Alaska's reliance on imported diesel was ultimately unsustainable, he lobbied to develop local sources of energy in western Alaska, at one time proposing an intraregional grid to power remote communities. He lobbied to make it possible for the tribal hospital in Kotzebue to build a new long-term care wing on their hospital. Al Adams used his insider access and knowledge for good.

I would like to spend a moment to discuss Al on a personal level. I will always remember his smile—that crinkly smile—and his sense of humor which could defuse even the tensest of meetings. Al operated in multiple worlds at once—the world of politics, the world of business—but he never abandoned his Inupiaq roots. His official obituary relates that Al often organized subsistence hunting and fishing trips for his children, where he passed down traditional Inupiaq skills. He coordinated all the logistics for these memorable outings and even served as camp cook, making sure everyone else was well fed. Whether dipnetting at the mouth of the Kenai, caribou hunting outside Kotzebue or visiting the fish wheel at Chitina, he let his wife, children and grandchildren know that they were loved and that they came first and foremost in his life.

I have lost a dear friend, the Native community has lost a respected leader, and all Alaska has lost a statesman whose legacies will long be remembered. The Senate extends its condolences to the Al Adams family and all who mourn the loss of this exemplary Alaskan.●

REMEMBERING RICHARD FRANK

● Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, the front page of this morning's Fairbanks Daily News-Miner carries the

sad news that Richard Frank, an Athabaskan elder, died at age 85.

Richard Frank is an individual of great significance in the history of post-statehood Alaska. He was among the first Alaska Native leaders to recognize the risk that development of the modern State of Alaska posed to the subsistence lifestyle of traditional villages like his home village of Minto in Interior Alaska. He was among the first Native leaders to organize his people in opposition to State land selections that would prejudice the eventual settlement of the aboriginal land claims of Alaska Natives. And his leadership, recognized throughout the State, is one of the reasons that the Native peoples of Alaska won their battle for land claims with passage of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971.

Richard Frank was born on August 27, 1927, in Old Minto. He was educated at the village school. Some historians say that the village school provided an education up to the third grade. Others say it was the fourth. What is undisputed is that Richard Frank possessed a sense of adventure and wisdom far beyond his formal education. Growing up around the fishing and trapping camps of the Yukon River he gained an appreciation of the interdependence between the land and the Native way of life. But some would say it was his experience in the Army Air Corps during World War II that best prepared him for the leadership role he would occupy in the 1960s.

Richard's wartime experience is chronicled in Fern Chardonnet's book, "Alaska at War, 1941-1945." She relates that World War II presented an extraordinary opportunity for Alaska Natives. Many, for the first time, received the same pay and benefits as White workers, and a chance to acquire new skills and to build genuine self esteem. Richard Frank was a case in point. Upon enlisting he was encouraged to pursue specialized training as an aircraft mechanic. At first he said, "No," but his commanding officer had confidence in Richard and he agreed to pursue the training. Richard relates that the passing score in training was 2.5 and he completed the course with a 3.9. He went on to service P-47 fighters in the South Pacific.

Richard regarded himself as lucky. Service in the military showed young men from the village that there was another option. After the war Richard worked as a mechanic for Wien Alaska Airlines and Boeing, though his heart remained in village Alaska.

The son of a traditional village chief, he found his calling in the early 1960s as the battle for Alaska's lands was beginning. The Alaska Statehood Act gave the State of Alaska the right to select lands but left resolution of Alaska Native land claims for another day.

One of the areas where State land selections first conflicted with Native hunting, fishing, and trapping activities was in the Minto Lakes region of

Interior Alaska. The State wanted to establish a recreation area in 1961 near the Athabaskan village of Minto and to construct a road so that the region would be more easily accessible to Fairbanks residents and visiting sportsmen. In addition, State officials believed that the area held potential for future development of oil and other resources.

Learning of these plans of the State, Minto filed a protest with the U.S. Interior Department. The people of Minto had filed blanket claims to the area in the 1930s, and Richard's father, then Traditional Chief, delineated this area as belonging to the Minto people in 1951. Minto asked the Federal agency to protect their rights to the region by turning down the State's application for the land. Minto's attorney was none other than the late Senator Ted Stevens who took up their cause pro bono.

In response to the protest, a meeting of sportsmen, biologists, conservationists, and State officials was held in 1963 to discuss the proposed road and recreation area.

Richard argued that State development in the region would ruin the subsistence way of life of the Natives and urged that the recreation area be established elsewhere, where new hunting pressure would not threaten the traditional economy. He said, "A village is at stake. Ask yourself this question, is a recreation area worth the future of a village?"

He also took his cause to the Alaska Conservation Society in Anchorage. He told the conservation society members that without the use of the lakes, Minto's people would go hungry. Lael Morgan, in her landmark book, "The Life and Times of Howard Rock," relates Richard's pleas for support. He said, "Nothing is so sorrowful for a hunter, empty handed, to be greeted by hungry children."

A 1985 history of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act characterized Minto's protest as a precursor of events to come. During the years that followed, many other Native communities would protest actions that threatened their lands. In 1966, Secretary of the Interior Stewart Udall gave the land claims movement teeth by initiating a freeze on the transfer of lands to the State which were protested by the Native people.

As a well respected Native leader and elder, Richard went on to play significant roles in the Tanana Chiefs Conference and the Fairbanks Native Association. He served on the Governor's Veterans Advisory Committee and founded the Alaska Native Veterans Association. It is also appropriate to acknowledge Richard's role as the patriarch of one of the truly great Fairbanks families. Richard's wife of 57 years, Anna, became the first Native American woman ordained as a priest in the Episcopal Church in 1983. Richard was the father of four and was blessed with grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

As a significant figure in Alaska's history, Richard was generous to collectors of oral history. One of those oral histories was done for the Alaska Trappers Association, which notes, "Richard freely shares insight into the Native view of the world. He takes great pride in their dedication to family. He speaks often of the lessons he learned from his elders."

Alaska has truly lost a significant figure. If it is any condolence, Richard's life experiences were rich, he accomplished a great deal for his Native people, and he supported a truly wonderful family. Thanks to modern technology, his stories and life experiences will live on for eternity.

On behalf of the Senate I extend condolences to Reverend Anna, Richard's family, and the Athabaskan people of Interior Alaska who are preparing to honor and celebrate Richard's life next week with a Memorial Potlatch. ●

REMEMBERING BARNEY UHART

● Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I was saddened to learn that Barney Uhart of Anchorage, AK passed away on September 8, 2012 after a long battle with cancer. Barney was President Emeritus of the Chugach Alaska Corporation, one of the thirteen regional Alaska Native Corporations. Chugach Alaska Corporation is owned by over 2,300 shareholders of Alutiiq, Eskimo and Indian heritage.

Barney was elected President and CEO of Chugach Alaska Corporation in May 2000 and served in that role until July 2012. In July he announced his retirement to focus on his health and spend time with his family. But the Chugach Alaska Corporation board would not let him go. That is how Barney earned the title of President Emeritus.

Barney was a master in administering Base Operations Services contracts, a field he entered into on something of a lark. As the story goes, while living in Hawaii he was delivering furniture with a friend to a company called Kentron International. This was back in 1979. He wondered what they did and slipped a resume under the door. A few days later he learned that they managed remote sites and was on his way to Wake Island. Over the course of his career Barney came to know more about places like Wake Island, Midway Island and Amchitka than anyone I know. He would return to Wake Island many times over the course of his career, helping his successor employers win that Base Operations Support contract. You might even call him the Mayor Emeritus of Wake Island.

Barney joined the Chugach Alaska family in 1993 as an Operations Manager with Chugach Development Corporation. Known as a charismatic leader and a hard worker, he quickly rose through the ranks. Those at Chugach Alaska tell me that his dedication to the company, its people and employees

was steadfast. His hard work and commitment helped provide real, tangible, and ongoing benefits to the Native shareholders of Chugach Alaska. He strove tirelessly to help fulfill the promise of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act. His work in opening up the 8(a) program to meaningful participation by Alaska Natives, Lower 48 Indian tribes, and Native Hawaiians is recognized throughout the Native American contractor community.

Barney Uhart will be remembered as a leader, a friend and a champion of doing the right thing and doing things right. I express my condolences to his wife Randi, his children Jordan, Abigail and Jacob, and the shareholders of Chugach Alaska Corporation on the loss of this exemplary Alaskan.●

COAST GUARD PAY AND PERSONNEL CENTER

● Mr. ROBERTS. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the 30th anniversary of the U.S. Coast Guard Pay and Personnel Center in Topeka, KS. The Coast Guard's Pay and Personnel Center was first established in 1979 in the greater Washington, DC, area. In 1982 the center permanently moved to the Frank Carlson Federal Building in Topeka. My staff and I have the honor of working with this dedicated team of leaders on a regular basis.

The Pay and Personnel Center offers a specific and imperative service to more than 100,000 men and women of the U.S. Coast Guard. Spanning from human resources, to processing, disbursement, and other services, the Pay and Personnel Center has continued to operate without much attention or fanfare but with the goal of providing the compensation and services necessary to keep our Coast Guardians focused, secure, and dedicated.

Today, I offer congratulations and accolades to the Pay and Personnel Center on 30 years of hard work and superior service to our men and women in the U.S. Coast Guard. The center is a shining example of the Coast Guard motto, *Semper Paratus, Always Ready*.●

AIR FORCE SPACE COMMAND

● Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to the outstanding accomplishments of Air Force Space Command. And of course, I offer my deep respect and thanks to the 42,000 men and women who keep constant watch over our most distant skies. These great Americans are responsible for a staggering range of essential missions, and this week, I join them in celebrating the 30th anniversary of the command's creation.

Air Force Space Command was established in 1982 as our national leaders recognized the growing need to dominate the space domain to enhance our warfighting capabilities and to better protect our servicemembers. The command's responsibilities and capabilities have steadily increased over the past 30 years to keep pace with technology and

foreign threats, and from the outset, those missions have been a critical part of our national defense architecture.

All day, every day, Air Force Space Command personnel provide our warfighters with the space-based assets they require at the speed of need. And at the same time, they keep a major portion of our economy, travel, and transportation on track. They fly the GPS satellites that make modern computing, air travel, and precision munitions possible. Air Force Space Command provides our Nation with global ballistic missile early warning and defense. Without Air Force Space Command, there would be no military satellite communications and our meteorological and navigational data would be far less advanced and accurate. These airmen and civilians of Space Command demonstrate amazing technical and scientific proficiency as they conduct space based surveillance, land-based intercontinental ballistic missile operations, and most recently, prosecute a cyber space mission that is growing more essential to our security every day. Their capabilities have strengthened our Nation's homeland defense, allowed disaster relief efforts to be more timely and efficient, and enhanced America's military operational capabilities in all stages of warfare. Simply put, without Air Force Space Command, the strategic and technological advantages enjoyed by both the military and civilian communities in the United States would not be possible.

Of course, all of these tremendous accomplishments are due to the remarkable devotion to duty, sacrifice, and dedication displayed by Space Command personnel around the world every day. As we all know, our service men and women, both active duty and those in the Reserve component, aren't simply serving in the military—they are our military. Additionally, civilian members of Air Force Space Command provide the stability and corporate knowledge that's essential to the command's enduring success. Yes, it's a true total force effort. Colorado is the proud home of Air Force Space Command headquarters, but right now, their personnel are deployed to every corner of the globe, providing unparalleled space and cyber space expertise to combatant commanders in every theater of operations. As they celebrate yet another milestone, I would like to honor these patriots for their selfless service and dedication to our Nation's security. On behalf of all Coloradans and to every member of Air Force Space Command, past and present: happy 30th anniversary.●

REMEMBERING EDWARD D. PARE

● Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, the State of Rhode Island has lost a dear and dedicated public servant. Captain Edward D. Pare was a sworn officer of the Rhode Island State Police for 2½ decades, from 1959 until his retirement in 1986.

Captain Pare was a true son of Rhode Island, born in Coventry, RI. In addition to serving our State, he also served his country in the U.S. Navy, sailing appropriately enough aboard the USS Pawcatuck, named for the river that flows across the southern part of our State.

Captain Pare left an indelible mark on the force. He was captain of detectives for many years prior to his retirement. In this important role, Captain Pare had his hand in every major investigation undertaken by the State police during that period. His leadership and commitment were the hallmarks of his stint with the department and set an example for a generation of officers. Even beyond his retirement, Captain Pare was known in law enforcement circles and across Rhode Island as simply "The Captain."

During his tenure with the State police, Captain Pare acted as both the head of the Rhode Island Division of Motor Vehicles and the director of the Rhode Island Department of Transportation. There had been concerns raised about mismanagement and corruption at these agencies. Captain Pare, as the "gold standard" of competence, rigor, and integrity, provided public assurance that any such problems would be met and mastered.

Captain Pare's sense of public service was a family value, carried on by his sons, Ed and Steven. During our Rhode Island banking crisis, I had the pleasure of working alongside Ed at the Rhode Island Department of Business Regulation, where he worked for the people of Rhode Island for many years in a number of roles, including superintendent of banking and superintendent of the securities division. Steven followed his father's path into the State police, rising in his 26 years to the rank of colonel and serving as State trooper, detective, and superintendent of the force. Steven continues his work in law enforcement and homeland security today as commissioner of public safety for the city of Providence.

Captain Pare is survived by his beloved wife Phyllis, and in addition to Ed and Steven, he leaves behind his daughter Diane, son Gary, and 12 grandchildren. The captain's impact on our communities was profound, and his legacy of integrity and service to others will be remembered by Rhode Islanders for a long time to come.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Thomas, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United

States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE ON
SEPTEMBER 20, 2012

At 9:48 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 733. An act to provide for scientific frameworks with respect to recalcitrant cancers.

H.R. 1461. An act to authorize the Mesquero Apache Tribe to lease adjudicated water rights.

H.R. 3319. An act to allow the Pascua Yaqui Tribe to determine the requirements for membership in that tribe.

H.R. 3783. An act to provide for a comprehensive strategy to counter Iran's growing hostile presence and activity in the Western Hemisphere, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4158. An act to confirm full ownership rights for certain United States astronauts to artifacts from the astronauts' space missions.

H.R. 6060. An act to amend Public Law 106-392 to maintain annual base funding for the Upper Colorado and San Juan fish recovery programs through fiscal year 2019.

H.R. 6118. An act to amend section 353 of the Public Health Service Act with respect to suspensions, revocation, and limitation of laboratory certification.

H.R. 6433. An act to make corrections with respect to Food and Drug Administration user fees.

At 1:03 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2827. An act to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to clarify provisions relating to the regulation of municipal advisors, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2903. An act to reauthorize the programs and activities of the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

H.R. 4124. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide grants to States to streamline State requirements and procedures for veterans with military emergency medical training to become civilian emergency medical technicians.

H.R. 4212. An act to prevent the introduction into commerce of unsafe drywall, to ensure the manufacturer of drywall is readily identifiable, to ensure that problematic drywall removed from homes is not reused, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5044. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude from gross income any discharge of indebtedness income on education loans of deceased veterans.

H.R. 5910. An act to direct the Secretary of Commerce, in coordination with the heads of other relevant Federal departments and agencies, to produce a report on enhancing the competitiveness of the United States in attracting foreign direct investment, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5912. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to prohibit the use of public funds for political party conventions.

H.R. 5948. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the supervision of fiduciaries of veterans under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, to establish a Place of Remembrance at Arlington National Cemetery, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6163. An act to amend title IV of the Public Health Service Act to provide for a National Pediatric Research Network, including with respect to pediatric rare diseases or conditions.

H.R. 6296. An act to amend the Small Business Act to provide the interest rate for certain disaster related loans, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6324. An act to reduce the number of nonessential vehicles purchased and leased by the Federal Government, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6361. An act to exclude from consideration as income under the United States Housing Act of 1937 payments of pension made under section 1521 of title 38, United States Code, to veterans who are in need of regular aid and attendance, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6368. An act to require the Department of Justice and the Department of Homeland Security to provide a joint report to Congress on the Departments' ability to track, investigate and quantify cross-border violence along the Southwest Border and provide recommendations to Congress on how to accurately track, investigate, and quantify cross-border violence.

H.R. 6375. An act to authorize certain Department of Veterans Affairs major medical facility projects, to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend certain authorities of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6410. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for taxpayers making donations with their returns of income tax to the Federal Government to pay down the public debt.

H.R. 6431. An act to provide flexibility with respect to United States support for assistance provided by international financial institutions for Burma, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 2:31 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

S. 3245. An act to extend by 3 years the authorization of the EB-5 Regional Center Program, the E-Verify Program, the Special Immigrant Nonminister Religious Worker Program, and the Conrad State 30 J-1 Visa Waiver Program.

S. 3552. An act to reauthorize the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act.

The enrolled bills were subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. INOUE).

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:03 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following joint resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.J. Res. 118. Joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Office of Family Assistance of the Administration for Children and Families of the Department of Health and Human

Services relating to waiver and expenditure authority under section 1115 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1315) with respect to the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program.

MEASURES REFERRED ON
SEPTEMBER 20, 2012

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 2827. An act to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to clarify provisions relating to the regulation of municipal advisors, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 2903. An act to reauthorize the programs and activities of the Federal Emergency Management Agency; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 3319. An act to allow the Pascua Yaqui Tribe to determine the requirements for membership in that tribe; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

H.R. 4124. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide grants to States to streamline State requirements and procedures for veterans with military emergency medical training to become civilian emergency medical technicians; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

H.R. 4212. An act to prevent the introduction into commerce of unsafe drywall, to ensure the manufacturer of drywall is readily identifiable, to ensure that problematic drywall removed from homes is not reused, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 5044. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude from gross income any discharge of indebtedness income on education loans of deceased veterans; to the Committee on Finance.

H.R. 5948. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the supervision of fiduciaries of veterans under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, to establish a Place of Remembrance at Arlington National Cemetery, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 6060. An act to amend Public Law 106-392 to maintain annual base funding for the Upper Colorado and San Juan fish recovery programs through fiscal year 2019; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 6163. An act to amend title IV of the Public Health Service Act to provide for a National Pediatric Research Network, including with respect to pediatric rare diseases or conditions; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

H.R. 6324. An act to reduce the number of nonessential vehicles purchased and leased by the Federal Government, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 6361. An act to exclude from consideration as income under the United States Housing Act of 1937 payments of pension made under section 1521 of title 38, United States Code, to veterans who are in need of regular aid and attendance, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 6368. An act to require the Department of Justice and the Department of Homeland Security to provide a report to Congress on the Departments' ability to track, investigate and quantify cross-border violence along the Southwest Border and

provide recommendations to Congress on how to accurately track, investigate, and quantify cross-border violence; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 3607. A bill to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-7698. A communication from the Associate General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Administrator, Rural Services, in the Department of Agriculture received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 19, 2012; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-7699. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a violation of the Antideficiency Act that occurred in the Operation and Maintenance, Army (OMA) appropriation, account 2172020, at the U.S. Army Installation Management Command (IMCOM) during fiscal year 2007 and was assigned Army case number 11-04; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-7700. A communication from the Chief Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Suspension of Community Eligibility" (44 CFR Part 64) (Docket No. FEMA-2012-0003) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 20, 2012; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-7701. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency declared in Executive Order 12978 of October 21, 1995, with respect to significant narcotics traffickers centered in Colombia; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-7702. A communication from the Chairman and President of the Export-Import Bank, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a transaction involving U.S. exports to the United Arab Emirates; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-7703. A communication from the Chairman and President of the Export-Import Bank, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a transaction involving U.S. exports to Poland; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-7704. A communication from the Assistant Director for Legislative Affairs, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Charter of the Consumer Advisory Board; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-7705. A communication from the Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources of the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic; Trip Limit Reduction"

(RIN0648-XC196) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 19, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7706. A communication from the Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Reallocation of Pacific Cod in the Western Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska Management Area" (RIN0648-XC205) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 19, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7707. A communication from the Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Reallocation of Pacific Cod in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area" (RIN0648-XC202) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 19, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7708. A communication from the Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries Off West Coast States; Coastal Pelagic Species Fisheries; Closure" (RIN0648-XC166) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 20, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7709. A communication from the Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; South Atlantic Snapper-Grouper Fishery; 2012-2013 Accountability Measure and Closure for Recreational Black Sea Bass in the South Atlantic" (RIN0648-XC133) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 20, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7710. A communication from the Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries Off West Coast States; Modifications of the West Coast Commercial and Recreational Salmon Fisheries; Inseason Actions 4 through 14" (RIN0648-X121) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 20, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7711. A communication from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish Fisheries; Framework Adjustment 6" (RIN0648-BB99) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 20, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7712. A communication from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "International Fisheries; Western and Central Pacific Fisheries for Highly Migratory Species; Bigeye Tuna Catch Limit in Longline Fisheries for 2012" (RIN0648-BC14) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 20, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7713. A communication from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fish-

eries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish Fisheries; Specifications and Management Measures" (RIN0648-BB28) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 20, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7714. A communication from the Secretary of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "MOX Fuel Fabrication Feedstock"; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-7715. A communication from the Deputy Chief of the National Forest System, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of a technical correction for the boundary for the McKenzie Wild and Scenic River in Oregon; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-7716. A communication from the Deputy Chief of the National Forest System, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the detailed boundaries for the Au Sable, Bear Creek, Manistee, and Pine Rivers in Michigan relative to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-7717. A communication from the Deputy Chief of the National Forest System, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the detailed boundary for the White Salmon Wild and Scenic River, Oregon relative to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-7718. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "NRC Procedures for Placement and Monitoring of Work with Federal Agencies Other Than the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Laboratory Work" (Management Directive 11.8) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 19, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7719. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands Phase I project in Miami-Dade County, Florida; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-7720. A communication from the Chief of the Trade and Commercial Regulations Branch, Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Extension of Import Restrictions Imposed on Archaeological Material from Mali" (RIN1515-AD91) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 19, 2012; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-7721. A communication from the Chief of the Trade and Commercial Regulations Branch, Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "United States—Colombia Trade Promotion Agreement" (RIN1515-AD88) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 20, 2012; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-7722. A communication from the Chief of the Trade and Commercial Regulations Branch, Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Technical Corrections Relating to the Rules of Origin for Goods Imported Under the NAFTA and for Textile and Apparel Products" (CPB Dec. 12-15) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 19, 2012; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-7723. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, an annual report

relative to the activities of the Office of the Medicare Ombudsman; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-7724. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to groups designated by the Secretary of State as Foreign Terrorist Organizations (DCN OSS 2012-1472); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-7725. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, certification of a proposed permanent export license pursuant to section 36(d) of the Arms Export Control Act (Transmittal No. DDTC 12-096); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-7726. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, certification of proposed issuance of an export license pursuant to section 36(d) of the Arms Export Control Act (Transmittal No. DDTC 12-125); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-7727. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, certification of proposed issuance of an export license pursuant to section 36(d) of the Arms Export Control Act (Transmittal No. DDTC 12-067); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-7728. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, certification of proposed issuance of an export license pursuant to section 36(d) of the Arms Export Control Act (Transmittal No. DDTC 12-059); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-7729. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, certification of proposed issuance of an export license pursuant to section 36(d) of the Arms Export Control Act (Transmittal No. DDTC 12-102); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-7730. A joint communication from the Secretary of Energy and the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the New START Treaty; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-7731. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a petition to add workers at the Hanford Engineer Works in Richland, Washington, to the Special Exposure Cohort; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-7732. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a petition to add workers from Titanium Alloys Manufacturing, to the Special Exposure Cohort; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-7733. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a petition to add workers at the Clarksville Modification Center, Ft. Campbell, in Clarksville, Tennessee, to the Special Exposure Cohort; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-7734. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a petition to add workers at the Winchester Engineering and Analytical Center in the Winchester, Massachusetts, to the Special Exposure Cohort; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-7735. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a petition to add workers at the Medina Modification Center in San Antonio, Texas, to the Special Exposure Cohort; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-7736. A communication from the Acting Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legis-

lative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, an annual report relative to the activities and operations of the Public Integrity Section, Criminal Division, and the nationwide federal law enforcement effort against public corruption; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-7737. A communication from the Director of the Regulation Policy and Management Office of the General Counsel, Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Exempting In-Home Video Telehealth From Copayments" (RIN2900-AO26) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 21, 2012; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-7738. A communication from the Secretary of the Army, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the management of Arlington National Cemetery; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

From the Committee on Indian Affairs, without amendment:

H.R. 2467. A bill to take certain Federal lands in Mono County, California, into trust for the benefit of the Bridgeport Indian Colony.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. LANDRIEU, and Mr. SANDERS):

S. 3608. A bill to modernize voter registration, promote access to voting for individuals with disabilities, protect the ability of individuals to exercise the right to vote in elections for Federal office, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. WYDEN:

S. 3609. A bill to adopt fair standards and procedures by which determinations of Copyright Royalty Judges are made with respect to webcasting, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself and Mr. MERKLEY):

S. 3610. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to deny the inclusion of any antidumping or countervailing duties in the determination of the basis of any energy tax credit property; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself and Mr. MERKLEY):

S. 3611. A bill to prohibit executive agencies from procuring merchandise subject to antidumping or countervailing duty orders, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. DEMINT (for himself, Mr. COBURN, Mr. GRAHAM, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. JOHNSON of Wisconsin, Mr. LEE, Mr. MCCAIN, and Mr. RISCH):

S. 3612. A bill to prohibit the payment of surcharges for commemorative coin programs to private organizations or entities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. BEGICH (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI):

S. 3613. A bill to promote research, monitoring, and observation of the Arctic and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

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

S. 3614. A bill to establish a pilot program to authorize the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to make grants to non-profit organizations to rehabilitate and modify homes of disabled and low-income veterans; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. BEGICH:

S. 3615. A bill to enhance national seafood marketing efforts through the creation of a National Seafood Marketing and Development Fund, Regional Seafood Marketing Boards and a National Coordinating Committee and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Ms. LANDRIEU (for herself, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. BLUNT, and Mrs. HUTCHISON):

S. 3616. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make permanent the expansion of tax benefits for adoption enacted in 2001 and to permanently reinstate the expansion of tax benefits for adoption enacted in 2010, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. DURBIN, and Mr. AKAKA):

S. 3617. A bill to ensure sufficient sizing of the civilian and contract services workforces of the Department of Defense; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, and Mr. WHITEHOUSE):

S. 3618. A bill to amend title 28, United States Code, to prohibit the exclusion of individuals from service on a Federal jury on account of sexual orientation or gender identity; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MANCHIN:

S. 3619. A bill to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to provide for outreach, and coordination of services, to veterans; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. WICKER:

S. 3620. A bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to clarify provisions relating to the regulation of municipal advisors, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. MANCHIN:

S. 3621. A bill to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to provide for a Seniors' Financial Bill of Rights, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. SCHUMER (for himself, Mr. MERKLEY, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL):

S. 3622. A bill to prohibit prescription drug price-gouging during states of market shortage; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

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

S. 3623. A bill to extend the authorizations of appropriations for certain national heritage areas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. SNOWE (for herself, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. MORAN, Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. BEGICH, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. ISAKSON, and Mr. BROWN of Ohio):

S. 3624. A bill to amend section 31311 of title 49, United States Code, to permit States to issue commercial driver's licenses to members of the Armed Forces whose duty

station is located in the State; considered and passed.

By Mr. LIEBERMAN (for himself and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 3625. A bill to change the effective date for the internet publication of certain information to prevent harm to the national security or endangering the military officers and civilian employees to whom the publication requirement applies, and for other purposes; considered and passed.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. LUGAR (for himself and Mr. KERRY):

S. Res. 575. A resolution commending the 4 American public servants who died in Benghazi, Libya, United States Ambassador to Libya John Christopher Stevens, Sean Smith, Tyrone Woods, and Glen Doherty, for their tireless efforts on behalf of the American people, and condemning the violent attack on the United States consulate in Benghazi; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. COCHRAN (for himself, Mr. WICKER, Ms. COLLINS, and Ms. SNOWE):

S. Res. 576. A resolution celebrating the 50th anniversary of the signing of Public Law 87-788, an Act commonly known as the McIntire—Stennis Cooperative Forestry Act; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. BAUCUS (for himself, Mr. KERRY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. TESTER, and Ms. MURKOWSKI):

S. Res. 577. A resolution honoring the First Special Service Force, in recognition of its superior service during World War II; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. MORAN, and Mr. BEGICH):

S. Res. 578. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of Red Ribbon Week, 2012; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Mrs. HAGAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. BURR, Mr. CASEY, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. COBURN, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. COONS, Mr. CORKER, Mr. CORNYN, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. ISAKSON, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. MANCHIN, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. WARNER, Mr. WEBB, Mr. WICKER, Mr. LEVIN, and Mr. CARDIN):

S. Res. 579. A resolution designating the week of September 24 through September 28, 2012, as "National Historically Black Colleges and Universities Week"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. COONS (for himself, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Ms. SNOWE, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. REED, Mr. COCHRAN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. KERRY, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. LEAHY, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. BINGAMAN, and Ms. COLLINS):

S. Res. 580. A resolution designating the week beginning on October 14, 2012, as "National Wildlife Refuge Week"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. HOEVEN (for himself, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. BOOZMAN, and Mr. BLUNT):

S. Res. 581. A resolution designating October 26, 2012, as "Day of the Deployed"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. REID, Mr. CORNYN, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. HELLER, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mrs. HAGAN, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. ENZI, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. BENNET, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. RUBIO, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. INOUE, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. REED, Mr. BINGAMAN, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. WARNER, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. Res. 582. A resolution recognizing Hispanic Heritage Month and celebrating the heritage and culture of Latinos in the United States and the immense contributions of Latinos to the United States; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. LIEBERMAN (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, and Ms. LANDRIEU):

S. Res. 583. A resolution designating September 2012 as "National Preparedness Month"; considered and agreed to.

By Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. KERRY, Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts, Mr. WICKER, Mr. BENNET, and Mr. COCHRAN):

S. Res. 584. A resolution designating October 4, 2012, as "Jumpstart's Read for the Record Day"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself and Mr. UDALL of New Mexico):

S. Res. 585. A resolution recognizing the extraordinary history and heritage of the State of New Mexico, and honoring and commending the State of New Mexico and its people on its centennial anniversary; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Mr. BURR, and Mr. MENENDEZ):

S. Res. 586. A resolution expressing support for the goals and ideals of National Infant Mortality Awareness Month, 2012; considered and agreed to.

By Mrs. BOXER (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, and Mr. WHITEHOUSE):

S. Res. 587. A resolution supporting "Lights on Afterschool", a national celebration of afterschool programs; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. LUGAR (for himself, Mr. KERRY, Mr. REID, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. ALEXANDER, Ms. AYOTTE, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. BURR, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. COATS, Mr. COBURN, Mr. COCHRAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. COONS, Mr. CORKER, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. DEMINT, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. ENZI, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. FRANKEN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mrs. HAGAN, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. HATCH, Mr. HELLER, Mr. HOEVEN, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. INOUE, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. JOHANNIS, Mr. JOHNSON of Wisconsin, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. KIRK, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. KOHL, Mr. KYL, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. LEE, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. MCCAIN, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. MORAN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. PAUL, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. REED, Mr.

RISCH, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. SESSIONS, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. SHELBY, Ms. SNOWE, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. TESTER, Mr. THUNE, Mr. TOOMEY, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mr. VITTER, Mr. WARNER, Mr. WEBB, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. Res. 588. A resolution commending the 4 American public servants who died in Benghazi, Libya, United States Ambassador to Libya John Christopher Stevens, Sean Smith, Tyrone Woods, and Glen Doherty, for their tireless efforts on behalf of the American people, and condemning the violent attack on the United States consulate in Benghazi; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. SNOWE (for herself, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. RISCH, Mr. KERRY, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mrs. HAGAN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. ENZI, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. COONS, Mr. KIRK, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Ms. AYOTTE, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. WARNER, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. TESTER, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. THUNE, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mrs. BOXER, and Mr. BENNET):

S. Res. 589. A resolution designating November 24, 2012, as "Small Business Saturday" and supporting efforts to increase awareness of the value of locally owned small businesses; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 687

At the request of Mr. CONRAD, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 687, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the 15-year recovery period for qualified leasehold improvement property, qualified restaurant property, and qualified retail improvement property.

S. 738

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 738, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for Medicare coverage of comprehensive Alzheimer's disease and related dementia diagnosis and services in order to improve care and outcomes for Americans living with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias by improving detection, diagnosis, and care planning.

S. 891

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 891, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the recognition of attending physician assistants as attending physicians to serve hospice patients.

S. 1281

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) was added as a

cosponsor of S. 1281, a bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to prohibit the transportation of horses in interstate transportation in a motor vehicle containing two or more levels stacked on top of one another.

S. 1301

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1301, a bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2012 through 2015 for the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, to enhance measures to combat trafficking in persons, and for other purposes.

S. 1366

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1366, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to broaden the special rules for certain governmental plans under section 105(j) to include plans established by political subdivisions.

S. 1872

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) were added as cosponsors of S. 1872, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the tax treatment of ABLE accounts established under State programs for the care of family members with disabilities, and for other purposes.

S. 1910

At the request of Mr. LIEBERMAN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1910, a bill to provide benefits to domestic partners of Federal employees.

S. 1993

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1993, a bill to posthumously award a Congressional Gold Medal to Lena Horne in recognition of her achievements and contributions to American culture and the civil rights movement.

S. 2013

At the request of Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2013, a bill to amend title 32, United States Code, the body of laws of the United States dealing with the National Guard, to recognize the City of Salem, Massachusetts, as the Birthplace of the National Guard of the United States.

S. 2046

At the request of Ms. MIKULSKI, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2046, a bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to modify the requirements of the visa waiver program and for other purposes.

S. 2123

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cospon-

sor of S. 2123, a bill to amend title V of the Social Security Act to extend funding for family-to-family health information centers to help families of children with disabilities or special health care needs make informed choices about health care for their children.

S. 2160

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2160, a bill to improve the examination of depository institutions, and for other purposes.

S. 2620

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mrs. HAGAN), the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL) and the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) were added as cosponsors of S. 2620, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for an extension of the Medicare-dependent hospital (MDH) program and the increased payments under the Medicare low-volume hospital program.

S. 3231

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3231, a bill to provide for the issuance and sale of a semipostal by the United States Postal Service to support effective programs targeted at improving permanency outcomes for youth in foster care.

S. 3250

At the request of Mrs. MCCASKILL, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 3250, a bill to amend the DNA Analysis Backlog Elimination Act of 2000 to provide for Debbie Smith grants for auditing sexual assault evidence backlogs and to establish a Sexual Assault Forensic Evidence Registry, and for other purposes.

S. 3394

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW), the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUE) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) were added as cosponsors of S. 3394, a bill to address fee disclosure requirements under the Electronic Fund Transfer Act, to amend the Federal Deposit Insurance Act with respect to information provided to the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, and for other purposes.

S. 3407

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3407, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to increase the number of permanent faculty in palliative care at accredited allopathic and osteopathic medical schools, nursing schools, and other programs, to promote education in palliative care and hospice, and to support the development of faculty careers in academic palliative medicine.

S. 3461

At the request of Mr. BROWN of Ohio, the name of the Senator from Maine

(Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3461, a bill to amend title IV of the Public Health Service Act to provide for a National Pediatric Research Network, including with respect to pediatric rare diseases or conditions.

S. 3498

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3498, a bill to provide humanitarian assistance and support a democratic transition in Syria, and for other purposes.

S. 3522

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3522, a bill to provide for the expansion of affordable refinancing of mortgages held by the Federal National Mortgage Association and the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation.

S. 3525

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the names of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) were added as cosponsors of S. 3525, a bill to protect and enhance opportunities for recreational hunting, fishing, and shooting, and for other purposes.

S. 3526

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mrs. HUTCHISON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3526, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to protect the rights of conscience of members of the Armed Forces and chaplains of members of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

S. 3541

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, the names of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS), the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 3541, a bill to amend section 520 of the Housing Act of 1949 to revise the census data and population requirements for areas to be considered as rural areas for purposes of such Act.

S. 3551

At the request of Mr. DEMINT, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3551, a bill to require investigations into and a report on the September 11–13, 2012, attacks on the United States missions in Libya, Egypt, and Yemen, and for other purposes.

S. 3555

At the request of Mr. BURR, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. BROWN) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) were added as cosponsors of S. 3555, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to require Federal agencies to hire veterans, to require States to recognize the military experience of veterans when issuing licenses and credentials to veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 3562

At the request of Mr. SANDERS, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3562, a bill to reauthorize and improve the Older Americans Act of 1965, and for other purposes.

S. 3565

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3565, a bill to eliminate discrimination and promote women's health and economic security by ensuring reasonable workplace accommodations for workers whose ability to perform the functions of a job are limited by pregnancy, childbirth, or a related medical condition.

S. 3574

At the request of Mr. BLUNT, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3574, a bill to amend section 403 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to improve and clarify certain disclosure requirements for restaurants, similar retail food establishments, and vending machines.

S. 3588

At the request of Mr. LEVIN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3588, a bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to protect and restore the Great Lakes.

S. 3601

At the request of Mr. VITTER, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3601, a bill to provide tax relief with respect to the Hurricane Isaac disaster area.

S. 3605

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3605, a bill to clarify Congressional intent regarding the regulation of the use of pesticides in or near navigable waters, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 41

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) and the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. CORKER) were added as cosponsors of S.J. Res. 41, a joint resolution expressing the sense of Congress regarding the nuclear program of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

At the request of Mr. KERRY, his name was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 41, *supra*.

S.J. RES. 45

At the request of Mrs. HUTCHISON, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 45, a joint resolution amending title 36, United States Code, to designate June 19 as "Juneteenth Independence Day".

S. CON. RES. 50

At the request of Mr. MCCONNELL, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 50, a concurrent resolution

expressing the sense of Congress regarding actions to preserve and advance the multistakeholder governance model under which the Internet has thrived.

S. RES. 466

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 466, a resolution calling for the release from prison of former Prime Minister of Ukraine Yulia Tymoshenko.

S. RES. 543

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 543, a resolution to express the sense of the Senate on international parental child abduction.

S. RES. 572

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 572, a resolution designating September 2012 as the "National Month of Voter Registration".

S. RES. 573

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 573, a resolution designating the third week of January 2013, as "Teen Cancer Awareness Week".

S. RES. 574

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the names of the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. McCASKILL), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) and the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 574, a resolution calling on the United Nations to take concerted actions against leaders in Iran for their statements calling for the destruction of another United Nations Member State, Israel.

AMENDMENT NO. 2862

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2862 proposed to H.R. 4850, a bill to allow for innovations and alternative technologies that meet or exceed desired energy efficiency goals.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. WYDEN:

S. 3609. A bill to adopt fair standards and procedures by which determinations of Copyright Royalty Judges are made with respect to webcasting, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, today I rise to introduce the Internet Radio Fairness Act. The goal of this proposal is to help one of America's oldest, most dynamic industries grow into the 21st Century. Thanks to new digital music technologies, the ways in which consumers can listen and buy music has been revolutionized.

Internet technology is even changing the music industry itself. The Net is

freeing artists from the shackles of major record label middlemen by enabling artists to broadcast and sell directly to consumers. In fact, right now bands on independent labels are dominating the music charts. Artists like Amanda Palmer are leaving the record labels behind by instead reaching for success by embracing Internet platforms like Kickstarter to get her music heard.

I am a firm believer that further unleashing Internet technology will expand the music marketplace to better reward Internet innovation and musical artists.

The Internet has changed our lives. It is reshaping how people communicate, collaborate and engage in commerce. The Internet empowers the powerless, it gives everyone a voice, and it advances human rights and the cause of freedom around the world. The growth and evolution of the Internet comes from good, innovative ideas and from policy environments that protect the Net from unfair and discriminatory taxes, regulation, and legal liability.

Unfortunately, one area of the Internet ecosystem that is stifled is the digital services of broadcast music. In 1998 Federal laws were enacted to specifically thwart the development of Internet platforms that are commercially viable as broadcasters of digital music. Since then, concerns about online copyright infringement intensified, record sales plummeted, and many commercially successful musicians are struggling. Consumers and rightsholders are increasingly seeking innovative, new models that can better promote music and compensate artists. The Internet Radio Fairness Act intends to answer some of these calls.

Under current law royalty rates prescribed for Internet Radio are established based on what a panel of special copyright judges determine to be the market rate for musical licenses. But there is no functioning market for these licenses and these judges are left with very little information to make reasonable conclusions. That is why Congress routinely intervenes to correct the work of these judges. The current method these judges use to establish royalty rates for Internet Radio has led to webcasters paying five times the amount of royalties—as a percentage of revenue—as other digital music broadcasters, like satellite and cable. The long-established method that copyright judges use to determine royalty rates for satellite and cable providers enables a broader set of factors to be considered.

The Internet Radio Fairness Act would end the discrimination against the Internet and Internet Radio in the digital marketplace. It would treat Internet Radio, for purposes of establishing royalty rates, in the same way that satellite and cable radio are treated. It would enable the copyright judges the ability to consider factors they have long been familiar with to establish royalty rates for Internet

Radio in the same way they have long done for other broadcasters.

Doing this can enable new Internet Radio startups to succeed and create jobs, foster competition, and the expansion of the music marketplace in part so that artists can obtain broader exposure and more compensation.

I hope to work with you, with stakeholders, and with my Senate colleagues to discuss this legislation and additional ideas that are necessary to unleash the power of the Internet to foster a broader, more dynamic marketplace for digital music.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself and Mr. MERKLEY):

S. 3610. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to deny the inclusion of any antidumping or countervailing duties in the determination of the basis of any energy tax credit property; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I rise today to sponsor two important pieces of legislation. My colleagues in this body are all aware of the challenges that American manufacturers struggle with in the global market. A particular challenge faces producers of renewable energy technology. Not only do these producers compete against decades of government subsidies provided to the oil and gas industry, these manufacturers are increasingly competing against China's unfair trade practices.

As my colleagues know, the record is clear that China is cheating. China is illegally subsidizing their producers of solar and wind energy technology. China is enabling solar panels and wind energy property to be sold in the U.S. at below market value due to the government subsidies they are provided by China.

The Department of Commerce is investigating these practices. The Department has already found specific practices employed by China that are against international trade rules. As a result the government will soon assign antidumping and countervailing duties on solar panels, for example, as they have been determined by the Department of Commerce to be unfairly traded.

The first measure that I sponsored today is very simple. The Investment Tax Credit Integrity Act, S. 3610, would simply say for purposes of the tax credit that American buyers of solar panels and other qualifying renewable energy can claim, taxpayers cannot use the tax credit to offset the antidumping and countervailing duties that are assigned to this merchandise. As you know, the rate of these duties is designed to remedy the unfair trade that was exposed; it would be counterproductive to allow the Investment Tax Credit to undermine the purpose of these duties.

The second measure that I filed today, S. 3611, is equally important. The Buy Fairly Traded Goods Act says that federal agencies should not, with taxpayer money, buy merchandise, like

Chinese subsidized solar panels, that are subject to U.S. duties assigned to remedy the unfair trade practices. Taxpayer money should not be used to buy property that the Department of Commerce has determined is unfairly traded and which is shown to harm U.S. manufacturers. This measure is written so there may be limited exceptions in the event of a national security issue, and it is crafted to comply with America's international trade obligations. Importantly, this bill also instructs federal agencies to use their contracting power to ensure that developers who are producing renewable energy for use by the federal government do not buy property for that purpose that is subject to trade remedies.

I am pleased that Senator MERKLEY has joined me in sponsoring these proposals. Mr. MERKLEY has a strong record for standing up for American businesses and the workers who are struggling during these difficult times due to the unscrupulous trade practices employed by the People's Republic of China.

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

S. 3614. A bill to establish a pilot program to authorize the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to make grants to nonprofit organizations to rehabilitate and modify homes of disabled and low-income veterans; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, today I am introducing the Housing Assistance for Veterans Act along with my colleague Senator JOHANNIS.

Our veterans have made many personal sacrifices in service to our nation. We must honor our commitment to provide them with the care they have earned and deserved, in both word and deed. One such way is to ensure that they have access to adequate housing.

According to Rebuilding Together, more than a quarter of all veterans, about six million, are estimated to be disabled. In my home State of Rhode Island, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, there are more than 19,000 veterans with disabilities, each of whom face their own unique challenges in terms of their housing needs.

The Department of Veterans Affairs, VA, has programs that assist these veterans in adapting and improving their homes. Unfortunately, these programs do not extend assistance to all veterans with disabilities. It is clear we must do more, and with this legislation, we are seeking to serve all veterans with disabilities, regardless of the severity of the disability and whether the disability is service-connected. The Housing Assistance for Veterans Act will give them the opportunity to renovate and modify their existing homes by installing wheelchair ramps, widening doors, re-equipping rooms, and making necessary additions and adjustments to existing structures, all so that these

homes are both more suitable and safer for our veterans.

Our legislation encourages key stakeholders, such as the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the VA, housing non-profits, and veterans service organizations, to work together to serve our veterans. In order to extend the reach of this Federal funding, grant recipients would be expected to either match Federal funding or make in-kind contributions, through encouraging volunteers to help make repairs or engaging businesses to donate needed supplies.

This bill is supported by Rebuilding Together, VetsFirst, Vietnam Veterans of America, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Paralyzed Veterans of America, and Habitat for Humanity. I thank Senator JOHANNIS for working with me on this important bill, and I look forward to working with him and the rest of our colleagues to pass this legislation.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 575—COMMENDING THE 4 AMERICAN PUBLIC SERVANTS WHO DIED IN BENGHAZI, LIBYA, UNITED STATES AMBASSADOR TO LIBYA JOHN CHRISTOPHER STEVENS, SEAN SMITH, TYRONE WOODS, AND GLEN DOHERTY, FOR THEIR TIRELESS EFFORTS ON BEHALF OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, AND CONDEMNING THE VIOLENT ATTACK ON THE UNITED STATES CONSULATE IN BENGHAZI

Mr. LUGAR (for himself and Mr. KERRY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 575

Whereas on September 11, 2012, 4 American public servants, United States Ambassador to Libya John Christopher Stevens, Sean Smith, Tyrone Woods, and Glen Doherty, were killed in a reprehensible and vicious attack on the United States consulate in Benghazi, Libya;

Whereas Ambassador Stevens—

(1) was a courageous and exemplary representative of the United States;

(2) had spent 21 years in the Foreign Service;

(3) was deeply passionate about representing the United States through his diplomatic service; and

(4) was an ardent friend of the Libyan people;

Whereas Ambassador Stevens served as Special Envoy to the Libyan Transitional National Council in Benghazi during the 2011 Libyan revolution;

Whereas Ambassador Stevens was a dear friend of the Senate, having served on the staff of the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate in 2006 and 2007 as a distinguished Pearson Fellow;

Whereas Foreign Service Information Management Officer Sean Smith—

(1) was a husband and a father of 2 children;

(2) joined the Department of State 10 years ago after serving in the United States Air Force; and

(3) had served in the Foreign Service, before arriving in Benghazi, in Baghdad, Pretoria, Montreal, and The Hague;

Whereas Tyrone Woods was a husband and a father of three children, who, after two decades of service as a Navy SEAL that included tours in Iraq and Afghanistan, began working with the Department of State to protect United States diplomatic personnel;

Whereas Glen Doherty, after 12 years of service as a Navy SEAL that included tours in Iraq and Afghanistan, began working with the Department of State to protect United States diplomatic personnel;

Whereas the 4 Americans who perished in the Benghazi attack made great sacrifices and showed bravery in taking on a difficult post in Libya;

Whereas the violence in Benghazi coincided with an attack on the United States Embassy in Cairo, Egypt, which was also swarmed by an angry mob of protesters on September 11, 2012;

Whereas on a daily basis, United States diplomats, military personnel, and other public servants risk their lives to serve the American people; and

Whereas throughout this Nation's history, thousands of Americans have sacrificed their lives for the ideals of freedom, democracy, and partnership with nations and people around the globe.

Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the dedicated service and deep commitment of Ambassador John Christopher Stevens, Sean Smith, Tyrone Woods, and Glen Doherty in assisting the Libyan people as they navigate the complex currents of democratic transition marked in this case by profound instability;

(2) praises Ambassador Stevens, who represented the highest tradition of American public service, for his extraordinary record of dedication to the United States' interests in some of the most difficult and dangerous posts around the globe;

(3) sends its deepest condolences to the families of those American public servants killed in Benghazi;

(4) commends the bravery of Foreign Service Officers, United States Armed Forces, and public servants serving in harm's way around the globe and recognizes the deep sacrifices made by their families; and

(5) condemns, in the strongest possible terms, the despicable attacks on American diplomats and public servants in Benghazi and calls for the perpetrators of such attacks to be brought to justice.

SENATE RESOLUTION 576—CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SIGNING OF PUBLIC LAW 87-788, AN ACT COMMONLY KNOWN AS THE MCINTIRE-STENNIS COOPERATIVE FORESTRY ACT

Mr. COCHRAN (for himself, Mr. WICKER, Ms. COLLINS, and Ms. SNOWE) submitted the following resolution; which was:

S. RES. 576

Whereas October 10, 2012, marks the 50th anniversary of the signing of Public Law 87-788 (commonly known as the "McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Act") (16 U.S.C. 582a et seq.), which authorized the Secretary of Agriculture to encourage and assist States in conducting a program of forestry research;

Whereas the McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Act was named for the 2 primary, bipartisan sponsors of the Act, Representative Clifford G. McIntire of Maine and Senator John C. Stennis of Mississippi, who recognized that research in forestry is the

"driving force behind progress in developing and utilizing the Nation's forests";

Whereas the McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Act recognized that forestry research would be more effective nationwide if efforts among State-supported institutions of higher education were partnered and more closely coordinated with forestry research activities in the Federal Government;

Whereas Congressman McIntire and Senator Stennis stated a clear intent to address the important need of the United States for increased numbers of highly trained forestry scientists and other research professionals;

Whereas the McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Act has provided 5 decades of base funding to establish and strengthen research and training capacity in forestry at State-supported institutions of higher education;

Whereas funds provided by the Act to State-supported institutions of higher education are highly leveraged with non-Federal funds;

Whereas university-based forestry research has provided an accumulated wealth of science-based knowledge, skills, and technologies that have been critical for sustaining United States forests for economic, ecological, and social benefits;

Whereas funds provided by the McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Act for forestry research at State-supported institutions of higher education have provided significant graduate student support over the last 50 years, resulting in 8,500 master's degrees and 2,600 doctoral degrees;

Whereas the State-supported institutions of higher education that receive funds under the McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Act conduct forestry research in all 50 States and 4 territories of the United States, and disseminate the results of those efforts locally, regionally, nationally, and globally for the betterment of the communities of the institutions, the United States, and the world; and

Whereas many State-supported institutions of higher education are celebrating and commemorating the 50th anniversary of the signing of the McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Act: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) celebrates the 50th anniversary of the signing of Public Law 87-788 (commonly known as the "McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Act") (16 U.S.C. 582a et seq.) by President John F. Kennedy;

(2) encourages the people of the United States to observe and celebrate the 50th anniversary of the signing of the McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Act with appropriate ceremonies and activities;

(3) affirms the continuing importance and vitality of the State-supported institutions of higher education conducting forestry research and training supported by the McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Act; and

(4) respectfully requests that the Secretary of the Senate transmit to the National Association of University Forest Resources Programs an enrolled copy of this resolution for appropriate display.

SENATE RESOLUTION 577—HONORING THE FIRST SPECIAL SERVICE FORCE, IN RECOGNITION OF ITS SUPERIOR SERVICE DURING WORLD WAR II

Mr. BAUCUS (for himself, Mr. KERRY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. TESTER, and Ms. MURKOWSKI) submitted the following resolution; which was:

S. RES. 577

Whereas the First Special Service Force (referred to in this preamble as the "Force"), a military unit composed of volunteers from the United States and Canada, was activated in July 1942 at Fort Harrison near Helena, Montana;

Whereas the Force was initially intended to target military and industrial installations that were supporting the German war effort, including important hydroelectric plants, which would severely limit the production of strategic materials used by the Axis powers;

Whereas, from July 1942 through June 1943, volunteers of the Force trained in hazardous, arctic conditions in the mountains of western Montana, and in the waterways of Camp Bradford, Virginia;

Whereas the combat echelon of the Force totaled 1,800 soldiers, half from the United States and half from Canada;

Whereas the Force also contained a service battalion, composed of 800 members from the United States, that provided important support for the combat troops;

Whereas a special bond developed between the Canadian and United States soldiers, who were not segregated by country, although the commander of the Force was a United States colonel;

Whereas the Force was the only unit formed during World War II that consisted of troops from Canada and the United States;

Whereas, in October 1943, the Force went to Italy, where it fought in battles south of Cassino, including Monte La Difensa and Monte Majo, two mountain peaks that were a critical anchor of the German defense line;

Whereas, during the night of December 3, 1943, the Force ascended to the top of the precipitous face of Monte La Difensa, where the Force suffered heavy casualties and overcame fierce resistance to overtake the German line;

Whereas, after the battle for La Difensa, the Force continued to fight tough battles at high altitudes, in rugged terrain, and in severe weather;

Whereas, after battles on the strongly defended Italian peaks of Sammucro, Vischiato, and Remetanea, the size of the Force had been reduced from 1,800 soldiers to fewer than 500;

Whereas, for 4 months in 1944, the Force engaged in raids and aggressive patrols at the Anzio Beachhead;

Whereas, on June 4, 1944, members of the Force were among the first Allied troops to liberate Rome;

Whereas, after liberating Rome, the Force moved to southern Italy and prepared to assist in the liberation of France;

Whereas, during the early morning of August 15, 1944, members of the Force made silent landings on Les Iles D'Hyeres, small islands in the Mediterranean Sea along the southern coast of France;

Whereas the Force faced a sustained and withering assault from the German garrisons as the Force progressed from the islands to the Franco-Italian border;

Whereas, after the Allied forces secured the Franco-Italian border, the United States Army ordered the disbandment of the Force on December 5, 1944, in Nice, France;

Whereas, during 251 days of combat, the Force suffered 2,314 casualties, or 134 percent of its authorized strength, captured thousands of prisoners, won 5 United States campaign stars and 8 Canadian battle honors, and never failed a mission;

Whereas the United States is forever indebted to the acts of bravery and selflessness of the troops of the Force, who risked their lives for the cause of freedom;

Whereas the efforts of the Force along the seas and skies of Europe were critical in repelling the advance of Nazi Germany and liberating numerous communities in France and Italy;

Whereas the bond between the members of the Force from the United States and those from Canada has endured over the decades, as the members meet every year for a reunion, alternating between the United States and Canada; and

Whereas the traditions and honors exhibited by the Force are carried on by 2 outstanding active units of 2 great democracies, the Special Forces of the United States and the Canadian Special Operations Regiment: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate recognizes and honors the superior service of the First Special Service Force during World War II.

SENATE RESOLUTION 578—SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF RED RIBBON WEEK, 2012

Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. MORAN, and Mr. BEGICH) submitted the following resolution; which was:

S. RES. 578

Whereas the Red Ribbon Campaign was established to commemorate the service of Enrique “Kiki” Camarena, a special agent of the Drug Enforcement Administration for 11 years who was murdered in the line of duty in 1985 while engaged in the battle against illicit drugs;

Whereas the Red Ribbon Campaign was established by the National Family Partnership to preserve the memory of Special Agent Camarena and further the cause for which he gave his life;

Whereas the Red Ribbon Campaign has been nationally recognized since 1988 and is now the oldest and largest drug prevention program in the United States, reaching millions of young people each year during Red Ribbon Week;

Whereas the Drug Enforcement Administration, established in 1973, aggressively targets organizations involved in the growing, manufacturing, and distribution of controlled substances and has been a steadfast partner in commemorating Red Ribbon Week;

Whereas the Governors and attorneys general of the States, the National Family Partnership, Parent Teacher Associations, Boys and Girls Clubs of America, PRIDE Youth Programs, Young Marines, the Drug Enforcement Administration, and hundreds of other organizations throughout the United States annually celebrate Red Ribbon Week during the period of October 23 through October 31;

Whereas the objective of Red Ribbon Week is to promote the creation of drug-free communities through drug prevention efforts, education, parental involvement, and community-wide support;

Whereas drug abuse is one of the major challenges that the United States faces in securing a safe and healthy future for families in the United States;

Whereas drug abuse and alcohol abuse contribute to domestic violence and sexual assault and place the lives of children at risk;

Whereas emerging drug threats and growing epidemics demand attention, with a particular focus on prescription medications, the second most abused drug by young people in the United States, and synthetic drugs;

Whereas, since the majority of teenagers abusing prescription medications get the medications from family, friends, and home

medicine cabinets, the Drug Enforcement Administration will host a National Take Back Day on September 29, 2012, for the public to safely dispose of unused or expired prescription medications that can lead to accidental poisoning, overdose, and abuse;

Whereas synthetic marijuana, also known as “K2” or “Spice”, has become especially popular, particularly among teenagers and young adults, and in 2011 poison centers across the United States responded to about 6,960 calls related to synthetic marijuana, up from approximately 2,900 calls in 2010;

Whereas Congress recently enacted the Food and Drug Administration Safety and Innovation Act (Public Law 112-144; 126 Stat. 993), which adds 26 synthetic drugs to the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 801 et seq.), including the drugs commonly found in products marketed as K2, Spice, and bath salts; and

Whereas parents, young people, schools, businesses, law enforcement agencies, religious institutions, service organizations, senior citizens, medical and military personnel, sports teams, and individuals throughout the United States will demonstrate their commitment to healthy, productive, and drug-free lifestyles by wearing and displaying red ribbons during the week-long celebration of Red Ribbon Week: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of Red Ribbon Week, 2012;

(2) encourages children and teenagers to choose to live drug-free lives; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States—

(A) to promote the creation of drug-free communities; and

(B) to participate in drug prevention activities to show support for healthy, productive, and drug-free lifestyles.

SENATE RESOLUTION 579—DESIGNATING THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 24 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 28, 2012, AS “NATIONAL HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES WEEK”

Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Mrs. HAGAN, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. BURR, Mr. CASEY, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. COBURN, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. COONS, Mr. CORKER, Mr. CORNYN, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. ISAKSON, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. MANCHIN, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. WARNER, Mr. WEBB, Mr. WICKER, Mr. LEVIN, and Mr. CARDIN) submitted the following resolution; which was:

S. RES. 579

Whereas there are 105 historically Black colleges and universities in the United States;

Whereas historically Black colleges and universities provide the quality education essential to full participation in a complex, highly technological society;

Whereas historically Black colleges and universities have a rich heritage and have played a prominent role in the history of the United States;

Whereas historically Black colleges and universities allow talented and diverse students, many of whom represent underserved populations, to attain their full potential through higher education; and

Whereas the achievements and goals of historically Black colleges and universities are

deserving of national recognition: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week of September 24 through September 28, 2012, as “National Historically Black Colleges and Universities Week”; and

(2) calls on the people of the United States and interested groups to observe the week with appropriate ceremonies, activities, and programs to demonstrate support for historically Black colleges and universities in the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 580—DESIGNATING THE WEEK BEGINNING ON OCTOBER 14, 2012, AS “NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE WEEK”

Mr. COONS (for himself, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Ms. SNOWE, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. REED, Mr. COCHRAN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. KERRY, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. LEAHY, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. BINGAMAN, and Ms. COLLINS) submitted the following resolution; which was:

S. RES. 580

Whereas, in 1903, President Theodore Roosevelt established the first national wildlife refuge on Florida’s Pelican Island;

Whereas, in 2012, the National Wildlife Refuge System, administered by the Fish and Wildlife Service, is the premier system of lands and waters to conserve wildlife in the world, and has grown to more than 150,000,000 acres, 558 national wildlife refuges, and 38 wetland management districts in every State and territory of the United States;

Whereas national wildlife refuges are important recreational and tourism destinations in communities across the United States, and these protected lands offer a variety of recreational opportunities, including 6 wildlife-dependent uses that the National Wildlife Refuge System manages: hunting, fishing, wildlife observation, photography, environmental education, and interpretation;

Whereas more than 360 units of the National Wildlife Refuge System have hunting programs and more than 300 units of the National Wildlife Refuge System have fishing programs, averaging more than 2,500,000 hunting visits and more than 7,000,000 fishing visits each year;

Whereas the National Wildlife Refuge System experienced more than 30,000,000 wildlife observation visits during fiscal year 2012;

Whereas national wildlife refuges are important to local businesses and gateway communities;

Whereas, for every \$1 appropriated, national wildlife refuges generate \$4 in economic activity;

Whereas the National Wildlife Refuge System experiences approximately 47,000,000 visits each year, which generated nearly \$2,100,000,000 and more than 35,000 jobs in local economies during fiscal year 2012;

Whereas the National Wildlife Refuge System encompasses every kind of ecosystem in the United States, including temperate, tropical, and boreal forests, wetlands, deserts, grasslands, arctic tundras, and remote islands, and spans 12 time zones from the Virgin Islands to Guam;

Whereas national wildlife refuges are home to more than 700 species of birds, 220 species

of mammals, 250 species of reptiles and amphibians, and more than 1,000 species of fish;

Whereas national wildlife refuges are the primary Federal lands that foster production, migration, and wintering habitat for waterfowl;

Whereas, since 1934, the sale of the Federal Duck Stamp to outdoor enthusiasts has generated more than \$850,000,000 in funds, which has enabled the purchase or lease of more than 5,500,000 acres of waterfowl habitat in the National Wildlife Refuge System;

Whereas 59 refuges were established specifically to protect imperiled species, and of the more than 1,300 federally listed threatened and endangered species in the United States, 280 species are found on units of the National Wildlife Refuge System;

Whereas national wildlife refuges are cores of conservation for larger landscapes and resources for other agencies of the Federal Government and State governments, private landowners, and organizations in their efforts to secure the wildlife heritage of the United States;

Whereas more than 42,000 volunteers and approximately 220 national wildlife refuge "Friends" organizations contribute nearly 1,600,000 hours annually, the equivalent of 766 full-time employees, and provide an important link to local communities;

Whereas national wildlife refuges provide an important opportunity for children to discover and gain a greater appreciation for the natural world;

Whereas, because there are national wildlife refuges located in several urban and suburban areas and 1 refuge located within an hour's drive of every metropolitan area in the United States, national wildlife refuges employ, educate, and engage young people from all backgrounds in exploring, connecting with, and preserving the natural heritage of the United States;

Whereas, since 1995, refuges across the United States have held festivals, educational programs, guided tours, and other events to celebrate National Wildlife Refuge Week during the second full week of October;

Whereas the Fish and Wildlife Service will continue to seek stakeholder input on the implementation of "Conserving the Future: Wildlife Refuges and the Next Generation", an update to the strategic plan of the Fish and Wildlife Service for the future of the National Wildlife Refuge System;

Whereas the week beginning on October 14, 2012, has been designated as "National Wildlife Refuge Week" by the Fish and Wildlife Service; and

Whereas the designation of National Wildlife Refuge Week by the Senate would recognize more than a century of conservation in the United States, raise awareness about the importance of wildlife and the National Wildlife Refuge System, and celebrate the myriad recreational opportunities available to enjoy this network of protected lands: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week beginning on October 14, 2012, as "National Wildlife Refuge Week";

(2) encourages the observance of National Wildlife Refuge Week with appropriate events and activities;

(3) acknowledges the importance of national wildlife refuges for their recreational opportunities and contribution to local economies across the United States;

(4) pronounces that national wildlife refuges play a vital role in securing the hunting and fishing heritage of the United States for future generations;

(5) identifies the significance of national wildlife refuges in advancing the traditions of wildlife observation, photography, environmental education, and interpretation;

(6) recognizes the importance of national wildlife refuges to wildlife conservation and the protection of imperiled species and ecosystems, as well as compatible uses;

(7) acknowledges the role of national wildlife refuges in conserving waterfowl and waterfowl habitat pursuant to the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (40 Stat. 755, chapter 128);

(8) reaffirms the support of the Senate for wildlife conservation and the National Wildlife Refuge System; and

(9) expresses the intent of the Senate—

(A) to continue working to conserve wildlife; and

(B) to manage the National Wildlife Refuge System for current and future generations.

SENATE RESOLUTION 581—DESIGNATING OCTOBER 26, 2012, AS "DAY OF THE DEPLOYED"

Mr. HOEVEN (for himself, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. BOOZMAN, and Mr. BLUNT) submitted the following resolution; which was:

S. RES. 581

Whereas more than 2,500,000 people serve as members of the United States Armed Forces;

Whereas several hundred thousand members of the Armed Forces rotate each year through deployments to 150 countries in every region of the world;

Whereas more than 2,300,000 members of the Armed Forces have deployed to the area of operations of the United States Central Command since the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks;

Whereas the United States is kept strong and free by the loyal military personnel who protect our precious heritage through their positive declaration and actions;

Whereas members of the Armed Forces serving at home and abroad have courageously answered the call to duty to defend the ideals of the United States and to preserve peace and freedom around the world;

Whereas members of the Armed Forces personify the virtues of patriotism, service, duty, courage, and sacrifice;

Whereas the families of members of the Armed Forces make important and significant sacrifices for the United States;

Whereas in 2010, 40 States designated October 26 as "Day of the Deployed" following the first recognition of a "Day of the Deployed" by North Dakota on October 26, 2006; and

Whereas the Senate designated October 26, 2011, as "Day of the Deployed": Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) honors the members of the United States Armed Forces who are deployed;

(2) calls on the people of the United States to reflect on the service of those members of the United States Armed Forces, wherever they serve, past, present, and future;

(3) designates October 26, 2012, as "Day of the Deployed"; and

(4) encourages the people of the United States to observe "Day of the Deployed" with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 582—RECOGNIZING HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH AND CELEBRATING THE HERITAGE AND CULTURE OF LATINOS IN THE UNITED STATES AND THE IMMENSE CONTRIBUTIONS OF LATINOS TO THE UNITED STATES

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. REID, Mr. CORNYN, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr.

BEGICH, Mr. HELLER, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mrs. HAGAN, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. ENZI, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. BENNET, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. RUBIO, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. INOUE, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. REED, Mr. BINGAMAN, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. WARNER, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) submitted the following resolution; which was:

S. RES. 582

Whereas beginning on September 15, 2012, through October 15, 2012, the United States celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month;

Whereas the Census Bureau estimates the Hispanic population in the United States at over 52,000,000 people, making Hispanic Americans the largest racial or ethnic minority group within the United States overall and in 25 individual States;

Whereas Latinos accounted for over ½ of all population growth from July 1, 2010, to July 1, 2011;

Whereas the Hispanic population in the United States is projected to grow to 132,800,000 by July 1, 2050, at which point the Hispanic population will comprise 30 percent of the total population in the United States;

Whereas nearly 1 in 4 United States public school students is Hispanic, and the total number of Hispanic students enrolled in public schools in the United States is expected to reach 28,000,000 by 2050;

Whereas 16.5 percent of all college students between the age of 18 and 24 years old are Hispanics, making Hispanics the largest racial or ethnic minority group on college campuses in the United States, including both 2-year community colleges and 4-year colleges and universities;

Whereas the purchasing power of Hispanic Americans was \$1,000,000,000,000 in 2010 and is expected to grow 50 percent to \$1,500,000,000 by 2015;

Whereas there are approximately 2,300,000 Hispanic-owned firms in the United States, supporting millions of employees nationwide and greatly contributing to the economic sector, especially retail trade, wholesale trade, food services, and construction;

Whereas as of June 2012, nearly 25,000,000 Hispanic workers represented 16 percent of the total labor force in the United States, with the share of Latino labor force participation expected to grow to 18 percent by 2018;

Whereas Hispanic Americans serve in all branches of the Armed Forces and have bravely fought in every war in the history of the United States;

Whereas as of July 2012, 143,054 Hispanic active duty service members served with distinction in the United States Armed Forces in fiscal year 2012;

Whereas as of June 30, 2012, there were 19,752 Hispanics serving in Afghanistan;

Whereas as of May 7, 2012, 645 United States military fatalities in Iraq and Afghanistan have been Hispanic;

Whereas more than 80,000 Hispanics served in the Vietnam War, representing 5.5 percent of individuals who made the ultimate sacrifice for their country in that conflict even though Hispanics comprised only 4.5 percent of the United States population at the time;

Whereas 140,000 Hispanic soldiers served in the Korean War;

Whereas as of September 2012, there are approximately 1,300,000 living Hispanic veterans of the United States Armed Forces;

Whereas 44 Hispanic Americans have received the Congressional Medal of Honor, the highest award for valor in action against an

enemy force that can be bestowed on an individual serving in the United States Armed Forces;

Whereas Hispanic Americans are dedicated public servants, holding posts at the highest levels of government, including 1 seat on the Supreme Court, 2 seats in the Senate, 29 seats in the House of Representatives, and 2 seats in the Cabinet; and

Whereas Hispanic Americans harbor a deep commitment to family and community, an enduring work ethic, and a perseverance to succeed and contribute to society: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month from September 15, 2012, through October 15, 2012;

(2) esteems the integral role of Latinos and the manifold heritage of Latinos in the economy, culture, and identity of the United States; and

(3) urges the people of the United States to observe Hispanic Heritage Month with appropriate programs and activities that appreciate the cultural contributions of Latinos to American life.

SENATE RESOLUTION 583—DESIGNATING SEPTEMBER 2012 AS “NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH”

Mr. LIEBERMAN (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, and Ms. LANDRIEU) submitted the following resolution; which was:

S. RES. 583

Whereas a terrorist attack, natural disaster, or other emergency could strike any part of the United States at any time;

Whereas natural and manmade emergencies disrupt hundreds of thousands of lives each year, costing lives and causing serious injuries and billions of dollars in property damage;

Whereas Federal, State, and local officials, as well as private and nonprofit organizations, are working to mitigate against, prevent, and respond to all types of emergencies;

Whereas the people of the United States can help promote the overall emergency preparedness of the United States by being prepared for all types of emergencies;

Whereas National Preparedness Month provides an opportunity to highlight the importance of public emergency preparedness and to encourage the people of the United States to take steps to be better prepared for emergencies at home, work, and school;

Whereas the people of the United States can prepare for emergencies by taking steps, such as assembling emergency supply kits, creating family emergency plans, staying informed about possible emergencies, and obtaining reasonable levels of insurance; and

Whereas additional information about public emergency preparedness may be obtained through the Ready Campaign of the Department of Homeland Security at www.ready.gov or the American Red Cross at www.redcross.org/prepare: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 2012 as “National Preparedness Month”; and

(2) encourages the Federal Government, States, localities, schools, nonprofit organizations, businesses, and other applicable entities, along with the people of the United States, to observe National Preparedness Month with appropriate events and activities to promote emergency preparedness.

SENATE RESOLUTION 584—DESIGNATING OCTOBER 4, 2012, AS “JUMPSTART’S READ FOR THE RECORD DAY”

Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. KERRY, Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts, Mr. WICKER, Mr. BENNET, and Mr. COCHRAN) submitted the following resolution; which was:

S. RES. 584

Whereas Jumpstart, a national early education organization, is working to ensure that every child in the United States enters school prepared to succeed;

Whereas Jumpstart delivers a year-round research-based and cost-effective program by training college students and community volunteers to serve preschool age children in low-income neighborhoods, helping them to develop the language and literacy skills necessary to succeed in school and in life;

Whereas, since 1993, Jumpstart has trained nearly 25,000 college students and community volunteers to transform the lives of more than 42,000 preschool children in communities across the United States;

Whereas Jumpstart’s Read for the Record, presented in partnership with the Pearson Foundation, is a national campaign that culminates in one day of the year when millions of people in the United States come together to celebrate literacy and support Jumpstart in its efforts to promote early childhood education;

Whereas the goals of the campaign are to raise awareness in the United States of the importance of early childhood education, support Jumpstart’s early education programs in preschools in low-income neighborhoods through donations and sponsorship, and celebrate the commencement of Jumpstart’s program year;

Whereas October 4, 2012, is an appropriate date to designate as “Jumpstart’s Read for the Record Day” because it is the date Jumpstart aims to set the world record for the largest shared reading experience; and

Whereas Jumpstart hopes to engage more than 2,200,000 children in reading “Ladybug Girl and the Bug Squad” by David Soman and Jacky Davis during this record-breaking celebration of reading and service, all in support of preschool children in the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates October 4, 2012, as “Jumpstart’s Read for the Record Day”;

(2) commends Jumpstart’s Read for the Record on its seventh year;

(3) encourages adults, including grandparents, parents, teachers, and college students—

(A) to join children in creating the world’s largest shared reading experience; and

(B) to show their support for literacy and Jumpstart’s early education programming for young children in low-income communities; and

(4) requests the Secretary of the Senate to transmit a copy of this resolution to Jumpstart, one of the leading nonprofit organizations in the United States in the field of early childhood education.

SENATE RESOLUTION 585—RECOGNIZING THE EXTRAORDINARY HISTORY AND HERITAGE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO, AND HONORING AND COMMENDING THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO AND ITS PEOPLE ON ITS CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY

Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself and Mr. UDALL of New Mexico) submitted the following resolution; which was:

S. RES. 585

Whereas New Mexico has a rich heritage and history, dating as far back as 11,000 B.C. when the Clovis people left the earliest evidence of human existence in what is now New Mexico;

Whereas Santa Fe, the capital of New Mexico, was established in 1610 and is the oldest capital city in the United States, as well as the highest in elevation at 7,000 feet above sea level;

Whereas, on September 9, 1850, the portion of the Compromise of 1850 (9 Stat. 446) that created the New Mexico Territory was enacted;

Whereas, on January 6, 1912, President William Howard Taft signed the proclamation making New Mexico the 47th State of the Union;

Whereas the nickname of New Mexico is the “Land of Enchantment” because of its scenic beauty and rich history and culture;

Whereas the natural wonder of New Mexico is preserved by a broad range of national parks, forests, wilderness areas, and wildlife refuge centers;

Whereas the diverse cultural roots of New Mexico come from the many different groups of people who have inhabited the State, notably the strong tribal and Hispanic cultural influences in the State;

Whereas New Mexico has one of the richest indigenous tribal populations in the United States, including 19 Pueblo nations, 2 Apache nations, and the Navajo Nation;

Whereas the Hispanic population of New Mexico has rich and distinct cultural roots in its historic land grants as recognized by the Treaty of Peace, Friendship, Limits, and Settlement between the United States and Mexico, signed at Guadalupe Hidalgo February 2, 1848, and entered into force May 30, 1848 (9 Stat. 922) (commonly referred to as the “Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo”);

Whereas New Mexico continues to derive strength from the new Hispanic communities in the State with roots in Latin America;

Whereas New Mexico has an extensive variety of prehistoric, tribal, and Hispanic archaeological ruins;

Whereas New Mexico has a long tradition of artistic expression inspired by its natural beauty, unique architecture, and diverse people;

Whereas the people of New Mexico have a proud history of military service, predating and continuing after statehood, including the participation of the people of New Mexico in every major war of the United States since the Civil War, with notable participation by the people of New Mexico in Teddy Roosevelt’s Rough Riders, the Navajo Code Talkers, the defense of Bataan and Corregidor, the wars in Korea and Vietnam, and the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan;

Whereas New Mexico is a center for scientific innovation and laboratory research, serving as the home to the Los Alamos National Laboratory and Sandia National Laboratories;

Whereas, on July 16, 1945, the United States Army conducted the Trinity test, the first test of a nuclear weapon, which was developed at Los Alamos National Laboratory

and tested at the White Sands Proving Ground in New Mexico;

Whereas, in 1980, New Mexico dedicated the Very Large Array, one of the world's premier astronomical radio observatories that studies the history of the universe;

Whereas, in October 2011, New Mexico dedicated Spaceport America, propelling New Mexico into the future with the first commercial spaceport;

Whereas New Mexico is home to the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta, the largest hot air balloon event in the world, which is also considered to be the most photographed event in the world;

Whereas New Mexico has a long history of agricultural sustainability and productivity, supporting cattle and dairy, as well as many crops, including chile, corn, wheat, onions, peanuts, pistachios, pecans, hay, cotton, and beans;

Whereas the Hatch Valley of New Mexico, known as the "Chile Capital of the World", is recognized worldwide for its bountiful chile crop; and

Whereas New Mexico celebrated the centennial anniversary of its admission to the Union as the 47th State of the United States on January 6, 2012: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate recognizes the extraordinary history and heritage of the State of New Mexico, and honors and commends the State of New Mexico and its people on its centennial anniversary.

SENATE RESOLUTION 586—EX-PRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL INFANT MORTALITY AWARENESS MONTH, 2012

Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Mr. BURR, and Mr. MENENDEZ) submitted the following resolution; which was:

S. RES. 586

Whereas the term "infant mortality" refers to the death of a baby before the first birthday of the baby;

Whereas the United States ranks 49th among countries in the rate of infant mortality;

Whereas high rates of infant mortality are especially prevalent in African American, Native American, Alaskan Native, Latino, Asian, and Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander communities, communities with high rates of unemployment and poverty, and communities with limited access to safe housing and medical providers;

Whereas premature birth is a leading cause of infant mortality;

Whereas, according to the Institute of Medicine of the National Academies, premature birth costs the United States more than \$26,000,000,000 annually;

Whereas infant mortality can be substantially reduced through community-based services, such as outreach, home visitation, case management, health education, and interconceptional care;

Whereas support for community-based programs to reduce infant mortality may result in lower future spending on medical interventions, special education, and other social services that may be needed for infants and children who are born with a low birth weight;

Whereas the Department of Health and Human Services, acting through the Office of Minority Health, has implemented the "A Healthy Baby Begins With You" campaign;

Whereas the Maternal and Child Health Bureau of the Health Resources and Services Administration has provided national leadership on the issue of infant mortality;

Whereas the Advisory Committee on Infant Mortality provides advice and recommenda-

tions to the Secretary of Health and Human Services on reducing infant mortality and improving the health status of infants and pregnant women;

Whereas the Advisory Committee on Infant Mortality provides advice and recommendations to the Secretary of Health and Human Services with respect to developing a national strategy for reducing infant mortality;

Whereas public awareness and education campaigns on infant mortality are held during the month of September each year; and

Whereas September 2012 has been designated as "National Infant Mortality Awareness Month": Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports—

(A) the goals and ideals of National Infant Mortality Awareness Month, 2012;

(B) efforts to educate people in the United States about infant mortality and the factors that contribute to infant mortality; and

(C) efforts to reduce infant deaths, low birth weight, pre-term births, and disparities in perinatal outcomes;

(2) recognizes the critical importance of including efforts to reduce infant mortality and the factors that contribute to infant mortality as part of prevention and wellness strategies; and

(3) calls on the people of the United States to observe National Infant Mortality Awareness Month with appropriate programs and activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 587—SUPPORTING "LIGHTS ON AFTERSCHOOL", A NATIONAL CELEBRATION OF AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS

Mrs. BOXER (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, and Mr. WHITEHOUSE) submitted the following resolution; which was:

S. RES. 587

Whereas high-quality afterschool programs provide safe, challenging, engaging, and fun learning experiences that help children and youth develop social, emotional, physical, cultural, and academic skills;

Whereas high-quality afterschool programs support working families by ensuring that the children in those families are safe and productive after the regular school day ends;

Whereas high-quality afterschool programs build stronger communities by involving students, parents, business leaders, and adult volunteers in the lives of children in the United States, thereby promoting positive relationships among children, youth, families, and adults;

Whereas high-quality afterschool programs engage families, schools, and diverse community partners in advancing the well-being of children in the United States;

Whereas "Lights On Afterschool", a national celebration of afterschool programs held on October 18, 2012, highlights the critical importance of high-quality afterschool programs in the lives of children, their families, and their communities;

Whereas more than 28,000,000 children in the United States have parents who work outside the home and approximately 15,100,000 children in the United States have no place to go after school; and

Whereas nearly 2 in 5 afterschool programs report that their budgets are in worse condition today than at the height of the recession in 2008, and more than 3 in 5 afterschool programs report that their level of funding is lower than it was 3 years ago, making it difficult for afterschool programs across the United States to keep their doors open and their lights on: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate supports "Lights On Afterschool", a national celebration of afterschool programs held on October 18, 2012.

SENATE RESOLUTION 588—COMMENDING THE 4 AMERICAN PUBLIC SERVANTS WHO DIED IN BENGHAZI, LIBYA, UNITED STATES AMBASSADOR TO LIBYA JOHN CHRISTOPHER STEVENS, SEAN SMITH, TYRONE WOODS, AND GLEN DOHERTY, FOR THEIR TIRELESS EFFORTS ON BEHALF OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, AND CONDEMNING THE VIOLENT ATTACK ON THE UNITED STATES CONSULATE IN BENGHAZI

Mr. LUGAR (for himself, Mr. KERRY, Mr. REID of Nevada, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. ALEXANDER, Ms. AYOTTE, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. BURR, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. COATS, Mr. COBURN, Mr. COCHRAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. COONS, Mr. CORKER, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. DEMINT, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. ENZI, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. FRANKEN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mrs. HAGAN, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. HATCH, Mr. HELLER, Mr. HOEVEN, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. INOUE, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. JOHANNES, Mr. JOHNSON of Wisconsin, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. KIRK, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. KOHL, Mr. KYL, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. LEE, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. MCCAIN, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. MORAN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. PAUL, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. REED of Rhode Island, Mr. RISCH, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. SESSIONS, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. SHELBY, Ms. SNOWE, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. TESTER, Mr. THUNE, Mr. TOOMEY, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mr. VITTER, Mr. WARNER, Mr. WEBB, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. WYDEN) submitted the following resolution; which was:

S. RES. 588

Whereas on September 11, 2012, 4 American public servants, United States Ambassador to Libya John Christopher Stevens, Sean Smith, Tyrone Woods, and Glen Doherty, were killed in a reprehensible and vicious attack on the United States consulate in Benghazi, Libya;

Whereas Ambassador Stevens—

(1) was a courageous and exemplary representative of the United States;

(2) had spent 21 years in the Foreign Service;

(3) was deeply passionate about representing the United States through his diplomatic service; and

(4) was an ardent friend of the Libyan people;

Whereas Ambassador Stevens served as Special Envoy to the Libyan Transitional

National Council in Benghazi during the 2011 Libyan revolution;

Whereas Ambassador Stevens was a dear friend of the Senate, having served on the staff of the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate in 2006 and 2007 as a distinguished Pearson Fellow;

Whereas Foreign Service Information Management Officer Sean Smith—

(1) was a husband and a father of 2 children;

(2) joined the Department of State 10 years ago after serving in the United States Air Force; and

(3) had served in the Foreign Service, before arriving in Benghazi, in Baghdad, Pretoria, Montreal, and The Hague;

Whereas Tyrone Woods was a husband and a father of three children, who, after two decades of service as a Navy SEAL that included tours in Iraq and Afghanistan, began working with the Department of State to protect United States diplomatic personnel;

Whereas Glen Doherty, after 12 years of service as a Navy SEAL that included tours in Iraq and Afghanistan, began working with the Department of State to protect United States diplomatic personnel;

Whereas the 4 Americans who perished in the Benghazi attack made great sacrifices and showed bravery in taking on a difficult post in Libya;

Whereas the violence in Benghazi coincided with an attack on the United States Embassy in Cairo, Egypt, which was also swarmed by an angry mob of protesters on September 11, 2012;

Whereas on a daily basis, United States diplomats, military personnel, and other public servants risk their lives to serve the American people; and

Whereas throughout this Nation's history, thousands of Americans have sacrificed their lives for the ideals of freedom, democracy, and partnership with nations and people around the globe.

Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the dedicated service and deep commitment of Ambassador John Christopher Stevens, Sean Smith, Tyrone Woods, and Glen Doherty in assisting the Libyan people as they navigate the complex currents of democratic transition marked in this case by profound instability;

(2) praises Ambassador Stevens, who represented the highest tradition of American public service, for his extraordinary record of dedication to the United States' interests in some of the most difficult and dangerous posts around the globe;

(3) sends its deepest condolences to the families of those American public servants killed in Benghazi;

(4) commends the bravery of Foreign Service Officers, United States Armed Forces, and public servants serving in harm's way around the globe and recognizes the deep sacrifices made by their families; and

(5) condemns, in the strongest possible terms, the despicable attacks on American diplomats and public servants in Benghazi and calls for the perpetrators of such attacks to be brought to justice.

SENATE RESOLUTION 589—DESIGNATING NOVEMBER 24, 2012, AS “SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY” AND SUPPORTING EFFORTS TO INCREASE AWARENESS OF THE VALUE OF LOCALLY OWNED SMALL BUSINESSES

Ms. SNOWE (for herself, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. RISCH, Mr. KERRY, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mrs.

HUTCHISON, Mrs. HAGAN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. ENZI, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. COONS, Mr. KIRK, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Ms. AYOTTE, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. WARNER, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. TESTER, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. THUNE, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mrs. BOXER, and Mr. BENNET) submitted the following resolution; which was:

S. RES. 589

Whereas small businesses represent 99.7 percent of all businesses having employees (commonly referred to as “employer firms”) in the United States;

Whereas small businesses employ ½ of the employees in the private sector in the United States;

Whereas small businesses pay 44 percent of the total payroll of the employees in the private sector in the United States;

Whereas small businesses are responsible for more than 50 percent of the private, non-farm product of the gross domestic product;

Whereas small businesses generated 65 percent of net new jobs during the last 17 years;

Whereas small businesses generate 60 to 80 percent of all new jobs annually;

Whereas small businesses focus on 2 key strategies: deepening relationships with customers and creating value for customers;

Whereas, for every \$100 spent with locally owned, independent stores, \$68 returns to the community through local taxes, payroll, and other expenditures;

Whereas 92 percent of consumers in the United States agree that the success of small businesses is critical to the overall economic health of the United States;

Whereas 93 percent of consumers in the United States agree that small businesses contribute positively to the local community by supplying jobs and generating tax revenue;

Whereas 91 percent of consumers in the United States have small businesses in their community that the consumers would miss if the small businesses closed;

Whereas 99 percent of consumers in the United States agree that it is important to support the small businesses in their community; and

Whereas 90 percent of consumers in the United States are willing to pledge support for a “buy local” movement: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates November 24, 2012, as “Small Business Saturday”; and

(2) supports efforts—

(A) to encourage consumers to shop locally; and

(B) to increase awareness of the value of locally owned small businesses and the impact of locally owned small businesses on the economy of the United States.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 2849. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3576, to provide limitations on United States assistance, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2850. Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself and Mr. MANCHIN) submitted an amendment in-

tended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 3525, to protect and enhance opportunities for recreational hunting, fishing, and shooting, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2851. Mr. HATCH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3525, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2852. Mr. HATCH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3525, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2853. Mr. HATCH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3525, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2854. Mr. HATCH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3525, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2855. Mr. HATCH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3525, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2856. Mr. HATCH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3525, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2857. Mr. HATCH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3525, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2858. Mr. HATCH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3525, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2859. Mr. REID (for Mr. CARDIN) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1956, to prohibit operators of civil aircraft of the United States from participating in the European Union's emissions trading scheme, and for other purposes.

SA 2860. Mr. REID (for Mr. MERKLEY) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1956, to prohibit operators of civil aircraft of the United States from participating in the European Union's emissions trading scheme, and for other purposes.

SA 2861. Mr. PRYOR (for Mr. BINGAMAN) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 4850, to allow for innovations and alternative technologies that meet or exceed desired energy efficiency goals.

SA 2862. Mr. PRYOR (for Mrs. SHAHEEN) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 4850, to allow for innovations and alternative technologies that meet or exceed desired energy efficiency goals.

SA 2863. Mr. PRYOR (for Mr. DURBIN) proposed an amendment to S. Res. 466, calling for the release from prison of former Prime Minister of Ukraine Yulia Tymoshenko.

SA 2864. Mr. PRYOR (for Mr. AKAKA) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 3193, to make technical corrections to the legal description of certain land to be held in trust for the Barona Band of Mission Indians, and for other purposes.

SA 2865. Mr. PRYOR (for Mr. BLUMENTHAL) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2453, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of Mark Twain.

SA 2866. Mr. PRYOR (for Mr. LIEBERMAN) proposed an amendment to S. 3315, to repeal or modify certain mandates of the Government Accountability Office.

SA 2867. Mr. PRYOR (for Mr. ROCKEFELLER) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2838, to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard for fiscal years 2013 through 2014, and for other purposes.

SA 2868. Mr. PRYOR (for Mr. ROCKEFELLER) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2838, supra.

SA 2869. Mr. PRYOR (for Mr. BINGAMAN) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2606,

to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to allow the construction and operation of natural gas pipeline facilities in the Gateway National Recreation Area, and for other purposes.

SA 2870. Mr. PRYOR (for Mr. ENZI) proposed an amendment to the resolution S. Res. 472, designating October 7, 2012, as "Operation Enduring Freedom Veterans Day".

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 2849. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3576, to provide limitations on United States assistance, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. LIMITATION ON FOREIGN ASSISTANCE.

(a) PROHIBITION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided under paragraph (2), beginning 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, no amounts may be obligated or expended to provide any direct United States assistance, loan guarantee, or debt relief to a Government described under subsection (b).

(2) EXCEPTION.—With respect to the Government of Pakistan, the prohibition under paragraph (1) shall be effective as of the date of the enactment of this Act.

(b) COVERED GOVERNMENTS.—The Governments referred to in subsection (a) are as follows:

- (1) The Government of Libya.
- (2) The Government of Egypt.
- (3) The Government of Pakistan.

(c) CERTIFICATION.—The President may certify to Congress that a Government described under subsection (b)—

(1) is cooperating or has cooperated fully with investigations into an attack, trespass, breach, or attempted attack, trespass, or breach;

(2) is facilitating or has facilitated any security improvements at United States diplomatic facilities, as requested by the United States Government; and

(3) is taking or has taken sufficient steps to strengthen and improve reliability of local security in order to prevent any future attack, trespass, or breach.

(d) REQUEST TO SUSPEND PROHIBITION ON FOREIGN ASSISTANCE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided under paragraph (2), upon submitting a certification under subsection (c) with respect to a Government described under subsection (b), the President may submit a request to Congress to suspend the prohibition on foreign assistance to the Government.

(2) PAKISTAN.—No request under paragraph (1) may be submitted with respect to the Government of Pakistan until—

(A) Dr. Shakil Afridi has been released alive from prison in Pakistan;

(B) any criminal charges brought against Dr. Afridi, including treason, have been dropped; and

(C) if necessary to ensure his freedom, Dr. Afridi has been allowed to leave Pakistan alive.

(e) EXPEDITED CONSIDERATION OF PRESIDENTIAL REQUEST.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this subsection, the term "joint resolution" means only a joint resolution introduced in the period beginning on the date on which a request under subsection (d) is received by Congress and ending 60 days thereafter (excluding days either House of Congress is adjourned for more than 3 days during a session of Congress), the matter after the re-

solving clause of which is as follows: "That Congress approves the request submitted by the President to suspend the prohibition on foreign assistance to the Government of _____ in effect since _____, and such prohibition shall have no force or effect." (The blank spaces being appropriately filled in).

(2) REFERRAL.—A joint resolution described in paragraph (1) shall be referred to the committees in each House of Congress with jurisdiction.

(3) SUBMISSION DATE DEFINED.—For purposes of this section, the term "submission date" means the date on which a House of Congress receives the request submitted under subsection (d).

(4) DISCHARGE OF SENATE COMMITTEE.—In the Senate, if the committee to which is referred a joint resolution described in paragraph (1) has not reported such joint resolution (or an identical joint resolution) at the end of 20 calendar days after the submission date, such committee may be discharged from further consideration of such joint resolution upon a petition supported in writing by 30 Senators, and such joint resolution shall be placed on the calendar.

(5) SENATE CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION.—

(A) MOTIONS.—In the Senate, when the committee to which a joint resolution is referred has reported, or when a committee is discharged (under paragraph (4)) from further consideration of a joint resolution described in paragraph (1), it is at any time thereafter in order (even though a previous motion to the same effect has been disagreed to) for a motion to proceed to the consideration of the joint resolution, and all points of order against the joint resolution (and against consideration of the joint resolution) are waived. The motion is not subject to amendment, or to a motion to postpone, or to a motion to proceed to the consideration of other business. A motion to reconsider the vote by which the motion is agreed to or disagreed to shall not be in order. If a motion to proceed to the consideration of the joint resolution is agreed to, the joint resolution shall remain the unfinished business of the Senate until disposed of.

(B) DEBATE.—In the Senate, debate on the joint resolution, and on all debatable motions and appeals in connection therewith, shall be limited to not more than 10 hours, which shall be divided equally between those favoring and those opposing the joint resolution. A motion further to limit debate is in order and not debatable. An amendment to, or a motion to postpone, or a motion to proceed to the consideration of other business, or a motion to recommit the joint resolution is not in order.

(C) VOTE ON FINAL PASSAGE.—In the Senate, immediately following the conclusion of the debate on a joint resolution described in paragraph (1), and a single quorum call at the conclusion of the debate if requested in accordance with the rules of the Senate, the vote on final passage of the joint resolution shall occur.

(D) APPEALS OF DECISIONS OF THE CHAIR.—Appeals from the decisions of the Chair relating to the application of the rules of the Senate to the procedure relating to a joint resolution described in paragraph (1) shall be decided without debate.

(6) INAPPLICABILITY OF CERTAIN PROVISIONS.—In the Senate, the procedures specified in paragraph (4) or (5) shall not apply to the consideration of a joint resolution respecting a request—

(A) after the expiration of the 60 session days beginning with the applicable submission date; or

(B) if the request submitted under subsection (d) was submitted during the period beginning on the date occurring—

(i) in the case of the Senate, 60 session days, or

(ii) in the case of the House of Representatives, 60 legislative days,

before the date the Congress adjourns a session of Congress through the date on which the same or succeeding Congress first convenes its next session, after the expiration of the 60 session days beginning on the 15th session day after the succeeding session of Congress first convenes.

(7) RECEIPT OF JOINT RESOLUTION FROM OTHER HOUSE.—If, before the passage by one House of a joint resolution of that House described in paragraph (1), that House receives from the other House a joint resolution described in paragraph (1), then the following procedures shall apply:

(A) The joint resolution of the other House shall not be referred to a committee.

(B) With respect to a joint resolution described in paragraph (1) of the House receiving the joint resolution—

(i) the procedure in that House shall be the same as if no joint resolution had been received from the other House; but

(ii) the vote on final passage shall be on the joint resolution of the other House.

(f) REPORT ON UNSECURED WEAPONS IN LIBYA.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall submit a report to Congress examining the extent to which advanced weaponry remaining unsecured after the fall of Moammar Qaddafi was used by the individuals responsible for the September 11, 2012, attack on the United States consulate in Benghazi, Libya.

(g) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section may be construed as an authorization for the use of military force.

SA 2850. Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself and Mr. MANCHIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 3525, to protect and enhance opportunities for recreational hunting, fishing, and shooting, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 7, after line 21, add the following:

SEC. 104. HERITAGE OF RECREATIONAL FISHING, HUNTING, AND RECREATIONAL SHOOTING ON FEDERAL LAND.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) FEDERAL PUBLIC LAND.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the term "Federal public land" means any land or water that is—

(i) owned by the United States; and

(ii) managed by a Federal agency (including the Department of the Interior and the Forest Service) for purposes that include the conservation of natural resources.

(B) EXCLUSIONS.—The term "Federal public land" does not include—

(i) land or water held or managed in trust for the benefit of Indians or other Native Americans;

(ii) land managed by the Director of the National Park Service or the Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service;

(iii) fish hatcheries; or

(iv) conservation easements on private land.

(2) HUNTING.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the term "hunting" means use of a firearm, bow, or other authorized means in the lawful—

(i) pursuit, shooting, capture, collection, trapping, or killing of wildlife; or

(ii) attempt to pursue, shoot, capture, collect, trap, or kill wildlife.

(B) EXCLUSION.—The term "hunting" does not include the use of skilled volunteers to

cull excess animals (as defined by other Federal law).

(3) RECREATIONAL FISHING.—The term “recreational fishing” means—

(A) an activity for sport or for pleasure that involves—

(i) the lawful catching, taking, or harvesting of fish; or

(ii) the lawful attempted catching, taking, or harvesting of fish; or

(B) any other activity for sport or pleasure that can reasonably be expected to result in the lawful catching, taking, or harvesting of fish.

(4) RECREATIONAL SHOOTING.—The term “recreational shooting” means any form of sport, training, competition, or pastime, whether formal or informal, that involves the discharge of a rifle, handgun, or shotgun, or the use of a bow and arrow.

(b) RECREATIONAL FISHING, HUNTING, AND RECREATIONAL SHOOTING.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to valid existing rights, and in cooperation with the respective State and fish and wildlife agency, a Federal public land management official shall exercise the authority of the official under existing law (including provisions regarding land use planning) to facilitate use of and access to Federal public land for recreational fishing, hunting, and recreational shooting except as limited by—

(A) any law that authorizes action or withholding action for reasons of national security, public safety, or resource conservation;

(B) any other Federal law that precludes recreational fishing, hunting, or recreational shooting on specific Federal public land or water or units of Federal public land; and

(C) discretionary limitations on recreational fishing, hunting, and recreational shooting determined to be necessary and reasonable as supported by the best scientific evidence and advanced through a transparent public process.

(2) MANAGEMENT.—Consistent with paragraph (1), the head of each Federal public land management agency shall exercise the land management discretion of the head—

(A) in a manner that supports and facilitates recreational fishing, hunting, and recreational shooting opportunities;

(B) to the extent authorized under applicable State law; and

(C) in accordance with applicable Federal law.

(3) PLANNING.—

(A) EFFECTS OF PLANS AND ACTIVITIES.—

(i) EVALUATION OF EFFECTS ON OPPORTUNITIES TO ENGAGE IN RECREATIONAL FISHING, HUNTING, OR RECREATIONAL SHOOTING.—Federal public land planning documents (including land resources management plans, resource management plans, travel management plans, and energy development plans) shall include a specific evaluation of the effects of the plans on opportunities to engage in recreational fishing, hunting, or recreational shooting.

(ii) OTHER ACTIVITY NOT CONSIDERED.—

(I) IN GENERAL.—Federal public land management officials shall not be required to consider the existence or availability of recreational fishing, hunting, or recreational shooting opportunities on private or public land that is located adjacent to, or in the vicinity of, Federal public land for purposes of—

(aa) planning for or determining which units of Federal public land are open for recreational fishing, hunting, or recreational shooting; or

(bb) setting the levels of use for recreational fishing, hunting, or recreational shooting on Federal public land.

(II) ENHANCED OPPORTUNITIES.—Federal public land management officials may consider the opportunities described in sub-

clause (I) if the combination of those opportunities would enhance the recreational fishing, hunting, or shooting opportunities available to the public.

(B) USE OF VOLUNTEERS.—If hunting is prohibited by law, all Federal public land planning document described in subparagraph (A)(i) of an agency shall, after appropriate coordination with State fish and wildlife agencies, allow the participation of skilled volunteers in the culling and other management of wildlife populations on Federal public land unless the head of the agency demonstrates, based on the best scientific data available or applicable Federal law, why skilled volunteers should not be used to control overpopulation of wildlife on the land that is the subject of the planning document.

(4) BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT AND FOREST SERVICE LAND.—

(A) LAND OPEN.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Land under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management or the Forest Service (including a component of the National Wilderness Preservation System, land designated as a wilderness study area or administratively classified as wilderness eligible or suitable, and primitive or semiprimitive areas, but excluding land on the outer Continental Shelf) shall be open to recreational fishing, hunting, and recreational shooting unless the managing Federal public land agency acts to close the land to such activity.

(ii) MOTORIZED ACCESS.—Nothing in this subparagraph authorizes or requires motorized access or the use of motorized vehicles for recreational fishing, hunting, or recreational shooting purposes within land designated as a wilderness study area or administratively classified as wilderness eligible or suitable.

(B) CLOSURE OR RESTRICTION.—Land described in subparagraph (A) may be subject to closures or restrictions if determined by the head of the agency to be necessary and reasonable and supported by facts and evidence for purposes including resource conservation, public safety, energy or mineral production, energy generation or transmission infrastructure, water supply facilities, protection of other permittees, protection of private property rights or interests, national security, or compliance with other law, as determined appropriate by the Director of the Bureau of Land Management or the Chief of the Forest Service, as applicable.

(C) SHOOTING RANGES.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in clause (iii), the head of each Federal public land agency may use the authorities of the head, in a manner consistent with this section and other applicable law—

(I) to lease or permit use of land under the jurisdiction of the head for shooting ranges; and

(II) to designate specific land under the jurisdiction of the head for recreational shooting activities.

(ii) LIMITATION ON LIABILITY.—Any designation under clause (i)(II) shall not subject the United States to any civil action or claim for monetary damages for injury or loss of property or personal injury or death caused by any recreational shooting activity occurring at or on the designated land.

(iii) EXCEPTION.—The head of each Federal public land agency shall not lease or permit use of Federal public land for shooting ranges or designate land for recreational shooting activities within including a component of the National Wilderness Preservation System, land designated as a wilderness study area or administratively classified as wilderness eligible or suitable, and primitive or semiprimitive areas.

(5) REPORT.—Not later than October 1 of every other year, beginning with the second October 1 after the date of enactment of this Act, the head of each Federal public land agency who has authority to manage Federal public land on which recreational fishing, hunting, or recreational shooting occurs shall submit to the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a report that describes—

(A) any Federal public land administered by the agency head that was closed to recreational fishing, hunting, or recreational shooting at any time during the preceding year; and

(B) the reason for the closure.

(6) CLOSURES OR SIGNIFICANT RESTRICTIONS OF 1,280 OR MORE ACRES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Other than closures established or prescribed by land planning actions referred to in paragraph (4)(B) or emergency closures described in subparagraph (C), a permanent or temporary withdrawal, change of classification, or change of management status of Federal public land or water that effectively closes or significantly restricts 1,280 or more contiguous acres of Federal public land or water to access or use for recreational fishing or hunting or activities relating to fishing or hunting shall take effect only if, before the date of withdrawal or change, the head of the Federal public land agency that has jurisdiction over the Federal public land or water—

(i) publishes appropriate notice of the withdrawal or change, respectively;

(ii) demonstrates that coordination has occurred with a State fish and wildlife agency; and

(iii) submits to the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate written notice of the withdrawal or change, respectively.

(B) AGGREGATE OR CUMULATIVE EFFECTS.—If the aggregate or cumulative effect of separate withdrawals or changes effectively closes or significant restrictions affects 1,280 or more acres of land or water, the withdrawals and changes shall be treated as a single withdrawal or change for purposes of subparagraph (A).

(C) EMERGENCY CLOSURES.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Nothing in this section prohibits a Federal public land management agency from establishing or implementing emergency closures or restrictions of the smallest practicable area of Federal public land to provide for public safety, resource conservation, national security, or other purposes authorized by law.

(ii) TERMINATION.—An emergency closure under clause (i) shall terminate after a reasonable period of time unless the temporary closure is converted to a permanent closure consistent with this subsection.

(7) NO PRIORITY.—Nothing in this section requires a Federal agency to give preference to recreational fishing, hunting, or recreational shooting over other uses of Federal public land or over land or water management priorities established by other Federal law.

(8) CONSULTATION WITH COUNCILS.—In carrying out this section, the heads of Federal public land agencies shall consult with the appropriate advisory councils established under Executive Order 12962 (16 U.S.C. 1801 note; relating to recreational fisheries) and Executive Order 13443 (16 U.S.C. 661 note; relating to facilitation of hunting heritage and wildlife conservation).

(9) AUTHORITY OF STATES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Nothing in this section interferes with, diminishes, or conflicts with the authority, jurisdiction, or responsibility

of any State to manage, control, or regulate fish and wildlife under State law (including regulations) on land or water within the State, including on Federal public land.

(B) FEDERAL LICENSES.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in clause (ii), nothing in this section authorizes the head of a Federal public land agency head to require a license, fee, or permit to fish, hunt, or trap on land or water in a State, including on Federal public land in the State.

(ii) MIGRATORY BIRD STAMPS.—This subparagraph shall not affect any migratory bird stamp requirement of the Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp Act (16 U.S.C. 718a et seq.).

SA 2851. Mr. HATCH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3525, to protect and enhance opportunities for recreational hunting, fishing, and shooting, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

TITLE III—LAND CONVEYANCE

SEC. 301. DEFINITIONS.

In this title:

(1) CITY.—The term “City” means the city of Fruit Heights, Utah.

(2) MAP.—The term “map” means the map entitled “Proposed Fruit Heights City Conveyance” and dated 2012.

(3) NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM LAND.—The term “National Forest System land” means the approximately 100 acres of National Forest System land, as depicted on the map.

(4) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Agriculture.

SEC. 302. CONVEYANCE OF CERTAIN LAND TO THE CITY OF FRUIT HEIGHTS, UTAH.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall convey to the City, without consideration, all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the National Forest System land.

(b) SURVEY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—If determined by the Secretary to be necessary, the exact acreage and legal description of the National Forest System land shall be determined by a survey approved by the Secretary.

(2) COSTS.—The City shall pay the reasonable survey and other administrative costs associated with a survey conducted under paragraph (1).

(c) USE OF NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM LAND.—As a condition of the conveyance under subsection (a), the City shall use the National Forest System land only for public purposes.

SA 2852. Mr. HATCH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3525, to protect and enhance opportunities for recreational hunting, fishing, and shooting, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

TITLE III—LAND CONVEYANCE

SEC. 301. LAND CONVEYANCE, UINTA-WASATCH-CACHE NATIONAL FOREST, UTAH.

(a) CONVEYANCE REQUIRED.—On the request of Brigham Young University submitted to the Secretary of Agriculture not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall convey, not later than one year after receiving the request, to Brigham Young University all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to an approximately 80-acre parcel of National Forest System land in the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest in the State

of Utah consisting of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of section 32, T. 6 S., R. 3 E., and the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of section 5, T. 7 S., R. 3 E., Salt Lake Base & Meridian. The conveyance shall be subject to valid existing rights and shall be made by quitclaim deed.

(b) CONSIDERATION.—

(1) CONSIDERATION REQUIRED.—As consideration for the land conveyed under subsection (a), Brigham Young University shall pay to the Secretary an amount equal to the fair market value of the land, as determined by an appraisal approved by the Secretary and conducted in conformity with the Uniform Appraisal Standards for Federal Land Acquisitions and section 206 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1716).

(2) DEPOSIT.—The consideration received by the Secretary under paragraph (1) shall be deposited in the general fund of the Treasury to reduce the Federal deficit.

(c) GUARANTEED PUBLIC ACCESS TO Y MOUNTAIN TRAIL.—After the conveyance under subsection (a), Brigham Young University represents that it will—

(1) continue to allow the same reasonable public access to the trailhead and portion of the Y Mountain Trail already owned by Brigham Young University as of the date of the enactment of this Act that Brigham Young University has historically allowed; and

(2) allow that same reasonable public access to the portion of the Y Mountain Trail and the “Y” symbol located on the land described in subsection (a).

(d) SURVEY AND ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—The exact acreage and legal description of the land to be conveyed under subsection (a) shall be determined by a survey satisfactory to the Secretary. Brigham Young University shall pay the reasonable costs of survey, appraisal, and any administrative analyses required by law.

SA 2853. Mr. HATCH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3525, to protect and enhance opportunities for recreational hunting, fishing, and shooting, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

TITLE III—NATIONAL MONUMENTS IN UTAH

SEC. 301. LIMITATION ON FURTHER EXTENSION OR ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL MONUMENTS IN UTAH.

This proviso of the last sentence of the first section of the Act of September 14, 1950 (64 Stat. 849, chapter 950; 16 U.S.C. 431a), is amended by inserting “or Utah” after “Wyoming”.

SA 2854. Mr. HATCH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3525, to protect and enhance opportunities for recreational hunting, fishing, and shooting, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

TITLE III—LAND CONVEYANCE

SEC. 301. DEFINITIONS.

In this title:

(1) FEDERAL LAND.—The term “Federal land” means any land (including mineral rights) under the jurisdiction of the Secretary in the State, including any public land in the State (as defined in section 103 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1702)).

(2) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior.

(3) STATE.—The term “State” means the state of Utah.

SEC. 302. CONVEYANCE OF FEDERAL LAND TO THE STATE OF UTAH.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than December 31, 2014, the Secretary shall convey to the State all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the Federal land.

(b) RECONVEYANCE.—If the State reconveys any Federal land conveyed to the State under subsection (a), the State shall, as soon as practicable after the date of the reconveyance, pay to the Secretary concerned an amount equal to 95 percent of the amount received by the State in consideration for the Federal land reconveyed.

SA 2855. Mr. HATCH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3525, to protect and enhance opportunities for recreational hunting, fishing, and shooting, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

TITLE III—CLARIFICATION OF AUTHORITY, UINTAH AND OURAY INDIAN RESERVATION

SEC. 301. CLARIFICATION OF AUTHORITY.

The Act entitled “An Act to define the exterior boundary of the Uintah and Ouray Indian Reservation in the State of Utah, and for other purposes”, approved March 11, 1948 (62 Stat. 72), as amended by the Act entitled “An Act to amend the Act extending the exterior boundary of the Uintah and Ouray Indian Reservation in the State of Utah so as to authorize such State to exchange certain mineral lands for other lands mineral in character” approved August 9, 1955, (69 Stat. 544), is further amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 5. In order to further clarify authorizations under this Act, the State of Utah is hereby authorized to relinquish to the United States, for the benefit of the Ute Indian Tribe of the Uintah and Ouray Reservation, State school trust or other State-owned subsurface mineral lands located beneath the surface estate delineated in Public Law 440 (approved March 11, 1948) and south of the border between Grand County, Utah, and Uintah County, Utah, and select in lieu of such relinquished lands, on an acre-for-acre basis, any subsurface mineral lands of the United States located beneath the surface estate delineated in Public Law 440 (approved March 11, 1948) and north of the border between Grand County, Utah, and Uintah County, Utah, subject to the following conditions:

“(1) RESERVATION BY UNITED STATES.—The Secretary of the Interior shall reserve an overriding interest in that portion of the mineral estate comprised of minerals subject to leasing under the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C. 171 et seq) in any mineral lands conveyed to the State.

“(2) EXTENT OF OVERRIDING INTEREST.—The overriding interest reserved by the United States under paragraph (1) shall consist of—

“(A) 50 percent of any bonus bid or other payment received by the State as consideration for securing any lease or authorization to develop such mineral resources;

“(B) 50 percent of any rental or other payments received by the State as consideration for the lease or authorization to develop such mineral resources;

“(C) a 6.25 percent overriding royalty on the gross proceeds of oil and gas production under any lease or authorization to develop such oil and gas resources; and

“(D) an overriding royalty on the gross proceeds of production of such minerals other than oil and gas, equal to 50 percent of

the royalty rate established by the Secretary of the Interior by regulation as of October 1, 2011.

“(3) RESERVATION BY STATE OF UTAH.—The State of Utah shall reserve, for the benefit of its State school trust, an overriding interest in that portion of the mineral estate comprised of minerals subject to leasing under the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C. 181 et seq) in any mineral lands relinquished by the State to the United States.

“(4) EXTENT OF OVERRIDING INTEREST.—The overriding interest reserved by the State under paragraph (3) shall consist of—

“(A) 50 percent of any bonus bid or other payment received by the United States as consideration for securing any lease or authorization to develop such mineral resources on the relinquished lands;

“(B) 50 percent of any rental or other payments received by the United States as consideration for the lease or authorization to develop such mineral resources;

“(C) a 6.25 percent overriding royalty on the gross proceeds of oil and gas production under any lease or authorization to develop such oil and gas resources; and

“(D) an overriding royalty on the gross proceeds of production of such minerals other than oil and gas, equal to 50 percent of the royalty rate established by the Secretary of the Interior by regulation as of October 1, 2011.

“(5) NO OBLIGATION TO LEASE.—Neither the United States nor the State shall be obligated to lease or otherwise develop oil and gas resources in which the other party retains an overriding interest under this section.

“(6) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—The Secretary of the Interior is authorized to enter into cooperative agreements with the State and the Ute Indian Tribe of the Uintah and Ouray Reservation to facilitate the relinquishment and selection of lands to be conveyed under this section, and the administration of the overriding interests reserved hereunder.

“(7) TERMINATION.—The overriding interest reserved by the Secretary of the Interior under paragraph (1), and the overriding interest reserved by the State under paragraph (3), shall automatically terminate 30 years after the date of enactment of this section.”.

SA 2856. Mr. HATCH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3525, to protect and enhance opportunities for recreational hunting, fishing, and shooting, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

TITLE III—TIMBER SALE CONTRACTS

SEC. 301. EXTENDING NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM TIMBER SALE CONTRACTS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) QUALIFYING CONTRACT.—The term “qualifying contract” means a contract (including an integrated resource timber contract) for the sale of timber on National Forest System land—

(A) that was awarded before January 1, 2010;

(B) for which the original contract term was for 2 or more years;

(C) for which there is unharvested volume of timber remaining;

(D) for which, not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the contract awardee makes a written request to the Secretary for an extension of time;

(E) for which the Secretary determines there is not an urgent need to harvest due to deteriorating timber conditions;

(F) for which the Secretary determines there is not an urgent need to harvest to ac-

complish fuel reduction objectives in wildland-urban interface areas; and

(G) that is not in breach or default.

(2) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Chief of the Forest Service.

(3) WILDLAND-URBAN INTERFACE.—The term “wildland-urban interface” has the meaning given the term in section 101 of the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003 (16 U.S.C. 6511).

(b) EXTENSION OF TIME.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law and subject to the conditions described in paragraph (2), the Secretary may extend the term of a qualifying contract for not more than 2 years after the applicable contract termination date.

(2) CONDITIONS.—An extension of a qualifying contract under paragraph (1) shall be subject to the following conditions:

(A) The total contract term shall not exceed 10 years, including the extension granted under this section.

(B) A qualifying contract that receives a 1-year substantial overriding public interest extension authorized by the Chief of the Forest Service in 2012 may only receive an extension of 1 year under this section.

(C) Periodic payment dates that have not been reached as of the date of a request by a contract awardee under this section shall be adjusted in accordance with applicable law and policies.

(c) EFFECT.—

(1) NO SURRENDER OF CLAIMS.—Nothing in this section shall result in the surrendering of any claim by the United States against any contract awardee that arose under a qualifying contract before the date on which the Secretary extends the qualifying contract term under this section.

(2) RELEASE OF LIABILITY.—Before receiving an extension of a contract term under this section, the contract awardee shall release the United States from all liability, including further consideration or compensation, resulting from—

(A) the extension of the qualifying contract term; or

(B) a determination by the Secretary under this section to not extend the contract term.

(3) FUTURE ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS.—Nothing in this section precludes the Secretary from modifying a qualifying contract extended under this section to grant administrative relief consistent with applicable law (including regulations) and policy.

SA 2857. Mr. HATCH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3525, to protect and enhance opportunities for recreational hunting, fishing, and shooting, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 100, after line 13, add the following:

SEC. 249. REMOVAL OF GRAY WOLF IN THE STATE OF UTAH FROM THE LIST OF ENDANGERED OR THREATENED SPECIES.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) GRAY WOLF.—The term “gray wolf” means any taxonomic group traditionally associated with the gray wolf, including *Canis lupus baileyi*, regardless of specific taxonomy of any particular gray wolf variety as a species, subspecies, or other designation.

(2) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” has the meaning given the term in section 3 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1532).

(b) REMOVAL OF GRAY WOLF IN THE STATE OF UTAH FROM THE LIST OF ENDANGERED OR THREATENED SPECIES.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, not later than 60 days

after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall promulgate regulations removing from the list of endangered or threatened species under section 4(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1533(c)) the gray wolf within the borders of the State of Utah.

SA 2858. Mr. HATCH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3525, to protect and enhance opportunities for recreational hunting, fishing, and shooting, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

At the end, add the following:

TITLE III—PUTTING THE GULF OF MEXICO BACK TO WORK

SEC. 301. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the “Putting the Gulf of Mexico Back to Work Act”.

SEC. 302. DEFINITIONS.

In this title:

(1) COVERED CIVIL ACTION.—The term “covered civil action” means a civil action containing a claim under section 702 of title 5, United States Code, regarding agency action (as defined for the purposes of that section) affecting a covered energy project in the Gulf of Mexico.

(2) COVERED ENERGY PROJECT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term “covered energy project” means the leasing of Federal land of the outer Continental Shelf for the exploration, development, production, processing, or transmission of oil, natural gas, wind, or any other source of energy in the Gulf of Mexico, and any action under a lease.

(B) EXCLUSION.—The term “covered energy project” does not include any dispute between the parties to a lease regarding the obligations under the lease, including any alleged breach of the lease.

(3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior.

Subtitle A—Outer Continental Shelf Land

SEC. 311. DRILLING PERMITS.

Section 11 of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1340) is amended by striking subsection (d) and inserting the following:

“(d) DRILLING PERMITS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall by regulation require that any lessee operating under an approved exploration plan—

“(A) obtain a permit before drilling any well in accordance with the plan; and

“(B) obtain a new permit before drilling any well of a design that is significantly different than the design for which the existing permit was issued.

“(2) SAFETY REVIEW REQUIRED.—The Secretary shall not issue a permit under paragraph (1) without ensuring that the proposed drilling operations meet all—

“(A) critical safety system requirements, including blowout prevention; and

“(B) oil spill response and containment requirements.

“(3) TIMELINE.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall determine whether to issue a permit under paragraph (1) not later than 30 days after the date on which the Secretary receives the application for a permit.

“(B) EXTENSION OF TIME.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may extend the period in which to consider an application for a permit for up to 2 periods of 15 days each if the Secretary has given written notice of the delay to the applicant.

“(ii) NOTICE.—The notice described in clause (i) shall—

“(I) be in the form of a letter from the Secretary or a designee of the Secretary; and

“(II) include—

“(aa) the name and title of each individual processing the application;

“(bb) the reason for the delay; and

“(cc) the date on which the Secretary expects to make a final decision on the application.

“(4) DENIAL OF APPLICATION.—If the Secretary denies the application, the Secretary shall provide the applicant—

“(A) a written statement that provides clear and comprehensive reasons why the application was not accepted and detailed information concerning any deficiency; and

“(B) an opportunity to remedy any deficiencies.

“(5) FAILURE TO MAKE DECISION WITHIN 60 DAYS.—If the Secretary does not make a decision on the application by the date that is 60 days from the date on which the Secretary receives the application, the application shall be considered approved.”.

Subtitle B—Judicial Review of Agency Actions Relating to Outer Continental Shelf Activities in Gulf of Mexico

SEC. 322. EXCLUSIVE VENUE FOR CERTAIN CIVIL ACTIONS RELATING TO COVERED ENERGY PROJECTS IN GULF OF MEXICO.

A covered civil action shall be brought only in a judicial district in the Fifth Circuit unless there is no district in that circuit in which the action may be brought.

SEC. 323. TIME LIMITATION ON FILING.

A covered civil action is barred unless the action is filed not later than the date that is 60 days after the date of the final Federal agency action.

SEC. 324. EXPEDITION IN HEARING AND DETERMINING ACTION.

A court shall endeavor to hear and determine any covered civil action as expeditiously as practicable.

SEC. 325. STANDARD OF REVIEW.

(a) IN GENERAL.—In any judicial review of a covered civil action, administrative findings and conclusions relating to the challenged Federal action or decision shall be presumed to be correct.

(b) STANDARD.—The presumption described in subsection (a) may be rebutted only by a preponderance of the evidence contained in the administrative record.

SEC. 326. LIMITATION ON PROSPECTIVE RELIEF.

In a covered civil action, a court shall not grant or approve any prospective relief unless the court finds that the relief is narrowly drawn, extends no further than necessary to correct the violation of a legal requirement, and is the least intrusive means necessary to correct that violation.

SEC. 327. LIMITATION ON ATTORNEYS' FEES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Sections 504 of title 5 and 2412 of title 28, United States Code, do not apply to a covered civil action.

(b) PAYMENT FROM FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.—No party to a covered civil action shall receive from the Federal Government payment for attorneys' fees, expenses, and other court costs.

TITLE IV—RESTARTING AMERICAN OFFSHORE LEASING NOW

SEC. 401. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the “Restarting American Offshore Leasing Now Act”.

SEC. 402. DEFINITIONS.

In this title:

(1) ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR THE 2007-2012 5-YEAR OCS PLAN.—The term “environmental impact statement for the 2007-2012 5-Year OCS plan” means the final environmental impact statement prepared by the Secretary entitled “Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program: 2007-2012”, and dated April 2007.

(2) MULTISALE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT.—The term “multisale environmental impact statement” means the environmental impact statement prepared by the Secretary relating to proposed Western Gulf of Mexico OCS Oil and Gas Lease Sales 204, 207, 210, 215, and 218, and proposed Central Gulf of Mexico OCS Oil and Gas Lease Sales 205, 206, 208, 213, 216, and 222, and dated September 2008.

(3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior.

SEC. 403. REQUIREMENT TO CONDUCT PROPOSED OIL AND GAS LEASE SALE 216 IN CENTRAL GULF OF MEXICO.

(a) IN GENERAL.—As soon as practicable, but not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall conduct offshore oil and gas Lease Sale 216 under section 8 of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (33 U.S.C. 1337).

(b) ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW.—For the purposes of the lease sale described in subsection (a), the environmental impact statement for the 2007-2012 5-Year OCS plan and the multisale environmental impact statement shall be considered to satisfy the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.).

SEC. 404. REQUIREMENT TO CONDUCT PROPOSED OIL AND GAS LEASE SALE 220 ON OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF OFFSHORE VIRGINIA.

(a) IN GENERAL.—As soon as practicable, but not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall conduct offshore oil and gas Lease Sale 220 under section 8 of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (33 U.S.C. 1337).

(b) ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW.—For the purposes of the lease sale described in subsection (a), the environmental impact statement for the 2007-2012 5-Year OCS plan and the multisale environmental impact statement shall be considered to satisfy the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.).

SEC. 405. REQUIREMENT TO CONDUCT PROPOSED OIL AND GAS LEASE SALE 222 IN CENTRAL GULF OF MEXICO.

(a) IN GENERAL.—As soon as practicable, but not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall conduct offshore oil and gas Lease Sale 222 under section 8 of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (33 U.S.C. 1337).

(b) ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW.—For the purposes of the lease sale described in subsection (a), the environmental impact statement for the 2007-2012 5-Year OCS plan and the multisale environmental impact statement shall be considered to satisfy the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.).

TITLE V—REVERSING PRESIDENT OBAMA'S OFFSHORE MORATORIUM

SEC. 501. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the “Reversing President Obama's Offshore Moratorium Act”.

SEC. 502. OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF LEASING PROGRAM.

Section 18(a) of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1344(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(5)(A) In each oil and gas leasing program under this section, the Secretary shall make available for leasing and conduct lease sales that include—

“(i) at least 50 percent of the available unleased acreage within each outer Continental Shelf planning area considered to have the largest undiscovered, technically recoverable oil and gas resources (on a total btu basis) based upon the most recent national geological assessment of the outer Continental Shelf, with an emphasis on offering the most

geologically prospective parts of the planning area; and

“(ii) any State subdivision of an outer Continental Shelf planning area that the Governor of the State that represents that subdivision requests be made available for leasing.

“(B) In this paragraph, the term ‘available unleased acreage’ means that portion of the outer Continental Shelf that is not under lease at the time of a proposed lease sale, and that has not otherwise been made unavailable for leasing by law.

“(6)(A) For the 2012-2017 5-year oil and gas leasing program, the Secretary shall make available for leasing any outer Continental Shelf planning areas that are estimated to contain more than—

“(i) 2,500,000,000 barrels of oil; or

“(ii) 7,500,000,000,000 cubic feet of natural gas.

“(B) To determine the planning areas described in subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall use the document entitled ‘Minerals Management Service Assessment of Undiscovered Technically Recoverable Oil and Gas Resources of the Nation's Outer Continental Shelf, 2006’.”.

SEC. 503. DOMESTIC OIL AND NATURAL GAS PRODUCTION GOAL.

Section 18 of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1344) is amended by striking subsection (b) and inserting the following:

“(b) DOMESTIC OIL AND NATURAL GAS PRODUCTION GOAL.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In developing a 5-year oil and gas leasing program, subject to paragraph (2), the Secretary shall determine a domestic strategic production goal for the development of oil and natural gas as a result of that program, which goal shall be—

“(A) the best estimate of the practicable increase in domestic production of oil and natural gas from the outer Continental Shelf;

“(B) focused on meeting domestic demand for oil and natural gas and reducing the dependence of the United States on foreign energy; and

“(C) focused on the production increases achieved by the leasing program at the end of the 15-year period beginning on the effective date of the program.

“(2) 2012-2017 PROGRAM GOAL.—For purposes of the 2012-2017 5-year oil and gas leasing program, the production goal referred to in paragraph (1) shall be an increase by 2027 of not less than—

“(A) 3,000,000 barrels in the quantity of oil produced per day; and

“(B) 10,000,000,000 cubic feet in the quantity of natural gas produced per day.

“(3) REPORTING.—Beginning at the end of the 5-year period for which the program applies and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a report on the progress of the program in meeting the production goal that includes an identification of projections for production and any problems with leasing, permitting, or production that will prevent meeting the goal.”.

TITLE VI—JOBS AND ENERGY PERMITTING

SEC. 601. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the “Jobs and Energy Permitting Act of 2012”.

SEC. 602. AIR QUALITY MEASUREMENT.

Section 328(a)(1) of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7627(a)(1)) is amended in the second sentence by inserting before the period at the end the following: “, except that any air quality impact of any OCS source shall be

measured or modeled, as appropriate, and determined solely with respect to the impacts in the corresponding onshore area”.

SEC. 603. OCS SOURCE.

Section 328(a)(4)(C) of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7627(a)(4)(C)) is amended in the second sentence of the matter following clause (iii) by striking “shall be considered direct emissions from the OCS source” and inserting “shall be considered direct emissions from the OCS source but shall not be subject to any emission control requirement applicable to the source under subpart 1 of part C of title I of this Act. For platform or drill ship exploration, an OCS source is established at the point in time when drilling commences at a location and ceases to exist when drilling activity ends at the location or is temporarily interrupted because the platform or drill ship relocates for weather or other reasons”.

SEC. 604. PERMITS.

(a) PERMITS.—Section 328 of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7627) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(d) PERMIT APPLICATION.—In the case of a completed application for a permit under this Act for platform or drill ship exploration for an OCS source—

“(1) final agency action (including any reconsideration of the issuance or denial of such a permit) shall be taken not later than 180 days after the date on which the completed application is filed;

“(2) the Environmental Appeals Board of the Environmental Protection Agency shall have no authority to consider any matter regarding the consideration, issuance, or denial of the permit;

“(3) no administrative stay of the effectiveness of the permit may extend beyond the date that is 180 days after the date on which the completed application is filed;

“(4) that final agency action shall be considered to be nationally applicable under section 307(b); and

“(5) judicial review of that final agency action shall be available only in accordance with section 307(b) without additional administrative review or adjudication.”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 328(a)(4) of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7627(a)(4)) is amended by striking “For purposes of subsections (a) and (b) of this section—” and inserting “For purposes of subsections (a), (b), and (d):”.

TITLE VII—SACRAMENTO-SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY WATER RELIABILITY

SEC. 701. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the “Sacramento-San Joaquin Valley Water Reliability Act”.

Subtitle A—Central Valley Project Water Reliability

SEC. 711. AMENDMENT TO PURPOSES.

Section 3402 of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act (Public Law 102-575; 106 Stat. 4706) is amended—

(1) in subsection (f), by striking the period at the end; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(g) to ensure that water dedicated to fish and wildlife purposes by this title is replaced and provided to Central Valley Project water contractors not later than December 31, 2016, at the lowest cost reasonably achievable; and

“(h) to facilitate and expedite water transfers in accordance with this title.”.

SEC. 712. AMENDMENT TO DEFINITION.

Section 3403 of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act (Public Law 102-575; 106 Stat. 4707) is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (a) and inserting the following:

“(a) the term ‘anadromous fish’ means those native stocks of salmon (including steelhead) and sturgeon that—

“(1) as of October 30, 1992, were present in the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers and the tributaries of the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers; and

“(2) ascend those rivers and tributaries to reproduce after maturing in San Francisco Bay or the Pacific Ocean;”;

(2) by redesignating subsections (i) through (m) as subsections (j) through (n), respectively; and

(3) by inserting after subsection (h) the following:

“(i) the term ‘reasonable flows’ means water flows capable of being maintained taking into account competing consumptive uses of water and economic, environmental, and social factors.”.

SEC. 713. CONTRACTS.

Section 3404 of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act (Public Law 102-575; 106 Stat. 4708) is amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 3404. CONTRACTS.

“(a) RENEWAL OF EXISTING LONG-TERM CONTRACTS.—On request of the contractor, the Secretary shall renew any existing long-term repayment or water service contract that provides for the delivery of water from the Central Valley Project for a period of 40 years.

“(b) ADMINISTRATION OF CONTRACTS.—Except as expressly provided by this title, any existing long-term repayment or water service contract for the delivery of water from the Central Valley Project shall be administered pursuant to the Act of July 2, 1956 (chapter 492; 70 Stat. 483).

“(c) DELIVERY CHARGE.—Beginning on the date of enactment of this Act, a contract entered into or renewed pursuant to this section shall include a provision that requires the Secretary to charge any other party to the contract only for water actually delivered by the Secretary.”.

SEC. 714. WATER TRANSFERS, IMPROVED WATER MANAGEMENT, AND CONSERVATION.

Section 3405 of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act (Public Law 102-575; 106 Stat. 4709) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in the second sentence, by striking “Except as provided herein” and inserting “The Secretary shall take all actions necessary to facilitate and expedite transfers of Central Valley Project water in accordance with this title or any other provision of Federal reclamation law and the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.). Except as provided in this subsection;”;

(B) in paragraph (1)(A), by striking “to combination” and inserting “or combination”;

(C) in paragraph (2), by adding at the end the following:

“(E) WRITTEN TRANSFER PROPOSALS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—The contracting district from which the water is supplied, the agency, or the Secretary, as applicable, shall determine whether a written transfer proposal is complete not later than 45 days after the date on which the proposal is submitted.

“(ii) DETERMINATION.—If the contracting district, the agency, or the Secretary determines that the proposal described in clause (i) is incomplete, the contracting district, agency, or Secretary shall state, in writing and with specificity, the conditions under which the proposal would be considered complete.

“(F) NO MITIGATION REQUIREMENTS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in this section, the Secretary shall not impose mitigation or other requirements on a proposed transfer.

“(ii) APPLICABILITY.—This section shall have no effect on the authority of the contracting district from which the water is

supplied or the agency under State law to approve or condition a proposed transfer.”; and

(D) by adding at the end the following:

“(4) APPLICABILITY.—Notwithstanding any other provision of Federal reclamation law—

“(A) the authority to transfer, exchange, bank, or make recharging arrangements using Central Valley Project water that could have been carried out before October 30, 1992, is valid, and those transfers, exchanges, or arrangements shall not be subject to, limited, or conditioned by this title; and

“(B) this title does not supersede or revoke the authority to transfer, exchange, bank, or recharge Central Valley Project water in effect before October 30, 1992.”;

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in the heading, by striking “METERING” and inserting “MEASUREMENT”;

(B) in the first sentence, by striking “All Central Valley” and inserting the following: “(1) IN GENERAL.—All Central Valley”;

(C) in the second sentence, by striking “The contracting district” and inserting the following:

“(3) ANNUAL REPORT.—The contracting district”;

(D) by inserting after paragraph (1) (as designated by subparagraph (B)) the following:

“(2) MEASUREMENT REQUIREMENTS.—The contracting district or agency, not including contracting districts serving multiple agencies with separate governing boards, shall ensure that all contractor-owned water delivery systems within the boundaries of the contracting district or agency measure surface water at the facilities of the contracting district or agency up to the point at which the surface water is commingled with other water supplies.”;

(3) by striking subsection (d);

(4) by redesignating subsections (e) and (f) as subsections (d) and (e), respectively; and

(5) by striking subsection (e) (as redesignated by paragraph (4)) and inserting the following:

“(e) INCREASED REVENUES.—All revenues received by the Secretary that exceed the cost-of-service rates applicable to the delivery of water transferred from irrigation use to municipal and industrial use under subsection (a) shall be covered to the Restoration Fund.”.

SEC. 715. FISH, WILDLIFE, AND HABITAT RESTORATION.

Section 3406 of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act (Public Law 102-575; 106 Stat. 4714) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) by striking paragraph (1)(B) and inserting the following:

“(B) ADMINISTRATION.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—As needed to carry out the goals of the Central Valley Project, the Secretary may modify Central Valley Project operations to provide reasonable flows of suitable quality, quantity, and timing to protect all life stages of anadromous fish.

“(ii) REQUIREMENTS.—The flows under clause (i) shall be provided from the quantity of water dedicated to fish, wildlife, and habitat restoration purposes under paragraph (2) from the water supplies acquired pursuant to paragraph (3) and from other sources which do not conflict with fulfillment of the remaining contractual obligations of the Secretary to provide Central Valley Project water for other authorized purposes.

“(iii) DETERMINATION OF NEEDS.—The Secretary shall determine the instream reasonable flow needs for all Central Valley Project controlled streams and rivers based on recommendations of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine

Fisheries Service after consultation with the United States Geological Survey.”; and

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A)—

(I) in the first sentence, by striking “primary purpose” and inserting “purposes”;

(II) by striking “but not limited to additional obligations under the Federal Endangered Species Act” and inserting “additional obligations under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.)”; and

(III) by adding at the end the following: “All Central Valley Project water used for the purposes specified in this paragraph shall be credited to the quantity of Central Valley Project yield dedicated and managed under this paragraph by determining how the dedication and management of that water would affect the delivery capability of the Central Valley Project yield. To the maximum extent practicable and in accordance with section 3411, Central Valley Project water dedicated and managed pursuant to this paragraph shall be reused to fulfill the remaining contractual obligations of the Secretary to provide Central Valley Project water for agricultural or municipal and industrial purposes.”; and

(ii) by striking subparagraph (C) and inserting the following:

“(C) MANDATORY REDUCTION.—If on March 15 of a given year, the quantity of Central Valley Project water forecasted to be made available to water service or repayment contractors in the Delta Division of the Central Valley Project is less than 75 percent of the total quantity of water to be made available under those contracts, the quantity of Central Valley Project yield dedicated and managed for that year under this paragraph shall be reduced by 25 percent.”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(i) SATISFACTION OF PURPOSES.—In carrying out this section, the Secretary shall be considered to have met the mitigation, protection, restoration, and enhancement purposes of this title.”.

SEC. 716. RESTORATION FUND.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3407(a) of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act (Public Law 102-575; 106 Stat. 4726) is amended—

(1) by striking “There is hereby” and inserting the following:

“(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—There is”;

(2) in paragraph (1)(A) (as designated by paragraph (1)), by striking “Not less than 67 percent” and all that follows through “Monies” and inserting the following:

“(B) USE OF DONATED AMOUNTS.—Amounts”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(2) RESTRICTIONS.—The Secretary may not directly or indirectly require a donation or other payment (including environmental restoration or mitigation fees not otherwise provided by law) to the Restoration Fund—

“(A) as a condition of—

“(i) providing for the storage or conveyance of non-Central Valley Project water pursuant to Federal reclamation laws; or

“(ii) the delivery of water pursuant to section 215 of the Reclamation Reform Act of 1982 (Public Law 97-293; 96 Stat. 1270); or

“(B) for any water that is delivered with the sole intent of groundwater recharge.”.

(b) CERTAIN PAYMENTS.—Section 3407(c)(1) of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act (Public Law 102-575; 106 Stat. 4726) is amended—

(1) by striking “mitigation and restoration payments, in addition to charges provided for or” and inserting “payments, in addition to charges”; and

(2) by striking “of fish, wildlife” and all that follows through the period and inserting “of carrying out this title.”.

(c) ADJUSTMENT AND ASSESSMENT OF MITIGATION AND RESTORATION PAYMENTS.—Section 3407(d) of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act (Public Law 102-575; 106 Stat. 4727) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2)(A)—

(A) by striking “, and \$12 per acre-foot (October 1992 price levels) for municipal and industrial water sold and delivered by the Central Valley Project” and inserting “\$12 per acre-foot (October 1992 price levels) for municipal and industrial water sold and delivered by the Central Valley Project, and after October 1, 2013, \$4 per megawatt-hour for Central Valley Project power sold to power contractors (October 2013 price levels)”; and

(B) by inserting “ but not later than December 31, 2020,” after “That upon the completion of the fish, wildlife, and habitat mitigation and restoration actions mandated under section 3406 of this title.”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(g) REPORT ON EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—For each fiscal year, the Secretary, in consultation with the Advisory Board, shall submit to Congress a plan for the expenditure of all of the funds deposited in the Restoration Fund during the preceding fiscal year.

“(2) CONTENTS.—The plan shall include an analysis of the cost-effectiveness of each expenditure.

“(h) ADVISORY BOARD.—

“(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established the Restoration Fund Advisory Board (referred to in this section as the ‘Advisory Board’), which shall be composed of 12 members appointed by the Secretary.

“(2) MEMBERSHIP.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall appoint members to the Advisory Board that represent the various Central Valley Project stakeholders, of whom—

“(i) 4 members shall be agricultural users of the Central Valley Project;

“(ii) 3 members shall be municipal and industrial users of the Central Valley Project;

“(iii) 3 members shall be power contractors of the Central Valley Project; and

“(iv) 2 members shall be appointed at the discretion of the Secretary.

“(B) OBSERVERS.—The Secretary and the Secretary of Commerce may each designate a representative to act as an observer of the Advisory Board.

“(C) CHAIRMAN.—The Secretary shall appoint 1 of the members described in subparagraph (A) to serve as Chairman of the Advisory Board.

“(3) TERMS.—The term of each member of the Advisory Board shall be for a period of 4 years.

“(4) DUTIES.—The duties of the Advisory Board are—

“(A) to meet not less frequently than semi-annually to develop and make recommendations to the Secretary regarding priorities and spending levels on projects and programs carried out under this title;

“(B) to ensure that any advice given or recommendation made by the Advisory Board reflects the independent judgment of the Advisory Board;

“(C) not later than December 31, 2013, and annually thereafter, to submit to the Secretary and Congress the recommendations under subparagraph (A); and

“(D) not later than December 31, 2013, and biennially thereafter, to submit to Congress a report that details the progress made in achieving the actions required under section 3406.

“(5) ADMINISTRATION.—With the consent of the appropriate agency head, the Advisory

Board may use the facilities and services of any Federal agency.”.

SEC. 717. ADDITIONAL AUTHORITIES.

(a) AUTHORITY FOR CERTAIN ACTIVITIES.—Section 3408 of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act (Public Law 102-575; 106 Stat. 4728) is amended by striking subsection (c) and inserting the following:

“(c) CONTRACTS FOR ADDITIONAL STORAGE AND DELIVERY OF WATER.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may enter into contracts under the reclamation laws and this title with any Federal agency, California water user or water agency, State agency, or private organization for the exchange, impoundment, storage, carriage, and delivery of nonproject water for domestic, municipal, industrial, fish and wildlife, and any other beneficial purpose.

“(2) LIMITATION.—Nothing in this subsection supersedes section 2(d) of the Act of August 26, 1937 (chapter 832; 50 Stat. 850; 100 Stat. 3051).

“(3) AUTHORITY FOR CERTAIN ACTIVITIES.—The Secretary shall use the authority granted by this subsection in connection with requests to exchange, impound, store, carry, or deliver nonproject water using Central Valley Project facilities for any beneficial purpose.

“(4) RATES.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall develop rates not to exceed the amount required to recover the reasonable costs incurred by the Secretary in connection with a beneficial purpose under this subsection.

“(B) ADMINISTRATION.—The rates shall be charged to a party using Central Valley Project facilities for a beneficial purpose, but the costs described in subparagraph (A) shall not include any donation or other payment to the Restoration Fund.

“(5) CONSTRUCTION.—This subsection shall be construed and implemented to facilitate and encourage the use of Central Valley Project facilities to exchange, impound, store, carry, or deliver nonproject water for any beneficial purpose.”.

(b) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—Section 3408(f) of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act (Public Law 102-575; 106 Stat. 4729) is amended—

(1) in the first sentence, by striking “Interior and Insular Affairs and the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries” and inserting “Natural Resources”;

(2) in the second sentence, by inserting “, including progress on the plan under subsection (j)” before the period at the end; and

(3) by adding at the end the following: “The filing and adequacy of the report shall be personally certified to the Committees by the Regional Director of the Mid-Pacific Region of the Bureau of Reclamation.”.

(c) PROJECT YIELD INCREASE.—Section 3408(j) of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act (Public Law 102-575; 106 Stat. 4730) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (1) through (7) as subparagraphs (A) through (G), respectively, and indenting appropriately;

(2) by striking “In order to minimize adverse effects, if any, upon” and inserting the following:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In order to minimize adverse effects upon”;

(3) in the second sentence, by striking “The plan” and all that follows through “options” and inserting the following:

“(2) CONTENTS.—The plan shall include recommendations on appropriate cost-sharing arrangements and authorizing legislation or other measures needed to implement the intent, purposes, and provisions of this subsection, as well as a description of how the Secretary intends to use—”;

(4) in paragraph (1) (as designated by paragraph (2))—

(A) by striking “needs, the Secretary, shall” and all that follows through “to the Congress,” and inserting “needs, the Secretary, on a priority basis and not later than September 30, 2013, shall submit to Congress”; and

(B) by striking “increase,” and all that follows through “under this title” and inserting “increase, as soon as practicable, but not later than September 30, 2016 (except that the construction of new facilities shall not be limited by that deadline), the water of the Central Valley Project by the quantity dedicated and managed for fish and wildlife purposes under this title and otherwise required to meet the purposes of the Central Valley Project, including satisfying contractual obligations”;

(5) in paragraph (2)(A) (as designated by paragraph (1)), by inserting “and construction of new water storage facilities” before the semicolon;

(6) in paragraph (2)(F) (as designated by paragraph (1)), by striking “and” at the end;

(7) in paragraph (2)(G) (as designated by paragraph (1)), by striking the period and all that follows through the end of the subsection and inserting “; and”; and

(8) by adding after paragraph (2)(G) the following:

“(H) water banking and recharge.

“(3) IMPLEMENTATION OF PLAN.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall implement the plan under paragraph (1) beginning on October 1, 2013.

“(B) COORDINATION.—In carrying out this subsection, the Secretary shall coordinate with the State of California in implementing measures for the long-term resolution of problems in the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary.

“(4) FAILURE OF PLAN.—Notwithstanding any other provision of the reclamation laws, if by September 30, 2016, the plan under paragraph (1) fails to increase the annual delivery capability of the Central Valley Project by 800,000 acre-feet, implementation of any nonmandatory action under section 3406(b)(2) shall be suspended until the date on which the plan achieves an increase in the annual delivery capability of the Central Valley Project of 800,000 acre-feet.”

(d) TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS.—Section 3408(h) of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act (Public Law 102-575; 106 Stat. 4729) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking “paragraph (h)(2)” and inserting “paragraph (2)”; and

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking “paragraph (h)(i)” and inserting “paragraph (1)”.

(e) WATER STORAGE PROJECT CONSTRUCTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Commissioner of Reclamation, may partner or enter into an agreement relating to the water storage projects described in section 103(d)(1) of the Water Supply, Reliability, and Environmental Improvement Act (Public Law 108-361; 118 Stat. 1684) with local joint powers authorities formed under State law by irrigation districts and other local governments or water districts within the applicable hydrological region to advance those water storage projects.

(2) NO ADDITIONAL FEDERAL AMOUNTS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (B), no additional Federal amounts are authorized to be appropriated to carry out the activities described in clauses (i) through (iii) of sections 103(d)(1)(A) of the Water Supply, Reliability, and Environmental Improvement Act (Public Law 108-361; 118 Stat. 1684) Public Law 108-361.

(B) EXCEPTION.—Additional Federal amounts may be appropriated for construction of a project described in subparagraph

(A) if non-Federal amounts are used to finance and construct the project.

SEC. 718. BAY-DELTA ACCORD.

(a) CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTION REGARDING CENTRAL VALLEY PROJECT AND CALIFORNIA STATE WATER PROJECT OPERATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Central Valley Project and the California State Water Project shall be operated strictly in accordance with the water quality standards and operational constraints described in the “Principles for Agreement on the Bay-Delta Standards Between the State of California and the Federal Government” dated December 15, 1994.

(2) APPLICABILITY OF OTHER LAW.—The Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) and other applicable law shall not apply to operations described in paragraph (1).

(3) IMPLEMENTATION.—Implementation of the “Principles for Agreement on the Bay-Delta Standards Between the State of California and the Federal Government” dated December 15, 1994, shall be in strict compliance with the water rights priority system and statutory protections for areas of origin.

(b) APPLICATION OF LAWS TO OTHERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—As a condition of the receipt of Federal amounts for the Central Valley Project and the California State Water Project, the State of California (including any agency or board of the State of California), on any water right obtained pursuant to State law, including a pre-1914 appropriative right, shall not—

(A) impose any condition that restricts the exercise of that water right that is affected by operations of the Central Valley Project or California State Water Project;

(B) restrict under the Public Trust Doctrine any public trust value imposed in order to conserve, enhance, recover, or otherwise protect any species.

(2) FEDERAL AGENCIES.—The prohibition under paragraph (1)(A) shall apply to Federal agencies.

(c) COSTS.—No cost associated with the implementation of this section shall be imposed directly or indirectly on any Central Valley Project contractor, or any other person or entity, unless those costs are incurred on a voluntary basis.

(d) NATIVE SPECIES PROTECTION.—This section preempts any law of the State of California law restricting the quantity or size of a nonnative fish that is taken or harvested that preys on 1 or more native fish species that occupy the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers and the tributaries of those rivers or the Sacramento-San Joaquin Rivers Delta.

SEC. 719. NATURAL AND ARTIFICIALLY SPAWNED SPECIES.

After the date of enactment of this Act, and regardless of the date of listing, the Secretary of the Interior and Commerce shall not distinguish between natural-spawned and hatchery-spawned (or otherwise artificially propagated strains of a species) in making any determination under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) that relates to an anadromous fish species present in the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers or the tributaries of those rivers and that ascends those rivers and tributaries to reproduce after maturing in San Francisco Bay or the Pacific Ocean.

SEC. 720. AUTHORIZED SERVICE AREA.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Commissioner of Reclamation, shall include in the service area of the Central Valley Project authorized under the Central Valley Project Improvement Act (Public Law 102-575; 106 Stat. 4706) the area within the boundaries of the Kettleman City Community Services District, California, as those boundaries are defined as of the date of enactment of this Act.

(b) LONG-TERM CONTRACT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding the Central Valley Project Improvement Act (Public Law 102-575; 106 Stat. 4706) and subject to paragraph (2), the Secretary, in accordance with the reclamation laws, shall enter into a long-term contract with the Kettleman City Community Services District or the delivery of not more than 900 acre-feet of Central Valley Project water for municipal and industrial use.

(2) REDUCTION IN CONTRACT.—The Secretary may temporarily reduce deliveries of the quantity of water made available under paragraph (1) by not more than 25 percent of the total whenever reductions due to hydrologic circumstances are imposed on agricultural deliveries of Central Valley Project water.

(c) ADDITIONAL COST.—If any additional infrastructure or related costs are needed to implement this section, those costs shall be the responsibility of the non-Federal entity.

SEC. 721. REGULATORY STREAMLINING.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) CVP.—The term “CVP” means the Central Valley Project.

(2) PROJECT.—The term “project”—

(A) means an activity that—

(i) is undertaken by a public agency, funded by a public agency, or requires the issuance of a permit by a public agency;

(ii) has a potential to result in a physical change to the environment; and

(iii) may be subject to several discretionary approvals by governmental agencies;

(B) may include construction activities, clearing or grading of land, improvements to existing structures, and activities or equipment involving the issuance of a permit; or

(C) has the meaning given the term defined in section 21065 of the California Public Resource Code.

(b) APPLICABILITY OF CERTAIN LAWS.—The filing of a notice of determination or a notice of exemption for any project, including the issuance of a permit under State law, for any project of the CVP or the delivery of water from the CVP in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act shall be considered to meet the requirements for that project or permit under section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Protection Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(C)).

(c) CONTINUATION OF PROJECT.—The Bureau of Reclamation shall not be required to cease or modify any major Federal action or other activity for any project of the CVP or the delivery of water from the CVP pending completion of judicial review of any determination made under the National Environmental Protection Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.).

Subtitle B—San Joaquin River Restoration

SEC. 731. REPEAL OF THE SAN JOAQUIN RIVER SETTLEMENT.

As of the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall cease any action to implement the Stipulation of Settlement, Natural Resources Defense Council, Inc. v. Rodgers, No. Civ. S-88-1658 LKK/GGH (E.D. Cal. Sept. 13, 2006).

SEC. 732. PURPOSE.

Section 10002 of the San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement Act (Public Law 111-11; 123 Stat. 1349) is amended by striking “implementation of the Settlement” and inserting “restoration of the San Joaquin River”.

SEC. 733. DEFINITIONS.

Section 10003 of the San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement Act (Public Law 111-11; 123 Stat. 1349) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (2) and (3) as paragraphs (3) and (4), respectively;

(2) by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the following:

“(1) CRITICAL WATER YEAR.—The term ‘critical water year’ means a year in which the

total unimpaired runoff at Friant Dam is less than 400,000 acre-feet, as forecasted as of March 1 of that water year by the California Department of Water Resources.

“(2) RESTORATION FLOWS.—The term ‘Restoration Flows’ means the additional water released or bypassed from Friant Dam to ensure that the target flow entering Mendota Pool, located approximately 62 river miles downstream from Friant Dam, does not fall below a speed of 50 cubic feet per second.”; and

(3) by striking paragraph (4) (as redesignated by paragraph (1)) and inserting the following:

“(4) WATER YEAR.—The term ‘water year’ means the period beginning March 1 of a given year and ending on the last day of February of the following calendar year.”.

SEC. 734. IMPLEMENTATION OF RESTORATION.

Section 10004 of the San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement Act (Public Law 111-11; 123 Stat. 1350) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking “hereby authorized and directed” and all that follows through “in the Settlement:” and inserting “may carry out the following:”;

(B) by striking paragraphs (1), (2), (4), and (5);

(C) by redesignating paragraph (3) as paragraph (1);

(D) in paragraph (1) (as redesignated by subparagraph (C)), by striking “paragraph 13 of the Settlement” and inserting “this part”; and

(E) by adding at the end the following :

“(2) In each water year, beginning in the water year commencing on March 1, 2013, the Secretary—

“(A) shall modify Friant Dam operations to release the Restoration Flows for that water year, unless the year is a critical water year;

“(B) shall ensure that—

“(i) the release of Restoration Flows are maintained at the level prescribed by this part; and

“(ii) Restoration Flows do not reach downstream of Mendota Pool;

“(C) shall release the Restoration Flows in a manner that improves the fishery in the San Joaquin River below Friant Dam and upstream of Gravelly Ford, Nevada, as in existence on the date of the enactment of the Sacramento and San Joaquin Valleys Water Reliability Act, including the associated riparian habitat; and

“(D) may, without limiting the actions required under subparagraphs (A) and (C) and subject to paragraph (3) and subsection (1), use the Restoration Flows to enhance or restore a warm water fishery downstream of Gravelly Ford, Nevada, including to Mendota Pool, if the Secretary determines that the action is reasonable, prudent, and feasible.

“(3) Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Sacramento and San Joaquin Valleys Water Reliability Act, the Secretary shall develop and implement, in cooperation with the State of California, a reasonable plan—

“(A) to fully recirculate, recapture, reuse, exchange, or transfer all Restoration Flows; and

“(B) to provide the recirculated, recaptured, reused, exchanged, or transferred flows to those contractors within the Friant Division, Hidden Unit, and Buchanan Unit of the Central Valley Project that relinquished the Restoration Flows that were recirculated, recaptured, reused, exchanged, or transferred.

“(4) The plan described in paragraph (3) shall—

“(A) address any impact on groundwater resources within the service area of the

Friant Division, Hidden Unit, and Buchanan Unit of the Central Valley Project and mitigation may include groundwater banking and recharge projects;

“(B) not impact the water supply or water rights of any entity outside the Friant Division, Hidden Unit, and Buchanan Unit of the Central Valley Project; and

“(C) be subject to applicable provisions of California water law and the use by the Secretary of the Interior of Central Valley Project facilities to make Project water (other than water released from Friant Dam under this part) and water acquired through transfers available to existing south of Delta Central Valley Project contractors.”;

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “the Settlement” and inserting “this part”; and

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking “the Settlement” and inserting “this part”;

(3) in subsection (c), by striking “the Settlement” and inserting “this part”;

(4) by striking subsection (d) and inserting the following:

“(d) MITIGATION OF IMPACTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than October 1, 2013 and subject to paragraph (2), the Secretary shall identify—

“(A) the impacts associated with the release of Restoration Flows prescribed in this part; and

“(B) the measures to be implemented to mitigate impacts on adjacent and downstream water users, landowners, and agencies as a result of Restoration Flows.

“(2) MITIGATION MEASURES.—Before implementing a decision or agreement to construct, improve, operate, or maintain a facility that the Secretary determines is necessary to implement this part, the Secretary shall implement all mitigation measures identified in paragraph (1)(B) before the date on which Restoration Flows are commenced.”;

(5) in subsection (e), by striking “the Settlement” and inserting “this part”;

(6) in subsection (f), by striking “the Settlement and section 10011” and inserting “this part”;

(7) in subsection (g)—

(A) by striking “the Settlement and”; and

(B) by striking “or exchange contract” and inserting “exchange contract, water rights settlement, or holding contract”;

(8) in subsection (h)—

(A) by striking “INTERIM” in the header;

(B) in paragraph (1)—

(i) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “Interim Flows under the Settlement” and inserting “Restoration Flows under this part”;

(ii) in subparagraph (C)—

(I) in clause (i), by striking “Interim” and inserting “Restoration”; and

(II) in clause (ii), by inserting “and” after the semicolon;

(iii) in subparagraph (D), by striking “and” at the end; and

(iv) by striking subparagraph (E);

(C) by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

“(2) CONDITIONS FOR RELEASE.—The Secretary may release Restoration Flows to the extent that the flows would not exceed existing downstream channel capacities.”;

(D) in paragraph (3), by striking “Interim” and inserting “Restoration”; and

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

“(4) CLAIMS.—Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of the Sacramento and San Joaquin Valleys Water Reliability Act, the Secretary shall issue, by regulation, a claims process to address claims, including groundwater seepage, flooding, or levee instability damages caused as a result of, aris-

ing out of, or related to implementation of this subtitle.”;

(9) in subsection (i)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “the Settlement and parts I and III” and inserting “this part”;

(ii) in subparagraph (A), by inserting “and” after the semicolon;

(iii) in subparagraph (B)—

(I) by striking “additional amounts authorized to be appropriated, including the”; and

(II) by striking “; and” and inserting a period; and

(iv) by striking subparagraph (C); and

(B) by striking paragraph (3); and

(10) by adding at the end the following:

“(k) NO IMPACTS ON OTHER INTERESTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—No Central Valley Project or other water (other than San Joaquin River water impounded by or bypassed from Friant Dam) shall be used to implement subsection (a)(2) unless the use is on a voluntary basis.

“(2) INVOLUNTARY COSTS.—No cost associated with the implementation of this section shall be imposed directly or indirectly on any Central Valley Project contractor, or any other person or entity, outside the Friant Division, the Hidden Unit, or the Buchanan Unit, unless the cost is incurred on a voluntary basis.

“(3) REDUCTION IN WATER SUPPLIES.—The implementation of this part shall not directly or indirectly reduce any water supply or water reliability on any Central Valley Project contractor, any State Water Project contractor, or any other person or entity, outside the Friant Division, the Hidden Unit, or the Buchanan Unit, unless the reduction or cost is incurred on a voluntary basis.

“(1) PRIORITY.—Each action taken under this part shall be subordinate to the use by the Secretary of Central Valley Project facilities to make Project water available to Project contractors, other than water released from the Friant Dam under this part.

“(m) APPLICABILITY.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding section 8 of the Act of June 17, 1902 (32 Stat. 390, chapter 1093), except as provided in this part and subtitle D of the Sacramento and San Joaquin Valleys Water Reliability Act, this part—

“(A) preempts and supersedes any State law, regulation, or requirement that imposes more restrictive requirements or regulations on the activities authorized under this part; and

“(B) does not alter or modify any obligation of the Friant Division, Hidden Unit, and Buchanan Unit of the Central Valley Project, or other water users on the San Joaquin River, or tributaries of the San Joaquin River, under any order issued by the State Water Resources Control Board under the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (California Water Code section 13000 et seq.).

“(2) APPLICABILITY.—An order described in paragraph (1)(B) shall be consistent with any congressional authorization for any affected Federal facility relating to the Central Valley Project.

“(n) PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION.—Any project to implement this part shall be phased such that each project shall include—

“(1) the project purpose and need;

“(2) identification of mitigation measures;

“(3) appropriate environmental review; and

“(4) prior to releasing Restoration Flows under this part the completion of the any required mitigation measures and the completion of the project.”.

SEC. 735. DISPOSAL OF PROPERTY; TITLE TO FACILITIES.

Section 10005 of the San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement Act (Public Law 111-11; 123 Stat. 1353) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking “the Settlement authorized by this part” and inserting “this part”;

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by striking “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary” and inserting “The Secretary”; and

(ii) by striking “the Settlement authorized by this part” and inserting “this part”; and

(B) by striking paragraph (2); and

(3) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “the Settlement” and inserting “this part”;

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) by striking “through the exercise of its eminent domain authority”; and

(ii) by striking “the Settlement” and inserting “this part”; and

(C) in paragraph (3), by striking “section 10009(c)” and inserting “section 10009”.

SEC. 736. COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE LAW.

Section 10006 of the San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement Act (Public Law 111-11; 123 Stat. 1354) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by inserting “, unless otherwise provided by this part” before the period at the end; and

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking “the Settlement” and inserting “this part”;

(2) in subsection (b), by inserting “, unless otherwise provided by this part” before the period at the end;

(3) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (2), by striking “section 10004” and inserting “this part”; and

(B) in paragraph (3), by striking “the Settlement” and inserting “this part”; and

(4) in subsection (d)—

(A) by inserting “, including, without limitation, the costs of implementing subsections (d) and (h)(4) of section 10004,” after “implementing this part”; and

(B) by striking “for implementation of the Settlement.”.

SEC. 737. COMPLIANCE WITH CENTRAL VALLEY PROJECT IMPROVEMENT ACT.

Section 10007 of the San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement Act (Public Law 111-11; 123 Stat. 1354) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1)—

(A) by striking “the Settlement” and inserting “the enactment of this part”; and

(B) by inserting: “and the obligations of the Secretary and all other parties to protect and keep in good condition any fish that may be planted or exist below Friant Dam, including any obligations under section 5937 of the California Fish and Game Code and the public trust doctrine, and those of the Secretary and all other parties under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.)” before “, provided”; and

(2) in paragraph (1), by striking “, as provided in the Settlement”.

SEC. 738. NO PRIVATE RIGHT OF ACTION.

Section 10008(a) of the San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement Act (Public Law 111-11; 123 Stat. 1355) is amended—

(1) by striking “not a party to the Settlement”; and

(2) by striking “or the Settlement” and inserting “unless otherwise provided by this part, but any Central Valley Project long-term water service or repayment contractor within the Friant Division, Hidden unit, or Buchanan unit adversely affected by the failure of the Secretary to comply with section 10004(a)(3) may bring an action against the Secretary for injunctive relief, damages, or both.”.

SEC. 739. IMPLEMENTATION.

Section 10009 of the San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement Act (Public Law 111-11; 123 Stat. 1355) is amended—

(1) in the section heading, by striking “; **SETTLEMENT FUND**”;

(2) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by striking “the Settlement” the first place it appears and inserting “this part”;

(ii) by striking “, estimated to total” and all that follows through “subsection (b)(1).”; and

(iii) by striking “; provided however,” and all that follows through “\$110,000,000 of State funds”;

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by striking “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary” and inserting “The Secretary”; and

(ii) by striking subparagraph (B); and

(C) in paragraph (3)—

(i) by striking “Except as provided in the Settlement, to” and inserting “To”; and

(ii) by striking “this Settlement” and inserting “this part”;

(3) in subsection (b)(1)—

(A) by striking “In addition” and all that follows through “however, that the” and inserting “The”;

(B) by striking “such additional appropriations only in amounts equal to”; and

(C) by striking “or the Settlement”;

(4) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “the Settlement” and inserting “this part”;

(ii) in subparagraph (C), by striking “from the sale of water pursuant to the Settlement, or”; and

(iii) in subparagraph (D), by striking “the Settlement” and inserting “this part”;

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking “the Settlement and”; and

(5) by striking subsections (d) through (f).

SEC. 740. REPAYMENT CONTRACTS AND ACCELERATION OF REPAYMENT OF CONSTRUCTION COSTS.

Section 10010 of the San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement Act (Public Law 111-11; 123 Stat. 1358) is amended—

(1) in paragraphs (3)(D) and (4)(C) of subsection (a), by striking “the Settlement and” each place it appears;

(2) in subsection (c), by striking paragraph (3);

(3) in subsection (d)(1), by striking “the Settlement” each place it appears and inserting “this part”;

(4) in subsection (e)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by striking “Interim Flows or Restoration Flows, pursuant to paragraphs 13 or 15 of the Settlement” and inserting “Restoration Flows, pursuant to this part”;

(ii) by striking “Interim Flows or” before “Restoration Flows”; and

(iii) by striking “the Interim Flows or Restoration Flows or is intended to otherwise facilitate the Water Management Goal, as described in the Settlement” and inserting “Restoration Flows”; and

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) by striking “except as provided in paragraph 16(b) of the Settlement”; and

(ii) by striking “the Interim Flows or Restoration Flows or to facilitate the Water Management Goal” and inserting “Restoration Flows”.

SEC. 741. REPEAL.

Section 10011 of the San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement Act (Public Law 111-11; 123 Stat. 1362) is repealed.

SEC. 742. WATER SUPPLY MITIGATION.

Section 10202(b) of the San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement Act (Public Law 111-11; 123 Stat. 1365) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking “the Interim or Restoration Flows authorized in part I of this subtitle” and inserting “Restoration Flows authorized in this part”;

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking “the Interim or Restoration Flows authorized in part I of this subtitle” and inserting “Restoration Flows authorized in this part”; and

(3) in paragraph (3)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “meet the Restoration Goal as described in part I of this subtitle” and inserting “recover Restoration Flows as described in this part”;

(B) in subparagraph (C)—

(i) by striking “the Interim or Restoration Flows authorized in part I of this subtitle” and inserting “Restoration Flows authorized in this part”; and

(ii) by striking “, and for ensuring appropriate adjustment in the recovered water account pursuant to section 10004(a)(5)”.

SEC. 743. ADDITIONAL AUTHORITIES.

Section 10203 of the San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement Act (Public Law 111-11; 123 Stat. 1367) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) by striking “section 10004(a)(4)” and inserting “section 10004(a)(3)”;

(B) by striking “, provided” and all that follows through “section 10009(f)(2)”;

(2) by striking subsection (c).

Subtitle C—Repayment Contracts and Acceleration of Repayment of Construction Costs**SEC. 751. REPAYMENT CONTRACTS AND ACCELERATION OF REPAYMENT OF CONSTRUCTION COSTS.**

(a) CONVERSION OF CONTRACTS.—

(1) CERTAIN CONTRACTS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior, on the request of a contractor, shall convert all existing long-term Central Valley Project contracts entered into under section 9(e) of the Act of August 4, 1939 (53 Stat. 1196, chapter 418), to a contract under section 9(d) of that Act (53 Stat. 1195), under mutually agreeable terms and conditions.

(B) RESTRICTIONS.—A contract converted under subparagraph (A) shall—

(i) require the repayment, either in lump sum or by accelerated prepayment, of the remaining amount of construction costs identified in the most current version of the Central Valley Project Schedule of Irrigation Capital Allocations by Contractor, as adjusted to reflect payments not reflected in that schedule and properly assignable for ultimate return by the contractor, not later than January 31, 2013 (or if made in approximately equal annual installments, not later than January 31, 2016), which amount shall be discounted by the Treasury rate (defined as the 20-year Constant Maturity Treasury rate published by the Department of the Treasury as of October 1, 2012);

(ii) require that, notwithstanding subsection (c)(2), construction costs or other capitalized costs incurred after the effective date of the converted contract or not reflected in the schedule described in clause (i) and properly assignable to that contractor, shall be repaid—

(I) in not more than 5 years after the date on which the contractor is notified of the allocation if that amount is a result of a collective annual allocation of capital costs to the contractors exercising contract conversions under this subsection of less than \$5,000,000; or

(II) if the allocation of capital costs described in subclause (I) equal \$5,000,000 or more, as provided by applicable reclamation law, subject to the condition that the reference to the amount of \$5,000,000 shall not be a precedent in any other context; and

(iii) provide that power revenues will not be available to aid in the repayment of construction costs allocated to irrigation under the contract.

(C) **ESTIMATE.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior shall provide to each contractor an estimate of the remaining amount of construction costs under subparagraph (B)(i) as of January 31, 2013, as adjusted.

(2) **OTHER CONTRACTS.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, on the request of a contractor, the Secretary may convert any Central Valley Project long-term contract entered into under section 9(c)(2) of the Act of August 4, 1939 (chapter 418; 53 Stat. 1194) to a contract under section 9(c)(1) of that Act, under mutually agreeable terms and conditions.

(B) **RESTRICTIONS.**—A contract converted under subparagraph (A) shall—

(i) require the repayment in lump sum of the remaining amount of construction costs identified in the most current version of the Central Valley Project Schedule of Municipal and Industrial Water Rates, as adjusted to reflect payments not reflected in that schedule and properly assignable for ultimate return by the contractor, not later than January 31, 2016; and

(ii) require that, notwithstanding subsection (c)(2), construction costs or other capitalized costs incurred after the effective date of the contract or not reflected in the Schedule described in clause (i), and properly assignable to that contractor, shall be repaid—

(I) in not more than 5 years after the date on which the contractor is notified of the allocation if the amount is a result of a collective annual allocation of capital costs to the contractors exercising contract conversions under this subsection of less than \$5,000,000; or

(II) if the allocation of capital costs described in subclause (I) equal \$5,000,000 or more, as provided by applicable reclamation law, subject to the condition that the reference to the amount of \$5,000,000 shall not be a precedent in any other context.

(C) **ESTIMATE.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior shall provide to each contractor an estimate of the remaining amount of construction costs under subparagraph (B)(i) as of January 31, 2016, as adjusted.

(b) **FINAL ADJUSTMENT.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The amounts paid pursuant to subsection (a) shall be subject to adjustment following a final cost allocation by the Secretary of the Interior on completion of the construction of the Central Valley Project.

(2) **REPAYMENT OBLIGATION.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—If the final cost allocation indicates that the costs properly assignable to the contractor are greater than the amount that has been paid by the contractor, the contractor shall pay the remaining allocated costs.

(B) **TERMS.**—The term of an additional repayment contract described in subparagraph (A) shall be—

(i) for not less than 1 year and not more than 10 years; and

(ii) based on mutually agreeable provisions regarding the rate of repayment of the amount developed by the parties.

(3) **CREDITS.**—If the final cost allocation indicates that the costs properly assignable to the contractor are less than the amount that the contractor has paid, the Secretary of the Interior shall credit the amount of the overpayment as an offset against any out-

standing or future obligation of the contractor.

(c) **APPLICABILITY OF CERTAIN PROVISIONS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Notwithstanding any repayment obligation under subsection (a)(1)(B)(ii) or subsection (b), on the compliance of a contractor with and discharge of the obligation of repayment of the construction costs under that subsection, the ownership and full-cost pricing limitations of any provision of the reclamation laws shall not apply to land in that district.

(2) **OTHER CONTRACTS.**—Notwithstanding any repayment obligation under paragraph (1)(B)(ii) or (2)(B)(ii) of subsection (a) or subsection (b), on the compliance of a contractor with and discharge of the obligation of repayment of the construction costs under that subsection, the contractor shall continue to pay applicable operation and maintenance costs and other charges applicable to the repayment contracts pursuant to then-current rate-setting policy and applicable law.

(d) **CERTAIN REPAYMENT OBLIGATIONS NOT ALTERED.**—This section does not—

(1) alter the repayment obligation of any other long-term water service or repayment contractor receiving water from the Central Valley Project; or

(2) shift any costs that would otherwise have been properly assignable to a contractor absent this section, including operations and maintenance costs, construction costs, or other capitalized costs incurred after the date of enactment of this Act, to other contractors.

(e) **STATUTORY INTERPRETATION.**—Nothing in this subtitle affects the right of any long-term contractor to use a particular type of financing to make the payments required in paragraph (1)(B)(i) or (2)(B)(i) of subsection (a).

Subtitle D—Bay-Delta Watershed Water Rights Preservation and Protection

SEC. 761. WATER RIGHTS AND AREA-OF-ORIGIN PROTECTIONS.

Notwithstanding the provisions of this title, Federal reclamation law, or the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.)—

(1) the Secretary of the Interior shall, in the operation of the Central Valley Project—

(A) strictly adhere to State water rights law governing water rights priorities by honoring water rights senior to those belonging to the Central Valley Project, regardless of the source of priority; and

(B) strictly adhere to and honor water rights and other priorities that are obtained or exist pursuant to the California Water Code, including sections 10505, 10505:5, 11128, 11460, 11463, and 12220; and

(2) any action that affects the diversion of water or involves the release of water from any Central Valley Project water storage facility taken by the Secretary of the Interior or the Secretary of Commerce to conserve, enhance, recover, or otherwise protect any species listed under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) shall be applied in a manner that is consistent with water right priorities established by State law.

SEC. 762. SACRAMENTO RIVER SETTLEMENT CONTRACTS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—In carrying out the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) in the Bay-Delta and on the Sacramento River, the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Commerce shall apply any limitations on the operation of the Central Valley Project or relating to the formulation of any reasonable prudent alternative associated with the operation of the Central Valley Project in a manner that strictly ad-

heres to and applies the water rights priorities for project water and base supply as provided in the Sacramento River Settlement Contracts.

(b) **APPLICABILITY.**—Article 3(i) of the Sacramento River Settlement Contracts shall not be used by the Secretary of the Interior or any other Federal agency head as means to provide shortages that are different from those provided for in Article 5(a) of the Sacramento River Settlement Contracts.

SEC. 763. SACRAMENTO RIVER WATERSHED WATER SERVICE CONTRACTORS.

(a) **EXISTING CENTRAL VALLEY PROJECT AGRICULTURAL WATER SERVICE CONTRACTORS WITHIN SACRAMENTO RIVER WATERSHED.**—In this section, the term “existing Central Valley Project agricultural water service contractors within the Sacramento River Watershed” means water service contractors within the Shasta, Trinity, and Sacramento River Divisions of the Central Valley Project that have a water service contract in effect on the date of enactment of this Act that provides water for irrigation.

(b) **ALLOCATION OF WATER.**—Subject to subsection (c) and the absolute priority of the Sacramento River Settlement Contractors to Sacramento River supplies over Central Valley Project diversions and deliveries to other contractors, the Secretary of the Interior shall, in the operation of the Central Valley Project, allocate water provided for irrigation purposes to existing Central Valley Project agricultural water service contractors within the Sacramento River Watershed as follows:

(1) Not less than 100 percent of the contract quantities in a “Wet” year (as that term is defined in the Sacramento Valley Water Year Type (40-30-30) Index).

(2) Not less than 100 percent of the contract quantities in an “Above Normal” year (as that term is defined in the Sacramento Valley Water Year Type (40-30-30) Index).

(3) Not less than 100 percent of the contract quantities in a “Below Normal” year (as that term is defined in the Sacramento Valley Water Year Type (40-30-30) Index).

(4) Not less than 75 percent of the contract quantities in a “Dry” year (as that term is defined in the Sacramento Valley Water Year Type (40-30-30) Index).

(5) Not less than 50 percent of the contract quantities in a “Critically Dry” year (as that term is defined in the Sacramento Valley Water Year Type (40-30-30) Index).

(c) **PROTECTION OF MUNICIPAL AND INDUSTRIAL SUPPLIES.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Nothing in this section—

(A) modifies any provision of a water service contract that addresses municipal and industrial water shortage policies of the Secretary of the Interior;

(B) affects or limits the authority of the Secretary of the Interior—

(i) to adopt or modify municipal and industrial water shortage policies; or

(ii) to implement municipal and industrial water shortage policies; or

(C) affects allocations to Central Valley Project municipal and industrial contractors pursuant to the water shortage policies of the Secretary of the Interior.

(2) **APPLICABILITY.**—This section does not constrain, govern, or affect, directly or indirectly, the operations of the American River Division of the Central Valley Project or any deliveries from that Division, including the units and facilities of that Division.

SEC. 764. NO REDIRECTED ADVERSE IMPACTS.

The Secretary of the Interior shall ensure that there are no redirected adverse water supply or fiscal impacts to the State Water Project or to individuals within the Sacramento River or San Joaquin River watershed arising from the operation of the Secretary of the Central Valley Project to meet

legal obligations imposed by or through any Federal or State agency, including—

- (1) the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.);
- (2) this title; and
- (3) actions or activities implemented to meet the twin goals of improving water supply and addressing the environmental needs of the Bay-Delta.

Subtitle E—Miscellaneous

SEC. 771. PRECEDENT.

Congress finds that—

- (1) coordinated operations between the Central Valley Project and the State Water Project, as consented to and requested by the State of California and the Federal Government, require the assertion of Federal supremacy to protect existing water rights throughout the system, a circumstance that is unique to the State of California; and
- (2) this title should not serve as precedent for similar operations in any other State.

TITLE VIII—REDUCING REGULATORY BURDENS

SEC. 801. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the “Reducing Regulatory Burdens Act of 2012”.

SEC. 802. USE OF AUTHORIZED PESTICIDES.

Section 3(f) of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (7 U.S.C. 136a(f)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(5) USE OF AUTHORIZED PESTICIDES.—Except as provided in section 402(s) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1342(s)), the Administrator or a State may not require a permit under that Act for a discharge from a point source into navigable waters of a pesticide authorized for sale, distribution, or use under this Act, or the residue of the pesticide, resulting from the application of the pesticide.”

SEC. 803. DISCHARGES OF PESTICIDES.

Section 402 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1342) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(s) DISCHARGES OF PESTICIDES.—

- (1) NO PERMIT REQUIREMENT.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), a permit shall not be required by the Administrator or a State under this Act for a discharge from a point source into navigable waters of a pesticide authorized for sale, distribution, or use under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (7 U.S.C. 136 et seq.), or the residue of the pesticide, resulting from the application of the pesticide.
- (2) EXCEPTIONS.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply to the following discharges of a pesticide or pesticide residue:
 - (A) A discharge resulting from the application of a pesticide in violation of a provision of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (7 U.S.C. 136 et seq.) that is relevant to protecting water quality, if—
 - (i) the discharge would not have occurred but for the violation; or
 - (ii) the quantity of a pesticide or pesticide residue in the discharge is greater than would have occurred without the violation.
 - (B) Stormwater discharges subject to regulation under subsection (p).
 - (C) The following discharges subject to regulation under this section:
 - (i) Manufacturing or industrial effluent.
 - (ii) Treatment works effluent.
 - (iii) Discharges incidental to the normal operation of a vessel, including a discharge resulting from ballasting operations or vessel biofouling prevention.”

“(i) the discharge would not have occurred but for the violation; or

“(ii) the quantity of a pesticide or pesticide residue in the discharge is greater than would have occurred without the violation.

“(B) Stormwater discharges subject to regulation under subsection (p).

“(C) The following discharges subject to regulation under this section:

“(i) Manufacturing or industrial effluent.

“(ii) Treatment works effluent.

“(iii) Discharges incidental to the normal operation of a vessel, including a discharge resulting from ballasting operations or vessel biofouling prevention.”

TITLE IX—FARM DUST REGULATION PREVENTION

SEC. 901. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the “Farm Dust Regulation Prevention Act of 2012”.

SEC. 902. TEMPORARY PROHIBITION AGAINST REVISING ANY NATIONAL AMBIENT AIR QUALITY STANDARD APPLICABLE TO COARSE PARTICULATE MATTER.

Before the date that is 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency (referred to in this title as the “Administrator”) may not propose, finalize, implement, or enforce any regulation revising the national primary ambient air quality standard or the national secondary ambient air quality standard applicable to particulate matter with an aerodynamic diameter greater than 2.5 micrometers under section 109 of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7409).

SEC. 903. NUISANCE DUST.

Part A of title I of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 132. REGULATION OF NUISANCE DUST PRIMARILY BY STATE, TRIBAL, AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS.

“(a) DEFINITION OF NUISANCE DUST.—In this section:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘nuisance dust’ means particulate matter that—

“(A) is generated primarily from natural sources, unpaved roads, agricultural activities, earth moving, or other activities typically conducted in rural areas;

“(B) consists primarily of soil, other natural or biological materials, or some combination of those materials;

“(C) is not emitted directly into the ambient air from combustion, such as exhaust from combustion engines and emissions from stationary combustion processes; and

“(D) is not comprised of residuals from the combustion of coal.

“(2) EXCLUSION.—The term ‘nuisance dust’ does not include radioactive particulate matter produced from uranium mining or processing.

“(b) APPLICABILITY.—Except as provided in subsection (c), this Act does not apply to, and references in this Act to particulate matter are deemed to exclude, nuisance dust.

“(c) EXCEPTION.—Subsection (a) does not apply with respect to any geographical area in which nuisance dust is not regulated under State, tribal, or local law insofar as the Administrator, in consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture, finds that—

“(1) nuisance dust (or any subcategory of nuisance dust) causes substantial adverse public health and welfare effects at ambient concentrations; and

“(2) the benefits of applying standards and other requirements of this Act to nuisance dust (or a subcategory of nuisance dust) outweigh the costs (including local and regional economic and employment impacts) of applying those standards and other requirements to nuisance dust (or a subcategory).”

SEC. 904. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that the Administrator should implement an approach to excluding so-called “exceptional events”, or events that are not reasonably controllable or preventable, from determinations of whether an area is in compliance with any national ambient air quality standard applicable to coarse particulate matter that—

(1) maximizes transparency and predictability for States, Indian tribes, and local governments; and

(2) minimizes the regulatory and cost burdens States, Indian tribes, and local governments bear in excluding those events.

SEC. 905. IMPACTS OF EPA REGULATORY ACTIVITY ON EMPLOYMENT AND ECONOMIC ACTIVITY IN AGRICULTURE COMMUNITY.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) COVERED ACTION.—The term “covered action” means any of the following actions taken by the Administrator under the Clean

Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401 et seq.) relating to agriculture and the national primary ambient air quality standard or the national secondary ambient air quality standard for particulate matter:

(A) Promulgating or issuing a regulation, policy statement, guidance, response to a petition, or other requirement.

(B) Implementing a new or substantially altered program.

(2) MORE THAN A DE MINIMIS NEGATIVE IMPACT.—The term “more than a de minimis negative impact” means—

(A) with respect to employment levels, a loss of more than 100 jobs relating to the agriculture industry, as calculated by excluding consideration of any offsetting job gains that result from the hypothetical creation of new jobs through new technologies or government employment; and

(B) with respect to economic activity, a decrease in agricultural economic activity of more than \$1,000,000 over any calendar year, as calculated by excluding consideration of any offsetting economic activity that results from the hypothetical creation of new economic activity through new technologies or government employment.

(b) ANALYSIS OF IMPACTS OF ACTIONS ON EMPLOYMENT AND ECONOMIC ACTIVITY IN THE AGRICULTURE COMMUNITY.—

(1) ANALYSIS.—Before taking a covered action, the Administrator shall analyze the impact, disaggregated by State, of the covered action on—

(A) employment levels in the agriculture industry; and

(B) agricultural economic activity, including estimated job losses and decreased economic activity relating to agriculture.

(2) ECONOMIC MODELS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out paragraph (1), the Administrator shall use the best available economic models.

(B) ANNUAL GAO REPORT.—Not later than December 31 of each year, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to Congress a report on the economic models used by the Administrator to carry out this subsection.

(3) AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION.—With respect to any covered action, the Administrator shall—

(A) post the analysis under paragraph (1) as a link on the main page of the public Internet website of the Environmental Protection Agency;

(B) request the Secretary of Agriculture to post the analysis under paragraph (1) as a link on the main page of the public Internet website of the Department of Agriculture; and

(C) request that the Governor of any State experiencing more than a de minimis negative impact post the analysis on the main page of the public Interest website of the State.

(c) PUBLIC HEARINGS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—If the Administrator concludes under subsection (a)(1) that a covered action will have more than a de minimis negative impact on agricultural employment levels or agricultural economic activity in a State, the Administrator shall hold a public hearing in each such State at least 30 days before the effective date of the covered action.

(2) TIME, LOCATION, AND SELECTION.—A public hearing required under paragraph (1) shall be held at—

(A) a convenient time and location for impacted residents; and

(B) at such location selected by the Administrator as shall give priority to locations in the State that will experience the greatest number of job losses.

(d) NOTIFICATION.—If the Administrator concludes under subsection (b)(1) that a covered action will have more than a de minimis negative impact on agricultural employment levels or agricultural economic activity in any State, the Administrator shall give notice of the impact to the congressional delegation, Governor, and legislature of the State at least 45 days before the effective date of the covered action.

TITLE X—ENERGY TAX PREVENTION

SEC. 1001. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the “Energy Tax Prevention Act of 2012”.

SEC. 1002. NO REGULATION OF EMISSIONS OF GREENHOUSE GASES.

Title III of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7601 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 330. NO REGULATION OF EMISSIONS OF GREENHOUSE GASES.

“(a) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ‘greenhouse gas’ means any of the following:

- “(1) Water vapor.
- “(2) Carbon dioxide.
- “(3) Methane.
- “(4) Nitrous oxide.
- “(5) Sulfur hexafluoride.
- “(6) Hydrofluorocarbons.
- “(7) Perfluorocarbons.

“(8) Any other substance subject to, or proposed to be subject to, regulation, action, or consideration under this Act to address climate change.

“(b) LIMITATION ON AGENCY ACTION.—

“(1) LIMITATION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator may not, under this Act, promulgate any regulation concerning, take action relating to, or take into consideration the emission of a greenhouse gas to address climate change.

“(B) AIR POLLUTANT DEFINITION.—The definition of the term ‘air pollutant’ in section 302(g) does not include a greenhouse gas. Notwithstanding the previous sentence, such definition may include a greenhouse gas for purposes of addressing concerns other than climate change.

“(2) EXCEPTIONS.—Paragraph (1) does not prohibit the following:

“(A) Notwithstanding paragraph (4)(B), implementation and enforcement of the rule entitled ‘Light-Duty Vehicle Greenhouse Gas Emission Standards and Corporate Average Fuel Economy Standards’ (75 Fed. Reg. 25324 (May 7, 2010) and without further revision) and finalization, implementation, enforcement, and revision of the proposed rule entitled ‘Greenhouse Gas Emissions Standards and Fuel Efficiency Standards for Medium- and Heavy-Duty Engines and Vehicles’ published at 75 Fed. Reg. 74152 (November 30, 2010).

“(B) Implementation and enforcement of section 211(o).

“(C) Statutorily authorized Federal research, development, and demonstration programs addressing climate change.

“(D) Implementation and enforcement of title VI to the extent such implementation or enforcement only involves one or more class I or class II substances (as such terms are defined in section 601).

“(E) Implementation and enforcement of section 821 (42 U.S.C. 7651k note) of Public Law 101-549 (commonly referred to as the ‘Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990’).

“(3) INAPPLICABILITY OF PROVISIONS.—Nothing listed in paragraph (2) shall cause a greenhouse gas to be subject to part C of title I (relating to prevention of significant deterioration of air quality) or considered an air pollutant for purposes of title V (relating to air permits).

“(4) CERTAIN PRIOR AGENCY ACTIONS.—The following rules, and actions (including any supplement or revision to such rules and ac-

tions) are repealed and shall have no legal effect:

“(A) ‘Mandatory Reporting of Greenhouse Gases’, published at 74 Fed. Reg. 56260 (October 30, 2009).

“(B) ‘Endangerment and Cause or Contribute Findings for Greenhouse Gases under section 202(a) of the Clean Air Act’ published at 74 Fed. Reg. 66496 (Dec. 15, 2009).

“(C) ‘Reconsideration of the Interpretation of Regulations That Determine Pollutants Covered by Clean Air Act Permitting Programs’ published at 75 Fed. Reg. 17004 (April 2, 2010) and the memorandum from Stephen L. Johnson, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator, to EPA Regional Administrators, concerning ‘EPA’s Interpretation of Regulations that Determine Pollutants Covered by Federal Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) Permit Program’ (Dec. 18, 2008).

“(D) ‘Prevention of Significant Deterioration and Title V Greenhouse Gas Tailoring Rule’, published at 75 Fed. Reg. 31514 (June 3, 2010).

“(E) ‘Action To Ensure Authority To Issue Permits Under the Prevention of Significant Deterioration Program to Sources of Greenhouse Gas Emissions: Finding of Substantial Inadequacy and SIP Call’, published at 75 Fed. Reg. 77698 (December 13, 2010).

“(F) ‘Action To Ensure Authority To Issue Permits Under the Prevention of Significant Deterioration Program to Sources of Greenhouse Gas Emissions: Finding of Failure to Submit State Implementation Plan Revisions Required for Greenhouse Gases’, published at 75 Fed. Reg. 81874 (December 29, 2010).

“(G) ‘Action To Ensure Authority To Issue Permits Under the Prevention of Significant Deterioration Program to Sources of Greenhouse Gas Emissions: Federal Implementation Plan’, published at 75 Fed. Reg. 82246 (December 30, 2010).

“(H) ‘Action To Ensure Authority To Implement Title V Permitting Programs Under the Greenhouse Gas Tailoring Rule’, published at 75 Fed. Reg. 82254 (December 30, 2010).

“(I) ‘Determinations Concerning Need for Error Correction, Partial Approval and Partial Disapproval, and Federal Implementation Plan Regarding Texas Prevention of Significant Deterioration Program’, published at 75 Fed. Reg. 82430 (December 30, 2010).

“(J) ‘Limitation of Approval of Prevention of Significant Deterioration Provisions Concerning Greenhouse Gas Emitting-Sources in State Implementation Plans; Final Rule’, published at 75 Fed. Reg. 82536 (December 30, 2010).

“(K) ‘Determinations Concerning Need for Error Correction, Partial Approval and Partial Disapproval, and Federal Implementation Plan Regarding Texas Prevention of Significant Deterioration Program; Proposed Rule’, published at 75 Fed. Reg. 82365 (December 30, 2010).

“(L) Except for action listed in paragraph (2), any other Federal action under this Act occurring before the date of enactment of this section that applies a stationary source permitting requirement or an emissions standard for a greenhouse gas to address climate change.

“(5) STATE ACTION.—

“(A) NO LIMITATION.—This section does not limit or otherwise affect the authority of a State to adopt, amend, enforce, or repeal State laws and regulations pertaining to the emission of a greenhouse gas.

“(B) EXCEPTION.—

“(i) RULE.—Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), any provision described in clause (ii)—

“(I) is not federally enforceable;

“(II) is not deemed to be a part of Federal law; and

“(III) is deemed to be stricken from the plan described in clause (ii)(I) or the program or permit described in clause (ii)(II), as applicable.

“(ii) PROVISIONS DEFINED.—For purposes of clause (i), the term ‘provision’ means any provision that—

“(I) is contained in a State implementation plan under section 110 and authorizes or requires a limitation on, or imposes a permit requirement for, the emission of a greenhouse gas to address climate change; or

“(II) is part of an operating permit program under title V, or a permit issued pursuant to title V, and authorizes or requires a limitation on the emission of a greenhouse gas to address climate change.

“(C) ACTION BY ADMINISTRATOR.—The Administrator may not approve or make federally enforceable any provision described in subparagraph (B)(ii).”

SEC. 1003. PRESERVING ONE NATIONAL STANDARD FOR AUTOMOBILES.

Section 209(b) of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7543) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(4) With respect to standards for emissions of greenhouse gases (as defined in section 330) for model year 2017 or any subsequent model year for new motor vehicles and new motor vehicle engines—

“(A) the Administrator may not waive application of subsection (a); and

“(B) no waiver granted prior to the date of enactment of this paragraph may be considered to waive the application of subsection (a).”

SA 2859. Mr. REID (for Mr. CARDIN) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1956, to prohibit operators of civil aircraft of the United States from participating in the European Union’s emissions trading scheme, and for other purposes.

Beginning on page 5, strike line 14 and all that follows through page 6, line 2, and insert the following:

SEC. 3. NEGOTIATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Transportation, the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration, and other appropriate officials of the United States Government—

(1) should, as appropriate, use their authority to conduct international negotiations, including using their authority to conduct international negotiations to pursue a worldwide approach to address aircraft emissions, including the environmental impact of aircraft emissions; and

(2) shall, as appropriate and except as provided in subsection (b), take other actions under existing authorities that are in the public interest necessary to hold operators of civil aircraft of the United States harmless from the emissions trading scheme referred to under section 2.

(b) EXCLUSION OF PAYMENT OF TAXES AND PENALTIES.—Actions taken under subsection (a)(2) may not include the obligation or expenditure of any amounts in the Airport and Airway Trust Fund established under section 9905 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or amounts otherwise made available to the Department of Transportation or any other Federal agency pursuant to appropriations Acts, for the payment of any tax or penalty imposed on an operator of civil aircraft of the United States pursuant to the emissions trading scheme referred to under section 2.

SA 2860. Mr. REID (for Mr. MERKLEY) proposed an amendment to the bill S.

1956, to prohibit operators of civil aircraft of the United States from participating in the European Union's emissions trading scheme, and for other purposes.

On page 5, between lines 13 and 14, insert the following:

(c) REASSESSMENT OF DETERMINATION OF PUBLIC INTEREST.—The Secretary—

(1) may reassess a determination under subsection (a) that a prohibition under that subsection is in the public interest at any time after making such a determination; and

(2) shall reassess such a determination after—

(A) any amendment by the European Union to the EU Directive referred to in subsection (a);

(B) the adoption of any international agreement pursuant to section 3(1); or

(C) enactment of a public law or issuance of a final rule after formal agency rule-making, in the United States to address aircraft emissions.

SA 2861. Mr. PRYOR (for Mr. BINGAMAN) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 4850, to allow for innovations and alternative technologies that meet or exceed desired energy efficiency goals.

At the end of the bill, add the following:

SEC. 3. UNIFORM EFFICIENCY DESCRIPTOR FOR COVERED WATER HEATERS.

Section 325(e) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6295(e)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(5) UNIFORM EFFICIENCY DESCRIPTOR FOR COVERED WATER HEATERS.—

“(A) DEFINITIONS.—In this paragraph:

“(i) COVERED WATER HEATER.—The term ‘covered water heater’ means—

“(I) a water heater; and

“(II) a storage water heater, instantaneous water heater, and unfired water storage tank (as defined in section 340).

“(ii) FINAL RULE.—The term ‘final rule’ means the final rule published under this paragraph.

“(B) PUBLICATION OF FINAL RULE.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this paragraph, the Secretary shall publish a final rule that establishes a uniform efficiency descriptor and accompanying test methods for covered water heaters.

“(C) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the final rule shall be to replace with a uniform efficiency descriptor—

“(i) the energy factor descriptor for water heaters established under this subsection; and

“(ii) the thermal efficiency and standby loss descriptors for storage water heaters, instantaneous water heaters, and unfired water storage tanks established under section 342(a)(5).

“(D) EFFECT OF FINAL RULE.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, effective beginning on the effective date of the final rule, the efficiency standard for covered water heaters shall be denominated according to the efficiency descriptor established by the final rule.

“(ii) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The final rule shall take effect 1 year after the date of publication of the final rule under subparagraph (B).

“(E) CONVERSION FACTOR.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall develop a mathematical conversion factor for converting the measurement of efficiency for covered water heaters from the test procedures in effect on the date of enactment of this paragraph to the new energy descriptor established under the final rule.

“(ii) APPLICATION.—The conversion factor shall apply to models of covered water heat-

ers affected by the final rule and tested prior to the effective date of the final rule.

“(iii) EFFECT ON EFFICIENCY REQUIREMENTS.—The conversion factor shall not affect the minimum efficiency requirements for covered water heaters otherwise established under this title.

“(iv) USE.—During the period described in clause (v), a manufacturer may apply the conversion factor established by the Secretary to rerate existing models of covered water heaters that are in existence prior to the effective date of the rule described in clause (v)(II) to comply with the new efficiency descriptor.

“(v) PERIOD.—Subclause (E) shall apply during the period—

“(I) beginning on the date of publication of the conversion factor in the Federal Register; and

“(II) ending on April 16, 2015.

“(F) EXCLUSIONS.—The final rule may exclude a specific category of covered water heaters from the uniform efficiency descriptor established under this paragraph if the Secretary determines that the category of water heaters—

“(i) does not have a residential use and can be clearly described in the final rule; and

“(ii) are effectively rated using the thermal efficiency and standby loss descriptors applied (as of the date of enactment of this paragraph) to the category under section 342(a)(5).

“(G) OPTIONS.—The descriptor set by the final rule may be—

“(i) a revised version of the energy factor descriptor in use as of the date of enactment of this paragraph;

“(ii) the thermal efficiency and standby loss descriptors in use as of that date;

“(iii) a revised version of the thermal efficiency and standby loss descriptors;

“(iv) a hybrid of descriptors; or

“(v) a new approach.

“(H) APPLICATION.—The efficiency descriptor and accompanying test method established under the final rule shall apply, to the maximum extent practicable, to all water heating technologies in use as of the date of enactment of this paragraph and to future water heating technologies.

“(I) PARTICIPATION.—The Secretary shall invite interested stakeholders to participate in the rulemaking process used to establish the final rule.

“(J) TESTING OF ALTERNATIVE DESCRIPTORS.—In establishing the final rule, the Secretary shall contract with the National Institute of Standards and Technology, as necessary, to conduct testing and simulation of alternative descriptors identified for consideration.

“(K) EXISTING COVERED WATER HEATERS.—A covered water heater shall be considered to comply with the final rule on and after the effective date of the final rule and with any revised labeling requirements established by the Federal Trade Commission to carry out the final rule if the covered water heater—

“(i) was manufactured prior to the effective date of the final rule; and

“(ii) complied with the efficiency standards and labeling requirements in effect prior to the final rule.”

SEC. 4. SERVICE OVER THE COUNTER, SELF-CONTAINED, MEDIUM TEMPERATURE COMMERCIAL REFRIGERATORS.

Section 342(c) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6313(c)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) by redesignating subparagraph (C) as subparagraph (E); and

(B) by inserting after subparagraph (B) the following:

“(C) The term ‘service over the counter, self-contained, medium temperature com-

mercial refrigerator’ or ‘(SOC-SC-M)’ means a medium temperature commercial refrigerator—

“(i) with a self-contained condensing unit and equipped with sliding or hinged doors in the back intended for use by sales personnel, and with glass or other transparent material in the front for displaying merchandise; and

“(ii) that has a height not greater than 66 inches and is intended to serve as a counter for transactions between sales personnel and customers.

“(D) The term ‘TDA’ means the total display area (ft²) of the refrigerated case, as defined in AHRI Standard 1200.”;

(2) by redesignating paragraphs (4) and (5) as paragraphs (5) and (6), respectively; and

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

“(4) Each SOC-SC-M manufactured on or after January 1, 2012, shall have a total daily energy consumption (in kilowatt hours per day) of not more than 0.6 x TDA + 1.0.”

SEC. 5. SMALL DUCT HIGH VELOCITY SYSTEMS AND ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES.

(a) THROUGH-THE-WALL CENTRAL AIR CONDITIONERS, THROUGH-THE-WALL CENTRAL AIR CONDITIONING HEAT PUMPS, AND SMALL DUCT, HIGH VELOCITY SYSTEMS.—Section 325(d) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6295(d)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(4) STANDARDS FOR THROUGH-THE-WALL CENTRAL AIR CONDITIONERS, THROUGH-THE-WALL CENTRAL AIR CONDITIONING HEAT PUMPS, AND SMALL DUCT, HIGH VELOCITY SYSTEMS.—

“(A) DEFINITIONS.—In this paragraph:

“(i) SMALL DUCT, HIGH VELOCITY SYSTEM.—The term ‘small duct, high velocity system’ means a heating and cooling product that contains a blower and indoor coil combination that—

“(I) is designed for, and produces, at least 1.2 inches of external static pressure when operated at the certified air volume rate of 220–350 CFM per rated ton of cooling; and

“(II) when applied in the field, uses high velocity room outlets generally greater than 1,000 fpm that have less than 6.0 square inches of free area.

“(ii) THROUGH-THE-WALL CENTRAL AIR CONDITIONER; THROUGH-THE-WALL CENTRAL AIR CONDITIONING HEAT PUMP.—The terms ‘through-the-wall central air conditioner’ and ‘through-the-wall central air conditioning heat pump’ mean a central air conditioner or heat pump, respectively, that is designed to be installed totally or partially within a fixed-size opening in an exterior wall, and—

“(I) is not weatherized;

“(II) is clearly and permanently marked for installation only through an exterior wall;

“(III) has a rated cooling capacity no greater than 30,000 Btu/hr;

“(IV) exchanges all of its outdoor air across a single surface of the equipment cabinet; and

“(V) has a combined outdoor air exchange area of less than 800 square inches (split systems) or less than 1,210 square inches (single packaged systems) as measured on the surface area described in subclause (IV).

“(iii) REVISION.—The Secretary may revise the definitions contained in this subparagraph through publication of a final rule.

“(B) SMALL-DUCT HIGH-VELOCITY SYSTEMS.—

“(i) SEASONAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY RATIO.—The seasonal energy efficiency ratio for small-duct high-velocity systems shall be not less than—

“(I) 11.00 for products manufactured on or after January 23, 2006; and

“(II) 12.00 for products manufactured on or after January 1, 2015.

“(ii) HEATING SEASONAL PERFORMANCE FACTOR.—The heating seasonal performance factor for small-duct high-velocity systems shall be not less than—

“(I) 6.8 for products manufactured on or after January 23, 2006; and

“(II) 7.2 for products manufactured on or after January 1, 2015.

“(C) SUBSEQUENT RULEMAKINGS.—The Secretary shall conduct subsequent rulemakings for through-the-wall central air conditioners, through-the-wall central air conditioning heat pumps, and small duct, high velocity systems as part of any rulemaking under this section used to review or revise standards for other central air conditioners and heat pumps.”

(b) DUTY TO REVIEW COMMERCIAL EQUIPMENT.—Section 342(a)(6) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6313(a)(6)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A)(i), by inserting “the standard levels or design requirements applicable under that standard to” immediately before “any small commercial”; and

(2) in subparagraph (C)—

(A) in clause (i)—

(i) by striking “Not later than 6 years after issuance of any final rule establishing or amending a standard, as required for a product under this part,” and inserting “Every 6 years.”; and

(ii) by inserting after “the Secretary shall” the following: “conduct an evaluation of each class of covered equipment and shall”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(vi) For any covered equipment as to which more than 6 years has elapsed since the issuance of the most recent final rule establishing or amending a standard for the product as of the date of enactment of this clause, the first notice required under clause (i) shall be published by December 31, 2013.”

(c) PETITION FOR AMENDED STANDARDS.—Section 325(n) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6295(n)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraph (3) as paragraph (5); and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (2) the following:

“(3) NOTICE OF DECISION.—Not later than 180 days after the date of receiving a petition, the Secretary shall publish in the Federal Register a notice of, and explanation for, the decision of the Secretary to grant or deny the petition.

“(4) NEW OR AMENDED STANDARDS.—Not later than 3 years after the date of granting a petition for new or amended standards, the Secretary shall publish in the Federal Register—

“(A) a final rule that contains the new or amended standards; or

“(B) a determination that no new or amended standards are necessary.”

SEC. 6. TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS.

(a) TITLE III OF ENERGY INDEPENDENCE AND SECURITY ACT OF 2007—ENERGY SAVINGS THROUGH IMPROVED STANDARDS FOR APPLIANCES AND LIGHTING.—

(1) Section 325(u) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6295(u)) (as amended by section 301(c) of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (121 Stat. 1550)) is amended—

(A) by redesignating paragraph (7) as paragraph (4); and

(B) in paragraph (4) (as so redesignated), by striking “supplies is” and inserting “supply is”.

(2) Section 302(b) of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (121 Stat. 1551) is amended by striking “6313(a)” and inserting “6314(a)”.

(3) Section 342(a)(6) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6313(a)(6))

(as amended by section 305(b)(2) of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (121 Stat. 1554)) is amended—

(A) in subparagraph (B)—

(i) by striking “If the Secretary” and inserting the following:

“(i) IN GENERAL.—If the Secretary”;

(ii) by striking “clause (ii)(II)” and inserting “subparagraph (A)(ii)(II)”;

(iii) by striking “clause (i)” and inserting “subparagraph (A)(i)”;

(iv) by adding at the end the following:

“(ii) FACTORS.—In determining whether a standard is economically justified for the purposes of subparagraph (A)(ii)(II), the Secretary shall, after receiving views and comments furnished with respect to the proposed standard, determine whether the benefits of the standard exceed the burden of the proposed standard by, to the maximum extent practicable, considering—

“(I) the economic impact of the standard on the manufacturers and on the consumers of the products subject to the standard;

“(II) the savings in operating costs throughout the estimated average life of the product in the type (or class) compared to any increase in the price of, or in the initial charges for, or maintenance expenses of, the products that are likely to result from the imposition of the standard;

“(III) the total projected quantity of energy savings likely to result directly from the imposition of the standard;

“(IV) any lessening of the utility or the performance of the products likely to result from the imposition of the standard;

“(V) the impact of any lessening of competition, as determined in writing by the Attorney General, that is likely to result from the imposition of the standard;

“(VI) the need for national energy conservation; and

“(VII) other factors the Secretary considers relevant.

“(iii) ADMINISTRATION.—

“(I) ENERGY USE AND EFFICIENCY.—The Secretary may not prescribe any amended standard under this paragraph that increases the maximum allowable energy use, or decreases the minimum required energy efficiency, of a covered product.

“(II) UNAVAILABILITY.—

“(aa) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may not prescribe an amended standard under this subparagraph if the Secretary finds (and publishes the finding) that interested persons have established by a preponderance of the evidence that a standard is likely to result in the unavailability in the United States in any product type (or class) of performance characteristics (including reliability, features, sizes, capacities, and volumes) that are substantially the same as those generally available in the United States at the time of the finding of the Secretary.

“(bb) OTHER TYPES OR CLASSES.—The failure of some types (or classes) to meet the criterion established under this subclause shall not affect the determination of the Secretary on whether to prescribe a standard for the other types or classes.”; and

(B) in subparagraph (C)(iv), by striking “An amendment prescribed under this subsection” and inserting “Notwithstanding subparagraph (D), an amendment prescribed under this subparagraph”.

(4) Section 342(a)(6)(B)(iii) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (as added by section 306(c) of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (121 Stat. 1559)) is transferred and redesignated as clause (vi) of section 342(a)(6)(C) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (as amended by section 305(b)(2) of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (121 Stat. 1554)).

(5) Section 345 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6316) (as amend-

ed by section 312(e) of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (121 Stat. 1567)) is amended—

(A) by striking “subparagraphs (B) through (G)” each place it appears and inserting “subparagraphs (B), (C), (D), (I), (J), and (K)”;

(B) by striking “part A” each place it appears and inserting “part B”; and

(C) in subsection (a)—

(i) in paragraph (8), by striking “and” at the end;

(ii) in paragraph (9), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

“(10) section 327 shall apply with respect to the equipment described in section 340(1)(L) beginning on the date on which a final rule establishing an energy conservation standard is issued by the Secretary, except that any State or local standard prescribed or enacted for the equipment before the date on which the final rule is issued shall not be preempted until the energy conservation standard established by the Secretary for the equipment takes effect.”;

(D) in subsection (b)(1), by striking “section 325(p)(5)” and inserting “section 325(p)(4)”; and

(E) in subsection (h)(3), by striking “section 342(f)(3)” and inserting “section 342(f)(4)”.

(6) Section 321(30)(D)(i)(III) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6291(30)(D)(i)(III)) (as amended by section 321(a)(1)(A) of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (121 Stat. 1574)) is amended by inserting before the semicolon the following: “or, in the case of a modified spectrum lamp, not less than 232 lumens and not more than 1,950 lumens”.

(7) Section 321(30)(T) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6291(30)(T)) (as amended by section 321(a)(1)(B) of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (121 Stat. 1574)) is amended—

(A) in clause (i)—

(i) by striking the comma after “household appliance” and inserting “and”; and

(ii) by striking “and is sold at retail,”; and

(B) in clause (ii), by inserting “when sold at retail,” before “is designated”.

(8) Section 325(1)(4)(A) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6295(1)(4)(A)) (as amended by section 321(a)(3)(B) of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (121 Stat. 1581)) is amended by striking “only”.

(9) Section 327(b)(1)(B) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6297(b)(1)(B)) (as amended by section 321(d)(3) of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (121 Stat. 1585)) is amended—

(A) in clause (i), by inserting “and” after the semicolon at the end;

(B) in clause (ii), by striking “; and” and inserting a period; and

(C) by striking clause (iii).

(10) Section 321(30)(C)(ii) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6291(30)(C)(ii)) (as amended by section 322(a)(1)(B) of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (121 Stat. 1587)) is amended by inserting a period after “40 watts or higher”.

(11) Section 322(b) of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (121 Stat. 1588) is amended by striking “6995(i)” and inserting “6295(i)”.

(12) Section 325(b) of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (121 Stat. 1596) is amended by striking “6924(c)” and inserting “6294(c)”.

(13) This subsection and the amendments made by this subsection take effect as if included in the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (Public Law 110-140; 121 Stat. 1492).

(b) ENERGY POLICY ACT OF 2005.—

(1) Section 325(g)(8)(C)(ii) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6295(g)(8)(C)(ii)) (as added by section 135(c)(2)(B) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005) is amended by striking “20F” and inserting “20°F”.

(2) This subsection and the amendment made by this subsection take effect as if included in the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (Public Law 109-58; 119 Stat. 594).

(c) ENERGY POLICY AND CONSERVATION ACT.—

(1) Section 340(2)(B) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6311(2)(B)) is amended—

(A) in clause (xi), by striking “and” at the end;

(B) in clause (xii), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following: “(xiii) other motors.”.

(2) Section 343(a) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6314(a)) is amended by striking “Air-Conditioning and Refrigeration Institute” each place it appears in paragraphs (4)(A) and (7) and inserting “Air-Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration Institute”.

SA 2862. Mr. PRYOR (for Mrs. SHAHEEN) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 4850, to allow for innovations and alternative technologies that meet or exceed desired energy efficiency goals.

At the end of the bill, add the following:

TITLE II—INDUSTRIAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY

SEC. 201. COORDINATION OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT OF ENERGY EFFICIENT TECHNOLOGIES FOR INDUSTRY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—As part of the research and development activities of the Industrial Technologies Program of the Department of Energy, the Secretary of Energy (referred to in this title as the “Secretary”) shall establish, as appropriate, collaborative research and development partnerships with other programs within the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (including the Building Technologies Program), the Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability, and the Office of Science that—

(1) leverage the research and development expertise of those programs to promote early stage energy efficiency technology development;

(2) support the use of innovative manufacturing processes and applied research for development, demonstration, and commercialization of new technologies and processes to improve efficiency (including improvements in efficient use of water), reduce emissions, reduce industrial waste, and improve industrial cost-competitiveness; and

(3) apply the knowledge and expertise of the Industrial Technologies Program to help achieve the program goals of the other programs.

(b) REPORTS.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act and biennially thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report that describes actions taken to carry out subsection (a) and the results of those actions.

SEC. 202. REDUCING BARRIERS TO THE DEPLOYMENT OF INDUSTRIAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) INDUSTRIAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY.—The term “industrial energy efficiency” means the energy efficiency derived from commercial technologies and measures to improve energy efficiency or to generate or transmit electric power and heat, including electric

motor efficiency improvements, demand response, direct or indirect combined heat and power, and waste heat recovery.

(2) INDUSTRIAL SECTOR.—The term “industrial sector” means any subsector of the manufacturing sector (as defined in North American Industry Classification System codes 31-33 (as in effect on the date of enactment of this Act)) establishments of which have, or could have, thermal host facilities with electricity requirements met in whole, or in part, by onsite electricity generation, including direct and indirect combined heat and power or waste recovery.

(b) REPORT ON THE DEPLOYMENT OF INDUSTRIAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a report describing—

(A) the results of the study conducted under paragraph (2); and

(B) recommendations and guidance developed under paragraph (3).

(2) STUDY.—The Secretary, in coordination with the industrial sector, shall conduct a study of the following:

(A) The legal, regulatory, and economic barriers to the deployment of industrial energy efficiency in all electricity markets (including organized wholesale electricity markets, and regulated electricity markets), including, as applicable, the following:

(i) Transmission and distribution interconnection requirements.

(ii) Standby, back-up, and maintenance fees (including demand ratchets).

(iii) Exit fees.

(iv) Life of contract demand ratchets.

(v) Net metering.

(vi) Calculation of avoided cost rates.

(vii) Power purchase agreements.

(viii) Energy market structures.

(ix) Capacity market structures.

(x) Other barriers as may be identified by the Secretary, in coordination with the industrial sector.

(B) Examples of—

(i) successful State and Federal policies that resulted in greater use of industrial energy efficiency;

(ii) successful private initiatives that resulted in greater use of industrial energy efficiency; and

(iii) cost-effective policies used by foreign countries to foster industrial energy efficiency.

(C) The estimated economic benefits to the national economy of providing the industrial sector with Federal energy efficiency matching grants of \$5,000,000,000 for 5- and 10-year periods, including benefits relating to—

(i) estimated energy and emission reductions;

(ii) direct and indirect jobs saved or created;

(iii) direct and indirect capital investment;

(iv) the gross domestic product; and

(v) trade balance impacts.

(D) The estimated energy savings available from increased use of recycled material in energy-intensive manufacturing processes.

(3) RECOMMENDATIONS AND GUIDANCE.—The Secretary, in coordination with the industrial sector, shall develop policy recommendations regarding the deployment of industrial energy efficiency, including proposed regulatory guidance to States and relevant Federal agencies to address barriers to deployment.

SEC. 203. STUDY OF ADVANCED ENERGY TECHNOLOGY MANUFACTURING CAPABILITIES IN THE UNITED STATES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the

Secretary shall enter into an arrangement with the National Academy of Sciences under which the Academy shall conduct a study of the development of advanced manufacturing capabilities for various energy technologies, including—

(1) an assessment of the manufacturing supply chains of established and emerging industries;

(2) an analysis of—

(A) the manner in which supply chains have changed over the 25-year period ending on the date of enactment of this Act;

(B) current trends in supply chains; and

(C) the energy intensity of each part of the supply chain and opportunities for improvement;

(3) for each technology or manufacturing sector, an analysis of which sections of the supply chain are critical for the United States to retain or develop to be competitive in the manufacturing of the technology;

(4) an assessment of which emerging energy technologies the United States should focus on to create or enhance manufacturing capabilities; and

(5) recommendations on leveraging the expertise of energy efficiency and renewable energy user facilities so that best materials and manufacturing practices are designed and implemented.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the date on which the Secretary enters into the agreement with the Academy described in subsection (a), the Academy shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate, the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives, and the Secretary a report describing the results of the study required under this section, including any findings and recommendations.

SEC. 204. INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGIES STEERING COMMITTEE.

The Secretary shall establish an advisory steering committee that includes national trade associations representing energy-intensive industries or energy service providers to provide recommendations to the Secretary on planning and implementation of the Industrial Technologies Program of the Department of Energy.

TITLE III—FEDERAL AGENCY ENERGY EFFICIENCY

SEC. 301. AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS FOR DESIGN UPDATES.

Section 3307 of title 40, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (d) through (h) as subsections (e) through (i), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after subsection (c) the following:

“(d) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS FOR DESIGN UPDATES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), for any project for which congressional approval is received under subsection (a) and for which the design has been substantially completed but construction has not begun, the Administrator of General Services may use appropriated funds to update the project design to meet applicable Federal building energy efficiency standards established under section 305 of the Energy Conservation and Production Act (42 U.S.C. 6834) and other requirements established under section 3312.

“(2) LIMITATION.—The use of funds under paragraph (1) shall not exceed 125 percent of the estimated energy or other cost savings associated with the updates as determined by a life-cycle cost analysis under section 544 of the National Energy Conservation Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 8254).”.

SEC. 302. BEST PRACTICES FOR ADVANCED METERING.

Section 543(e) of the National Energy Conservation Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 8253(e)) is

amended by striking paragraph (3) and inserting the following:

“(3) PLAN.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date on which guidelines are established under paragraph (2), in a report submitted by the agency under section 548(a), each agency shall submit to the Secretary a plan describing the manner in which the agency will implement the requirements of paragraph (1), including—

“(i) how the agency will designate personnel primarily responsible for achieving the requirements; and

“(ii) a demonstration by the agency, complete with documentation, of any finding that advanced meters or advanced metering devices (as those terms are used in paragraph (1)), are not practicable.

“(B) UPDATES.—Reports submitted under subparagraph (A) shall be updated annually.

“(4) BEST PRACTICES REPORT.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this paragraph, the Secretary of Energy, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense and the Administrator of General Services, shall develop, and issue a report on, best practices for the use of advanced metering of energy use in Federal facilities, buildings, and equipment by Federal agencies.

“(B) UPDATING.—The report described under subparagraph (A) shall be updated annually.

“(C) COMPONENTS.—The report shall include, at a minimum—

“(i) summaries and analysis of the reports by agencies under paragraph (3);

“(ii) recommendations on standard requirements or guidelines for automated energy management systems, including—

“(I) potential common communications standards to allow data sharing and reporting;

“(II) means of facilitating continuous commissioning of buildings and evidence-based maintenance of buildings and building systems; and

“(III) standards for sufficient levels of security and protection against cyber threats to ensure systems cannot be controlled by unauthorized persons; and

“(iii) an analysis of—

“(I) the types of advanced metering and monitoring systems being piloted, tested, or installed in Federal buildings; and

“(II) existing techniques used within the private sector or other non-Federal government buildings.”

SEC. 303. FEDERAL ENERGY MANAGEMENT AND DATA COLLECTION STANDARD.

Section 543 of the National Energy Conservation Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 8253) is amended—

(1) by redesignating the second subsection (f) (as added by section 434(a) of Public Law 110-140 (121 Stat. 1614)) as subsection (g); and

(2) in subsection (f)(7), by striking subparagraph (A) and inserting the following:

“(A) IN GENERAL.—For each facility that meets the criteria established by the Secretary under paragraph (2)(B), the energy manager shall use the web-based tracking system under subparagraph (B)—

“(i) to certify compliance with the requirements for—

“(I) energy and water evaluations under paragraph (3);

“(II) implementation of identified energy and water measures under paragraph (4); and

“(III) follow-up on implemented measures under paragraph (5); and

“(ii) to publish energy and water consumption data on an individual facility basis.”

SEC. 304. FEDERAL PURCHASE REQUIREMENT.

Section 203 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 15852) is amended—

(1) in subsections (a) and (b)(2), by striking “electric energy” each place it appears and inserting “electric, direct, and thermal energy”;

(2) in subsection (b)(2)—

(A) by inserting “, or avoided by,” after “generated from”; and

(B) by inserting “(including ground-source, reclaimed, and ground water)” after “geothermal”;

(3) by redesignating subsection (d) as subsection (e); and

(4) by inserting after subsection (c) the following:

“(d) SEPARATE CALCULATION.—Renewable energy produced at a Federal facility, on Federal land, or on Indian land (as defined in section 2601 of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (25 U.S.C. 3501))—

“(1) shall be calculated (on a BTU-equivalent basis) separately from renewable energy used; and

“(2) may be used individually or in combination to comply with subsection (a).”

SEC. 305. STUDY ON FEDERAL DATA CENTER CONSOLIDATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Energy shall conduct a study on the feasibility of a government-wide data center consolidation, with an overall Federal target of a minimum of 800 Federal data center closures by October 1, 2015.

(b) COORDINATION.—In conducting the study, the Secretary shall coordinate with Federal data center program managers, facilities managers, and sustainability officers.

(c) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report that describes the results of the study, including a description of agency best practices in data center consolidation.

SA 2863. Mr. PRYOR (for Mr. DURBIN) proposed an amendment to S. Res. 466, calling for the release from prison of former Prime Minister of Ukraine Yulia Tymoshenko.

On page 9, strike lines 1 through 14 and insert the following:

(2) expresses its deep concern that the politicized nature of prosecutions and detention of Ms. Tymoshenko and other members of her party took place in a country that is scheduled to assume chairmanship of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) in 2013;

(3) expresses its deep concern that the politicized detention of Ms. Tymoshenko threatens to jeopardize ties between the United States and Ukraine;

(4) calls for the Government of Ukraine to release Ms. Tymoshenko from her current incarceration based on politicized charges, to provide Ms. Tymoshenko with timely access to medical care, and to conduct the October parliamentary elections in a fair and transparent manner consistent with OSCE standards; and

SA 2864. Mr. PRYOR (for Mr. AKAKA) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 3193, to make technical corrections to the legal description of certain land to be held in trust for the Barona Band of Mission Indians, and for other purposes.

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Barona Band of Mission Indians Land Transfer Clarification Act of 2012”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS; PURPOSES.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(1) the legal description of land previously taken into trust by the United States for the benefit of the Barona Band of Mission Indians may be interpreted to refer to private, nontribal land;

(2) there is a continued, unresolved disagreement between the Barona Band of Mission Indians and certain off-reservation property owners relating to the causes of diminishing native groundwater;

(3) Congress expresses no opinion, nor should an opinion of Congress be inferred, relating to the disagreement described in paragraph (2); and

(4) it is the intent of Congress that, if the land described in section 121(b) of the Native American Technical Corrections Act of 2004 (118 Stat. 544) (as amended by section 3) is used to bring water to the Barona Indian Reservation, the effort is authorized only if the effort also addresses water availability for neighboring off-reservation land located along Old Barona Road that is occupied as of the date of enactment of this Act by providing guaranteed access to that water supply at a mutually agreeable site on the southwest boundary of the Barona Indian Reservation.

(b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are—

(1) to clarify the legal description of the land placed into trust for the Barona Band of Mission Indians in 2004; and

(2) to remove all doubt relating to the specific parcels of land that Congress has placed into trust for the Barona Band of Mission Indians.

SEC. 3. LAND TRANSFER.

Section 121 of the Native American Technical Corrections Act of 2004 (Public Law 108-204; 118 Stat. 544) is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (b) and inserting the following:

“(b) DESCRIPTION OF LAND.—The land referred to in subsection (a) is land comprising approximately 86.87 acres in T. 14 S., R. 1 E., San Bernardino Meridian, San Diego County, California, and described more particularly as follows:

“(1) The approximately 69.85 acres located in Section 21 and described as—

“(A) SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, excepting the north 475 feet;

“(B) W $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, excepting the north 475 feet;

“(C) E $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, excepting the north 350 feet; and

“(D) the portion of W $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ that lies southwesterly of the following line: Beginning at the intersection of the southerly line of said SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 21 with the westerly boundary of Rancho Canada De San Vicente Y Mesa Del Padre Barona as shown on United States Government Resurvey approved January 21, 1939, and thence northwesterly along said boundary to an intersection with the westerly line of said SE $\frac{1}{4}$.

“(2) The approximately 17.02 acres located in Section 28 and described as NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, excepting the east 750 feet.”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(d) CLARIFICATIONS.—

“(1) EFFECT ON SECTION.—The provisions of subsection (c) shall apply to the land described in subsection (b), as in effect on the day after the date of enactment of the Barona Band of Mission Indians Land Transfer Clarification Act of 2012.

“(2) EFFECT ON PRIVATE LAND.—The parcel of private, non-Indian land referenced in subsection (a) and described in subsection (b), as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of the Barona Band of Mission Indians Land Transfer Clarification Act of 2012, but excluded from the revised description of the land in subsection (b) was not intended to be—

“(A) held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the Band; or

“(B) considered to be a part of the reservation of the Band.”.

SA 2865. Mr. PRYOR (for Mr. BLUMENTHAL) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2453, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of Mark Twain.

On page 7, strike lines 5 through 7 and insert the following:

(2) One-quarter of the surcharges, to the University of California, Berkeley, California, for the benefit of the Mark Twain Project at the Bancroft Library to support programs to study and promote the legacy of Mark Twain.

At the end, add the following:

SEC. 8. NO NET COST.

The Secretary shall take such actions as may be necessary to ensure that—

(1) minting and issuing coins under this Act will not result in any net cost to the United States Government; and

(2) no funds, including applicable surcharges, are disbursed to any recipient designated in section 7 until the total cost of designing and issuing all of the coins authorized by this Act (including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, overhead expenses, marketing, and shipping) is recovered by the United States Treasury, consistent with sections 5112(m) and 5134(f) of title 31, United States Code.

SA 2866. Mr. PRYOR (for Mr. LIEBERMAN) proposed an amendment to S. 3315, to repeal or modify certain mandates of the Government Accountability Office.

On page 2, line 11, insert “, the Secretary of the Senate, or the Clerk of the House of Representatives” after “House of Representatives”.

On page 5, line 1, insert “or the Secretary of the Senate” after “the Senate”.

SA 2867. Mr. PRYOR (for Mr. ROCKEFELLER) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2838, to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard for fiscal years 2013 through 2014, and for other purposes.

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This Act may be cited as the “Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2012”.

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

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—AUTHORIZATION

Sec. 101. Authorization of appropriations.

Sec. 102. Authorized levels of military strength and training.

TITLE II—ORGANIZATION

Sec. 201. Coast Guard authority to operate and maintain Coast Guard assets.

Sec. 202. Clarification of Coast Guard ice operations mission.

TITLE III—PERSONNEL

Sec. 301. Acquisition workforce expedited hiring authority.

Sec. 302. Officers recommended for promotion.

Sec. 303. Original appointment of permanent commissioned officers.

Sec. 304. Academy pay, allowances, and emoluments.

Sec. 305. Academy policy on sexual harassment and sexual violence.

Sec. 306. Coast Guard auxiliarists enrollment eligibility.

TITLE IV—ADMINISTRATION

Sec. 401. Advance procurement funding.

Sec. 402. Multiyear procurement authority for Coast Guard National Security Cutters.

Sec. 403. Requirement to maintain United States polar icebreaking capability.

Sec. 404. National response functions.

Sec. 405. National Response Center notification requirements.

Sec. 406. Conforming amendment.

TITLE V—SHIPPING AND NAVIGATION

Sec. 501. Central Bering Sea potential place of refuge.

Sec. 502. Protection and fair treatment of seafarers.

Sec. 503. Delegation of authority.

Sec. 504. Report on establishment of arctic deep water port.

Sec. 505. Risk analysis of transporting Canadian oil sands.

Sec. 506. Eligibility to receive surplus training equipment.

TITLE VI—MARITIME ADMINISTRATION AUTHORIZATION

Sec. 601. Short title; amendment of title 46, United States Code.

Sec. 602. Marine transportation system.

Sec. 603. Short sea transportation program amendments.

Sec. 604. Maritime environmental and technical assistance program.

Sec. 605. Waiver of navigation and vessel-inspection laws.

Sec. 606. Extension of maritime security fleet program.

Sec. 607. Maritime workforce study.

Sec. 608. Maritime administration vessel recycling contract award practices.

Sec. 609. Requirement for barge design.

TITLE VII—MISCELLANEOUS

Sec. 701. Limitation on availability of funds for procurement of alternative fuel.

Sec. 702. Passenger vessel security and safety requirements.

Sec. 703. Oil spill liability trust fund investment amount.

Sec. 704. Vessel determinations.

Sec. 705. Alteration of bridge obstructing navigation.

Sec. 706. Notice of arrival.

Sec. 707. Waivers.

Sec. 708. Budgetary effects.

Sec. 709. Technical amendments.

TITLE I—AUTHORIZATION

SEC. 101. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) **FISCAL YEAR 2013.**—Funds are authorized to be appropriated for fiscal year 2013 for necessary expenses of the Coast Guard as follows:

(1) For the operation and maintenance of the Coast Guard, \$7,077,783,000 of which \$24,500,000 is authorized to be derived from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund to carry out the purposes of section 1012(a)(5) of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2712(a)(5)).

(2) For the acquisition, construction, rebuilding, renovation, and improvement of aids to navigation, shore and offshore facilities, vessels, and aircraft, including equipment related thereto, \$1,421,924,000 of which—

(A) \$20,000,000 shall be derived from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund to carry out the purposes of section 1012(a)(5) of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2712(a)(5)), to remain available until expended;

(B) \$642,000,000 is authorized to acquire, effect major repairs to, renovate, or improve vessels, small boats, and related equipment;

(C) \$289,000,000 is authorized to acquire, effect major repairs to, renovate, or improve aircraft or increase aviation capability;

(D) \$166,140,000 is authorized for other equipment;

(E) \$213,692,000 is authorized for shore facilities, aids to navigation facilities, and military housing, of which not more than \$14,000,000 shall be derived from the Coast Guard Housing Fund; and

(F) \$110,192,000 is authorized for personnel compensation and benefits and related costs.

(3) For research, development, testing, and evaluation of technologies, materials, and human factors directly related to improving the performance of the Coast Guard’s mission in search and rescue, aids to navigation, marine safety, marine environmental protection, enforcement of laws and treaties, ice operations, oceanographic research, and defense readiness, \$19,779,000.

(4) For retired pay (including the payment of obligations otherwise chargeable to lapsed appropriations for this purpose), payments under the Retired Serviceman’s Family Protection and Survivor Benefit Plans, and payments for medical and dental care of retired personnel and their dependents under chapter 55 of title 10, United States Code, \$1,440,157,000, to remain available until expended.

(5) For alteration or removal of bridges over navigable waters of the United States constituting obstructions to navigation, and for personnel and administrative costs associated with the Alteration of Bridges Program, \$16,000,000.

(6) For environmental compliance and restoration functions under chapter 19 of title 14, United States Code, \$16,699,000.

(7) For operation and maintenance of the Coast Guard Reserve program, \$136,778,000.

(b) **FISCAL YEAR 2014.**—Funds are authorized to be appropriated for fiscal year 2014 for necessary expenses of the Coast Guard as follows:

(1) For the operation and maintenance of the Coast Guard, \$7,077,783,000 of which \$24,500,000 is authorized to be derived from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund to carry out the purposes of section 1012(a)(5) of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2712(a)(5)).

(2) For the acquisition, construction, rebuilding, renovation, and improvement of aids to navigation, shore and offshore facilities, vessels, and aircraft, including equipment related thereto, \$1,421,924,000 of which—

(A) \$20,000,000 shall be derived from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund to carry out the purposes of section 1012(a)(5) of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2712(a)(5)), to remain available until expended;

(B) \$642,000,000 is authorized to acquire, effect major repairs, renovate, or improve vessels, small boats, and related equipment;

(C) \$289,000,000 is authorized to acquire, effect major repairs, renovate, or improve aircraft or increase aviation capability;

(D) \$166,140,000 is authorized for other equipment;

(E) \$213,692,000 is authorized for shore facilities, aids to navigation facilities, and military housing, of which not more than \$14,000,000 shall be derived from the Coast Guard Housing Fund; and

(F) \$110,192,000 is authorized for personnel compensation and benefits and related costs.

(3) For research, development, testing, and evaluation of technologies, materials, and human factors directly related to improving the performance of the Coast Guard’s mission in search and rescue, aids to navigation, marine safety, marine environmental protection, enforcement of laws and treaties, ice operations, oceanographic research, and defense readiness, \$19,779,000.

(4) For retired pay (including the payment of obligations otherwise chargeable to lapsed appropriations for this purpose), payments under the Retired Serviceman's Family Protection and Survivor Benefit Plans, and payments for medical and dental care of retired personnel and their dependents under chapter 55 of title 10, United States Code, \$1,440,157,000 to remain available until expended.

(5) For alteration or removal of bridges over navigable waters of the United States constituting obstructions to navigation, and for personnel and administrative costs associated with the Alteration of Bridges Program, \$16,000,000.

(6) For environmental compliance and restoration functions under chapter 19 of title 14, United States Code, \$16,699,000.

(7) For operation and maintenance of the Coast Guard Reserve program, \$136,778,000.

SEC. 102. AUTHORIZED LEVELS OF MILITARY STRENGTH AND TRAINING.

(a) FISCAL YEAR 2013.—

(1) ACTIVE DUTY STRENGTH.—The Coast Guard is authorized an end-of-year strength for active duty personnel of 47,000 for the fiscal year ending on September 30, 2013.

(2) MILITARY TRAINING STUDENT LOADS.—For fiscal year 2013, the Coast Guard is authorized average military training student loads as follows:

(A) For recruit and special training, 2,500 student years.

(B) For flight training, 165 student years.

(C) For professional training in military and civilian institutions, 350 student years.

(D) For officer acquisition, 1,200 student years.

(b) FISCAL YEAR 2014.—

(1) ACTIVE DUTY STRENGTH.—The Coast Guard is authorized an end-of-year strength for active duty personnel of 49,350 for the fiscal year ending on September 30, 2014.

(2) MILITARY TRAINING STUDENT LOADS.—For fiscal year 2014, the Coast Guard is authorized average military training student loads as follows:

(A) For recruit and special training, 2,625 student years.

(B) For flight training, 173 student years.

(C) For professional training in military and civilian institutions, 368 student years.

(D) For officer acquisition, 1,260 student years.

TITLE II—ORGANIZATION

SEC. 201. COAST GUARD AUTHORITY TO OPERATE AND MAINTAIN COAST GUARD ASSETS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 93 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(e) OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF COAST GUARD ASSETS AND FACILITIES.—All authority, including programmatic budget authority, for the operation and maintenance of Coast Guard vessels, aircraft, systems, aids to navigation, infrastructure, and any other Coast Guard assets or facilities, shall be allocated to and vested in the Coast Guard and the department in which the Coast Guard is operating.”.

SEC. 202. CLARIFICATION OF COAST GUARD ICE OPERATIONS MISSION.

(a) COAST GUARD PROVISION OF FEDERAL ICEBREAKING SERVICES.—Chapter 5 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 86 the following:

“§ 87. Provision of icebreaking services

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, except as provided in subsection (b), the Coast Guard shall be the sole supplier of icebreaking services, on an advancement or reimbursable basis, to each Federal agency that requires icebreaking services.

“(b) EXCEPTION.—In the event that a Federal agency requires icebreaking services

and the Coast Guard is unable to provide the services, the Federal agency may acquire icebreaking services from another entity.”.

(b) PRIORITY OF COAST GUARD MISSIONS IN POLAR REGIONS.—

(1) SECTION 110.—Section 110(b)(2) of the Arctic Research and Policy Act of 1984 (15 U.S.C. 4109(b)(2)) is amended—

(A) by inserting “to execute the statutory missions of the Coast Guard and” after “needed”; and

(B) by inserting “and all budget authority related to such operations” after “projects,”.

(2) SECTION 312.—Section 312(c) of the Antarctic Marine Living Resources Convention Act of 1984 (16 U.S.C. 2441(c)) is amended by inserting “to execute the statutory missions of the Coast Guard and” after “needed”.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of contents for chapter 5 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 86 the following: “87. Provision of icebreaking services.”.

TITLE III—PERSONNEL

SEC. 301. ACQUISITION WORKFORCE EXPEDITED HIRING AUTHORITY.

Section 404 of the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2010 (124 Stat. 2950) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(1), by striking “as shortage category positions” and inserting “as positions for which there is a shortage of candidates or a critical hiring need”; and

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) by striking “paragraph” and inserting “section”; and

(B) by striking “2012” and inserting “2015”.

SEC. 302. OFFICERS RECOMMENDED FOR PROMOTION.

Section 259(c)(1) of title 14, United States Code, is amended by striking “After selecting” and inserting “In selecting”.

SEC. 303. ORIGINAL APPOINTMENT OF PERMANENT COMMISSIONED OFFICERS.

Section 211 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(d) For purposes of this section, the term ‘original’ with respect to the appointment of a member of the Coast Guard refers to the member’s most recent appointment in the Coast Guard that is neither a promotion nor a demotion.”.

SEC. 304. ACADEMY PAY, ALLOWANCES, AND EMOLUMENTS.

Section 195 of title 14, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking “person” each place it appears and inserting “foreign national”; and

(2) by striking “pay and allowances” each place it appears and inserting “pay, allowances, and emoluments”.

SEC. 305. ACADEMY POLICY ON SEXUAL HARASSMENT AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Chapter 9 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“§ 200. Policy on sexual harassment and sexual violence

“(a) REQUIRED POLICY.—The Commandant shall direct the Superintendent of the Coast Guard Academy to prescribe a policy on sexual harassment and sexual violence applicable to the cadets and other personnel of the Coast Guard Academy.

“(b) MATTERS TO BE SPECIFIED IN POLICY.—The policy on sexual harassment and sexual violence under this section shall include specification of the following:

“(1) Programs to promote awareness of the incidence of rape, acquaintance rape, and other sexual offenses of a criminal nature that involve cadets or other Academy personnel.

“(2) Information about how the Coast Guard and the Academy will protect the confidentiality of victims, including how any

records, statistics, or reports intended for public release will be formatted such that the confidentiality of victims is not jeopardized.

“(3) Procedures that a cadet or other Academy personnel should follow in the case of an occurrence of sexual harassment or sexual violence, including—

“(A) if the cadet or other Academy personnel chooses to report an occurrence of sexual harassment or sexual violence, a specification of the person or persons to whom the alleged offense should be reported and options for confidential reporting, including written information to be given to victims which explains how the Coast Guard and the Academy will protect the confidentiality of victims;

“(B) a specification of any other person whom the victim should contact; and

“(C) procedures on the preservation of evidence potentially necessary for proof of criminal sexual assault.

“(4) Procedures for disciplinary action in cases of criminal sexual assault involving a cadet or other Academy personnel.

“(5) Any other sanction authorized to be imposed in a substantiated case of sexual harassment or sexual violence involving a cadet or other Academy personnel in rape, acquaintance rape, or other criminal sexual offense, whether forcible or nonforcible.

“(6) Required training on the policy for all cadets and other Academy personnel who process allegations of sexual harassment or sexual violence involving a cadet or other Academy personnel.

“(c) ASSESSMENT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commandant shall direct the Superintendent to conduct at the Academy during each Academy program year an assessment to determine the effectiveness of the policies of the Academy with respect to sexual harassment and sexual violence involving cadets and other Academy personnel.

“(2) BIENNIAL SURVEY.—For the assessment at the Academy under paragraph (1) with respect to an Academy program year that begins in an odd-numbered calendar year, the Superintendent shall conduct a survey of cadets and other Academy personnel—

“(A) to measure—

“(i) the incidence, during that program year, of sexual harassment and sexual violence events, on or off the Academy reservation, that have been reported to an official of the Academy; and

“(ii) the incidence, during that program year, of sexual harassment and sexual violence, on or off the Academy reservation, that have not been reported to an official of the Academy; and

“(B) to assess the perceptions of the cadets and other Academy personnel of—

“(i) the policies, training, and procedures on sexual harassment and sexual violence involving cadets and other Academy personnel;

“(ii) the enforcement of such policies;

“(iii) the incidence of sexual harassment and sexual violence involving cadets and other Academy personnel; and

“(iv) any other issues relating to sexual harassment and sexual violence involving cadets and other Academy personnel.

“(d) REPORT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commandant shall direct the Superintendent of the Coast Guard Academy to submit to the Commandant a report on sexual harassment and sexual violence involving cadets or other Academy personnel for each Academy program year.

“(2) REPORT SPECIFICATIONS.—Each report under paragraph (1) shall include, for the Academy program year covered by the report, the following:

“(A) The number of sexual assaults, rapes, and other sexual offenses involving cadets or

other Academy personnel that have been reported to Coast Guard Academy officials during the Academy program year and, of those reported cases, the number that have been substantiated.

“(B) A plan for the actions that are to be taken in the following Academy program year regarding prevention of and response to sexual harassment and sexual violence involving cadets or other Academy personnel.

“(3) BIENNIAL SURVEY.—Each report under paragraph (1) for an Academy year that begins in an odd-numbered calendar year shall include the results of the survey conducted in that Academy program year under subsection (c)(2).

“(4) TRANSMISSION OF REPORT.—The Commandant shall transmit each report received by the Commandant under this subsection, together with the Commandant’s comments on the report to—

“(A) the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate; and

“(B) the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives.

“(5) FOCUS GROUPS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In each even-numbered calendar year that the Superintendent is not required to conduct a survey at the Academy under subsection (c)(2), the Commandant shall require focus groups to be conducted at the Academy for the purposes of ascertaining information relating to sexual assault and sexual harassment issues at the Academy.

“(B) INCLUSION IN REPORTS.—Information derived from a focus group under subparagraph (A) shall be included in the Commandant’s report under this subsection.

“(e) VICTIM CONFIDENTIALITY.—To the extent that information collected under authority of this section is reported or otherwise made available to the public, such information shall be provided in a form that is consistent with applicable privacy protections under Federal law and does not jeopardize the confidentiality of victims.”

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of contents for chapter 9 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 199 the following:

“200. Policy on sexual harassment and sexual violence.”

SEC. 306. COAST GUARD AUXILIARISTS ENROLLMENT ELIGIBILITY.

Section 823 of title 14, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

“§ 823. Eligibility, enrollments

“The Auxiliary shall be composed of nationals of the United States, as defined in section 101(a)(22) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(22)), and of aliens lawfully admitted for permanent residence, as defined in section 101(a)(20) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(20))—

“(1) who are owners, sole or part, of motorboats, yachts, aircraft, or radio stations; or

“(2) who by reason of their special training or experience are deemed by the Commandant to be qualified for duty in the Auxiliary, and who may be enrolled therein pursuant to applicable regulations.”

TITLE IV—ADMINISTRATION

SEC. 401. ADVANCE PROCUREMENT FUNDING.

With respect to any Coast Guard vessel for which amounts are appropriated or otherwise made available for vessels for the Coast Guard in any fiscal year, the Secretary may enter into a contract or place an order, in advance of a contract or order for construction of a vessel, for—

(1) materials, parts, components, and effort for the vessel;

(2) advance construction of parts or components for the vessel;

(3) protection and storage of materials, parts, or components for the vessel; and

(4) production planning, design, and other related support services that reduce the overall procurement lead time of the vessel.

SEC. 402. MULTIYEAR PROCUREMENT AUTHORITY FOR COAST GUARD NATIONAL SECURITY CUTTERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Beginning with the fiscal year 2013 program year, the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating may enter, under section 2306b of title 10, United States Code, into a multiyear contract for the procurement of Coast Guard National Security Cutters and government-furnished equipment associated with the National Security Cutter program.

(b) LIMITATION.—The Secretary may not enter into a contract under subsection (a) until—

(1) the Secretary submits to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives a certification that the Secretary has made, with respect to the contract, each of the findings under section 2306b(a) of title 10, United States Code, such as the analysis referred to under subsection (c) of this section; and

(2) a period of 30 days has elapsed after the date that the Secretary submits the certification under paragraph (1).

(c) DETERMINATION OF SUBSTANTIAL SAVINGS.—In conducting an analysis of substantial savings under section 2306b(a)(1) of title 10, United States Code, the Secretary—

(1) may not limit the analysis to a simple percentage-based metric; and

(2) shall employ a full-scale analysis of cost avoidance—

(A) based on a multiyear procurement; and

(B) taking into account the potential benefit any accrued savings might have for future shipbuilding programs if the cost avoidance savings were subsequently utilized for further ship construction.

SEC. 403. REQUIREMENT TO MAINTAIN UNITED STATES POLAR ICEBREAKING CAPABILITY.

(a) CURRENT ICEBREAKER MAINTENANCE.—Until new heavy icebreakers are acquired for operation by the Coast Guard, in order to meet Coast Guard mission requirements, the Commandant of the Coast Guard may not—

(1) transfer, relinquish ownership of, dismantle, or recycle the POLAR SEA or POLAR STAR;

(2) remove any part of the POLAR SEA unless it will be installed on the POLAR STAR before it is put in “active” status and the Commandant certifies to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives that it is not possible for the POLAR STAR to function properly without doing so;

(3) change the existing homeport of any Coast Guard icebreaker; or

(4) expend any funds—

(A) for any expenses directly or indirectly associated with the decommissioning of either of the vessels, including expenses for dock use or other goods and services;

(B) for any personnel expenses directly or indirectly associated with the decommissioning of either of the vessels, including expenses for a decommissioning officer;

(C) for any expenses associated with a decommissioning ceremony for either of the vessels;

(D) to appoint a decommissioning officer to be affiliated with either of the vessels; or

(E) to place either of the vessels in inactive status.

(b) REIMBURSEMENT.—Nothing in this section shall preclude the Secretary from seeking reimbursement for operation and maintenance costs of the polar icebreakers from other Federal agencies and entities, including foreign governments, that benefit from the use of the polar icebreakers.

SEC. 404. NATIONAL RESPONSE FUNCTIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 311 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1321) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking paragraph (23); and

(B) redesignating paragraphs (24) through (26) as paragraphs (23) through (25), respectively;

(2) in subsection (j)(2), by striking “National Response Unit.” through “acting through the National Response Unit” and inserting the following:

“(2) NATIONAL RESPONSE FUNCTIONS.—The Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating—”

(3) in subsection (j)(4)(C)(vi), by striking “, and into operating procedures of the National Response Unit”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 4202(b) of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 1321 note) is amended—

(1) by striking paragraph (2); and

(2) by redesignating paragraphs (3) and (4) as paragraphs (2) and (3), respectively.

SEC. 405. NATIONAL RESPONSE CENTER NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS.

The Ohio River Valley Water Sanitation Commission, established pursuant to the Ohio River Valley Water Sanitation Compact authorized by House Joint Resolution 377, 74th Congress, agreed to June 8, 1936 (49 Stat. 1490), and consented to and approved by Congress in the Act of July 11, 1940 (54 Stat. 752), is deemed a Government agency for purposes of the notification requirements of section 103 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9603). The National Response Center shall convey notification, including complete and un-redacted incident reports, expeditiously to the Commission regarding each release in or affecting the Ohio River Basin for which notification to all appropriate Government agencies is required.

SEC. 406. CONFORMING AMENDMENT.

Section 210 of the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act of 2006 (14 U.S.C. 93 note) is repealed.

TITLE V—SHIPPING AND NAVIGATION

SEC. 501. CENTRAL BERING SEA POTENTIAL PLACE OF REFUGE.

(a) CONSULTATION.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commandant of the Coast Guard shall consult with appropriate Federal agencies and with State and local interests to determine what improvements, if any, are necessary to designate existing ice-free facilities (or infrastructure) in the Central Bering Sea as a fully functional, year-round Potential Place of Refuge for vessels with drafts up to 25 feet and lengths overall of up to 450 feet.

(b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of the consultation under subsection (a) shall be to enhance safety of human life at sea and protect the marine environment in the Central Bering Sea.

(c) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after making the determination under subsection (a), the Commandant shall inform the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives in writing of the findings under subsection (a).

SEC. 502. PROTECTION AND FAIR TREATMENT OF SEAFARERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 111 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

§ 11113. Protection and fair treatment of seafarers

“(a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section shall be to ensure the protection and fair treatment of seafarers.

“(b) SPECIAL FUND.—

“(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in the Treasury a special fund known as the Support of Seafarers Fund.

“(2) USE OF AMOUNTS IN FUND.—The amounts deposited into the Fund shall be available to the Secretary, without fiscal year limitation, to—

“(A) pay necessary support under subsection (c)(1); and

“(B) reimburse a shipowner for necessary support under subsection (c)(2).

“(3) AMOUNTS CREDITED TO FUND.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Fund may receive—

“(A) any moneys ordered to be paid to the Fund in the form of community service under section 8B1.3 of the United States Sentencing Guidelines Manual or to the extent permitted under paragraph (4); and

“(B) amounts reimbursed or recovered under subsection (e).

“(4) PREREQUISITE FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE CREDITS.—The Fund may receive credits under paragraph (3)(A) if the unobligated balance of the Fund is less than \$5,000,000.

“(5) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATION.—There are authorized to be appropriated, from the Fund, for each fiscal year such sums as may be necessary for the purposes set forth in paragraph (2).

“(6) REPORT REQUIRED.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall submit to Congress, concurrent with the President's budget submission for a given fiscal year, a report that describes—

“(i) the amounts credited to the Fund under paragraph (3) for the preceding fiscal year;

“(ii) in detail, the activities for which amounts were charged; and

“(iii) the projected level of expenditures from the Fund for the upcoming fiscal year, based on—

“(I) on-going activities; and

“(II) new cases, derived from historic data.

“(B) EXCEPTION.—Subparagraph (A) shall not apply to obligations during the first fiscal year during which amounts are credited to the Fund.

“(7) FUND MANAGER.—The Secretary shall designate a Fund manager. The Fund manager shall—

“(A) ensure the visibility and accountability of transactions utilizing the Fund;

“(B) prepare the report under paragraph (6);

“(C) monitor the unobligated balance of the Fund; and

“(D) provide notice to the Secretary and the Attorney General whenever the unobligated balance of the Fund is less than \$5,000,000.

“(c) AUTHORITY.—The Secretary may—

“(1) pay, from amounts appropriated from the Fund, necessary support of—

“(A) a seafarer that—

“(i) enters, remains, or is paroled into the United States; and

“(ii) is involved in an investigation, reporting, documentation, or adjudication of any matter that is related to the administration or enforcement of any treaty, law, or regulation by the Coast Guard; and

“(B) a seafarer that the Secretary determines was abandoned in the United States; and

“(2) reimburse, from amounts appropriated from the Fund, a shipowner that has provided necessary support of a seafarer who has been paroled into the United States to facilitate an investigation, reporting, docu-

mentation, or adjudication of any matter that is related to the administration or enforcement of any treaty, law, or regulation by the Coast Guard, for the costs of necessary support if the Secretary determines that reimbursement is necessary to avoid serious injustice.

“(d) LIMITATION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed—

“(1) to create a right, benefit, or entitlement to necessary support; or

“(2) to compel the Secretary to pay or reimburse the cost of necessary support.

“(e) REIMBURSEMENT; RECOVERY.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—A shipowner shall reimburse the Fund an amount equal to the total amount paid from the Fund for necessary support of a seafarer plus a surcharge of 25 percent of the total amount if—

“(A) the shipowner—

“(i) during the course of an investigation, reporting, documentation, or adjudication of any matter that the Coast Guard referred to a United States Attorney or the Attorney General, fails to provide necessary support of a seafarer who was paroled into the United States to facilitate the investigation, reporting, documentation, or adjudication; and

“(ii) subsequently receives a criminal penalty; or

“(B) the shipowner, under any circumstance, abandons a seafarer in the United States, as determined by the Secretary.

“(2) ENFORCEMENT.—If a shipowner fails to reimburse the Fund under paragraph (1), the Secretary may—

“(A) proceed in rem against any vessel of the shipowner in the Federal district court for the district in which the vessel is found; and

“(B) withhold or revoke the clearance required under section 60105 of any vessel of the shipowner wherever the vessel is found.

“(3) REMEDY.—A vessel may obtain clearance from the Secretary after it is withheld or revoked under paragraph (2)(B) if the shipowner reimburses the Fund the amount required under paragraph (1).

“(f) BOND AND SURETY.—

“(1) AUTHORITY.—The Secretary may require a bond or a surety satisfactory as an alternative to withholding or revoking clearance under subsection (e) if, in the opinion of the Secretary, the bond or surety satisfactory is necessary to facilitate an investigation, reporting, documentation, or adjudication of any matter that is related to the administration or enforcement of any treaty, law, or regulation by the Coast Guard.

“(2) SURETY CORPORATIONS.—A surety corporation may provide a bond or surety satisfactory under paragraph (1) if the surety corporation is authorized by the Secretary of the Treasury under section 9305 of title 31 to provide surety bonds under section 9304 of title 31.

“(3) APPLICATION.—The authority to require a bond or surety satisfactory or to request the withholding or revocation of the clearance under subsection (e) applies to any investigation, reporting, documentation, or adjudication of any matter that is related to the administration or enforcement of any treaty, law, or regulation by the Coast Guard.

“(g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

“(1) ABANDONS; ABANDONED.—The term ‘abandons’ or ‘abandoned’ means—

“(A) a shipowner's unilateral severance of ties with a seafarer; or

“(B) a shipowner's failure to provide necessary support of a seafarer.

“(2) BOND OR SURETY SATISFACTORY.—The term ‘bond or surety satisfactory’ means a negotiated instrument, the terms of which may, at the discretion of the Secretary, include provisions that require a shipowner—

“(A) to provide necessary support of a seafarer who has or may have information pertinent to an investigation, reporting, documentation, or adjudication of any matter that is related to the administration or enforcement of any treaty, law, or regulation by the Coast Guard;

“(B) to facilitate an investigation, reporting, documentation, or adjudication of any matter that is related to the administration or enforcement of any treaty, law, or regulation by the Coast Guard;

“(C) to stipulate to certain incontrovertible facts, including the ownership or operation of the vessel, or the authenticity of documents and things from the vessel;

“(D) to facilitate service of correspondence and legal papers;

“(E) to enter an appearance in United States district court;

“(F) to comply with directions regarding payment of funds;

“(G) to name an agent in the United States for service of process;

“(H) to stipulate in United States district court as to the authenticity of certain documents;

“(I) to provide assurances that no discriminatory or retaliatory measures will be taken against a seafarer involved in an investigation, reporting, documentation, or adjudication of any matter that is related to the administration or enforcement of any treaty, law, or regulation by the Coast Guard;

“(J) to provide financial security in the form of cash, bond, or other means acceptable to the Secretary; and

“(K) to provide for any other appropriate measures as the Secretary considers necessary to ensure the Government is not prejudiced by granting the clearance required under section 60105 of title 46.

“(3) FUND.—The term ‘Fund’ means the Support of Seafarers Fund established under this section.

“(4) NECESSARY SUPPORT.—The term ‘necessary support’ means normal wages, lodging, subsistence, clothing, medical care (including hospitalization), repatriation, and any other expense the Secretary considers appropriate.

“(5) SEAFARER.—The term ‘seafarer’ means an alien crewman who is employed or engaged in any capacity on board a vessel subject to the jurisdiction of the United States. A seafarer is a claimant for the purposes of section 30509.

“(6) SHIPOWNER.—The term ‘shipowner’ means an individual or entity that owns, has an ownership interest in, or operates a vessel subject to the jurisdiction of the United States.

“(7) VESSEL SUBJECT TO THE JURISDICTION OF THE UNITED STATES.—The term ‘vessel subject to the jurisdiction of the United States’ has the meaning given the term in section 70502(c), except that it excludes—

“(A) a vessel—

“(i) that is owned by the United States, a State or political subdivision thereof, or a foreign nation; and

“(ii) that is not engaged in commerce; and

“(B) a bareboat—

“(i) that is chartered and operated by the United States, a State or political subdivision thereof, or a foreign nation; and

“(ii) that is not engaged in commerce.

“(h) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary may prescribe regulations to implement this section.”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of contents for chapter 111 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 11112 the following:

“11113. Protection and fair treatment of seafarers.”.

(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Support of Seafarers Fund \$1,500,000 for each of fiscal years 2013 and 2014.

SEC. 503. DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY.

Section 3316 of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(2)—

(A) by striking “and” at the end of subparagraph (A);

(B) by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (B) and inserting “; and”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(C) if the Secretary of State determines that the foreign classification society does not provide comparable services in or for the government of a country designated by the Secretary of State as a State Sponsor of Terrorism.”;

(2) in subsection (d)(2)—

(A) by striking “and” at the end of subparagraph (A);

(B) by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (B) and inserting “; and”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(C) if the Secretary of State determines that the foreign classification society does not provide comparable services in or for the government of a country designated by the Secretary of State as a State Sponsor of Terrorism.”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following—

“(e) The Secretary shall revoke an existing delegation made to a classification society under subsection (b) or (d) if the Secretary of State determines that the classification society provides comparable services in or for the government of a country designated by the Secretary of State as a State Sponsor of Terrorism.”.

SEC. 504. REPORT ON ESTABLISHMENT OF ARCTIC DEEP WATER PORT.

(a) STUDY.—The Commandant of the Coast Guard shall conduct a study on the feasibility and potential of establishing a deep water sea port in the Arctic to protect and advance strategic United States interests within the Arctic region.

(b) SCOPE.—The study under subsection (a) shall include an analysis of—

(1) the capability that a deep water sea port would provide;

(2) the potential and optimum locations for the port;

(3) the resources needed to establish the port;

(4) the time frame needed to establish the port;

(5) the infrastructure required to support the port; and

(6) any other issues the Secretary considers necessary to complete the study.

(c) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commandant shall submit a report on the findings of the study under subsection (a) to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 505. RISK ANALYSIS OF TRANSPORTING CANADIAN OIL SANDS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Commandant of the Coast Guard shall assess the increased vessel traffic in the Salish Sea (including the Puget Sound, the Strait of Georgia, Haro Strait, Rosario Strait, and the Strait of Juan de Fuca), that may occur from the transport of Canadian oil sands oil.

(b) SCOPE.—The analysis required under subsection (a) shall, at a minimum, consider—

(1) the extent to which vessel (barge, tanker, and supertanker) traffic may increase due to Canadian oil sands development;

(2) whether transport of Canadian oil sands within the Salish Sea is likely to require

navigation through United States territorial waters;

(3) the rules and regulations that restrict supertanker traffic in United States waters, including an assessment of whether there are methods to bypass those rules in such waterways and adjacent Canadian waters;

(4) the rules and regulations that restrict the amount of oil transported in tankers or barges in United States waters, including an assessment of whether there are methods to bypass those rules in such waterways and adjacent Canadian waters;

(5) the spill response capability throughout the shared water of the United States and Canada, including oil spill response planning requirements for vessels bound for one nation transiting through the waters of the other nation;

(6) the vessel emergency response towing capability at the entrance to the Strait of Juan de Fuca;

(7) the agreement between the United States and Canada that outlines requirements for laden tank vessels to be escorted by tug boats;

(8) whether oil extracted from oil sands has different properties from other types of oil, including toxicity and other properties, which may require different maritime clean up technologies;

(9) a risk assessment of the increasing supertanker, tanker, and barge traffic associated with Canadian oil sands development or expected to be associated with Canadian oil sands development; and

(10) the potential costs and benefits to the U.S. public and the private sector of maritime transportation of oil sands products.

(c) CONSULTATION REQUIREMENT.—In conducting the analysis required under this section, the Commandant shall consult with the State of Washington and affected tribal governments. The Commandant is also strongly encouraged to consult with the Secretary of State.

(d) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commandant shall submit a report based on the analysis required under this section to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 506. ELIGIBILITY TO RECEIVE SURPLUS TRAINING EQUIPMENT.

Section 51103(b)(2)(C) of title 46, United States Code, is amended by inserting “or a training institution that is an instrumentality of a State, Territory, or Commonwealth of the United States or District of Columbia or a unit of local government thereof” after “a non-profit training institution”.

TITLE VI—MARITIME ADMINISTRATION AUTHORIZATION

SEC. 601. SHORT TITLE; AMENDMENT OF TITLE 46, UNITED STATES CODE.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This title may be cited as the “Maritime Administration Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013”.

(b) AMENDMENT OF TITLE 46, UNITED STATES CODE.—Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever in this title an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms of an amendment to, or a repeal of, a section or other provision, the reference shall be considered to be made to a section or other provision of title 46, United States Code.

SEC. 602. MARINE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM.

(a) REPORT ON STATUS OF SYSTEM.—Section 50109(d) is amended to read as follows:

“(d) MARINE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM.—

“(1) REPORT ON WATERWAYS.—Not later than October 1, 2013, the Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense and the commanding officer of the Army Corps of Engineers, and with the concurrence of the

Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating, shall submit a report to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives on the status of the Nation’s coastal and inland waterways that—

“(A) describes the state of the United States’ marine transportation infrastructure, including intercoastal infrastructure, intracoastal infrastructure, inland waterway infrastructure, ports, and marine facilities;

“(B) provides estimates of the investment levels required—

“(i) to maintain the infrastructure; and

“(ii) to improve the infrastructure; and

“(C) describes the overall environmental management of the maritime transportation system and the integration of environmental stewardship into the overall system.

“(2) MARINE TRANSPORTATION.—The Secretary may investigate, make determinations concerning, and develop a repository of statistical information relating to marine transportation, including its relationship to transportation by land and air, to facilitate research, assessment, and maintenance of the maritime transportation system. As used in this paragraph, the term ‘marine transportation’ includes intercoastal transportation, intracoastal transportation, inland waterway transportation, ports, and marine facilities.

“(3) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary such sums as may be necessary to carry out this subsection.”.

(b) CONTAINER-ON-BARGE TRANSPORTATION.—

(1) ASSESSMENT AND REPORT.—Not later than 6 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Maritime Administration shall assess the potential for using container-on-barge transportation on the inland waterways system and submit a report, together with the Administration’s findings, conclusions, and recommendations, to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives. If the Administration determines that it would be in the public interest, the report may include recommendations for a plan to increase awareness of the potential for use of such container-on-barge transportation and recommendations for the development and implementation of such a plan.

(2) FACTORS.—In conducting the assessment, the Administration shall consider—

(A) the environmental benefits of increasing container-on-barge movements on our inland and intracoastal waterways system;

(B) the regional differences in the inland waterways system;

(C) the existing programs established at coastal and Great Lakes ports for establishing awareness of deep sea shipping operations;

(D) the mechanisms to ensure that implementation of the plan will not be inconsistent with antitrust laws; and

(E) the potential frequency of service at inland river ports.

SEC. 603. SHORT SEA TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM AMENDMENTS.

(a) PROGRAM PURPOSE.—Section 55601(a) is amended by inserting “and to promote more efficient use of the navigable waters of the United States” after “congestion”.

(b) DESIGNATION OF ROUTES.—Section 55601(c) is amended by inserting “and to promote more efficient use of the navigable waters of the United States” after “coastal corridors”.

(c) PROJECT DESIGNATION.—Section 55601(d) is amended to read as follows:

“(d) PROJECT DESIGNATION.—The Secretary may designate a project as a short sea transportation project if the Secretary determines that the project—

“(1) mitigates landside congestion; or
“(2) promotes more efficient use of the navigable waters of the United States.”.

(d) DOCUMENTATION.—Section 55605 is amended by striking “by vessel” and inserting “by a documented vessel”.

SEC. 604. MARITIME ENVIRONMENTAL AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 503 is amended by adding at the end the following:

“§50307. Maritime environmental and technical assistance program

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Transportation may establish a maritime environmental and technical assistance program to engage in the environmental study, research, development, assessment, and deployment of emerging marine technologies and practices related to the marine transportation system through the use of public vessels under the control of the Maritime Administration or private vessels under United States registry, and through partnerships and cooperative efforts with academic, public, private, and non-governmental entities and facilities.

“(b) PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.—The program shall—

“(1) identify, study, evaluate, test, demonstrate, or improve emerging marine technologies and practices that are likely to achieve environmental improvements by—

“(A) reducing air emissions, water emissions, or other ship discharges;

“(B) increasing fuel economy or the use of alternative fuels and alternative energy (including the use of shore power); or

“(C) controlling aquatic invasive species; and

“(2) be coordinated with the Environmental Protection Agency, the United States Coast Guard, and other Federal, State, local, or tribal agencies, as appropriate.

“(c) PROGRAM COORDINATION.—Program coordination under subsection (b)(2) may include—

“(1) activities that are associated with the development or approval of validation and testing regimes; and

“(2) certification or validation of emerging technologies or practices that demonstrate significant environmental benefits.

“(d) FUNDING AND FEES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the maritime environmental and technical assistance program, the Secretary of Transportation may apply such funds as may be appropriated and such funds or resources as may become available by gift, cooperative agreement, or otherwise, including the collection of fees, for the purposes of the program and its administration.

“(2) ESTABLISHMENT OF FEES.—Pursuant to section 9701 of title 31, the Secretary of Transportation may promulgate regulations establishing fees to recover reasonable costs to the Secretary and to academic, public, and non-governmental entities associated with the program.

“(3) FEE DEPOSIT.—Any fees collected under this section shall be deposited in a special fund of the United States Treasury for services rendered under the program, which thereafter shall remain available until expended to carry out the Secretary of Transportation’s activities for which the fees were collected.

“(e) REPORT.—The Secretary of Transportation shall report on the activities, expenditures, and results of the maritime environmental and technical assistance program

during the preceding fiscal year in the annual budget submission to Congress.”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of contents for chapter 503 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 50306 the following:

“50307. Maritime environmental and technical assistance program.”.

SEC. 605. WAIVER OF NAVIGATION AND VESSEL INSPECTION LAWS.

Section 501(b) is amended by adding “A waiver shall be accompanied by a certification by the individual and the Administrator to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation and the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate, and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives that it is not possible to use a United States flag vessel or United States flag vessels collectively to meet the national defense requirements.” after “prescribes.”.

SEC. 606. EXTENSION OF MARITIME SECURITY FLEET PROGRAM.

(a) Section 53101 is amended—

(1) by amending paragraph (4) to read as follows:

“(4) FOREIGN COMMERCE.—The term ‘foreign commerce’ means—

“(A) commerce or trade between the United States, its territories or possessions, or the District of Columbia, and a foreign country; and

“(B) commerce or trade between foreign countries.”;

(2) by striking paragraph (5);

(3) by redesignating paragraphs (6) through (13) as paragraphs (5) through (12), respectively; and

(4) by amending paragraph (5), as redesignated, to read as follows:

“(5) PARTICIPATING FLEET VESSEL.—The term ‘participating fleet vessel’ means any vessel that—

“(A) on October 1, 2015—

“(i) meets the requirements of paragraph (1), (2), (3), or (4) of section 53102(c); and

“(ii) is less than 20 years of age if the vessel is a tank vessel, or is less than 25 years of age for all other vessel types; and

“(B) on December 31, 2014, is covered by an operating agreement under this chapter.”.

(b) Section 53102(b) is amended to read as follows:

“(b) VESSEL ELIGIBILITY.—A vessel is eligible to be included in the Fleet if—

“(1) the vessel meets the requirements of paragraph (1), (2), (3), or (4) of subsection (c);

“(2) the vessel is operated (or in the case of a vessel to be constructed, will be operated) in providing transportation in foreign commerce;

“(3) the vessel is self-propelled and—

“(A) is a tank vessel that is 10 years of age or less on the date the vessel is included in the Fleet; or

“(B) is any other type of vessel that is 15 years of age or less on the date the vessel is included in the Fleet;

“(4) the vessel—

“(A) is suitable for use by the United States for national defense or military purposes in time of war or national emergency, as determined by the Secretary of Defense; and

“(B) is commercially viable, as determined by the Secretary; and

“(5) the vessel—

“(A) is a United States-documented vessel; or

“(B) is not a United States-documented vessel, but—

“(i) the owner of the vessel has demonstrated an intent to have the vessel documented under chapter 121 of this title if it is included in the Fleet; and

“(ii) at the time an operating agreement for the vessel is entered into under this chapter, the vessel is eligible for documentation under chapter 121 of this title.”.

(c) Section 53103 is amended—

(1) by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

“(b) EXTENSION OF EXISTING OPERATING AGREEMENTS.—

“(1) OFFER TO EXTEND.—Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of the Maritime Administration Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013, the Secretary shall offer, to an existing contractor, to extend, through September 30, 2025, an operating agreement that is in existence on the date of enactment of that Act. The terms and conditions of the extended operating agreement shall include terms and conditions authorized under this chapter, as amended from time to time.

“(2) TIME LIMIT.—An existing contractor shall have not later than 120 days after the date the Secretary offers to extend an operating agreement to agree to the extended operating agreement.

“(3) SUBSEQUENT AWARD.—The Secretary may award an operating agreement to an applicant that is eligible to enter into an operating agreement for fiscal years 2016 through 2025 if the existing contractor does not agree to the extended operating agreement under paragraph (2).”.

(2) by amending subsection (c) to read as follows:

“(c) PROCEDURE FOR AWARDED NEW OPERATING AGREEMENTS.—The Secretary may enter into a new operating agreement with an applicant that meets the requirements of section 53102(c) (for vessels that meet the qualifications of section 53102(b)) on the basis of priority for vessel type established by military requirements of the Secretary of Defense. The Secretary shall allow an applicant at least 30 days to submit an application for a new operating agreement. After consideration of military requirements, priority shall be given to an applicant that is a U.S. citizen under section 50501 of this title. The Secretary may not approve an application without the consent of the Secretary of Defense. The Secretary shall enter into an operating agreement with the applicant or provide a written reason for denying the application.”.

(d) Section 53104 is amended—

(1) in subsection (c), by striking paragraph (3); and

(2) in subsection (e), by striking “an operating agreement under this chapter is terminated under subsection (c)(3), or if”.

(e) Section 53105 is amended—

(1) by amending subsection (e) to read as follows:

“(e) TRANSFER OF OPERATING AGREEMENTS.—A contractor under an operating agreement may transfer the agreement (including all rights and obligations under the operating agreement) to any person that is eligible to enter into the operating agreement under this chapter if the Secretary and the Secretary of Defense determine that the transfer is in the best interests of the United States. A transaction shall not be considered a transfer of an operating agreement if the same legal entity with the same vessels remains the contracting party under the operating agreement.”; and

(2) by amending subsection (f) to read as follows:

“(f) REPLACEMENT VESSELS.—A contractor may replace a vessel under an operating agreement with another vessel that is eligible to be included in the Fleet under section 53102(b), if the Secretary, in conjunction with the Secretary of Defense, approves the replacement of the vessel.”.

(f) Section 53106 is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(1), by striking “and (C) \$3,100,000 for each of fiscal years 2012 through 2025.” and inserting the following:

“(C) \$3,100,000 for each of fiscal years 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, and 2018;

“(D) \$3,500,000 for each of fiscal years 2019, 2020, and 2021; and

“(E) \$3,700,000 for each of fiscal years 2022, 2023, 2024, and 2025.”;

(2) in subsection (c)(3)(C), by striking “a LASH vessel.” and inserting “a lighter aboard ship vessel.”; and

(3) by striking subsection (f).

(g) Section 53107(b)(1) is amended to read as follows:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—An Emergency Preparedness Agreement under this section shall require that a contractor for a vessel covered by an operating agreement under this chapter shall make commercial transportation resources (including services) available, upon request by the Secretary of Defense during a time of war or national emergency, or whenever the Secretary of Defense determines that it is necessary for national security or contingency operation (as that term is defined in section 101 of title 10, United States Code).”

(h) Section 53109 is repealed.

(i) Section 53111 is amended—

(1) by striking “and” at the end of paragraph (2); and

(2) by striking paragraph (3) and inserting the following:

“(3) \$186,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, and 2018;

“(4) \$210,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2019, 2020, and 2021; and

“(5) \$222,000,000 for each fiscal year thereafter through fiscal year 2025.”

(j) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS; MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR REIMBURSEMENT PILOT PROGRAM.—Section 3517(i) of the Maritime Security Act of 2003 (46 U.S.C. 53101 note) is amended by striking “2011” and inserting “2025”.

(k) EFFECTIVE DATE OF AMENDMENTS.—The amendments made by—

(1) paragraphs (2), (3), and (4) of section 606(a) of this Act take effect on December 31, 2014; and

(2) section 606(f)(2) of this Act take effect on December 31, 2014.

SEC. 607. MARITIME WORKFORCE STUDY.

(a) TRAINING STUDY.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study on the training needs of the maritime workforce.

(b) STUDY COMPONENTS.—The study shall—

(1) analyze the impact of training requirements imposed by domestic and international regulations and conventions, companies, and government agencies that charter or operate vessels;

(2) evaluate the ability of the Nation’s maritime training infrastructure to meet the current needs of the maritime industry;

(3) evaluate the ability of the Nation’s maritime training infrastructure to effectively meet the needs of the maritime industry in the future;

(4) identify trends in maritime training;

(5) compare the training needs of U.S. mariners with the vocational training and educational assistance programs available from Federal agencies to evaluate the ability of Federal programs to meet the training needs of U.S. mariners;

(6) include recommendations for future programs to enhance the capabilities of the Nation’s maritime training infrastructure; and

(7) include recommendations for future programs to assist U.S. mariners and those entering the maritime profession achieve the required training.

(c) FINAL REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the

Comptroller General shall submit a report on the results of the study to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 608. MARITIME ADMINISTRATION VESSEL RECYCLING CONTRACT AWARD PRACTICES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 12 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Inspector General of the Department of Transportation shall conduct an assessment of the source selection procedures and practices used to award the Maritime Administration’s National Defense Reserve Fleet vessel recycling contracts. The Inspector General shall assess the process, procedures, and practices used for the Maritime Administration’s qualification of vessel recycling facilities. The Inspector General shall report the findings to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation and the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate, and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives.

(b) ASSESSMENT.—The assessment under subsection (a) shall include a review of whether the Maritime Administration’s contract source selection procedures and practices are consistent with law, the Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR), and Federal best practices associated with making source selection decisions.

(c) CONSIDERATIONS.—In making the assessment under subsection (a), the Inspector General may consider any other aspect of the Maritime Administration’s vessel recycling process that the Inspector General deems appropriate to review.

SEC. 609. REQUIREMENT FOR BARGE DESIGN.

Not later than 9 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Maritime Administration shall complete the design for a containerized articulated barge identified in the Dual Use Vessel Study carried out by the Administrator and the Secretary of Defense that is able to utilize roll-on, roll-off or load-on, load-off technology for use in marine highway maritime commerce.

TITLE VII—MISCELLANEOUS

SEC. 701. LIMITATION ON AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS FOR PROCUREMENT OF ALTERNATIVE FUEL.

None of the funds authorized to be appropriated by this Act or otherwise made available during fiscal year 2013 or 2014 for the Coast Guard may be obligated or expended for the production or purchase of any alternative fuel if the cost of producing or purchasing the alternative fuel exceeds the cost of producing or purchasing a traditional fossil fuel that would be used for the same purpose as the alternative fuel.

SEC. 702. PASSENGER VESSEL SECURITY AND SAFETY REQUIREMENTS.

(a) VESSEL DESIGN, EQUIPMENT, CONSTRUCTION, AND RETROFITTING REQUIREMENTS.—Section 3507(a) of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “to which this subsection applies” and inserting “to which this section applies”;

(B) in subparagraph (A)—

(i) by striking “The vessel” and inserting “Each exterior deck of a vessel”; and

(ii) by striking the period at the end and inserting “unless the height requirement would interfere with the deployment of a lifesaving device or other emergency equipment as identified by the Commandant.”; and

(C) in subparagraph (B), by striking “entry doors that include peep holes or other means

of visual identification.” and inserting “an entry door that includes a peep hole or other means of visual identification that provides an unobstructed view of the area outside the stateroom or crew cabin. For purposes of this subparagraph, the addition of an optional privacy cover on the interior side of the entry shall not in and of itself constitute an obstruction.”; and

(2) in paragraph (3)—

(A) by striking “subparagraph (B)” in subparagraph (A) and inserting “subparagraphs (B) and (C)”;

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(C) SHIP RAIL, ENTRY DOOR, AND TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS.—The requirements of subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (1) take effect on the date of enactment of the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2012.”

(b) VIDEO RECORDING.—Section 3507(b)(1) of title 46, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

“(1) REQUIREMENT TO MAINTAIN SURVEILLANCE.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The owner of a vessel to which this section applies shall maintain a video surveillance system to assist in documenting crimes on the vessel and in providing evidence for the prosecution of such crimes, as determined by the Secretary.

“(B) ASSESSMENT.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2012, the owner of a vessel to which this section applies shall perform and submit to the Commandant a criminal and passenger safety risk assessment to determine the appropriate placement of video surveillance equipment on the vessel. The assessment shall require consideration of camera placement in areas where video surveillance may assist in documenting crimes on the vessel and in providing evidence of such crimes. The assessment shall make recommendations as to the appropriate placement of video surveillance equipment throughout the vessel, including passenger and crew common areas where there is no expectation of privacy, as to the frequency or infrequency of crimes in areas of the vessel, and as to the use of cameras in areas of perceived higher risk. The Commandant shall have authority to review, modify, and require modifications to the assessment to provide for additional video coverage of a vessel.

“(C) INTERIM RETENTION REQUIREMENTS.—The owner of a vessel to which this section applies shall retain all video images for a voyage for not less than 10 days after the date that the images are recorded. If an incident described in subsection (g)(3)(A)(i) is alleged and reported to law enforcement, all video images for a voyage that the Federal Bureau of Investigation determines relevant shall—

“(i) be provided to the Federal Bureau of Investigation; and

“(ii) be preserved by the vessel owner for not less than 3 years from the date of the Federal Bureau of Investigation’s determination.

“(D) RETENTION REQUIREMENTS.—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2012, the Commandant, in consultation with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, shall promulgate standards for the retention of video surveillance records. The Commandant shall consider factors that would aid in the investigation of serious crimes, including crimes that go unreported until after the completion of a voyage. The Commandant shall consider the different types of video surveillance systems and storage requirements in creating standards both for vessels currently in operation and for vessels newly built.”

(c) SEXUAL ASSAULT.—Section 3507(d)(1) of title 46, United States Code, is amended by

inserting “(taking into consideration the length of the voyage and the number of passengers and crewmembers that the vessel can accommodate)” after “a sexual assault”.

(d) **CREW ACCESS TO PASSENGER STATE-ROOMS.**—Section 3507(f)(2) of title 46, United States Code, is amended by striking “are fully and properly implemented and periodically reviewed.” and inserting “are fully and properly implemented, reviewed annually, and updated as necessary.”.

(e) **LOG BOOK AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.**—Section 3507(g) of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by amending paragraph (1) to read as follows:

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The owner of a vessel to which this section applies shall—

“(A) record in a log book, either electronically or otherwise, a report on—

“(i) all complaints of crimes described in paragraph (3)(A)(i);

“(ii) all complaints of theft of property valued in excess of \$1,000; and

“(iii) all complaints of other crimes committed on any voyage that embarks or disembarks passengers in the United States; and

“(B) make the log book and all entries therein available, whether the log book and entries are maintained onboard the vessel or at a centralized location off the vessel, upon request to—

“(i) any agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation performing official duties in the course and scope of an investigation;

“(ii) any member of the United States Coast Guard performing official duties in the course and scope of an investigation; and

“(iii) any law enforcement officer performing official duties in the course and scope of an investigation.”;

(2) in paragraph (3)(A)—

(A) in clause (i), by striking “as soon as possible after the occurrence on board the vessel of an incident” and inserting “not later than 24 hours after the vessel is notified of an incident on board the vessel”; and

(B) in clause (ii), by striking “the incident” and inserting “each incident under clause (i), including the details under paragraph (2).”; and

(3) in paragraph (4)—

(A) by amending subparagraph (A) to read as follows:

“(A) **WEBSITE.**—

“(i) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall maintain a statistical compilation of all incidents described in paragraph (3)(A)(i) on an Internet site that provides a numerical accounting of the missing persons and alleged crimes recorded in each report filed under paragraph (3)(A)(i). Each such incident shall be included in the statistical compilation regardless of whether the incident is under investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation or not, unless the Bureau determines through the investigative process the report to be unfounded. If determined to be unfounded, the incident shall not be included in the statistical compilation or shall be removed when the determination is made. The data shall be updated no less frequently than quarterly, aggregated by cruise line, each cruise line shall be identified by name and each crime and alleged crime shall be identified as to whether it was committed or allegedly committed by a passenger or crew member and against a passenger or crew member. The Secretary shall also include on the Internet site a rate of crime, comparable to that provided under the Uniform Crime Reporting Program, as determined by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The rate shall take into account the total number of passengers and crew members carried by each reporting cruise line on voyages that embark or disembark in the United States during the

reporting period, and shall be adjusted by the Bureau to reflect the average length of time such persons were on board, as documented to the Secretary by each reporting cruise line.

“(ii) **DEFINITION OF UNFOUNDED.**—For purposes of this subparagraph, the term ‘unfounded’ means an allegation that is determined through the course of an investigation to be false or baseless.”;

(B) by redesignating subparagraph (B) as subparagraph (C);

(C) by inserting after subparagraph (A) the following:

“(B) **REPORTS OF INCIDENTS.**—The Federal Bureau of Investigation shall furnish quarterly to the Secretary, the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation and the Committee on Judiciary of the Senate, and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Committee on Judiciary of the House of Representatives a numerical accounting of each incident reported to a Federal Bureau of Investigation Field Office under paragraph (3)(A)(i) that quarter.”; and

(D) in subparagraph (C), as redesignated—

(i) by striking “taking on or discharging” and inserting “that takes on or discharges”; and

(ii) by striking “a link” and inserting “, on any Internet site that the cruise line maintains to purchase or book cruises on any vessel that the cruise line owns or operates, and to which this section applies, a prominently accessible link”.

(f) **PROCEDURES.**—Section 3507(i) of title 46, United States Code, is amended by striking “Within 6 months after the date of enactment of the Cruise Vessel Security and Safety Act of 2010, the” and inserting “The”.

(g) **REGULATIONS.**—Section 3507(j) of title 46, United States Code, is amended by striking “shall each” and inserting “are authorized each to”.

(h) **DEFINITIONS.**—Section 3507(1) of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (3);

(2) by inserting before paragraph (3), as redesignated, the following:

“(2) **EXTERIOR DECK.**—The term ‘exterior deck’ means any exterior weather deck on which a passenger may be present, including passenger stateroom balconies, exterior promenades on passenger decks, muster stations, and similar exterior weather deck areas.”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(4) **TIME-SENSITIVE KEY TECHNOLOGY.**—The term ‘time-sensitive key technology’ means an electronic lock or key, or both that may be programmed to prohibit a person that lacks permission to enter a guest stateroom or crew cabin.”.

SEC. 703. OIL SPILL LIABILITY TRUST FUND INVESTMENT AMOUNT.

Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Treasury shall increase the amount invested in income producing securities under section 5006(b) of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2736(b)) by \$12,851,340.

SEC. 704. VESSEL DETERMINATIONS.

(a) **VESSELS DEEMED NEW VESSELS.**—The vessel with United States official number 981472 and the vessel with United States official number 988333 shall each be deemed to be a new vessel effective on the date of delivery after January 1, 2008, from a privately owned United States shipyard if no encumbrances are on record with the United States Coast Guard at the time of the issuance of the new vessel certificate of documentation for each vessel.

(b) **SAFETY INSPECTION.**—Each vessel under subsection (a) shall be subject to the vessel

safety and inspection requirements of title 46, United States Code (as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act), applicable to any such vessel.

SEC. 705. ALTERATION OF BRIDGE OBSTRUCTING NAVIGATION.

(a) **REQUIREMENT TO COMMENCE ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW.**—Not later than 15 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall certify to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives that the Coast Guard has commenced the required interagency administrative review of the pending proposal to alter the bridge that is unreasonably obstructing navigation and that spans the Kill Van Kull, connecting Bayonne, New Jersey, and Staten Island, New York.

(b) **EXPEDITED PROCESS.**—The Commandant—

(1) shall expedite the interagency administrative review under subsection (a); and

(2) may use any resources offered to the Coast Guard by the bridge owner for the purpose of paragraph (1).

(c) **DEADLINE FOR COMPLETION.**—Not later than November 30, 2012, the Coast Guard shall complete the interagency administrative review under subsection (a).

SEC. 706. NOTICE OF ARRIVAL.

The regulations required under section 109(a) of the Security and Accountability For Every Port Act of 2006 (33 U.S.C. 1223 note) dealing with notice of arrival requirements for foreign vessels on the Outer Continental Shelf shall not apply to a vessel documented under section 12105 of title 46, United States Code, unless the vessel arrives from a foreign port or place.

SEC. 707. WAIVERS.

(a) **F/V TEXAS STAR CASINO.**—Notwithstanding subchapter II of chapter 121 and chapter 551 of title 46, United States Code, the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating may issue a fishery endorsement and a license under chapter 121 for the fishing vessel TEXAS STAR CASINO (IMO number 7722047).

(b) **RANGER III.**—Section 3703a of title 46, United States Code, does not apply to the passenger vessel RANGER III (United States official number 277361), so long as it is owned and operated by the National Park Service.

SEC. 708. BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (2 U.S.C. 931 et seq.), shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled “Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation” for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the Senate Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

SEC. 709. TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.

(a) **CONTINUATION ON ACTIVE DUTY.**—Section 290(a) of title 14, United States Code, is amended in the second sentence by striking “in the grade of vice admiral” and inserting “in or above the grade of vice admiral”.

(b) **FAILURE OF SELECTION AND REMOVAL FROM ACTIVE STATUS.**—Section 740(d) of title 14, United States Code, is amended by striking “that appointment” and inserting “that Reserve appointment”.

(c) **TABLE OF CONTENTS.**—The table of contents for chapter 17 of title 14, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking the item relating to section 669 and inserting the following:

“669. Telephone installation and charges.”; and

(2) by striking the item relating to section 674 and inserting the following:

“674. Small boat station rescue capability.”.

(d) WAIVER.—Section 7(c) of the America’s Cup Act of 2011 (125 Stat. 755) is amended by inserting “located in Ketchikan, Alaska” after “moorage”.

SA 2868. Mr. PRYOR (for Mr. ROCKEFELLER) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2838, supra.

Amend the title so as to read: “An Act to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard for fiscal years 2013 through 2014, and for other purposes.”.

SA 2869. Mr. PRYOR (for Mr. BINGAMAN) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2606, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to allow the construction and operation of natural gas pipeline facilities in the Gateway National Recreation Area, and for other purposes.

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “New York City Natural Gas Supply Enhancement Act”.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) PERMITTEE.—The term “permittee” means the Transcontinental Gas Pipeline Company, LLC, (Transco), its successors or assigns.

(2) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior.

SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION FOR PERMIT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may issue permits for rights-of-way or other necessary authorizations to allow the permittee to construct, operate, and maintain a natural gas pipeline and related facilities within the Gateway National Recreation Area in New York, as described in Federal Regulatory Commission Docket No. PF09-8.

(b) TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—A permit issued under this section shall be—

(1) consistent with the laws and regulations generally applicable to utility rights-of-way within units of the National Park System; and

(2) subject to such terms and conditions as the Secretary deems appropriate.

(c) FEES.—The Secretary shall charge a fee for any permit issued under this section. The fee shall be based on fair market value and shall also provide for recovery of costs incurred by the National Park Service associated with the processing, issuance, and monitoring of the permit. The Secretary shall retain any fees associated with the recovery of costs.

(d) TERM.—Any permit issued under this section shall be for a term of 10 years. The permit may be renewed at the discretion of the Secretary in accordance with this section.

SEC. 4. LEASE OF HISTORIC BUILDINGS AT FLOYD BENNETT FIELD.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may enter into a non-competitive lease with the permittee to allow the occupancy and use of buildings and associated property at Floyd Bennett Field within the Gateway National Recreation Area to house meter and regulating equipment and other equipment necessary to the operation of the natural gas pipeline described in section 3(a).

(b) TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—A lease entered into under this section shall—

(1) be in accordance with section 3(k) of the National Park System General Authorities Act (16 U.S.C. 1a-2(k)), except that the proceeds from rental payments may be used for

infrastructure needs, resource protection and restoration, and visitor services at Gateway National Recreation Area; and

(2) provide for the restoration and maintenance of the buildings and associated property in accordance with section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 470f) and applicable regulations and programmatic agreements.

SEC. 5. ENFORCEMENT.

The Secretary may impose citations or fines, or suspend or revoke any authority under a permit or lease issued in accordance with this Act for failure to comply with, or a violation of any term or condition of such permit or lease.

SA 2870. Mr. PRYOR (for Mr. ENZI) proposed an amendment to the resolution S. Res. 472, designating October 7, 2012, as “Operation Enduring Freedom Veterans Day”.

In the fifth whereas clause, strike “nearly 1,800” and insert “some 2,000”.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Abby Duggan, Anne Berry, and Nikki Hurt of my staff be granted floor privileges for the duration of today’s proceedings.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ENABLING ENERGY SAVING INNOVATIONS ACT

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Energy Committee be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 4850, and the Senate proceed to its consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 4850) to allow for innovations and alternative technologies that meet or exceed desired energy efficiency goals.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. PRYOR. I ask unanimous consent a Bingaman amendment, which is at the desk, be agreed to, that a Shaheen-Portman amendment which is at the desk be agreed to, the bill as amended be read a third time and passed, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and any statements be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment (No. 2861) was agreed to.

(The text of the amendment is printed in today’s RECORD under “Text of Amendments.”)

The amendment (No. 2862) was agreed to.

(The text of the amendment is printed in today’s RECORD under “Text of Amendments.”)

The amendments were ordered to be engrossed and the bill read a third time.

The bill (H.R. 4850), as amended, was read the third time and passed, as follows:

H.R. 4850

Resolved, That the bill from the House of Representatives (H.R. 4850) entitled “An Act to allow for innovations and alternative technologies that meet or exceed desired energy efficiency goals.”, do pass with the following amendment:

At the end of the bill, add the following:

SEC. 3. UNIFORM EFFICIENCY DESCRIPTOR FOR COVERED WATER HEATERS.

Section 325(e) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6295(e)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(5) UNIFORM EFFICIENCY DESCRIPTOR FOR COVERED WATER HEATERS.—

“(A) DEFINITIONS.—In this paragraph:

“(i) COVERED WATER HEATER.—The term ‘covered water heater’ means—

“(I) a water heater; and

“(II) a storage water heater, instantaneous water heater, and unfired water storage tank (as defined in section 340).

“(ii) FINAL RULE.—The term ‘final rule’ means the final rule published under this paragraph.

“(B) PUBLICATION OF FINAL RULE.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this paragraph, the Secretary shall publish a final rule that establishes a uniform efficiency descriptor and accompanying test methods for covered water heaters.

“(C) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the final rule shall be to replace with a uniform efficiency descriptor—

“(i) the energy factor descriptor for water heaters established under this subsection; and

“(ii) the thermal efficiency and standby loss descriptors for storage water heaters, instantaneous water heaters, and unfired water storage tanks established under section 342(a)(5).

“(D) EFFECT OF FINAL RULE.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, effective beginning on the effective date of the final rule, the efficiency standard for covered water heaters shall be denominated according to the efficiency descriptor established by the final rule.

“(ii) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The final rule shall take effect 1 year after the date of publication of the final rule under subparagraph (B).

“(E) CONVERSION FACTOR.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall develop a mathematical conversion factor for converting the measurement of efficiency for covered water heaters from the test procedures in effect on the date of enactment of this paragraph to the new energy descriptor established under the final rule.

“(ii) APPLICATION.—The conversion factor shall apply to models of covered water heaters affected by the final rule and tested prior to the effective date of the final rule.

“(iii) EFFECT ON EFFICIENCY REQUIREMENTS.—The conversion factor shall not affect the minimum efficiency requirements for covered water heaters otherwise established under this title.

“(iv) USE.—During the period described in clause (v), a manufacturer may apply the conversion factor established by the Secretary to rerate existing models of covered water heaters that are in existence prior to the effective date of the rule described in clause (v)(II) to comply with the new efficiency descriptor.

“(v) PERIOD.—Subclause (E) shall apply during the period—

“(I) beginning on the date of publication of the conversion factor in the Federal Register; and

“(II) ending on April 16, 2015.

“(F) EXCLUSIONS.—The final rule may exclude a specific category of covered water heaters from the uniform efficiency descriptor established under this paragraph if the Secretary determines that the category of water heaters—

“(i) does not have a residential use and can be clearly described in the final rule; and

“(ii) are effectively rated using the thermal efficiency and standby loss descriptors applied (as

of the date of enactment of this paragraph) to the category under section 342(a)(5).

“(G) OPTIONS.—The descriptor set by the final rule may be—

“(i) a revised version of the energy factor descriptor in use as of the date of enactment of this paragraph;

“(ii) the thermal efficiency and standby loss descriptors in use as of that date;

“(iii) a revised version of the thermal efficiency and standby loss descriptors;

“(iv) a hybrid of descriptors; or

“(v) a new approach.

“(H) APPLICATION.—The efficiency descriptor and accompanying test method established under the final rule shall apply, to the maximum extent practicable, to all water heating technologies in use as of the date of enactment of this paragraph and to future water heating technologies.

“(I) PARTICIPATION.—The Secretary shall invite interested stakeholders to participate in the rulemaking process used to establish the final rule.

“(J) TESTING OF ALTERNATIVE DESCRIPTORS.—In establishing the final rule, the Secretary shall contract with the National Institute of Standards and Technology, as necessary, to conduct testing and simulation of alternative descriptors identified for consideration.

“(K) EXISTING COVERED WATER HEATERS.—A covered water heater shall be considered to comply with the final rule on and after the effective date of the final rule and with any revised labeling requirements established by the Federal Trade Commission to carry out the final rule if the covered water heater—

“(i) was manufactured prior to the effective date of the final rule; and

“(ii) complied with the efficiency standards and labeling requirements in effect prior to the final rule.”.

SEC. 4. SERVICE OVER THE COUNTER, SELF-CONTAINED, MEDIUM TEMPERATURE COMMERCIAL REFRIGERATORS.

Section 342(c) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6313(c)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) by redesignating subparagraph (C) as subparagraph (E); and

(B) by inserting after subparagraph (B) the following:

“(C) The term ‘service over the counter, self-contained, medium temperature commercial refrigerator’ or ‘(SOC–SC–M)’ means a medium temperature commercial refrigerator—

“(i) with a self-contained condensing unit and equipped with sliding or hinged doors in the back intended for use by sales personnel, and with glass or other transparent material in the front for displaying merchandise; and

“(ii) that has a height not greater than 66 inches and is intended to serve as a counter for transactions between sales personnel and customers.

“(D) The term ‘TDA’ means the total display area (ft²) of the refrigerated case, as defined in AHRI Standard 1200.”;

(2) by redesignating paragraphs (4) and (5) as paragraphs (5) and (6), respectively; and

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

“(4) Each SOC–SC–M manufactured on or after January 1, 2012, shall have a total daily energy consumption (in kilowatt hours per day) of not more than $0.6 \times TDA + 1.0$.”.

SEC. 5. SMALL DUCT HIGH VELOCITY SYSTEMS AND ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES.

(a) THROUGH-THE-WALL CENTRAL AIR CONDITIONERS, THROUGH-THE-WALL CENTRAL AIR CONDITIONING HEAT PUMPS, AND SMALL DUCT, HIGH VELOCITY SYSTEMS.—Section 325(d) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6295(d)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(4) STANDARDS FOR THROUGH-THE-WALL CENTRAL AIR CONDITIONERS, THROUGH-THE-WALL CENTRAL AIR CONDITIONING HEAT PUMPS, AND SMALL DUCT, HIGH VELOCITY SYSTEMS.—

“(A) DEFINITIONS.—In this paragraph:

“(i) SMALL DUCT, HIGH VELOCITY SYSTEM.—The term ‘small duct, high velocity system’ means a heating and cooling product that contains a blower and indoor coil combination that—

“(I) is designed for, and produces, at least 1.2 inches of external static pressure when operated at the certified air volume rate of 220–350 CFM per rated ton of cooling; and

“(II) when applied in the field, uses high velocity room outlets generally greater than 1,000 fpm that have less than 6.0 square inches of free area.

“(ii) THROUGH-THE-WALL CENTRAL AIR CONDITIONER; THROUGH-THE-WALL CENTRAL AIR CONDITIONING HEAT PUMP.—The terms ‘through-the-wall central air conditioner’ and ‘through-the-wall central air conditioning heat pump’ mean a central air conditioner or heat pump, respectively, that is designed to be installed totally or partially within a fixed-size opening in an exterior wall, and—

“(I) is not weatherized;

“(II) is clearly and permanently marked for installation only through an exterior wall;

“(III) has a rated cooling capacity no greater than 30,000 Btu/hr;

“(IV) exchanges all of its outdoor air across a single surface of the equipment cabinet; and

“(V) has a combined outdoor air exchange area of less than 800 square inches (split systems) or less than 1,210 square inches (single packaged systems) as measured on the surface area described in subclause (IV).

“(iii) REVISION.—The Secretary may revise the definitions contained in this subparagraph through publication of a final rule.

“(B) SMALL-DUCT HIGH-VELOCITY SYSTEMS.—

“(i) SEASONAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY RATIO.—The seasonal energy efficiency ratio for small-duct high-velocity systems shall be not less than—

“(I) 11.00 for products manufactured on or after January 23, 2006; and

“(II) 12.00 for products manufactured on or after January 1, 2015.

“(ii) HEATING SEASONAL PERFORMANCE FACTOR.—The heating seasonal performance factor for small-duct high-velocity systems shall be not less than—

“(I) 6.8 for products manufactured on or after January 23, 2006; and

“(II) 7.2 for products manufactured on or after January 1, 2015.

“(C) SUBSEQUENT RULEMAKINGS.—The Secretary shall conduct subsequent rulemakings for through-the-wall central air conditioners, through-the-wall central air conditioning heat pumps, and small duct, high velocity systems as part of any rulemaking under this section used to review or revise standards for other central air conditioners and heat pumps.”.

(b) DUTY TO REVIEW COMMERCIAL EQUIPMENT.—Section 342(a)(6) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6313(a)(6)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A)(i), by inserting “the standard levels or design requirements applicable under that standard to” immediately before “any small commercial”; and

(2) in subparagraph (C)—

(A) in clause (i)—

(i) by striking “Not later than 6 years after issuance of any final rule establishing or amending a standard, as required for a product under this part,” and inserting “Every 6 years.”; and

(ii) by inserting after “the Secretary shall” the following: “conduct an evaluation of each class of covered equipment and shall”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(vi) For any covered equipment as to which more than 6 years has elapsed since the issuance of the most recent final rule establishing or amending a standard for the product as of the date of enactment of this clause, the first notice required under clause (i) shall be published by December 31, 2013.”.

(c) PETITION FOR AMENDED STANDARDS.—Section 325(n) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6295(n)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraph (3) as paragraph (5); and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (2) the following:

“(3) NOTICE OF DECISION.—Not later than 180 days after the date of receiving a petition, the Secretary shall publish in the Federal Register a notice of, and explanation for, the decision of the Secretary to grant or deny the petition.

“(4) NEW OR AMENDED STANDARDS.—Not later than 3 years after the date of granting a petition for new or amended standards, the Secretary shall publish in the Federal Register—

“(A) a final rule that contains the new or amended standards; or

“(B) a determination that no new or amended standards are necessary.”.

SEC. 6. TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS.

(a) TITLE III OF ENERGY INDEPENDENCE AND SECURITY ACT OF 2007—ENERGY SAVINGS THROUGH IMPROVED STANDARDS FOR APPLIANCES AND LIGHTING.—

(1) Section 325(u) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6295(u)) (as amended by section 301(c) of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (121 Stat. 1550)) is amended—

(A) by redesignating paragraph (7) as paragraph (4); and

(B) in paragraph (4) (as so redesignated), by striking “supplies is” and inserting “supply is”.

(2) Section 302(b) of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (121 Stat. 1551) is amended by striking “6313(a)” and inserting “6314(a)”.

(3) Section 342(a)(6) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6313(a)(6)) (as amended by section 305(b)(2) of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (121 Stat. 1554)) is amended—

(A) in subparagraph (B)—

(i) by striking “If the Secretary” and inserting the following:

“(i) IN GENERAL.—If the Secretary”;

(ii) by striking “clause (ii)(II)” and inserting “subparagraph (A)(ii)(II)”;

(iii) by striking “clause (i)” and inserting “subparagraph (A)(i)”;

(iv) by adding at the end the following:

“(ii) FACTORS.—In determining whether a standard is economically justified for the purposes of subparagraph (A)(ii)(II), the Secretary shall, after receiving views and comments furnished with respect to the proposed standard, determine whether the benefits of the standard exceed the burden of the proposed standard by, to the maximum extent practicable, considering—

“(I) the economic impact of the standard on the manufacturers and on the consumers of the products subject to the standard;

“(II) the savings in operating costs throughout the estimated average life of the product in the type (or class) compared to any increase in the price of, or in the initial charges for, or maintenance expenses of, the products that are likely to result from the imposition of the standard;

“(III) the total projected quantity of energy savings likely to result directly from the imposition of the standard;

“(IV) any lessening of the utility or the performance of the products likely to result from the imposition of the standard;

“(V) the impact of any lessening of competition, as determined in writing by the Attorney General, that is likely to result from the imposition of the standard;

“(VI) the need for national energy conservation; and

“(VII) other factors the Secretary considers relevant.

“(iii) ADMINISTRATION.—

“(I) ENERGY USE AND EFFICIENCY.—The Secretary may not prescribe any amended standard

under this paragraph that increases the maximum allowable energy use, or decreases the minimum required energy efficiency, of a covered product.

“(II) UNAVAILABILITY.—

“(aa) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may not prescribe an amended standard under this subparagraph if the Secretary finds (and publishes the finding) that interested persons have established by a preponderance of the evidence that a standard is likely to result in the unavailability in the United States in any product type (or class) of performance characteristics (including reliability, features, sizes, capacities, and volumes) that are substantially the same as those generally available in the United States at the time of the finding of the Secretary.

“(bb) OTHER TYPES OR CLASSES.—The failure of some types (or classes) to meet the criterion established under this subclause shall not affect the determination of the Secretary on whether to prescribe a standard for the other types or classes.”; and

(B) in subparagraph (C)(iv), by striking “An amendment prescribed under this subsection” and inserting “Notwithstanding subparagraph (D), an amendment prescribed under this subparagraph”.

(4) Section 342(a)(6)(B)(iii) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (as added by section 306(c) of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (121 Stat. 1559)) is transferred and redesignated as clause (vi) of section 342(a)(6)(C) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (as amended by section 305(b)(2) of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (121 Stat. 1554)).

(5) Section 345 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6316) (as amended by section 312(e) of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (121 Stat. 1567)) is amended—

(A) by striking “subparagraphs (B) through (G)” each place it appears and inserting “subparagraphs (B), (C), (D), (I), (J), and (K)”;

(B) by striking “part A” each place it appears and inserting “part B”;

(C) in subsection (a)—

(i) in paragraph (8), by striking “and” at the end;

(ii) in paragraph (9), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”;

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

“(10) section 327 shall apply with respect to the equipment described in section 340(1)(L) beginning on the date on which a final rule establishing an energy conservation standard is issued by the Secretary, except that any State or local standard prescribed or enacted for the equipment before the date on which the final rule is issued shall not be preempted until the energy conservation standard established by the Secretary for the equipment takes effect.”;

(D) in subsection (b)(1), by striking “section 325(p)(5)” and inserting “section 325(p)(4)”;

(E) in subsection (h)(3), by striking “section 342(f)(3)” and inserting “section 342(f)(4)”.

(6) Section 321(30)(D)(i)(III) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6291(30)(D)(i)(III)) (as amended by section 321(a)(1)(A) of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (121 Stat. 1574)) is amended by inserting before the semicolon the following: “or, in the case of a modified spectrum lamp, not less than 232 lumens and not more than 1,950 lumens”.

(7) Section 321(30)(T) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6291(30)(T)) (as amended by section 321(a)(1)(B) of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (121 Stat. 1574)) is amended—

(A) in clause (i)—

(i) by striking the comma after “household appliance” and inserting “and”;

(ii) by striking “and is sold at retail.”;

(B) in clause (ii), by inserting “when sold at retail,” before “is designated”.

(8) Section 325(1)(4)(A) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6295(1)(4)(A))

(as amended by section 321(a)(3)(B) of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (121 Stat. 1581)) is amended by striking “only”.

(9) Section 327(b)(1)(B) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6297(b)(1)(B)) (as amended by section 321(d)(3) of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (121 Stat. 1585)) is amended—

(A) in clause (i), by inserting “and” after the semicolon at the end;

(B) in clause (ii), by striking “; and” and inserting a period;

(C) by striking clause (iii).

(10) Section 321(30)(C)(ii) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6291(30)(C)(ii)) (as amended by section 322(a)(1)(B) of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (121 Stat. 1587)) is amended by inserting a period after “40 watts or higher”.

(11) Section 322(b) of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (121 Stat. 1588) is amended by striking “6995(i)” and inserting “6295(i)”.

(12) Section 325(b) of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (121 Stat. 1596) is amended by striking “6924(c)” and inserting “6294(c)”.

(13) This subsection and the amendments made by this subsection take effect as if included in the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (Public Law 110-140; 121 Stat. 1492).

(b) ENERGY POLICY ACT OF 2005.—

(1) Section 325(g)(8)(C)(ii) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6295(g)(8)(C)(ii)) (as added by section 135(c)(2)(B) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005) is amended by striking “20F” and inserting “20° F”.

(2) This subsection and the amendment made by this subsection take effect as if included in the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (Public Law 109-58; 119 Stat. 594).

(c) ENERGY POLICY AND CONSERVATION ACT.—(1) Section 340(2)(B) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6311(2)(B)) is amended—

(A) in clause (xi), by striking “and” at the end;

(B) in clause (xii), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”;

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(xiii) other motors.”.

(2) Section 343(a) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6314(a)) is amended by striking “Air-Conditioning and Refrigeration Institute” each place it appears in paragraphs (4)(A) and (7) and inserting “Air-Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration Institute”.

TITLE II—INDUSTRIAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY

SEC. 201. COORDINATION OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT OF ENERGY EFFICIENT TECHNOLOGIES FOR INDUSTRY.

(a) **IN GENERAL.—**As part of the research and development activities of the Industrial Technologies Program of the Department of Energy, the Secretary of Energy (referred to in this title as the “Secretary”) shall establish, as appropriate, collaborative research and development partnerships with other programs within the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (including the Building Technologies Program), the Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability, and the Office of Science that—

(1) leverage the research and development expertise of those programs to promote early stage energy efficiency technology development;

(2) support the use of innovative manufacturing processes and applied research for development, demonstration, and commercialization of new technologies and processes to improve efficiency (including improvements in efficient use of water), reduce emissions, reduce industrial waste, and improve industrial cost-competitiveness; and

(3) apply the knowledge and expertise of the Industrial Technologies Program to help achieve the program goals of the other programs.

(b) **REPORTS.—**Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act and biennially thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report that describes actions taken to carry out subsection (a) and the results of those actions.

SEC. 202. REDUCING BARRIERS TO THE DEPLOYMENT OF INDUSTRIAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY.

(a) **DEFINITIONS.—**In this section:

(1) **INDUSTRIAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY.—**The term “industrial energy efficiency” means the energy efficiency derived from commercial technologies and measures to improve energy efficiency or to generate or transmit electric power and heat, including electric motor efficiency improvements, demand response, direct or indirect combined heat and power, and waste heat recovery.

(2) **INDUSTRIAL SECTOR.—**The term “industrial sector” means any subsector of the manufacturing sector (as defined in North American Industry Classification System codes 31-33 (as in effect on the date of enactment of this Act)) establishments of which have, or could have, thermal host facilities with electricity requirements met in whole, or in part, by onsite electricity generation, including direct and indirect combined heat and power or waste recovery.

(b) **REPORT ON THE DEPLOYMENT OF INDUSTRIAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY.—**

(1) **IN GENERAL.—**Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a report describing—

(A) the results of the study conducted under paragraph (2); and

(B) recommendations and guidance developed under paragraph (3).

(2) **STUDY.—**The Secretary, in coordination with the industrial sector, shall conduct a study of the following:

(A) The legal, regulatory, and economic barriers to the deployment of industrial energy efficiency in all electricity markets (including organized wholesale electricity markets, and regulated electricity markets), including, as applicable, the following:

(i) Transmission and distribution interconnection requirements.

(ii) Standby, back-up, and maintenance fees (including demand ratchets).

(iii) Exit fees.

(iv) Life of contract demand ratchets.

(v) Net metering.

(vi) Calculation of avoided cost rates.

(vii) Power purchase agreements.

(viii) Energy market structures.

(ix) Capacity market structures.

(x) Other barriers as may be identified by the Secretary, in coordination with the industrial sector.

(B) **Examples of—**

(i) successful State and Federal policies that resulted in greater use of industrial energy efficiency;

(ii) successful private initiatives that resulted in greater use of industrial energy efficiency; and

(iii) cost-effective policies used by foreign countries to foster industrial energy efficiency.

(C) The estimated economic benefits to the national economy of providing the industrial sector with Federal energy efficiency matching grants of \$5,000,000,000 for 5- and 10-year periods, including benefits relating to—

(i) estimated energy and emission reductions;

(ii) direct and indirect jobs saved or created;

(iii) direct and indirect capital investment;

(iv) the gross domestic product; and

(v) trade balance impacts.

(D) The estimated energy savings available from increased use of recycled material in energy-intensive manufacturing processes.

(3) **RECOMMENDATIONS AND GUIDANCE.—**The Secretary, in coordination with the industrial

sector, shall develop policy recommendations regarding the deployment of industrial energy efficiency, including proposed regulatory guidance to States and relevant Federal agencies to address barriers to deployment.

SEC. 203. STUDY OF ADVANCED ENERGY TECHNOLOGY MANUFACTURING CAPABILITIES IN THE UNITED STATES.

(a) *IN GENERAL.*—Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall enter into an arrangement with the National Academy of Sciences under which the Academy shall conduct a study of the development of advanced manufacturing capabilities for various energy technologies, including—

(1) an assessment of the manufacturing supply chains of established and emerging industries;

(2) an analysis of—

(A) the manner in which supply chains have changed over the 25-year period ending on the date of enactment of this Act;

(B) current trends in supply chains; and

(C) the energy intensity of each part of the supply chain and opportunities for improvement;

(3) for each technology or manufacturing sector, an analysis of which sections of the supply chain are critical for the United States to retain or develop to be competitive in the manufacturing of the technology;

(4) an assessment of which emerging energy technologies the United States should focus on to create or enhance manufacturing capabilities; and

(5) recommendations on leveraging the expertise of energy efficiency and renewable energy user facilities so that best materials and manufacturing practices are designed and implemented.

(b) *REPORT.*—Not later than 2 years after the date on which the Secretary enters into the agreement with the Academy described in subsection (a), the Academy shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate, the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives, and the Secretary a report describing the results of the study required under this section, including any findings and recommendations.

SEC. 204. INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGIES STEERING COMMITTEE.

The Secretary shall establish an advisory steering committee that includes national trade associations representing energy-intensive industries or energy service providers to provide recommendations to the Secretary on planning and implementation of the Industrial Technologies Program of the Department of Energy.

TITLE III—FEDERAL AGENCY ENERGY EFFICIENCY

SEC. 301. AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS FOR DESIGN UPDATES.

Section 3307 of title 40, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (d) through (h) as subsections (e) through (i), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after subsection (c) the following:

“(d) *AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS FOR DESIGN UPDATES.*—

“(1) *IN GENERAL.*—Subject to paragraph (2), for any project for which congressional approval is received under subsection (a) and for which the design has been substantially completed but construction has not begun, the Administrator of General Services may use appropriated funds to update the project design to meet applicable Federal building energy efficiency standards established under section 305 of the Energy Conservation and Production Act (42 U.S.C. 6834) and other requirements established under section 3312.

“(2) *LIMITATION.*—The use of funds under paragraph (1) shall not exceed 125 percent of the estimated energy or other cost savings associ-

ated with the updates as determined by a life-cycle cost analysis under section 544 of the National Energy Conservation Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 8254).”.

SEC. 302. BEST PRACTICES FOR ADVANCED METERING.

Section 543(e) of the National Energy Conservation Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 8253(e)) is amended by striking paragraph (3) and inserting the following:

“(3) *PLAN.*—

“(A) *IN GENERAL.*—Not later than 180 days after the date on which guidelines are established under paragraph (2), in a report submitted by the agency under section 548(a), each agency shall submit to the Secretary a plan describing the manner in which the agency will implement the requirements of paragraph (1), including—

“(i) how the agency will designate personnel primarily responsible for achieving the requirements; and

“(ii) a demonstration by the agency, complete with documentation, of any finding that advanced meters or advanced metering devices (as those terms are used in paragraph (1)), are not practicable.

“(B) *UPDATES.*—Reports submitted under subparagraph (A) shall be updated annually.

“(4) *BEST PRACTICES REPORT.*—

“(A) *IN GENERAL.*—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this paragraph, the Secretary of Energy, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense and the Administrator of General Services, shall develop, and issue a report on, best practices for the use of advanced metering of energy use in Federal facilities, buildings, and equipment by Federal agencies.

“(B) *UPDATING.*—The report described under subparagraph (A) shall be updated annually.

“(C) *COMPONENTS.*—The report shall include, at a minimum—

“(i) summaries and analysis of the reports by agencies under paragraph (3);

“(ii) recommendations on standard requirements or guidelines for automated energy management systems, including—

“(I) potential common communications standards to allow data sharing and reporting;

“(II) means of facilitating continuous commissioning of buildings and evidence-based maintenance of buildings and building systems; and

“(III) standards for sufficient levels of security and protection against cyber threats to ensure systems cannot be controlled by unauthorized persons; and

“(iii) an analysis of—

“(1) the types of advanced metering and monitoring systems being piloted, tested, or installed in Federal buildings; and

“(2) existing techniques used within the private sector or other non-Federal government buildings.”.

SEC. 303. FEDERAL ENERGY MANAGEMENT AND DATA COLLECTION STANDARD.

Section 543 of the National Energy Conservation Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 8253) is amended—

(1) by redesignating the second subsection (f) (as added by section 434(a) of Public Law 110-140 (121 Stat. 1614)) as subsection (g); and

(2) in subsection (f)(7), by striking subparagraph (A) and inserting the following:

“(A) *IN GENERAL.*—For each facility that meets the criteria established by the Secretary under paragraph (2)(B), the energy manager shall use the web-based tracking system under subparagraph (B)—

“(i) to certify compliance with the requirements for—

“(I) energy and water evaluations under paragraph (3);

“(II) implementation of identified energy and water measures under paragraph (4); and

“(III) follow-up on implemented measures under paragraph (5); and

“(ii) to publish energy and water consumption data on an individual facility basis.”.

SEC. 304. FEDERAL PURCHASE REQUIREMENT.

Section 203 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 15852) is amended—

(1) in subsections (a) and (b)(2), by striking “electric energy” each place it appears and inserting “electric, direct, and thermal energy”;

(2) in subsection (b)(2)—

(A) by inserting “, or avoided by,” after “generated from”; and

(B) by inserting “(including ground-source, reclaimed, and ground water)” after “geothermal”;

(3) by redesignating subsection (d) as subsection (e); and

(4) by inserting after subsection (c) the following:

“(d) *SEPARATE CALCULATION.*—Renewable energy produced at a Federal facility, on Federal land, or on Indian land (as defined in section 2601 of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (25 U.S.C. 3501))—

“(1) shall be calculated (on a BTU-equivalent basis) separately from renewable energy used; and

“(2) may be used individually or in combination to comply with subsection (a).”.

SEC. 305. STUDY ON FEDERAL DATA CENTER CONSOLIDATION.

(a) *IN GENERAL.*—The Secretary of Energy shall conduct a study on the feasibility of a government-wide data center consolidation, with an overall Federal target of a minimum of 800 Federal data center closures by October 1, 2015.

(b) *COORDINATION.*—In conducting the study, the Secretary shall coordinate with Federal data center program managers, facilities managers, and sustainability officers.

(c) *REPORT.*—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report that describes the results of the study, including a description of agency best practices in data center consolidation.

JAIME ZAPATA BORDER ENFORCEMENT SECURITY TASK FORCE ACT

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to consideration of Calendar No. 497, H.R. 915.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 915) to establish a Border Enforcement Security Task Force program to enhance border security by fostering coordinated efforts among Federal, State, and local border and law enforcement officials to protect United States border cities and communities from trans-national crime, including violence associated with drug trafficking, arms smuggling, illegal alien trafficking and smuggling, violence, and kidnapping along and across the international borders of the United States, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill which has been reported from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Jaime Zapata Border Enforcement Security Task Force Act”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND DECLARATION OF PURPOSES.

Congress finds the following:

(1) The Department of Homeland Security’s (DHS) overriding mission is to lead a unified national effort to protect the United States. United

States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) is the largest investigative agency within DHS and is charged with enforcing a wide array of laws, including laws related to securing the border and combating criminal smuggling.

(2) Mexico's northern border with the United States has experienced a dramatic surge in border crime and violence in recent years due to intense competition between Mexican drug cartels and criminal smuggling organizations that employ predatory tactics to realize their profits.

(3) Law enforcement agencies at the United States northern border also face challenges from transnational smuggling organizations.

(4) In response, DHS has partnered with Federal, State, local, tribal, and foreign law enforcement counterparts to create the Border Enforcement Security Task Force (BEST) initiative as a comprehensive approach to addressing border security threats. These multi-agency teams are designed to increase information-sharing and collaboration among the participating law enforcement agencies.

(5) BEST teams incorporate personnel from ICE, United States Customs and Border Protection (CBP), the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATFE), the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), the United States Coast Guard (USCG), and the U.S. Attorney's Office (USAO), along with other key Federal, State and local law enforcement agencies.

(6) Foreign law enforcement agencies participating in BEST include Mexico's Secretaria de Seguridad Publica (SSP), the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA), the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP), and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP).

SEC. 3. BORDER ENFORCEMENT SECURITY TASK FORCE.

(a) *IN GENERAL.*—Subtitle C of title IV of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 231 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 432. BORDER ENFORCEMENT SECURITY TASK FORCE.

“(a) *ESTABLISHMENT.*—There is established within the Department a program to be known as the Border Enforcement Security Task Force (referred to in this section as ‘BEST’).

“(b) *PURPOSE.*—The purpose of BEST is to establish units to enhance border security by addressing and reducing border security threats and violence by—

“(1) facilitating collaboration among Federal, State, local, tribal, and foreign law enforcement agencies to execute coordinated activities in furtherance of border security, and homeland security; and

“(2) enhancing information-sharing, including the dissemination of homeland security information among such agencies.

“(c) *COMPOSITION AND ESTABLISHMENT OF UNITS.*—

“(1) *COMPOSITION.*—BEST units may be comprised of personnel from—

“(A) U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement;

“(B) U.S. Customs and Border Protection;

“(C) the United States Coast Guard;

“(D) other Department personnel, as appropriate

“(E) other Federal agencies, as appropriate;

“(F) appropriate State law enforcement agencies;

“(G) foreign law enforcement agencies, as appropriate;

“(H) local law enforcement agencies from affected border cities and communities; and

“(I) appropriate tribal law enforcement agencies.

“(2) *ESTABLISHMENT OF UNITS.*—The Secretary is authorized to establish BEST units in jurisdictions in which such units can contribute to BEST missions, as appropriate. Before establishing a BEST unit, the Secretary shall consider—

“(A) whether the area in which the BEST unit would be established is significantly impacted by cross-border threats;

“(B) the availability of Federal, State, local, tribal, and foreign law enforcement resources to participate in the BEST unit;

“(C) the extent to which border security threats are having a significant harmful impact in the jurisdiction in which the BEST unit is to be established, and other jurisdictions in the country; and

“(D) whether or not an Integrated Border Enforcement Team already exists in the area in which the BEST unit would be established.

“(3) *DUPLICATION OF EFFORTS.*—In determining whether to establish a new BEST unit or to expand an existing BEST unit in a given jurisdiction, the Secretary shall ensure that the BEST unit under consideration does not duplicate the efforts of other existing interagency task forces or centers within that jurisdiction.

“(d) *OPERATION.*—After determining the jurisdictions in which to establish BEST units under subsection (c)(2), and in order to provide Federal assistance to such jurisdictions, the Secretary may—

“(1) direct the assignment of Federal personnel to BEST, subject to the approval of the head of the department or agency that employs such personnel; and

“(2) take other actions to assist Federal, State, local, and tribal entities to participate in BEST, including providing financial assistance, as appropriate, for operational, administrative, and technological costs associated with the participation of Federal, State, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies in BEST.

“(e) *REPORT.*—Not later than 180 days after the date on which BEST is established under this section, and annually thereafter for the following 5 years, the Secretary shall submit a report to Congress that describes the effectiveness of BEST in enhancing border security and reducing the drug trafficking, arms smuggling, illegal alien trafficking and smuggling, violence, and kidnapping along and across the international borders of the United States, as measured by crime statistics, including violent deaths, incidents of violence, and drug-related arrests.”.

(b) *CLERICAL AMENDMENT.*—The table of contents under section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 101(b)) is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 431 the following:

“Sec. 432. Border Enforcement Security Task Force.”.

Mr. PRYOR. I ask unanimous consent the committee-reported substitute amendment be agreed to and the bill as amended be read a third time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The committee amendment in the nature of a substitute was ordered to be engrossed and the bill read a third time.

Mr. PRYOR. I know of no further debate on the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If there is no further debate, the question is on passage of the measure.

The bill (H.R. 915), as amended, was read the third time and passed.

Mr. PRYOR. I ask unanimous consent the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate and any related statements be printed in the RECORD as if read.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

AMENDING THE TRADEMARK ACT OF 1946

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 6215, and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 6215) to amend the Trademark Act of 1946 to correct an error in the provisions relating to remedies for dilution.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. PRYOR. I know of no further debate on this measure.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If there is no further debate, the question is on passage of the bill.

The bill (H.R. 6215) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time and passed.

Mr. PRYOR. I ask unanimous consent the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate and any statements related to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

BILLFISH CONSERVATION ACT OF 2011

Mr. PRYOR. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 2706, which was received from the House.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2706) to prohibit the sale of billfish.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. PRYOR. I know of no further debate on this measure and urge its passage.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If there is no further debate, the question is on agreeing to the measure.

The bill (H.R. 2706) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

CALLING FOR THE RELEASE FROM PRISON OF FORMER PRIME MINISTER OF UKRAINE YULIA TYMOSHENKO

Mr. PRYOR. I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 526, S. Res. 466.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 466) calling for the release from prison of former Prime Minister of Ukraine Yulia Tymoshenko.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution which had been reported from the Committee on Foreign Relations with an

amendment and an amendment to the preamble, as follows:

[Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italic.]

[Strike the preamble and insert the part printed in italic.]

S. RES. 466

Whereas Ukraine has experienced encouraging growth and reforms since it declared its independence from the former Soviet Union in 1991 and adopted its first constitution in 1996;

Whereas the 1996 constitution provided basic freedoms like the freedom of speech, assembly, religion, and press, but was ultimately too weak to contain the existing corruption-laced political culture inherited from its communist past;

Whereas, as a result of the electoral fraud by which Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich was declared the winner of the 2004 presidential election, the citizens of the Ukraine organized a series of protests, strikes, and sit-ins, which came to be known as "The Orange Revolution";

Whereas the Orange Revolution, in concert with international pressure, forced an unprecedented second run-off election, which resulted in opposition leader Viktor Yushchenko defeating Mr. Yanukovich by a margin of 52 percent to 44 percent;

Whereas, in the 2010 presidential election, incumbent Yushchenko won only 5.5 percent in the first round of voting, which left former Prime Minister Yanukovich and then Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko to face one another in the run-off election;

Whereas, Mr. Yanukovich defeated Ms. Tymoshenko by a margin of 49 percent to 44 percent;

Whereas, shortly after the 2010 inauguration of Mr. Yanukovich, the Ukrainian Constitutional Court found most of the 2004 Orange Revolution inspired constitutional reforms unconstitutional;

Whereas, in 2010, President Yanukovich appointed Viktor Pshonka Prosecutor General;

Whereas, since Mr. Pshonka's appointment, more than a dozen political leaders associated with the 2004 Orange Revolution have faced criminal charges under the Abuse of Office and Exceeding Official Powers articles of the Ukrainian Criminal Code;

Whereas, in 2011, Prosecutor General Pshonka brought charges under these Abuse of Office articles against former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko over her decision while in office to conclude a natural gas contract between Ukraine and Russia;

Whereas, on October 11, 2011, Ms. Tymoshenko was found guilty and sentenced to seven years in prison, fined \$189,000,000, and banned from holding public office for three years following the completion of her sentence;

Whereas, recognizing the judicial abuses present in Ukraine, the Parliamentary Assembly Council of Europe (PACE) passed Resolution 1862 on January 26, 2012;

Whereas Resolution 1862 declared that the Abuse of Office and Exceeding Official Powers articles under which Ms. Tymoshenko was convicted are "overly broad in application and effectively allow for ex post facto criminalization of normal political decision making";

Whereas, since Ms. Tymoshenko's imprisonment, the Prosecutor General's Office has reopened additional cases against her that were previously closed and thought to be sealed under a 10-year statute of limitations;

Whereas, beginning on October 28, 2011, and multiple times since, Ukrainian Deputy Prosecutor General Renat Kuzmin has alleged in television interviews that Tymoshenko was involved in contract killings, but has filed no formal charges;

Whereas, for much of Ms. Tymoshenko's detention, she had limited outside contact and access to needed medical treatment;

Whereas international calls for Ms. Tymoshenko's release, access to outside visitors,

and adequate medical treatment were initially ignored even as her health continued to deteriorate;

Whereas, on April 28, 2012, major international news organizations, including the British Broadcast Corporation and Reuters, reported on and produced photos of bruises allegedly received by Ms. Tymoshenko from prison guards on April 20, 2012;

Whereas, in response to her inhumane treatment, Ms. Tymoshenko began a hunger strike on April 20, 2012;

Whereas, amid international outrage, the European Union has delayed indefinitely the signing of a free trade agreement with Ukraine;

Whereas, under international pressure, Ms. Tymoshenko was moved to a hospital in Kharkiv on May 9, 2012, prompting her to end her hunger strike, yet leaving her in poor health; and

Whereas on May 30, 2012, the European Parliament passed a resolution (C153/21) deploring the sentencing of Ms. Tymoshenko: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) condemns the selective and politically motivated prosecution and imprisonment of former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko;

(2) expresses its deep concern that the politicized prosecutions and continued detention of Ms. Tymoshenko and other members of her party took place in a country that is scheduled to assume chairmanship of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) in 2013;

(3) expresses its deep concern that the continued detention of Ms. Tymoshenko threatens to jeopardize ties between the United States and Ukraine;

(4) calls for the Government of Ukraine to release Ms. Tymoshenko, to provide her with timely access to medical care, and to conduct the October parliamentary elections in a fair and transparent manner consistent with OSCE standards; and

(5) calls on the Department of State to institute a visa ban against those responsible for the imprisonment and mistreatment of Ms. Tymoshenko and the more than dozen political leaders associated with the 2004 Orange Revolution.

Mr. PRYOR. I further ask that the Durbin amendment which is at the desk be agreed to, the committee-reported substitute amendment, as amended, be agreed to, and the Senate immediately proceed to a voice vote on adoption of the resolution, as amended.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment (No. 2863) was agreed to, as follows:

On page 9, strike lines 1 through 14 and insert the following:

(2) expresses its deep concern that the politicized nature of prosecutions and detention of Ms. Tymoshenko and other members of her party took place in a country that is scheduled to assume chairmanship of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) in 2013;

(3) expresses its deep concern that the politicized detention of Ms. Tymoshenko threatens to jeopardize ties between the United States and Ukraine;

(4) calls for the Government of Ukraine to release Ms. Tymoshenko from her current incarceration based on politicized charges, to provide Ms. Tymoshenko with timely access to medical care, and to conduct the October parliamentary elections in a fair and transparent manner consistent with OSCE standards; and

The question is on agreeing to the committee-reported substitute amendment, as amended.

The committee-reported substitute amendment, as amended, was agreed to.

Mr. PRYOR. I further ask the committee-reported amendment to the preamble be agreed to; the preamble, as amended, be agreed to; the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate, and any statements be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The committee-reported amendment to the preamble was agreed to.

The preamble, as amended, was agreed to.

(The resolution will be printed in a future edition of the RECORD.)

ROBERT H. JACKSON UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE

Mr. PRYOR. I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 3556, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3556) to designate the new United States courthouse in Buffalo, New York, as the "Robert H. Jackson United States Courthouse."

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. PRYOR. I further ask the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be made and laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and any statements be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 3556) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

ALTO LEE ADAMS, SR., UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 445, H.R. 1791.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 1791) to designate the United States courthouse under construction at 101 South United States Route 1 in Fort Pierce, Florida, as the "Alto Lee Adams, Sr., United States Courthouse."

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. PRYOR. I further ask the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be made and laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and any statements be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 1791) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

ROBERT BOOCHEVER COURTHOUSE

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate

proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 4347, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 4347) to designate the United States courthouse located at 709 West 9th Street in Juneau, Alaska, as the "Robert Boochever United States Courthouse."

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I further ask that the bill be read three times and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid on the table, with no intervening action or debate, and any statements related to the measure be printed in the RECORD at the appropriate place.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 4347) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

JAMES F. BATTIN COURTHOUSE

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 444, S. 3311.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3311) to designate the United States courthouse located at 2601 2nd Avenue North, Billings, Montana, as the "James F. Battin United States Courthouse."

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I further ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and that any statements related to the measure be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (S. 3311) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 3311

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

SECTION 1. JAMES F. BATTIN UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) DESIGNATION.—The United States courthouse located at 2601 2nd Avenue North, Billings, Montana, shall be known and designated as the "James F. Battin United States Courthouse".

(2) TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.—The "James F. Battin United States Courthouse" located at 315 North 26th Street, Billings, Montana, shall no longer be known and designated as the "James F. Battin United States Courthouse".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the United States courthouse referred to in subsection (a)(1) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "James F. Battin United States Courthouse".

MULTISTAKEHOLDER GOVERNANCE MODEL

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 529, S. Con. Res. 50.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the concurrent resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows: A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 50) expressing the sense of Congress regarding actions to preserve and advance the multistakeholder governance model under which the Internet has thrived.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution.

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the concurrent resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and that any statements be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 50) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The concurrent resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. CON. RES. 50

Whereas given the importance of the Internet to the global economy, it is essential that the Internet remain stable, secure, and free from government control;

Whereas the world deserves the access to knowledge, services, commerce, and communication, the accompanying benefits to economic development, education, and health care, and the informed discussion that is the bedrock of democratic self-government that the Internet provides;

Whereas the structure of Internet governance has profound implications for competition and trade, democratization, free expression, and access to information;

Whereas countries have obligations to protect human rights, which are advanced by online activity as well as offline activity;

Whereas the ability to innovate, develop technical capacity, grasp economic opportunities, and promote freedom of expression online is best realized in cooperation with all stakeholders;

Whereas proposals have been put forward for consideration at the 2012 World Conference on International Telecommunications that would fundamentally alter the governance and operation of the Internet;

Whereas the proposals, in international bodies such as the United Nations General Assembly, the United Nations Commission on Science and Technology for Development, and the International Telecommunication Union, would attempt to justify increased government control over the Internet and would undermine the current multistakeholder model that has enabled the Internet to flourish and under which the private sector, civil society, academia, and individual users play an important role in charting its direction;

Whereas the proposals would diminish the freedom of expression on the Internet in favor of government control over content;

Whereas the position of the United States Government has been and is to advocate for the flow of information free from government control; and

Whereas this and past Administrations have made a strong commitment to the multistakeholder model of Internet governance and the promotion of the global benefits of the Internet: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That it is the sense of Congress that the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of Commerce, should continue working to implement the position of the United States on Internet governance that clearly articulates the consistent and unequivocal policy of the United States to promote a global Internet free from government control and preserve and advance the successful multistakeholder model that governs the Internet today.

PATENT LAW TREATIES IMPLEMENTATION ACT OF 2012

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 532, S. 3486.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3486) to implement the provisions of the Hague Agreement and the Patent Law Treaty.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill which had been reported from the Committee on the Judiciary, with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Patent Law Treaties Implementation Act of 2012".

TITLE I—HAGUE AGREEMENT CONCERNING INTERNATIONAL REGISTRATION OF INDUSTRIAL DESIGNS

SEC. 101. THE HAGUE AGREEMENT CONCERNING INTERNATIONAL REGISTRATION OF INDUSTRIAL DESIGNS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title 35, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"PART V—THE HAGUE AGREEMENT CONCERNING INTERNATIONAL REGISTRATION OF INDUSTRIAL DESIGNS

"CHAPTER 38—INTERNATIONAL DESIGN APPLICATIONS

"38. International design applications .. 381.

"381. Definitions.

"382. Filing international design applications.

"383. International design application.

"384. Filing date.

"385. Effect of international design application.

"386. Right of priority.

"387. Relief from prescribed time limits.

"388. Withdrawn or abandoned international design application.

"389. Examination of international design application.

"390. Publication of international design application.

"§381. Definitions

"(a) IN GENERAL.—When used in this part, unless the context otherwise indicates—

"(1) the term 'treaty' means the Geneva Act of the Hague Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Industrial Designs adopted at Geneva on July 2, 1999;

"(2) the term 'regulations'—

"(A) when capitalized, means the Common Regulations under the treaty; and

"(B) when not capitalized, means the regulations established by the Director under this title;

"(3) the terms 'designation', 'designating', and 'designate' refer to a request that an international registration have effect in a Contracting Party to the treaty;

“(4) the term ‘International Bureau’ means the international intergovernmental organization that is recognized as the coordinating body under the treaty and the Regulations;

“(5) the term ‘effective registration date’ means the date of international registration determined by the International Bureau under the treaty;

“(6) the term ‘international design application’ means an application for international registration; and

“(7) the term ‘international registration’ means the international registration of an industrial design filed under the treaty.

“(b) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**—Terms and expressions not defined in this part are to be taken in the sense indicated by the treaty and the Regulations.

“§382. Filing international design applications

“(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Any person who is a national of the United States, or has a domicile, a habitual residence, or a real and effective industrial or commercial establishment in the United States, may file an international design application by submitting to the Patent and Trademark Office an application in such form, together with such fees, as may be prescribed by the Director.

“(b) **REQUIRED ACTION.**—The Patent and Trademark Office shall perform all acts connected with the discharge of its duties under the treaty, including the collection of international fees and transmittal thereof to the International Bureau. Subject to chapter 17, international design applications shall be forwarded by the Patent and Trademark Office to the International Bureau, upon payment of a transmittal fee.

“(c) **APPLICABILITY OF CHAPTER 16.**—Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, the provisions of chapter 16 shall apply.

“(d) **APPLICATION FILED IN ANOTHER COUNTRY.**—An international design application on an industrial design made in this country shall be considered to constitute the filing of an application in a foreign country within the meaning of chapter 17 if the international design application is filed—

“(1) in a country other than the United States;

“(2) at the International Bureau; or

“(3) with an intergovernmental organization.

“§383. International design application

“In addition to any requirements pursuant to chapter 16, the international design application shall contain—

“(1) a request for international registration under the treaty;

“(2) an indication of the designated Contracting Parties;

“(3) data concerning the applicant as prescribed in the treaty and the Regulations;

“(4) copies of a reproduction or, at the choice of the applicant, of several different reproductions of the industrial design that is the subject of the international design application, presented in the number and manner prescribed in the treaty and the Regulations;

“(5) an indication of the product or products that constitute the industrial design or in relation to which the industrial design is to be used, as prescribed in the treaty and the Regulations;

“(6) the fees prescribed in the treaty and the Regulations; and

“(7) any other particulars prescribed in the Regulations.

“§384. Filing date

“(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Subject to subsection (b), the filing date of an international design application in the United States shall be the effective registration date. Notwithstanding the provisions of this part, any international design application designating the United States that otherwise meets the requirements of chapter 16 may be treated as a design application under chapter 16.

“(b) **REVIEW.**—An applicant may request review by the Director of the filing date of the international design application in the United States. The Director may determine that the filing date of the international design application in the United States is a date other than the effective registration date. The Director may establish procedures, including the payment of a surcharge, to review the filing date under this section. Such review may result in a determination that the application has a filing date in the United States other than the effective registration date.

“§385. Effect of international design application

“An international design application designating the United States shall have the effect, for all purposes, from its filing date determined in accordance with section 384, of an application for patent filed in the Patent and Trademark Office pursuant to chapter 16.

“§386. Right of priority

“(a) **NATIONAL APPLICATION.**—In accordance with the conditions and requirements of subsections (a) through (d) of section 119 and section 172, a national application shall be entitled to the right of priority based on a prior international design application that designated at least 1 country other than the United States.

“(b) **PRIOR FOREIGN APPLICATION.**—In accordance with the conditions and requirements of subsections (a) through (d) of section 119 and section 172 and the treaty and the Regulations, an international design application designating the United States shall be entitled to the right of priority based on a prior foreign application, a prior international application as defined in section 351(c) designating at least 1 country other than the United States, or a prior international design application designating at least 1 country other than the United States.

“(c) **PRIOR NATIONAL APPLICATION.**—In accordance with the conditions and requirements of section 120, an international design application designating the United States shall be entitled to the benefit of the filing date of a prior national application, a prior international application as defined in section 351(c) designating the United States, or a prior international design application designating the United States, and a national application shall be entitled to the benefit of the filing date of a prior international design application designating the United States. If any claim for the benefit of an earlier filing date is based on a prior international application as defined in section 351(c) which designated but did not originate in the United States or a prior international design application which designated but did not originate in the United States, the Director may require the filing in the Patent and Trademark Office of a certified copy of such application together with a translation thereof into the English language, if it was filed in another language.

“§387. Relief from prescribed time limits

“An applicant’s failure to act within prescribed time limits in connection with requirements pertaining to an international design application may be excused as to the United States upon a showing satisfactory to the Director of unintentional delay and under such conditions, including a requirement for payment of the fee specified in section 41(a)(7), as may be prescribed by the Director.

“§388. Withdrawn or abandoned international design application

“Subject to sections 384 and 387, if an international design application designating the United States is withdrawn, renounced or canceled or considered withdrawn or abandoned, either generally or as to the United States, under the conditions of the treaty and the Regulations, the designation of the United States shall have no effect after the date of withdrawal, renunciation, cancellation, or abandonment and shall be considered as not having been

made, unless a claim for benefit of a prior filing date under section 386(c) was made in a national application, or an international design application designating the United States, or a claim for benefit under section 365(c) was made in an international application designating the United States, filed before the date of such withdrawal, renunciation, cancellation, or abandonment. However, such withdrawn, renounced, canceled, or abandoned international design application may serve as the basis for a claim of priority under subsections (a) and (b) of section 386, or under subsection (a) or (b) of section 365, if it designated a country other than the United States.

“§389. Examination of international design application

“(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Director shall cause an examination to be made pursuant to this title of an international design application designating the United States.

“(b) **APPLICABILITY OF CHAPTER 16.**—All questions of substance and, unless otherwise required by the treaty and Regulations, procedures regarding an international design application designating the United States shall be determined as in the case of applications filed under chapter 16.

“(c) **FEES.**—The Director may prescribe fees for filing international design applications, for designating the United States, and for any other processing, services, or materials relating to international design applications, and may provide for later payment of such fees, including surcharges for later submission of fees.

“(d) **ISSUANCE OF PATENT.**—The Director may issue a patent based on an international design application designating the United States, in accordance with the provisions of this title. Such patent shall have the force and effect of a patent issued on an application filed under chapter 16.

“§390. Publication of international design application

“The publication under the treaty of an international design application designating the United States shall be deemed a publication under section 122(b).”

(b) **CONFORMING AMENDMENT.**—The table of parts at the beginning of title 35, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“V. The Hague Agreement concerning international registration of industrial designs 401”.

SEC. 102. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.

Title 35, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in section 100(i)(1)(B) (as amended by the Leahy-Smith America Invents Act (Public Law 112–29; 125 Stat. 284)), by striking “right of priority under section 119, 365(a), or 365(b) or to the benefit of an earlier filing date under section 120, 121, or 365(c)” and inserting “right of priority under section 119, 365(a), 365(b), 386(a), or 386(b) or to the benefit of an earlier filing date under section 120, 121, 365(c), or 386(c)”;

(2) in section 102(d)(2) (as amended by the Leahy-Smith America Invents Act (Public Law 112–29; 125 Stat. 284)), by striking “to claim a right of priority under section 119, 365(a), or 365(b), or to claim the benefit of an earlier filing date under section 120, 121, or 365(c)” and inserting “to claim a right of priority under section 119, 365(a), 365(b), 386(a), or 386(b), or to claim the benefit of an earlier filing date under section 120, 121, 365(c), or 386(c)”;

(3) in section 111(b)(7)—

(A) by striking “section 119 or 365(a)” and inserting “section 119, 365(a), or 386(a)”;

(B) by striking “section 120, 121, or 365(c)” and inserting “section 120, 121, 365(c), or 386(c)”;

(4) in section 115(g)(1) (as amended by the Leahy-Smith America Invents Act (Public Law 112–29; 125 Stat. 284)), by striking “section 120, 121, or 365(c)” and inserting “section 120, 121, 365(c), or 386(c)”;

(5) in section 120, in the first sentence, by striking “section 363” and inserting “section 363 or 385”;

(6) in section 154—

(A) in subsection (a)—

(i) in paragraph (2), by striking “section 120, 121, or 365(c)” and inserting “section 120, 121, 365(c), or 386(c)”;

(ii) in paragraph (3), by striking “section 119, 365(a), or 365(b)” and inserting “section 119, 365(a), 365(b), 386(a), or 386(b)”;

(B) in subsection (d)(1), by inserting “or an international design application filed under the treaty defined in section 381(a)(1) designating the United States under Article 5 of such treaty” after “Article 21(2)(a) of such treaty”;

(7) in section 173, by striking “fourteen years” and inserting “15 years”;

(8) in section 365(c)—

(A) in the first sentence, by striking “or a prior international application designating the United States” and inserting “, a prior international application designating the United States, or a prior international design application as defined in section 381(a)(6) designating the United States”;

(B) in the second sentence, by inserting “or a prior international design application as defined in section 381(a)(6) which designated but did not originate in the United States” after “did not originate in the United States”;

(9) in section 366—

(A) in the first sentence, by striking “unless a claim” and all that follows through “withdrawal,” and inserting “unless a claim for benefit of a prior filing date under section 365(c) of this section was made in a national application, or an international application designating the United States, or a claim for benefit under section 386(c) was made in an international design application designating the United States, filed before the date of such withdrawal.”;

(B) by striking the second sentence and inserting the following: “However, such withdrawn international application may serve as the basis for a claim of priority under section 365 (a) and (b), or under section 386 (a) or (b), if it designated a country other than the United States.”.

SEC. 103. EFFECTIVE DATE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The amendments made by this title shall take effect on the later of—

(1) the date that is 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act; or

(2) the date of entry into force of the treaty with respect to the United States.

(b) APPLICABILITY OF AMENDMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), the amendments made by this title shall apply only to international design applications, international applications, and national applications filed on and after the effective date set forth in subsection (a), and patents issuing thereon.

(2) EXCEPTION.—Sections 100(i) and 102(d) of title 35, United States Code, as amended by this title, shall not apply to an application, or any patent issuing thereon, unless it is described in section 3(n)(1) of the Leahy-Smith America Invents Act (35 U.S.C. 100 note).

(c) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section—

(1) the terms “treaty” and “international design application” have the meanings given those terms in section 381 of title 35, United States Code, as added by this title;

(2) the term “international application” has the meaning given that term in section 351(c) of title 35, United States Code; and

(3) the term “national application” means “national application” within the meaning of chapter 38 of title 35, United States Code, as added by this title.

TITLE II—PATENT LAW TREATY IMPLEMENTATION

SEC. 201. PROVISIONS TO IMPLEMENT THE PATENT LAW TREATY.

(a) APPLICATION FILING DATE.—Section 111 of title 35, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking paragraphs (3) and (4) and inserting the following:

“(3) FEE, OATH OR DECLARATION, AND CLAIMS.—The application shall be accompanied by the fee required by law. The fee, oath or declaration, and 1 or more claims may be submitted after the filing date of the application, within such period and under such conditions, including the payment of a surcharge, as may be prescribed by the Director. Upon failure to submit the fee, oath or declaration, and 1 or more claims within such prescribed period, the application shall be regarded as abandoned.

“(4) FILING DATE.—The filing date of an application shall be the date on which a specification, with or without claims, is received in the United States Patent and Trademark Office.”;

(2) in subsection (b), by striking paragraphs (3) and (4) and inserting the following:

“(3) FEE.—The application shall be accompanied by the fee required by law. The fee may be submitted after the filing date of the application, within such period and under such conditions, including the payment of a surcharge, as may be prescribed by the Director. Upon failure to submit the fee within such prescribed period, the application shall be regarded as abandoned.

“(4) FILING DATE.—The filing date of a provisional application shall be the date on which a specification, with or without claims, is received in the United States Patent and Trademark Office.”;

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(c) PRIOR FILED APPLICATION.—Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a), the Director may prescribe the conditions, including the payment of a surcharge, under which a reference made upon the filing of an application under subsection (a) to a previously filed application, specifying the previously filed application by application number and the intellectual property authority or country in which the application was filed, shall constitute the specification and any drawings of the subsequent application for purposes of a filing date. A copy of the specification and any drawings of the previously filed application shall be submitted within such period and under such conditions as may be prescribed by the Director. A failure to submit the copy of the specification and any drawings of the previously filed application within the prescribed period shall result in the application being regarded as abandoned. Such application shall be treated as having never been filed, unless—

“(1) the application is revived under section 27; and

“(2) a copy of the specification and any drawings of the previously filed application are submitted to the Director.”.

(b) RELIEF IN RESPECT OF TIME LIMITS AND REINSTATEMENT OF RIGHTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 2 of title 35, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“§27. Revival of applications; reinstatement of reexamination proceedings

“The Director may establish procedures, including the requirement for payment of the fee specified in section 41(a)(7), to revive an unintentionally abandoned application for patent, accept an unintentionally delayed payment of the fee for issuing each patent, or accept an unintentionally delayed response by the patent owner in a reexamination proceeding, upon petition by the applicant for patent or patent owner.”.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 2 of title 35, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“27. Revival of applications; reinstatement of reexamination proceedings.”.

(c) RESTORATION OF PRIORITY RIGHT.—Title 35, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in section 119—

(A) in subsection (a)—

(i) by striking “twelve” and inserting “12”;

and
(ii) by adding at the end the following: “The Director may prescribe regulations, including the requirement for payment of the fee specified in section 41(a)(7), pursuant to which the 12-month period set forth in this subsection may be extended by an additional 2 months if the delay in filing the application in this country within the 12-month period was unintentional.”; and

(B) in subsection (e)—

(i) in paragraph (1)—

(I) by inserting after the first sentence the following: “The Director may prescribe regulations, including the requirement for payment of the fee specified in section 41(a)(7), pursuant to which the 12-month period set forth in this subsection may be extended by an additional 2 months if the delay in filing the application under section 111(a) or section 363 within the 12-month period was unintentional.”; and

(II) in the last sentence—

(aa) by striking “including the payment of a surcharge” and inserting “including the payment of the fee specified in section 41(a)(7)”;

and
(bb) by striking “during the pendency of the application”;

(ii) in paragraph (3), by adding at the end the following: “For an application for patent filed under section 363 in a Receiving Office other than the Patent and Trademark Office, the 12-month and additional 2-month period set forth in this subsection shall be extended as provided under the treaty and Regulations as defined in section 351.”; and

(2) in section 365(b), by adding at the end the following: “The Director may establish procedures, including the requirement for payment of the fee specified in section 41(a)(7), to accept an unintentionally delayed claim for priority under the treaty and the Regulations, and to accept a priority claim that pertains to an application that was not filed within the priority period specified in the treaty and Regulations, but was filed within the additional 2-month period specified under section 119(a) or the treaty and Regulations.”.

(d) RECORDATION OF OWNERSHIP INTERESTS.—Section 261 of title 35, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in the first undesignated paragraph by adding at the end the following: “The Patent and Trademark Office shall maintain a register of interests in patents and applications for patents and shall record any document related thereto upon request, and may require a fee therefor.”; and

(2) in the fourth undesignated paragraph by striking “An assignment” and inserting “An interest that constitutes an assignment”.

SEC. 202. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 171 of title 35, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking “Whoever” and inserting “(a) IN GENERAL.—Whoever”;

(2) by striking “The provisions” and inserting “(b) APPLICABILITY OF THIS TITLE.—The provisions”;

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(c) FILING DATE.—The filing date of an application for patent for design shall be the date on which the specification as prescribed by section 112 and any required drawings are filed.”.

(b) RELIEF IN RESPECT OF TIME LIMITS AND REINSTATEMENT OF RIGHT.—Title 35, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in section 41—

(A) in subsection (a), by striking paragraph (7) and inserting the following:

“(7) REVIVAL FEES.—On filing each petition for the revival of an abandoned application for a patent, for the delayed payment of the fee for issuing each patent, for the delayed response by the patent owner in any reexamination proceeding, for the delayed payment of the fee for maintaining a patent in force, for the delayed

submission of a priority or benefit claim, or for the extension of the 12-month period for filing a subsequent application, \$1,700.00. The Director may refund any part of the fee specified in this paragraph, in exceptional circumstances as determined by the Director"; and

(B) in subsection (c), by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the following:

"(1) ACCEPTANCE.—The Director may accept the payment of any maintenance fee required by subsection (b) after the 6-month grace period if the delay is shown to the satisfaction of the Director to have been unintentional. The Director may require the payment of the fee specified in subsection (a)(7) as a condition of accepting payment of any maintenance fee after the 6-month grace period. If the Director accepts payment of a maintenance fee after the 6-month grace period, the patent shall be considered as not having expired at the end of the grace period.";

(2) in section 119(b)(2), in the second sentence, by striking "including the payment of a surcharge" and inserting "including the requirement for payment of the fee specified in section 41(a)(7)";

(3) in section 120, in the fourth sentence, by striking "including the payment of a surcharge" and inserting "including the requirement for payment of the fee specified in section 41(a)(7)";

(4) in section 122(b)(2)(B)(iii), in the second sentence, by striking " unless it is shown" and all that follows through "unintentional";

(5) in section 133, by striking " unless it be shown" and all that follows through "unavoidable";

(6) by striking section 151 and inserting the following:

"§ 151. Issue of patent

"(a) IN GENERAL.—If it appears that an applicant is entitled to a patent under the law, a written notice of allowance of the application shall be given or mailed to the applicant. The notice shall specify a sum, constituting the issue fee and any required publication fee, which shall be paid within 3 months thereafter.

"(b) EFFECT OF PAYMENT.—Upon payment of this sum the patent may issue, but if payment is not timely made, the application shall be regarded as abandoned.";

(7) in section 361, by striking subsection (c) and inserting the following:

"(c) International applications filed in the Patent and Trademark Office shall be filed in the English language, or an English translation shall be filed within such later time as may be fixed by the Director.";

(8) in section 364, by striking subsection (b) and inserting the following:

"(b) An applicant's failure to act within prescribed time limits in connection with requirements pertaining to an international application may be excused as provided in the treaty and the Regulations."; and

(9) in section 371(d), in the third sentence, by striking " unless it be shown to the satisfaction of the Director that such failure to comply was unavoidable".

SEC. 203. EFFECTIVE DATE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The amendments made by this title—

(1) shall take effect on the date that is 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act; and

(2) shall apply to—

(A) any patent issued before, on, or after the effective date set forth in paragraph (1); and

(B) any application for patent that is pending on or filed after the effective date set forth in paragraph (1).

(b) EXCEPTIONS.—

(1) SECTION 201(a).—The amendments made by section 201(a) shall apply only to applications that are filed on or after the effective date set forth in subsection (a)(1).

(2) PATENTS IN LITIGATION.—The amendments made by this title shall have no effect with re-

spect to any patent that is the subject of litigation in an action commenced before the effective date set forth in subsection (a)(1).

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported amendment be agreed to, the bill, as amended, be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and any statements related to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The committee-reported amendment in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

The bill (S. 3486), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

MAKING TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS TO LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF CERTAIN LAND

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 498, S. 3193.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3193) to make technical corrections to the legal description of certain land, to be held in trust for the Barona Band of Mission Indians, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Akaka amendment, which is at the desk, be agreed to, the bill, as amended, be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and that any related statements be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment (No. 2864) was agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: In the nature of a substitute)

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Barona Band of Mission Indians Land Transfer Clarification Act of 2012".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS; PURPOSES.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(1) the legal description of land previously taken into trust by the United States for the benefit of the Barona Band of Mission Indians may be interpreted to refer to private, nontribal land;

(2) there is a continued, unresolved disagreement between the Barona Band of Mission Indians and certain off-reservation property owners relating to the causes of diminishing native groundwater;

(3) Congress expresses no opinion, nor should an opinion of Congress be inferred, relating to the disagreement described in paragraph (2); and

(4) it is the intent of Congress that, if the land described in section 121(b) of the Native American Technical Corrections Act of 2004 (118 Stat. 544) (as amended by section 3) is used to bring water to the Barona Indian

Reservation, the effort is authorized only if the effort also addresses water availability for neighboring off-reservation land located along Old Barona Road that is occupied as of the date of enactment of this Act by providing guaranteed access to that water supply at a mutually agreeable site on the southwest boundary of the Barona Indian Reservation.

(b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are—

(1) to clarify the legal description of the land placed into trust for the Barona Band of Mission Indians in 2004; and

(2) to remove all doubt relating to the specific parcels of land that Congress has placed into trust for the Barona Band of Mission Indians.

SEC. 3. LAND TRANSFER.

Section 121 of the Native American Technical Corrections Act of 2004 (Public Law 108-204; 118 Stat. 544) is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (b) and inserting the following:

"(b) DESCRIPTION OF LAND.—The land referred to in subsection (a) is land comprising approximately 86.87 acres in T. 14 S., R. 1 E., San Bernardino Meridian, San Diego County, California, and described more particularly as follows:

"(1) The approximately 69.85 acres located in Section 21 and described as—

"(A) SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, excepting the north 475 feet;

"(B) W $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, excepting the north 475 feet;

"(C) E $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, excepting the north 350 feet; and

"(D) the portion of W $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ that lies southwesterly of the following line: Beginning at the intersection of the southerly line of said SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 21 with the westerly boundary of Rancho Canada De San Vicente Y Mesa Del Padre Barona as shown on United States Government Resurvey approved January 21, 1939, and thence northwesterly along said boundary to an intersection with the westerly line of said SE $\frac{1}{4}$.

"(2) The approximately 17.02 acres located in Section 28 and described as NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, excepting the east 750 feet."; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

"(d) CLARIFICATIONS.—

"(1) EFFECT ON SECTION.—The provisions of subsection (c) shall apply to the land described in subsection (b), as in effect on the day after the date of enactment of the Barona Band of Mission Indians Land Transfer Clarification Act of 2012.

"(2) EFFECT ON PRIVATE LAND.—The parcel of private, non-Indian land referenced in subsection (a) and described in subsection (b), as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of the Barona Band of Mission Indians Land Transfer Clarification Act of 2012, but excluded from the revised description of the land in subsection (b) was not intended to be—

"(A) held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the Band; or

"(B) considered to be a part of the reservation of the Band.";

The bill (S. 3193), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR BURMA

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 6431, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 6431) to provide flexibility with respect to United States support for assistance provided by international financial institutions for Burma, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read three times and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and any statements related to the measure be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 6431) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

MARK TWAIN COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Banking Committee be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 2453 and the Senate proceed to its consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2453) to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of Mark Twain.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. PRYOR. I ask unanimous consent that the Blumenthal amendment which is at the desk be agreed to; the bill, as amended, be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and any related statements be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment (No. 2865) was agreed to, as follows:

On page 7, strike lines 5 through 7 and insert the following:

(2) One-quarter of the surcharges, to the University of California, Berkeley, California, for the benefit of the Mark Twain Project at the Bancroft Library to support programs to study and promote the legacy of Mark Twain.

At the end, add the following:

SEC. 8. NO NET COST.

The Secretary shall take such actions as may be necessary to ensure that—

(1) minting and issuing coins under this Act will not result in any net cost to the United States Government; and

(2) no funds, including applicable surcharges, are disbursed to any recipient designated in section 7 until the total cost of designing and issuing all of the coins authorized by this Act (including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, overhead expenses, marketing, and shipping) is recovered by the United States Treasury, consistent with sections 5112(m) and 5134(f) of title 31, United States Code.

The amendment was ordered to be engrossed and the bill to be read a third time.

The bill (H.R. 2453), as amended, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

H.R. 2453

Resolved, That the bill from the House of Representatives (H.R. 2453) entitled "An Act to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of Mark Twain," do pass with the following amendments:

On page 7, strike lines 5 through 7 and insert the following:

(2) *One-quarter of the surcharges, to the University of California, Berkeley, California, for the benefit of the Mark Twain Project at the Bancroft Library to support programs to study and promote the legacy of Mark Twain.*

At the end, add the following:

SEC. 8. NO NET COST.

The Secretary shall take such actions as may be necessary to ensure that—

(1) *minting and issuing coins under this Act will not result in any net cost to the United States Government; and*

(2) *no funds, including applicable surcharges, are disbursed to any recipient designated in section 7 until the total cost of designing and issuing all of the coins authorized by this Act (including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, overhead expenses, marketing, and shipping) is recovered by the United States Treasury, consistent with sections 5112(m) and 5134(f) of title 31, United States Code.*

MAKING CORRECTIONS WITH RESPECT TO FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION USER FEES

Mr. PRYOR. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 6433 which was received from the House.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 6433) to make corrections with respect to Food and Drug Administration user fees.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 6433) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

TO CONFIRM FULL OWNERSHIP RIGHTS FOR CERTAIN UNITED STATES ASTRONAUTS TO ARTIFACTS FROM THE ASTRONAUTS' SPACE MISSIONS

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 4158 which was received from the House.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 4158) to confirm full ownership rights for certain United States astronauts to artifacts from the astronauts' space missions.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 4158) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

SAFE DOSES ACT

Mr. PRYOR. I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 4223 and the Senate proceed to its consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 4223) to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit theft of medical products, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. PRYOR. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 4223) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

VA MAJOR CONSTRUCTION AUTHORIZATION AND EXPIRING AUTHORITIES EXTENSION ACT OF 2012

Mr. PRYOR. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of H.R. 6375 which was received from the House and is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 6375) to authorize certain Department of Veterans Affairs major medical facility projects, to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend certain authorities of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. PRYOR. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read three times and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate, and any related statements be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 6375) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

GAO MANDATES REVISION ACT OF 2012

Mr. PRYOR. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the

consideration of Calendar No. 523, S. 3315.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3315) to repeal or modify certain mandates of the Government Accountability Office.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment, as follows:

(Omit the part shown in boldface brackets and insert the part printed in italic.)

S. 3315

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “GAO Mandates Revision Act of 2012”.

SEC. 2. REPEALS AND MODIFICATIONS.

(a) CAPITOL PRESERVATION FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.—Section 804 of the Arizona-Idaho Conservation Act of 1988 (2 U.S.C. 2084) is amended by striking “annual audits of the transactions of the Commission” and inserting “periodic audits of the transactions of the Commission, which shall be conducted at least once every 3 years, unless the Chairman or the Ranking Member of the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate or the Committee on House Administration of the House of Representatives requests that an audit be conducted at an earlier date.”

(b) JUDICIAL SURVIVORS’ ANNUITIES FUND AUDIT BY GAO.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 376 of title 28, United States Code, is amended—

(A) by striking subsection (w); and

(B) by redesignating subsections (x) and (y) as subsections (w) and (x), respectively.

(2) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 376(h)(2) of title 28, United States Code, is amended by striking “subsection (x)” and inserting “subsection (w)”.

[(c) ONDCP ANNUAL REPORT REQUIREMENT.—Section 203 of the Office of National Drug Control Policy Reauthorization Act of 2006 (21 U.S.C. 1708a) is amended—

(1) by striking “(a) IN GENERAL.—”; and

(2) by striking subsection (b).]

(c) ONDCP ANNUAL REPORT REQUIREMENT.—Section 203 of the Office of National Drug Control Policy Reauthorization Act of 2006 (21 U.S.C. 1708a) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking “of each year” and inserting “, 2013, and every 3 years thereafter;”; and

(2) in subsection (b), in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “at a frequency of not less than once per year—” and inserting “not later than December 31, 2013, and every 3 years thereafter—”.

(d) USERRA GAO REPORT.—Section 105(g)(1) of the Veterans’ Benefits Act of 2010 (Public Law 111–275; 38 U.S.C. 4301 note) is amended by striking “, and annually thereafter during the period when the demonstration project is conducted.”.

(e) SEMIPOSTAL PROGRAM REPORTS BY THE GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE.—Section 2 of the Semipostal Authorization Act (Public Law 106–253; 114 Stat. 636; 39 U.S.C. 416 note) is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (c); and

(2) by redesignating subsections (d) and (e) as subsections (c) and (d), respectively.

(f) EARNED IMPORT ALLOWANCE PROGRAM REVIEW BY GAO.—Section 231A(b)(4) of the

Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act (19 U.S.C. 2703a(b)(4)) is amended—

(1) by striking subparagraph (C); and

(2) by redesignating subparagraph (D) as subparagraph (C).

(g) AMERICAN BATTLE MONUMENTS COMMISSION’S FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND AUDITS.—Section 2103(h) of title 36, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking “of paragraph (2) of this subsection” and inserting “of section 3515 of title 31”; and

(2) in paragraph (1), by striking “(1)”; and

(3) by striking paragraph (2).

(h) SENATE PRESERVATION FUND AUDITS.—Section 3(c)(6) of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2004 (2 U.S.C. 2108(c)(6)) is amended by striking “annual audits of the Senate Preservation Fund” and inserting “periodic audits of the Senate Preservation Fund, which shall be conducted at least once every 3 years, unless the Chairman or the Ranking Member of the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate requests that an audit be conducted at an earlier date.”.

Mr. PRYOR. I ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported amendment be agreed to, the Lieberman amendment, which is at the desk, be agreed to, the bill, as amended, be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and any related statements be printed in the RECORD.

The committee-reported amendment was agreed to.

The amendment (No. 2866) was agreed to, as follows:

On page 2, line 11, insert “, the Secretary of the Senate, or the Clerk of the House of Representatives” after “House of Representatives”.

On page 5, line 1, insert “or the Secretary of the Senate” after “the Senate”.

The bill (S. 3315), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time and passed, as follows:

S. 3315

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “GAO Mandates Revision Act of 2012”.

SEC. 2. REPEALS AND MODIFICATIONS.

(a) CAPITOL PRESERVATION FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.—Section 804 of the Arizona-Idaho Conservation Act of 1988 (2 U.S.C. 2084) is amended by striking “annual audits of the transactions of the Commission” and inserting “periodic audits of the transactions of the Commission, which shall be conducted at least once every 3 years, unless the Chairman or the Ranking Member of the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate or the Committee on House Administration of the House of Representatives, the Secretary of the Senate, or the Clerk of the House of Representatives requests that an audit be conducted at an earlier date.”.

(b) JUDICIAL SURVIVORS’ ANNUITIES FUND AUDIT BY GAO.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 376 of title 28, United States Code, is amended—

(A) by striking subsection (w); and

(B) by redesignating subsections (x) and (y) as subsections (w) and (x), respectively.

(2) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 376(h)(2) of title 28, United States Code, is amended by striking “subsection (x)” and inserting “subsection (w)”.

(c) ONDCP ANNUAL REPORT REQUIREMENT.—Section 203 of the Office of National Drug Control Policy Reauthorization Act of 2006 (21 U.S.C. 1708a) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking “of each year” and inserting “, 2013, and every 3 years thereafter;”; and

(2) in subsection (b), in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “at a frequency of not less than once per year—” and inserting “not later than December 31, 2013, and every 3 years thereafter—”.

(d) USERRA GAO REPORT.—Section 105(g)(1) of the Veterans’ Benefits Act of 2010 (Public Law 111–275; 38 U.S.C. 4301 note) is amended by striking “, and annually thereafter during the period when the demonstration project is conducted.”.

(e) SEMIPOSTAL PROGRAM REPORTS BY THE GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE.—Section 2 of the Semipostal Authorization Act (Public Law 106–253; 114 Stat. 636; 39 U.S.C. 416 note) is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (c); and

(2) by redesignating subsections (d) and (e) as subsections (c) and (d), respectively.

(f) EARNED IMPORT ALLOWANCE PROGRAM REVIEW BY GAO.—Section 231A(b)(4) of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act (19 U.S.C. 2703a(b)(4)) is amended—

(1) by striking subparagraph (C); and

(2) by redesignating subparagraph (D) as subparagraph (C).

(g) AMERICAN BATTLE MONUMENTS COMMISSION’S FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND AUDITS.—Section 2103(h) of title 36, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking “of paragraph (2) of this subsection” and inserting “of section 3515 of title 31”; and

(2) in paragraph (1), by striking “(1)”; and

(3) by striking paragraph (2).

(h) SENATE PRESERVATION FUND AUDITS.—Section 3(c)(6) of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2004 (2 U.S.C. 2108(c)(6)) is amended by striking “annual audits of the Senate Preservation Fund” and inserting “periodic audits of the Senate Preservation Fund, which shall be conducted at least once every 3 years, unless the Chairman or the Ranking Member of the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate or the Secretary of the Senate requests that an audit be conducted at an earlier date.”.

GOVERNMENT CHARGE CARD ABUSE PREVENTION ACT OF 2012

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Chair lay before the Senate a message from the House on S. 300.

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the House of Representatives:

Resolved, That the bill from the Senate (S. 300) entitled “An Act to prevent abuse of Government charge cards,” do pass with an amendment.

Mr. PRYOR. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate concur in the House amendment, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate, and any statements relating to the matter be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

HAZARDOUS WASTE ELECTRONIC MANIFEST ESTABLISHMENT ACT

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask the Chair to lay before the Senate a message from the House on S. 710.

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the House of Representatives:

Resolved. That the bill from the Senate (S. 710) entitled "An Act to amend the Solid Waste Disposal Act to direct the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to establish a hazardous waste electronic manifest system," do pass with an amendment.

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate concur in the House amendment, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COAST GUARD AND MARITIME TRANSPORTATION ACT

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Commerce Committee be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 2838 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the bill by title. The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2838) to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard for fiscal years 2012 through 2015, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I further ask unanimous consent that the Rockefeller substitute amendment, which is at the desk, be agreed to, the bill, as amended, be read a third time and passed, the title amendment, which is at the desk, be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be made and laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and that any statements relating to the measure be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment (No. 2867) in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

(The amendment is printed in today's RECORD under "Text of Amendments.")

The amendment was ordered to be engrossed, and the bill to be read a third time.

The bill was read the third time.

The bill (H.R. 2838), as amended, was passed.

The amendment (No. 2868) was agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: To amend the title)

Amend the title so as to read: "An Act to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard for fiscal years 2013 through 2014, and for other purposes."

QUADRENNIAL DIPLOMACY AND DEVELOPMENT REVIEW ACT OF 2012

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 525, S. 3341.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3341) to require a quadrennial diplomacy and development review, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I further ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and that any statements relating to the measure be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (S. 3341) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 3341

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Quadrennial Diplomacy and Development Review Act of 2012".

SEC. 2. QUADRENNIAL DIPLOMACY AND DEVELOPMENT REVIEW.

(a) REQUIREMENT.—

(1) QUADRENNIAL REVIEWS REQUIRED.—Under the direction of the President, the Secretary of State shall every four years, during a year following a year evenly divisible by four, conduct a review of United States diplomacy and development (to be known as a "quadrennial diplomacy and development review").

(2) SCOPE OF REVIEWS.—Each quadrennial diplomacy and development review shall be a comprehensive examination of the national diplomacy and development policy and strategic framework of the United States for the next four year period until a subsequent review is due under paragraph (1). The review shall include—

(A) recommendations regarding the long-term diplomacy and development policy and strategic framework of the United States;

(B) priorities of the United States for diplomacy and development; and

(C) guidance on the related programs, assets, capabilities, budget, policies, and authorities of the Department of State and United States Agency for International Development.

(3) CONSULTATION.—In conducting each quadrennial diplomacy and development review, after consultation with Department of State and United States Agency for International Development officials, the Secretary of State should consult with—

(A) the heads of other relevant Federal agencies, including the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of the Treasury, the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Attorney General, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Commerce, the Chief Executive Officer of the Millennium Challenge Corporation, and the Director of National Intelligence;

(B) any other Federal agency that provides foreign assistance, including at a minimum the Export-Import Bank of the United States and the Overseas Private Investment Corporation;

(C) the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and, as appropriate, other members of Congress; and

(D) other relevant governmental and non-governmental entities, including private sector representatives, academics, and other policy experts.

(b) CONTENTS OF REVIEW.—Each quadrennial diplomacy and development review shall—

(1) delineate, as appropriate, the national diplomacy and development policy and strategic framework of the United States, consistent with appropriate national, Department of State, and United States Agency for International Development strategies, strategic plans, and relevant presidential directives, including the national security strategy prescribed pursuant to section 108 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 404a);

(2) outline and prioritize the full range of critical national diplomacy and development areas, capabilities, and resources, including those implemented across agencies, and address the full range of challenges confronting the United States in this regard;

(3) describe the interagency cooperation, and preparedness of relevant Federal assets, and the infrastructure, budget plan, and other elements of the diplomacy and development policies and programs of the United States required to execute successfully the full range of mission priorities outlined under paragraph (2);

(4) describe the roles of international organizations and multilateral institutions in advancing United States diplomatic and development objectives, including the mechanisms for coordinating and harmonizing development policies and programs with partner countries and among donors;

(5) identify the budget plan required to provide sufficient resources to successfully execute the full range of mission priorities outlined under paragraph (2);

(6) include an assessment of the organizational alignment of the Department of State and the United States Agency for International Development with the national diplomacy and development policy and strategic framework referred to in paragraph (1) and the diplomacy and development mission priorities outlined under paragraph (2);

(7) review and assess the effectiveness of the management mechanisms of the Department of State and the United States Agency for International Development for executing the strategic priorities outlined in the quadrennial diplomacy and development review, including the extent to which such effectiveness has been enhanced since the previous report; and

(8) the relationship between the requirements of the quadrennial diplomacy and development review and the acquisition strategy and expenditure plan within the Department of State and the United States Agency for International Development.

(c) REPORTING.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than the year following the year in which a quadrennial diplomacy and development review is conducted, but not later than the date on which the President submits the budget for the next fiscal year to Congress under section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code, the Secretary of State shall submit to Congress a report regarding that quadrennial diplomacy and development review.

(2) CONTENTS OF REPORT.—Each report submitted under paragraph (1) shall include—

(A) the results of the quadrennial diplomacy and development review conducted in accordance with, and based on a detailed assessment of, the provisions of and considerations set out in subsections (a)(2) and (b), addressing each of the key elements identified in such subsections;

(B) a description of the threats to the assumed or defined national security interests

of the United States that were examined for the purposes of that review;

(C) an explanation of any underlying assumptions used in conducting the review; and

(D) any other matters the Secretary of State considers appropriate.

(3) **PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.**—The Secretary of State shall, consistent with the protection of national security and other sensitive matters, make each report submitted under paragraph (1) publicly available on the Internet Web site of the Department of State.

(d) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—The Secretary of State may establish within the Department of State an Office of Quadrennial Diplomacy and Development Review, which the Secretary of State may, using only existing resources, staff in a manner to assist in discharging the functions under this section.

(e) **FOREIGN AFFAIRS POLICY BOARD REVIEW.**—The Secretary of State should apprise the Foreign Affairs Policy Board on an ongoing basis of the work undertaken in the conduct of the quadrennial diplomacy and development review and, upon completion of the review, the Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Policy Board should, on behalf of the Board, prepare and submit to the Secretary an assessment of the review for inclusion in the report submitted under subsection (c).

DIVISIONAL REALIGNMENT ACT OF 2012

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 5512 and the Senate proceed to its consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 5512) to amend title 28, United States Code, to realign divisions within two judicial districts.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate, and any statements related to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 5512) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

REPORTING EFFICIENCY IMPROVEMENT ACT

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 6189 and the Senate proceed to its consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 6189) to eliminate unnecessary reporting requirements for unfunded programs under the Office of Justice Programs.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be

read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate, and any statements related to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 6189) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

MINNESOTA CHIPPEWA TRIBE JUDGMENT FUND DISTRIBUTION ACT OF 2012

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 482, H.R. 1272.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows: A bill (H.R. 1272) to provide for the use and distribution of the funds awarded to the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, et al., by the United States Court of Federal Claims in Docket Numbers 19 and 188, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I further ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate, and any statements related to the measure be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 1272) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

LOWELL NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK LAND EXCHANGE ACT OF 2012

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 392, H.R. 2240.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2240) to authorize the exchange of land or interest in land between Lowell National Historical Park and the city of Lowell in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate, and any statements related to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 2240) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

NEW YORK CITY NATURAL GAS SUPPLY ENHANCEMENT ACT

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Energy

Committee be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 2606 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2606) to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to allow the construction and operation of natural gas pipeline facilities in the Gateway National Recreation Area, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that a Bingaman substitute amendment which is at the desk be agreed to, the bill, as amended, be read a third time and passed, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate and any statements related to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment (No. 2869) was agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: In the nature of a substitute)

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "New York City Natural Gas Supply Enhancement Act".

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) **PERMITTEE.**—The term "permittee" means the Transcontinental Gas Pipeline Company, LLC, (Transco), its successors or assigns.

(2) **SECRETARY.**—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Interior.

SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION FOR PERMIT.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary may issue permits for rights-of-way or other necessary authorizations to allow the permittee to construct, operate, and maintain a natural gas pipeline and related facilities within the Gateway National Recreation Area in New York, as described in Federal Regulatory Commission Docket No. PF09-8.

(b) **TERMS AND CONDITIONS.**—A permit issued under this section shall be—

(1) consistent with the laws and regulations generally applicable to utility rights-of-way within units of the National Park System; and

(2) subject to such terms and conditions as the Secretary deems appropriate.

(c) **FEEES.**—The Secretary shall charge a fee for any permit issued under this section. The fee shall be based on fair market value and shall also provide for recovery of costs incurred by the National Park Service associated with the processing, issuance, and monitoring of the permit. The Secretary shall retain any fees associated with the recovery of costs.

(d) **TERM.**—Any permit issued under this section shall be for a term of 10 years. The permit may be renewed at the discretion of the Secretary in accordance with this section.

SEC. 4. LEASE OF HISTORIC BUILDINGS AT FLOYD BENNETT FIELD.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary may enter into a non-competitive lease with the permittee to allow the occupancy and use of buildings and associated property at Floyd Bennett Field within the Gateway National Recreation Area to house meter and regulating equipment and other equipment necessary to the operation of the natural gas pipeline described in section 3(a).

(b) TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—A lease entered into under this section shall—

(1) be in accordance with section 3(k) of the National Park System General Authorities Act (16 U.S.C. 1a-2(k)), except that the proceeds from rental payments may be used for infrastructure needs, resource protection and restoration, and visitor services at Gateway National Recreation Area; and

(2) provide for the restoration and maintenance of the buildings and associated property in accordance with section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 470f) and applicable regulations and programmatic agreements.

SEC. 5. ENFORCEMENT.

The Secretary may impose citations or fines, or suspend or revoke any authority under a permit or lease issued in accordance with this Act for failure to comply with, or a violation of any term or condition of such permit or lease.

The amendment was ordered to be engrossed and the bill to be read a third time.

The bill (H.R. 2606) was read the third time and passed.

LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL CENTURY OF SERVICE COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 2139 which was received from the House.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2139) to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the centennial of the establishment of Lions Clubs International.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements related to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 2139) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

MILITARY COMMERCIAL DRIVER'S LICENSE ACT OF 2012

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. 3624 introduced earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3624) to amend section 31311 of title 49, United States Code, to permit States to issue commercial driver's licenses to members of the Armed Forces whose duty station is located in the State.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the

table, with no intervening action or debate, and that any statements related to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (S. 3624) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 3624

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Military Commercial Driver's License Act of 2012".

SEC. 2. DOMICILE REQUIREMENT FOR COMMERCIAL DRIVER'S LICENSE.

Section 31311(a)(12) of title 49, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

"(12)(A) Except as provided in subparagraphs (B) and (C), the State may issue a commercial driver's license only to an individual who operates or will operate a commercial motor vehicle and is domiciled in the State.

"(B) Under regulations prescribed by the Secretary, the State may issue a commercial driver's license to an individual who—

"(i) operates or will operate a commercial motor vehicle; and

"(ii) is not domiciled in a State that issues commercial driver's licenses.

"(C) The State may issue a commercial driver's license to an individual who—

"(i) operates or will operate a commercial motor vehicle;

"(ii) is a member of the active duty military, military reserves, National Guard, active duty United States Coast Guard, or Coast Guard Auxiliary; and

"(iii) is not domiciled in the State, but whose temporary or permanent duty station is located in the State."

CHANGING THE EFFECTIVE DATE FOR THE INTERNET PUBLICATION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. 3625 introduced earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3625) to change the effective date for the Internet publication of certain information to prevent harm to the national security or endangering the military officers and civilian employees to whom the publication requirement applies, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the bill be read three times and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate, and any statements related to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (S. 3625) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 3625

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

SECTION 1. CHANGED EFFECTIVE DATE FOR FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE FORMS OF CERTAIN OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Except with respect to financial disclosure forms filed by officers and employees referred to in subsection (b), section 8(a)(1) and section 11(a)(1) of the STOCK Act (5 U.S.C. App. 105 note) shall take effect on December 8, 2012.

(b) FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE FORMS NOT SUBJECT TO NEW EFFECTIVE DATE.—Financial disclosure forms filed by the following individuals shall not be subject to the effective date under this section:

- (1) The President.
- (2) The Vice President.
- (3) Any Member of Congress.
- (4) Any candidate for Congress.

(5) Any officer occupying a position listed in section 5312 or section 5313 of title 5, United States Code, having been nominated by the President and confirmed by the Senate to that position.

SEC. 2. STUDY AND REPORT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director of the Office of Personnel Management shall contract with the National Academy of Public Administration (referred to in this section as the "National Academy") to—

(1) conduct a study of issues raised by website publication of financial disclosure forms as is required under the STOCK Act (Public Law 112-105; 126 Stat. 291); and

(2) issue a report containing findings and recommendations.

(b) SCOPE OF STUDY.—The study conducted under subsection (a)(1) shall—

(1) examine the nature, scope, and degree of risk, including risk of harm to national security, law enforcement, or other Federal missions and risk of endangerment, including to personal safety and security, financial security (such as through identity theft), and privacy, of officers and employees and their family members, that may be posed by website and other publication of financial disclosure forms and associated personal information;

(2) examine any harm that may have arisen from the current online availability of financial disclosure forms and associated personal information of employees of the legislative branch, including any harm to national security, law enforcement, or other Federal missions and any endangerment that may have occurred, including to personal safety and security, financial security (such as through identity theft), and privacy, of such legislative branch officers and employees or their family members; and

(3) include any other analysis that the National Academy believes is necessary or desirable on the topic of the study.

(c) REPORT.—Not later than 6 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the National Academy shall submit to Congress and the President a report that contains—

(1) the findings of the study conducted under subsection (a)(1);

(2) recommendations for ways to avoid or mitigate the risks identified in the study conducted under subsection (a)(1), consistent with the goal of providing appropriate public disclosure of potential conflicts of interest or instances of insider trading by Federal officers or employees; and

(3) any other recommendations that the National Academy believes are necessary or desirable.

SEC. 3. PERIODIC TRANSACTION REPORTS FOR TRANSACTIONS OF SPOUSES AND CHILDREN.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) DATE REPORTING REQUIREMENT COMMENCES IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND

EXECUTIVE BRANCH.—Section 2 of the Act entitled “An Act to prevent harm to the national security or endangering the military officers and civilian employees to whom internet publication of certain information applies, and for other purposes”, approved August 16, 2012 (5 U.S.C. App. 103 note), is amended by striking “September 30, 2012” and inserting “January 1, 2013”.

(2) EXTENSION TO EXECUTIVE BRANCH.—Section 2 of the Act entitled “An Act to prevent harm to the national security or endangering the military officers and civilian employees to whom internet publication of certain information applies, and for other purposes”, approved August 16, 2012 (5 U.S.C. App. 103 note), is amended by striking “for reporting individuals” and all that follows through “House of Representatives”.

(3) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 2 of the Act entitled “An Act to prevent harm to the national security or endangering the military officers and civilian employees to whom internet publication of certain information applies, and for other purposes”, approved August 16, 2012 (5 U.S.C. App. 103 note), is amended by striking “such section 101” and inserting “section 101 of such Act (5 U.S.C. App. 101)”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE; RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—

(1) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall take effect on January 1, 2013.

(2) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Before January 1, 2013, the amendments made by subsection (a) shall not affect the applicability of section 2 of the Act entitled “An Act to prevent harm to the national security or endangering the military officers and civilian employees to whom internet publication of certain information applies, and for other purposes”, approved August 16, 2012 (5 U.S.C. App. 103 note), as in effect on the day before the effective date under paragraph (1).

(c) SAVINGS CLAUSE.—Nothing in the amendments made by subsection (a) shall be construed as affecting any requirement with respect to the House of Representatives or the executive branch in effect before January 1, 2013, with respect to the inclusion of transaction information for a report under section 103(l) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App. 103(l)).

(d) NO CHANGE TO EXISTING SENATE REQUIREMENTS.—Nothing in this section or the amendments made this section shall be construed as affecting the requirement that took effect with respect to the Senate on July 3, 2012, which mandates the inclusion of transaction information for spouses and dependent children for a report under section 103(l) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App. 103(l)).

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF HADASSAH

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 448 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 448) recognizing the 100th anniversary of Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, Inc.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the resolution be

agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and any related statements be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 448) was agreed to, as follows:

S. RES. 448

Whereas Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, Inc. (referred to in this preamble as “Hadassah”) was established by Henrietta Szold on February 24, 1912;

Whereas Hadassah is now the largest Zionist organization for Jewish women, with more than 300,000 active members;

Whereas Hadassah celebrated the 100th anniversary of its founding on February 24, 2012;

Whereas, since its founding, Hadassah has consistently promoted the unity of the Jewish people and worked for the betterment of communities in the United States and what is now present-day Israel;

Whereas Hadassah was nominated for the 2005 Nobel Peace Prize for its ongoing initiatives to use medicine as a bridge to peace;

Whereas Hadassah conducts a wide variety of training programs for medical personnel and students throughout the world;

Whereas, in Israel, Hadassah initiates and supports pace-setting health care, education, and youth institutions;

Whereas the world-class Hadassah Medical Organization in Israel is renowned for cutting-edge medical research;

Whereas the Hadassah Medical Organization is constructing the Sarah Wetsman Davidson Hospital Tower at Hadassah Medical Center as a gift to Israel, to be officially dedicated at the Hadassah Centennial Convention in October 2012;

Whereas, in the United States, Hadassah—

(1) enhances the quality of American and Jewish life through education and Zionist youth programs;

(2) promotes health awareness; and

(3) provides personal enrichment and growth for members; and

Whereas Hadassah helps support young people by providing scholarships for students and educating disadvantaged children: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, Inc. on its 100th anniversary; and

(2) recognizes the important contributions that Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, Inc. has made to medical research and care, the health of communities, the relationship between the United States and Israel, and the continuity of Jewish heritage.

OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM VETERANS DAY

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of and the Senate now proceed to S. Res. 472.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 472) designating October 7, 2012, as “Operation Enduring Freedom Veterans Day.”

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Enzi amendment at the desk be agreed to, that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble, as amended, be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment (No. 2870) was agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: To update the number of patriots in the United States Armed Forces who have made the ultimate sacrifice while serving in Afghanistan)

In the fifth whereas clause, strike “nearly 1,800” and insert “some 2,000”.

The resolution (S. Res. 472) was agreed to.

The preamble, as amended, was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, as amended, reads as follows:

S. RES. 472

Whereas the initial volley of Operation Enduring Freedom took place in Afghanistan on October 7, 2001, and October 7, 2012, marks the eleventh anniversary of the war;

Whereas Operation Enduring Freedom, launched in response to the terrorist attacks committed against the United States on September 11, 2001, targeted al-Qaida and the Taliban protectors of al-Qaida in Afghanistan;

Whereas Operation Enduring Freedom is the longest ongoing war in which the United States is involved;

Whereas the wounded warriors who have served in Operation Enduring Freedom carry the scars of war, both seen and unseen;

Whereas some 2,000 patriots in the United States Armed Forces have made the ultimate sacrifice while serving in Afghanistan;

Whereas the war in Afghanistan should not fade from the hearts and minds of the people of the United States; and

Whereas the ongoing sacrifices made by the men and women of the Armed Forces should be recognized and honored: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates October 7, 2012, as “Operation Enduring Freedom Veterans Day”;

(2) honors the brave men and women who gave their lives while serving the United States in Operation Enduring Freedom; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States to salute the more than half a million men and women who have served bravely in Afghanistan to preserve our shared security and freedom.

CONGRATULATING THE ATHLETES FROM THE STATE OF NEVADA AND THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Commerce Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 558 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 558) congratulating the athletes from the State of Nevada and throughout the United States who participated in the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic

Games as members of the United States Olympic and Paralympic Teams.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

RECOGNIZING MICHIGAN'S 2012 PARALYMPIANS

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, a moving 11-day journey recently came to an end. Nearly 4,300 athletes from 166 countries traveled to London, England, to fulfill their dream of representing their country at the 2012 Paralympic games. I congratulate each of these athletes on a job well done and for their hard work, determination and triumph. Their accomplishments inspired us all and help to broaden our sense of what is possible for individuals living with a disability.

Shortly after the 2012 Olympic games concluded, Olympic officials worked feverishly to transform the Olympic venues for the upcoming Paralympic games. Their task was formidable, and their work was impressive. And once again, London proved to be an exceedingly welcoming host. In fact, more than 2.7 million spectators attended the games, shattering the previous mark and making these games the best attended in history. Many venues were filled to capacity. The energy and excitement of the fans was impressive and a wonderful inspiration for these athletes to showcase their talents. While the world watched with joy and amazement, the athletes competed fiercely, setting an astonishing 251 world records in the process.

Those in attendance and audiences around the world were treated to many dazzling performances and were introduced to some truly inspiring personal stories. One such story is that of LT. Brad Synder. Almost 1 year ago to the day, Lieutenant Synder was bravely serving his country in Afghanistan when a bomb exploded, rendering him blind. One year later, he stood in London, again representing his country, with two gold medals and a silver in swimming around his neck and a world record in his grasp. In the face of such a tragic and life-altering injury, this brave soldier refused to let this injury define him and forged ahead, setting his sights on a new goal. There is also LCDR Steven Peace who began cycling during rehabilitation from a stroke he suffered during Active Duty and competed for Team USA in that event. And there is Scot Severn, another former soldier, who won bronze in shot put at these games after recovering from injuries sustained from a lightning strike while on duty. These are but a few of the seemingly endless stories of perseverance and strength that define the lives of these athletes and enrich the lives of all of us.

It was in 1948 that the seed of what would grow to become the second largest sporting event in the world was planted in London. Sir Ludwig Guttman sought to inspire recently wounded World War II veterans by or-

ganizing a sporting event to raise their spirits and aid their rehabilitation. After years of increasing participation and awareness, this sporting event, which was conceived to parallel the Olympic games, would formally become known as the Paralympic games in 1960. In 2012, 227 athletes represented the United States in London.

There were many Paralympic athletes with ties to Michigan on Team USA. They represented their Nation and Michigan admirably. They include Steve Peace in cycling, Asya Miller in goalball, Robin Theyoung in goalball, Tucker Dupree in swimming, Scott Severn in track and field, Bryan Barten in wheelchair tennis, and Mackenzie Soldan in wheelchair tennis. Along with these impressive athletes, I also congratulate the legions of coaches, trainers, officials, support staff, family and friends who played indispensable roles for these athletes and helped to make their performances possible.

There are more than 24 million Americans living with a disability and many more who face some sort of physical, visual or mental challenge. The athletes who competed in London sent a strong, compelling signal that, while their circumstance may seem daunting, there are many mountains to climb and races to win if they are determined and willing to pursue excellence in whatever field they choose, whether it be the track, a classroom or any other worthy pursuit. These games also bring greater awareness and more resources to efforts to increase the availability of physical activity for disabled Americans across the Nation, the benefits of which have been well-documented in recent years.

The 2012 Paralympic games dazzled us with impressive athletic feats, inspired us with stories of courage and perseverance, and reminded us that we can all overcome adversity and pursue excellence both in competition and in life. The 2012 summer Paralympic games, like the Olympic games that preceded it, was a stage on which athletes from across the globe came together in friendly competition. Barb and I salute every athlete who represented Team USA in London. As one organizer eloquently stated, "The Paralympians have lifted the cloud of limitation." For that, we owe them a deep debt of gratitude.

2012 PARALYMPIC ATHLETES

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, today I rise to recognize three of our Nation's inspiring Paralympians, with Connecticut roots, who competed, along with 227 American teammates and more than 4,000 athletes from over 160 countries, in this year's Paralympic games in London. During these games, which took place from August 29 to September 9, the United States brought home 98 medals, including 31 gold medals. The exceptional drive, discipline, and dreams of these athletes

are as extraordinary as the medals. Their personal stories of sacrifice and hard work, effort and energy, and aspirations turned into realities, despite setbacks and adversity, are truly remarkable.

In 1948 at Aylesbury, England's Stoke Mandeville Hospital, the idea of the Paralympics was formed, and so it is historically significant that England hosted this year's Paralympic games. Sir Ludwig Guttman envisioned including disabled veterans in international sports competition, and in 1948 his dream was realized in the International Wheelchair Games. In 1960, Rome hosted the first official Paralympic games as we know them today. As we look back at this year's games—one of the largest Paralympics in history—we celebrate this legacy. We are reminded of how important these games were for the rehabilitation of our disabled World War II veterans.

For Tara Profitt of Newington, CT, and member of the 2012 U.S. Paralympic Table Tennis Team, England as host country is personally significant. Ms. Profitt competed in the women's singles competition at the 1984 Paralympics hosted in Stoke Mandeville, England, but always hoped to have the opportunity to play alongside her college friend and fellow table tennis champion, Pamela Fontaine, in the women's team class. This year, in addition to participating individually in the women's single class events, Ms. Profitt and Ms. Fontaine were selected to represent the United States together in the women's team event, reuniting again on familiar territory. Ms. Profitt has credited Ms. Fontaine with inspiring her to become the athlete she is today, encouraging her to engage in sports again after the diving injury that she suffered as a teenager. They have worked hard to qualify over the past few years, traveling around the world to compete, and this year achieved the goal that they have held dearly for decades: to play together, celebrating their country and friendship on an international stage.

Representing the United States in track and field, three-time gold medalist Paul Nitz traveled from Bloomfield, CT, to participate in his third Paralympic games. This year, he was given the tremendous honor of serving as track captain for the U.S. Paralympic Track and Field team, inspiring both first-time and veteran athletes. Mr. Nitz has an accomplished athletic record: He won the Gold in the 100m event in 1992, 1996, and 2000 and broke the 100m world record during the 2012 Swiss Series. This year, I am proud to announce that he brought home the bronze in the 100m. Equally commendable, Mr. Nitz works in his community—as an employee of the Hartford Insurance Group—to positively change public perception regarding disability. In addition to his impressive athletic achievements, through his efforts at the Hartford, he has led great strides across the Nation in dispelling prejudice, misconception, and judgment.

I also applaud the Hartford Insurance Group for their commitment to the Paralympic games: Since 2003, it has been a founding partner of the U.S. Paralympics, an official division of the U.S. Olympic Committee.

Five-time Paralympian Scott Danberg calls Stamford his hometown, and Connecticut has been proud to follow him throughout his impressive athletic career. Recently, as a well-known and regarded member of the U.S. Paralympic track and field team, he competed in the men's discus event, throwing his personal best for this season in London. And this year he was nominated by his fellow track and field members and then chosen by a vote by the U.S. paralympic team as our Nation's flag bearer during opening ceremonies. He adds this tremendous honor to his past accomplishments, including the bronze at the 2011 IPC World Championships, the gold at the 2010 U.S. Paralympics Track & Field National Championships in both discus and shot put, and the silver in javelin at the 1998 Paralympic games.

I hope that Connecticut's Paralympians can continue to promote international and national awareness and engagement and we can continue to come together as a nation, recognizing what unites us. Thank you for joining me in applauding our amazing American athletes and those around the world who have shown the athleticism, stamina, and national identity that transcends differences.

RECOGNIZING MISSISSIPPI'S OLYMPIANS

Mr. WICKER. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the gifted athletes from my home State of Mississippi who represented the United States in the 2012 London Olympic games and Paralympic games. They join an extraordinary legacy built by generations of great American Olympians and Paralympians, and their historic successes on the world stage are a proud moment for Mississippi.

In the London Olympic games, Gulfport native Brittney Reese became the first American woman to win a gold medal in long jump since Jackie Joyner-Kersey, who won it more than two decades ago in the Seoul games. The Olympic title tops an impressive career for the former University of Mississippi standout and four-time world champion, who has become an unmatched competitor over the past several years.

Particularly heartfelt and inspiring was Reese's dedication of her gold-medal success to the people of Mississippi and those still recovering from Hurricane Katrina, which damaged her family's home 7 years ago. As she told reporters, "This is a great way for me to bring something home and show them we can all do this together."

Bianca Knight of Ridgeland helped lead the women's 4x100-meter relay team to a gold-medal win in an incred-

ible 40.82 seconds—besting the world record set by East Germany in 1985. The performance earned the United States its first Olympic gold medal in the women's relay event since 1996 in Atlanta.

In the men's 4x100-meter relay, Coldwater sprinter Trell Kimmons and his teammates blazed through to a silver-medal finish—setting a new American record. Former Jackson State University track star Michael Tinsley also won silver in the 400-meter hurdles. Isiah Young, a talented athlete at the University of Mississippi, made his Olympic debut in the exciting 200-meter dash, advancing to the semifinals with an impressive run against decorated Jamaican sprinter Usain Bolt.

One Mississippian continued her Olympic success this time as a coach for the U.S. women's basketball team. Assistant coach Jennifer Gillom, an Ole Miss graduate from Abbeville, helped lead the team to a gold-medal victory in London. She won gold as a player during the Seoul Games and is the first person in Ole Miss women's basketball history to be part of multiple medal wins.

Like the Olympics, the London Paralympic games were also a spectacular display of athleticism and perseverance. The international sports event for athletes with disabilities began shortly after World War II as a way for those with war injuries to enhance their quality of life. More than 4,000 athletes competed in this year's Paralympic games—including four Mississippians who captivated the world with outstanding performances.

Shaquille Vance of Houston set a new American record in the men's 200-meter-T42 event—earning the silver medal. Richard Browne of Jackson sprinted to a silver-medal finish in the highly anticipated 100-meter-T44 race. Top-ranked competitors Ryan Estep and Joseph Brinson of Florence showcased their expertise as part of the U.S. wheelchair fencing team, with Estep competing in the epee-style event and Brinson in the saber-style competition.

I thank the family and friends who have supported and encouraged these athletes throughout this incredible journey. The Olympics and Paralympics are a dream for athletes around the world and a life-changing experience for those who participate. I congratulate these inspiring Mississippians on their remarkable accomplishments. They have worked hard and made us proud.

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I further ask that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and any statements related to the measure be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 558) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 558

Whereas the 2012 Olympic Games were held in London, England from July 27, 2012, to August 12, 2012, and the 2012 Paralympic Games were held in London, England from August 29, 2012, to September 9, 2012;

Whereas 532 Olympians and 227 Paralympians competed on behalf of Team USA in London, England;

Whereas the great State of Nevada contributed 4 athletes to the United States Olympic Team and 1 athlete to the United States Paralympic Team;

Whereas the Olympians and Paralympian from the State of Nevada proudly represented the United States in competition and displayed an admirable dedication to the spirit of the Olympic Games;

Whereas Amanda Bingson of Las Vegas, Nevada, competed in the Olympic Women's Hammer Throw event;

Whereas Jacob Dalton of Reno, Nevada, competed in the Olympic Men's Gymnastics Floor Exercise and Men's Team events;

Whereas Connor Fields of Las Vegas, Nevada, competed in the Olympic Men's BMX event;

Whereas Michael Hunter II of Las Vegas, Nevada, competed in the Olympic Men's Heavyweight Boxing event;

Whereas Courtney Jordan of Henderson, Nevada, competed in the Paralympic Women's 400m Freestyle, 100m Breaststroke, 100m Backstroke, 200m Individual Medley, 50m Freestyle, and 100m Freestyle events;

Whereas Ms. Jordan won silver medals in the 400m Freestyle, 50m Freestyle, and 100m Freestyle, and a bronze medal in the 100m Backstroke;

Whereas the citizens of the State of Nevada and the people of the United States stand united in respect and admiration for the Nevadan Olympians and Paralympian, and the athletic accomplishments, sportsmanship, and dedication of those athletes to excellence in the 2012 Olympics and Paralympics;

Whereas the many accomplishments of the Nevadan Olympians and Paralympian would not have been possible without the hard work and dedication of many others, including the United States Olympic Committee, the relevant United States National Governing Bodies, and the many administrators, coaches, and family members who provided critical support for the athletes: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate extends sincere congratulations for the accomplishments and gratitude for the sacrifices of the athletes from the State of Nevada and throughout the United States on the United States Olympic and Paralympic Teams and to everyone who supported the efforts of those athletes at the 2012 Olympics and Paralympics.

NATIONAL SAVE FOR RETIREMENT WEEK

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the HELP Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 555 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 555) supporting the goals and ideals of "National Save for Retirement Week," including raising public

awareness of the various tax-preferred retirement vehicles and increasing personal financial literacy.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. PRYOR. I further ask that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be made and laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and any statements relating to the resolution be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 555) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 555

Whereas people in the United States are living longer, and the cost of retirement is increasing significantly;

Whereas Social Security remains the bedrock of retirement income for the great majority of the people of the United States but was never intended by Congress to be the sole source of retirement income for families;

Whereas recent data from the Employee Benefit Research Institute indicates that, in the United States, less than 3% of workers or their spouses are currently saving for retirement, and the actual amount of retirement savings of workers is much less than the amount needed to adequately fund their retirement years;

Whereas the financial literacy of workers in the United States is important to their understanding of the need to save for retirement;

Whereas saving for retirement is a key component to overall financial health and security during retirement years, and the importance of financial literacy in planning for retirement must be advocated;

Whereas many workers may not be aware of their options in saving for retirement or may not have focused on the importance of, and need for, saving for retirement;

Whereas many employees have available to them, through their employers, access to defined benefit and defined contribution plans to assist them in preparing for retirement, yet many of those employees may not be taking advantage of those plans at all or to the full extent allowed by Federal law;

Whereas the need to save for retirement is important even during economic downturns or market declines, which make continued contributions all the more important;

Whereas all workers, including public and private sector employees, employees of tax-exempt organizations, and self-employed individuals, can benefit from developing personal budgets and financial plans that include retirement savings strategies and taking advantage of tax-preferred retirement savings vehicles; and

Whereas October 21 through October 27, 2012, has been designated as "National Save for Retirement Week": Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of "National Save for Retirement Week", including raising public awareness of the importance of saving adequately for retirement;

(2) supports the need to raise public awareness of the availability of a variety of ways to save for retirement which are favored under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and are utilized by many people in the United States, but which should be utilized by more; and

(3) calls on the States, localities, schools, universities, nonprofit organizations, busi-

nesses, other entities, and the people of the United States to observe National Save for Retirement Week with appropriate programs and activities, with the goal of increasing the retirement savings and personal financial literacy of all people in the United States.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF
HADASSAH

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the preamble of S. Res. 448 be agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The preamble was agreed to.

NATIONAL NATIVE AMERICAN
HERITAGE MONTH

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Indian Affairs be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 561 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 561) recognizing National Native American Heritage Month and celebrating the heritages and cultures of Native Americans and the contributions of Native Americans to the United States.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. PRYOR. I further ask that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and any statements related to the resolution be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 561) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 561

Whereas from November 1, 2012, through November 30, 2012, the United States celebrates National Native American Heritage Month;

Whereas Native Americans are descendants of the original, indigenous inhabitants of what is now the United States;

Whereas the United States Bureau of the Census estimated in 2009 that there were almost 5,000,000 individuals in the United States of Native American descent;

Whereas Native Americans maintain vibrant cultures and traditions and hold a deeply rooted sense of community;

Whereas Native Americans have moving stories of tragedy, triumph, and perseverance that need to be shared with future generations;

Whereas Native Americans speak and preserve indigenous languages, which have contributed to the English language by being used as names of individuals and locations throughout the United States;

Whereas Congress has recently reaffirmed its support of tribal self-governance and its commitment to improving the lives of all Native Americans by enhancing health care services, increasing law enforcement re-

sources, and approving settlements of litigation involving Indian tribes and the United States;

Whereas Congress is committed to improving the housing conditions and socioeconomic status of Native Americans;

Whereas the United States is committed to strengthening the government-to-government relationship that it has maintained with the various Indian tribes;

Whereas Congress has recognized the contributions of the Iroquois Confederacy, and its influence on the Founding Fathers in the drafting of the Constitution of the United States with the concepts of freedom of speech, the separation of governmental powers, and the system of checks and balances between the branches of government;

Whereas with the enactment of the Native American Heritage Day Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-33; 123 Stat. 1922), Congress—

(1) reaffirmed the government-to-government relationship between the United States and Native American governments; and

(2) recognized the important contributions of Native Americans to the culture of the United States;

Whereas Native Americans have made distinct and important contributions to the United States and the rest of the world in many fields, including the fields of agriculture, medicine, music, language, and art, and Native Americans have distinguished themselves as inventors, entrepreneurs, spiritual leaders, and scholars;

Whereas Native Americans have served with honor and distinction in the Armed Forces of the United States, and continue to serve in the Armed Forces in greater numbers per capita than any other group in the United States;

Whereas the United States has recognized the contribution of the Native American code talkers in World War I and World War II, who used indigenous languages as an unbreakable military code, saving countless Americans; and

Whereas the people of the United States have reason to honor the great achievements and contributions of Native Americans and their ancestors: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the month of November 2012 as National Native American Heritage Month;

(2) recognizes the Friday after Thanksgiving as "Native American Heritage Day" in accordance with the Native American Heritage Day Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-33; 123 Stat. 1922); and

(3) urges the people of the United States to observe National Native American Heritage Month and Native American Heritage Day with appropriate programs and activities.

RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED TODAY

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration en bloc of the following resolutions which were submitted earlier today: S. Res. 576, S. Res. 577, S. Res. 578, S. Res. 579, S. Res. 580, S. Res. 581, S. Res. 582, S. Res. 583, S. Res. 584, S. Res. 585, S. Res. 586, S. Res. 587, S. Res. 588, and S. Res. 589.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolutions en bloc.

Mr. PRYOR. I ask unanimous consent that the resolutions be agreed to, the preambles be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the

table en bloc, with no intervening action or debate, and any statements related to the resolutions be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolutions were agreed to.

The preambles were agreed to.

The resolutions, with their preambles, read as follows:

S. RES. 576

Whereas October 10, 2012, marks the 50th anniversary of the signing of Public Law 87-788 (commonly known as the "McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Act") (16 U.S.C. 582a et seq.), which authorized the Secretary of Agriculture to encourage and assist States in conducting a program of forestry research;

Whereas the McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Act was named for the 2 primary, bipartisan sponsors of the Act, Representative Clifford G. McIntire of Maine and Senator John C. Stennis of Mississippi, who recognized that research in forestry is the "driving force behind progress in developing and utilizing the Nation's forests";

Whereas the McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Act recognized that forestry research would be more effective nationwide if efforts among State-supported institutions of higher education were partnered and more closely coordinated with forestry research activities in the Federal Government;

Whereas Congressman McIntire and Senator Stennis stated a clear intent to address the important need of the United States for increased numbers of highly trained forestry scientists and other research professionals;

Whereas the McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Act has provided 5 decades of base funding to establish and strengthen research and training capacity in forestry at State-supported institutions of higher education;

Whereas funds provided by the Act to State-supported institutions of higher education are highly leveraged with non-Federal funds;

Whereas university-based forestry research has provided an accumulated wealth of science-based knowledge, skills, and technologies that have been critical for sustaining United States forests for economic, ecological, and social benefits;

Whereas funds provided by the McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Act for forestry research at State-supported institutions of higher education have provided significant graduate student support over the last 50 years, resulting in 8,500 master's degrees and 2,600 doctoral degrees;

Whereas the State-supported institutions of higher education that receive funds under the McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Act conduct forestry research in all 50 States and 4 territories of the United States, and disseminate the results of those efforts locally, regionally, nationally, and globally for the betterment of the communities of the institutions, the United States, and the world; and

Whereas many State-supported institutions of higher education are celebrating and commemorating the 50th anniversary of the signing of the McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Act: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) celebrates the 50th anniversary of the signing of Public Law 87-788 (commonly known as the "McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Act") (16 U.S.C. 582a et seq.) by President John F. Kennedy;

(2) encourages the people of the United States to observe and celebrate the 50th anniversary of the signing of the McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Act with appropriate ceremonies and activities;

(3) affirms the continuing importance and vitality of the State-supported institutions of higher education conducting forestry research and training supported by the McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Act; and

(4) respectfully requests that the Secretary of the Senate transmit to the National Association of University Forest Resources Programs an enrolled copy of this resolution for appropriate display.

S. RES. 577

Whereas the First Special Service Force (referred to in this preamble as the "Force"), a military unit composed of volunteers from the United States and Canada, was activated in July 1942 at Fort Harrison near Helena, Montana;

Whereas the Force was initially intended to target military and industrial installations that were supporting the German war effort, including important hydroelectric plants, which would severely limit the production of strategic materials used by the Axis powers;

Whereas, from July 1942 through June 1943, volunteers of the Force trained in hazardous, arctic conditions in the mountains of western Montana, and in the waterways of Camp Bradford, Virginia;

Whereas the combat echelon of the Force totaled 1,800 soldiers, half from the United States and half from Canada;

Whereas the Force also contained a service battalion, composed of 800 members from the United States, that provided important support for the combat troops;

Whereas a special bond developed between the Canadian and United States soldiers, who were not segregated by country, although the commander of the Force was a United States colonel;

Whereas the Force was the only unit formed during World War II that consisted of troops from Canada and the United States;

Whereas, in October 1943, the Force went to Italy, where it fought in battles south of Cassino, including Monte La Difensa and Monte Majo, two mountain peaks that were a critical anchor of the German defense line;

Whereas, during the night of December 3, 1943, the Force ascended to the top of the precipitous face of Monte La Difensa, where the Force suffered heavy casualties and overcame fierce resistance to overtake the German line;

Whereas, after the battle for La Difensa, the Force continued to fight tough battles at high altitudes, in rugged terrain, and in severe weather;

Whereas, after battles on the strongly defended Italian peaks of Sammuero, Vischiataro, and Remetanea, the size of the Force had been reduced from 1,800 soldiers to fewer than 500;

Whereas, for 4 months in 1944, the Force engaged in raids and aggressive patrols at the Anzio Beachhead;

Whereas, on June 4, 1944, members of the Force were among the first Allied troops to liberate Rome;

Whereas, after liberating Rome, the Force moved to southern Italy and prepared to assist in the liberation of France;

Whereas, during the early morning of August 15, 1944, members of the Force made silent landings on Les Iles D'Hyeres, small islands in the Mediterranean Sea along the southern coast of France;

Whereas the Force faced a sustained and withering assault from the German garrisons as the Force progressed from the islands to the Franco-Italian border;

Whereas, after the Allied forces secured the Franco-Italian border, the United States Army ordered the disbandment of the Force on December 5, 1944, in Nice, France;

Whereas, during 251 days of combat, the Force suffered 2,314 casualties, or 134 percent of its authorized strength, captured thousands of prisoners, won 5 United States campaign stars and 8 Canadian battle honors, and never failed a mission;

Whereas the United States is forever indebted to the acts of bravery and selflessness of the troops of the Force, who risked their lives for the cause of freedom;

Whereas the efforts of the Force along the seas and skies of Europe were critical in repelling the advance of Nazi Germany and liberating numerous communities in France and Italy;

Whereas the bond between the members of the Force from the United States and those from Canada has endured over the decades, as the members meet every year for a reunion, alternating between the United States and Canada; and

Whereas the traditions and honors exhibited by the Force are carried on by 2 outstanding active units of 2 great democracies, the Special Forces of the United States and the Canadian Special Operations Regiment: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate recognizes and honors the superior service of the First Special Service Force during World War II.

S. RES. 578

Whereas the Red Ribbon Campaign was established to commemorate the service of Enrique "Kiki" Camarena, a special agent of the Drug Enforcement Administration for 11 years who was murdered in the line of duty in 1985 while engaged in the battle against illicit drugs;

Whereas the Red Ribbon Campaign was established by the National Family Partnership to preserve the memory of Special Agent Camarena and further the cause for which he gave his life;

Whereas the Red Ribbon Campaign has been nationally recognized since 1988 and is now the oldest and largest drug prevention program in the United States, reaching millions of young people each year during Red Ribbon Week;

Whereas the Drug Enforcement Administration, established in 1973, aggressively targets organizations involved in the growing, manufacturing, and distribution of controlled substances and has been a steadfast partner in commemorating Red Ribbon Week;

Whereas the Governors and attorneys general of the States, the National Family Partnership, Parent Teacher Associations, Boys and Girls Clubs of America, PRIDE Youth Programs, Young Marines, the Drug Enforcement Administration, and hundreds of other organizations throughout the United States annually celebrate Red Ribbon Week during the period of October 23 through October 31;

Whereas the objective of Red Ribbon Week is to promote the creation of drug-free communities through drug prevention efforts, education, parental involvement, and community-wide support;

Whereas drug abuse is one of the major challenges that the United States faces in securing a safe and healthy future for families in the United States;

Whereas drug abuse and alcohol abuse contribute to domestic violence and sexual assault and place the lives of children at risk;

Whereas emerging drug threats and growing epidemics demand attention, with a particular focus on prescription medications, the second most abused drug by young people in the United States, and synthetic drugs;

Whereas, since the majority of teenagers abusing prescription medications get the medications from family, friends, and home medicine cabinets, the Drug Enforcement

Administration will host a National Take Back Day on September 29, 2012, for the public to safely dispose of unused or expired prescription medications that can lead to accidental poisoning, overdose, and abuse;

Whereas synthetic marijuana, also known as “K2” or “Spice”, has become especially popular, particularly among teenagers and young adults, and in 2011 poison centers across the United States responded to about 6,960 calls related to synthetic marijuana, up from approximately 2,900 calls in 2010;

Whereas Congress recently enacted the Food and Drug Administration Safety and Innovation Act (Public Law 112-144; 126 Stat. 993), which adds 26 synthetic drugs to the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 801 et seq.), including the drugs commonly found in products marketed as K2, Spice, and bath salts; and

Whereas parents, young people, schools, businesses, law enforcement agencies, religious institutions, service organizations, senior citizens, medical and military personnel, sports teams, and individuals throughout the United States will demonstrate their commitment to healthy, productive, and drug-free lifestyles by wearing and displaying red ribbons during the week-long celebration of Red Ribbon Week: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of Red Ribbon Week, 2012;

(2) encourages children and teenagers to choose to live drug-free lives; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States—

(A) to promote the creation of drug-free communities; and

(B) to participate in drug prevention activities to show support for healthy, productive, and drug-free lifestyles.

S. RES. 579

Whereas there are 105 historically Black colleges and universities in the United States;

Whereas historically Black colleges and universities provide the quality education essential to full participation in a complex, highly technological society;

Whereas historically Black colleges and universities have a rich heritage and have played a prominent role in the history of the United States;

Whereas historically Black colleges and universities allow talented and diverse students, many of whom represent underserved populations, to attain their full potential through higher education; and

Whereas the achievements and goals of historically Black colleges and universities are deserving of national recognition: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week of September 24 through September 28, 2012, as “National Historically Black Colleges and Universities Week”; and

(2) calls on the people of the United States and interested groups to observe the week with appropriate ceremonies, activities, and programs to demonstrate support for historically Black colleges and universities in the United States.

S. RES. 580

Whereas, in 1903, President Theodore Roosevelt established the first national wildlife refuge on Florida’s Pelican Island;

Whereas, in 2012, the National Wildlife Refuge System, administered by the Fish and Wildlife Service, is the premier system of lands and waters to conserve wildlife in the world, and has grown to more than 150,000,000 acres, 558 national wildlife refuges, and 38 wetland management districts in every State and territory of the United States;

Whereas national wildlife refuges are important recreational and tourism destinations in communities across the United States, and these protected lands offer a variety of recreational opportunities, including 6 wildlife-dependent uses that the National Wildlife Refuge System manages: hunting, fishing, wildlife observation, photography, environmental education, and interpretation;

Whereas more than 360 units of the National Wildlife Refuge System have hunting programs and more than 300 units of the National Wildlife Refuge System have fishing programs, averaging more than 2,500,000 hunting visits and more than 7,000,000 fishing visits each year;

Whereas the National Wildlife Refuge System experienced more than 30,000,000 wildlife observation visits during fiscal year 2012;

Whereas national wildlife refuges are important to local businesses and gateway communities;

Whereas, for every \$1 appropriated, national wildlife refuges generate \$4 in economic activity;

Whereas the National Wildlife Refuge System experiences approximately 47,000,000 visits each year, which generated nearly \$2,100,000,000 and more than 35,000 jobs in local economies during fiscal year 2012;

Whereas the National Wildlife Refuge System encompasses every kind of ecosystem in the United States, including temperate, tropical, and boreal forests, wetlands, deserts, grasslands, arctic tundras, and remote islands, and spans 12 time zones from the Virgin Islands to Guam;

Whereas national wildlife refuges are home to more than 700 species of birds, 220 species of mammals, 250 species of reptiles and amphibians, and more than 1,000 species of fish;

Whereas national wildlife refuges are the primary Federal lands that foster production, migration, and wintering habitat for waterfowl;

Whereas, since 1934, the sale of the Federal Duck Stamp to outdoor enthusiasts has generated more than \$850,000,000 in funds, which has enabled the purchase or lease of more than 5,500,000 acres of waterfowl habitat in the National Wildlife Refuge System;

Whereas 59 refuges were established specifically to protect imperiled species, and of the more than 1,300 federally listed threatened and endangered species in the United States, 280 species are found on units of the National Wildlife Refuge System;

Whereas national wildlife refuges are cores of conservation for larger landscapes and resources for other agencies of the Federal Government and State governments, private landowners, and organizations in their efforts to secure the wildlife heritage of the United States;

Whereas more than 42,000 volunteers and approximately 220 national wildlife refuge “Friends” organizations contribute nearly 1,600,000 hours annually, the equivalent of 766 full-time employees, and provide an important link to local communities;

Whereas national wildlife refuges provide an important opportunity for children to discover and gain a greater appreciation for the natural world;

Whereas, because there are national wildlife refuges located in several urban and suburban areas and 1 refuge located within an hour’s drive of every metropolitan area in the United States, national wildlife refuges employ, educate, and engage young people from all backgrounds in exploring, connecting with, and preserving the natural heritage of the United States;

Whereas, since 1995, refuges across the United States have held festivals, educational programs, guided tours, and other

events to celebrate National Wildlife Refuge Week during the second full week of October;

Whereas the Fish and Wildlife Service will continue to seek stakeholder input on the implementation of “Conserving the Future: Wildlife Refuges and the Next Generation”, an update to the strategic plan of the Fish and Wildlife Service for the future of the National Wildlife Refuge System;

Whereas the week beginning on October 14, 2012, has been designated as “National Wildlife Refuge Week” by the Fish and Wildlife Service; and

Whereas the designation of National Wildlife Refuge Week by the Senate would recognize more than a century of conservation in the United States, raise awareness about the importance of wildlife and the National Wildlife Refuge System, and celebrate the myriad recreational opportunities available to enjoy this network of protected lands: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week beginning on October 14, 2012, as “National Wildlife Refuge Week”;

(2) encourages the observance of National Wildlife Refuge Week with appropriate events and activities;

(3) acknowledges the importance of national wildlife refuges for their recreational opportunities and contribution to local economies across the United States;

(4) pronounces that national wildlife refuges play a vital role in securing the hunting and fishing heritage of the United States for future generations;

(5) identifies the significance of national wildlife refuges in advancing the traditions of wildlife observation, photography, environmental education, and interpretation;

(6) recognizes the importance of national wildlife refuges to wildlife conservation and the protection of imperiled species and ecosystems, as well as compatible uses;

(7) acknowledges the role of national wildlife refuges in conserving waterfowl and waterfowl habitat pursuant to the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (40 Stat. 755, chapter 128);

(8) reaffirms the support of the Senate for wildlife conservation and the National Wildlife Refuge System; and

(9) expresses the intent of the Senate—

(A) to continue working to conserve wildlife; and

(B) to manage the National Wildlife Refuge System for current and future generations.

S. RES. 581

Whereas more than 2,500,000 people serve as members of the United States Armed Forces;

Whereas several hundred thousand members of the Armed Forces rotate each year through deployments to 150 countries in every region of the world;

Whereas more than 2,300,000 members of the Armed Forces have deployed to the area of operations of the United States Central Command since the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks;

Whereas the United States is kept strong and free by the loyal military personnel who protect our precious heritage through their positive declaration and actions;

Whereas members of the Armed Forces serving at home and abroad have courageously answered the call to duty to defend the ideals of the United States and to preserve peace and freedom around the world;

Whereas members of the Armed Forces personify the virtues of patriotism, service, duty, courage, and sacrifice;

Whereas the families of members of the Armed Forces make important and significant sacrifices for the United States;

Whereas in 2010, 40 States designated October 26 as “Day of the Deployed” following

the first recognition of a “Day of the Deployed” by North Dakota on October 26, 2006; and

Whereas the Senate designated October 26, 2011, as “Day of the Deployed”: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) honors the members of the United States Armed Forces who are deployed;

(2) calls on the people of the United States to reflect on the service of those members of the United States Armed Forces, wherever they serve, past, present, and future;

(3) designates October 26, 2012, as “Day of the Deployed”; and

(4) encourages the people of the United States to observe “Day of the Deployed” with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

S. RES. 582

Whereas beginning on September 15, 2012, through October 15, 2012, the United States celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month;

Whereas the Census Bureau estimates the Hispanic population in the United States at over 52,000,000 people, making Hispanic Americans the largest racial or ethnic minority group within the United States overall and in 25 individual States;

Whereas Latinos accounted for over ½ of all population growth from July 1, 2010, to July 1, 2011;

Whereas the Hispanic population in the United States is projected to grow to 132,800,000 by July 1, 2050, at which point the Hispanic population will comprise 30 percent of the total population in the United States;

Whereas nearly 1 in 4 United States public school students is Hispanic, and the total number of Hispanic students enrolled in public schools in the United States is expected to reach 28,000,000 by 2050;

Whereas 16.5 percent of all college students between the age of 18 and 24 years old are Hispanics, making Hispanics the largest racial or ethnic minority group on college campuses in the United States, including both 2-year community colleges and 4-year colleges and universities;

Whereas the purchasing power of Hispanic Americans was \$1,000,000,000 in 2010 and is expected to grow 50 percent to \$1,500,000,000 by 2015;

Whereas there are approximately 2,300,000 Hispanic-owned firms in the United States, supporting millions of employees nationwide and greatly contributing to the economic sector, especially retail trade, wholesale trade, food services, and construction;

Whereas as of June 2012, nearly 25,000,000 Hispanic workers represented 16 percent of the total labor force in the United States, with the share of Latino labor force participation expected to grow to 18 percent by 2018;

Whereas Hispanic Americans serve in all branches of the Armed Forces and have bravely fought in every war in the history of the United States;

Whereas as of July 2012, 143,054 Hispanic active duty service members served with distinction in the United States Armed Forces in fiscal year 2012;

Whereas as of June 30, 2012, there were 19,752 Hispanics serving in Afghanistan;

Whereas as of May 7, 2012, 645 United States military fatalities in Iraq and Afghanistan have been Hispanic;

Whereas more than 80,000 Hispanics served in the Vietnam War, representing 5.5 percent of individuals who made the ultimate sacrifice for their country in that conflict even though Hispanics comprised only 4.5 percent of the United States population at the time;

Whereas 140,000 Hispanic soldiers served in the Korean War;

Whereas as of September 2012, there are approximately 1,300,000 living Hispanic veterans of the United States Armed Forces;

Whereas 44 Hispanic Americans have received the Congressional Medal of Honor, the highest award for valor in action against an enemy force that can be bestowed on an individual serving in the United States Armed Forces;

Whereas Hispanic Americans are dedicated public servants, holding posts at the highest levels of government, including 1 seat on the Supreme Court, 2 seats in the Senate, 29 seats in the House of Representatives, and 2 seats in the Cabinet; and

Whereas Hispanic Americans harbor a deep commitment to family and community, an enduring work ethic, and a perseverance to succeed and contribute to society: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month from September 15, 2012, through October 15, 2012;

(2) esteems the integral role of Latinos and the manifold heritage of Latinos in the economy, culture, and identity of the United States; and

(3) urges the people of the United States to observe Hispanic Heritage Month with appropriate programs and activities that appreciate the cultural contributions of Latinos to American life.

S. RES. 583

Whereas a terrorist attack, natural disaster, or other emergency could strike any part of the United States at any time;

Whereas natural and manmade emergencies disrupt hundreds of thousands of lives each year, costing lives and causing serious injuries and billions of dollars in property damage;

Whereas Federal, State, and local officials, as well as private and nonprofit organizations, are working to mitigate against, prevent, and respond to all types of emergencies;

Whereas the people of the United States can help promote the overall emergency preparedness of the United States by being prepared for all types of emergencies;

Whereas National Preparedness Month provides an opportunity to highlight the importance of public emergency preparedness and to encourage the people of the United States to take steps to be better prepared for emergencies at home, work, and school;

Whereas the people of the United States can prepare for emergencies by taking steps, such as assembling emergency supply kits, creating family emergency plans, staying informed about possible emergencies, and obtaining reasonable levels of insurance; and

Whereas additional information about public emergency preparedness may be obtained through the Ready Campaign of the Department of Homeland Security at www.ready.gov or the American Red Cross at www.redcross.org/prepare: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 2012 as “National Preparedness Month”; and

(2) encourages the Federal Government, States, localities, schools, nonprofit organizations, businesses, and other applicable entities, along with the people of the United States, to observe National Preparedness Month with appropriate events and activities to promote emergency preparedness.

S. RES. 584

Whereas Jumpstart, a national early education organization, is working to ensure that every child in the United States enters school prepared to succeed;

Whereas Jumpstart delivers a year-round research-based and cost-effective program by training college students and community volunteers to serve preschool age children in low-income neighborhoods, helping them to

develop the language and literacy skills necessary to succeed in school and in life;

Whereas, since 1993, Jumpstart has trained nearly 25,000 college students and community volunteers to transform the lives of more than 42,000 preschool children in communities across the United States;

Whereas Jumpstart’s Read for the Record, presented in partnership with the Pearson Foundation, is a national campaign that culminates in one day of the year when millions of people in the United States come together to celebrate literacy and support Jumpstart in its efforts to promote early childhood education;

Whereas the goals of the campaign are to raise awareness in the United States of the importance of early childhood education, support Jumpstart’s early education programs in preschools in low-income neighborhoods through donations and sponsorship, and celebrate the commencement of Jumpstart’s program year;

Whereas October 4, 2012, is an appropriate date to designate as “Jumpstart’s Read for the Record Day” because it is the date Jumpstart aims to set the world record for the largest shared reading experience; and

Whereas Jumpstart hopes to engage more than 2,200,000 children in reading “Ladybug Girl and the Bug Squad” by David Soman and Jacky Davis during this record-breaking celebration of reading and service, all in support of preschool children in the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates October 4, 2012, as “Jumpstart’s Read for the Record Day”; and

(2) commends Jumpstart’s Read for the Record on its seventh year;

(3) encourages adults, including grandparents, parents, teachers, and college students—

(A) to join children in creating the world’s largest shared reading experience; and

(B) to show their support for literacy and Jumpstart’s early education programming for young children in low-income communities; and

(4) requests the Secretary of the Senate to transmit a copy of this resolution to Jumpstart, one of the leading nonprofit organizations in the United States in the field of early childhood education.

S. RES. 585

Whereas New Mexico has a rich heritage and history, dating as far back as 11,000 B.C. when the Clovis people left the earliest evidence of human existence in what is now New Mexico;

Whereas Santa Fe, the capital of New Mexico, was established in 1610 and is the oldest capital city in the United States, as well as the highest in elevation at 7,000 feet above sea level;

Whereas, on September 9, 1850, the portion of the Compromise of 1850 (9 Stat. 446) that created the New Mexico Territory was enacted;

Whereas, on January 6, 1912, President William Howard Taft signed the proclamation making New Mexico the 47th State of the Union;

Whereas the nickname of New Mexico is the “Land of Enchantment” because of its scenic beauty and rich history and culture;

Whereas the natural wonder of New Mexico is preserved by a broad range of national parks, forests, wilderness areas, and wildlife refuge centers;

Whereas the diverse cultural roots of New Mexico come from the many different groups of people who have inhabited the State, notably the strong tribal and Hispanic cultural influences in the State;

Whereas New Mexico has one of the richest indigenous tribal populations in the United

States, including 19 Pueblo nations, 2 Apache nations, and the Navajo Nation;

Whereas the Hispanic population of New Mexico has rich and distinct cultural roots in its historic land grants as recognized by the Treaty of Peace, Friendship, Limits, and Settlement between the United States and Mexico, signed at Guadalupe Hidalgo February 2, 1848, and entered into force May 30, 1848 (9. Stat. 922) (commonly referred to as the “Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo”);

Whereas New Mexico continues to derive strength from the new Hispanic communities in the State with roots in Latin America;

Whereas New Mexico has an extensive variety of prehistoric, tribal, and Hispanic archaeological ruins;

Whereas New Mexico has a long tradition of artistic expression inspired by its natural beauty, unique architecture, and diverse people;

Whereas the people of New Mexico have a proud history of military service, predating and continuing after statehood, including the participation of the people of New Mexico in every major war of the United States since the Civil War, with notable participation by the people of New Mexico in Teddy Roosevelt’s Rough Riders, the Navajo Code Talkers, the defense of Bataan and Corregidor, the wars in Korea and Vietnam, and the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan;

Whereas New Mexico is a center for scientific innovation and laboratory research, serving as the home to the Los Alamos National Laboratory and Sandia National Laboratories;

Whereas, on July 16, 1945, the United States Army conducted the Trinity test, the first test of a nuclear weapon, which was developed at Los Alamos National Laboratory and tested at the White Sands Proving Ground in New Mexico;

Whereas, in 1980, New Mexico dedicated the Very Large Array, one of the world’s premier astronomical radio observatories that studies the history of the universe;

Whereas, in October 2011, New Mexico dedicated Spaceport America, propelling New Mexico into the future with the first commercial spaceport;

Whereas New Mexico is home to the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta, the largest hot air balloon event in the world, which is also considered to be the most photographed event in the world;

Whereas New Mexico has a long history of agricultural sustainability and productivity, supporting cattle and dairy, as well as many crops, including chile, corn, wheat, onions, peanuts, pistachios, pecans, hay, cotton, and beans;

Whereas the Hatch Valley of New Mexico, known as the “Chile Capital of the World”, is recognized worldwide for its bountiful chile crop; and

Whereas New Mexico celebrated the centennial anniversary of its admission to the Union as the 47th State of the United States on January 6, 2012: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate recognizes the extraordinary history and heritage of the State of New Mexico, and honors and commends the State of New Mexico and its people on its centennial anniversary.

S. RES. 586

Whereas the term “infant mortality” refers to the death of a baby before the first birthday of the baby;

Whereas the United States ranks 49th among countries in the rate of infant mortality;

Whereas high rates of infant mortality are especially prevalent in African American, Native American, Alaskan Native, Latino, Asian, and Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander communities, communities with high

rates of unemployment and poverty, and communities with limited access to safe housing and medical providers;

Whereas premature birth is a leading cause of infant mortality;

Whereas, according to the Institute of Medicine of the National Academies, premature birth costs the United States more than \$26,000,000,000 annually;

Whereas infant mortality can be substantially reduced through community-based services, such as outreach, home visitation, case management, health education, and interconceptional care;

Whereas support for community-based programs to reduce infant mortality may result in lower future spending on medical interventions, special education, and other social services that may be needed for infants and children who are born with a low birth weight;

Whereas the Department of Health and Human Services, acting through the Office of Minority Health, has implemented the “A Healthy Baby Begins With You” campaign;

Whereas the Maternal and Child Health Bureau of the Health Resources and Services Administration has provided national leadership on the issue of infant mortality;

Whereas the Advisory Committee on Infant Mortality provides advice and recommendations to the Secretary of Health and Human Services on reducing infant mortality and improving the health status of infants and pregnant women;

Whereas the Advisory Committee on Infant Mortality provides advice and recommendations to the Secretary of Health and Human Services with respect to developing a national strategy for reducing infant mortality;

Whereas public awareness and education campaigns on infant mortality are held during the month of September each year; and

Whereas September 2012 has been designated as “National Infant Mortality Awareness Month”: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports—

(A) the goals and ideals of National Infant Mortality Awareness Month, 2012;

(B) efforts to educate people in the United States about infant mortality and the factors that contribute to infant mortality; and

(C) efforts to reduce infant deaths, low birth weight, pre-term births, and disparities in perinatal outcomes;

(2) recognizes the critical importance of including efforts to reduce infant mortality and the factors that contribute to infant mortality as part of prevention and wellness strategies; and

(3) calls on the people of the United States to observe National Infant Mortality Awareness Month with appropriate programs and activities.

S. RES. 587

Whereas high-quality afterschool programs provide safe, challenging, engaging, and fun learning experiences that help children and youth develop social, emotional, physical, cultural, and academic skills;

Whereas high-quality afterschool programs support working families by ensuring that the children in those families are safe and productive after the regular school day ends;

Whereas high-quality afterschool programs build stronger communities by involving students, parents, business leaders, and adult volunteers in the lives of children in the United States, thereby promoting positive relationships among children, youth, families, and adults;

Whereas high-quality afterschool programs engage families, schools, and diverse community partners in advancing the well-being of children in the United States;

Whereas “Lights On Afterschool”, a national celebration of afterschool programs held on October 18, 2012, highlights the critical importance of high-quality afterschool programs in the lives of children, their families, and their communities;

Whereas more than 28,000,000 children in the United States have parents who work outside the home and approximately 15,100,000 children in the United States have no place to go after school; and

Whereas nearly 2 in 5 afterschool programs report that their budgets are in worse condition today than at the height of the recession in 2008, and more than 3 in 5 afterschool programs report that their level of funding is lower than it was 3 years ago, making it difficult for afterschool programs across the United States to keep their doors open and their lights on: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate supports “Lights On Afterschool”, a national celebration of afterschool programs held on October 18, 2012.

S. RES. 588

Whereas on September 11, 2012, 4 American public servants, United States Ambassador to Libya John Christopher Stevens, Sean Smith, Tyrone Woods, and Glen Doherty, were killed in a reprehensible and vicious attack on the United States consulate in Benghazi, Libya;

Whereas Ambassador Stevens—

(1) was a courageous and exemplary representative of the United States;

(2) had spent 21 years in the Foreign Service;

(3) was deeply passionate about representing the United States through his diplomatic service; and

(4) was an ardent friend of the Libyan people;

Whereas Ambassador Stevens served as Special Envoy to the Libyan Transitional National Council in Benghazi during the 2011 Libyan revolution;

Whereas Ambassador Stevens was a dear friend of the Senate, having served on the staff of the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate in 2006 and 2007 as a distinguished Pearson Fellow;

Whereas Foreign Service Information Management Officer Sean Smith—

(1) was a husband and a father of 2 children;

(2) joined the Department of State 10 years ago after serving in the United States Air Force; and

(3) had served in the Foreign Service, before arriving in Benghazi, in Baghdad, Pretoria, Montreal, and The Hague;

Whereas Tyrone Woods was a husband and a father of three children, who, after two decades of service as a Navy SEAL that included tours in Iraq and Afghanistan, began working with the Department of State to protect United States diplomatic personnel;

Whereas Glen Doherty, after 12 years of service as a Navy SEAL that included tours in Iraq and Afghanistan, began working with the Department of State to protect United States diplomatic personnel;

Whereas the 4 Americans who perished in the Benghazi attack made great sacrifices and showed bravery in taking on a difficult post in Libya;

Whereas the violence in Benghazi coincided with an attack on the United States Embassy in Cairo, Egypt, which was also swarmed by an angry mob of protesters on September 11, 2012;

Whereas on a daily basis, United States diplomats, military personnel, and other public servants risk their lives to serve the American people; and

Whereas throughout this Nation’s history, thousands of Americans have sacrificed their

lives for the ideals of freedom, democracy, and partnership with nations and people around the globe.

Now, therefore, be it
Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the dedicated service and deep commitment of Ambassador John Christopher Stevens, Sean Smith, Tyrone Woods, and Glen Doherty in assisting the Libyan people as they navigate the complex currents of democratic transition marked in this case by profound instability;

(2) praises Ambassador Stevens, who represented the highest tradition of American public service, for his extraordinary record of dedication to the United States' interests in some of the most difficult and dangerous posts around the globe;

(3) sends its deepest condolences to the families of those American public servants killed in Benghazi;

(4) commends the bravery of Foreign Service Officers, United States Armed Forces, and public servants serving in harm's way around the globe and recognizes the deep sacrifices made by their families; and

(5) condemns, in the strongest possible terms, the despicable attacks on American diplomats and public servants in Benghazi and calls for the perpetrators of such attacks to be brought to justice.

S. RES. 589

Whereas small businesses represent 99.7 percent of all businesses having employees (commonly referred to as "employer firms") in the United States;

Whereas small businesses employ ½ of the employees in the private sector in the United States;

Whereas small businesses pay 44 percent of the total payroll of the employees in the private sector in the United States;

Whereas small businesses are responsible for more than 50 percent of the private, non-farm product of the gross domestic product;

Whereas small businesses generated 65 percent of net new jobs during the last 17 years;

Whereas small businesses generate 60 to 80 percent of all new jobs annually;

Whereas small businesses focus on 2 key strategies: deepening relationships with customers and creating value for customers;

Whereas, for every \$100 spent with locally owned, independent stores, \$68 returns to the community through local taxes, payroll, and other expenditures;

Whereas 92 percent of consumers in the United States agree that the success of small businesses is critical to the overall economic health of the United States;

Whereas 93 percent of consumers in the United States agree that small businesses contribute positively to the local community by supplying jobs and generating tax revenue;

Whereas 91 percent of consumers in the United States have small businesses in their community that the consumers would miss if the small businesses closed;

Whereas 99 percent of consumers in the United States agree that it is important to support the small businesses in their community; and

Whereas 90 percent of consumers in the United States are willing to pledge support for a "buy local" movement: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates November 24, 2012, as "Small Business Saturday"; and

(2) supports efforts—

(A) to encourage consumers to shop locally; and

(B) to increase awareness of the value of locally owned small businesses and the impact of locally owned small businesses on the economy of the United States.

S. RES. 585

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce a resolution, along with my colleague Senator TOM UDALL, recognizing the centennial anniversary of New Mexico's statehood.

For over 100 years, New Mexico, the "Land of Enchantment," has enriched the Nation with its magnificent landscapes, diverse people, and unique culture. New Mexico's road to statehood began in 1850 when the New Mexico Territory was established. Statehood was finally achieved on January 6, 1912 when President William Howard Taft signed the proclamation making New Mexico the 47th State of the Union. New Mexico's history long predates this, though, with the State's earliest inhabitants dating as far back as 11,000 B.C. The State's capitol, Santa Fe, is the oldest capital city in the United States, having been established by the Spanish in 1610.

New Mexico's beautiful deserts and mountains have been a magnet for visitors. It is no wonder that our State has inspired artists beginning with our earliest inhabitants. New Mexicans have a proud history of military service, and the State has served as a center for scientific innovation for over half a century through the national laboratories based there. Among New Mexico's agricultural products, its chile crop makes it the "Chile Capital of the World."

Given New Mexico's many contributions and accomplishments in its first 100 years as a State, and even before then, I am proud to introduce this resolution recognizing the extraordinary history and heritage of the State, and commending the State and its people on this centennial anniversary.

SIGNING AUTHORITY

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that from Saturday, September 22, through Tuesday, November 13, the majority leader and Senator LIEBERMAN be authorized to sign duly enrolled bills or joint resolutions.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection it is so ordered.

APPOINTMENTS AUTHORITY

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding the upcoming recess or adjournment of the Senate, the President of the Senate, the President pro tempore, and the majority and minority leaders be authorized to make appointments to commissions, committees, boards, conferences, or interparliamentary conferences authorized by law, by concurrent action of the two Houses, or by order of the Senate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO REPORT

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that notwith-

standing the Senate's recess, committees be authorized to report legislation and executive matters on Friday, November 2, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2012, THROUGH TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2012

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn and convene for pro forma sessions only, with no business conducted on the following dates and times, and that following each pro forma session, the Senate adjourn until the next pro forma session: Tuesday, September 25, at 9:30 a.m.; Friday, September 28, at 10 a.m.; Tuesday, October 2, at 11 a.m.; Friday, October 5, at 1 p.m.; Tuesday, October 9, at 11 a.m.; Friday, October 12, at 10:30 a.m.; Tuesday, October 16, at 10 a.m.; Friday, October 19, at 11 a.m.; Tuesday, October 23, at 1 p.m.; Friday, October 26, at 1 p.m.; Tuesday, October 30, at 10 a.m.; Friday, November 2, at 11 a.m.; Tuesday, November 6, at 11 a.m.; Friday, November 9, at 10 a.m.; and that the Senate adjourn on Friday, November 9, until 2 p.m. on Tuesday, November 13; that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; and that at 5:30 p.m. all postclosure time on the motion to proceed to S. 3525, the Sportsmen's Act, be yielded back and the Senate proceed to a vote on the motion to proceed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROGRAM

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, the next rollcall vote will be at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, November 13, 2012.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2012, AT 9:30 A.M.

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it adjourn under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 4:03 a.m., adjourned until Tuesday, September 25, 2012, at 9:30 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

MARILYN A. BROWN, OF GEORGIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY FOR A TERM EXPIRING MAY 18, 2017. (RE-APPOINTMENT)

VERA LYNN EVANS, OF TENNESSEE, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY FOR A TERM EXPIRING MAY 18, 2017. VICE WILLIAM H. GRAVES, TERM EXPIRED.

MICHAEL MCWHERTER, OF TENNESSEE, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY FOR A TERM EXPIRING MAY 18, 2016. VICE DENNIS BOTTORFF, TERM EXPIRED.

JOE H. RITCH, OF ALABAMA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY FOR A TERM EXPIRING MAY 18, 2016, VICE THOMAS C. GILLILAND, TERM EXPIRED.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

VINCENT G. LOGAN, OF NEW YORK, TO BE SPECIAL TRUSTEE, OFFICE OF SPECIAL TRUSTEE FOR AMERICAN INDIANS, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, VICE ROSS OWEN SWIMMER, RESIGNED.

NATIONAL FOUNDATION ON THE ARTS AND THE HUMANITIES

OLGA VISO, OF MINNESOTA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON THE ARTS FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 3, 2018, VICE WILLIAM FRANCIS PRICE, JR., TERM EXPIRED.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

ALAN F. ESTEVEZ, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE A PRINCIPAL DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, VICE FRANK KENDALL III.

DISCHARGED NOMINATIONS

COAST GUARD NOMINATION OF KENNETH T. BOYT, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

FOREIGN SERVICE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MICHAEL LEWIS AND ENDING WITH CAROLYN SHUCKEROW, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 10, 2012.

FOREIGN SERVICE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH BRIDGET C. BITTLE AND ENDING WITH DAVID J. ZANNI, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 10, 2012.

ROBERT STEPHEN BEECROFT, OF CALIFORNIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF IRAQ.

FEDERAL CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION REPORT

Nominee: Robert Stephen Beecroft

Post: Baghdad

(The following is a list of all members of my immediate family and their spouses. I have asked each of these persons to inform me of the pertinent contributions made by them. To the best of my knowledge, the information contained in this report is complete and accurate.)

Contributions, amount, date, and donee:

1. Self: None.
2. Spouse: Anne Tisdal Beecroft: None.
3. Children and Spouses: Blythe A. Beecroft: None. Robert Warren Beecroft: None. Sterling S. Beecroft: None. Grace A. Beecroft: None.
4. Parents: Robert L. Beecroft—deceased; Emma Lou Beecroft: None.
5. Grandparents: Irl R. Beecroft—deceased; Ruth V. Beecroft—deceased; John E. Warren—deceased; Emma Warren—deceased.
6. Brothers and Spouses: Warren E. Beecroft: \$100, May 2012, Romney; \$100, June 2012, Romney; Frances Beecroft: None. Edward R. Beecroft: None. JoAn Stopa Beecroft: None. Collin J. Beecroft: \$2,500, December 2011, Romney. Melinda K. Beecroft: None.
7. Sisters and Spouses: Robyn R. Ryskamp, None. Barry Ryskamp: None.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate Friday, September 21, 2012:

AMTRAK BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ALBERT DICLEMENTE, OF DELAWARE, TO BE A DIRECTOR OF THE AMTRAK BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR A TERM OF FIVE YEARS.

THE JUDICIARY

GONZALO P. CUIEL, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA.

ROBERT J. SHELBY, OF UTAH, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF UTAH.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

HEIDI SHYU, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY.

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

CATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. CHRISTOPHER C. BOGDAN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be brigadier general

COL. JON A. WEEKS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. ANDREW M. MUELLER

THE FOLLOWING AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12212:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. DONALD P. DUNBAR

THE FOLLOWING AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12212:

To be brigadier general

COL. GERARD F. BOLDUC, JR.

THE FOLLOWING AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12212:

To be brigadier general

COL. MATTHEW P. JAMISON

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADES INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be brigadier general

COLONEL DAVID O. SMITH

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be brigadier general

MICHAEL E. KLOSTER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be brigadier general

COL. GARRETT S. YEE

THE FOLLOWING ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. DEBORAH A. ASHENHURST

THE FOLLOWING ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. JUDD H. LYONS

BRIG. GEN. LEE E. TAFANELLI

THE FOLLOWING ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADES INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. KENDALL W. PENN

To be brigadier general

COL. KEITH A. KLEMMER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. MICHAEL R. SMITH

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. DAVID J. CONBOY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. FREDERICK B. HODGES

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED

WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. MARK S. BOWMAN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be brigadier general

COL. URAL D. GLANVILLE

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be vice admiral

REAR ADM. (LH) JAMES D. SYRING

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

SHARON ENGLISH WOODS VILLAROSA, OF TEXAS, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS, AND TO SERVE CONCURRENTLY AND WITHOUT ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION AS AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF SEYCHELLES.

DAWN M. LIBERI, OF FLORIDA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF CAREER MINISTER, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF BURUNDI.

STEPHEN D. MULL, OF VIRGINIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF CAREER MINISTER, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND.

WALTER NORTH, OF WASHINGTON, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF CAREER MINISTER, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO PAPUA NEW GUINEA, AND TO SERVE CONCURRENTLY AND WITHOUT ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION AS AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE SOLOMON ISLANDS AND AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF VANUATU.

RICHARD G. OLSON, OF NEW MEXICO, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF PAKISTAN.

JOSEPH E. MACMANUS, OF NEW YORK, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE VIENNA OFFICE OF THE UNITED NATIONS, WITH THE RANK OF AMBASSADOR.

JOSEPH E. MACMANUS, OF NEW YORK, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY, WITH THE RANK OF AMBASSADOR.

UNITED NATIONS

JOHN HARDY ISAKSON, OF GEORGIA, TO BE A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE SIXTY-SEVENTH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS.

PATRICK J. LEAHY, OF VERMONT, TO BE A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE SIXTY-SEVENTH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH WILLIAM R. BROWNFIELD AND ENDING WITH THOMAS ALFRED SHANNON, JR., WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 27, 2012.

NATIONAL FOUNDATION ON THE ARTS AND THE HUMANITIES

EMIL J. KANG, OF NORTH CAROLINA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON THE ARTS FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 3, 2018.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

KEVIN K. WASHBURN, OF NEW MEXICO, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

IN THE AIR FORCE

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ADAM D. AASEN AND ENDING WITH MARK C. ZWYGHUIZEN, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 23, 2012.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH LANCE A. AUMOPAS AND ENDING WITH ROBERT S. ZAUNER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 25, 2012.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JAMES H. ABBOTT AND ENDING WITH MARIO F. ZUNIGA, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 25, 2012.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF MICHAEL F. WENDELKEN, TO BE MAJOR.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MICHAEL M. HOWARD AND ENDING WITH PATRICK E. KNOESTER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON AUGUST 2, 2012.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH KARYN J. AYERS AND ENDING WITH JOHN M. TUDELA, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON AUGUST 2, 2012.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH KIMBERLY A. DALE AND ENDING WITH CHRISTOPHER B. VOGLER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON AUGUST 2, 2012.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF STEPHEN P. ROBERTS, TO BE COLONEL.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JEFFREY R. ALTHOFF AND ENDING WITH GREGORY T. MCCAIN, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 10, 2012.

IN THE ARMY

ARMY NOMINATION OF GREGORY S. ULMA, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF PATRICK P. METKE, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF DREW D. DUKETT, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF DAVID A. CORTESE, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF JEFFREY T. WHORTON, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF CHARLES J. ROMERO, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH TANASHA N. BENNETT AND ENDING WITH REIES M. FLORES, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON AUGUST 2, 2012.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH BRAD D. BEKKEDAHL AND ENDING WITH WILLIAM L. ZANA, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON AUGUST 2, 2012.

ARMY NOMINATION OF GEORGE C. STURGES, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH DAVID W. ACKER AND ENDING WITH D003093, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 10, 2012.

ARMY NOMINATION OF JOSEPH R. NEWCOMB, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF MOROHUNRANTI O. OGUNTOYE, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF AUGUST SEEBER, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ERIC J. ALBERTSON AND ENDING WITH D011234, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 10, 2012.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH STUART N. BURRUSS AND ENDING WITH ROBERT J. QUINKER III, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 10, 2012.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ANDRE B. ABADIE AND ENDING WITH G001060, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 10, 2012.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JOHN J. ACEVEDO AND ENDING WITH D010397, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 10, 2012.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JEFFREY S. BELL AND ENDING WITH MARK R. THORNTON, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 10, 2012.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH STEVEN E. BATTLE AND ENDING WITH LUZMIRA A. TORRES, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 10, 2012.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ANTHONY H. ADRIAN AND ENDING WITH JOHN F. WOYTE, WHICH NOMI-

NATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 10, 2012.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH FREDRIC N. AMIDON AND ENDING WITH ANNE E. YOUNG, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 10, 2012.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ELIZABETH A. BAKER AND ENDING WITH IAN J. TOLMAN, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 10, 2012.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH PATRICK M. ARIDA AND ENDING WITH ALI S. ZAZA, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 10, 2012.

IN THE NAVY

NAVY NOMINATION OF ALAN T. WAKEFIELD, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATION OF TASSOS J. SFONDOURIS, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH GLEN CABARCAS AND ENDING WITH RICARDO A. FERRA, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON AUGUST 2, 2012.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH CHUCK J. BROWDER AND ENDING WITH CHRISTOPHER K. TUGGLE, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON AUGUST 2, 2012.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH DANIEL ARANDA AND ENDING WITH CHAD J. STUEWE, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON AUGUST 2, 2012.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MATTHEW R. ALLEN AND ENDING WITH BRIAN T. WIERZBICKI, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON AUGUST 2, 2012.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH WILLIAM E. BLANKS AND ENDING WITH JEREMY J. WAGNER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON AUGUST 2, 2012.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH BRADLEY H. ABRAMOWITZ AND ENDING WITH ERIC A. WEISS, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON AUGUST 2, 2012.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH CHARITY A. BREIDENBACH AND ENDING WITH PHILLIP A. ZAMARRIPA, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON AUGUST 2, 2012.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH HENRY L. BUSH AND ENDING WITH STANLEY C. WARE, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON AUGUST 2, 2012.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH KYLE R. ALCOCK AND ENDING WITH SHEREE T. WILLIAMS, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON AUGUST 2, 2012.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JEREMIAH P. ANDERSON AND ENDING WITH AARON L. WOOLSEY, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON AUGUST 2, 2012.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MARK J. AID, JR. AND ENDING WITH BRIAN L. ZIMMERMAN, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON AUGUST 2, 2012.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH BRYCE D. ABBOTT AND ENDING WITH MAXWELL V. ZUJEWSKI, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON AUGUST 2, 2012.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH DEMETRIA L. AARON AND ENDING WITH AMY J. ZWETTLER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 10, 2012.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH TIMOTHY M. FRENCH AND ENDING WITH BRYAN E. WOOLDRIDGE, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE

AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 10, 2012.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH CEDRIC J. ABRON AND ENDING WITH CHADWICK Y. YASUDA, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 10, 2012.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH AMY H. ADAIR AND ENDING WITH DONAVON A. YAPSHING, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 10, 2012.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH VINCENT M. J. AMBROSINO AND ENDING WITH MARK VERHOVSHEK, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 10, 2012.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH KORY A. ANGLESEY AND ENDING WITH ADAM G. ZAJAC, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 10, 2012.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH EVAN D. ADAMS AND ENDING WITH HAROLD B. WOODRUFF, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 10, 2012.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH WALTER B. BLACKWELL AND ENDING WITH JAMES P. ZAKAR, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 10, 2012.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ELIZABETH A. ABAN AND ENDING WITH ELIZABETH M. ZULOAGA, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 10, 2012.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH THOMAS M. BROWN AND ENDING WITH RALPH G. S. YOUNG, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 10, 2012.

FOREIGN SERVICE

FOREIGN SERVICE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JOELLE-ELIZABETH BEATRICE BASTIEN AND ENDING WITH KENNETH R. PROPP, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 12, 2012.

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MELINDA ASTRAN AND ENDING WITH CHELSEA TRUE, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 25, 2012.

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH DONALD S. AHRENS AND ENDING WITH DIAMOND E. ZUCHLINSKI, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 25, 2012.

IN THE COAST GUARD

COAST GUARD NOMINATION OF KENNETH T. BOYT, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ROBERT STEPHEN BEECROFT, OF CALIFORNIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF IRAQ.

FOREIGN SERVICE

FOREIGN SERVICE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MICHAEL LEWIS AND ENDING WITH CAROLYN SHUCKEROW, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 10, 2012.

FOREIGN SERVICE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH BRIDGET C. BITTLE AND ENDING WITH DAVID J. ZANNI, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 10, 2012.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF ROHNERT PARK

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a city in my District on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of its establishment. Incorporated in 1962, Rohnert Park has become an integral part of Sonoma County's historical and cultural heritage.

The land that would become Rohnert Park was known as Rancho Cotate when it was granted by General Mariano Vallejo to one of his soldiers in 1844. During the next century, the land would change ownership many times and experience much development.

After World War II, when Sonoma County experienced a surge in growth, the City of Rohnert Park was conceived and developed by two Sonoma County lawyers, Paul Golis and Maurice Fredericks, who had a vision of a vibrant planned community in the heart of the valley. Their concept stressed the importance of "neighborhood units", groups of houses centered around schools and parks, in order to provide ample recreation to city-dwellers.

Through collaboration and hard work, Rohnert Park was established in 1962. Today it is proud to serve its residents with many recreational amenities and attractions. Rohnert Park is home to two municipal swimming pools, an 18-hole golf course, and bike, hiking, and equestrian trails. The city also contains Sonoma State University and the Green Music Center.

Mr. Speaker, Rohnert Park is an important city in the heart of Sonoma County. Please join me in honoring Rohnert Park on the occasion of its 50th anniversary.

PEACE CORPS DIRECTOR AARON
WILLIAMS

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and thank Director Aaron Williams for his invaluable service to the Peace Corps and our nation. As the Director throughout the past three years, Mr. Williams undeniably impacted the Peace Corps legacy. It is important that we recognize the importance of his contributions and the unique role the Peace Corps has played in our national and global community throughout his tenure.

Mr. Williams championed the ideals of the Peace Corps by bridging alliances with Minority Serving Institutions, enhancing the safety and security for the nine thousand volunteers serving abroad, and as President Obama noted, was essential in reforming and modern-

izing the agency. Sharing core American values with some of the world's most impoverished populations, his leadership these past three years reflects his service to the underrepresented and underprivileged.

Despite a complex, changing global climate, Mr. Williams dedicated tireless efforts to ensure the safety of the Peace Corps volunteers. I was proud to work closely with the Director to pass the Kate Puzey Peace Corps Volunteer Protection Act. This act expanded the Peace Corps' safety precautions by providing further protection for female volunteers who are particularly vulnerable while living in foreign countries. It also increased government accountability in responding to sexual assault through a Sexual Assault Advisory Council and protects the anonymity of volunteers who report sexual assault.

Mr. Williams understood that a better Peace Corps is a bigger Peace Corps, and he therefore fought for the necessary increase in volunteers. He successfully expanded programs throughout Colombia, Indonesia, and Sierra Leone. And I was proud to work in the Appropriations Committee to help the agency obtain the largest funding in its history.

Whether it was collaborative efforts with RCPV/W or promoting fundamental principles that make the Peace Corps and our country exceptional, Mr. Williams never wavered from his commitment to enhancing Peace Corps' outreach and capacity to serve diverse communities. Having served in the Peace Corps, I know firsthand the positive impacts that result from our Peace Corps programs and volunteers. Due to Mr. Williams' vision and leadership, the Peace Corps continues to lead the cause for peace, prosperity, and progress, and it has been strengthened for future generations. Again, I thank Mr. Williams. I am immensely grateful for his service, and most of all, his friendship.

RECOGNIZING SAINT MARY'S COLLEGE OR MORAGA, CALIFORNIA

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise with my colleague Congressman JOHN GARAMENDI to recognize and congratulate Saint Mary's College of Moraga, California, upon its 150th year of academic excellence in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Saint Mary's College was founded in 1863 in San Francisco as a liberal arts institution reflecting the life and work of the founder of the Christian Brothers, John Baptist de La Salle. The College was founded to serve some of California's earliest denizens, many of whom were immigrants with few resources and the first in their families to attend college. In 1928, after establishing a brief presence in Oakland, the college moved to its current location in Moraga, California.

Saint Mary's is a Lasallian Catholic College with a strong history of service to our country. In the 1940s, Saint Mary's joined the war effort in becoming the West Coast naval aviation training center. Lieutenant Gerald R. Ford of Michigan, who would later become President of the United States, was stationed at Saint Mary's for three years as he trained young pilots for duty in the Pacific Theatre. After the Second World War, Saint Mary's welcomed returning veterans studying on the G.I. Bill and continues to support our Veterans today through the Yellow Ribbon program.

St. Mary's rightfully boasts of a faculty composed of scholars at the top of their field with a devotion to teaching students to be engaged global citizens. Nearly 45,000 alumni have earned degrees at Saint Mary's, leading to every imaginable career path. The Graduate Business programs have produced scores of corporate leaders in businesses around the world, while the School of Education has produced world-class teachers who are in turn educating millions of students around the globe.

Saint Mary's is also proud of its extra-curricular programs. The athletic department has brought national and international attention to Northern California through athletic excellence in basketball, baseball, softball, crew, soccer, golf, and rugby. Furthermore, world-renowned artists, authors, scholars, musicians and political leaders share their unique talents not only with the student community, but with all of Northern California.

I invite my colleagues to join me in recognizing Saint Mary's College of Moraga, the faculty, staff, alumni and students as they celebrate 150 years of extraordinary success as an educational leader in the State of California.

SUPPORTING THE EFFORTS OF
THE GEORGIA AQUARIUM

HON. TOM PRICE

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the wonderful work being done by the Georgia Aquarium, which is located in the heart of downtown Atlanta. With more than 10 million gallons of water, the Georgia Aquarium is the world's largest with more aquatic life than any other aquarium, and six distinct galleries that portray diverse aquatic habitats, ranging from arctic to tropical waters. Since opening its doors in 2005, Georgia Aquarium has established itself as a leader in aquatic animal conservation and research. The results of this research are shared with the global zoological community for the enhancement of animals everywhere, thus showcasing Georgia as a global center of animal study.

Currently, Georgia Aquarium is one of only six accredited facilities in North America that is capable of providing care for beluga whales, a

• 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.

species which is presently listed by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature as “near-threatened” in its indigenous Arctic and sub-Arctic environment. In June 2012, the aquarium applied for a permit to import 18 beluga whales to the United States with the purpose of conducting research which must be done in human care, for the continued edification of aquarium guests, and to secure the sustainability of the population in North American zoological parks and aquariums. Applying this important research can help the scientific community better understand the growing problems beluga whales face in their natural habitats. This application is corroborated by a five-year research study, authenticated by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature, validating that the acquisition of beluga whales will have no damaging impact to the beluga population of origin.

Mr. Speaker, the extraordinary work the Georgia Aquarium has done in pursuing research and educating citizens is highly commendable. The aquarium’s recent efforts to study beluga whales will undoubtedly improve our scientific understanding of this threatened species. Therefore, I enthusiastically support Georgia Aquarium in its endeavor to increase the North American beluga population to help to maintain a sustainable population of whales in human care in certified facilities.

COMMEMORATING NORTHWESTERN
COLLEGE’S 110TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JUDY BIGGERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Northwestern College, which is celebrating its 110th year of preparing America’s students for success.

Since 1902, Northwestern College has honored the goals of its founder, J.F. Fish, to create employment opportunities by providing career-focused education. This distinguished institution is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission as well as several programmatic agencies, and it operates three outstanding campuses in the greater Chicago area, serving more than 2,100 students.

Offering Associate degrees in health sciences, legal studies, commerce and technology, and nursing—Northwestern College prepares students for a rewarding career in their chosen fields.

I am pleased to congratulate Northwestern College on its 110th Anniversary, and for its ongoing commitment to educating students in Chicago and around the country.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF VICTOR
CASCIO

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. Victor Cascio, Sr. His warmhearted connection with those who were fortunate to know him and his steadfast involvement in the Monroe, La. community will always be remembered.

Throughout his lifetime, Victor was a vibrant presence in the area. He won the hearts of many as a child star on KNOE-TV’s “Happiness Exchange,” and his family has graced Monroe with their superb ability as restaurateurs since World War II. The family venture began with his late mother Josephine’s “Spaghetti Garden” and culminating with The Chateau, a Louisville Avenue institution, where Victor hosted such celebrities as Liberace, Elvis, Donna Douglas of *Elly May Clampett* fame, Danny Thomas, and every Louisiana Governor from Big John McKeithen to Bobby Jindal.

Much of Victor’s life was spent in the public eye as a phenomenal host, friend, and role model for all, and when he finally closed the doors of The Chateau amid an outpouring of support in March of this year, it was with the goal of savoring a private life with his wife of 50 years, Marie.

Undeniably, the mark he made on our community will never fade. He had a gift for putting people at ease and creating an atmosphere that is not easily duplicated. In the letter of Saint Paul the Apostle to Timothy, (2 Timothy 2:8–13), Paul says “If we have died with him, we shall also live with him; if we persevere, we shall also reign with him.” As we fondly remember the life and accomplishments of Victor, he lived in the faith in which he believed.

To say that he left his fingerprint on the world would be an understatement. Victor Cascio brought joy to so many, and he will live in our hearts forever.

TRIBUTE TO BARNEY UHART

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great American and a great Alaskan. Barney Uhart, a devoted father and President Emeritus of Chugach Alaska Corporation, passed away on Saturday, September 8th after a lengthy battle with cancer.

Barney’s career with Chugach Alaska Corporation began in 1993, and in 2000, he became President and CEO. During his tenure, the company grew phenomenally, rising in revenue from \$19 million in 1993 to over \$1 billion in 2009. He was not only a charismatic leader and hard worker, but a close friend to many who worked with him over the years. His hard work and total commitment helped provide real, tangible, and ongoing benefits to the Native Shareholders of Chugach as he strove tirelessly to help fulfill the promises of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act. His contributions to making the SBA 8(a) program a resounding success, not only for Chugach, but for all Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians, and Native American Tribes, are truly outstanding, and we are all grateful to him for his achievements.

On July 6, 2012, Barney announced his retirement from Chugach to focus on his health and spend time with his family. The Board of Directors of Chugach Alaska Corporation appointed Barney “President Emeritus” in honor of his 19 years of service, dedication, and leadership.

Barney’s career with Chugach began when he joined Chugach Development Corporation (CDC) as Operations Manager. With a background in Engineering and Business Administration, his project experience in managing Base Operation Services (BOS) contracts in extremely remote locations began 33 years ago when he went to work on his first BOS contract in 1979 on Wake Island.

Barney told of his Wake Island initiation by saying, “I was living in Hawaii and one day I was helping a friend deliver office furniture to a place called Kentron International. I had no idea what they did, but it sounded like an exotic and exciting place to work where you would get to travel. The next day I put together a resume and slid it under the door. Then I had an interview, and after about 45 minutes, I thought the interview was over and I got up to leave when the manager said, ‘When can you leave?’ The following Tuesday I was on a plane to Wake Island in the mid-Pacific and I still didn’t know what Kentron International did.” Clearly, Barney never shied away from a new opportunity.

Born in Fresno, California in 1952, Barney moved to Hawaii in 1970 after high school and his father’s passing. During this time, the Vietnam War was still raging. Barney’s brother had already done two tours in Vietnam, and he expected to be drafted at any time. Regardless, he enrolled in the University of Hawaii and played baseball. Barney then worked general construction until he decided it wasn’t the area he wanted to pursue, and instead seized opportunity by the hand when he went to Wake on his first federal contract job.

In 1985 Barney spent a winter in Greenland on the Defense Early Warning (DEW) Line and was then offered a job as Superintendent of Administration for the DEW line, but declined because he didn’t want to spend another year in the Arctic. As a result, he left to work for his first SBA 8(a) company in Hampton, Virginia where he helped grow the company in revenue from \$200,000 to \$6 million a year.

In early 1988, Barney was offered a job with an SBA 8(a) company in Louisville, Kentucky, and was promoted to Vice-President of Operations. He moved into the Company’s new offices in Panama City, Florida. Later, he received a call from Mike Brown (Chugach’s President and CEO from 1992 to 1999) who was working at that time for PMC, a subsidiary of Arctic Slope Regional Corporation.

Mr. Brown received Barney’s name from someone who worked with him at Wake Island years before. Based on that recommendation, Mike wanted Barney to become the BOS contract Project Manager at Amchitka Island, on the Aleutian Chain. Not wanting to move to Amchitka Island, Barney declined the offer and went back to Florida. Five months later, Mr. Brown called him again and offered him a job as Manager of Special Projects in Anchorage.

Years later, Barney recalled with a laugh, “This time the position was in Anchorage, so I accepted, and one of the first jobs as Manager of Special Projects in Anchorage was to go out to Amchitka Island and evaluate the contract. So he kinda suckered me in with that one.”

While at PMC, the team he worked with received a Coast Guard contract, the Wake Island contract, and the contract to run Midway Island. By then he was Vice-President of Operations for PMC, when Mr. Brown, who had

gone to work for Chugach, along with Dusty Kaser (Chugach's President and CEO from mid to late 1999), recruited him again. His early work with Chugach Development Corporation (CDC) took him to Valdez for six months, and then to King Salmon for a year, and then to Adak, Alaska.

Barney recently recalled, "During that time, the Chugach management team started marketing the Wake Island contract and we took it away from PMC in 1996. So you can see that Wake has been in my blood for a while, then we received a contract for the Army Housing and Maintenance at Fort Richardson/Fort Wainwright in 1995."

By 1996, Barney became the Ops Manager for CDC and would often travel to the contract locations and oversee the start-ups. When he left to oversee the start-up of Wake for CAC, he returned full circle to the site from where he started 16 years earlier.

Barney later explained, "By then I had become the BOS Ops Manager for CAC working for Dusty Kaser and the team started getting more and more contracts. Then I was promoted to Vice-President of Ops for CAC, and when I came back from starting up MacDill in late 1999, I was offered the job as president of CAC." In May 2000, the Board of Directors of Chugach promoted Barney to the position of President/CEO and he served as both until 2009 when the position was split to select a qualified Chugach shareholder to lead as CEO.

Mr. Speaker, Chugach has become a shining example of an Alaskan Native Corporation that has succeeded and thrived, and one that has provided tremendous benefits to its Native Shareholders and employees. Barney deserves his full share of credit for this success.

There can be no clearer expression of the excellence that Barney, and Chugach, have achieved over the years, than the words of Barney himself. And so Mr. Speaker, I close with an additional quote from Barney Uhart, a leader, a friend, and a champion of doing the right thing, and of doing things right. He will be deeply missed and his memory will stay with us forever.

"How have we gotten to where we are today? The reason is simple—the people. All the people associated with Chugach are responsible for this success. From the wisdom and direction of the Board of Directors; the patience of the shareholders; the vision and perseverance of management; and the dedication and drive of all the employees, this is what has allowed us to succeed."

Mr. Speaker, May God bless and hold Barney Uhart and may He bless his family.

IN HONOR OF DIXON SAULS

HON. WALTER B. JONES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, in small towns across America, many special events are happening all the time, including high school football. On August 25, 2012, a special event happened in my small town of Farmville, North Carolina. The "R. Dixon Sauls Athletic Field"

at Farmville Central High School was dedicated to Coach Dixon Sauls. Coach Sauls, a Farmville native, coached football at the school from 1984 to 2007. Honor, integrity and class are the three words Athletic Director Larry Williford used to describe Coach Sauls, and in his usual humble way he accepted the honor and then began talking about everyone else who meant something to the Jaguar program.

I have known Dixon Sauls since his youth. I have followed his journey of life and sports. He graduated Valedictorian from Farmville High School in 1966 where he was an outstanding Red Devil football player who played quarterback and safety under Coach Elbert Moyer. He graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1970. He was the first of two sons, born in 1948 to Meta King Moore Sauls of Farmville, and Roland Dixon Sauls, a World War II veteran from Wayne County. His father died suddenly in 1956 when Dixon was just 8 years old and his brother, Fred, was just 5 years old. Dixon and Fred have been my close friends for many years, and I am grateful for their friendship. Today Coach Sauls is the devoted husband to Kathryn Finklea Sauls and father to beautiful daughters, Lindsay and Robyn.

In 1984, Coach Sauls came back home to coach. The Jaguars won 11 football conference championships during his tenure, and the 2003 squad was a state runner-up. He was the track coach for 19 years and the athletic director for eight years. He touched many lives during that time with his strong Christian faith, his stellar character and his faithfulness to his team and school. He instilled courage, compassion, respect and a hard work ethic in the young men he coached. Coach Sauls was a major father figure for many of the players. There is no question he left his mark on his players and his hometown for a lifetime.

It is teachers and coaches across our Nation like Dixon Sauls who are helping to build a better America because of their hard work and dedication. I remember one statement I read many years ago—"If you want to touch the past, touch a rock; if you want to touch the present, touch a flower; if you want to touch the future, touch a child." Dixon Sauls, because of your commitment to young people, you have earned this recognition. Your community, your family and friends join in celebration of a job well done. Congratulations.

HONORING TAIWAN NATIONAL DAY

HON. LYNN A. WESTMORELAND

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the people of the Republic of China on Taiwan as their day of National Celebration, October 10, 2012, approaches. This special day recognizes the founding of the country.

I would also like to highlight the economic success of the Republic of China on Taiwan over the last century. Beginning with very little economic activity just a few decades ago, the Republic of China on Taiwan has seen a pro-

found increase and now has a dynamic economy which is quickly becoming the envy of Asia.

Moreover, Taiwan has been a fair trading partner. Total trade with the United States reached an all-time high in 2011, and Taiwan is now our 10th largest goods-trading partner. Our relationship with Taiwan is a model for fair trade between countries which benefits both sides, a model we should highlight here today.

I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating the people of the Republic of China on Taiwan on their economic success and thanking them for their continued efforts to work with the United States to foster economic growth in our country. On the day of National Celebration the people of both the United States and the Republic of China on Taiwan have much to celebrate. We look forward to our continued relationship with Taiwan, and wish them the very best.

NATIONAL OVARIAN CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of women's health and in recognition of September as National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month. This year, it is estimated that 22,280 women will be diagnosed with ovarian cancer and that 15,500 women, including 620 from Illinois, will die from it. If ovarian cancer is diagnosed and treated before the cancer spreads outside of the ovary, the five-year survival rate is 93 percent. Unfortunately, only 15 percent of ovarian cancers are found at that stage.

Too many women are losing their lives to ovarian cancer, the deadliest of the gynecologic cancers. Because no screening or early detection tests exist today, many women are unaware that they are living with this disease until it is too late. We need to increase public education about the early warning signs because, as organizations such as the Ovarian Cancer National Alliance stress, "until there's a test, awareness is best." Treating this disease before it has spread beyond the ovary significantly increases the survival rate. At the same time, we need more than awareness—we need to continue the medical research required to develop the screening tests that will save women's lives.

Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month helps increase awareness of ovarian cancer and focus attention on the continued need for innovative research efforts to identify screening and early detection tests for ovarian cancer.

I commend the Ovarian Cancer National Alliance, including their Partner Member groups CCare Lynch Syndrome, Bright Pink, and FORCE of Chicago, for their steadfast commitment to making women aware of the risk factors, signs, and symptoms of ovarian cancer and for their advocacy on behalf of women and families touched by this devastating disease. I urge my colleagues to help make women aware of the potential warning signs of this disease and to continue to support ovarian cancer research efforts.

IN HONOR OF THE HONORABLE
JUDGE DONNA CONGENI FITZ-
SIMMONS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Honorable Judge Donna Congeni Fitzsimmons, who is the recipient of Recovery Resources' Community Challenge 2012 Exemplar Award.

Recovery Resources is a community-based nonprofit organization with a mission of helping people triumph over mental illness, alcoholism, drug and other addictions. The Exemplar Award, established in 2006, celebrates members of the local community who have demonstrated a long and distinguished record of exemplary service and support for Recovery Resources' Community Challenge program.

Judge Fitzsimmons graduated with a bachelor's degree from Boston College and earned her law degree from George Washington University in 1976. She began her career in public service in 1977 as an Assistant Cuyahoga County Prosecutor. In 1980, she became the first woman to be appointed as Special Attorney in the U.S. Department of Justice, Organized Crime Strike Force in Cleveland. During her tenure as Special Attorney, Judge Fitzsimmons served as the lead prosecutor in the U.S. v. Lonardo, Gallo, et al case, in which she successfully convicted the former Cleveland Mafia boss, Angelo Lonardo in 1983. In 1984, she was appointed Deputy Counsel to President Reagan's commission on Organized Crime in Washington, DC and served in this position until 1985 when she entered private practice at the law firm of Atter & Hadden.

On January 1, 1994, Judge Fitzsimmons assumed the role of Judge of the Rocky River Municipal Court and has been serving on the bench since. In 1997, she was appointed Chair of the Cuyahoga County Violence Against Women Act Committee and as the Municipal Court representative to the Cuyahoga County Criminal Justice Supervisory Services Board. As her career continued, Judge Fitzsimmons would be appointed to the Ohio Supreme Court's Court Security Committee, Criminal Procedure Committee and Jury Service Committee.

In addition to her career, Judge Fitzsimmons is an active member of the Northeast Ohio community. She has served on Fairview Hospital's Community Advisory Board, as a trustee for Community Challenge, charter member of the Fairview High School Alumni Hall of Fame and an honorary chair for the Center for Prevention of Domestic Violence's Annual Break the Silence Luncheon. She also established the Stalking Victim Support Group and was a member of the Board of Trustees for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

Throughout her career, Judge Fitzsimmons has been recognized numerous times. She has been named Cleveland's Italian Heritage Committee Public Service Honoree 2011, "Gem of Cleveland" by the Junior League of Cleveland, and has received the Columbian Award from the Federation of Italian-American Societies of Northern Ohio. She has also been recognized by the Women's Center of Greater Cleveland.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in congratulating Recovery Resources' Com-

munity Challenge 2012 Exemplar Award winner, the Honorable Judge Donna Congeni Fitzsimmons.

RECOGNIZING MIKE FLYNN, RE-
CIPIENT OF THE WASHING-
TONIAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Mike Flynn on being honored with the Washingtonian of the Year award from the Association of Washington Generals. This annual award is given to a citizen of Washington State for outstanding community service.

Mr. Flynn worked for 24 years as the editor and publisher of the Puget Sound Business Journal. In that position, he was widely recognized throughout the region's business community. He led the newspaper with a vision of not only reporting on the business sector, but using the print medium to foster valuable relationships throughout the community.

In 2006, Mr. Flynn retired from the Puget Sound Business Journal and turned his focus to community and non-profit causes. In that time, he has served on the boards of various community organizations. He continues to be dedicated to building relationships, helping start-up entrepreneurs, and expanding opportunities in rural areas.

Each year, the Association of Washington Generals awards the Washingtonian of the Year award to someone who has shown special dedication to serving Washington State. The Association is proud of the unique characteristics of Washington State—ranging from our State's outstanding physical beauty to the people who strive to make Washington a better place to call home. The Washingtonian of the Year embodies the Association's devotion to improving our State's communities.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize Mike Flynn. His dedication to serving our community is an inspiration to others.

CONGRATULATING ANNETTE
STASSI

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to congratulate Annette Stassi for being selected Queen Evangeline of the International Acadian Festival in Iberville Parish. Annette is a 17-year-old senior at St. John High School in Plaquemine, La.

The International Acadian Festival is sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, Council #970 of Plaquemine, which is the third oldest Council in Louisiana.

It is always outstanding to see the diligence with which the young students of Louisiana work to give back and better their communities. I have the highest confidence that Annette will succeed in whatever endeavors she pursues.

I ask my colleagues to join me in passing good wishes to Annette Stassi, her family, and the entire International Acadian Festival. Annette is truly deserving of this recognition.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 585, I was unavoidably detained and could not be present for last night's rollcall vote on H.R. 5044, the Andrew P. Carpenter Tax Act. I am a cosponsor and strong supporter of this legislation, which would provide tax relief from any amounts of private educational loans forgiven for service members who lost their lives in the line of duty since the beginning of Operation Enduring Freedom in October of 2001. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

IN SUPPORT OF WORKERS AND
THE SERVICES THEY PROVIDE
TO MEDICARE PATIENTS

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend America's home healthcare workers who provide services to millions of patients, including many Medicare beneficiaries, who are homebound and require skilled care. These skilled and dedicated workers are among the unsung heroes in the effort to contain the cost of healthcare without sacrificing the quality of service provided to patients. Today, there are more than 40 million seniors in the United States, 12 percent of the population. In 20 years, that number will increase to 70 million, or 20 percent of the population. More than 27 million of these individuals are over age 70, and more than 1 million are over the age of 80. Further, more than 43 million people in the United States, 19 percent of the population, provide care for an elderly family member or friend.

Mr. Speaker, many healthcare treatments that were once offered only in a hospital or a physician's office can now be safely, effectively, and efficiently provided in patients' homes by skilled clinicians. Home healthcare is generally less expensive, more convenient, and as effective as care provided in a hospital or skilled nursing facility. Home healthcare can serve as an intermediate level of care for patients who have difficulty accessing outpatient care or who need intensive assistance with an acute or chronic health problem.

Skilled home healthcare services funded under Medicare Part A and B are safe, effective, affordable, clinically advanced, and patient preferred.

A case study conducted by the Veterans' Administration (VA) illustrates the benefits of home healthcare. The VA has provided comprehensive primary care services to veterans in their homes since 1972 in an effort to keep patients in their homes and reduce inpatient hospital days. The program was specifically

designed to target patients with complex chronic diseases through an interdisciplinary team of health professionals. This program showed a reduction in inpatient hospital days by 62 percent, and a reduction in nursing home bed days by 88 percent. This translated into a reduction in the cost of care from \$38,000 to \$29,000 per patient per year for patients enrolled in the program (a 24 percent reduction).

The Medicare program continues to increase in importance in my home state of California, where our senior population is increasing dramatically. The percentage of Californians age 60 and older is expected to grow from 6.4 percent in 2010 to 11.5 percent by 2030, according to the California Department of Aging. In my district, there are currently 63,053 Medicare recipients. I am committed to preserving benefits for current recipients and those nearing retirement, while guaranteeing the program's solvency for future generations of Americans.

For these reasons, I urge my colleagues to join me in support of Medicare's Skilled Home Healthcare Services act.

A TRIBUTE TO LYNETTE M.
BROWN-SOW

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Lynette M. Brown-Sow for her dedication in the field of healthcare and service to the city of Philadelphia. Lynette is a great example how one can use their expertise to achieve success while also contributing to the community.

As Vice President for Marketing and Government Relations at Community College of Philadelphia, a position she has held since 1995, Lynette has engaged communities, businesses, and governments in constructing frameworks that promote progress and prosperity. Her outstanding work was rewarded in 2009 when she was named Communicator of the Year. Lynette has done significant work in the behavioral healthcare field. She serves on the board of Directors of the Consortium, which named its newest service center the Lynette M. Brown center of hope.

In 1991, Philadelphia Mayor Edward G. Rendell appointed Lynette Deputy Mayor of Administration. In 2007, Lynette co-chaired Philadelphia Mayor Michael A. Nutter's transition team and was appointed as vice-chair of the Philadelphia Zoning Board of Adjustment.

Lynette is the founder and chairman of the Hardy Williams Education Fund, a nonprofit organization that provides support for educational endeavors and scholarships for people interested in careers in law, government, or social action; and founder of L.M Brown Management Group, a certified minority/female-owned consultant firm.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to join me in honoring Lynette M. Brown-Sow for her successful endeavors and major contributions to the city of Philadelphia.

IN HONOR OF THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NEW KENSINGTON AREA ROTARY CLUB

HON. MARK S. CRITZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. CRITZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the New Kensington Area Rotary Club on the occasion of its 75th anniversary. Since its inception, this great international service organization has operated according to its motto of "service above self," providing support to our troops and to laudable philanthropic causes in southwestern Pennsylvania and throughout the world.

In addition to providing support to local chapters of Meals on Wheels, the Salvation Army, Habitat for Humanity and the YMCA, the New Kensington Area Rotary Club has sponsored efforts to promote literacy at local elementary schools, held Santa breakfasts for local needy children, sent clothing, shoes and other needed materials to needy communities in Appalachia and provided computers to St. Joseph's Indian School on the Cheyenne Indian Reservation in South Dakota. It has also worked to improve lives in disadvantaged and medically underserved communities abroad, performing water projects in Uganda, supporting the effort to eliminate the global Polio epidemic and participating in national immunization days in India, Venezuela and elsewhere.

To honor the selfless efforts its members have made to promote peace and prosperity throughout the world over the last 75 years, the New Kensington Area Rotary Club will hold an Anniversary Gala on October 23rd at the Oakmont Country Club in Oakmont, Pennsylvania. It is my most sincere hope that this event brings pride and fulfillment to all those who have had a hand in making the New Kensington Area Rotary club one of Southwestern Pennsylvania's most successful community service organizations.

Mr. Speaker, I am extremely proud to represent the members of the New Kensington Area Rotary Club in Congress; everyone should attempt to emulate their abiding generosity and kindness. I have every expectation that their great organization will continue to accomplish charitable feats of international significance for years to come.

IN SUPPORT OF FUNDING FOR THE ORAL HEALTH CARE PROVISIONS IN HEALTH CARE REFORM

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because we can no longer afford to treat oral health as separate from general health.

The mouth is a part of the body, and dental care must be part of comprehensive care. Oral diseases and disorders can cause severe pain, malnutrition, and even death if left untreated.

But because oral care has long been excluded from comprehensive care, thousands of families and children are left without dental

care. Twenty-two percent of all out-of-pocket spending in the U.S. is spent on dental care, and dental decay is the most common chronic childhood disease.

Our workforce loses 164 million work hours each year due to dental problems, and close to half of military recruits in 2008 were ineligible for deployment due to dental issues.

This is unacceptable. We can, and must, do better than this.

We must preserve funding for the Maternal and Child Health Block Grant, and fully fund the many oral health care provisions in Health Care Reform. The mouth is part of the body, and must be treated as such.

RECOGNIZING UNION COUNTY VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL OF UNION COUNTY, NEW JERSEY FOR BEING NAMED A BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

HON. LEONARD LANCE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. LANCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Union County Vocational-Technical High School of Union County, New Jersey for being named a Blue Ribbon School by the United States Department of Education.

The Department of Education acknowledges schools where students attain and maintain high academic goals. Union County Vocational-Technical High School is proud example of academic excellence where students have high levels of performance, stellar student achievement, and where educators facilitate a strong learning environment.

This is a prestigious award to receive and Union County Vocational-Technical High School is proud example of academic excellence and worthy of this national distinction.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, on September 19, 2012, I missed rollcall vote No. 585. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following manner:

Rollcall No. 585, "aye."

FREE SPEECH, UNJUSTIFIED VIOLENCE AND HYPOCRISY

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, the recent death of several American diplomats is an outrageous example of wholly unjustified violence that must be unconditionally condemned. The fact that some people were angry because of what other people put into a movie does not begin to be a justification for violence, even against those who made the movie, and it is certainly, not remotely in any

logical world, an excuse for the murder of people wholly uninvolved in this.

The question of the judgment of the people who made that terrible movie must be kept entirely separate from the question of whether or not there was any justification for any of the violence that it caused. The answer is, without any doubt, that there was not.

It is bad enough when some leaders of the Muslim world suggest that there was some justification for killing people because someone felt that their religion was insulted. This error is compounded by the extraordinary hypocrisy involved when many of those who declaim what they found insulting are themselves guilty of equal vituperation of other religions and ethnic groups.

In an extraordinary, eloquent and thoughtful column in the *New York Times* for September 19th, Thomas L. Friedman, a balanced commentator on the Middle East who has often been very sympathetic to the legitimate concerns of Muslim people, wrote an excellent column on the essentiality of free speech, the absolutely unjustified nature of violence, and the hypocrisy to which I just alluded—and to which, to be honest, I was not paying enough attention until I read Mr. Friedman's column.

As Mr. Friedman says, "an insult—even one as stupid and ugly as the anti-Islam video on YouTube that started all of this—does not entitle people to go out and attack embassies and kill innocent diplomats. That is not how a proper self-governing people behave. There is no excuse for it. It is shameful." Mr. Friedman goes on to note, with regard to some in the Muslim community who have been demanding that America apologize for this, said "they might to look at the chauvinistic bile that is pumped out by some of their own media . . . insulting Shiites, Jews, Christians, Sufis and anyone else who is not a Sunni, or Fundamentalist, Muslim."

Thomas Friedman's column should be very widely read, both because he has earned the right to be taken very seriously on the crisis in the Middle East, and because of its wisdom and eloquence.

[From the *New York Times*, Sept. 18, 2012]

LOOK IN YOUR MIRROR

(By Thomas Friedman)

On Monday, David D. Kirkpatrick, the Cairo bureau chief for *The Times*, quoted one of the Egyptian demonstrators outside the American Embassy, Khaled Ali, as justifying last week's violent protests by declaring: "We never insult any prophet—not Moses, not Jesus—so why can't we demand that Muhammad be respected?" Mr. Ali, a 39-year-old textile worker, was holding up a handwritten sign in English that read: "Shut Up America." "Obama is the president, so he should have to apologize!"

I read several such comments from the rioters in the press last week, and I have a big problem with them. I don't like to see anyone's faith insulted, but we need to make two things very clear—more clear than President Obama's team has made them. One is that an insult—even one as stupid and ugly as the anti-Islam video on YouTube that started all of this—does not entitle people to go out and attack embassies and kill innocent diplomats. That is not how a proper self-governing people behave. There is no excuse for it. It is shameful. And, second, before demanding an apology from our president, Mr. Ali and the young Egyptians,

Tunisians, Libyans, Yemenis, Pakistanis, Afghans and Sudanese who have been taking to the streets might want to look in the mirror—or just turn on their own televisions. They might want to look at the chauvinistic bile that is pumped out by some of their own media on satellite television stations and Web sites or sold in sidewalk bookstores outside of mosques—insulting Shiites, Jews, Christians, Sufis and anyone else who is not a Sunni, or fundamentalist, Muslim. There are people in their countries for whom hating "the other" has become a source of identity and a collective excuse for failing to realize their own potential.

The Middle East Media Research Institute, or Memri, was founded in 1998 in Washington by Yigal Carmon, a former Israeli government adviser on counterterrorism, "to bridge the language gap between the Middle East and the West by monitoring, translating and studying Arab, Iranian, Urdu and Pashtu media, schoolbooks, and religious sermons." What I respect about Memri is that it translates not only the ugly stuff but the courageous liberal, reformist Arab commentators as well. I asked Memri for a sampler of the hate-filled videos that appear regularly on Arab/Muslim mass media. Here are some:

ON CHRISTIANS Hasan Rahimpur Azghadi of the Iranian Supreme Council for Cultural Revolution: Christianity is "a reeking corpse, on which you have to constantly pour eau de cologne and perfume, and wash it in order to keep it clean." <http://www.memritv.org/clip/en/1528.htm>—July 20, 2007.

Sheik Al-Khatib al-Baghdadi: It is permissible to spill the blood of the Iraqi Christians—and a duty to wage jihad against them. <http://www.memri.org/report/en/0/0/0/0/0/5200.htm>—April 14, 2011.

Abd al-Aziz Fawzan al-Fawzan, a Saudi professor of Islamic law, calls for "positive hatred" of Christians. Al-Majd TV (Saudi Arabia), <http://www.memritv.org/clip/en1992.htm>—Dec. 16, 2005.

ON SHIITES The Egyptian Cleric Muhammad Hussein Yaaqub: "Muslim Brotherhood Presidential Candidate Mohamed Morsi told me that the Shiites are more dangerous to Islam than the Jews." www.memritv.org/clip/en13466.htm—June 13, 2012.

The Egyptian Cleric Mazen al-Sirsawi: "If Allah had not created the Shiites as human beings, they would have been donkeys." <http://www.memritv.org/clip/en13101.htm>—Aug. 7, 2011.

The Sipah-e-Sahaba Pakistan video series: "The Shiite is a Nasl [Race/Offspring] of Jews." <http://www.memri.org/report/en/0/0/0/0/51/6208.htm>—March 21, 2012.

ON JEWS Article on the Muslim Brotherhood's Web site praises jihad against America and the Jews: "The Descendants of Apes and Pigs." <http://www.memri.org/report/en10/0/0/0/51/6656.htm>—Sept. 7, 2012.

The Pakistani cleric Muhammad Raza Saqib Mustafai: "When the Jews are wiped out, the world would be purified and the sun of peace would rise on the entire world." <http://www.menuiorg/report/en/0/0/0/0/51/6557.htm>—Aug. 1, 2012.

Dr. Ismail Ali Muhammad, a senior Al-Azhar scholar: The Jews, "a source of evil and harm in all human societies." <http://www.memri.org/report/en10/0/0/0/0/51/6086.htm>—Feb. 14, 2012.

ON SUFIS A shrine venerating a Sufi Muslim saint in Libya has been partly destroyed, the latest in a series of attacks blamed on ultraconservative Salafi Islamists. <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-19380083>—Aug. 26, 2012.

As a Jew who has lived and worked in the Muslim world, I know that these expressions of intolerance are only one side of the story and that there are deeply tolerant views and strains of Islam espoused and practiced there as well. Theirs are complex societies.

That's the point. America is a complex society, too. But let's cut the nonsense that this is just our problem and the only issue is how we clean up our act. That Cairo protester is right: We should respect the faiths and prophets of others. But that runs both ways. Our president and major newspapers consistently condemn hate speech against other religions. How about yours?

IN REMEMBRANCE OF SAUL MINTZ

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and memory of Mr. Saul Mintz, whose ardent presence as a family man, business man, and philanthropist in Monroe, La., will be sorely missed.

Mr. Mintz was brilliant in business, opening the very successful Strauss Interests with his wife, Jean, many years ago, but he will be remembered more for his community philanthropy than his genius for the market. A family man and mentor by nature, many of his crowning philanthropic works bettered the lives of children in 12 parishes in our area.

The Children's Coalition for Northeast Louisiana received their first donation 15 years ago from the Mintz family, and Mr. Mintz was with the Coalition every step of the way thereafter, lending not only financial, but also social and philosophical support. Similarly, he and his wife were steadfast supporters of the Strauss Theatre and were integral to the establishment of a children's theatre, among many other institutions.

In reflecting on his life, Mr. Mintz said "I don't think too many people have been submitted to so many opportunities as I. So, it would be irresponsible if I didn't take advantage of what God [has] given me to try to leave a better future for others." His grateful spirit and humble generosity have won him a spot in the hearts of everyone who knew him, and he serves as a reminder of the responsibility that we all have to give what we can and take care of one another in our families and communities.

When we look back on Mr. Mintz's life, we see a life of giving. Not only did he personally do everything he could to better our community, he also preached about the joy of giving generously and helping others to anyone who would listen. For his three children, 10 grandchildren, one great grandchild, and for all of us, the way in which Mr. Mintz led his life should be emulated. We are all grateful to have known him and will never forget what a beautiful and civic-minded person he was.

To say Mr. Mintz left his fingerprint on the world would be an understatement. Countless lives have been changed for the better by his efforts, and he will stay in the hearts of Louisianians forever.

RECOGNIZING TERRE JONES ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE WOLF TRAP FOUNDATION FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise along with my colleagues, Rep. FRANK WOLF and Rep. JIM MORAN, to recognize and commend Terrence D. "Terre" Jones on the occasion of his retirement after 17 years of distinguished service as President and CEO of the Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts. Terre's career in the performing arts spans more than 40 years, and he leaves a rich legacy both on and off the stage that will benefit the arts community and Northern Virginia for years to come.

During his tenure, Terre helped fulfill and then expand Wolf Trap's mission of providing a world-class platform for aspiring and accomplished artists alike at the majestic Filene Center and the 18th century Barns at Wolf Trap. Thanks to his innovative spirit, the Foundation continues to set new attendance and fundraising records. As the guiding force behind America's only National Park for the Performing Arts, Terre has positioned Wolf Trap as a leader not only in the arts, but also in connecting education, technology and environmental stewardship through the arts and inspiring passion for those pursuits in a new generation. And though its artistic scope is on the national and global stages, Terre has made sure that Wolf Trap also is a resource for our local communities.

In 2003, Terre helped lead the fund-raising effort to establish a National Center for Education on the Wolf Trap campus. Wolf Trap's education programs focus on early childhood arts education and also serve as a resource for the entire community, particularly local school children. More recently, Wolf Trap received a competitively awarded grant from the U.S. Department of Education to demonstrate the effectiveness of the arts in advancing STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) learning for young children.

Terre also has strengthened Wolf Trap's connection to its environmental roots. In 2007, he launched the Foundation's "Go Green" program with the stretch goal of making Wolf Trap carbon neutral. To date, the program has decreased the park's carbon footprint by 20% and cut landfill waste in half. Wolf Trap has been designated as a Climate Friendly Park by the EPA and National Park service. Terre also led the effort to establish the National Council on the Arts and Environment and a partnership with the Aspen Institute on a nationwide Summit on the Arts and the Environment.

Prior to taking the helm at Wolf Trap, Terre served as CEO and artistic Director of the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts at the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana. He previously served as General Manager of Clowes Memorial Hall in Indianapolis, Assistant Dean of the College of Fine Arts at Butler University, and he also founded the Bradford Repertory Theater in Vermont.

Throughout his distinguished career, Terre has received local and national recognition.

He received the Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award from his alma mater, the University of Kansas, was named Washingtonian of the Year in 2006 by Washingtonian Magazine, and was recognized by his peers with the Fan Taylor Distinguished Service Award from the Association of Performing Arts Presenters. During his tenure as Foundation president, Wolf Trap also has received numerous awards and accolades.

Beyond these accomplishments, we want to recognize Terre's exemplary role not just as an arts advocate and executive, but also as an individual. When asked in an interview what he loves most about his job, he said: "People—I don't think you could do this job if you didn't enjoy people and didn't like being around people." We can all recognize and appreciate Terre's unequivocal commitment to his craft and our community.

Mr. Speaker, Terre Jones has left a tangible, lasting imprint on the rich history of our National Park for the Performing Arts, and his legacy will continue to inspire a new generation of artists. We wish Terre, his wife, Polly, and their family the continued success as he enters this next act of his life, and we ask our colleagues to join us in expressing our appreciation for his tremendous contributions to the arts, our nation and the Northern Virginia community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I was unavoidably detained and missed the following votes:

1. H.R. 5044, the Andrew Carpenter Tax Act, as amended. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on this bill.

2. H.R. 5912, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to prohibit the use of public funds for political party conventions, and to provide for the return of previously distributed funds for deficit reduction, as amended. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on this bill.

IN HONOR OF ARMENIAN STATEHOOD DAY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Armenian Statehood Day. As the Armenian community in Greater Cleveland gathers to celebrate, I join them in appreciation of their rich history and culture.

September 21, 1991, marks the day that Armenia restored its independence by becoming the first republic proclaiming independence from the Soviet Union. Armenia was originally established by the Artashisian Dynasty in 189 BC. Following hundreds of years of invasions, the last Armenian kingdom fell at the onset of the 14th century. The first Armenian democratic republic was not established until 1918, which followed the Armenian Genocide in

1915. Unfortunately, just two years later, in 1920, the Armenians were occupied by the Soviet Union until they declared sovereignty in 1991.

Cleveland is home to a strong Armenian community which has succeeded in preserving their heritage while wholeheartedly supporting American society, thereby contributing to the unique richness and diversity of our national culture.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and celebration of Armenian Statehood Day. May every American of Armenian heritage hold memories of their past forever in their hearts, remembering the day that their forbears gained their freedom.

RECOGNIZING MASTER SERGEANT MICHAEL HUNTER

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Master Sergeant Michael S. Hunter of the 1st Special Forces Group from Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington, who has received the Silver Star and the Bronze Star with Valor. These medals were awarded by Major General Jeffrey Buchanan, 1 Corps Deputy Commanding General on September 12, 2012.

Master Sergeant Hunter performed many heroic acts during his deployment to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. He helped execute a joint raid with 28 Afghan commandos and three other American special operators. Master Sergeant Hunter put himself in danger to protect others and led the way for the U.S. and Afghan special operators. In June 2010, he delivered medical assistance to two injured soldiers during a long 16 hour firefight.

His courageous actions earned him the Silver Star and Bronze Star with Valor. The Silver Star is the Nation's third highest medal for combat valor and ranked fifth in military awards. Master Sergeant Hunter's award is also the highest for combat valor that is not unique to a specific service branch.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize Master Sergeant Hunter for receiving the Silver Star and the Bronze Star. I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing our great appreciation for his dedication to protect and serve our country.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE UNVEILING OF A STATUE OF FREDERICK DOUGLAS IN THE UNITED STATES CAPITOL

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an important milestone for our nation's Capitol. The statue of abolitionist leader, Frederick Douglass, will soon grace the halls of the United States Capitol. This effigy will serve as a reminder of the hard work of this great American and civil rights leader

who was committed to the freedom and equal rights of all Americans.

Frederick Douglass is often called the father of the civil rights movement. Born a slave in Maryland around 1818, he taught himself how to read and write at a young age despite the ban forbidding slaves to be literate. It was by reading newspapers and political writings that Douglass developed his ideology on the opposition of slavery.

Douglass attempted to escape from slavery twice before he succeeded on his third attempt with the help of his future wife, Anna Murray. After they married in 1838 and settled in New Bedford, Massachusetts, Douglass became a regular lecturer in opposition of slavery. He also spoke out in support of women's rights. With the help of his bestselling autobiographies, Frederick Douglass quickly became one of the most famous African Americans in the country.

During the Civil War, Douglass gave council to President Abraham Lincoln and President Andrew Johnson on the treatment of black soldiers and the importance of black suffrage. After the war, he was appointed to several political positions and, as Victoria Woodhull's running mate on the Equal Rights Party ticket in 1872, became the first African American nominated for the office of Vice President of the United States. Douglass continued to fight for the rights of African-Americans, women, and minority groups until his death in 1895.

To honor the life and accomplishments of this abolitionist, human rights and women's rights activist, orator, author, journalist, publisher, and social reformer, the United States Congress has approved a bill that would allow the District of Columbia to display his statue in our Capitol. The statue, designed and completed by architect Steven Weitzman, was commissioned by D.C. to present to the Capitol as a gift.

Frederick Douglass had said, "If there is no struggle, there is no progress." Despite his many struggles in the bonds of slavery, he rose to prominence through his determination and fervor. His vision for America was that all Americans would be equal and free of discrimination and he worked tirelessly to share this vision with others and to help it become a reality. The progress we have made as a nation would not have been possible without the leadership and influence of great leaders like Frederick Douglass.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the people of the Second Congressional District of Georgia, I ask my colleagues to join me today in paying tribute to a strong leader and inspiring visionary, Frederick Douglass. It is my hope that all the visitors to our Capitol will see his statue and remember all the valuable contributions made to our nation by this great human rights advocate.

CELEBRATING THE NEW JERSEY
COUNCIL FOR THE HUMANITIES

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the forty years of service that the New Jersey Council for the Humanities has provided for my constituents in the

twelfth congressional district and for residents throughout New Jersey. It is only appropriate that I take time in advance of October, National Arts and Humanities Month, to honor the important work that the Council does to engage New Jerseyans in discussions of history, literature, and culture that help residents reflect on our past and think critically about our future.

When Congress and President Johnson created the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) in 1965, they laid the groundwork for improving the study of the diverse heritage, traditions, and history of our nation. Indeed, the NEH has opened many doors for scholars and cultural institutions such as museums, libraries, and archives to further their research and share their findings. Since its founding, the NEH has helped Americans better understand America.

Yet, upon signing the Arts and Humanities Act of 1965, President Johnson remarked wisely ". . . these actions, and others soon to follow, cannot alone achieve our goals. To produce true and lasting results, our States and municipalities, our schools and our great private foundations, must join forces with us." In 1972, Congress heeded President Johnson's insight, and amended the Arts and Humanities Act to establish state Councils that would facilitate public programming unique to each state.

The New Jersey Council for the Humanities began its efforts in 1972 to provide an endless stream of programming that invites New Jerseyans to consider the past and think creatively about our future. By providing financial support for conferences, documentaries, publications, lectures, and forums, the Council offers the opportunity to learn more about our shared history and the traditions of others without cost to New Jersey residents. The New Jersey Council for the Humanities enables New Jerseyans to become consumers of history, informed commentators on our present, and architects of our future.

As a former educator, I am grateful for the New Jersey Council for the Humanities' dedication to enhancing history education in our schools. In an age of narrowing school curriculum across our country, arts, foreign language, history and other subjects have been pushed aside by the intense focus on tests and tested subjects. To help keep history alive in our classrooms, the Council offers an annual seminar known as the "Teacher Institute" for New Jersey primary and secondary school teachers to refresh and deepen their knowledge on key moments and themes of our past. The Teacher Institute has helped over 3,700 educators gain exposure to rich new content and benefit their students by bringing their knowledge back to the classroom. Thanks to the New Jersey Council for the Humanities, we are graduating more well-rounded and historically aware students.

In addition to enhancing the appreciation of humanities in the classroom, the Council promotes lifelong learning in public and private life. The New Jersey Council for the Humanities' extensive programming not only benefits school teachers and their students, but also writers, publishers, hospitals, libraries, civics groups, and colleges and universities in every corner of New Jersey.

I have heard from many of my constituents who inform me that the Council makes our community a better place to live. One resident

in Monroe who works with senior citizens, for example, expressed to me that the state humanities councils advance "the mental and intellectual well-being of our seniors." A local middle school teacher shared with me that despite having served on the faculty of a major research university, her knowledge to share with students "was deepened" by the Council's Teacher Institute. Others have conveyed the depth and strength of the Council's Horizon Speaker's Bureau, which provides educational lectures on topics ranging from the legendary Jersey Devil to Shakespeare's Hamlet, and to the U.S. Constitution for thousands of New Jerseyans every year. Simply put by a constituent from Lawrence, "the state [C]ouncil is the neighborhood face of the humanities."

My own experiences with the New Jersey Council for the Humanities have paralleled the positive testimonials constituents have shared with me. Each year, I eagerly await the Council's announcement of the Book, Teacher of the Year, and Lifetime Achievement in the Humanities Awards. By honoring the recipients of these distinctions, the New Jersey Council recognizes exemplary work in the public humanities that has made a significant and lasting difference in the lives of New Jerseyans. Previous award winners include Dr. Kwame Anthony Appiah in 2011 for his book *The Honor Code: How Moral Revolutions Happen*, Sylvia Nasar in 1999 for *A Beautiful Mind*, and Neil Baldwin in 1996 for *Edison: Inventing the Century*. I am proud to display in my Congressional office a collection of many of the past New Jersey Council for the Humanities Award winners, including works by twelfth congressional district constituents such as historian James McPherson, novelist Joyce Carol Oates, and the late poet and translator Robert Fagles.

The New Jersey Council has been dedicated for forty years to promoting public knowledge and love of New Jersey's rich history and culture. I look forward to the years to come when the New Jersey Council for the Humanities will continue to build upon its activities of the past forty years and continue to support and foster the exchange of ideas that creates a thoughtful and engaged society.

HONORING CITY OF CORAL
SPRINGS

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember September 11 alongside the City of Coral Springs, Florida as they host a memorial service to honor the victims of September 11th. Though eleven years have passed since this horrific attack on our nation, the attack is no less devastating today.

Each year since the attacks, dedicated members of the Coral Springs community have worked to plan memorial services to remember those lost and honor their memory. It is truly an honor to recognize the community and this important initiative on this day. Seeing communities across the country come together to remember the victims is one of the few bright developments to rise out of this great tragedy.

In collaboration with generous donors and volunteers, members of the Coral Springs community built the September 11th Memorial at the Coral Springs NW Regional Library in 2001. This memorial was dedicated to those lost in New York, Pennsylvania and Virginia, and honors the residents who lost their immediate family members.

I applaud the efforts of the City of Coral Springs in commemorating the September 11th tragedy, and feel blessed to have been able to participate in the 5K Inaugural Walk to Remember in the City of Coral Springs this year. I thank the community for their dedication. My family and I join with the families in Coral Springs and throughout the country to remember those we lost on September 11, 2001.

IN HONOR OF MR. JOSEPH
HAMMELL

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Joseph Hammell, a retiring veteran who has served in three separate branches of the U.S. Military.

Mr. Hammell began his career with the United States Marine Corps in 1969 when he was 17 years old. After training, he was stationed at Camp Pendleton, California before being deployed to Okinawa, Japan, the Philippines, and Vietnam. After his service with the Marine Corps ended in 1974, Mr. Hammell joined the U.S. Army. During his time in the Army, Mr. Hammell was stationed at Fort Dix, New Jersey where he worked as an instructor at the base's truck driving school. In 1977, he left the Army, but came back after 14 years to join the New Jersey Air National Guard. In the Air National Guard he was a member of the 170th Air Refueling Wing. Within the Wing he served as an equipment operator for the 170th Civil Engineering Squadron. After the 170th Air Refueling Wing disbanded, he was absorbed into the 108th Air Refueling Wing where he continued his service as an equipment operator. He served within the 108th Air Refueling Wing as a member of the 108th Civil Engineering Squadron until 2007 as a work controller. He then moved to the 108th Safety Office where he finished out his career as the 108th Ground Safety Manager.

In addition to his service, Mr. Hammell is an active member of the American Legion and the Marine Corps League where he is a tireless advocate for homeless veterans. Specifically, he has worked with and supported the Stand Down for Homeless Veterans for 16 years, a nonprofit organization that assists male veterans who are struggling due to mental and/or physical ailments, addictions, homelessness and/or other personal issues. It helps veterans regain their lives through a multi-tiered program, transitional living, and collaborative efforts.

Mr. Speaker, the extraordinary commitment of this New Jersey veteran should not go unrecognized. I join all of South Jersey in expressing our profound gratitude and thanks for Mr. Hammell as he retires from his more than 42 years of remarkable service to our country.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF
ADMIRAL KIRKLAND DONALD

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, along with my friend and fellow co-chair of the bipartisan House Shipbuilding Caucus, Representative ROB WITTMAN of Virginia, to honor Admiral Kirkland Donald, U.S. Navy, as he prepares to retire upon completion of more than 37 years of faithful service to our Nation.

Admiral Donald has held the position of Director, Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program (Naval Reactors), for the last eight years. During his illustrious career, he played a pivotal role in ensuring that nuclear-powered warships continued to meet our global commitments in defense of our Nation's security.

Throughout his many years of service, Admiral Donald distinguished himself at the tip of the Navy's spear. He served as the Commanding Officer of the nuclear-powered attack submarine, USS *Key West*, Commander of the elite Submarine Development Squadron Twelve, and Commander of NATO's Submarine Forces in Europe. Other highlights include tours at the Bureau of Naval Personnel, the Joint Staff, and as Commander of all US Submarine Forces.

As his time in Washington has shown, Admiral Donald's accomplishments do not end with his excellence as an undersea commander. Nuclear-powered warships have safely steamed over 150 million miles, and operated for more than 6,400 reactor years without a reactor accident. The last 20 million miles and 800 reactor-years have been achieved under Admiral Donald's superb leadership overseeing more than 100 operational nuclear reactors.

Admiral Donald has been particularly passionate about our submarine force and the investment in our current and future undersea programs. At a time when submarines are playing an increasingly vital role in our national security, Admiral Donald has been at the forefront of making the case for the need for robust construction of new *Virginia* class submarines—and has kept a steady hand on this crucial program at a time when a cooperative effort between the Navy and our shipbuilding reduced the cost and construction schedule of each new submarine. At a time when every corner of our government is challenged to find savings to ensure the most efficient use of taxpayer dollars, Admiral Donald has helped to guide this shining example of acquisition excellence.

Today, these incredible submarines are deployed worldwide, from the arctic to the equator, protecting Americans and our values. Their missions would not be possible without the ships' nuclear propulsion plants, impeccably designed and built by Admiral Donald and his team. I can speak from personal experience about the passion that Admiral Donald brings to this incredible responsibility.

When I first came to Congress in 2007 as a new member of the House Armed Services Committee, Admiral Donald and his team were among the first in my office in those early days to help educate me on the importance of our nuclear powered submarines and the value they bring to our nation. In particular, he

invited me to join an "Ice Expedition" on board the USS *Alexandria*—a two day voyage under the Arctic ice which was an opportunity to see firsthand the capability of these extraordinary vessels.

Further, Admiral Donald oversaw the final design and construction of the nuclear propulsion plant for the Nation's next-generation aircraft carrier class—the first new aircraft carrier design in over 40 years. Owing much to his leadership, the USS *Gerald R. Ford* propulsion plant will triple the electrical power available for transformational technology, reduce reactor compartment manning by nearly 50 percent, and increase ship operational availability by nearly 25 percent.

As Director, Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program, Admiral Donald's commitment to environmental stewardship and public health and safety helped foster the highest degree of public trust. He worked tirelessly to develop and implement a robust process of preparing the nation's spent naval nuclear fuel to be stored safely for centuries. His foresight and execution give the American people great confidence that the nuclear Navy will continue to be safe and environmentally responsible for generations to come.

Mr. Speaker, Admiral Donald has been a thoughtful, forward-looking and hands-on leader for our nation's Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program, and his stewardship of this highly effective, responsive and world-class organization has set an example for all our nation's civilian and military leaders. Along with Representative WITTMAN and my colleagues in the House of Representatives, I wish him "Fair Winds and Following Seas" as he completes his honorable and distinguished service in the U.S. Navy, and wish he and his wife Diane the best as they embark on the next chapter of their lives.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE BLACK
SHIELD POLICE ASSOCIATION

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Black Shield Police Association, BSPA, an organization of dedicated minority police officers that are committed to serving our communities throughout the Greater Cleveland area.

The BSPA was originally founded in 1946 as the Shield Club, which was designed to assist black officers in maintaining and strengthening self-esteem within an atmosphere of indifference. The Shield Club was a social club for black officers who were, at the time, prohibited from joining organizations that were for white police officers. In 1969, the Shield Club was officially chartered as a non-profit organization and was the third oldest black police organization in the U.S. The Shield Club officially became the Black Shield Police Association in 1978. By 2000, the National Black Police Association expanded to an international organization with members in the United Kingdom, Canada and the Bahamas. The BSPA supports the philosophy of community policing, the calls for a true and cooperative partnership between the community and the police for safer communities.

The Black Shield Police Association's Annual Dinner and Dance Scholarship Awards Banquet is being held at Cleveland's Doubletree Hotel on October 13, 2012. The theme of this year's event is "Still moving FORWARD while celebrating 66 years of Unity." Special tributes will be made to retirees Lieutenant John Cole, Sergeant Hughleam Medlea, Sergeant Andre Douglas, Sergeant Randall Bergeon, Police Officer Eugene Preston, Police Officer Arthur Fantroy, Police Officer Sandra Robertson, Police Officer Kevin Martin and Police Officer Paul Jones.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognizing the Black Shield Police Association and its important role in the Greater Cleveland community.

RECOGNIZING THE SEATTLE CHAPTER OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ASIAN AMERICAN PROFESSIONALS

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Seattle, Washington chapter of the National Association of Asian American Professionals (NAAAP—Seattle) for being named the Chapter of the Year. The NAAAP—Seattle chapter bested twenty-seven others from across the United States and Canada to receive the honor.

This is the first time NAAAP—Seattle has been named Chapter of the Year. The organization stood out among the other chapters and associate chapters for its exceptional organizational involvement, membership development, and programs.

The NAAAP was established in 1979 and is now the largest and fastest growing Asian American professional non-profit organization in North America. Members are not required to be pan-Asian and come from all parts of the professional community.

The NAAAP works to empower leaders and connect professionals in the same region. In addition, members volunteer in the community. NAAAP—Seattle has hosted many charitable events, including a dragonboat racing fundraiser to benefit the Northwest Lions Foundation for Sight & Hearing, an event at Seattle Symphony to raise money for children's literacy programs, volunteering with Habitat for Humanity, a Walk for Rice fundraiser for the Asian Counseling & Referral Service, and many others. NAAAP—Seattle also hosts career fairs and professional development seminars throughout the Puget Sound.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize the Seattle chapter of the National Association of Asian American Professionals. The organization's work to make meaningful contributions to government, education, business and society inspires leaders throughout the business community.

HONORING CHAIRMAN STANLEY CROOKS, SHAKOPEE MDEWAKANTON SIOUX COMMUNITY

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor the life of Chairman Stanley Crooks of the Shakopee Mdwakanton Sioux Community. With the passing of Chairman Crooks on Saturday, August 25, the Shakopee Mdwakanton Sioux Community, Minnesota and America lost a transformative and highly respected leader.

Chairman Crooks lived his life serving our nation, the residents of Minnesota and the Shakopee Mdwakanton Sioux Community. A proud veteran of the United States Navy, Chairman Crooks was first elected chairman of the Shakopee Mdwakanton Sioux Community in 1992. During his decades of leadership, he earned national renown for his eloquent and effective defense of tribal sovereignty.

Chairman Crooks never missed an opportunity to reach out to less fortunate communities or to speak out on their behalf. He touched lives in a way that provided hope, opportunity, and dignity to Native American families and communities in need. He was a visionary and a proud leader, and his mentorship inspired a generation that will continue his work for Indian country. Those who knew him well share a tremendous appreciation, respect and fondness for him. I am grateful that he was always ready to lend a hand and to share with me his experience and wisdom regarding tribal issues.

Mr. Speaker, the entire Congressional delegation from Minnesota extends our deepest sympathies to Chairman Crooks' family, including Cheryl, his wife of 48 years, as well as the entire Shakopee Mdwakanton Sioux Community, and all who encountered his generosity and profound spirit. Please join us in honoring the life of this great leader.

HONORING CITY MANAGER MARIA DADIAN

HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Maria Dadian and her 18 years of public service to the people of Southern California.

Maria's devotion to public service is longstanding. In 1975, Maria began her career in municipal government working for the City of South El Monte. She later accepted the position of Parks and Recreation Director with the City of Hawaiian Gardens, and after four years was promoted to Assistant to the City Administrator. Following her 11 years of continuous service to Hawaiian Gardens, she was named interim Executive Director of the Coalition for Youth Development, the city's newly established non-profit organization. During her municipal career she has been contracted by both public entities and private businesses to organize and implement public safety and recreation programs.

Since joining the City of Artesia management team in 1994, Maria has worked tirelessly to ensure Artesia remains safe for its residents and economically vibrant for its business community. During her time as Assistant City Manager, Maria oversaw the City's Public Safety programs, Capital Projects, Community Development projects, and grant program. On top of that, Maria also steered Artesia's Parks and Recreation and Public Works departments. On November 20, 2000, she was appointed City Manager, and redoubled her efforts to serve the citizens and businesses of Artesia.

Over the years, Maria never stopped working to improve Artesia through redevelopment, encouraging private sector investment, and diversifying and expanding Artesia's economic base. As a result, Artesia flourished under Maria's tenure. This includes an historic district renovation and restoration project, as well as numerous projects devoted to public infrastructure and facilities, downtown revitalization, and developmental and housing assistance. In short, Artesia has seen a renaissance with Maria as City Manager.

I commend Maria Dadian for her many years of outstanding public service and dedication to the City of Artesia and the community. We need more public servants like Maria Dadian. Artesia would not be the community it is today without her.

ON THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CREATION OF THE OFFICE OF THE U.S. TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, fifty years ago this October, Congress directed the President to appoint a Special Representative for Trade Negotiations to lead the Administration's efforts to expand global trade. As a result, for the past 50 years, the U.S. Trade Representative has led the Executive Branch in aggressively opening markets to American-made goods and services and promoting economic growth and job creation through trade. USTR's leadership has contributed in significant ways to the tremendous economic growth that the United States enjoyed over the past 50 years and firmly established our global economic leadership.

Across Administrations, USTR has maintained an admirable bipartisan and close working relationship with Congress. I've always said that the very best people become the U.S. Trade Representative. The 50-year history of USTR demonstrates that the men and women who have served as the U.S. Trade Representative are strategic thinkers and tough negotiators—the kind of intelligent, can-do people who have demonstrated their ability to advance our trade agenda. And the dedicated USTR employees who serve with them also exhibit that intellectual rigor and high caliber. I'm proud of all that they have accomplished in opening markets and enforcing our rights under our trade agreements.

USTR is uniquely nimble, lean, and effective. In a world that has changed dramatically over the past 50 years, USTR's small size,

independence, and direct access to the President have been critical to its success. With these attributes intact, I am confident that USTR will continue to fulfill its mission effectively and commendably for the next 50 years.

Today, I honor USTR on its 50th anniversary, the 16 men and women who have served as the U.S. Trade Representative, and the thousands who have proudly served under them. I wish USTR the best for another 50 years.

CONGRATULATIONS TO JASON C.
YUAN

HON. RANDY HULTGREN

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. HULTGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Taiwan's Ambassador to the United States, Jason C. Yuan, for his service in the United States and his recent appointment as Taiwan's National Security Advisor.

I also would like to wish Taiwan a happy anniversary for her upcoming anniversary on October 10th. Known as double ten day, this will mark Taiwan's 101st year.

With so much turmoil in the world today, the region along the Taiwan Strait is one of the important places where hostilities are decreasing. Taiwan has forged constructive partnerships with China, and there is a working peace between the two countries. Much of this can be credited to President Ma's leadership and the policies he has instilled.

Since President Ma became president, there have been numerous daily flights between the two countries, large increases in tourism between China and Taiwan, and a pooling of joint resources to reduce crime along the Taiwan Strait.

Happy anniversary to Taiwan, and thanks to President Ma for his part in maintaining peace and stability in Southeast Asia.

TRIBUTE TO HONOR FLIGHT
OREGON

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 48 World War II veterans from Oregon who will be visiting their memorial tomorrow in Washington, DC through Honor Flight of Oregon. On behalf of a grateful state and country, we welcome these heroes to the nation's capital.

The veterans on this flight from Oregon are: Harry Barber, U.S. Army; Clarence Carnahan, U.S. Army; Elmer Hendricks, U.S. Army; Burl Jarrell, U.S. Army; Melvin McCoy, U.S. Army; Lowell Miller, U.S. Army; Walter Orum, U.S. Army; Wilburt Rathke, U.S. Army; Fred Riggs, U.S. Army; Willard Runion, U.S. Army; Dennison Thomas, U.S. Army; Frank Vaughan, U.S. Army; Harley Hess, U.S. Army Air Forces; Marion Kirkham, U.S. Army Air Forces; Urban Kluthe, U.S. Army Air Forces; Robert Mitchell, U.S. Army Air Forces; Roland Stewart, U.S. Army Air Forces; Francis Ellmers, U.S. Air Force; Jack Keeler, U.S. Air

Force; Milton Kelm, U.S. Air Force; John O'Brien, U.S. Air Force; Robert Stubblefield, U.S. Air Force; Walter Lowblad, U.S. Coast Guard; Billie Tracy, U.S. Coast Guard; Harvard Lewis, U.S. Marine Corps; William Sexton, U.S. Marine Corps; Muriel Yandle, U.S. Marine Corps; Douglas Smith, U.S. Merchant Marine; Adam Bachmann, U.S. Navy; James Bratton, U.S. Navy; Richard Davis, U.S. Navy; Joseph Doyon, U.S. Navy; James Dunn, U.S. Navy; Teddy Freeman, U.S. Navy; Thomas Gibbons, U.S. Navy; William Jordan, U.S. Navy; James Kohl, U.S. Navy; James Lancaster, Sr., U.S. Navy; William Matthias, U.S. Navy; Warren McCoy, U.S. Navy; Jerald Muck, U.S. Navy; Franklin Nolan, U.S. Navy; Leonard Premelaar, U.S. Navy; Vance Strunk, U.S. Navy; Leonard Swanzy, U.S. Navy; Walter Thompson, U.S. Navy; Frank Spiegel Jr., U.S. Navy; Richard Watson, U.S. Navy.

These 48 heroes join more than 100,000 veterans from across the country who, since 2005, have journeyed from their home states to Washington, DC, to reflect at the memorials built in their honor.

Mr. Speaker, each of us is humbled by the courage of these soldiers, sailors, airmen, and Marines who put themselves in harm's way for our country and way of life. As a nation, we can never fully repay the debt of gratitude owed to them for their honor, commitment, and sacrifice in defense of the freedoms we have today.

My colleagues, please join me in thanking these veterans and the volunteers of Honor Flight of Oregon for their exemplary dedication and service to this great country. I especially want to recognize and thank Dick and Erik Tobiason and Michael and Cindy Jensen for their tireless work with Honor Flight of Oregon.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF MRS. RUTH
COYNE

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mrs. Ruth Coyne, the former "first lady" of Brooklyn, Ohio.

Ruth was the wife of John M. Coyne, the former mayor of Brooklyn. She attended Rhodes High School and met John at a dance at Our Lady of Good Council. They were married at Old Pete's Wayside Inn on November 30, 1940. John went on to serve as mayor for an astounding 52 years, from 1947 to 1999. Ruth provided support for her husband throughout the years and came to be loved by the community. The couple was married for 72 years.

Ruth is remembered fondly by everyone she encountered. Councilwoman Kathleen Pucci has said that, "She exemplified grace, dignity and style. She genuinely cared about our community and its residents."

In addition to her role as "first lady", Ruth was a loving citizen and mother. She was the mother of four, grandmother of nine, and great-grandmother of fifteen. She always put her family first.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in memory of Mrs. Ruth Coyne, a woman who spent her long life working for others, and who

will be greatly missed by her family and the City of Brooklyn.

RECOGNIZING TALBOT HILL
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Talbot Hill Elementary School, located in Renton, Washington, for being named one of the "Coolest Schools in America" by Parent & Child magazine. The school was also named a Washington State Designated Innovative School.

Talbot Hill Elementary School is part of the national MicroSociety program. In this program, students participate in a fully-functioning society. Students apply for jobs, earn money, pay taxes, and participate in government.

Each fall, the Talbot Hill Elementary School community elects a Legislature, comprised of a president, vice president, at-large members and senators and representatives from each grade level. Students work on a newspaper, run a post office, start small businesses, and manage a recycling center.

This unique school is made possible by parent and community support. Parents get involved to invest in the school and in their children's education. This includes spreading the word to the community about the needs of the school. The community's involvement is essential to the success of Talbot Hill Elementary and helps to build a generation of successful and innovative students.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize the students, teachers, administrators, parents, and staff of Talbot Hill Elementary School. The school's groundbreaking educational techniques prepare students to be life-long learners and engaged members of their communities.

NATIONAL DAY FOR THE
REPUBLIC OF CHINA ON TAIWAN

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, on October 3, 2012, the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office, located in Washington, DC, will be celebrating the 101st National Day of the Republic of China on Taiwan at the beautiful Twin Oaks Estate. I rise today in advance of this celebration to offer my continued praise and support of the U.S.-Taiwanese relationship and to acknowledge the good work of Jason Yuan, who after serving four years as Taiwan's Washington Representative is returning to Taiwan to continue his distinguished career by serving as Secretary General of the National Security Council. Mr. Yuan has worked tirelessly to further the mutually beneficial relationship between the United States and Taiwan.

As the people of the Republic of China on Taiwan celebrate the 101st anniversary of their nation's founding, I congratulate them on their National Day and would like to commend

them for more than 100 years of progress. As a good friend and ally of the United States, the Republic of China on Taiwan remains a peaceful and prosperous democracy, and is a model for nations around the world.

I would like to take a moment and recognize the 23 million citizens of Taiwan for their commitment to peace. As a symbol of this commitment, the Republic of China on Taiwan recently melted down artillery shells and used the metal to construct a "Peace Bell." President Ma Ying-jeou also proposed a peace initiative in the hope of easing the recent tensions in the East China Sea. The initiative calls on all parties concerned to show restraint, shelve controversies and settle disputes in a peaceful manner. It also urges all parties concerned to strive for a consensus on a code of conduct in the East China Sea, and to establish a mechanism for cooperation on exploring and developing resources in the region. We celebrate these efforts to maintain good relations with other countries, and the United States is proud to call the Republic of China on Taiwan a partner in peace.

In closing, I hope my colleagues will join me in thanking Ambassador Yuan for his service along with President Ma, Vice President Wu, and the people of the Republic of China on Taiwan for their continued commitment to peace and democracy on this anniversary of their National Day. Although I am retiring from the United States House of Representatives, please be assured that my support, commitment and friendship to Taiwan will remain strong, and will never die.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and so I missed rollcall vote No. 585 regarding the "Andrew P. Carpenter Tax Act" (H.R. 5044). Had I been present, I would have voted "yes".

HONORING NANCY OSBORNE

HON. DEVIN NUNES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. NUNES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Nancy Osborne, an important public figure in the Central Valley news industry, on the occasion of her retirement.

Ms. Osborne graduated from Las Cruces High School in New Mexico and attended New Mexico State University for 3 years.

Following a five year break from her education, she returned to college in the valley at Fresno State University. She graduated in 1976 with a BA in Speech Communications and began work on a Master's degree.

After a year of graduate study, she accepted a reporting job at ABC30. As one of only a handful of women in the local broadcast industry, Nancy became a role model for many young women.

In the fall of 1977, Nancy joined the anchor team at KFSN-TV. In 1980, she produced and

anchored the valley's first locally produced news magazine show while continuing to co-anchor Action News.

In 1996, Nancy joined the Action News Management Team. While continuing her coverage of the valley's political scene and issues involving children and families, she was named Executive Producer—Special Projects. With this new assignment, she helped shape Action News around the clock.

In January 2004, after a short hiatus, Nancy returned to reporting full time, once again adding her experience and expertise to the expanding daily Action News coverage while continuing to co-anchor Action News Live at Five. She also wrote a popular blog, "The Red, White, and True", which focused on stories about the Central Valley's military personnel and families.

In 2005, Nancy was inducted into the prestigious Silver Circle by the Northern California chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences for her commitment of over 25 years to the Fresno television market and broadcast news industry.

Nancy has reported on countless stories and events important to the people of Central California and she has given her time and effort to numerous non-profits and charities over the decades. Please join me in congratulating Ms. Osborne on her "award-winning and trailblazing television career," as she retires from ABC30 Action News.

IN RECOGNITION OF FORTY YEARS OF LEADERSHIP FROM CLINTON RIVER WATERSHED COUNCIL

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Clinton River Watershed Council (CRWC) as it celebrates 40 years of service to Southeast Michigan. Situated within Macomb and Oakland Counties and located in the heart of the Great Lakes region, the Clinton River watershed covers over 760 square miles that begins at the headwaters of the Clinton River in Springfield Township and stretches to its outlet into Lake St. Clair.

Water has long been an important part of our lives in Michigan and throughout the Great Lakes region—it was the means through which Michigan became a center of industry and innovation during the Industrial Revolution and remains a critical part of our economy. However, as an unintended consequence of our success, the Clinton River and its watershed became polluted by industrial runoff and untreated sewage, which threatened this important natural resource in Southeast Michigan. As a response to growing public concern, in 1972 the CRWC was founded with a mission to protect, enhance and celebrate the Clinton River, its watershed and Lake St. Clair.

In execution of its mission, the CRWC has created programs that have engaged all the sectors of the community in efforts to restore the watershed, while providing hands-on education which has instilled the value of good environmental stewardship. Among its programs is Adopt-a-Stream, which directly involves area residents in the water quality mon-

itoring process. It promotes annual events like Clinton River Day, which brings the community together in dozens of sites around the watershed to participate in projects that educate, clean and promote the importance of the Clinton River to our region. Over its 40 years, the CRWC has created a clear track record of leveraging strong partnerships with area stakeholders to remove the impairments caused by pollution.

The work of the CRWC has left a tangible impact on the communities of Southeast Michigan—riparian habitat has been restored, children have been educated on the healthy and active lifestyle that the watershed supports and recreational fishermen once again enjoy premier fisheries. Beyond these benefits to area residents, the CRWC's outreach to its stakeholders has created important synergies between local governments, institutes of higher education, area businesses and advocacy groups, that have strengthened the vitality of the Southeast Michigan region. The results have been, not just a healthier ecosystem, but also increased economic activity and increased quality-of-life for our families.

Mr. Speaker, as a proud supporter of the Great Lakes and the federal commitment Congress has made through the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the CRWC for 40 years of leadership in protecting, enhancing and celebrating the Clinton River, its watershed and Lake St. Clair. While there is still a lot of work left to be done to fully restore and protect our important natural resources, we have seen great progress because of the work of the CRWC and its sister organizations across the Great Lakes region. I am confident that with the sustained dedication of the CRWC, its stakeholders and its supporters, that we will continue to see more progress made to fully restore the Clinton River Area of Concern.

RECOGNIZING THE 225TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ADOPTION OF THE NORTHWEST ORDINANCE BY THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

HON. JEAN SCHMIDT

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mrs. SCHMIDT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize that 225 years ago the Continental Congress of the United States enacted the Northwest Ordinance, which in 1787 established a system of government that made the territory north and west of the Ohio River the first commonwealth in the world whose organic law recognized every man as free and equal.

Encompassing 265,878 square miles, the Northwest Territory included the future states of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan, and part of Minnesota.

In addition to prohibiting slavery, the Northwest Ordinance guaranteed religious freedom and civil rights throughout the territory. This federal mandate preceded by several years the Bill of Rights—the first 10 Amendments to the U.S. Constitution. The Northwest Ordinance was adopted by the Continental Congress on July 13, 1787.

The Continental Congress appointed Arthur St. Clair the first governor of the Northwest

Territory on October 5, 1787. Governor St. Clair was based in Losantville, a town he re-named Cincinnati on January 4, 1790.

The first delegate of the Northwest Territory to the U.S. House of Representatives was William Henry Harrison of Hamilton County, who served from March 4, 1799, to May 14, 1800. He successfully promoted the Harrison Land Act, which allowed people of modest means to buy land in the Northwest Territory directly from the federal government. This contributed to the rapid growth in Ohio's population.

The Northwest Ordinance established a process for new states to join the Union, and in 1803 Ohio became the first state formed out of the Northwest Territory.

The Northwest Ordinance also established the township form of government, which continues to be favored by many local communities in Ohio.

Mr. Speaker, Ohioans appreciate their state's history and their heritage of equality under the law.

Today, I want to recognize the 225th anniversary of the adoption of the Northwest Ordinance, which resulted in the great state of Ohio and ensured liberty for all its residents.

IN HONOR OF MR. GREGORY M.
SADLEK

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor Mr. Gregory M. Sadlek who is being honored by the Polonia Foundation on October 7, 2012.

Born and raised in Northeast Ohio, Gregory is a graduate of Padua Franciscan High School in Parma, Ohio. In 1968, following his high school graduation, he moved to Quincy, Illinois to attend Quincy University and later attended the Catholic Theological Union in Chicago. Gregory holds several degrees including a bachelor's in philosophy and a master's and doctorate in English. He has pursued a career in academia, teaching at the University of Nantes, Hamilton College, Eastern Illinois University, Northern Illinois University and the University of Nebraska at Omaha in the English Department. Gregory is married to Françoise Rolland; together they have two sons, Jonathan and Benjamin.

In 2005, Gregory returned to his native Cleveland, Ohio and became the Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences at Cleveland State University (CSU). At CSU, he has worked tirelessly to establish a Polish Studies program and a partnership with the University of Warsaw.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Mr. Gregory M. Sadlek and congratulating him as he is recognized by the Polonia Foundation.

RECOGNITION OF TAIWAN'S
NATIONAL DAY

HON. ALBIO SIRE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. SIRE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to send my best wishes to President Ma Ying-

jeou and the people of the Republic of China (Taiwan) on their National Day this October 10th.

In the last four and a half years President Ma, along with other national leaders, has helped Taiwan's economy thrive. President Ma took a number of helpful steps to take Taiwan out of an economic slump, including guaranteeing bank deposits, lowering interest rates, distributing shopping vouchers and investing in domestic infrastructure. As a result, Taiwan's economy has been rapidly improving, alleviating the problems of unemployment and poverty.

President Ma has also excelled on promoting foreign policy. Apart from the signing of the mutually beneficial Economic Cooperation Framework Agreement (ECFA) with mainland China in 2010, President Ma's government is currently negotiating economic cooperation agreements with the governments of Singapore and New Zealand and paving the way for Taiwan to become a member of the multilateral Trans-Pacific Partnership.

President Ma has also significantly reduced tensions in the Taiwan Strait by pursuing a policy of diplomatic truce with the mainland and has ended the dangerous cycle of diplomatic warfare between the two sides.

Taiwan is currently enjoying a robust relationship with the United States. U.S.-Taiwan ties have been the most amicable in 30 years. Communication between our two countries is smooth and friendly. Much of this is due to the capable stewardship of Taiwan's top diplomat in the United States: Representative Jason Yuan. Yuan is a seasoned diplomat and has been working very hard to promote an open discussion between Taiwan and Congress on Capitol Hill.

Again, congratulations to the Republic of China on its National Day.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL
DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

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

Today, it is \$16,012,971,761,294.54. We've added \$5,386,094,712,381.46 to our debt in 3.5 years. This is \$5.4 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

ON THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF
THE ACHIEVABLE DREAM TEN-
NIS BALL

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate An Achievable Dream and the Rotary Club of the Virginia Peninsula, a longtime sponsor of the event, on the occasion of the 20th Annual Achievable Dream

Tennis Ball. An Achievable Dream, with the generous help of the Rotary Club of the Virginia Peninsula and other sponsors, offers an extraordinary education program in my home district which provides tremendous promise to young at-risk students.

The motto of An Achievable Dream is "Teaching Kids Winning Ways." The Achievable Dream program is structured to give young people the skills needed to succeed in life. Those skills are taught at An Achievable Dream on the tennis court, in the classroom, on field trips, and in sharing experiences with successful and caring adults in the community.

Often, young people don't think too much about the future, and don't realize that choices made today may limit those in the future. The staff, supporters and sponsors at An Achievable Dream have worked to ensure that their students have every opportunity to be successful in the future, setting and achieving a goal of graduating 100% of students on time in the past, and hope to send all graduating seniors off to college.

As a public-private partnership with Newport News Public Schools, the City of Newport News, the Newport News Sheriff's Department, the U.S. Army, the Rotary Club, Riverside Health System, and the College of William and Mary, An Achievable Dream has received national recognition as one of the most effective urban school programs in the country and has provided a model for integrating support from the business community to support quality educational opportunities for at-risk students. The Achievable Dream Tennis Ball seeks to highlight the community's dedication to these students and to An Achievable Dream.

I am pleased that I have been involved with An Achievable Dream as a supporter since its beginnings. As An Achievable Dream and our community gathers to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the An Achievable Dream Tennis Ball, the community can look forward to the continued success of An Achievable Dream and the programs that have been put in place at these schools. I would like to congratulate the staff, supporters and sponsors at An Achievable Dream on this monumental occasion, and hope to see continued success from An Achievable Dream in the future.

TRIBUTE TO SPECIALIST JOSHUA
L. REED

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. JORDAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Army Specialist Joshua L. Reed, who died at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, on August 4.

Josh was born in Bellefontaine, Ohio, in 1990 to Lloyd and Tonja Reed. A 2009 graduate of Benjamin Logan High School, Josh participated in football and wrestling and also enjoyed skateboarding, snowboarding, and quad racing.

Enlisting in the Army in February 2010, Josh graduated from the Multiple Launch Rocket System Crewmember Advanced Individual Training Course at Fort Sill later that year. He was an ammunition specialist with Bravo Battery, 1st Battalion, 14th Field Artillery, and was

awarded the Army Certificate of Achievement and the Army Achievement Medal.

Josh is survived by a loving family, including his wife, Teosha Reed of Lawton, Oklahoma; his parents; two brothers, Nicholas Thompson and Tristan Reed; and grandparents Elva Karns and Lewis "Butch" and Judy Lenhart.

Josh courageously volunteered to serve in defense of his family, his community, his state, and his nation. Every American lives under the blanket of safety he helped provide. For this, we owe him and his family a great debt of gratitude.

Josh will be deeply missed. But the strength of his character and the courage he demonstrated through his service will live on.

IN HONOR OF LARRY WALTON
COLSON

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart and solemn remembrance that I rise today to pay tribute to a great man and close friend, Larry Walton Colson. Mr. Colson passed away on September 18, 2012. Visitation will be held at Carson McLane Funeral Home at 11 a.m. on Thursday, September 20, 2012, and funeral services will be held on Friday, September 21, 2012.

Mr. Colson graduated from Valdosta High School in 1966. He attended Valdosta State University and graduated with a degree in Business Administration. Mr. Colson was an entrepreneur at heart. He was the owner and founder of Colson Business Systems, Inc. as well as the co-owner of Splash Zone.

Mr. Colson loved his community and actively served in various capacities. He served on the Guardian Bank Board of Advisors, the South Georgia Medical Center Foundation Board and the Valdosta State University Board of Trustees. He was also a Blazer Booster as well as an avid Florida Gator Booster.

A favorite pastime of Mr. Colson's was playing golf. He played as an amateur in the AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am. He was also an active member of Park Avenue United Methodist Church where he served as an usher.

George Washington Carver once said, "How far you go in life depends on your being tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving and tolerant of the weak and strong because someday in your life you will have been all of these." Mr. Colson went far in life because of his kindness and compassion for others.

Mr. Colson is preceded in death by his father, George Wallace Colson; his brother, Gordon Wallace Colson; and uncles, Carlton Thomas Adams and Kenneth Carmen Colson.

He is survived by his wife, Patricia Louise Colson; children, Rachel (Steve) Blankenship, Allison (David) Gracey, and Hunter Colson; his mother Myrtice Adams Colson; brother Greg Colson (wife Cheryl); sister-in-law Valerie Colson; many loving nephews: Todd Hatcher, Brent Colson (wife Cara), Brad Colson, and Trace Colson; as well as many great nieces and nephews: Ellen, Cole, Julia and Tate Colson, Caroline and Davis Hatcher.

Mr. Speaker, my wife Vivian and I would like to extend our deepest sympathies to Mr.

Colson's wife Pat, their children and other family members during this difficult time. May they be consoled and comforted by their abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks and months ahead.

IN HONOR OF MR. WALTER
BORKOWSKI

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mr. Walter Borkowski who is being honored by the Polonia Foundation on October 7, 2012.

Born September 11, 1969, Walter is a first generation American. He was raised in Parma, Ohio and attended Normandy High School before earning a degree in business administration from the University of Toledo. Following graduation, Walter began a career in financial services as a customer service representative with Transamerica Financial Services. Within two years, he was the Executive Branch Manager of the Canton, Ohio office. He briefly left Northeast Ohio for a job with Long Beach Mortgage Company, but returned when he launched Consumers Choice Mortgage Inc. Walter retired from Trust In Equity Mortgage Group, LLC in 2009, but continues to work as a part-time Mortgage Consultant.

Walter has been involved in the Polish-American community since he was a young child as a singer in the John Borkowski Orchestra. At the age of 24, he was elected to his first of two terms as the director of the Alliance of Poles of American. Currently, he is the Recording Secretary for the Cleveland Society of Poles and the Alternate National Director for the Polish American Congress.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Mr. Walter Borkowski and congratulating him as he is recognized by the Polonia Foundation.

RECOGNIZING AND HONORING MS.
GENEVIEVE FLOREZ

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Miss Genevieve Florez, who organized a school-wide donation project to send care package to our troops.

At age 10, Genevieve is the youngest child of Susan and Steve Florez. She has attended Joshua Cowell Elementary School since kindergarten, where her mother is a teacher. The family lives in Twain Harte, and Genevieve and her mom commute to school daily—an hour and a half trip each way. While in the car she does her homework, reads, and talks with her mom about all of the things that fill the life of a 5th grader.

Despite all the time that Genevieve dedicates to her studies and long commute, she still finds the energy to help with a home garden, participate in summer drama productions, and take dance classes. She loves art and keeps a sketchbook of her own fashion de-

signs. Not only is Genevieve bright, happy, thoughtful, and creative, but she is a highly motivated self-starter ready to make a difference in the world. In fact, her goal is to be the future President of the United States.

The care package project was inspired by Genevieve's admiration for her school principal, Ms. Bennett. Genevieve sent her the following letter: You inspired me. I want to help and stop world hunger, no more bullies, say thanks to police, fire-fighters, and ladies and men in the military. I also want to say thanks to the teachers. I don't know how to help. That's why I ask you. This is money to help with anything. Miss Florez had enclosed \$20 dollars.

After speaking with Principal Bennett about a variety of ways to reach out to people, Genevieve decided to pursue the idea of sending packages to soldiers overseas. Bennett put Genevieve in touch with the family of Corporal Charles O. Palmer—a United States Marine, who lost his life in Iraq on May 5, 2007. Corporal Palmer's family met with Genevieve to help her coordinate services as she prepared to send personal care packages to the troops. After organizing three school meetings to share her idea about the project, Genevieve had successfully earned the support of 70 students who wanted to participate.

On September 11, 2012, a school assembly was held to remember those who lost their lives during the attacks and to honor the heroes that emerged who protect us every day. The Palmer Family spoke to the students about the collecting of items to send to the soldiers. They talked about the personal healing that the project brings to them, and they thanked the students for their efforts. They finished by letting the students know that they were all heroes for making a difference at that moment. After sorting through all of the donations, the Palmer Family, students, staff, and volunteers were able to send out 65 boxes to our very deserving troops.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in praising Genevieve Florez for the significant contributions she has made to the people of the local community and for her honorable and faithful dedication to our service men and women of the United States of America.

RECOGNIZING THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF BISHOP GUILFOYLE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL IN ALTOONA, PENNSYLVANIA

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 90th anniversary of Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School in Altoona, Pennsylvania.

Bishop Guilfoyle has been dedicated to the education and development of Altoona's youth for nearly a century, and its commitment to excellence has helped the school to become a tremendously influential institution in our community. The school places a great emphasis on instilling a culture of goodness, discipline, and knowledge in its students, as evidenced by its valued presence in the Altoona area.

In 1922, the Roman Catholic Diocese of Altoona and Johnstown established Bishop

Guilfoyle Catholic High School, under its original name of Altoona Catholic High School. After the sudden death of Bishop Richard T. Guilfoyle in 1957, the school was renamed to honor his compassion for the Altoona Catholic students, and his enthusiasm for sports.

Since its establishment, the school has seen nearly 11,000 of its students receive diplomas, many of them matriculating to higher education. With this outstanding production, the school has had a profound importance in its students' lives, and has helped each of them to thrive in our community and beyond.

Bishop Guilfoyle has achieved numerous accolades, and has developed a prestigious academic reputation across the 12 Catholic parishes that it serves. The school has continued to add state-of-the-art facilities, and has implemented a rigorous academic curriculum, which holds its students to the highest of standards, both within the classroom and in the community.

Mr. Speaker, Bishop Guilfoyle's commitment to the education of our district's youth has not gone unnoticed. Its faculty's passion for cultivating the necessary values to succeed as productive, compassionate citizens has earned the school an exemplary reputation in Pennsylvania's 9th district. The many proud alumni that are spread throughout the world are a testament to the school's celebrated achievements and storied tradition as a first-class instructional institution.

As Congressman of the 9th District, I wish Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School all the best on what is sure to be another productive, successful 90 years of education and development.

HONORING WASHINGTON COUNTY,
COLORADO ON ITS 125TH ANNI-
VERSARY

HON. CORY GARDNER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. GARDNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Washington County, Colorado on its 125th Anniversary.

Washington County is distinctly different from the Washington I am standing in today. However, both did name their areas in honor of the first President of the United States, George Washington.

This past February marked their 125th anniversary of Washington County, and they have much to celebrate.

During the early 1880s, the Northeast section of Colorado experienced a boom in agricultural development and settlers flocked to the area for available and plentiful land to grow crops. In fact, my family sold farm equipment in Akron and Otis, something my family remains very proud of to this day.

The population expansion led the Colorado State Legislature to pass legislation that officially established Washington County in 1887, and declared Akron, Colorado as the county seat.

After some territorial disputes with the town of Yuma, the current boundaries were established in 1903.

Today, over 4,800 Coloradoans call Washington County home, and the county continues to promote Colorado's rich agricultural legacy.

I had the honor and privilege to represent Washington County when I served in the Colorado State Legislature, and it is again my honor and privilege to represent this great county in the United States Congress.

I am proud to recognize Washington County on their 125th Anniversary.

PROVIDING QUALITY HOME CARE
SERVICES

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss the need for strategies to maintain and improve access to home-based medical and long-term care services.

As the Co-Chair of the Seniors Task Force, I am committed to ensuring seniors get the care that need in the setting that they prefer. Today, three and a half million Medicare beneficiaries get home health services, allowing them to live independently in their own homes while getting the medical care they need. Home healthcare provides skilled, safe and effective medical treatments that once were available only a hospital or doctor's office, allowing seniors and people with disabilities to receive necessary medical care without needing transportation to a doctor's office or admission to a hospital. Home health care is good for individuals and their families, and it also is good for taxpayers. Home healthcare services saved Medicare \$2.81 billion dollars between 2006 and 2009.

As we head into this fall's debate on sequestration and alternative budget proposals, I urge my colleagues to remember the importance of home health care to seniors and people with disabilities on Medicare and to avoid cuts that will threaten the services upon which they rely.

Twelve million adults—seniors and adults with disabilities—need long-term care services but Medicaid is currently unable to meet all their needs. The problem will become even more serious in the future, since it is estimated that 27 million Americans will need long-term services by 2050. Yet, our nation still lacks a comprehensive approach to meet current and future long-term care needs.

I have introduced H. Res. 759 to express support for a comprehensive approach to provide the home care workforce and long-term care services we need in order to ensure that seniors and people with disabilities are able to live at home and enjoy a dignified quality of life. It is time not just for a national discussion, but for national solutions.

We know that we have to address the cost of health and long-term care, but there is a right way to deal with those costs and a wrong way. The wrong answer would be to target vulnerable seniors and people with disabilities—denying them home healthcare and long-term care options or shifting the financial burdens to family caregivers. Large Medicare and Medicaid cuts, vouchers and block grants would do real harm to real people. Higher cost-sharing requirements will price essential services out of reach.

Instead, we need to look for ways to lower health care costs across-the-board by eliminating fraud and abuse, giving Medicare au-

thority to use its bargaining power to negotiate for lower drug prices as the VA does, encouraging greater efficiency in the delivery of care, and encouraging the use of cost-effective health care services, including home healthcare services.

As we undertake serious budget discussions this fall, we must carefully consider the real-life impacts of the choices before us. I will be working to make sure that we protect and improve our ability to meet the home healthcare and long-term care needs of seniors and people with disabilities.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JULIANNE
ELIZABETH MARKS ALLEN

HON. MAURICE D. HINCHEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dear friend of mine, Julianne Elizabeth Marks Allen, who passed away earlier this month. Julie, as she was called, had a heart of gold and was one of the most giving and loving people I've ever been fortunate enough to know. It was an honor and privilege for me to have her serve on my staff for nearly 19 years as a trusted advisor and liaison to the people of Sullivan County—the county she loved and called home for nearly her entire life.

Julie committed her life to her family and community. Through her volunteer efforts and public service, Julie touched countless lives in Roscoe and throughout Sullivan County, a beautiful, rural part of New York, where she was known by seemingly everyone. She was particularly interested in assisting young people and served as the Town of Rockland's Youth Committee Chairman for the Roscoe Central School District for several years. She was also a board member on the Sullivan County Community College Foundation Scholarship Committee. Julie worked diligently with me on a wide range of issues and was critical in helping me establish and steer the Sullivan-Wawarsing Rural Economic Area Partnership—an innovative regional community development initiative, for which Julie served on the Board of Directors for many years. Julie diligently advocated for those who sought assistance through our office and was widely respected for her tireless efforts to help others. Julie was also a distinguished and stalwart pillar of the Democratic Party, serving for the past 40 years as a member of the Sullivan County Democratic Committee and for the last 25 years as an elected member of the New York State Democratic Committee.

Julie had a profound impact on virtually everyone she met. To her, public and community service was a calling. Despite facing health challenges for the past 23 years, Julie's passion and determination to help others remained steadfast. In fact, Julie was recently honored with the Sullivan County Community College "2012 Women Who Make A Difference" award for her lifetime dedication of volunteerism to the county. She constantly put everyone else's needs before her own, and her reservoir of compassion and inner strength was an inspiration to me and others. Every conversation with Julie involved her asking how the other person was doing, how their

family was doing, and asking for stories and updates to make sure everything was alright. She felt like a family member because she cared so much about everyone.

While she had many jobs and significant responsibilities, the roles that Julie cherished more than any others were that of loving wife, mother, grandmother, sister, and aunt. Julie loved her family with all of her heart—and it was one of the biggest hearts I've ever known. She spoke frequently and proudly about her family members' latest accomplishments. Nothing brought Julie more joy than spending time with her husband Don—her one and only true love and high school sweetheart to whom she was married for 47 years—and the rest of their family, including their children, Laurie and Michael, along with their spouses, Perry and Kori; and their grandchildren Elizabeth Julianne, Caden and Taylor. Despite all of the many great accomplishments throughout her life, there was no greater achievement in Julie's life than building this beautiful family.

Mr. Speaker, I add my voice to those honoring the life of Julianne Elizabeth Marks Allen. I offer my heartfelt condolences to her family and many friends. I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to have known and worked closely with Julie. The world is an emptier place without Julianne Elizabeth Marks Allen, but her legacy and impact on the lives of others will live on forever.

NATIONAL OVARIAN CANCER
AWARENESS MONTH

HON. KATHLEEN C. HOCHUL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Ms. HOCHUL. Mr. Speaker, in recognition of the month of September being National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month, I would like to express my deep support for the women and families who are affected by ovarian cancer. In 2012, over 22,000 women will be diagnosed with ovarian cancer in the United States, and we will lose more than 15,000 mothers, daughters, wives, sisters, and friends to this disease.

While great strides have been made in cancer research, education, and awareness, there is still much work to be done, especially on ovarian cancer. Though many other cancers have seen significant reductions in mortality rates due to improved prevention methods, screenings, and treatments, the mortality rate for ovarian cancer has remained nearly the same for the past 40 years.

I commend the many programs and organizations dedicated to ovarian cancer research, education, and awareness, including the National Cancer Institute, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Ovarian Cancer Control Initiative, the Department of Defense Ovarian Cancer Research Program, and the many advocacy, education, and awareness organizations.

I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing September as National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month, remembering the women who have lost the battle with this disease, and supporting research, education, and awareness efforts so that eventually, future generations will no longer feel the effects of ovarian cancer.

IN HONOR OF MRS. ALINA
CZERNEC

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor Mrs. Alina Czernek who is being honored by the Polonia Foundation on October 7, 2012.

Alina was born in pre-World War II Poland. During the war she was forced to spend five years of her life living in Polish refugee camps in Iran, India and Pakistan. Following the War, her family reunited in England in 1947 and immigrated to Cleveland, Ohio's Tremont neighborhood in 1952. After graduating from St. John Cantius High School, Alina was attending Fenn College and working for the Polish daily newspaper, *Wiadomosci Dodzienne*. In 1959, Alina married Steve Czernek and together they had three children, Lisa, Richard and Chris. Alina spent much of her time volunteering at local schools and nursing homes and eventually became the director of admissions at Broadview Nursing Home. She worked at Heights Drapery Company, which she and her daughter own, until her retirement in 2004.

Alina has been involved in the Polish-American community since she settled in the U.S. She has belonged to a number of organizations including Gmina 6, PNA and the Alliance of Poles. She is also an active member of the Polish American Cultural Center and has spent countless hours volunteering at St. John Cantius Church.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Mrs. Alina Czernek and congratulating her as she is recognized by the Polonia Foundation.

A TRIBUTE TO HIS HONOR JUDGE
MICHAEL T. MCSPADDEN—TEXAS
JUDGE

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, there are thousands of individuals who make it their life's work to make communities safer while holding criminals accountable for their actions. One of the best is Judge Michael T. McSpadden. I have known Judge McSpadden for what seems like forever. We served in the district attorney's office as prosecutors together. Judge McSpadden prosecuted criminals for 8 years in the Harris County district attorney's office under the leadership of District Attorney Carol Vance.

In 1982, Judge McSpadden became a Criminal District Court Judge in Harris County, Texas. He tried felony cases. Judges in Texas are elected on a partisan ballot and Judge McSpadden has been elected 8 consecutive times to the bench of the 209th Criminal District Court. We served as judges together and I witnessed his remarkable dedication to the law and justice. As a community, we are truly privileged to have such an extraordinary man answer the call to public service and as an individual, I am grateful to call Judge McSpadden a friend.

Judge McSpadden has served the citizens of Harris County, Texas for over 35 years. A graduate from the University of Oklahoma (though we don't hold it against him), he has worked diligently to rise through the ranks in Texas courts. He started his legal career in the Harris County District Attorney's office as an Assistant District Attorney, and then he became the Chief Prosecutor of the 209th District Court.

In 1982, Judge McSpadden was elected as a judge for the same court and, for the last 30 years, he has continued to preside over the 209th. His extensive knowledge of the justice system and his incredible work ethic have gained the respect of many in the law profession. Over his career, he has earned the respect and admiration among lawyers and judges within the legal community: he is always among the highest rated judges by members of the Houston Bar Association and was the highest rated judge in Harris County in the 2011 Houston Bar Association Judicial Qualification Poll. Our community has benefited greatly from the many, many years of service that he has dedicated. In addition, Judge McSpadden has been recognized by the Houston Police Officer's Association and Harris County Deputy Sheriffs Association. He has also been honored and named Champion of Crime Stoppers by the Bay Area Crime Stoppers. These organizations recognized that he has not only dedicated his professional time to helping others, but he has dedicated his personal time to helping the next generation as well. In 1994, Child Advocates honored him for his efforts to help children. He has been also honored by the Samaritan Center and the Assistance League of Houston for his work with inner city youth. Judge McSpadden is a positive mentor to young males at risk. In 2002, he was the first recipient of the Chuck Norris Team Spirit Award for his work with Kick Drugs Out of America. He continues to serve on the advisory boards of many non-profit organizations. By giving his time and lending his hands, Judge McSpadden has changed many lives, and I want you to know that our Nation is a better place because of his commitment to helping our communities become safer.

Prior to his three decades of public service in the courtroom, Judge McSpadden also served his country as a United States Marine. While enlisted, he even found time to win the Marine Corps Tennis Champion title. He is a 3-time Big 8 Conference Tennis Singles Champion and still enjoys playing at River Oaks Country Club.

The impact of Judge McSpadden's work is far reaching. He truly is an unsung hero whose efforts are felt in communities, neighborhoods and homes across Texas each and every day.

Judge McSpadden's achievements at the 209th and in the community far surpass these recognitions. His innovation, determination and compassion for serving others make him one of the best judges in the Nation. Judge McSpadden is a close personal friend, excellent lawyer, tremendous judge, and amazing public servant for Texas.

And that's just the way it is.

HONORING MONTANA'S WORLD
WAR II VETERANS**HON. DENNY REHBERG**

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. REHBERG. Mr. Speaker, today it is my distinct privilege to welcome a very special group of men and women to our Nation's capital. And while it is incumbent upon us to honor them, the truth is, they honor us with their presence here.

On September 23, 2012, nearly 100 veterans of the Second World War will arrive in Washington, D.C. through the Honor Flight program. Since 2005, Honor Flight has worked to bring WWII veterans to visit their war memorial at the foot of the Washington Monument, and a few feet from the White House. In that first year, 137 veterans participated in the program. By last year, that total annual participation had swelled to 18,055.

And while each of the veterans who has participated deserves our thanks and our honor, this particular group is special because it marks the second time this year that Honor Flight has brought out a group of veterans from Montana.

You won't find a state that's more proud of our veterans than Montana. And we have a lot of them. In fact, you won't find many states that have more as a percentage of our population.

On December 7, 1941 the United States was pulled into the war and Montanans answered the call to service. Within the first year, 40,000 men and women from the Treasure State enlisted. By the end of the war, 57,000 had served—nearly 10 percent of the state's entire population at the time, one of the highest rates in the country.

They served in every branch and in every theater of the conflict. And too many of them never made it back to Montana, although I think that heaven must be a little something like a peaceful sunset over the Yellowstone River.

But Montana's veterans didn't sacrifice in vain. They bled and died to defeat the greatest threat to freedom the world has ever seen. They fought across the bloody islands of the Pacific and in the frozen forests of Europe. They fought in the air, land and sea. Some even fought below the waves. And they won.

Today, the men and women who fought and won that war are justifiably part of what is called the Greatest Generation. The sacrifices of men and women who arrive in Washington, D.C. are the reason for this honorable title. It is not something we gave to them, it's something they earned.

As they visit this city and reflect on what it stands for as a beacon of freedom to the world, I think the rest of us should remember that the reason liberty still exists is because good men stood up to tyranny. They are the greatest of the Greatest Generation, and on behalf of all Montanans, I want to thank them.

57,000 Montanans served during World War II. Just under 100 are here this week. Please join me in welcoming and honoring:

Lee Alderdice (Polson, MT); Milton Lyman Amsden (Broadus, MT); Harry A. Arvidson (Lincoln, MT); Peter N. "Bert" Bertram (Absarokee, MT); Leonard E. "Len" Bestrom (Laurel, MT); Warren Charles Bodecker

(Plains, MT); Ralph Floyd Brewington (Broadview, MT); James C. "Jim" Brook (Lewistown, MT); William Boner "Bill" Brown (Billings, MT); Jackson Lamar "Jack" Burger (Lavina, MT); Filmore Burton Canon (Broadus, MT); John M. Clark (Butte, MT); Harold Lee "Hal" Conrad (Lewistown, MT); Hollis E. Coon (Butte, MT); Gool Counts (Livingston, MT); Carley Rhein Cromwell (Missoula, MT); Leo Eckhardt (Billings, MT); James E. "Jim" Elander (Missoula, MT); James "Jim" Ellison (Billings, MT); Charles T. "Bosco" Eskro (Billings, MT); Frank D. Evans (Billings, MT); Alvin Oscar Fisher (Billings, MT); Samuel W. Frank (Laurel, MT); Durl J. Gibbs (Buffalo, MT); Raymond P. "Ray" Gregori (Hungry Horse, MT); Robert Glover Hall (Potomac, MT); Charles E. "Chuck" Halstead (Columbus, MT); Thomas A. "Tom" Hanel (Billings, MT); Russell LeRoy Hartse (Missoula, MT); James "Jim" Hasterlik (Great Falls, MT); Milam V. Hearron (Billings, MT); McDonald Watkins "Don" Held (Billings, MT); Lewis William "Louie" Holzheimer (Great Falls, MT); Bernard E. "Barney" Ilerston (Corvallis, MT); Earl T. Jackson (Deer Lodge, MT); Elwin M. Johnson (Laurel, MT); George L. Kimmel (Billings, MT); Vincent Leo "Vince" Koefeld (Laurel, MT); Vernon Lee "Vern" Koelzer (Billings, MT); Frank J. Kocilya (Lewistown, MT); Andre Rioul "Andy" Kukay (Great Falls, MT); Willard E. "Bud" LaCounte (Billings, MT); Albert Raymond "Al" Lasater (Ryegate, MT); Harold J. Lasater (Forsyth, MT); Gorvan J. "Duke" LeDuc (Laurel, MT); Oscar Lawrence "Lawrence" Lee (Shepherd, MT); Norman D. Leonard (Billings, MT); Joseph Biggs "Joe" Little (Bozeman, MT); Max E. Long (Laurel, MT); Robert W. Lubbers (Billings, MT); Leonard John "Pat" Mager (Harlowton, MT); James J. Marshall (Missoula, MT); William R. "Bill" Matthew (Anaconda, MT); Paul Messer (Billings, MT); Elizabeth Steele "Betty" Meyer (Paradise, MT); Geraldine E. "Gerry" Mihalic (Missoula, MT); Gerald Kenneth "Jerry" Nelson (Billings, MT); John H. "O'bie" O'Bannon (Stevensville, MT); Clarence Allan "Ole" Olson (Billings, MT); Eddie C. Olson (Vida, MT); Ray A. "Ole" Olson (Billings, MT); Thomas F. "Pat" Patterson (Stevensville, MT); Roy Louis "Pete" Peters (Roy, MT); John W. Porter (Deer Lodge, MT); Carl "Corky" Redding (Billings, MT); Michael Gene Rhodes (Billings, MT); Robert V. "Bob" Ryan (E. Helena, MT); Charles Franklin "Frank" Sandford (Missoula, MT); Dave Schledewitz (Townsend, MT); Lawrence Norbert Shipp (Miles City, MT); William James "Jim" Sivelle (Poison, MT); Anthony William "Bill" Skorupa (Bridger, MT); Charles E. "Chuck" Smith (Billings, MT); Donald E. Smith (Melville, MT); Kenneth C. "K.C." Smith (St. Regis, MT); Robert M. "Bob" Standerfer (Billings, MT); John R. "Jack" Stevenson (Missoula, MT); Frank Phillip Thatcher (Billings, MT); Clifford V. "Cliff" Thomsen (Billings, MT); Robert E. "Bob" Torgrimson (Billings, MT); Ronald Wilmar "Buck" Torstenson (Kalispell, MT); James Arthur "Jim" Vick (Billings, MT); Albert "Al" Wade (Billings, MT); James Forest "Jim" Walker (Billings, MT); Bernard Edgar Wanderaas (Vida, MT); Joseph A. "Joe" Weber (Deer Lodge, MT); Allen L. "Buster" Whittington (Billings, MT); Bryce Wood Williams (Billings, MT); Andrew R. "Pete" Winter (Ronan, MT).

WISHING THE PEOPLE OF TAIWAN
A JOYOUS NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATION**HON. BLAKE FARENTHOLD**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. FARENTHOLD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my congratulations and best wishes to President Ma Ying-jeou on the occasion of Republic of China (Taiwan)'s National Day. This national holiday commemorates the 1911 Wu-ch'ang uprising that ended centuries of monarchy and led to the birth of the Republic of China.

Taiwan and the United States enjoy a robust relationship that reflects our two countries' historical, cultural and economic ties over the last century. Despite lack of formal relations between the two countries, the United States and Taiwan continue to be strong partners in trade, cultural and educational exchanges as well as cooperation in many other areas. Taiwan's cooperation with the United States in combating global terrorism has earned the trust of the American people and boosted exchanges and friendship between our two nations. Such relations also extend to discussions over Taiwan's military needs. A strong Taipei-Washington relationship is in both governments' best interests for the stability of East Asia. This year, we celebrated the 33rd anniversary of the enactment of the Taiwan Relations Act, the cornerstone of U.S.-Taiwan relations.

My additional congratulations to the people of Taiwan for their continued participation in the World Health Assembly meetings this May in Geneva. I hope Taiwan will also soon join the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).

I join my fellow colleagues in wishing the people of Taiwan a joyous National Day celebration and look forward to expanding our strong relationship.

RECOGNIZING MR. ROBERT SMALL

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and thank Mr. Robert W. Small for the time and energy he has dedicated to the Military Academy Nomination process by serving the constituents of the 19th Congressional District as a member of our Academy Selection Board.

Robert W. Small was born in Lordsburg, New Mexico on February 11, 1935. Mr. Small served his country in both the United States Marine Corps and the United States Army. While in the Marine Corps, he was called to duty on combat missions in both Korea and Vietnam; yet, his service went beyond combat. Mr. Small completed duty as a Marine Corps Drill Instructor and Marine Corps Recruiter in addition to assignments with Inspector Instructor Staff, Hawk Missile System, and Infantry and Tanks.

Beyond his work with the United States Marine Corps, Mr. Small has a distinguished career with the United States Army. As an Army

Recruiter, Mr. Small recruited for the Army National Guard. His hard work was recognized in 1981, when he was awarded as the Top Recruiter for the entire nation—having enlisted 139 soldiers in one fiscal year. This award is a testament to Mr. Small's impeccable work ethic.

Mr. Small's enthusiastic service to his country is demonstrated by his wide range of military work, including the California State Military Reserve. He served as Battalion Commander and Director of Recruiting State Wide and was assigned to the Commanding General's Staff as Staff Duty Officer. Mr. Small retired at the rank of Lt. Colonel. With forty years of military service, he serves as an example to all in his community.

Beyond the military, Mr. Small continues to exemplify true citizenship in his civilian life. He attended California State University, Fresno and West Coast Bible College. Mr. Small was a founding Pastor of Wahiiwa Church of God in Oahu, Hawaii and a Pastor of Pinole Church of God in Pinole, California. He currently serves as Senior Care Pastor at Northwest Church in Fresno, California. He is a member of the American Legion, VFW, and current Commandant of the Marine Corps League.

Robert served as Staff Assistant and Military Liaison to Congressman George Radanovich, former Representative of the 19th District of California. In addition, he served on the Academy Selection Board for both Congressman Radanovich and me.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Robert W. Small for his outstanding service to his country and community. His expertise as a member of the United States Armed Services and life experiences have made his time on the Academy Selection Board invaluable. He is a true public servant, and I wish him continued success in his future endeavors.

A TRIBUTE TO CHAIRMAN PAUL F. OREFFICE

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Chairman Paul F. Oreffice of The Dow Chemical Company for his distinguished life and career as he nears his 85th birthday. Mr. Oreffice is a true American success story, having immigrated to the United States from Venice when he was 12 years old to later becoming the CEO of one of the world's largest and most recognized corporations.

Paul joined The Dow Chemical Company in 1953, after graduating from Purdue University and serving two years in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. He maintained a variety of international assignments early in his career before being named President and Chief Executive Officer in 1978. His adept business skills while head of the company helped him become the first person to receive both the Palladium medal and the Chemical Industry medal in the late 1980s. He was named Chairman of the Board in 1986, and served in that position until his retirement in 1992. Throughout his tenure, The Dow Chemical Company remained one of the largest and most well-respected manufacturing companies in the world.

It is because of the determination and success of individuals like Paul that America remains the land of opportunity for folks wishing to achieve great things through hard work and ingenuity. On behalf of the Fourth Congressional District, I congratulate Paul for his remarkable life and career.

CRANE HERITAGE DAY HONOREE—
EVELYN STRODER

HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate a stalwart of our community, Evelyn Stroder, who is being recognized as this year's Crane Heritage Day honoree.

When I think of what it takes to make a strong community, I think of someone like Evelyn. Communities can be united in many aspects, but one central component found in strong communities is service. And service to our community has been at the core of Evelyn's life.

Evelyn's journey began in Corpus Christi where she graduated from high school and attended Del Mar Junior College before she went on to earn a B.A. in English and Journalism from Baylor University. Later she earned an M.A. in American Literature and Mass Communications from UTPB.

In 1955, Evelyn and her husband, Charles, moved from Corpus Christi to Crane. Once in Crane, Evelyn would use her education to give back. She served others as an educator for 28 years and continues to serve on the Crane School Board. While Evelyn no longer teaches, she still remains active in the Permian Historical Society and the Crane County Historical Commission. Her journalistic accomplishments include her presented papers and published work in a variety of publications throughout Texas, and currently she serves as the assistant editor of the Permian Historical Society Annual.

One would think that with such a busy schedule, Evelyn would not have time for much else in life. However, in between all these accomplishments, she has managed to raise three children, seven grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren—a notable accomplishment in itself!

On behalf of the 11th District, it is an honor to recognize Evelyn because she is an example of those who have made our nation strong. Our nation did not become great from the top down, but from the bottom up—from the people in our neighborhoods willing to serve and make their community a better place for others and their children. Evelyn is one of these individuals. Through this award, she is rightly recognized for the time and sacrifice she has dedicated to others and it is an honor to represent her in the Halls of Congress.

CONGRATULATIONS TO COLONEL
THEODORE C. "TC" WILLIAMS ON
HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE
UNITED STATES ARMY

HON. HOWARD P. "BUCK" McKEON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an exceptional officer in the United States Army, Colonel Theodore C. "TC" Williams. Throughout his 27 years of distinguished service, COL Williams has personified the Army values of duty, integrity and selfless service across the many missions that the Army provides in defense of our Nation. As the Chief of Programs Division in the Office of the Secretary of the Army, many of us on Capitol Hill have enjoyed the opportunity to work with COL Williams on a wide variety of Army issues and programs. It's my privilege to recognize COL Williams and his many accomplishments.

COL Williams, the son of the late Theodore C. Williams, Jr and Phyllis Kane Williams of Potomac, Maryland, attended Winston Church Hill Senior High School in Potomac, Maryland, and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Infantry in 1985 after graduating from The Citadel in South Carolina.

He served from 1986 to 1989 as a rifle platoon leader, company executive officer, and reconnaissance platoon leader in 1st Battalion, 27th Infantry "Wolfhounds" at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. From 1990 to 1993, he served as the battalion assistant operations officer then commander of Bravo Company in 3rd Battalion, 7th Infantry Cotton-Bailers during the Persian Gulf War and at Fort Stewart, Georgia. From 1993 to 1994, COL Williams served as a Senior Infantry Trainer in the 24th Infantry Division Resident Training Detachment assisting the 48th Brigade, Georgia National Guard. From 1995 to 1998, COL Williams was a small group instructor for the Infantry Officers Advanced Course and tactics team chief in the Tactics Department of the Infantry School at Fort Benning, Georgia. From 1999 to 2001, he served as operations officer and then executive officer in 1st Battalion, 23rd Infantry "Tomahawks" at Fort Lewis, Washington.

From 2001 to 2003, COL Williams was an Army Congressional liaison in the Office of the Chief of Legislative Liaison where he was principally responsible for overseeing the efficient operation of the division and managing the Army's legislative portfolio on the Chem-Bio Defense program.

In 2003, LTC Williams left OCLL to take command of the 2nd Battalion, 6th Infantry "Gators" during Operation Iraqi Freedom and at Smith Barracks in Germany from June 2003 to June 2005. For twelve months, Force Gator conducted combat and stability operations in southeast Baghdad. In April 2004, while conducting transfer of authority to the follow-on unit, the tactical situation in Iraq deteriorated and the battalion task force was alerted to conduct combat operations in Najaf and Al Kut. Following decisive combat operations in south-central Iraq, the task force was extended in Iraq for three months to conduct combat and stability operations in the infamous "Triangle of Death." For operations conducted April to July 2004, the battalion received the Presidential Unit Citation as part of

the 2nd Brigade, 1st Armored Division. Upon redeploying to Germany after fifteen months in Iraq, the battalion conducted reset and full-spectrum operations training in preparation to deploy again in late 2005.

From 2005 to 2007, LTC Williams returned to the Office of the Chief of Legislative Liaison to serve as the Legislative Assistant to the Vice Chief of Staff, Army (VCSA). He stood out amongst his peers and made himself an indispensable part of the VCSA's personal staff.

From 2007 to 2009, he was promoted to Colonel and led the division within OCLL that develops the congressional engagement strategy for the Secretary, Chief of Staff, Under Secretary, Vice Chief of Staff, and Sergeant Major of the Army. He performed exceptionally. He personally improved the Army's strategic communication with the Congress, and developed the engagement strategy and legislative objectives for the Army's Senior Leadership.

From 2009 to 2012, COL Williams performed duties as the Chief of Programs. He expertly led the planning of the Army's congressional engagement strategies between senior Army Staff leaders and Members of Congress, leading directly to a defense authorization bill that enhanced the Army's ability to recruit, retain, and reset the world's premiere fighting force.

Through these varying assignments, COL Williams provided outstanding leadership, advice, and sound professional judgment on critical issues of enduring importance to both the Army and Congress. On behalf of Congress, I thank COL Williams, his wife Helen, and his entire family for the commitment, sacrifices, and contribution they have made throughout his honorable military career. Congratulations on completing an exceptional and successful career.

IN HONOR OF MS. SYLVIA
RUCINSKI

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH
OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Ms. Sylvia Rucinski who is being honored by the Polonia Foundation on October 7, 2012.

Born and raised in Cleveland, Ohio, Sylvia attended Miles Elementary School and graduated from Holy Name High School. She later attended Cuyahoga Community College and John Carroll University. Before beginning her 22 year career at the Alliance of Poles of America, Sylvia held a number of different positions. She previously held jobs with Harris Seybold, Grabler Manufacturing and several school and public libraries.

Sylvia has been a long-time and active member of the Polish-American community. She has been the director for the Alliance of Poles Federal Credit Union and Ohio Division of the Polish American Congress. She also served as the recording secretary of Circle 9 of the Alliance of Poles. Because of her unwavering service, Sylvia has been acknowledged by the Alliance of Poles as the recipient of the 2004 Meritorious Service Medal and Award and named the 2003 Grand Lady of Pulaski by the Polonia Foundation.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Mrs. Sylvia Rucinski and congratulating her as she is recognized by the Polonia Foundation.

HONORING MR. OLIVER SIEBERT
OF CHESTERFIELD, MISSOURI

HON. W. TODD AKIN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. AKIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Oliver Siebert of Chesterfield, Missouri. The French government recently awarded Mr. Siebert the Legion of Honor for his part in the liberation of Strasbourg, France. The medal and the accompanying title of Knight of the Legion of Honor is the highest military award given by the French government.

Mr. Siebert, just twenty years old, was an acting second lieutenant leading the 324th infantry battalion and the 220th field artillery in November 1944. American forces, operating jointly with elements of the French Second Armored Division under the command of Captain Jean Penet, fought across the Vosges Mountains in the French Alps throughout October and November 1944. On 23 November 1944 elements of the French Army entered Strasbourg and liberated the city.

Mr. Siebert's service did not end with the liberation of Strasbourg. While conducting operations in support of the assault of Hangviller on 27 November 1944, Mr. Siebert and a small group of American soldiers were captured by German SS soldiers disguised as U.S. troops. Three days later, after overpowering two SS officers and commandeering their car, he was able to escape and return to his duties as an artillery forward observer.

On Christmas Day 1944 a German shell landed not far from his forward observation post and caused severe damage to his right leg. German strafing of the ambulance that evacuated him that night caused further damage that would require extensive surgery and lengthy convalescence to repair. After treatment at several American military hospitals, Mr. Siebert was honorably discharged on 18 August 1945.

Mr. Siebert returned to St. Louis, earned a degree in mechanical engineering from Washington University and in 1948 married Virginia Turner, his wife now for more than 63 years.

I am truly honored to have the opportunity to share this heroic story. This son of a truck driver for Anheuser-Busch, despite initially being rejected for military service because he was "clinically blind", did not give up his quest to do his part to defeat Nazi Germany. And now, almost seventy years later, I join the French government in honoring his sacrifice and service to the French people and these United States.

Mr. Siebert, thank you. And may God Bless you and your family.

CONGRATULATING MR. DEREK
CAVILLA FOR COMPLETING THE
NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART'S
SUMMER TEACHER INSTITUTE

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. WEBSTER. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize Mr. Derek Cavilla of Orlando, Florida, a teacher at Workforce Advantage Academy, upon his completion of the National Gallery of Art's Annual Summer Teacher Institute. During the National Gallery's six-day seminar, Mr. Cavilla intensively studied the foundation of twentieth-century art by examining the pioneering artists of French impressionism and post-impressionism.

In order for participants to be accepted in to the Gallery's Teacher Institute seminar, they must first complete a rigorous application process. Mr. Cavilla was one of only forty-five teachers from across the nation chosen to participate in this year's National Gallery of Art's Teacher Institute. From this seminar, teachers are able to return to their schools and students with new tools and ideas that will enhance education curriculum of all grade levels and subjects. The students of Central Florida are blessed to have such a dedicated educator as Mr. Cavilla.

On behalf of the citizens of Central Florida, I am pleased to recognize and congratulate Mr. Derek Cavilla on his acceptance to and successful completion of the National Gallery of Art's Annual Summer Teacher Institute. May his dedication to our nation's educational institutions and students inspire others to follow in his footsteps.

FIRST ANNUAL AMERICA'S
FAMILY DAY

HON. JOE BARTON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on October 6, there will be an event taking place in Santa Monica, CA that I would like to highlight. This event will be the First Annual America's Family Day. The purpose of this event will be to celebrate families and to stress the importance of protecting and investing in our children.

On March 7, 2012, the Bi-Partisan Privacy Caucus, in which I serve as the co-Chairman, held a briefing to directly highlight H.R. 1895, the Do Not Track Kids Act of 2011. On our panel, we were joined by Nick Cannon, Spokesperson for Safe Communications, who shared the same passion of ensuring that our children are protected across all platforms. He graciously publicly endorsed H.R. 1895 and has decided to champion the cause by holding the very first America's Family Day.

I believe that Republicans and Democrats alike can agree that family is a sacred institution that deserves our time, energy, and devotion. I am blessed to have a loving wife, four wonderful children, two stepchildren, and five grandchildren. I want nothing more than to do my part to make sure they are secure, safe, and well protected. In this sentiment, I am

happy to offer my support for the First Annual America's Family Day.

HONORING STATE
REPRESENTATIVE PAUL ROAN

HON. DAN BOREN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. BOREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a man of determination, service, and integrity—State Representative Paul Roan of Tishomingo, Oklahoma.

Roan, a member of the Oklahoma House of Representatives, has served his district and state with distinction during the years of 2000 to 2012.

Paul's legislative work has been devoted to helping Oklahoma's brave veterans and emergency responders, protecting the state's natural resources and improving education for young people.

His personal career has been built on a foundation of public service. Roan proudly served our country as a member of the United States Air Force, he then spent time as an educator, a police officer and was elected Deputy Sheriff of Pontotoc County, followed by over 20 years of service as an Oklahoma Highway Patrol State Trooper.

Representative Roan has been a civic leader in the Oklahoma community for several years, serving as 1st Vice-President of the Oklahoma State Troopers Association, President of Tishomingo Lions Club, Master of Tishomingo Masonic Lodge #91, and a member of Johnston County Chamber of Commerce and American Legion Post 164.

It is with great pleasure that I take this opportunity to acknowledge not only his successes in the Oklahoma legislature, but also as a devoted father and family man.

Paul Roan is the husband of Betty Roan and father of Chris, Brad, and Angela Roan. The 20th House District of Oklahoma is a better place because of the service of Paul Roan.

IN HONOR OF SEA OTTER
AWARENESS WEEK

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention to the 10th Annual Sea Otter Awareness Week, September 23–29, 2012 sponsored by Friends of the Sea Otter located in my congressional district. This week-long event highlights one of the most iconic species in California and the integral role they play in the near-shore marine ecosystem and draws public attention to sea otters and the conservation issues they face.

We all know that sea otter recovery has been met with challenges and sea otter populations remain threatened. Each day, research is uncovering additional causes of sea otter population declines. As a keystone species, sea otters hold the entire kelp forest ecosystem together, and as a bellwether species, they are an important indicator of the health of the marine environment. The decline of south-

ern sea otters off of the California coast not only impacts the species itself, but also affects other marine populations and the surrounding ecosystems. The demise of sea otters allows their prey, sea urchins, to proliferate unchecked—leading to the alarming overgrazing of kelp beds, which function as critical nursery grounds for many marine animals, and also help to sequester CO₂. Recent research has shown that spreading kelp can absorb as much as 12 times the CO₂ from the atmosphere than would an urchin dominated system.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service should be commended for their efforts in the recovery of the southern sea otter. Termination of the translocation program, allowing sea otters expansion into southern Californian waters, is a critical step along that path to recovery. I am concerned that language in the House version of the FY13 NDAA contains language that would impede the termination of this failed program and those flawed sections of the bill must be removed.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud the many accomplishments of Friends of the Sea Otter and other non-profit environmental organizations that work on southern sea otter recovery in the Monterey Bay region. The Monterey Bay Aquarium, researchers, fishermen, state and federal agencies, schools, and many other institutions and individuals devote tremendous time and resources to protect and recover the southern California sea otter. Sea Otter Awareness Week is just one of their many activities geared towards honoring and saving this species, and I am proud to be associated with this vital work.

IN RECOGNITION OF TAIWAN'S
NATIONAL DAY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the people of the Republic of China (Taiwan) on its upcoming National Day.

During the last four and a half years, the Republic of China's President Ma has further strengthened the ties between Taiwan and the United States. One way Taiwan has accomplished this has been by reducing its trade surplus with the U.S. year after year. Additionally, Taiwan recently lifted its ban on U.S. beef imports. Taiwan's lifting will help our beef industry economically and Taiwan's example will encourage other countries to lift their bans against U.S. beef and beef products.

Taiwan is also known for being a champion of peace. In addition to reducing tensions across the Taiwan Strait, Taiwan has continued to assert itself as a proponent of peaceful solutions. For instance, in the most recent dispute over the Diaoyutai/Senkaku islands, Taiwan has urged all parties to exercise patience and to put aside their differences, instead of resorting to military threats.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me today in congratulating Taiwan on its 101st National Day. I am confident that the friendship and close relationship that has been cultivated by the United States and Taiwan will continue for many years to come.

HONORING SENIOR MASTER
SERGEANT EMILIO HERNANDEZ

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, I proudly rise today to honor Senior Master Sergeant Emilio Hernandez, an exceptional individual who has most recently been awarded the 2012 Outstanding Airman of the Year award by the United States Air Force. This prestigious award is given to only 12 members of the Air Force each year for their superior leadership, job performance, community involvement, and personal achievements.

SMSGt Hernandez was born in Havana, Cuba but grew up in Miami, FL. He graduated from Hialeah High School in 1990 and began his military career in 1992, serving at both Sheppard AFB in Texas and K.I. Sawyer Air Force Base in Michigan. He was deployed to Incirlik Air Base in Turkey later that year in support of Operation PROVIDE COMFORT where he garnered two achievement medals, and was selected as a holiday phone call recipient from then President Bill Clinton. His decorated service history includes deployments to Kuwait in support of Operation SOUTHERN WATCH, and Baghdad in support of both Operations IRAQI FREEDOM and ENDURING FREEDOM.

In 2008, SMSGt Hernandez was assigned to his current position in the 100th Civil Engineer Squadron as Superintendent Operations Flight at RAF Mildenhall in the United Kingdom. In 2009 he deployed to Ali Base Iraq, where he served as Electrical Superintendent of the 407th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron and received the Meritorious Service Medal. Later, he was selected as the 100th Civil Engineer Squadron's 2009 Senior Noncommissioned Officer of the year. In 2011 SMSGt Hernandez was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for his service at Kandahar Airfield as the Operations Flight Chief of the 777th Expeditionary Prime BEEF Squadron.

In his current position, SMSGt Hernandez has led 52 people in 53 civil engineering projects at 163 forward operating bases in support of 85,000 warfighters. He orchestrated \$80,000 in repairs to nine Marine Corps aircraft hangers to safeguard \$300 million in assets in support of a vital ISR platform. He oversaw a project to upgrade an electrical grid on a dam which preserved water and power flow to 450,000 Afghans, and managed the construction of two tactical operations centers worth \$500,000, securing Afghanistan's key district of Panjwai.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Senior Master Sergeant Emilio Hernandez for his continued service to our nation, and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing this remarkable individual.

RECOGNITION OF TAIWAN'S
NATIONAL DAY

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, in celebration of Taiwan's National Day on October

10th, I believe it fitting to call to mind one of the basic elements of the Taiwan Relations Act (TRA) that has long guided America's worldwide relationships.

The TRA states in SEC 2(b)(4)

“. . . to consider any effort to determine the future of Taiwan by other than peaceful means, including by boycotts or embargoes, a threat to the peace and security of the Western Pacific area and of grave concern to the United States;”

The Taiwan Relations Act is monumental in the unique impact it has had in maintaining the Peace in the Pacific and our relationship with the nations of the Region.

Congratulations to Taiwan during this exciting time in your country's history and for helping to maintain peace in Southeast Asia.

CONGRATULATING HEALTH CENTRAL HOSPITAL ON 60TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. WEBSTER. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize the 60th anniversary of Health Central Hospital of Ocoee, Florida. Since 1952, the dedicated physicians and staff of Health Central Hospital have compassionately provided excellent healthcare services to residents across Central Florida.

West Orange Memorial Hospital, as it was originally named, moved from Winter Garden, Florida to Ocoee, Florida in 1993. Today, Health Central Hospital is an 85-acre medical facility, housing a 171-bed acute care hospital, physician offices, and a newly renovated 34-bed emergency center. Health Central's dedication to their patients is evident not only in their healthcare service, but also through their involvement in the community.

On behalf of the citizens of Central Florida, I am pleased to congratulate and applaud Health Central Hospital, along with their physicians and staff, for their efforts to enrich the lives of their patients and the Central Florida community for the past 60 years. May their example of compassion and dedication inspire others to follow in their footsteps.

HONORING FAIR FAMILY FARMS OF MANN'S CHOICE, PENNSYLVANIA

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Fair Family Farms of Mann's Choice, Pennsylvania. On September 5, 2012, the farm marked its 200 years of continuous ownership and operation by the descendents of Lewis Turner.

In 1812, Lewis Turner of Loudon County, Virginia, purchased the 241-acres that would become the original farm from the Estate of George Woods and from Dr. John and Mary Anderson of Bedford County. Lewis and his wife, Anna Maria Beltz, raised their six children on the farm. Following Lewis' death, his

eldest son Fredrick Turner purchased the farm on April 24, 1838. Frederick and his wife, Susannah Mahala Exline, raised their seven children on the farm and constructed a gristmill on the property, remnants of which are still visible today.

Upon Frederick Turner's death, the farm was divided between three of his sons. One of the three, Andrew Turner, purchased the 95-acre Parent Parcel, a portion of the original land that has remained in the family's possession since the original 1812 survey. In 1865, Andrew and his wife Anna Mariah Hillegass constructed a barn and homestead in which they raised their eight children. The homestead remains in use to this day.

Following the death of Anna Maria, the farm passed to her daughter Mary M. Turner and her husband, John W. Fair, on December 20, 1912. On April 2, 1923, they transferred the property to one of their six children, Ralph A. Fair, and his wife, E. Mae Mowry. The farm changed hands again on February 12, 1959, when Ralph H. and Floyd A. Fair, two of Ralph and Mae's three sons, took possession of the property. Since 1979, Ralph and his wife, Geraldine V. Coughenour, have worked to acquire portions of the original land that had been subdivided and sold over the years, and now hold 226 of the original 241 acres. Throughout their 55 years of marriage, Ralph and Geraldine have always lived on the farm where Ralph was born and where they raised their six children, two of whom still live on the property.

After Floyd's death, full ownership of the farm passed to Ralph and Geraldine, on June 29, 2006. In 2008, Ralph and Geraldine created Fair Family Farms LLC to hold and preserve all the farm's land. They, as well as four of their children, are partners of the LLC, making them the 6th and 7th generation owners of the ancestral farm.

Since the farm's creation 200 years ago, it has remained an active dairy. Currently, Fair Family Farms is the only Pennsylvania Certified Organic dairy in Bedford County, producing milk, hay, corn and oats, as well as a significant poultry operation that produces million of eggs each year.

It is quite an accomplishment to keep a farm productive and in the same family for seven generations. Happy bicentennial, Fair Family Farms, and best wishes for many more!

RECOGNIZING AND THANKING CAPTAIN ROD W. STUBBLEFIELD

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and thank Captain Rod W. Stubblefield for the time and energy he has dedicated to the Military Academy Nomination process by serving the constituents of the 19th Congressional District as a member of our Academy Selection Board.

Rod W. Stubblefield was born, raised, and schooled in Fresno, California. He graduated from California State University, Fresno (CSFU) with a Bachelor of the Arts and was a four-year letterman with the Fresno State Football Team. He returned to CSUF as a graduate student, where he earned his Mas-

ter's in Business Administration. For 51 years, he has been a Trustee and Board Member of the Bulldog Foundation at Fresno State University and is a devoted fan and supporter of Bulldog Football.

He has been married to Carol Stubblefield for 52 years, and their family has traveled extensively. They have been blessed with two sons, Tim and Curtis, and two grandchildren, Tori and Nicholas.

Captain Stubblefield entered the United States Navy as a Seaman Recruit in January, 1951. He was a member of the 12-1 Surface Division while he completed his undergraduate education. In August of 1954, Mr. Stubblefield was commissioned as an Ensign in U.S. Navy.

His professional schooling includes Department of Defense Graduate Studies, Boeing Aircraft Management Studies, National Security Management School, and studies at the Naval War College. Captain Stubblefield holds Active Duty Certification specialties in Explosive Ordnance Disposal, Master Deep Sea Diver, Scuba Diver, and Extensive Training in Atomic, Biological, and Nuclear Warfare and Terrorist Insurgency. In addition, he is a surface-qualified officer. He has served numerous tours at sea, including U.S.S. Laws DD 558, U.S.S. Renville APA 227, U.S.S. Estes LCC 12, along with many more.

Captain Stubblefield's major shore duties include Commanding officer: Naval Ammunition Depot, Hawthorne, Nevada; Officer in Charge: Naval Riverine Operations and Special Forces, Mare Island, California; Officer in Charge: Counterinsurgency Training with EOD, Unit 1, Hawaii; and Officer in Charge: US Navy Elk Hills, California, Petroleum Facility. Captain Stubblefield retired from the active service with the U.S. Navy on July 1, 1985.

Capstain Stubblefield continues to serve his country as a representative of the U.S. Naval Academy. In 1973, the Navy assigned Capt. Stubblefield as the Central California Blue and Gold Officer. He currently represents thirty schools in the Central Valley. He as served on five Congressional All Academy Nominating Committees and is currently assigned to the 19th Congressional District of California. Captain Stubblefield greatly helped me during my term in Congress and has served honorably for Congressmen Sisk, Krebs, Coehlo and Radanovich.

Beyond his significant military career, Captain Stubblefield has been employed by New York Life and NYLIFE Securities for 56 years as a Financial Planner and Agent. The Stubblefield Office specialized in Business, Personal and Estate Planning. Captain Stubblefield has been a Club Member for 45 years and also holds the Chartered Life Underwriter and Charter Financial Consultant designations. The Stubblefield Family has a combined service to New York Life for over 200 years. Captain Stubblefield has also been Life Member of the Million Dollar Round Table for 37 years.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Captain Rod W. Stubblefield for his outstanding service to his country and community. He has served the U.S. Navy for a total of 61 years, including 39 years at the Blue and Gold Officer to the United States Naval Academy. This service, along with his dedicated work as part of the Academy Selection Board, makes him an invaluable asset to his community. He is a true public servant, and I wish him continued success in his future endeavors.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH DENBIGH
150TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a legacy of faith in Virginia's Third Congressional District. This year, First Baptist Church Denbigh in Newport News is celebrating its 150th anniversary, and I would like to take a moment to reflect on the history of this esteemed institution and its contributions to the greater Hampton Roads community.

The story of First Baptist Church Denbigh begins in July 1862 as the Civil War raged. A Recognizing Council was called to meet at the old Denbigh Baptist Church. They chose Rev. Peter Banks to lead the congregation. Rev. T. G. Wright became the second pastor, serving from 1863 to 1869. During his administration, the white community returned to claim their church building. Rev. Wright and congregation moved to the current location, building a small house of worship.

During the tenure of Rev. T. G. Nettles (1870–1881), a larger house was built to accommodate increased membership and the church was renamed to "First Baptist Church of Warwick County." Other ministers were Reverends Watt Talton (1882–1883), J. B. Whiting (1883–1887), Robert H. Nazareth (1887–1912), T. C. Williams (1912–13), A. A. Hudgins (1913–26), Isaac Daniel (1926–32), J. D. Atkins (1933–40), and Joseph H. Brown (1941–48), all of whom added to the church in both physical form and spiritual leadership. During this period, the church was renamed "First Baptist Church Denbigh."

For the next ten years, the church received sermons from Reverends B F. Burton and I. L. Buie along with other leaders. Later ministers were Reverends Samuel Fladger (1959–63), T. T. Brown (1963–67), and Albert L. Hill (1968–73), who initiated a bond sale to build a new air conditioned facility, with an indoor baptismal pool, which held its first services in 1972.

Rev. Herbert A. Hill, Jr. began his pastorate in 1974 and gave the church the strength to endure though a tragic fire in 1986 which destroyed the church edifice. For a time, services were held in schools and other places in the community. In 1987, Rev. Hill's tenure as pastor ended and associate pastors provided guidance to the flock.

In 1987, Edward Talton, a deacon for more than 40 years, was called into the ministry. Rev. Talton preached only two sermons from the pulpit before his death, but his life was a sermon in itself. In 1988, Rev. Haywood Barnes was voted to serve as interim pastor. Since 1988, Rev. Ivan T. Harris has led services, assuming the full-time pastorate in October 1991. Through Pastor Harris' efforts, the church's 25 year mortgage was burned on October 9, 1994—after only 6½ years.

Over the years, the First Baptist community has continued to flourish. Successful fund-raising has afforded the church handicap-accessible transportation, a new Church Bell, an Education Center, Child Development Center,

Family Life Center, and modern technologies. In addition to Sunday prayers, the church offers Summer Bible School, The Bible Institute, and GED, Homebound and Short Term Suspension programs. It provides over 30 ministries and is home to several choirs. The Church leads charitable causes including the The Hunt Food Locker, Food Mobile, Summer Feeding Program, an Outreach Center for women's transitional housing, a Clothes Closet, and the adoption of a low-income neighborhood.

Perhaps the most notable activity of the church is their African Village Adoption Project, initiated in 2005. Members have selected a native from Benin, Africa for adoption. The Church as a whole has provided a water well, microbanking program, motorcycles, books, a Christian School, and medical and worship facilities.

As First Baptist Church Denbigh gathers to celebrate this historic milestone, the church can truly remember its past, celebrate its present, and focus on its future. I would like to congratulate Pastor Harris and all of the 2,500 members of First Baptist Church Denbigh on the occasion of their 150th Anniversary. I wish them many more years of dedicated service to the community.

**GARTH PATTERSON—FRIEND OF
THE FISHERMEN, FRIEND OF
MASSACHUSETTS, AND MY
GREAT FRIEND**

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I have never had to learn more about an issue in my life than when I learned in 1992 that the City of New Bedford and its fishing industry was included in the new Congressional district that I have proudly represented. New Bedford is one of the most successful fishing ports in the county, and in fact for the 12th consecutive year New Bedford had the highest-valued catch of any port in the United States. Fishing is not only a vital part of the economy of the region, but an integral component of its culture and social makeup. I could not represent the needs of such a unique community without a talented staff, and I am honored that my long-time aide, Garth Patterson, is the recipient of the 2012 Friend of the Fisherman Award recognizing his exemplary work.

He received this award from the fishing community of New Bedford because of the high quality of the work he has done to provide the kind of first-rate public service and advocacy that is so essential to the continued survival of the fishing industry. In some cases, our advocacy can be uncomplicated, but there are also cases where mastering a very complex body of data is essential if we are to do our job right. Garth provided me with an extraordinary degree of technical expertise, practical knowledge, political savvy, and an ability to understand all viewpoints and articulate his own. He has been an enormous asset not only to me, but also to those concerned with the survival of the fishing industry.

Mr. Speaker, I join the fishermen in thanking Garth. He is a tireless advocate for the com-

munity, and his nearly quarter century of public service is the quintessential model of how constituent relations should be conducted. I am proud that he is receiving this award, proud of his hard work for the people of Massachusetts, and proud to call him my friend.

RECOGNIZING DR. PAT STROH

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise with my colleagues Congressman JOHN GARAMENDI, Congresswoman BARBARA LEE, Congressman JERRY MCNERNEY, and Congressman PETE STARK to recognize Dr. Pat Stroh, the Director of the Family and Children's Services Program in Contra Costa County and congratulate her on her well-earned retirement.

Dr. Stroh earned her Master's Degree from Ball State University and her Doctorate in Education Early Childhood Focus from Walden University. Prior to coming to Contra Costa County in 1998, she served as Director of Head Start in Lexington, Kentucky and directed a U.S. Army Child Development Program in Europe.

Over the years, Dr. Stroh's outstanding work in public service has demonstrated her strong commitment to the children and families of Contra Costa County. Under her leadership, Contra Costa's Head Start Child Development Program's enrollment more than doubled and expanded from a part-day, part-year schedule to close to a full-day, full-year program. In addition, during very difficult economic times, Dr. Stroh was also able to more than double the program budget.

Dr. Stroh's interest and influence extends well beyond our county's borders. As a member of the Board of the National Head Start Association as well as the California Head Start Association, she has worked diligently to enhance and expand the collaborative efforts of these organizations. Pat has also served as Validator and Mentor with the National Association for the Education of Young Children. As a result, the United States Congress was quick to recognize Dr. Stroh as the 2008 California Head Start Association Administrator of the Year for Invaluable Service to the Community.

Our community and Dr. Stroh's colleagues have honored her numerous times, recognizing her passion for children and her ability to develop programs that improve their chance of success in the world. As we well recognize, the success of our children bodes well for the success of our families and our entire community.

Today, we invite our colleagues to join us in honoring Dr. Pat Stroh once again for her dedicated service to the families and children of Contra Costa County. We are pleased to join her family, colleagues and friends in congratulating her on a long and highly successful career and wish her a happy and healthy retirement.

VA MAJOR CONSTRUCTION AUTHORIZATION AND EXPIRING AUTHORITIES EXTENSION ACT OF 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of this long overdue legislation. Among many worthy projects included in this legislation, this bill authorizes the uncompleted construction on the operating rooms at the Miami VA Medical Center.

Every month this construction is delayed, the VA has to pay an additional \$500,000 for a portable operating room. Since this was first brought to our attention in May, that will be over \$2.5 million as of the end of this month. That is \$2,500,000 that could better be spent on the veterans of Florida for their care and comfort.

This project is over 95 percent completed. This bill needs to be passed now.

I want to thank the Chairman of the Veterans' Committee, Mr. MILLER for his help in getting the issue included in a vehicle that could pass both the House and the Senate. There is a dire need for this Medical Center to be whole, with veterans from all over the State of Florida traveling there for treatment.

The original plan for this project was to divide the operating room in half and renovate it in stages. When I visited the Medical Center in June, I heard directly from the administrators of the facility about the project. The planners on the ground realized soon after the construction began that patients could have been put at risk due to contamination of the operating room by the construction on the other side of the room.

Veterans health was being put at risk, and rather than let that happen, it was decided, by those who know veterans health the best, those at the health facilities, to combine the projects into one and rent the portable operating rooms.

It is time for Congress to pass this bill and finish the construction in Miami that our veterans deserve through their service protecting the freedoms this nation hold so dear.

HONORING JOHN LOWRY

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleague Rep. MIKE THOMPSON to recognize the outstanding career of John Lowry. John is retiring after 28 years of service with Burbank Housing. His inspirational leadership in providing affordable housing in Sonoma County, California has given thousands of disadvantaged and low-income Sonoma County residents a place they can call home.

Originally from New York City, John graduated from New York University and holds BA and MA degrees with majors in economics, politics and history. He later decided to obtain a general contractors license and build his

own home. This sparked his interest in self-help housing, which he would later incorporate into Burbank Housing's Homeownership Program.

John began his career of providing affordable housing to Sonoma County California as a project manager on Burbank's first two projects. He was their second employee. Under John's leadership, the non-profit has grown to 140 employees who build, manage and maintain 2,700 affordable rental units as well as helping another 750 families own their homes.

John's work has been lauded by his peers, including being named an Inspirational Non-Profit Leader. The Sonoma County Housing Coalition has honored him with both their Lifetime Achievement Award and their Housing Hero Award.

John also serves our community by working with the California Coalition for Rural Housing and the Home Builders Association of Northern California. He has served on the board of Nonprofit Housing Association of Northern California as well.

In retirement, John plans to continue working to influence state and local housing policies. Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we thank John Lowry for his many years of service on behalf of the people of Sonoma County. He has worked tirelessly to demonstrate his unwavering belief that low-income people of all ages, backgrounds and special needs deserve to live in decent, affordable housing. For this, he deserves our appreciation.

CONGRATULATING MAJOR
GENERAL PETER J. BOYLAN

HON. PAUL C. BROUN

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate Major General Peter J. Boylan who is celebrating his twentieth year as President of Georgia Military College (GMC), and is the longest serving President of the college since its founding in 1879. General Boylan has worked wonders for GMC as he is responsible for restoring the reputation and financial stability of the school, which is now ranked one of the best community colleges in the nation. Through his unwavering determination, he planned and secured funding to rebuild and renovate every structure on the GMC-Milledgeville campus, made possible the addition of previously non-existent athletic fields and facilities, and renovated, relocated, or established-as-new every GMC distant learning and extension center in the state.

Not only is General Boylan a tireless leader and a staunch champion of the academics, he is also a distinguished military retiree himself. He served for more than thirty years in the United States Army which included two tours in the Republic of South Vietnam, and he also participated in the invasion of Grenada with the 82nd Airborne Division. General Boylan's devotion to his country led him to later work with the Joint Chiefs of Staff at the Pentagon and eventually as Deputy Inspector General of the Army. His list of achievements is monumental, which is a testament to how blessed

the student body, staff, and faculty of GMC are to have him as President. Some of his most notable awards include the Distinguished Service Medal, the Silver Star, the Bronze Star, and the Purple Heart amongst many others.

General Boylan's academic accomplishments are equally as impressive. He has a Masters degree in engineering from the University of Michigan as well as a Doctor of Laws from Flagler College. For much of his tenure at GMC, General Boylan has stressed that character building is an integral part of a good education. Having also served, I understand the importance of teaching our youth these traits, and couldn't be more supportive of General Boylan in his efforts. Moreover, General Boylan still finds the time to be an active community servant and a faithful family man. He has been honored with the Floyd Harrington Community Leadership Award, he served on the Committee for the Selection of White House Fellows (New York Region) and was appointed by the Governor of Georgia to the Board of Directors for the Department of Juvenile Justice. Most importantly, he and his wife, Kathleen, have five children and thirteen grandchildren.

I know that GMC, the entire state of Georgia, and this nation are forever grateful to General Boylan for his unwavering love for his country, his dutiful service within the military, and his constant willingness to give back to our nation's youth. I am honored to stand here today and congratulate him on twenty years as President of Georgia Military College.

IN TRIBUTE TO RUSSELL E. TRAIN

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my friend, Russell E. Train, one of our country's most influential and accomplished environmentalists, who died on September 17, 2012 at age 92.

Russell Train was instrumental in developing our nation's environmental policies. He served under Presidents Nixon and Ford as the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency. Under his leadership, the nation made large strides in protecting our air, water, and wildlife, including the adoption of the Safe Drinking Water Act, the Toxic Substance Control Act, the Clean Air Act, coastal zone management, national land-use policy, environmental impact statements and the Endangered Species Act. During his tenure, EPA banned four extremely toxic farm chemicals—aldrin, dieldrin, heptachlor and chlordane—and instituted automobile emission limits.

Mr. Train developed the concept and promoted the establishment of UNESCO's (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) World Heritage program, which provides vital protection to 730 cultural and natural sites around the world and builds on the American national park concept.

Mr. Train's passion and dedication for conservation and the environment were strengthened by travels with his wife Aileen to Africa. In 1961 he founded the African Wildlife Leadership Foundation and in 1965 he resigned as a United States Tax Court judge to become

president of the Conservation Foundation. He served as the Foundation's president until 1969, when he was appointed Under Secretary of the Department of the Interior.

Mr. Train then served as the first chairman of the Council on Environmental Quality from 1970–73 before leading the EPA from 1973–77.

The World Wildlife Fund (WWF) was an important part of Mr. Train's life for over fifty years, from its founding in 1961 until his death. Mr. Train was the first vice-president of WWF–US and was Chairman of the Board of Directors of World Wildlife Fund and of the Conservation Foundation from 1985 until they merged as WWF in 1990. In 1994 Mr. Train was elected WWF Chairman Emeritus and served as Chairman of the WWF National Council from 1994–2001. Mr. Train led WWF–US through extraordinary growth from its inception to become the leading global conservation organization it is today. Mr. Train remained active on the WWF–US Board of Directors and was regularly seen at the WWF offices, encouraging staff and extolling the importance of the EPA. Carter S. Roberts, President & CEO of WWF–US, says of Mr. Train, "Russ was a true national treasure and an inspiration to all of us who embrace conservation as their life's work. He will be well remembered, and forever missed."

Mr. Train received many awards and recognitions, including the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the Heinz Award and the Teddy Roosevelt International Conservation Award.

Russell E. Train was born in Jamestown, Rhode Island and grew up in Washington, DC. He graduated from Princeton University and Columbia University Law School. Mr. Train served in the U.S. Army during World War II.

Mr. Train believed that conservation and environmentalism weren't Democratic or Republican issues—they were national and international issues of importance to everyone who cared about the future of our planet. In 2003, Train published *Politics, Pollution and Pandas: An Environmental Memoir*, tracing his career and providing a history of the U.S. environmental movement. In his memoir, Mr. Train wrote, "I felt strongly that environmental issues needed a sharp, cutting edge in government, one that had high visibility to the public." Fortunately, he noted, "this view finally prevailed."

I hope we can return to a time when protecting our air, water, and the environment is a shared, bipartisan goal. I am proud to have counted Russell Train among my friends and am grateful for his support for our ongoing efforts to follow in former President Teddy Roosevelt's tradition of protecting and preserving our national heritage. At this time in our country's history, we need more Russell Trains. We will miss him dearly, but his legacy is all around us in the cleaner air we breathe, the safer water we drink, and the wildlife that he fought to preserve. When we think of Russell Train, we must block efforts to roll back the victories he won and fight to build upon his noble legacy.

I extend my deepest condolences to Russ Train's wife of 58 years, Aileen Bowdoin Train; to his four children, Emily Rowan, Nancy Smith Gustin, Charles B. Train and my grade-school classmate, Errol T. Giordano; and to his twelve grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Russell E. Train for his ex-

traordinary contributions to our country and our world.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF HOUSE TOWARD ESTABLISHMENT OF A DEMOCRATIC AND PROSPEROUS REPUBLIC OF GEORGIA

SPEECH OF

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, As Chairman of the Subcommittee on Europe and Eurasia I have had the privilege of visiting Georgia twice in the past two years. Last year I led a bipartisan delegation that met with President Saakashvili, his cabinet, Members of Parliament and representatives of various opposition parties. Two weeks ago I briefly passed through Georgia, where I met with President Saakashvili, while traveling between Azerbaijan and Armenia.

Georgia is a country in transition, the purpose of this resolution is not only to acknowledge this fact but to encourage this transition to continue. While serious challenges still remain, there is no doubt that Georgia is committed to developing a strong democratic government, a robust free market economy and joining key international institutions including NATO.

Democratic developments in Georgia range from high level reforms, such as changes to the constitution that strengthen the office of the Prime Minister as well as the Parliament, to lower level reforms, including the creation of "Public Service Halls" that provide essential government services, including passports and drivers licenses, through an efficient and transparent process. As we know, economic development follows political reform as investors seek stable places to grow their capital. Over the past ten years both the capital city, Tbilisi and the Black Sea port of Batumi have been transformed by investment into modern European cities. For Georgia's economy to continue to grow such investment must continue and reach outside the cities to embrace the country as a whole.

Georgia's commitment to NATO has been exemplary. While many alliance members and partners are winding down their commitments to ISAF in Afghanistan, Georgia is increasing its commitment to deploy the highest per capita troop level of any contributing nation. Georgian soldiers are deployed in the dangerous Helmand province where they serve side-by-side with U.S. soldiers and marines. Although participation in ISAF is not a prerequisite for NATO membership, alliance members should recognize that Georgia's commitment to Afghanistan as well as the country's commitment to democratic and defense reforms will make Georgia a model NATO member.

One major challenge that Georgia faces is Russia's continued occupation of two Georgian provinces; Abkhazia and South Ossetia, which is in violation of the August 2008 ceasefire agreement. As this resolution states, Russia has blocked the extension of OSCE and UN observation missions, and prohibits the EU mission from accessing the occupied territories. Last year I traveled to the boundary of Abkhazia from where one can plainly see

that the Russian Army is constructing permanent bases including apartment buildings to house its soldiers. This Congress must condemn this continued illegal occupation.

As we know from our own history, building a successful democracy is a challenge. In less than two weeks, on October 1st, Georgians will go to the polls for parliamentary elections. It is not for those of us in Washington or any other capital to influence the outcome of these elections. The Georgian people must pick their own leaders. However we must urge, as this resolution does, that the Georgian government, the independent election commission, and all political parties ensure that the Georgian people have their say. The success of the elections as a whole, not any one candidate or party, will ensure that Georgia's democratic transition continues.

This resolution, H. Res. 526, is representative of a bipartisan effort to recognize Georgia and the progress it has made and symbolizes U.S. support for a young, but growing democracy. I want to thank Rep. SHUSTER for his efforts and for introducing this resolution. I also want to thank Ranking Member MEEKS, Chairman ROS-LEHTINEN, and Ranking Member BERMAN and their staff for their support of this Subcommittee's efforts to move this resolution.

HONORING ALZHEIMER'S PATIENTS AND CAREGIVERS OF NORTHERN MICHIGAN

HON. DAN BENISHEK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. BENISHEK. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the citizens of the First District of Michigan, I wish to recognize September as World Alzheimer's Month, and specifically today, September 21, 2012, as Alzheimer's Action Day.

Alzheimer's is a type of dementia that destroys brain cells causing problems with memory, judgment, and behavior. Alzheimer's is a serious disease, and is not a normal part of aging. In fact, while most Alzheimer's patients are over age 65, for as many as 5% of its victims, the disease first appeared in their 40s or 50s.

In the United States, an estimated 5.4 million people are living with Alzheimer's disease. Alzheimer's disease is the sixth-leading cause of death in the US, and it is the only cause of death among the top 10 in the United States that cannot be prevented, cured, or even slowed. It has been projected that as many as 16 million Americans may have Alzheimer's by the year 2050.

As a doctor who has treated patients for nearly 30 years in Northern Michigan, I understand the devastating impact Alzheimer's disease can have on patients and their caregivers. In addition to the physical toll Alzheimer's takes on patients, the disease also takes a heavy toll on families serving as caregivers through very difficult times. More than 15 million Americans provide unpaid care to a loved one with Alzheimer's. I am reminded of the words which former President Ronald Reagan shared in announcing his diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease 18 years ago: "Unfortunately, as Alzheimer's disease progresses, the family often bears a heavy burden." Very poignantly, Nancy Reagan referred to Alzheimer's as "the long goodbye."

In sharing his diagnosis, President Reagan also hoped to promote greater awareness of the disease. Although awareness of Alzheimer's has grown, we need to continue educating others about the disease. While there is still no cure or prevention for Alzheimer's, with early detection one can get the maximum benefit from available treatments that may provide some relief and help maintain independence longer. I encourage everyone to know the early warning signs and how they differ from typical age-related changes. For example, suffering from memory loss that disrupts daily life may be an early sign of Alzheimer's, but occasionally forgetting names or appointments, then remembering them later, is normal as we age.

Today, on Alzheimer's Action Day, I stand with the residents of Northern Michigan who are fighting "the long goodbye." I also wish to acknowledge and honor their dedicated caregivers. Thank you for the courage and perseverance you display every day.

TRIBUTE TO KENNETH & SARAH
RAMSEY

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to two natives of southeastern Kentucky, Kenneth and Sarah Ramsey for their inspiring success, spanning more than 40 years in the making. Starting as young entrepreneurs from Artemus, Kentucky, Ken and Sarah now own one of the premier thoroughbred farms in the nation, the Ramsey Farm in Nicholasville, Kentucky.

Ken had a rough start in the horse racing industry in 1969 when he discovered his \$1,500 thoroughbred was blind in one eye and never started. Ken held a trainer's license briefly before becoming an executive in the trucking business. The Ramseys later dabbled in real estate before investing in cellular telephone franchises. It was the extra money from the cell phone business that enabled Ken and Sarah to return to their true love of horses.

The Ramseys bought the famed Almahurst Farm in 1994 after selling their cellular telephone business. Almahurst was the birthplace of the 1918 Kentucky Derby winner Exterminator and standardbred hero Greyhound. They changed the name of the farm, but continued its legendary success.

With their fierce competitive spirit and passion for horses, Ken and Sarah have become leading figures in the horse racing industry, earning Ramsey Farm the highest praise and most coveted awards. Their lofty honors include the 2011 and 2004 Eclipse Award for Outstanding Owners and the first recipients of the John Deere Outstanding Breeders of the 2011 Breeders' Cup Challenge series and the Breeders' Cup World Championships.

They have also won leading owner titles at Belmont, Keeneland, Saratoga, Gulfstream Park, Ellis Park, Turfway, and currently hold the record at Churchill Downs with the most owner titles won in the 135-year history of the track. The Ramseys also found success on the world stage when their thoroughbred, Roses in May won the Dubai World Cup in 2005.

The majority of their success came with homebreds by their 2004 champion turf mare, Kitten's Joy, a namesake of Ken's first love, Sarah whom he had nicknamed "Kitten" in 1954. Ken still enjoys sharing each win with his family and friends by inviting them to help him walk each horse into the winner's circle, whether it's a \$5,000 claimer or a Grade I stakes winner.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Kenneth and Sarah Ramsey, for their impressive careers and their continued support of projects in their rural hometown in southeastern Kentucky.

CELEBRATING BIENVENIDOS' 25TH
ANNIVERSARY

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Bienvenidos, an organization dedicated to healing children, strengthening families and transforming communities in Los Angeles, on their 25th anniversary.

Bienvenidos opened its doors in June of 1987 to a young child, Miracle, to begin addressing the growing number of abused and neglected infants and toddlers in Los Angeles County. From the outset, they realized that children who do not have the care, guidance and support they need are less likely to grow into successful, self-sufficient and productive adolescents and adults.

Bienvenidos has spent the last 25 years developing comprehensive services for children and families and promoting long-term positive outcomes. The array of programs and services they provide are designed to heal children and families in crisis, as well as break generational cycles of abuse, neglect and other dysfunctional behaviors.

As a pillar in greater East Los Angeles and the San Gabriel Valley, Bienvenidos has made it a priority to develop roots within the community by leading collaborative initiatives, engaging community residents to develop services and resources in response to their needs, and bringing funding into the area. Today, Bienvenidos serves more than 19,000 children and their families through the dedicated work of 200 professional staff at 12 locations.

Ultimately, what sets Bienvenidos apart is their ability to give hope to those who have all but lost it. Bienvenidos gives people the tools and coping skills they need to become self-sufficient, and through the love and support of their staff, they give them someone who believes in them.

I once again congratulate Bienvenidos on the celebration of their 25th anniversary. I thank them for their continued service to the children and families of Los Angeles and their dedication to making our community a better place to live.

NATIONAL POW/MIA RECOGNITION
DAY 2012

HON. DAN BENISHEK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. BENISHEK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to observe that September 21, 2012, is National POW/MIA Recognition Day, and remember those who have suffered in captivity in foreign lands, and the many who have never returned home from combat.

This day affords us an opportunity to pay tribute to those who experienced unimaginable hardship under enemy imprisonment in service to this great country, but who, through their strength and determination, gained their freedom and returned home as heroes. For those still missing, we continue our commitment to never rest until all are accounted for and their families have peace from the knowledge of learning what happened to their loved ones.

We can never repay the debt we owe to those who have devoted their lives in service to this country; we can only continue to demonstrate our gratitude and admiration by honoring and calling attention to their sacrifices. The haunting black and white flag honoring America's prisoners of war and those missing in action, which hangs outside my office, today will fly over the United States Capitol, the White House, the World War II Memorial, the Vietnam Memorial, the Korean War Veterans Memorial, and many homes across the country. This flag reminds all Americans of our veterans' sacrifices, and that our mission is never complete until every man and woman who defended America in distant lands returns home.

On behalf of the constituents of Michigan's First District, I wish to thank all the veterans in Northern Michigan for their tremendous strength and bravery. And for the families of those who are still missing, we renew our promise to never rest until your loved ones arrive back under your care.

RECOGNIZING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY
OF WEST CHESTER FISH,
GAME AND WILDLIFE ASSOCIATION

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the West Chester Fish, Game and Wildlife Association of Chester County, Pennsylvania on its 75th anniversary.

Founded on September 21, 1937 by 107 local sportsmen, the West Chester Fish, Game and Wildlife Association has enjoyed a rich and storied history. Even prior to its date of founding, its members actively worked to address the problem of pollution in the Brandywine River caused by paper mills. These efforts led to, in some cases, the prosecution of the owners and operators of these mills.

Throughout its history, the Association has also operated a fish stocking program beginning in 1937 when 2,200 fingerling bass were released in the Brandywine. In 1941, these efforts expanded to purchasing and stocking trout in West Valley Creek. Later, in 1964, the

Association began raising its own trout at a location that is today one of the oldest, continuously operating Cooperative Trout Nurseries of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, raising and stocking over 3,000 trout annually.

Today, the West Chester Fish, Game and Wildlife Association is engaged in numerous enterprises, including conducting an annual Hunter and Trapper Safety Course, extensive stream restoration projects, fishing rodeos, establishing and maintaining a local nature center, and awarding the annual R. David Heller Scholarship to a local student. Through these efforts, the Association and its nearly 400 members, continues to be responsible stewards of the environment.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in congratulating the West Chester Fish, Game and Wildlife Association and its remarkable history on the occasion of its 75th anniversary and to extend best wishes on its continued prosperity and longevity.

BISHOP GEORGE EDWARD BATTLE,
JR.

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Bishop George Edward Battle, Jr. on his installment as Chair of the Board of Trustees for Livingstone College. Bishop Battle's lifelong leadership made to communities throughout North Carolina and to Livingstone College makes him uniquely qualified to serve in this capacity.

A native of Rocky Mount, NC, Bishop Battle is himself a graduate of Livingstone College, where he earned his bachelor's degree. He holds a Master of Divinity from Hood Theological Seminary, and earned a Doctor of Ministry from Howard University in Washington, DC.

By profession, Bishop Battle is a premier pastor within the African Methodist Episcopal Church. Presently, he serves as Senior Bishop of the A.M.E. Zion Church and as Presiding Prelate of the Piedmont Episcopal District, which includes several North Carolina jurisdictions. In addition, Bishop Battle is herald as a community advocate and leader in the fields of education, business, and public activism.

After more than 40 years of community service, Bishop Battle's accolades are too numerous to name. He has garnered dozens of awards for his tireless work with children, young people, and in grassroots political engagement. His management, educational leadership, and commitment to community will without question benefit the Livingstone College community.

Mr. Speaker, for these reasons and more, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Bishop George Edward Battle, Jr. on his appointment as Chair of Livingstone Board of Trustees.

H.R. 3409

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, today the House is voting on H.R. 3409, the so-called "Stop the War on Coal" bill. I am strongly opposed to this legislation and joined many of my colleagues in voting against it, because it endangers our environment, the public's health, and the stability of the American auto industry.

While this bill is about much more than just coal, I want to take a moment to be clear about my position on coal: it is an energy source from our past, not for our future. We must reduce our reliance on coal for generating electricity at home and abroad. I have long been fighting to protect and strengthen the Clean Air Act.

Predictable enforcement of the Clean Air Act and the Clean Water Act helps protect our health, keep our air and water clean, and provides regulatory certainty to American businesses. As countries around the world strengthen their environmental protections, it is concerning to watch the United States move backwards. Not only does this bill restrict the Environmental Protection Agency's power to protect public health, but it changes the regulatory process to blatantly prioritize profits over human health. It also rolls back an industry-negotiated agreement to strengthen tailpipe emission standards.

I supported many of the attempts to improve this bill, including an amendment to implement a renewable energy standard, an amendment to require a study on the public health impacts of coal dust, and an amendment to allow the Environmental Protection Agency to take action under the Clean Air Act when such action would reduce our reliance on oil. Unfortunately, the Republican majority defeated all of these commonsense amendments.

We find ourselves in this debate due to the lack of comprehensive national policies on energy and global warming. The actions we should take now would help us move forward into the clean energy economy; instead of focusing on the past. We should lead by example and enforce the Clean Air Act against older, inefficient plants to make them clean up or shut down. We should enforce the Clean Water Act to restrict or shut down mountain top removal coal mining. When the economy strengthens, we should enact a carbon tax to discourage the production and export of our carbon pollution. And finally, we should fight for international action global greenhouse gas emissions so that emerging global economies do not destabilize the global climate.

While this bill is upsetting enough on its own, it is particularly frustrating given the work that Congress has failed to do this session. We have yet to address tax reform, the looming budget sequestration, or even the Farm Bill. Instead, Republican leadership has decided to spend this week to vote on policies that we have already voted on several times, and that have no chance of becoming law.

I offered an amendment to strike the language in H.R. 3409 and replace it with broadly supported, bipartisan language to extend the Production Tax Credit. This language would have helped protect tens of thousands of man-

ufacturing jobs across the country, and helped move the United States into the clean energy economy. I am frustrated that we did not have a chance to vote on that important amendment, which would have created jobs in Oregon, strengthened United States manufacturers, and improved our public health and our environment.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF HOUSE TOWARD ESTABLISHMENT OF A DEMOCRATIC AND PROSPEROUS REPUBLIC OF GEORGIA

SPEECH OF

HON. GREGORY W. MEEKS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in favor of H. Res. 526.

The House consideration of H. Res. 526 this week coincides with the final weeks of preparation for the October 1st Parliamentary elections in Georgia. The international community is watching the election closely, and I would like to commend the Georgian government for facilitating both long and short term international election observers to ensure that both the pre-election environment and the election itself is conducted in accordance with international standards.

It is critical that all political parties in Georgia participate constructively in the election process, and that campaign and election laws are followed and applied fairly and transparently. I call on all political forces to accept the election results as legitimate, if deemed so by credible, international election observers.

I believe more must be done to ensure that smaller political parties have access to the main televised media platforms of both the ruling party and opposition. The 'must offer, must carry' provisions passed by the Georgian Parliament are a step in the right direction, and I urge the Parliament to consider making these provisions permanent.

I would like to commend the National Democratic Institute, the International Republican Institute and the OSCE for their work with both the Georgian government and opposition to ensure that peaceful, credible elections take place. It is crucial that the Georgian electorate and the international community has confidence in this process, in order for Georgia to continue on its path towards democratic and economic reforms, and continued Euro-Atlantic integration.

Georgia remains a critical ally, and one of the strongest pro-western countries which has proven itself immensely capable in Afghanistan and other conflict zones, currently as the largest non-NATO troop contributing nation to ISAF.

NATO allies agreed at the recent summit in Chicago to enhance Georgia's connectivity with the Alliance. Georgia's ability to build on reforms made to date to foster greater political competition, labor rights and judicial independence will be an opportunity for Georgia to prove itself when measured by international standards. Georgia's NATO aspirations will be facilitated by the ability to meet those standards and conduct free, fair and inclusive elections in 2012 and 2013.

I commend the Georgian government's progress on transparency and the fight against

corruption, as well as political, economic and judicial reforms, and encourage Georgia to continue this modernization process regardless of the election results.

I encourage my colleagues to support H. Res. 526 in order to strengthen U.S. engagement with the Republic of Georgia by helping Georgia to enhance its security and restore its territorial integrity through peaceful means, and supporting the Government of Georgia's commitment to a policy of peaceful and constructive engagement with the authorities in control of Abkhazia and South Ossetia.

STOP THE WAR ON COAL ACT
PRESS CONFERENCE

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, "When the work underground stops, everything above pays the price."

That solemn observation was made by a TV reporter one week ago in Boone County, West Virginia.

News was breaking that two local coal mines were soon going to be laying off workers—one preparing to layoff 116 miners in a matter of weeks.

On Tuesday this week, we learned of Alpha Natural Resources will be closing 8 mines and laying off 1200 workers.

I met with the Alpha CEO shortly after the announcement, and he lamented the administration's regulatory assault on coal.

Sadly, the list of layoffs goes on because of the administration's "all of the above, but nothing from below" energy policy.

Coal is the cornerstone of our economy—estimates suggest that every mining job creates an additional 3.5 jobs.

We are electricity dependent—and we want to stay that way.

Coal is Abundant. Coal is Affordable. Coal is Reliable. Coal is Jobs.

Today, the House will stand up for jobs, families, and affordable energy.

We must Stop the War on Coal.

COMMEMORATING TAIWAN'S
COMMITMENT TO PEACE

HON. DAVID RIVERA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. RIVERA. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, I rise today to draw attention to the increasing conflict in the East China Sea and to reiterate the necessity to remain involved in the region given the growing security threats and challenges to U.S. interests.

In light of the latest controversies in the East China Sea and the Diaoyutai Islands, President Ma Ying-jeou of the Republic of China (Taiwan) proposed the East China Sea Peace Initiative in August 2012, which calls on the People's Republic of China, Japan, and Taiwan to resolve the Diaoyutai dispute peacefully.

With respect to the Diaoyutai issue, the government of Taiwan has consistently affirmed

its position of "safeguarding sovereignty, shelving disputes, pursuing peace and reciprocity, and promoting joint exploration and development."

The Diaoyutai Islands are located in the East China Sea, which is an important air and sea transportation hub in the western Pacific, and therefore have clear significance for security and peace in the Asia-Pacific region.

In order to foster regional peace and stability, economic prosperity and the sustainable development of the marine environment, as well as to seek out a path to coexistence and mutual prosperity, the government of Taiwan proposes the East China Sea Peace Initiative and calls on all parties concerned to:

1. Refrain from taking any antagonistic actions;
2. Shelve controversies and not abandon dialogue;
3. Observe international law and resolve disputes through peaceful means;
4. Seek consensus on a code of conduct in the East China Sea;
5. Establish a mechanism for cooperation on exploring and developing resources in the East China Sea.

I believe we must stand with Taiwan, an ally that shares our values of freedom and democracy. I commend the peace initiative proposed by President Ma and recognize Taiwan government's efforts in promoting peace and stability in East Asia.

IN HONOR OF MICHAEL LEONE

HON. STEPHEN F. LYNCH

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and pay tribute to Michael (Mike) Leone upon his retirement after nineteen years as the Port Director of Boston at the Massachusetts Port Authority. As Director of the Port of Boston, Mike oversaw the operation and management of the public marine facilities in the Port of Boston, including Conley Container Terminal, Black Falcon Cruise Terminal, Boston Fish Pier, Boston Autoport, Foreign Trade Zones, and other supporting maritime infrastructure.

In addition, Mike lead the way in implementing business and marketing strategies that directly lead to the increase in the volume of cargo and passengers moving over all marine terminals, which generates an annual economic benefit of \$2.5 billion dollars and accounts for over 34,000 jobs. While managing an organization of 120 employees and over 200 members of the International Longshoremen's Association, Mike also directed the operations, maintenance, and security at Massport's commercial properties including nearly 30 acres of public parks, numerous roads, hotels, office buildings, apartments, and marinas.

Mr. Speaker, Mike Leone has also played an important role in the development and operation of Massport properties in and around the South Boston waterfront as that area evolves into a waterfront destination. As Director, Mike was instrumental in turning Boston into a major hub for cruise ship traffic, in part by expanding and modernizing the Black Falcon terminal. In 1998 approximately 106,000

passengers came through the Black Falcon terminal; today, the number of passengers is on track to set a new record of roughly 350,000 this year.

During the course of his time at Massport, Mike was a leader of the American Association of Port Authority (AAPA). AAPA is the principal advocate of 160 public port authorities in the United States, Canada, Latin America, and the Caribbean. Mike first served as Chairman of the Board for the AAPA in 2003 and was elected again as Chairman of the Board in 2009, becoming the first person in the Association's 97 year history to serve for a second term.

Mr. Speaker, Mike Leone also proudly served in the United States Coast Guard, leading a team of attorneys that provided legal advice and counsel to all Coast Guard commands in New England, New York, and New Jersey. Ultimately, Mike was appointed as the deputy regional counsel for the Coast Guard's Great Lakes operations and also served as Chief Operating Officer for all Coast Guard activities in the Port of New York, Hudson River, and Lake Champlain.

Mr. Leone is a graduate of The National Law Center at George Washington University, where he received his Juris Doctor with Honors. He attended the United States Coast Guard Academy in New London, Connecticut, graduating with a Bachelor of Science in Management with Honors.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my constituents and a grateful maritime association, I ask all my distinguished colleagues to join me in recognizing the accomplishments of a true public servant who selflessly dedicated his life to the service of our country and equally important as a key figure in maritime security and operations.

I cannot thank him enough for everything he has done to protect our Nation's waterways and the millions of Americans who live, work, and visit them every day. This Congress and our Nation owe Mike a debt of gratitude for his commitment to maritime security and his leadership at the Massachusetts Port Authority.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, on September 14, 2012, I unfortunately missed one recorded vote on the House floor. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on rollcall 582.

PRESIDENT PETER J. FOS

HON. CEDRIC L. RICHMOND

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. RICHMOND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the continued achievements of President Peter J. Fos, a native of my hometown of New Orleans, Louisiana. Today, I wish to congratulate President Fos on his appointment as the sixth leader and the first President in the history of the University of New Orleans in

January 2012. President Fos is a proud graduate of the University of New Orleans with experience as an administrator and faculty member. President Fos boasts a proven record of conducting research, fundraising, developing collaborative relationships with other academic institutions, and implementing institutional effectiveness and student success programs.

President Fos previously spent three years as the Provost and the Executive Vice President of the University of Texas at Tyler where he oversaw five academic colleges, the graduate school, the Robert R. Muntz Library, as well as the Palestine and Longview campuses. President Fos held the Sam A. Lindsey Endowed Chair, which is awarded to a recognized scholar in an academic discipline that is of strategic importance to the university. Prior to that, President Fos served as dean of the College of Health at The University of Southern Mississippi for four years. Before his tenure at Southern Miss, President Fos also held the position of chief science officer at the Mississippi State Department of Health.

President Fos has received numerous honors and awards since beginning his academic career. In addition, President Fos has published more than 50 peer-reviewed papers, technical reports, white papers and book chapters in the areas of healthcare decision analysis, environmental health, data mining, neural networks, health services research, and managerial epidemiology. He is an author and has presented more than 50 papers and abstracts at international, national, regional and local conferences.

President Fos received his undergraduate degree in biological sciences at the University of New Orleans, a doctor of dental surgery at the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center, and a master of public health and doctor of philosophy in health care decision analysis at Tulane University. I hold President Fos in the highest regard for his dedication to family, friends, colleagues, and his community. President Fos represents the best of what New Orleans has to offer and is an example of the very best in our educational community. His commitment to the city and its future brings hope and promise to ensuring that New Orleans remains one of the most empowered and unique places in the world.

I wish to congratulate President Peter J. Fos and his wife Lori on his recent Investiture as the sixth leader and first President of University of New Orleans.

RECOGNIZING CHILDHOOD
OBESITY AWARENESS MONTH

HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize September as Childhood Obesity Awareness Month. Childhood obesity is a growing epidemic and is a serious problem facing this country. According to the Centers for Disease Control, the rate of childhood obesity has more than tripled over the past 30 years. In 2011, 15 percent of high school students in my home state of Ohio were obese. Children and adolescents who are obese are more likely to continue this trend as adults, and obese adults are much more at risk for

health problems such as heart disease, diabetes, stroke, and cancer.

Childhood obesity is an issue that affects the whole nation and needs to be addressed for the future of our children. Hundreds of billions of dollars are spent annually to treat obesity-related medical conditions, and as a growing number of adolescents are not able to pass a physical fitness test to serve in our nation's military, it has become a national security threat as well.

As a co-chair of the Congressional Task Force on Childhood Obesity, we are working to identify, discuss, and promote policy ideas to address this epidemic. Everyone has a role to play in finding a solution—parents, families, communities, schools, and local governments.

In Central Ohio, valiant efforts have been made to not only promote healthy eating and physical activity, which have been proven to lower the risk of becoming obese, but also to find other innovative ways to address this issue. The Ohio State University (OSU) is spearheading a number of research initiatives to explore how biological processes appear to play a large role in influencing the risk for obesity. This research is helping us to better understand the causes for obesity so that we can work towards a meaningful solution.

There are many programs at Nationwide Children's Hospital in my district to tackle the problem of obesity. I share their belief that an important approach to addressing adult obesity is beginning with children. One program, the Center for Healthy Weight and Nutrition, focuses on programs for the home, school, and community to ensure the development and promotion of healthy lifestyles. The hospital has also played a role in establishing the Ohio Healthy Weight Outcomes (OHWO) coalition, which is a public-private partnership that is currently implementing an obesity prevention and treatment project in a low-income neighborhood in Columbus. Their goal is to reduce the prevalence of childhood obesity in 5th graders by 10 percent in five years.

Across the country families, schools, communities, and organizations like OSU and Nationwide Children's Hospital have all made strides in addressing the obesity epidemic. However, much remains to be done, and I look forward to working with my colleagues in Congress as well as with my constituents in Central Ohio to find solutions to lower the rate of childhood obesity.

CRANE HERITAGE DAY HONOREE—
EVELYN STRODER

HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate a stalwart of our community, Evelyn Stroder, who is being recognized as this year's Crane Heritage Day honoree.

When I think of what it takes to make a strong community, I think of someone like Evelyn. Communities can be united in many aspects, but one central component found in strong communities is service. And service to our community has been at the core of Evelyn's life.

Evelyn's journey began in Corpus Christi where she graduated from high school and at-

tended Del Mar Junior College before she went on to earn a B.A. in English and Journalism from Baylor University. Later she earned an M.A. in American Literature and Mass Communications from UTPB.

In 1955, Evelyn and her husband, Charles, moved from Corpus Christi to Crane. Once in Crane, Evelyn would use her education to give back. She served others as an educator for 28 years and continues to serve on the Crane School Board. While Evelyn no longer teaches, she still remains active in the Permian Historical Society and the Crane County Historical Commission. Her journalistic accomplishments include her presented papers and published work in a variety of publications throughout Texas, and currently she serves as the assistant editor of the Permian Historical Society Annual.

One would think that with such a busy schedule, Evelyn would not have time for much else in life. However, in between all these accomplishments, she has managed to raise three children, seven grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren—a notable accomplishment in itself!

On behalf of the 11th District, it is an honor to recognize Evelyn because she is an example of those who have made our nation strong. Our nation did not become great from the top down, but from the bottom up—from the people in our neighborhoods willing to serve and make their community a better place for others and their children. Evelyn is one of these individuals. Through this award, she is rightly recognized for the time and sacrifice she has dedicated to others and it is an honor to represent her in the Halls of Congress.

HONORING IRENE SAUCEDA FOR
HER TIRELESS EFFORTS ADVOCATING FOR HOMELESS CHILDREN IN AMERICA

HON. DONALD A. MANZULLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an exceptional young lady named Irene Saucedo. From a very young age, Irene and her family struggled to stay in one place. Irene went to seven different elementary schools. A variety of difficult circumstances made it impossible for Irene to stay in one school for more than a year, until high school. Irene graduated from Thomas Jefferson High School in San Antonio, Texas in 2011 with a 4.0 GPA. She was the President of Gamma Sigma Girls, a leadership organization within the Girl Scouts, and was also President of the National Technical Honor Society. Irene is now a sophomore at Texas State University, where she is studying Anthropology and Social Work.

The economic downturn has impacted children in very unique and troubling ways—none more so than the idea of a family losing their home and depriving a child of a much-needed and deserved stable home. I commend Irene for having the fortitude and determination to succeed so phenomenally amid such tumultuous circumstances. I am also including, for the record, Irene's very moving personal testimony from the briefing:

"My mother had dropped out of high school in tenth grade which I feel contributed greatly

to the reason why we were homeless. She raised my sister and I as a single mother and had to work all the time while my sister baby sat me.

We lived in Colorado for the first five years of my life, but I was born in San Antonio, Texas. My mother and I, along with my older sister moved to San Antonio because it's where the rest of our family was. It wasn't even my mom's idea to go to Colorado in the first place so the first chance we got to come back, we took. Growing up in San Antonio was quite difficult. As soon as we arrived, my mother asked a family member for a place to stay. She needed time to find a job for herself and an elementary school for me. My sister was old enough by this time to get her own job and begin living her own life, so that's exactly what she did. Eventually, the family of the family member we were staying with began to grow and my mother knew it was time to give them their own space back. We felt somewhat intrusive, as we did for most of the others we stayed with. The people we stayed with usually already had their own family, but still had the heart to offer a whole room to my mother and I.

My mother was great with keeping me in school, but not so great at staying put in one place, or keeping a job. This sounds really negative, but the reasons will explain why she couldn't keep a job. My mother found out that she was a diabetic when I was in the second grade. The next school year, we found out that I was also diabetic. She fell ill quite a bit, and so did I. We were both new to this disease, so we didn't quite know how to control it like we do now. Most minimum wage jobs expect a doctors excuse if a day is missed. For my mother, that was difficult. She never learned how to drive, so we stuck to public transportation, but for a woman who is ill, public transportation is just not safe. I remember feeling so helpless knowing that my mother, the woman who'd kept me healthy and up to date with shots and other records was sick and I could do nothing. By the fifth grade, I'd been to seven elementary schools, and my mother had worked a handful of jobs. The last person we stayed with lived in the courts. They got evicted because we weren't on their lease. We got someone kicked out of the courts. After that event, my mother felt so low and so bad about what we'd done. After that, she decided that it would be best if we were on our own instead of hurting others.

We moved into the Dwyer Avenue Shelter and I feel that was the best decision my mother made. The shelter provided so much information about the services that were available to us. They even offered my mom a job as receptionist in the front office of the shelter. They helped us get in contact with Transportation Services who provided school busses for me to attend which ever school I was last attending. Unfortunately, I had just moved up to junior high school so I attended yet another school, but I still felt more stable than I had before. The Shelter case workers helped all of the families who lived in the shelter find an apartment complex in a really nice part of town at an extremely discounted price. After the lease was up, my mother had worked enough as a receptionist that we could now afford our own apartment.

After two and a half years of successfully staying on our feet, my mother fell ill. Her liver had become inflamed and she was hospital-

ized for a month. She lost her job and we lost our apartment. For a whole month I lived with friends; Friends who I was able to create bonds with because we were stable. After that month, we had to move back into the shelter. My mother was told that she wouldn't be able to work ever again. This news threw my mother into a depression because she knew that she could no longer support herself, much less her daughter. The shelter, once again, helped us move into an apartment complex that wanted only a fraction of our total income, and helped us with transportation. Luckily, my father had begun paying child support a few years earlier so we had an income. We lived there for two and a half years, until I graduated from Thomas Jefferson High School, ranked number 7 of my class.

That summer, I left to attend Texas State University. Moving from school to school made me slower than the other students because of all the different teaching techniques I'd been exposed to; some teachers even thought I was dyslexic. However, I made it all the way. I plan to go so much further, too, because I'm tired of being homeless. "Education is power" is my motto. Look at me now: "Only after two semesters of college, I'm influencing the decisions of congressmen!"

A TRIBUTE TO PETTY OFFICER
GREGORY GAYLOR

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Petty Officer Gregory Gaylor, an Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Technician with the United States Navy. Petty Officer Gaylor is being honored by the Navy at the USO annual gala this November as the 2012 USO Sailor of the Year. He is being recognized for the steadfast determination and unwavering courage he displayed in saving the lives of his fellow soldiers and furthering the U.S. mission in Afghanistan.

Perhaps the most notable aspect of Petty Officer Gaylor's service came when he expertly led a three man EOD team during combat operations in Afghanistan from December 2011 to June 2012, in which he was responsible for locating and dismantling Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs), among other objectives. In April of 2012, Gaylor and his team were fired upon by four separate machine gun positions, but with little regard for his own safety he managed to clear a nearby compound of explosive hazards and help transport those wounded from the line of fire. Overall, he located and destroyed four IEDs, faced six direct fire engagements, and trained over 300 Afghan Commandos in Counter-IED tactics and basic demolition techniques, which aided in the autonomy of Afghan security forces.

The courageous and selfless actions of Petty Officer Gaylor are truly commendable and indicative of the skill, professionalism and fortitude of the men and women of the United States Navy. On behalf of the Fourth Congressional District, I congratulate Petty Officer Gaylor on achieving the USO Sailor of the Year honor and thank him for his remarkable service to this great nation.

RECOGNIZING DR. TRACY VALLIER

HON. TOM McCLINTOCK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Dr. Tracy Vallier.

Dr. Vallier's career as a Professor of Geology at Indiana State University, Whitman College, Lewis-Clark State College, and Iowa State University; as well as his experience with Scripps Institute of Oceanography, Moss Landing Marine Laboratories and the US Geological Survey are all worthy of note. He has doubtlessly passed his passion and hard-earned knowledge on to innumerable students and colleagues.

Dr. Vallier has spent the last 50 years working to explore, document and teach the geography and geology of the Hells Canyon. The canyon, which follows the route of the Snake River through Idaho and Oregon, is the deepest gorge in North America: at 7,993 feet deep, it dwarfs the Grand Canyon by nearly 2,000 feet. Hells Canyon is a breathtaking, nearly-inaccessible American treasure that has been over 300 million years in the making, during which numerous geological processes ranging from volcanic uprisings, to the slow carving of the Snake River to cataclysmic glacial floods have provided a landscape filled with some of the most complex and intertwined geology in North America.

Dr. Vallier has dedicated the last half-century to understanding this geologic masterpiece. His colleagues tell us that he has probably explored more geography of Hells Canyon than any person alive. In his 50 years working in the Canyon, Dr. Vallier has led to an understanding of not only the geologic history of the Canyon, but also of the regional tectonics of the Pacific Northwest. He has shared this knowledge of the Canyon's history, native sites, flora and fauna, and ecology to colleagues, students, and almost everyone he has met. Dr. Vallier is a born teacher and his love and knowledge of the Canyon is passed on to students and strangers alike.

John Wesley Powell, who is best known for his pioneering study of the Grand Canyon, said about his explorations: "We have an unknown distance yet to run, an unknown river to explore. What falls there are, we know not; what rocks beset the channel, we know not; what walls ride over the river, we know not. Ah, well! We may conjecture many things." Without Powell, indeed we would have been left for a long time with only conjecture as our guide to the Grand Canyon.

In the same way Mr. Speaker, without Dr. Tracy Vallier, we would remain in the dark about the wonders of Hells Canyon. As Dr. Vallier continues his work in the Canyon today, it is my privilege to rise in recognition of his many achievements and contributions to our nation.

COLORADO BIOBUSINESS
ACCELERATOR

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud the grand

opening of the Biobusiness Accelerator, the newest addition to the Fitzsimons Life Science District and the Anschutz Medical Campus of Aurora.

The 184-acre Fitzsimons Life Science District is adjacent to the Anschutz Medical Campus in Aurora, Colorado. This proximity encourages commercial bioscience companies and academia to collaborate and share amenities. The current business Incubator opened in 2000, and already its 50+ bioscience start-ups have created in excess of 600 jobs.

When these start-ups have demonstrated viability as a commercial entity and received funding to enhance their growth, they graduate to the Accelerator environment for continued growth. The work happening in these incubators and accelerators shows the innovation, risks and cooperation involved in building successful small, medium and large businesses.

The new Accelerator will be a valuable economic engine for Colorado's bioscience industry, and I'm excited to see the creativity and innovative products developed right here in Colorado.

These are the kinds of businesses we need to encourage and to grow here in our state and country.

I extend my deepest congratulations and best wishes to the Colorado BioBusiness Accelerator, the Colorado Biosciences Association and all the startups and businesses involved in the opening of this new center.

OVARIAN CANCER

HON. MARTHA ROBY

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mrs. ROBY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 773—the Recalcitrant Cancer Research Act.

The incredible team at the National Cancer Institute has provided extraordinary research that has been vital to our ability to combat cancer in all its forms.

Still, research for the deadliest cancers—called recalcitrant cancers—remains only a small portion of the Institute's total funding.

Recalcitrant cancers are defined by those that average a less than fifty percent survival rate beyond five years.

It's these cancers, which hide in hard-to-detect places, that can be the most dangerous for victims and most painful for families.

I know this to be true, Mr. Speaker, because my dear friend from childhood, Mrs. Kathryn Elliot Williams, lost a grueling battle with ovarian cancer earlier this year at the young age of 36. Elliot wasn't just my friend. She was a loving wife, a nurturing mother, a daughter, a sister and a true servant of her Lord and her neighbor.

After Elliot passed away I came to this floor to memorialize her life. But I cannot think of a better way to honor her memory than for the Congress to do its part to ensure that more women faced with this terrible disease have hope for the future.

September, Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month, is the most appropriate time to remind women young and old of the risks and ensure that research for ovarian cancer and other recalcitrant cancers will remain a priority for this country.

HONORING THE DAKOTA JAZZ CLUB

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Dakota Jazz Club for its contribution to the music industry and musical development of the great state of Minnesota.

The Dakota Jazz Club opened in 1985 at Bandana Square in St. Paul as a bar and restaurant for local jazz performers. Since then it has grown to a well-recognized institution featuring performances by a range of national artists. In 2003, the Club moved to its current home in Nicollet Mall in Downtown Minneapolis. Its stage has hosted a multitude of nationally famous jazz musicians, including: Ray Brown, McCoy Tyner, Toots Thielemans, Joey DeFrancesco, Ahmad Jamal, Chucho Valdés, Benny Green, Joe Williams, Bobby Hutcherson, Roy Haynes, Arturo Sandoval, Wallace Roney, Charles Lloyd, Roy Hargrove, Nicholas Payton, Larry Coryell, Pat Martino, Jack McDuff, Jimmy McGriff, Sonny Fortune, Frank Morgan, Zakir Hussain, Kurt Elling, Joshua Redman, James Carter, Madeleine Peyroux, Regina Carter, Patricia Barber, Von Freeman, Billy Higgins and Charles Brown.

The Dakota Jazz Club also operates the Dakota Live Record Label, a label dedicated to capturing and distributing world class jazz from their legendary stage in Minnesota. Some of the noted artists that have recorded for the label are legendary jazz musicians Von Freeman, Nachito Herrera, and Barbara Morrison.

The Dakota Jazz Club's passion for jazz extends beyond hosting musical performances and contributing to the history of jazz at large. The Dakota Jazz Club has also taken it upon itself to ensure the future of jazz in Minnesota through their Dakota Foundation for Jazz Education. Started in 1997, the Foundation's purpose is: "Introducing young people to jazz and helping them understand—and care about—what they are hearing. We want to help young people use jazz for self-expression and communication, and to experience the sheer pleasure that comes from responding to its challenges." The Dakota Foundation for Jazz Education supports a variety of services including offering scholarships for a year of serious extra-curricular jazz study and performance in partnership with the MacPhail Center for Music, helping young musicians develop and hone their skills in jazz appreciation, promoting a wide variety of workshops, funding the Youth Stage at the Twin Cities Jazz Festival held each June in St. Paul, and recognizing outstanding educators in honor of Jane Matteson, the benefactor and cofounder of the Foundation.

I commend the Dakota Jazz Club for all it has done for the Twin Cities, and I thank them for their dedication and service to music and the community.

HONORING COL. ROBERT FORTNAM, USAF (RET.) OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

HON. CHARLES F. BASS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. BASS of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor retired Air Force Colonel Robert Fortnam of Pembroke, a New Hampshire hero whose service and sacrifice during World War II is to be commended and remembered. Mr. Fortnam is celebrating his 90th birthday this year, and in his 90 years, he has seen and experienced more than most Americans ever will in their lifetimes.

Mr. Fortnam served as a B-17 co-pilot in the 305th Bombardment Group during World War II. On October 8, 1943, his life changed dramatically after his plane was shot down by a German F-190 fighter over the German border. Mr. Fortnam landed the plane safely and protected the lives of the 10 crew members on board, but their luck would change when German guards picked them up and sent them off to a POW camp in Poland, where Mr. Fortnam spent the next 19 months of his life.

After the war, Mr. Fortnam returned to the Granite State, where he graduated from the University of New Hampshire, became a mechanical engineer, and continued to serve in the Reserves as a colonel until his retirement. Mr. Fortnam still likes to fly once a week in a Cessna Skyhawk and travel all over New England.

Mr. Speaker, stories like Mr. Fortnam's reaffirm my commitment to those who have served and continue to serve our nation. We all owe Mr. Fortnam and the brave men and women of our armed forces a debt of gratitude that we can never truly repay, but we will continue fighting for them as they have fought for us.

New Hampshire citizens have long answered the call to service to our nation, and Mr. Fortnam represents the best of our state. It is an honor to represent him in the United States Congress, and I wish him all the best as he continues to share his incredible story of service and sacrifice with us all.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE PEOPLE OF TAIWAN

HON. BILL CASSIDY

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. CASSIDY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize October 10 as a very special day for the people of Taiwan. It is their National Day. I join them in celebrating their continued political freedom and democracy. Today the people of Taiwan determine their own destiny and government through free and fair elections. Mr. Ma Ying-jeou won re-election as the fifth freely elected president on January 14, 2012.

The United States and Taiwan value human rights, civil liberties, a free press and the rule of law. Our shared values have produced a strong and dependable friendship for the past century. Taiwan was one of the first countries to come to our aid after Hurricane Katrina ravaged my home state of Louisiana. They have

shown generosity and compassion by donating to the reconstruction effort.

In honoring Taiwan's National Day, we need to continue to support their efforts under the framework of the Taiwan Relations Act, to ensure that our ally has the capability to defend herself. Moreover, as Taiwan is our 10th largest trading partner, I believe we should seek ways to further enhance the bilateral trade relationship.

To the people of Taiwan, I extend my congratulations on their National Day. Our mutual relations will continue to be strengthened in future years.

HONORING OUR NATION'S HEROES
ON NATIONAL POW-MIA RECOGNITION DAY

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in observance of National POW/MIA Recognition Day and to express my gratitude to the soldiers, sailors, airmen, and Marines who have suffered unimaginable hardships as prisoners of war and to those courageous service members who remain missing in action.

One of the great tragedies of war is the inability of a family to lay a beloved fallen service member in a final appropriate resting place at home here in the United States. Sadly, since World War II, the families of over 84,000 servicemen and women are left to wonder the fate of their family member who went missing in action. My thoughts and prayers go out to these service members and their families; that these Americans heroes may find peace, and that one day we can return them home.

During the same time period, more than 138,000 brave American service members have been detained as prisoners of war, with many suffering through barbaric treatment by their captors. POWs have seen and experienced some of the most horrific acts of which mankind is capable, and they certainly deserve our unending recognition and gratitude. The loyalty and bravery they demonstrate while at the hands of our enemies cannot be overstated.

While we pause to remember the sacrifice so many brave men and women have made for our country, we must also thank those who have worked tirelessly to find and return home those who went missing. The Defense Prisoner of War and Missing Personnel Office (DPMO) is responsible for the investigation and recovery process for missing service members. The DPMO also works closely with the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command, or JPAC, which is responsible for worldwide investigations, recoveries, and identifications. Together, and with other dedicated private organizations, DPMO and JPAC do the difficult work of bringing our service members home to rest and bringing closure to their families.

I was honored to be a part of the effort of JPAC returning to the south Pacific island of Betio, where the historic battle of Tarawa took place in World War II. One of the first Marine beach assaults of the war, an entrenched Japanese force inflicted immense casualties on U.S. forces, yet after 76 hours of battle, our victorious troops raised the American flag

above the battlefield. Unfortunately, among the 1100 Marines, soldiers and sailors lost in this engagement, 564 remain unrecovered and lost in battle. Following language I was able to include in a defense authorization bill in 2010, JPAC has returned to Tarawa for one recovery mission in 2010, and plans another for next year. I will continue to promote the recovery of these servicemen until they are home.

Since 1979, our nation has observed National POW/MIA Recognition Day to remember those who were prisoners of war (POW) and those who are missing in action (MIA), as well as their families. That year, Congress passed a resolution to mark the third Friday of September as a day to ensure Americans would never forget. I encourage my colleagues and all Americans to take a moment today to remember those who sacrificed for our freedom.

We are all forever indebted to these men and women, and on this somber day, we must reiterate our promise that "We will not forget."

HONORING AARON RILEY
BRADSHAW

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Aaron Riley Bradshaw. Aaron is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 271, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Aaron has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Aaron has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Aaron has refused to see his autism as a handicap, but rather as an opportunity to grow and thrive as an individual. His journey to the rank of Eagle Scout has been an inspiration for his friends, fellow scouts and especially his family, all of whom are extremely proud of what he has accomplished as an Eagle Scout.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Aaron Riley Bradshaw for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

CELEBRATING NATIONAL GEAR UP
WEEK

HON. CHAKA FATTAH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. FATTAH. Mr. Speaker, last week the nation celebrated National GEAR UP Week. Communities across the country committed themselves to a brighter future for their students and families and emphasized the important role college plays in future success. I would like to draw the attention of my colleagues to a few of these celebrations. Governors in Arizona, Hawaii, Kentucky, Oklahoma, Washington, Wisconsin and North

Carolina received proclamations from their governors. In Santa Ana and Sacramento, California and Roswell, New Mexico, they received proclamations from their mayors.

Our colleagues Mr. LUNGREN and Ms. MATSUI issued proclamations celebrating the GEAR UP work in their Districts. In San Marcos, California they hosted an inaugural GEAR UP partnership reception with their local Chamber of Commerce and presented certificates of recognition to Congressman HUNTER and State Senator Mark Wyland. In Waterbury, Connecticut they held a middle school parent evening and were joined by special guest NBA star, Ryan Gomes. Congressman HANNA issued a proclamation and Congressman REYES presented a letter to the GEAR UP community in Deep South Texas. Congressman CUELLAR spoke to students in Laredo, Texas along with Debra Saunders-White from the US Department of Education.

Many other GEAR UP partnership and state grantees conducted college scavenger hunts, created Dream Walls, discussed the college experience of school faculty and staff and engaged parents and partners.

I'm proud of the hard work of our students, their parents, and GEAR UP program staff and I know I speak for this body when I say congratulations on what you have accomplished so far and best of luck in the school year ahead!

CONGRATULATING MS. DIANE
SCHRIER FOR COMPLETING THE
NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART'S
SUMMER TEACHER INSTITUTE

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. WEBSTER. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize Ms. Diane Schrier of Ocala, Florida, a teacher at Fort King Middle School, upon her completion of the National Gallery of Art's Annual Summer Teacher Institute. During the National Gallery's six-day seminar, Ms. Schrier intensively studied the foundation of twentieth-century art by examining the pioneering artists of French impressionism and post-impressionism.

In order for participants to be accepted in to the Gallery's Teacher Institute seminar, they must first complete a rigorous application process. Ms. Schrier was one of only forty-five teachers from across the nation chosen to participate in this year's National Gallery of Art's Teacher Institute. From this seminar, teachers are able to return to their schools and students with new tools and ideas that will enhance education curriculum of all grade levels and subjects. The students of Central Florida are blessed to have such a dedicated educator as Ms. Schrier.

On behalf of the citizens of Central Florida, I am pleased to recognize and congratulate Ms. Diane Schrier on her acceptance to and successful completion of the National Gallery of Art's Annual Summer Teacher Institute. May her dedication to our nation's educational institutions and students inspire others to follow in her footsteps.

HONORING 1ST LT. NATHAN RIMPF

HON. DAVID E. PRICEOF NORTH CAROLINA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*Friday, September 21, 2012*

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a constituent from Raleigh, North Carolina, who was injured on patrol in Andar Province, Afghanistan, on July 8th of this year. Ranger 1st Lieutenant Nathan Rimpf, United States Army, was team leader of Demon Company 2-16 Rangers when he stepped on an improvised explosive device and was seriously injured. I had the honor of visiting Lieutenant Rimpf and his family last month at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, where he is receiving treatment for his wounds. I was deeply moved by Lieutenant Rimpf's strength, optimism, and dedication to country and fellow servicemembers, and I know he, like his brother in the United States Capitol Police, will continue to serve his country honorably for years to come. I wish Lieutenant Rimpf and his family the very best, and respectfully submit this poem by Albert Caswell in his honor:

THE FEW

The . . .
The Few!
Only, The Few!
Only, The Brave!
Can but so wear that most heroic title and beret,
of a United States Ranger as who!
And so bathe, all in that most heroic hue!
Ranger's like Jimmy Regan, Pat Tillman,
and Kyle Comfort who our world have so graced!
Who have all so worn courage's most courageous face!
For Rangers Fight!
And Rangers Lead!
And Rangers do it all at such deadly speeds!
And for us one all,
Rangers will so die and bleed!
As The United States Rangers so give to our nation what she needs!
And Rangers hunt!
And Rangers evil do so confront!
To stand strong,
to so right all of those wrongs!
To so intercede,
to so bring us peace!
Bought and paid for,
with but all of their fines lives indeed!
As all in Strength In Honor they so believe!
Beware, "THE DEMONS" are after you . . .
time to run!
Sorry but it's time for you to so confront
your "DEMON'S" my son!
As their strong arms and legs for all of us
they so willingly concede!
For all out there but in the darkest of all
nights!
As that's where you shall so find them Lead-
ing
The Way . . . The Charge, The Fight!
The United States Rangers,
who but bring their most magnificent of all
lights!
Because, Rangers Lead!
Men like Nathan Rimpf,
whose hearts so shine upon us all on this
very night!
As it was on a July patrol,
When this fine man's life almost went away
. . .
With his two strong legs gone,
as for him his men so knelt and prayed!
And that's when this platoon leader got up
and ran,

ran with his heart that very day!
Just one more hill to climb!
Just one more mountain to so scale all in his
time!
As against all odds once again we would find!
That this Ranger led the way!
Like Superman, the only thing that can stop
him is Kryptonite this day!
For such men are put upon this earth,
to so show us what comes first!
To So Teach Us!
To So Beseech Us!
To So Reach Us!
Who out of such darkness but defeat the
worst!
And come shining through like a star burst!
As have you Nate,
The Carolina Kid who at light speed has so
traversed the most!
For there are but blue skies up ahead of you
Nate to host!
"Can't you just feel the sunshine?"
And if ever I had a son, I wish he could shine
as bright as this one!
Who so teaches us how the game of life is
won!
Moment's are all that we so have!
To fight the bad!
To make a difference with it all!
For something noble, it's better to lose your
two fine legs . . .
Then at the end of your life to so moan and
beg,
as so wished you a better world you had so
made!
But, Only The Few to our world such gifts
can claim!
As you Nathan, The Few . . . are but one and
the same!
And that's why the word Ranger is in front
of your name!
The Few can claim!

HONORING ANTHONY CURETON,
PRESIDENT OF BERGEN COUNTY,
NJ NAACP CHAPTER

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize one of my constituents and dear friends, Mr. Anthony Cureton, who is the President of the Bergen County, New Jersey Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). I commend Anthony Cureton for receiving the 2012 Outstanding President Award by the New Jersey State Conference of the NAACP and for his continued community service to Northern New Jersey.

Anthony Cureton was born in Englewood, New Jersey and completed his early education in the Englewood Public School System, culminating with his graduation from Dwight Morrow High School in 1986. After high school, he was hired by the City of Englewood as a police officer. During his 23 years as an officer, Anthony has had the opportunity to not only "protect and serve" the community he grew up in, but to assist and encourage others to seek education and self-improvement. In 1991, Anthony became a mentor to Junior High School students in Englewood, teaching the importance of education, as well as building socialization skills and being a role model for others.

Mr. Cureton graduated from New Jersey City University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice. He has also studied

and received advance degrees from Fairleigh Dickinson University, University of Notre Dame, and the International City/Council Managers Association University. In 2004, Mr. Cureton graduated from the West Point Command and Leadership Program sponsored by the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police.

As Bergen County NAACP President, Mr. Cureton has been active in addressing a police shooting in Garfield, a series of hate crimes against synagogues, and the layoffs of secretaries and teachers' aides in Englewood. He also helped revive a long-dormant NAACP chapter at Bergen Community College.

Mr. Cureton, currently a sergeant with the Englewood Police Department, received the 2012 Outstanding President Award on September 8 at the New Jersey State Conference of the NAACP during the annual convention in East Brunswick, New Jersey. Mr. Cureton was chosen from a field of 42 branches, 12 college chapters and 25 youth councils for his excellent stewardship of this local branch and his effective advocacy in the community.

Mr. Speaker, I know that my colleagues will join with me in honoring Mr. Anthony Cureton for his admirable service to the community of Bergen County, New Jersey and to his continued commitment to the NAACP.

HONORING THE FOUR UNITED
STATES PUBLIC SERVANTS WHO
DIED IN LIBYA

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 786. I join President Obama, Secretary of State Clinton and my colleagues in Congress in condemning these attacks in the strongest possible terms. The attacks on our embassies in Cairo, Egypt and Sana, Yemen and the violent assault on our consulate in Benghazi, Libya were shocking and unacceptable.

My thoughts and prayers are with the families of the four U.S. embassy employees, including Ambassador Christopher Stevens, who lost their lives in the attack. Their courageous service represents the very best of America and their sacrifice will not be forgotten. Every day, America's diplomats serve their country by promoting our interests and values around the world. This difficult task becomes even more daunting and important in unstable countries where young democracies are struggling to take root in the presence of violent opponents and in the shadow of historical oppression.

As our nation grieves this loss we must also strengthen our resolve. The changes brought by the Arab Spring are still unfolding. It is crucial for the United States to engage in these countries and support their transition to stable democracies that respect religious rights, human rights, especially the rights of women.

In closing, the outpouring of condolences from the citizens of Libya, including those in Benghazi, is heartening. I was struck by the image of a young Libyan woman holding a sign written in English so it would be understood by Americans that said "Thugs and killers don't represent Benghazi or Islam." Ambassador Stevens believed these voices would

ultimately triumph in Libya and we honor his memory by standing steadfast with them in their democratic journey.

RECOGNIZING DR. KAIGHAM J.
GABRIEL

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and pay tribute to Dr. Kaigham J. Gabriel on the occasion of his departure as Acting Director of the Department of Defense's (DoD) Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA). I had the pleasure of working with Dr. Gabriel on several occasions during his tenure at DARPA and admire his dedication to supporting our men and women in uniform and his commitment to strengthening the technological advantage of our current and future combat forces.

The DARPA mission is clear and concise: to create and prevent strategic surprise for the Nation. In a little less than 3 years as the deputy director and acting director, Dr. Gabriel led the Agency in accomplishing numerous initiatives important to DoD and National Security.

He initiated an advanced manufacturing program designed to counter the increasing time, cost, and risk of producing complex defense systems by shortening the timeline from conception to fielding of weapons and defenses. He oversaw the development of a hypersonic test vehicle that flew at Mach 20, the fastest high lift-to-drag ratio aircraft ever built and one that will be instrumental in our Nation's capabilities in the future. We now have 3 minutes of fully aerodynamically controlled flight at Mach 20, which yielded more aerodynamic and test measurement data than had been collected in ground tests during the previous 40 years.

Dr. Gabriel also directed DARPA's innovative talents to improve the welfare of our brave men and women in uniform who suffered severe injuries in theater before returning home. The Agency's prosthetics research has pioneered a new generation of artificial limbs. I witnessed, for example, a veteran using an artificial hand so adroitly that he was able to pluck a single grape from a large cluster. In addition, in less than a year's time, DARPA's team researched, developed, built, and deployed wristwatch-size blast gauges that detect and record overpressure blast exposure—data critical to the early diagnosis and treatment of traumatic brain injury for our troops deployed abroad.

Dr. Gabriel helped the Agency create a forward cell in Afghanistan to support technology deployment efforts. This included a 90-day "Skunk Works" activity that brought together some of the country's best computer and social scientists, counterinsurgency experts, economists and analysts. The team deployed to Afghanistan within a month of being tasked to aid the war effort. Dr. Gabriel also oversaw the fielding of a wide-area, high-definition, off-nadir light detection and ranging collection system to provide much-needed 3D map data and systems.

To ensure that our nation's resources are being directed in the most appropriate areas, Dr. Gabriel oversaw the development of sev-

eral analytic frameworks that guided DARPA's investments toward areas revealed to be most divergent with existing threats to the country's security. The cyber analytic framework, in particular, highlighted the need to undertake some new and innovative approaches in defensive cybersecurity, and DARPA was the first DoD organization to address openly the need for an offensive cyber strategy.

In today's fiscally constrained environment, Dr. Gabriel insisted on financial accountability and solid business practices. During his tenure, DARPA's obligation rate was 21 points higher than the previous 5-year average, translating into more than \$600 million in the performer community, working for DoD and the Nation.

Dr. Gabriel would be the first to tell us that none of this would have been possible were it not for the incredible talent at DARPA. In our conversations, he has emphasized to me that the personnel are the lifeblood of the Agency, and he has helped to recruit the nation's best talent from academia, industry, nonprofits, the Services, and laboratories to serve our Nation.

On behalf of the House of Representatives and the United States of America, I thank Dr. Kaigham Gabriel for his service to our country, his significant contribution to the defense of our Nation, and his leadership in advancing what is necessary for America to prevent and create strategic surprise. I know my colleagues on both sides of the aisle, and in both houses of Congress, join me in sending our best wishes in his next endeavor.

CONGRATULATING THE HISPANIC
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF
METRO ORLANDO, RECIPIENT OF
THE 2012 HISPANIC CHAMBER OF
THE YEAR

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. WEBSTER. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Metro Orlando for recently being named the 2012 Hispanic Chamber of the Year by the United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. Since 1993, the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Metro Orlando has been dedicated to their mission of providing leadership and support to the Hispanic business community in Central Florida.

The Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Metro Orlando is a non-profit organization representing over 1,200 members and serving Hispanic business owners and enterprises across Central Florida. Among the 200 members of the United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce that were eligible for nomination and honor, the national organization presented the award to the Metro Orlando Chamber on the basis of their outstanding leadership, accomplishments and quality of service to enhance the economic development of Central Florida's Hispanic business community. This national honor is awarded annually to one Hispanic Chamber of Commerce that has excelled at strengthening business excellence in their community.

This is not the first time that the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Metro Orlando has been recognized for their commitment to serv-

ing Hispanic enterprises across Central Florida. The Metro Orlando Chamber has been chosen and honored seven prior times by the National Chamber for their standards of excellence to support, promote and strengthen the Hispanic business community.

The excellence with which the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Metro Orlando serves Central Florida's Hispanic business community and enterprises is evident from their many recognitions. I am pleased to congratulate them on being named the 2012 Hispanic Chamber of the Year.

CUMBERLAND VALLEY ATHLETIC
CLUB

HON. ROSCOE G. BARTLETT

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. BARTLETT. Mr. Speaker, in November of this year, the members of the Cumberland Valley Athletic Club will once again answer President John F. Kennedy's challenge to promote national physical fitness and hold the 50th annual JFK 50 Mile run.

This run also answered another President's challenge; Theodore Roosevelt issued an executive order to challenge the United States Marine Officers to run 50 miles in 20 hours; The JFK 50 Mile run, the nation's oldest ultra marathon attracts 2000 runners and thousands more to cheer on the participants to one of the most beautiful parts of the sixth district of Maryland, Washington County.

At the inception of the JFK 50 Mile, all members of the United States Armed Forces have always been welcome and have met this challenge by former Presidents Kennedy and Roosevelt over this historic course marked by the history of the Nation over the Appalachian Trail and the C & O Canal passing over hallowed ground near Crampton's Gap, Maryland, Weaverton Cliffs, Maryland, Harpers Ferry, West Virginia, and Antietam Battlefield.

On the 50th Anniversary of the JFK 50 Mile run, I would like to send our best wishes for another successful run to the Cumberland Valley Athletic Club and those members who make this event one of the premiere athletic events in the nation.

REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN)
NATIONAL DAY

HON. LARRY BUCSHON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. BUCSHON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the people of the Republic of China (Taiwan) on their upcoming National Day on October 10th. Taiwan has always been one of the most loyal friends and allies of the United States. Over the last few decades, the relationship between the United States and Taiwan has grown into a strong. Taiwan's cooperation with the United States in fighting global terrorism has earned the trust of the American people and boosted exchanges and friendship between our two nations. Such robust relations also extend to trade and Taiwan's military needs. A strong

Taipei-Washington relationship is in the best interests of both and the stability of East Asia. This year, we celebrated the 33rd anniversary of the enactment of the Taiwan Relations Act, the cornerstone of our relations with Taiwan.

Furthermore, Taiwan has been an important trading partner of the U.S. Its imports of U.S. products and services have created thousands of job opportunities for our people. Many more thousands of Taiwanese students study at U.S. colleges and universities and Taiwanese tourists choose the United States as their number one overseas destination, outside of destinations in Asia. For all these and other reasons, we thank the Taiwanese people for their friendship and close ties to us.

Hoosier's of the 8th District also have an important, mutually benefiting relationship. Indiana exported products worth nearly \$220 million last year, making Taiwan the 21st largest importer of Hoosier-made goods. As of 2011, Taiwan intends to purchase \$4 billion worth of soybean and corn from Indiana; benefiting Hoosier farmers in one Indiana's most important industries, agriculture.

Additionally, Hoosier businesses such as Eli Lilly, the world's biggest producer of psychiatric medications, and Cummins Engine, the world's largest producer of diesel technology, both have operations in Taiwan. I am pleased to see discussions with Taiwan have recently resumed in the hopes of producing a free trade agreement between our two countries.

On Republic of China (Taiwan)'s forthcoming National Day on October 10th, 2012, I hope our relations with Taiwan will continue to grow and flourish.

May U.S.-Taiwan relations remain strong forever. Congratulations.

RECOGNIZING SERGEANT PAUL ATKINSON OF MARBLEHEAD, MASSACHUSETTS

HON. JOHN F. TIERNEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. TIERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Sergeant Paul Atkinson of Marblehead, Massachusetts, for his efforts to assist hundreds of orphans in Afghanistan while serving with the Massachusetts National Guard.

It was brought to my attention by a fellow resident of Marblehead, Mark Brings, and highlighted in an article published in the Salem News, that while stationed as a sergeant in charge of maintenance at Camp Phoenix in Afghanistan, Sergeant Atkinson secured the delivery of hundreds of mattresses and bed frames to two orphanages in Afghanistan which care for more than 700 children.

The efforts of Sergeant Atkinson extended from Afghanistan to Marblehead where local residents, including Mark Brings and his family and Sergeant Atkinson's wife, Maria, worked to collect, clean and deliver hundreds of sheets and blankets to the orphanages.

I am pleased to recognize Sergeant Atkinson and the members of the community for volunteering their time providing these critical items to children in need, and I thank Ser-

geant Atkinson and all the members of our Nation's armed forces for their service to the country.

CONGRATULATING JENNIFER POTTER ON HER RETIREMENT

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor and congratulate Jennifer Potter, the President and CEO of the Initiative for Global Development (IGD), on her retirement.

Jennifer has been with IGD since its creation in 2003, helping the organization achieve its goal to reduce global poverty through advancing business growth and investment. During her tenure at IGD, the Seattle-based group grew from an idea to a widely recognized international organization.

Under Jennifer's leadership, IGD has successfully leveraged millions of dollars in investments for the developing world and changed the way governments and businesses engage for the better. Her commitment has opened up the door for employment opportunities and increased market access for developing communities around the world.

Her inspirational drive and vision will be difficult to replace, as her efforts to achieve large-scale poverty reduction will be remembered and appreciated.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I recognize and congratulate Jennifer Potter on her retirement.

RECOGNIZING THE EFFORTS OF NEMOURS CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL TO ADDRESS CHILDHOOD OBESITY

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. WEBSTER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize that September is National Childhood Obesity Awareness Month. Childhood obesity is increasingly becoming a national issue, affecting children ages 6 to 11. Recent studies indicate that more than one-third of America's children and adolescents are overweight. Childhood obesity has been linked to earlier and increased risks that the child will develop conditions such as diabetes, high blood pressure, heart disease, and even cancer. National Childhood Obesity Awareness Month is an important opportunity to highlight the progress that has been made thus far, as well as to inspire continued efforts toward building a better future for the next generation.

In order to address these growing issues, children's hospitals across the nation have made it a priority to educate families about the importance of a healthy diet and fitness routine, and highlight the consequences if proper nutrition is disregarded. I am pleased to acknowledge that in October 2012, Central Florida will welcome a new pediatric care hospital,

Nemours Children's Hospital. Nemours is a non-profit children's medical hospital devoted to the advancement of pediatric healthcare and research. Nemours Children's Hospital has created the "Center for Integrative Pediatric Obesity Care" to help research and prevent childhood obesity. Not only does this Center conduct research and provide medical care to obese and overweight children, but they also plan to engage in community outreach programs to help parents and caregivers create healthier environments for children.

The community and families of Central Florida are blessed to have a committed pediatric medical center such as Nemours. I commend Nemours Children's Hospital and children's hospitals across the nation for the measures they are undertaking to combat obesity and strengthen the future of America's children.

PROHIBITING USE OF PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION CAMPAIGN FUNDS FOR PARTY CONVENTIONS

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 5912. This is a misguided bill that repeals public financing of our national political conventions and allows moneyed special-interests to complete their corporate buyout of America's electoral process.

Public financing of both Democratic and Republican conventions, created in 1976 following the Watergate scandal, was designed to establish a safeguard against corruption in the political system by reducing the emphasis on fundraising in presidential campaigns and diminishing the influence of wealthy special interests. In recent years, the need to modernize the system for today's campaign environment has become evident, but the system remains as critical as ever to the integrity of our democracy—especially in the wake of the Supreme Court's Citizens United vs. FEC ruling.

The disastrous Citizens United decision that unleashed nearly a billion dollars of corporate funding into the Presidential race has demonstrated how essential it is to restore and uphold the integrity of our elections. Passage of H.R. 5912 would only serve to further undermine this integrity by enabling secretive Super PACs and billionaires to take full control of our political conventions, a critical component of America's electoral process. Furthermore, public financing plays a vital role in helping state and local governments offset the costs associated with hosting national political conventions. These costs may include property taxes, parking accommodations, and local law enforcement funding. H.R. 5912 is unfair to the municipalities that have the honor of hosting these important national events.

The financing system for political conventions must be repaired, not repealed, to better serve the interests of the American people and protect against corruption.

I urge my colleagues to oppose this legislation.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF
CALEB GOODWYN

HON. SPENCER BACHUS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, as a United States Representative, I have a duty to effectively serve the people in my constituency to the best of my ability. In this mission, it has always been my good fortune to be surrounded by a dedicated staff in both Washington and Alabama that has put service to the public as its first cause.

As the District Director in my Birmingham office, Caleb Goodwyn has provided outstanding service as my “eyes and ears” in the 6th District. As Caleb prepares to depart for an exciting new professional opportunity, I want to take this time to thank him for his work on my behalf and on behalf of the people of Alabama.

As I have often said, staff members are public servants every bit as much as those who have been elected. During the past five and a half years, Caleb Goodwyn has represented my office with consummate skill, professionalism, and loyalty. He has been a trusted liaison between my Federal office and mayors and local and State government officials, the business community, law enforcement and fire officials, the nonprofit sector, and the citizens who call my office every day in search of assistance. Caleb’s approach has always been to listen and work towards thoughtful solutions to problems.

Caleb is at his best when the issues are the most challenging. He provided poised leadership in my Birmingham office during the response to the devastating tornadoes of April 27, 2011, and has worked with multiple stakeholders on important transportation improvements, economic development for our communities, and the construction of the Alabama National Cemetery in Montevallo, to name just a few.

Caleb has also generously given his time and support to many charitable endeavors, including the “Three Hots and a Cot” project for homeless veterans in Birmingham.

A native of Jasper, Caleb is a graduate of Sewanee: The University of the South and the University of Alabama. Prior to joining my office, Caleb gained valuable experience in the Office of Governor Bob Riley.

In his new responsibilities with the PowerSouth Energy Cooperative in Montgomery, Caleb will continue to be heavily involved with local and State economic development. The policy knowledge, experience and relationships that he will bring to his position will help promote economic opportunity for the people of Alabama.

It is my pleasure to wish Caleb and his lovely wife Elizabeth all the best as they begin this new adventure in their lives and to thank him for his diligent service to my congressional office and to the citizens of his home State of Alabama.

AFFORDABLE HOME HEALTH CARE

HON. STEVE CHABOT

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, states across the Nation are reducing their health care costs by doing something that makes a lot of fiscal and common sense: they are making it easier for seniors to receive care where they most want to be—in their homes. Washington should take notice. Instead of making it more difficult for home health care providers to operate, the Federal Government should strive to make these services more accessible to all seniors. After all, home health care is clinically advanced, cost effective, and, most importantly, patient preferred.

Take my home State of Ohio as an example. Under Governor John Kasich’s leadership, Ohio has significantly increased seniors’ access to home health care—and, according to analysis by Miami University’s Scripps Gerontology Center, the State is saving half a billion dollars a year as a result.

I think Governor Kasich put it best when he said, that he could not, “think of anything more important to a senior than to be able to stay in their home with assistance, rather than being put in a facility that they are not comfortable with.” The Governor is right.

Mr. Speaker, as is usually the case, States are leading the way with low-cost, high-quality home health care. They are forging ahead with policies that not only save money, but deliver a better quality of life for our seniors. Making at home health care more accessible for seniors is a win-win for my State, and Washington would be wise to follow.

RECOGNIZING HONOR FLIGHT
CENTRAL FLORIDA

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. WEBSTER. Mr. Speaker, in honor of America’s World War II veterans, the Honor Flight Network conducts several Honor Flights year round to Washington, D.C. in order to provide our nation’s heroes a day to visit and reflect at their World War II Memorial. I am pleased to recognize that on October 7, 2012, an Honor Flight will take place to honor the World War II veterans of Central Florida.

Honor Flight Central Florida was established on August 27th, 2011, and held their first flight on June 9th, 2012. The philosophy of the Honor Flight Network is that America felt it was important to honor veterans with dedicated memorials, and it should be equally important that those veterans get to see and experience their memorial. As a way to express appreciation and thanks for their service to our country, the veterans are able to fly with Honor Flight at no personal expense. Honor Flight Central Florida has 27 World War II veterans that will be flown to Washington, D.C. this October to see their memorial on the National Mall.

We honor the brave men and women whose dedication to our great nation protected our freedom during perilous times. Among the courageous heroes of Honor Flight Central Florida in October are Chief Master Sergeant Melvin Jenner, USAAC–USAF; Private Joyce Geier, USAF–WAC; Corporal Eugene Hatley, USAF; Lieutenant Colonel James Krajicek, USAF; Private 1st Class Stanley Shader, Army; Sergeant George Focht, Army Air Corp; Sergeant Robert Thomson, Army Air Corp; Private 1st Class Arthur Lehmann, Army; Private Nicholas Liverani, USMC; Petty Officer 2nd Class Julia Kelly, USN Waves; Petty Officer 2nd Class Gerald Langella, USN; Petty Officer 3rd Class Gene Gray, USN; Ranger Francis Coughlin, Army; Major Samuel Holland, Army; Ensign Donald Voorhees, USN; Corporal Kenneth Shappell, USAF; Staff Sergeant Thomas Sparks, Army; Staff Sergeant Charles Andresakes, Army; Lieutenant Colonel Frank Brown, USAF; Petty Officer 2nd Class John Franklin, USN; Private 1st Class Charles P. Hearn, Army; Petty Officer 2nd Class William Hancock, Jr., USN; Aviation Petty Officer 3rd Class John Nelson, Navy Air Corp; Petty Officer 1st Class Charles Berkmeier, USN; Corporal Andrew Kunkel, Army; Petty Officer 3rd Class Russell Smith, USN; and James Moore, USN. The selflessness by which they voluntarily served and put their lives on the line for our safety and security is inspiring.

It is my distinct pleasure, as a representative of the people of Central Florida, to recognize the honor, courage, and commitment of these heroes, along with all members of America’s armed forces. I thank them for their dedication and service to this country.

IN HONOR OF THE BUCKS-MONT
CHAPTER OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF THE REMODELING
INDUSTRY

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Bucks-Mont Chapter of the National Association of the Remodeling Industry for their service to the local community.

For twenty years, this chapter of NAIR has worked tirelessly to educate and grow successful business while improving the homes of families who need it most.

Over the last decade the men and women of the Bucks-Mont NAIR have put in over 7,334 volunteer man hours. These volunteers have donated their time, as well as the necessary tools and materials for worthwhile causes such as Habitat for Humanity, the New Beginnings Community Church, and the Vietnam Veteran Project.

Throughout its twenty year history, this chapter has showed a continued commitment to serving others who are in need and I am confident that they will continue to do so for years to come.

RECOGNIZING WORLD
ALZHEIMER'S MONTH

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my support for individuals and families affected by Alzheimer's Disease.

As we recognize September as World Alzheimer's Month, I want to thank the many advocates, caregivers, and health professionals who provide support for those who suffer from Alzheimer's Disease, and the medical researchers who are working so hard to discover better treatments and cures. I especially want to recognize the work of the Alzheimer's Association, including the Greater Illinois Chapter, that is working to reduce stigma and eliminate Alzheimer's Disease.

Alzheimer's Disease is the sixth-leading cause of death in the United States, and it is the only cause of death among the top 10 that today cannot be prevented, cured, or even slowed. Every 68 seconds, an American develops Alzheimer's Disease. It is estimated that this year, 5.4 million Americans are living with Alzheimer's Disease, including 210,000 people aged 65 or older in Illinois. In addition to the physical and emotional toll of those afflicted with Alzheimer's and their families, there are immense costs associated with caring for those with Alzheimer's.

The Alzheimer's Association not only makes critical investments into Alzheimer's research but also provides support groups, education programs, and other resources to patients, caregivers, and families. More than 15 million Americans will provide unpaid care valued at \$210 billion to individuals who suffer from Alzheimer's and other dementias. As the co-chair of the House Democratic Caucus Seniors Task Force, I am committed to accelerating our efforts to help patients and caregivers.

Today, September 21, is "Go Purple" day to highlight the need to end Alzheimer's. I hope that we also remember today that Congress needs to act to help meet that goal, while also making sure that individuals living with Alzheimer's and those who care for them receive the assistance they need and deserve. Last May, the first ever National Alzheimer's Plan was released, laying out the needs and the opportunities before us—in public education, treatment, support services, and research. We need to adopt their positive recommendations, but we also need to make sure that we move forward, not backwards.

We cannot make short-sighted cuts to medical research, including the National Institutes of Health, that will delay the discovery of new treatments and cures. This year, it will cost \$200 billion, including \$140 billion from Medicare and Medicaid, to provide care for those living with Alzheimer's and other dementias. This cost is estimated to soar to \$1.1 trillion by 2050. Cuts to Medicare and Medicaid would be devastating to Alzheimer's patients and caregivers, and arbitrary cuts to Older Americans Act programs will leave individuals and caregivers without the supports they need.

I urge my colleagues and their staff to join me to recognize September as World Alzheimer's Month and commit to developing and implementing strategies to address Alzheimer's disease.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARTIN HEINRICH

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. HEINRICH. Mr. Speaker, on September 20, 2012, I unfortunately missed one vote, roll-call No. 588. If I had been present, I would have voted "no" on rollcall vote 588.

HONORING THE MILITARY SERVICE OF CHARLES "CHARLIE" MICHAEL

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the long and distinguished career of Charles "Charlie" Michael. For over 40 years, Charlie has served as a soldier in the United States Army, as a contractor at the Department of Defense, and as a civilian in the Department of the Army.

Charlie began his career in the United States Army as military policeman in 1968, serving in Okinawa, Vietnam, and Washington, DC. After separating from active duty in 1972, Charlie attended Lycoming College in Williamsport, PA, and earned a Bachelor's Degree in psychology. Following graduation from Lycoming, Charlie began working as a Family Court Hearing and Enforcement Officer. During that time, he also enlisted in the Army Reserve.

In 1981, Charlie entered the Army Active Guard Reserve Program as an executive officer, and held other posts throughout the 1980s. In 1998, Charlie retired from the Army Budget Office as the Army Reserve Liaison at the rank of Major.

After retiring from active duty, Charlie became a contractor and supported the Army Reserve Operations Division until 2003. Later, he became Deputy Division Chief for the Programming and Resource Division where he spearheaded significant improvements in readiness levels for Army units and individuals.

I first met Charlie when he arrived in my office in 2009 as an Army Fellow. During his time with us, Charlie worked on legislation important to veterans like H.R. 4279, which would allow veterans to receive educational assistance on an accelerated basis if they met certain criteria. Charlie's most important contribution to this office, though, may well be the delicious Coca-Cola Cake that he loved to make and that we all loved to enjoy.

As he retires from his long and distinguished career, I am certain that Charlie looks forward to moving to South Carolina with his wife Diane, and spending more time with his family including his son Brian, his daughter Christine, and his grandchildren Kaitlyn, Paige, and Samantha.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Charles "Charlie" Michael and his service to this country in so many different capacities. It was an honor to have him work in my office. His tireless commitment and dedication to public service and the Armed Forces will be missed, and I wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, due to my attendance at the funeral of a dear friend, I was unable to be present for votes in the House on Friday, September 21. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on the Markey Amendment No. 1, Waxman Amendment, Markey Amendment No. 5, Jackson Lee Amendment, Markey Amendment No. 10, and the DeFazio Amendment. I would have voted "nay" on the Kelly Amendment, the McKinley Amendment, the Berg Amendment, and the Gosar Amendment. I would have voted "yea" on the Democratic motion to recommit, and "nay" on final passage of H.R. 3409.

IN HONOR OF THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF LAUREN HAYNES

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of Lauren Haynes, one of my constituents in Pennsylvania's 8th District.

Thanks to Lauren's tireless efforts in pursuing excellence in education, she has been awarded the James R. Hoffa Memorial Scholarship on behalf of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters.

Offered to the families of union members, the James R. Hoffa Memorial Scholarship is a highly competitive program which rewards applicants who have demonstrated a commitment to their education.

Thomas Jefferson deeply valued a good education, once declaring that "above all things I hope the education of the people will be attended to; convinced that on their good sense we may rely with the most security for the preservation of a due degree of liberty."

Lauren has carried on this American tradition of academic excellence, and I wish her the best of luck as she continues her work at Drexel University this Fall.

DISAPPROVING RULE RELATING TO WAIVER AND EXPENDITURE AUTHORITY WITH RESPECT TO THE TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES PROGRAM

SPEECH OF

HON. WALLY HERGER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. HERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.J. Res. 118 because I believe Congress must act to preserve a principle that has helped lift millions of American families out of poverty. The principle is simple: Able-bodied welfare recipients should engage in work. And we know for a fact, based on the success of welfare reform, that this principle works. More than sixteen years of strong work requirements have demonstrated that a job and a

paycheck—not a government check—is the best escape from the clutches of poverty and the best hope of building a better life.

Unfortunately, the Obama Administration has announced its intention to allow states to opt out of these requirements. I believe Congress must emphatically reject this plan. We must refuse to go down a path that leads us back to a sad and painful time in our history where millions of American families were trapped in a cycle of poverty and dependency. This is the stark choice we have before us today.

The Administration's plan is egregious on process as well as substance. By blatantly going beyond their statutory authority, the Administration's action fits into a growing and disturbing pattern of this President disregarding the law and acting unilaterally to override laws duly enacted by Congress. We cannot stand by and allow the executive branch to trample on the Constitutional authority of this body, which has the sole power to legislate.

Given these concerns, I urge my colleagues to support this resolution of disapproval and reject the Administration's misguided attempt to undermine the hope of prosperity for millions of American families eager to support themselves economically. Mr. Speaker, let us reaffirm the principle that, far more effectively than any government program, work places the American people on the path to self-sufficiency and prosperity.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I inadvertently vote "no" on rollcall vote No. 114 (to prohibit the use of funds for the salaries and expenses of personnel of the Department of Agriculture to provide benefits described in section 1001D(b)(1)(C) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (7 U.S.C. 1308–3a(b)(1)(C)) to a person or legal entity in excess of \$250,000) when I meant to vote "yes."

I would like to correct for the record that I wanted to vote "yes" on rollcall vote 114.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE R.I.C.E. ACT

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Reducing food-based Inorganic and Organic Compounds Exposure Act, or the R.I.C.E. Act. This bill, which I am proud to introduce with my colleagues Congressman PALLONE of New Jersey and Congresswoman LOWEY of New York, seeks to require the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to set maximum allowable levels of arsenic in foods that contain rice.

Last year, a Consumer Reports test found concerning levels of arsenic in some juices. Based on that report, I was glad to support Congressman PALLONE's legislation that would

require the FDA to set a maximum allowable level of arsenic and lead in fruit juices. I look forward to our continued work on this issue to protect the public health, which is why we have again partnered on this issue with this legislation. And I am glad to be working with Congresswoman LOWEY, a champion of children's health.

Recently, Consumer Reports completed another test on arsenic in our food supply, this time focusing on rice and rice products. That report found concerning levels of inorganic arsenic in some rice samples—including infant rice cereals and beverages. For example, an adult consuming a single serving of some rice products had the possibility of getting nearly one and a half times the amount of inorganic arsenic that they would consume from an entire day's intake of water. The report also noted that individuals who consume rice have higher arsenic levels than those that did not consume rice.

Another report published in Environmental Health Perspectives earlier this year identified high levels of inorganic arsenic in products containing organic brown rice syrup. The published study noted that the sampled products "may introduce significant concentrations of [inorganic arsenic] to an individual's diet." And, The Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences published an article in December 2011 entitled "Rice consumption contributes to arsenic exposure in US women" that highlighted the association between rice consumption and a biomarker of arsenic exposure in women.

Clearly, it is imperative that the FDA act and set standards for acceptable levels of arsenic and other dangerous heavy metals in food products. This bill requires them to set such a level for arsenic in rice and foods containing rice. I intend to continue to work on this issue, and I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

CONSUMERS UNION,
September 20, 2012.

Congresswoman ROSA DeLAURO,
Rayburn House Office Building,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSWOMAN DeLAURO: Consumers Union, the policy and advocacy arm of Consumer Reports, applauds your introduction of legislation to require the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to set standards to help lower the levels of arsenic in rice and rice products.

As you know, yesterday Consumer Reports and the FDA each released important data showing troubling levels of arsenic in rice, which is a major food staple for millions of Americans. Inorganic arsenic—which both studies found in the various rice products examined—has been linked to bladder, lung and other cancers. The consumption of arsenic-containing rice is especially worrisome for infants and young children because of the negative impact arsenic may have on the developing brain.

Rice is not the only food that contains worrisome levels of arsenic. Indeed, in a previous report released earlier this year, Consumer Reports found troubling levels of arsenic in apple and other juices. Yesterday's findings underscore the health risks of arsenic, particularly inorganic arsenic, and how rice is a particularly important source of arsenic exposure for Americans. That's because rice is a crop that is very effective in absorbing arsenic, in part because of the way it is grown in water-flooded conditions and also because it is often grown in areas where arsenical pesticides were once used.

Consumer Reports tested over 200 samples of rice and rice products for arsenic, and we

found significant levels of arsenic across all product categories, everything from organic rice to rice cereal, brown rice, white rice, and rice cakes. FDA tests found similar levels in its examination of more than 200 samples of rice products. FDA Commissioner Hamburg announced her agency would continue to collect and analyze 1,000 more samples by year's end to make a thorough assessment and plan next steps.

We welcome and appreciate the FDA's efforts to prioritize its examination of arsenic in rice. We also believe that a federal standard limiting arsenic in rice and rice products is the best way to minimize consumers' exposure to unsafe levels of arsenic.

Thank you for your leadership on this critical safety issue. We look forward to working with you and other members of Congress to help reduce arsenic levels in food.

Sincerely,

ELLEN BLOOM,
Senior Director, Federal Policy and
Washington Office.

AMI V. GADHIA,
Senior Policy Counsel.

IN HONOR OF THE BOCHASANWASI
SHREE AKSHAR PURUSHOTTAM
MANDIR HOSTING SADGURU
SANT PUJYA KOTHARI SWAMI

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Bochasanwasi Shree Akshar Purushottam Mandir in my home of Levittown, Pennsylvania for hosting Sadguru Sant Pujya Kothari Swami later this month for a spiritual evening event during his visit to the United States.

Pujya Kothari Swami, one of the seven most senior sadhus of BAPS, will be visiting the United States to perform the Opening Ceremony of the Satsang Activity Center in neighboring New Jersey. The work done by Pujya Kothari Swami in his missionary work across the country and around the globe is deeply respected and praised by the entire Swaminarayan community.

It is truly an honor for Bucks County to host this important spiritual figure in the Swaminarayan faith.

As my constituents gather together for a night of spiritual enlightenment and community, I join them in welcoming Pujya Kothari Swami and wish him all the best during his time in historic Bucks County, Pennsylvania.

THE EPITOME OF CHARITY— REGINA ROGERS

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, in this day and age when most people think of things in terms of me and mine, there are still a few rare individuals who put others first. Regina Rogers is one of those rare individuals. At an early age, a very important question was engrained into Ms. Rogers' memory, and that question has been the motivation for much of

what she does. The question was, "What did you do for someone else today?"

I think it is safe to say that Regina has spent every day of her life doing extraordinary things for others. She is an active participant in community affairs and is the founder of several nonprofit organizations that provide assistance to the underserved communities of southeast Texas. In 1988, she founded and serves as Executive Director of the Ben Rogers/Lamar University/Beaumont Public Schools: "I Have A Dream" program. The organization has made available mentoring and guidance, along with \$4,000 scholarships to nearly 400 academically talented students who would not otherwise have the opportunity to attend college.

Ms. Rogers is a Member of the Board of the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, the Harris County Hospital District Foundation, the Pauline Sterne Wolff Memorial Foundation, the Children's Defense Fund Texas Advisory Board, the Babe Didrikson Zaharias Foundation, and the Holocaust Museum of Houston. She is also President of the Joe Louis International Sports Foundation, established in 1972 by her late father, Ben Rogers. She was the first female regent of Lamar University. For six years, she served as a member of the Texas College and University System Coordinating Board, where she was Chair of the Educational Opportunity Planning Committee for Minority Education in Texas, helping implement programs to increase admissions and retention of minority students and the hiring of minority faculty in colleges and universities throughout Texas.

Ms. Rogers established and serves as chair of the Julie Rogers "Gift of Life" program, which annually makes available more than 1,800 free mammograms (more than 18,000 since inception) and 500 prostate cancer screenings (more than 6,000 since 2000) for the medically underserved population of southeast Texas. In addition, the "Gift of Life" offers education that focuses on breast, ovarian, and other gynecological cancers, prostate, testicular, and lung cancer at 80 or more outreach programs a year, impacting nearly 17,000 people annually, as well as smoking prevention programming through its "Don't Smoke Your Life Away" campaign.

While Chair of the Southwest Regional Board of the Anti-Defamation League in 1994, Rogers helped found the Coalition for Mutual Respect, a group of religious and lay leaders whose annual programming includes pulpit exchanges that promote positive intergroup relations by encouraging understanding and respect among Houston's diverse population.

In 1997, Ms. Rogers established Inspire, Encourage, and Achieve, a program designed to perpetuate her father's legacy of helping young people achieve dignity and respect through knowledge, compassion, understanding, and love. IEA emphasizes rehabilitation for youth in detention and/or on probation, annually impacting more than four hundred juveniles in the Minnie Rogers Juvenile Justice Center and through its Ben's Kids outreach activities.

Following Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in 2005, Ms. Rogers co-founded the Southeast Texas Emergency Relief Fund (SETERF) that provided several million dollars in assistance to thousands of people after the storms, including gift cards to social service agencies,

grants to faith-based organizations to assist with home repairs; and loans to small businesses affected by the storms. Regina also helped individuals who suffered losses from Hurricane Ike. She also served on the Bush-Clinton Coastal Recovery Fund and the Texas Governor's Disaster Recovery and Renewal Commission.

Ms. Rogers excellence has been recognized by others throughout the years. She was selected as a Distinguished Alumna of the University of Houston in 1994, and was named a Distinguished Woman of Northwood University. She was named a Child Advocate of the Year by CASA of southeast Texas; a Pacesetter of the Year by the Cancer League; a Woman of Distinction by KTRK/Channel 3 in Houston; and was a recipient of the Cherish our Children Award from the Child Abuse Prevention Network in Houston. She received the Press Club's 2002 Southeast Texas Newsmaker of the Year award; was a recipient of the 2003 Humanitarian Award from Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Beaumont, Inc.; named a 2005 Citizen of the Year by the Southeast Texas Regional Planning Commission; and was a recipient of the Cris Quinn Community Service Award in 2009 by the Jefferson County Bar Association.

Regina Rogers learned the importance of public service from her parents. She has carried on her parents' legacy by being a tireless advocate for those in need. She is an incredible woman with an abundance of energy, and a heart as big as Texas. Through her personal involvement in, and financial contributions to numerous organizations, she has left an indelible mark on southeast Texas. Our community is better because of her compassion and generosity. Regina Rogers is the epitome of charity, and a perfect example of what we should all aspire to. In the words of Ms. Rogers' late father, Ben Rogers, I ask you, "What have you done for someone else today?"

And that's just the way it is.

HONORING THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BOROUGH OF HUMMELSTOWN

HON. TIM HOLDEN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. HOLDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of myself and my colleague, Representative CHARLIE DENT, to honor the 250th anniversary of the Borough of Hummelstown, Pennsylvania, and to recognize the many contributions its residents have made to our great Commonwealth.

The Borough of Hummelstown was originally founded as Frederickstown by Frederick and Rosina Hummel, who in 1762 purchased a plot of land in beautiful Dauphin County to call home. The Hummels divided the tract into numerous building lots and sold each to German settlers looking to start new lives in the region. Originally serviced by the Berks-Dauphin Turnpike, commerce through the borough was greatly enhanced by the opening of the Union Canal in 1827, which connected the Susquehanna River to the Schuylkill River outside Philadelphia. The Lebanon Valley Railroad later made the community even more attractive to businesses when it arrived in 1858.

Hummelstown was soon booming with jobs in stone cutting and shipyard work. With the borough growing and the nation expanding, the Hummelstown Brownstone Company (HBC) quickly became the leading employer of local residents from the late 19th Century to the early 20th Century. HBC owned and operated several quarries that produced Hummelstown brownstone, which at the time was one of the most popular building materials in the United States.

Today, Hummelstown is the very picture of the quaint American suburb. With a lively downtown area and genuine small town atmosphere, Hummelstown is home to many Pennsylvanians who commute to jobs in nearby Harrisburg and Hershey.

To celebrate the 250th anniversary of its founding, Hummelstown's various civic groups, businesses, churches, and other organizations have worked together to organize a busy week of events. These festivities included a parade, community breakfast and picnic, fireworks display, movie night, and family friendly events for children. Heritage Day, walking tours, and other activities showcased the rich history of Frederick Hummel's town and illustrated its bright future as an ideal location for families and businesses.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to stand alongside my friend, Representative CHARLIE DENT, to honor Hummelstown on the occasion of its 250th anniversary. I would also like to congratulate the borough's residents on a highly successful anniversary celebration.

TRIBUTE TO ALPHA DELTA KAPPA INTERNATIONAL HONORARY ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN EDUCATORS

HON. MO BROOKS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. BROOKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the Alpha Delta Kappa International Honorary Organization for Women Educators on its sixty-five years of dedicated service and proclaim October 2012 as Alpha Delta Kappa Month. Established in 1947, Alpha Delta Kappa's goals have been to establish high standards of education, give recognition to outstanding educators, build a fraternal fellowship among educators and to promote educational and charitable projects and activities enriching the lives of individuals everywhere.

With a membership of over 33,000 educators representing all fifty U.S. states, Puerto Rico, Canada, Mexico, Jamaica and Australia, Alpha Delta Kappa is committed to educational excellence, personal and professional growth and for collectively channeling their energies toward the good of their schools, communities, the teaching profession and the world.

Women in education constitute a great portion of the nation's working force and are constantly striving to serve their communities and nation in educational, cultural, and charitable programs leading to harmony, happiness, and peace among all people.

Over the last few years, the members of Alpha Delta Kappa have given altruistically to the communities they serve by raising nearly \$14.5 million dollars and volunteering over 2 million service hours.

I congratulate Alpha Delta Kappa International Honorary Organization for Women Educators on their 65 years of unparalleled success and wish them well and salute them as they embark on their next 65 years.

WORLD ALZHEIMER'S ACTION DAY

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about World Alzheimer's Action Day and am thrilled to see this disease receiving the attention it deserves.

I look forward to the day when a cure can become a reality for millions of Americans and their families who are living with Alzheimer's disease.

There is still much to be done to eradicate this disease, but today we can say we have the first ever National Alzheimer's Plan, which is a step in the right direction.

Throughout my time in Congress, a cure for Alzheimer's disease has been a top priority on my agenda.

As a member of the Alzheimer's Congressional Task Force, I will continue to work with my colleagues and advocate for research that will lead us to a cure.

As some of you may know, my father suffers from Alzheimer's so this fight is personal to me.

Thank you to all of you who are taking part in the fight against Alzheimer's. By working together, we can and will end this disease.

DISAPPROVING RULE RELATING TO WAIVER AND EXPENDITURE AUTHORITY WITH RESPECT TO THE TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES PROGRAM

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I would like to be crystal clear in my opposition to this terrible bill.

Instead of focusing on creating jobs or our nation's budget problems, this Congress is literally wasting time and resources. We are responding to an accusation that President Bush's advisor on welfare policy and a former Ways and Means Committee staffer said is just not true.

In 2005, 29 Republican governors including Mitt Romney requested increased waiver authority. The bipartisan National Governor's Association repeatedly asked for this same flexibility.

Let me be crystal clear—no one ever asked for or has been granted the ability to waive the TANF work requirement. There is a generation of Americans who watched their parents pull themselves up from poverty through education, work training, and child care support

and become proud providers. They support the work requirements in TANF; in fact we all do. It works, and no one is trying to change that.

Not only is rhetoric around this bill pants-on-fire-false, but it is also another attempt to attack practically every possible bipartisan, pragmatic solution offered by this administration.

Mr. Speaker, I urge every American watching this debate to check the facts, and I urge every one of my colleagues to oppose this bill. Let's do the people's work and stop wasting time.

TAIWAN

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize an important upcoming date—October 10, 2012—which marks more than 100 years since the founding of the Republic of China (Taiwan). The United States and Taiwan share a common vision of democracy and liberty. It is important that we take a moment and recognize the successes of this great friend and ally. Often through struggle, Taiwan has used the last 101 years to bring peace and prosperity to its people. A beacon of democracy in the Asia-Pacific region, President Ma and the people of Taiwan should be commended for living in peace and for implementing pro-growth policies that have led to economic prosperity. They are a model for the region and the world. We are fortunate to call Taiwan a friend and ally.

I also would like to congratulate Ambassador Jason Yuan, Representative of the ROC (Taiwan) to the United States, on his new post as Secretary-General of the National Security Council of Taiwan. I cherish the friendship with Ambassador Yuan and wish Ambassador and Madame Yuan the very best.

HONORING THE LIFE AND WORK OF HAL DAVID

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I'm joined by my colleagues Representatives LAMAR SMITH, JOHN CONYERS, HENRY WAXMAN, MARSHA BLACKBURN, and JERRY NADLER. We rise today to honor the life and memory of one of America's greatest musical treasures, Hal David. As a lyricist who teamed up with composer Burt Bacharach beginning in the late 1950s, Hal created an extraordinary body of hit songs which continue to touch the lives of countless people around the world.

Hal emerged from a humble immigrant family in Brooklyn. After serving in the Army's Entertainment Section during World War II, he began his songwriting career. He came to be the lyrical mastermind behind some of the 20th Century's most recognized and beloved songs. He composed the lyrics to such classic

hits as "Raindrops Keep Falling on My Head," "What the World Needs Now Is Love," "Always Something There to Remind Me," "Do You Know the Way to San Jose," "Don't Make Me Over," "Anyone Who Had a Heart," "The Look of Love," "Walk on By," "(They Long to Be) Close to You" and many, many more.

Hal said that a lyricist must learn "not to fall in love with his own lines." That may be true, but that hasn't stopped millions of music lovers like me, and others in every corner of the globe, from falling in love with them. Hal's lyrical genius earned him countless honors: four Academy Award nominations, with an Oscar for "Raindrops" in the movie *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid*; a Grammy along with three songs in the Grammy Hall of Fame; and Gold and Platinum records. Additional accolades include induction into the Songwriters Hall of Fame and the Nashville Songwriters Hall of Fame, receipt of the Songwriters Hall of Fame Johnny Mercer and Visionary Leadership Awards, the Ivor Novello Award of the British Academy of Composers and Songwriters, and more. Just this past May, President Barack Obama presented the prestigious Library of Congress Gershwin Prize for Popular Song to David and Bacharach at a White House musical tribute.

Hal's work not only spans generations but also genres. He is the author of lyrics for the film scores of *Alfie*, *What's New Pussycat*, *Casino Royale*, *The April Fools* and *Moonraker*. His songs also appear in countless other movies, from *Forrest Gump* to *Runaway Bride*. Not limited to the screen, Hal's Broadway show, *Promises, Promises*, was nominated for a Tony Award and received a Grammy, and has enjoyed two successful runs on the *Great White Way*.

Hal's songs have been recorded by artists from across the musical spectrum, including Marty Robbins, Perry Como, Bobby Vinton, Gene Pitney, Dusty Springfield, Tom Jones, Herb Alpert, Jackie DeSharon, B.J. Thomas, Frank Sinatra, Sarah Vaughan, the Fifth Dimension, the Carpenters, Barbra Streisand, and, most unforgettably, Dionne Warwick.

Hal's notable achievements don't stop with his musical career. As ASCAP President and Chairman from 1980 to 1986 and as an ASCAP Board member for almost 40 years, Hal was a music industry leader and devoted much of his life to protecting the copyrights of music creators. He also led the Songwriters Hall of Fame as Chairman and CEO from 2001 to 2011, and was Chairman Emeritus at the time of his death.

Hal's philanthropic work in Los Angeles also made him a great asset to our community. He donated generously of his time and effort to charitable organizations. In addition, he and his wife, Eunice, were founders of the Los Angeles Music Center. In the fall of 2011, a fundraiser, *Love Sweet Love, A Musical Tribute to Hal David*, honored Hal's 90th birthday and benefited the Blue Ribbon Children's Festival and The ASCAP Foundation. It was the most successful ASCAP Foundation fundraiser to date, reflecting Hal's longstanding commitment to arts and music education.

Hal was a musical legend and one of the strongest advocates for music creators of the past century. He will be sorely missed, but thankfully, his songs live on.

NATIONAL INFANT MORTALITY
AWARENESS MONTH

HON. DONNA F. EDWARDS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Ms. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, September is National Infant Mortality Awareness Month, established to highlight the tragedy of infant deaths across the nation and to raise awareness about programs that help save young lives and ensure our children are healthy. Infant mortality, the rate at which babies die before their first birthday per 1,000 live births, continues to be a key measure of the nation's health and a worldwide indicator of health status and social well-being.

Although the overall infant mortality rate (IMR) in the United States steadily declined for several decades, it has leveled off in recent years. Preliminary data indicate that infant mortality rate in this nation declined very slightly to 6.14 in 2010.

Unfortunately, this rate continues to be higher than the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) average and that of most European countries. While modest improvements in the infant mortality rate, along with a national and local focus on preconception health for women of child-bearing age, provide welcome changes, much work remains to be done.

In Maryland, infant mortality continues to impact women and families at startling rates. For the second year in a row, the infant mortality rate in Maryland remained at 6.7. Though a drop from the 7.2 rate of 2009, the number of infant deaths in the state remains high. Of greater concern, is the disproportionate impact infant mortality has on some communities.

In 2011, the infant mortality rate for Prince George's County was 9.5, while in neighboring Montgomery County, the rate stood at 5.3. Though both counties have made significant progress in reducing infant mortality in recent years, our collective attention must continue to focus on making further gains. Of the state's five regions, the National Capital Area, comprising Prince George's and Montgomery counties, had the second-highest rate of infant deaths. Only the Eastern Shore Area experienced a higher rate at 8.9.

Across our nation, African American communities experience more than double the rate of infant mortality compared to other populations. In Maryland, the infant mortality rate among African Americans last year was 12.0, fully three times the rate among white infants. Despite efforts to address this disturbing gap, high rates of loss occur among African Americans of all income and education levels.

National Infant Mortality Month gives us an opportunity to raise public awareness and to educate women about ways they may reduce infant mortality. With good preconception health, as well as access to good health care during the mother's pregnancy and the early years of the child's life, women can work to lower the incidence of infant mortality. Research indicates that a number of federal programs may reduce the IMR. Programs such as the Maternal and Child Health Block Grant and Healthy Start are vital programs tasked with bringing awareness to factors that contribute to the nation's high IMR, including low birth weight, congenital abnormalities, and sudden infant death syndrome.

With the support of local organizations and services offered in the 4th Congressional District of Maryland, including the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services and the Suitland Health and Wellness Center, we can advance a number of strategies to reduce infant mortality and help mothers and children live long and healthy lives.

I will continue to support and bring awareness to programs that increase access to health care and improve the quality of prenatal and newborn care to prevent the causes of infant mortality. As our nation recovers from these difficult economic times and families may experience gaps in health coverage due to job loss or financial instability, it is especially vital that we continue to support adequate funding for these programs. We need to ensure that our babies get a healthy start and are able to celebrate their first birthday and a lifetime of birthdays.

HONORING DOUGLAS
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the achievements of Douglas Elementary School. Douglas was recently honored with the 2012 National Blue Ribbon award from the United States Department of Education for excellence in education.

The National Blue Ribbon School award honors both public and private elementary, middle and high schools where students achieve at high levels and also schools where the achievement gap is narrowing. Since 1982, more than 6,700 of America's schools have received this coveted award.

I want to personally congratulate the teachers, administrators, and staff of Douglas Elementary School for their commitment and dedication to our young students in El Paso. This year only 269 schools nationwide received the award, and all will be honored in a ceremony in Washington, DC. The Blue Ribbon validates the efforts of these schools in creating a positive and effective learning environment. These schools and their communities have achieved a degree of excellence of which they can justifiably be proud.

Douglas is a fine example of what can be accomplished when parents, teachers and administrators collaborate to prepare our students for a prosperous future. By emphasizing the importance of literacy, math, and science, Douglas is enabling a new generation of community leaders.

In times of economic uncertainty, we cannot lose sight of the paramount importance of our children's education, and I am honored to represent Douglas Elementary School.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE OUT-
STANDING WORK OF OUTLOOK
NEBRASKA, INC.

HON. LEE TERRY

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. TERRY. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize—Outlook Nebraska, Incorporated—an organization that I've had the pleasure of visiting and seeing firsthand the positive impact they have in the lives of so many. This organization is part of the AbilityOne Program, which enables more than 50,000 Americans and 3,300 wounded warriors nationwide, who are blinded or severely disabled, to work and provide products and services to federal and commercial customers.

Today in America, seventy percent of blind and visually impaired working-aged adults are not employed. Opportunities provided by Outlook Nebraska and the AbilityOne Program have played an important role in bringing people with disabilities into the workforce. As one of Outlook's employees said to me, "They looked at me for my abilities—not my disability."

The AbilityOne Program affords Americans who are blind or disabled the opportunity to acquire job skills and training, receive good wages and benefits, and gain greater independence and a better quality of life. I applaud Outlook Nebraska and the work it does each day to open doors of opportunity for Americans who are blind or disabled.

A TRIBUTE TO HIS HONOR JUDGE
MICHAEL T. McSPADDEN—TEXAS
JUDGE

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, there are thousands of individuals who make it their life's work to make communities safer while holding criminals accountable for their actions. One of the best is Judge Michael T. McSpadden. I have known Judge McSpadden for what seems like forever. We served in the district attorney's office as prosecutors together. Judge McSpadden prosecuted criminals for 8 years in the Harris County district attorney's office under the leadership of District Attorney Carol Vance.

In 1982, Judge McSpadden became a Criminal District Court Judge in Harris County, Texas. He tried felony cases. Judges in Texas are elected on a partisan ballot and Judge McSpadden has been elected 8 consecutive times to the bench of the 209th Criminal District Court. We served as judges together and I witnessed his remarkable dedication to the law and justice. As a community, we are truly privileged to have such an extraordinary man answer the call to public service and as an individual, I am grateful to call Judge McSpadden a friend.

Judge McSpadden has served the citizens of Harris County, Texas for over 35 years. A graduate from the University of Oklahoma (though we don't hold it against him), he has worked diligently to rise through the ranks in

Texas courts. He started his legal career in the Harris County District Attorney's office as an Assistant District Attorney, and then he became the Chief Prosecutor of the 209th District Court.

In 1982, Judge McSpadden was elected as a judge for the same court and, for the last 30 years, he has continued to preside over the 209th. His extensive knowledge of the justice system and his incredible work ethic have gained the respect of many in the law profession. Over his career, he has earned the respect and admiration among lawyers and judges within the legal community: he is always among the highest rated judges by members of the Houston Bar Association and was the highest rated judge in Harris County in the 2011 Houston Bar Association Judicial Qualification Poll. Our community has benefited greatly from the many, many years of service that he has dedicated. In addition, Judge McSpadden has been recognized by the Houston Police Officer's Association and Harris County Deputy Sheriff's Association. He has also been honored and named Champion of Crime Stoppers by the Bay Area Crime Stoppers. These organizations recognized that he has not only dedicated his professional time to helping others, but he has dedicated his personal time to helping the next generation as well. In 1994, Child Advocates honored him for his efforts to help children. He has been also honored by the Samaritan Center and the Assistance League of Houston for his work with inner city youth. Judge McSpadden is a positive mentor to young males at risk. In 2002, he was the first recipient of the Chuck Norris Team Spirit Award for his work with Kick Drugs Out of America. He continues to serve on the advisory boards of many non-profit organizations. By giving his time and lending his hands, Judge McSpadden has changed many lives, and I want you to know that our Nation is a better place because of his commitment to helping our communities become safer.

Prior to his three decades of public service in the courtroom, Judge McSpadden also served his country as a United States Marine. While enlisted, he even found time to win the Marine Corps Tennis Champion title. He is a 3-time Big 8 Conference Tennis Singles Champion and still enjoys playing at River Oaks Country Club.

The impact of Judge McSpadden's work is far reaching. He truly is an unsung hero whose efforts are felt in communities, neighborhoods and homes across Texas each and every day.

Judge McSpadden's achievements at the 209th and in the community far surpass these recognitions. His innovation, determination and compassion for serving others make him one of the best judges in the Nation. Judge McSpadden is a close personal friend, excellent lawyer, tremendous judge, and amazing public servant for Texas.

And that's just the way it is.

TRIBUTE TO ANGI CORROTHERS

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, Angi Corrothers is retiring from public service after 32 years of

dedication to the constituents of the 9th Congressional District of North Carolina.

She has been a valuable asset to my staff, and to the staffs of both Congressman Alex McMillan and Congressman Jim Martin before me. She truly exemplifies what it means to be a public servant.

She has spent many years patiently guiding constituents through the process of getting the benefits that they deserve. But it's through Angi's compassion and kindness that she helps anyone who needs it and gives of herself without a second thought.

Angi has truly been a delight to work with for these past several years. She has a great sense of humor, and we will miss hearing her stories and her wonderful, heartfelt laugh.

She will be greatly missed by myself, her colleagues, and the countless constituents that she helps, and we wish her well as she enjoys a well-deserved retirement.

HONORING OPERATION HELPING HAND

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Operation Helping Hand. Operation Helping Hand was started in May 2004 as a project of the Tampa Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America, MOAA, with the primary mission to support and assist military patients being treated at the James A. Haley VA Hospital and their visiting families. It was noted that some of the families visiting their wounded, sick, and injured active duty military patients were unable to pay for motels, and were sleeping in their cars. That proved to be enough justification to offer necessary services.

Over the course of eight years, Operation Helping Hand has helped over 750 of our active duty military wounded and injured, and countless family members, assisting with their personal needs while in Tampa, helping with the family's mortgage and bills back home, or whatever the service member or family needed to allow their primary focus to remain on healing, whether it be in Tampa or back home where the family resides.

Aside from responding from their daily needs, Operation Helping Hand sponsors Bronze Star, Purple Heart and other medal or retirement ceremony receptions and hosts a monthly dinner for the patients that is attended by an average of 250–300 people. These monthly dinners honor our wounded and injured active duty military patients who are given proper recognition, and flowers and gifts at each monthly dinner.

In October 2012, the 100th consecutive monthly dinner will be held. By its stated mission, Operation Helping Hand will continue to do all possible to aid the Tampa patients and their families as long as their services are required.

Operation Helping Hand's efforts to improve the quality of life for severely injured services members is truly inspiring. It is with great honor that I rise today to recognize their tireless commitment to those who have served our country. I look forward to watching this organization grow and further its mission of as-

sisting and supporting the families of injured service members.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NIKI TSONGAS

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Ms. TSONGAS. Mr. Speaker, I missed votes on the day of September 19, 2012 because I was unavoidably detained back in my District. Had I been present, I would have voted for H.R. 5044, the Andrew P. Carpenter Tax Act. As a member of the Armed Services Committee, I recognize the sacrifices made by our nation's servicemembers. It is appropriate and fair that when the student loan debt of a fallen servicemember is forgiven, his or her family members should not be hit with an income tax bill on that debt forgiveness. H.R. 5044 is a small step toward honoring their service and ultimate sacrifice on behalf of our nation, and I support it.

THE DOCUMENT

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on a spring day, 55 men walked from a cobblestone street into the Pennsylvania state house. They had important business to discuss, and guards kept watch to keep any curious people at bay. The men, all respected, half university-educated, had an average age of 42 years old. The youngest was a mere 27. In their first order of business, they formally nominated one man to be their leader: General George Washington.

This was the scene 225 years ago when our Founding Fathers met in Philadelphia. The 13 colonies had declared and won independence from King George, and were operating under a "league of friendship" or the Articles of Confederation. They knew that the fledgling nation was tinkering on failure: it could not regulate commerce between the states, raise revenue, or support a national defense. A few months before, a man named Daniel Shays had led a group of farmers, who wore hats adorned with twigs, to rebel in Massachusetts. The new nation had some trouble spots of anarchy. Something had to be done.

Over the next few days, the men debated in secret. There was no transparency, no reporters and no visitors. Men from large states, like Edmund Randolph of Virginia, argued for a strong national government, while men from smaller states, like William Patterson of New Jersey, balked at this. Alexander Hamilton of New York tried to convince his colleagues to follow the British government—"the best in the world"—a mistake to a group of proud patriots who had just defeated King George III. Their differing ideas led to compromises and a new government. Largely influenced by James Madison, credited as the Father of the Constitution, a Constitution was written that established three separate branches of government on the federal level, a decentralized national government with enumerated powers and individual state governments empowered with

those powers not outlined. It was built on a system of federalism, a system of separation of powers between the states and the federal union.

The fact that 55 men showed up was something of a feat in and of itself. Seventy-four were appointed to attend, but 19 chose to skip the meeting. They were wise in their suspicions that the goal was to give the national government more power, but missed a tremendous opportunity to shape the nation that they all loved.

Sixteen men refused to sign the Document. One of them was firebrand orator Patrick Henry (my favorite of all of the Founders). He refused to sign the Document because it contained no "Bill of Rights." Another, George Mason, declared that he "would sooner chop off his right hand than put it to the Constitution as it now stands." Yet, the Document was signed by 39 men, and they left Philadelphia with the challenge of convincing the states to ratify it. Largely thanks to the efforts of James Madison, Alexander Hamilton and John Jay, through the Federalist Papers, the required nine states had ratified and the Constitution took effect.

Two years later, James Madison introduced the Bill of Rights in the U.S. House of Representatives, outlining specific rights that each American should be guaranteed and limiting what government could do to the people. Without the Bill of Rights, we would not be the America that we are today. It guarantees that we can live in a country where we can speak our opinions without fearing punishment; where you can practice the religion of your choice in peace; where you have the right to share your ideas or complaints with the government; where you have certain inalienable rights—the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

On September 17, we celebrated Constitution Day, a national holiday that celebrates the one document that has made America what it is today: the land of the free and the home of the brave. In the 225 years since the signing of this great document, this nation has grown, adding territories and states, including Texas in 1845 (by 1 vote, I must say). What was in 1787 a new nation trying to get on its feet and find its way, is today a robust beacon of freedom and democracy. May we never forget what this nation stands for. And that's just the way it is.

CONGRATULATING THE BATON
ROUGE AREA FOUNDATION

HON. BILL CASSIDY

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. CASSIDY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate the Baton Rouge Area Foundation on obtaining their National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations accreditation from the Community Foundations National Standards Board.

Achieving confirmation and reconfirming compliance with Community Foundations National Standards Board is a rigorous process, guaranteeing that every community foundation that receives the designation has adhered to excellent philanthropic practice. This program requires community foundations to document

their policies for governance, donor services, investments, grantmaking, community leadership, and administration.

The Baton Rouge Area Foundation has obtained its National Standards accreditation by demonstrating a commitment to operational quality, integrity, accountability, and adherence to the highest standards for grantmaking.

The Baton Rouge Area Foundation worked rigorously in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, and issued over \$600,000 in emergency grants to aid organizations and shelters within 10 days of the storm. This is but one case of the exemplary work that the foundation achieves day in and day out.

On behalf of the residents of Louisiana's Sixth District, I congratulate the Baton Rouge Area Foundation on receiving its National Standards accreditation and commend the foundation's dedicated service to Louisiana's communities.

STOP THE WAR ON COAL ACT OF
2012

SPEECH OF

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3409) to limit the authority of the Secretary of the Interior to issue regulations before December 31, 2013, under the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977:

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Chair, I rise today in support of H.R. 3409, the Stop the War on Coal Act of 2012. Across multiple federal government agencies, there is a regulatory assault underway against coal. The War on Coal has focused both on the production of coal and on the use of coal by electric utilities. The regulatory actions of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and other federal government agencies are picking winners and losers in the energy industry by propping up companies like Solyndra while purposefully making it harder for coal producers to operate.

The Stop the War on Coal Act returns climate policy to Congress, where it belongs in the hands of elected representatives who are subject to the will of the people. Americans want environmental policies that are fairly balanced against economic considerations such as the need for jobs and low cost electricity. These balancing decisions are best made in Congress. Federal agencies need to understand that the absence of a congressional authorization is not a green light for the agency to pursue whatever policy it wishes.

I want to be clear that I support an all of the above energy policy.

I believe that coal, natural gas, oil, nuclear, wind, solar, biomass, and geothermal energy sources all have a role to play in our national energy portfolio. There is no question, however, that electricity from coal and natural gas is cheaper and more abundant than electricity generated from renewable sources. A 2010 Heritage Foundation study found that the average family of four would pay on average \$189 per month if it obtained 100 percent of its electricity from coal, but \$504 per month if the same family purchased 100 percent of its electricity from solar power.

That's a difference of \$315 per month. With 47 million Americans on Food Stamps and everything from the price of gas to the price of milk increasing, Americans are looking to save money in every way possible.

Coal fired electricity simply makes economic sense for families in my state and across the country.

Additionally, while 42 percent of U.S. electricity was generated from coal last year, and 25 percent came from natural gas—all renewable sources combined accounted for only 13 percent of the electric supply. It will be many years before renewable fuels are ready to shoulder the burden of providing the energy on which American's rely.

There are three reasons why I stand on the floor this evening to discuss the importance of coal. First, I am here to stand up for the jobs of tens of thousands of West Virginians and hundreds of thousands of others across the country who are employed mining coal, transporting coal, generating electricity from coal or work in jobs that support the coal industry. Second, I am here to stand up for the families and businesses that will see increases in their electric bills as the administration imposes extreme regulations on both the production and utilization of coal. Finally, I am here to stand up for the reliability of our electric grid, which could be at risk over the long term if too much of our ability to generate electricity from coal is lost.

My State and our neighbors in Appalachia have suffered significant job losses in the coal industry recently. Just yesterday, Alpha Natural Resources announced 1,200 layoffs companywide and hundreds of those job losses will occur in my state of West Virginia. Over 300 miners at Consol Energy lost their jobs when the Fola Mine in Clay County, in my congressional district was idled earlier this summer. Arch Coal laid off 750 miners earlier this summer across West Virginia, Virginia, and Kentucky. Patriot Coal laid off 250 miners last week and the company filed for bankruptcy this summer. A local television station in my district tallied nearly 2,000 job losses in the mining industry in early August, and more layoffs have been announced since then.

Besides layoffs by mining companies, job losses in related fields such as transportation usually accompany job losses in mines.

There is more than one reason why job losses are occurring in the coal industry, and I understand that not all of the job losses that have occurred are attributable to over regulation. Natural gas prices are at historic lows and the price for metallurgical coal is softening. Nonetheless, the excessive regulatory burden placed on the coal industry is certainly part of the reason that jobs are being lost.

I am pleased that the bill that the House will vote on this week includes the text of H.R. 1872, the Employment Protection Act, which I introduced in order to require the EPA to consider the impact that any new regulation, guidance, policy statement or permitting decision would have on jobs and the economy. All of us want clean air and clean water, but I believe that environmental regulations should be balanced with the need to maintain jobs and employment opportunities for workers in the mining industry.

Under the Employment Protection Act, EPA would be required to have a public hearing in any state where a decision it makes would have more than a de minimis negative impact

on jobs or economic activity. Therefore, before EPA can take any action that costs a state more than 100 jobs or costs more than \$1 million in economic activity, it would be required to host a public hearing in the impacted state and engage in a conversation with local residents about the costs and benefits of their regulatory action. Too often federal agencies that are separated from local communities lose sight of the fact that their decisions have real impacts on workers and their families. I drafted the Employment Protection Act with the idea of empowering local residents with respect to decisions that impact them. Certainly if the benefits of a regulatory decision outweigh the negative economic consequences of the decision, then EPA should be able to articulate that fact to the impacted members of the local community.

I am also proud of the other provisions that compromise H.R. 3409.

The Clean Water Cooperative Federalism Act is critical legislation that will restore the balance between state and federal regulators when it comes to the issuance of permits under the Clean Water Act. It was clear when Congress enacted that Clean Water Act that states would have the ability to define water quality standards for pollutants, subject to approval from the EPA.

Unfortunately, the federal regulators have attempted to supersede state regulators whenever possible.

H.R. 3409 clarifies that EPA cannot issue a revised water quality standard that supersedes the approved state standard without the state's consent. The legislation also prevents the EPA from revoking certification of a state's Section 402 permitting program based on a disagreement with the state regarding a water quality standard that a state has adopted and EPA has approved, or the implementation of any federal guidance that directs a re-interpretation of the state's approved water quality standards.

Perhaps most importantly, this bill prohibits the EPA from vetoing a Section 404 permit issued by the Army Corps of Engineers unless the state concurs with the veto.

This addresses the issue created by the EPA when it sought to veto a permit issued to the Spruce Mine in West Virginia. Despite the fact that EPA never stated that the holder of the permit violated any of the permit's terms, the agency sought to take back a permit that had already been issued. This action came after a lengthy review process that led to the issuance of the permit.

Operating a coal mine requires a significant capital investment—an investment that cannot be made if the Federal Government is able and willing to take back a permit that it has issued even when the permittee abides by the conditions of the permit and otherwise follows the law. A federal judge in Washington, DC has already held that EPA acted unlawfully in taking back the permit from the Spruce Mine, but that ruling is currently being appealed.

The Stop the War on Coal Act makes it absolutely clear that no 404 permit issued by the Corps of Engineers could be vetoed without consent of the affected state government.

Jobs are at risk in West Virginia and across Appalachia because of the slow progress in obtaining required permits under Sections 404 and 402 of the Clean Water Act. Much of the permitting backlog is the result of Enhanced Coordination Procedures implemented by the

EPA and the Corps of Engineers that gave EPA an increased role in the permitting process. In two court decisions, Federal courts found that these Enhanced Coordination Procedures violated the Clean Water Act. Specifically, the Court found that the EPA "has a very limited role in the issuance of CWA permits and has only the authority to develop the 404(b)(1) guidance with the Corps" while the Corps is responsible for determining compliance.

I strongly agree with the Court's interpretation of the existing provisions of the Clean Water Act. The Corps of Engineers is the permitting authority with respect to 404 permits. After a fair period for interagency comments, the Corps of Engineers should make a permitting decision—either denying the permit and allowing the entity seeking a permit to make modifications necessary to ensure proper environmental protection, or granting the permit and allowing mining to take place.

Under the Enhanced Coordination Procedures, EPA assumed a role that goes far beyond what was contemplated in the Clean Water Act and led to many permits being placed in a holding pattern. Now that the District Court has ruled that the Enhanced Coordination Procedures are unlawful, it is my hope that the Corps of Engineers and state governments will be able to return to the traditional method of considering Clean Water Act permit applications without undue interference from the EPA. The legislation we are considering this week will go a long way in ensuring the fairness of the permitting process.

STREAM BUFFER ZONE RULE

The current Stream Buffer Zone Rule was put into effect in 2008, after roughly five years of work. In 2009, however, OSM sought to vacate 2008 rule and asked a federal court to reinstate the 1980s regulation. The court denied this request, and OSM has worked to rewrite the 2008 rule which remains in place. Information provided by a contractor employed by OSM stated that 7,000 jobs would be lost in the mining industry if OSM's preferred alternative regulation were put into effect. To date, OSM has not issued a new stream buffer rule. Unemployment has remained over 8 percent for 43 straight months and we cannot afford to lose thousands of coal jobs.

I commend my colleague BILL JOHNSON from Ohio for drafting this section of the bill. The legislation would prohibit the Department of the Interior from issuing or approving any rule under SMCRA that would adversely impact employment in coal mines, cause a reduction in coal revenues received from production on federal lands, reduce the amount of coal available for domestic consumption or export, designate any area as unsuitable for surface mining or expose the federal government to liability for a regulatory taking of privately owned coal before the end of 2013.

There is no reason to rush into any modification of the Stream Buffer Rule at the expense of jobs in the coal industry.

CAP AND TAX

The Stop the War on Coal Act also addresses the threat of EPA regulations on carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases from stationary sources. Congress has not enacted legislation that would create a cap and trade system, a cap and tax system, or that would otherwise expressly permit the EPA to regulate carbon dioxide from stationary sources. Like Clean Water Act permitting, EPA's at-

tempt to regulate carbon dioxide from stationary sources is another area where the agency has stepped beyond its boundaries and into the realm properly occupied by Congress.

I support efforts to develop Carbon Capture and Storage technologies and believe that they will allow coal to be cleaner in the future. Any effort to require CCS technology for new plants or existing plants, however, should come only when that technology is feasible economically and technologically—and only when Congress expressly authorizes such regulations. The Stop the War on Coal Act will make sure that elected representatives, rather than unelected bureaucrats, are in control of our climate policy.

EXPENSIVE REGULATIONS

The expense of EPA's regulations is dramatic. National Economic Research Associates examined the impact of four anti-coal regulations imposed by the EPA: the Cross State Air Pollution Rule, Utility MACT, Cooling Tower regulations, and regulation of coal combustion residuals. The study found that compliance with these regulations would cost \$127 billion by 2020, cause 183,000 net job losses each year, and lead to a cumulative loss of \$190 billion in our country's gross domestic product. The NERA study found that the average American family would lose \$270 per year in disposable income as a result of these four regulations.

Our legislation addresses these expensive and burdensome regulations. The bill negates EPA's efforts to regulate coal combustion residuals as either a solid waste or a hazardous waste. Instead, this bill would ensure that states have the primary responsibility for regulating coal combustion residuals and encourages recycling. The use of coal ash in concrete for example, makes the concrete stronger and requires less cement—thereby reducing the use of water and energy.

Under this bill, the Utility MACT rule must be reissued by EPA with an increased compliance period provided to utilities.

EPA has estimated that the cost of complying with the Utility MACT rule would exceed \$10 billion annually in 2016—more than the cost of all other Clean Air Act regulations on power plants combined. These costs will cause power plants to close, workers to lose their jobs, and families to pay higher utility bills.

The CSAPR rule, already found unlawful by a panel of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the DC Circuit, would be scrapped and replaced by the former Clean Air Interstate Rule, which better balanced environmental and economic considerations.

The coal utility sector was well on its way to reducing emissions and investing in clean coal technologies without the administration's costly regulations. Between 1970 and 2011, emissions of sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxide, and particulate matter from coal fired power plants were reduced by almost 90 percent according to EPA and EIA figures, while the use of coal increased substantially over the same period. Over that same period, the industry invested nearly \$100 billion in emission control technologies.

Rather than continuing this progress, the EPA's regulatory course has led numerous coal plants to close and will lead to still more coal plant retirements in years to come.

According to EIA figures, plant operators expect to retire almost 27 gigawatts of coal fired

generation capacity between 2012 and 2016—approximately 8.5 percent of the total 2011 capacity. The 9 gigawatt retirement in 2012 will be the largest single year reduction in coal fired capacity in history—but EIA projects that figure will be exceeded by a 10 gigawatt retirement of coal capacity in 2015. EIA estimates that more than 55 coal generating units will be taken off line in 2012 alone.

Losing coal generation capacity is bad for the future reliability of our electrical grid as well as for the cost of electricity in the long term. Natural gas prices are low today. In the event natural gas prices were to increase—something that certainly has happened before—a lack of coal generation capacity would cause utility rates to skyrocket. My state has an abundance of natural gas as well as coal, and I want to see both of these fuels succeed and maintain their roles as the two largest generators of electricity in our country.

Regulating coal out of our nation's energy portfolio is not a responsible long term course. It has been said that the United States is the Saudi Arabia of coal. Our country has 260 billion short tons of recoverable coal—enough to meet existing production levels for 222 years.

Low cost energy aids in job growth not only in the energy sector, but in manufacturing, transportation, and across our economy. The best way to provide low cost energy for businesses and for individuals for years to come is to avoid over regulating any single energy source, and instead allow both coal and natural gas to be produced and utilized as the free market dictates.

Our current regulatory environment chooses winners and losers in the energy markets—and there is no question that this administration has chosen coal to be the biggest loser.

The Stop the War on Coal Act takes responsible steps that allow both for environmental protection and economic protection. I encourage my colleagues to support the legislation this week.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO LANCE
CORPORAL CLARK CAVALIER

HON. BILL CASSIDY

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. CASSIDY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of Louisiana's most heroic sons, Lance Corporal Clark Cavalier, 2nd Battalion 8th Marines, from the city of Plaquemine in Louisiana's Sixth Congressional District.

While out on patrol in Afghanistan on April 24, 2011, Lance Corporal Cavalier nearly died in an IED explosion. Almost mortally wounded, and losing both of his legs, he is now on the road to recovery. Clark is known as a grunt, the boots on the ground who take the fight to the enemy every day. In honor of his courage and his selfless sacrifice, I hereby submit that the text of the poem "The Couragejun Cajun!", penned by Albert Caswell, be placed in the RECORD.

THE COURAGEJUN CAJUN!

The Couragejun Cajun!
What is courage all about?
In times of war,
there are but all those who our peace is so
insure no doubt!
Who so go where angels so fear to tread!

Who cheat death and when almost mortally wounded,
while living by a thread through the darkness of death come out!
Teaching us all what courage is all about!
Who Dat?
Dat's Lance Corporal Clark Cavalier!
From Dat Bayou State, Dat's an American Hero so very clear!
From that great State of Louisiana, where men come from without fear!
Dat's, A United States Marine!
One of the greatest things,
Dat D'his country Dat ever seen!
Dressed,
all so heroically all in Dat D'hose Shades of Dat Green!
Who upon a battlefield of honor,
Dat Did so convene!
For he's a grunt,
ever on the hunt for an enemy to confront!
While, out on patrol he almost lost his life so!
When, and IED took his two strong legs,
and death but lie just moments away!
But could not take his heart that day!
As this young hero from the south,
So rose up and so showed us what Dat courage is Dat courage is Dat all about!
As this Couragejun Cajun's courage would so Dat shout!
And What Dat Honor and Duty, and Courage are all about!
Dat's Da Truth no Dat Doubt!
And his New Orleans Saints well he just can't live without!
Yea, one day he wants to smoke a gar with Drew,
and shoot the Breese and talk about!
But, right now he got mountains to so climb no doubt!
All out on that road to recovery!
As Dat's a place where we will discover we!
What Dat Couragejun Cajun is all about you must believe!
Because, not even a GATOR could slow this man down!
And every day is Fat Tuesday in this man's heart, SO HOW!
BECAUSE THIS DADDY, DON'T CRAWL!
And there's nothing going to slow him down, not Dat ALL!
As he so Dat Teaches,
And so DAT Beseeches Us all in what's his heart so sounds!
Because, arms and legs we all need,
But it's Dat with his great heart Dat Clark gains Dat speed!
and we can live without!
but, without Dat Couragejun Heart,
we will surely perish as no doubt!
And Dat'd What Lance Corporal Cavalier is all about!
And one day when Dat Da Saints Come Marching In,
up in Heaven he will be up front with Dat all them no doubt!
For Heroes come in all shapes and sizes,
but it's really what's Dat Dere In Der Heart's which so comprises!
Who they are!
As why down on the Bayou,
why you as a hero Clark are so seen!
And yes Clark,
Marine, with your Couragejun Cajun heart you so shine like a star!
For you have people to so touch,
and so many hearts to so heal as such!
All in what Dat your fine Couragejun Cajun heart,
has to so Dat reveal!
Oooh . . . Rah . . . Dat Jar Head!

IN HONOR OF THE VILLAGE OF
BROOKLYN HEIGHTS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Village of Brooklyn Heights, Ohio. Since 1903, the Village of Brooklyn Heights has been an exemplary community within Northeast Ohio.

Originally a part of Brooklyn Township, which was established in 1818, Brooklyn Heights' residents seceded from the township to form their own village. On February 28, 1903, the Village of Brooklyn Heights was officially established.

What was once an area of predominately farmland is now full of residential homes and interstate highways. Despite only comprising 1.8 square miles of land, Brooklyn Heights is a desirable area for industry and for raising a family.

Today, the Village of Brooklyn Heights is home to approximately 1,600 residents who are led by Mayor Michael Procuk. There are six members on the Village Council: John Black, Bruce Cichocki, Michael D'Amico, Leslie Foote, Tom Lahiff, Jennifer Presot and Henry Stankiewicz.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the Village of Brooklyn Heights and all of its residents.

RECOGNIZING THE GIRL SCOUTS
COUNCIL OF TROPICAL FLORIDA

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the Girl Scouts Council of Tropical Florida, an organization dedicated to empowering girls so that they can become exemplary leaders of our community by building courage, confidence, and character.

On August 1, 1963 the Girl Scout Council of Dade County merged with the Florida Keys Girl Scout Council to develop into the Girl Scout Council of Tropical Florida, now enriching the lives of more than 20,000 girls and 3,600 adults from Miami-Dade and Monroe counties.

Girl Scouts Council of Florida has prepared numerous activities throughout South Florida to commemorate the centennial anniversary of the Girl Scouts of the United States of America, a movement that started in Georgia with only 18 girls and that has grown to more than 3.2 million members nationwide.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the Board of Directors: Irela Bague, Wanda Hewitt, Lillian A. Walby, Alice N. Bravo, Georgia McLean, Nancy Pastroff, Maria D. Tejera, Lilly Monzon Aguirre, Carolann Baldyga, Guillermo "Bill" Cruz, Elvira Dopico, Melissa A. Dunn, Frank Fernandez, Lourdes Fernandez, Maria I. Gonzalez, Johnette Hardiman, Althea Harris, Jenny Arias May, Joyce Ann Hanks Moorehead, Grace O'Donnell, Jack Plunkett, Jr., Lisa D. Sparks, Margarita Villoch, Margarita Weidener, Peggy Wingard, and Mary Young; the Council Nominating Committee:

Grace O'Donnell, Sheryl Alonso, Carlos Arboleya, Sallie C. Byrd, Gail Ash Dotson, Ellen Siegel, and Margarita Villoch; and the Executive Management: Sally Boggess, Patsy Schmidt-Cozier, Pauline Russell, Lance Balding, Luisa Lander, Julia Onnie-Hay, Eva Berbrick, Ansley Ross, Maria Santos, and Ana Delgado, for being part of this national celebration, and I commend the hard work they put forth to make a long-lasting impact on our community and environment, while cultivating strong values in its members.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, on rolcall No. 590, to suspend the rules and pass the bill H.R. 6429, the STEM Jobs Act of 2012, my vote didn't register. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

U.S. SERVICES SECTOR

HON. GREGORY W. MEEKS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to bring to the attention of my colleagues an important matter for the U.S. economy: Services. I am pleased that there have been several important discussions this week on the topic of the U.S. services sector. This week the Coalition of Service Industries hosted the Global Services Summit, the Global Services Coalition met, and House Ways and Means held a hearing on the benefits of expanding U.S. services trade through an International Services Agreement.

As co-chair of the Congressional Services Caucus, I hope my colleagues will join me and the 63 members of the caucus as we continue to push for greater awareness of the importance of the services industry to our nation's economic wellbeing. Services make up the majority of the workforce in every congressional district.

Services jobs accounted for over 83 percent of U.S. private sector employment, and U.S. services exports in 2011 reached \$588 billion with a surplus of \$193.5 billion—a new annual record. We have a good story to tell.

Congress must be on the forefront in the effort to break down barriers and increase market access for the services sector. We cannot relent until this sector gets the respect it deserves at the WTO, in bilateral and multilateral agreements and beyond.

I know that in my hometown, New York City, services are the lifeblood of the economy. Services in our city account for the bulk of private sector employment, and financial services are particularly critical. The strength of New York's services industry isn't just a benefit to New York. There is a multiplier effect in the U.S., and globally. We know that other sectors like manufacturing and agriculture benefit when the services industry is strong. We also know that nations with whom we are interdependent benefit when the services industry is strong.

One of the best champions for U.S. services is Bob Vastine. Bob Vastine was president of the Coalition of Service Industries for 16 years. This week marked the passing of the torch from Bob to Peter Algeier who has been a champion for U.S. trade in his own right. Peter and the team at CSI are great partners in the Congressional Services Caucus' mission to raise awareness about the critical issues that impact the services sector.

The work of CSI was on display this week during the Global Services Summit. The entire lineup was on the pulse of the issues we are considering in Congress. TPP, the EU-US high level working group, cross border trade, restrictions on services trade—India—China—all right on the pulse. I commend CSI, the Global Services Coalition, and my colleagues on Ways and Means for making this a great week for U.S. services.

I wish my friend Bob Vastine best of luck in his future endeavors. I'm confident that whatever they may be, they will encompass his passion and commitment to advancing the U.S. services sector and in so doing advance us all. Godspeed.

IN HONOR OF THE CITY OF BROOK PARK

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the City of Brook Park, Ohio, an exemplary community within Northeast Ohio.

Brook Park first became a village in 1914 when residents of the area decided to separate themselves from the Berea school district and politics. The first school in Brook Park was built in 1917. Following World War II, a population boom occurred in the area, increasing the population from 2,600 to 13,000. Brook Park officially became a city in 1950.

Brook Park is the home to several important Cleveland landmarks including the Brook Park Ford Co. Plant, The NASA Glenn Research Center, and the International Exposition Center, which is home to auto shows, home and garden expos and the annual I-X Indoor Amusement Park.

Today, the City of Brook Park is home to nearly 20,000 residents who are led by Mayor Mark Elliot. Mayor Elliot who had previously served as a Councilman, and Athletic Director for the city, has been serving as mayor since 2002. There are eight members on the City Council: Mike Gammella, Michael Lane, Pattie Astorino, Barry Kirksey, Brian Higgins, Carl Burgio, Danny Colonna, Richard Salvatore.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the City of Brook Park and all of its residents.

RECOGNITION OF THE SUTTER CLUB AND THEIR TRIBUTE TO RONALD REAGAN

HON. DANIEL E. LUNGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Sutter

Club and their upcoming commemoration of Ronald Reagan.

To those unaware of the Sutter Club's history, it is located in the heart of Sacramento, California and is one of the State's oldest social clubs. The club was founded in 1889, roughly forty years after the historic California Gold Rush.

Located less than two blocks from the California State Capitol, nearly every Governor of California has been an honorary member of the club. In addition to California's Governors, many state legislators, mayors and dignitaries are among the Club's roster. This list also includes U.S. Senators Booth, Kuchel, Johnson and Downey as well as U.S. Supreme Court Justices Earl Warren and Anthony M. Kennedy from California.

As someone who had the privilege to know and serve with Ronald Reagan, I am appreciative of the dedication being performed by the Sutter Club. Ronald Reagan served our State and Country with great distinction and he is a source of pride for every Californian. As a club member from 1967 to 1975, then Governor Reagan frequently used the venue for events. Ronald Reagan had a lasting impression on the Club's history and was honored by the Sutter Club each of the eight years of his administration. To this day, club members continue to have a deep and lasting connection to Ronald Reagan, many having served with him as Governor and President.

On November 9, 2012 the Sutter Club will name one of its historic dining rooms the official "Ronald Reagan Room" during a commemoration "State Dinner" at the Club.

It is my distinct pleasure to submit these few words in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD to recognize the Sutter Club and their commemoration of a national hero.

HONORING JOHN E. GILLILAND

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the meritorious service of Commander John E. Gilliland, who will retire after twenty-three years of dedication to our Nation.

Commander Gilliland had a long and distinguished career in the United States Navy. Upon graduation from Miami University at Oxford, Ohio, he received his commission in 1990 through the Naval ROTC program. A supply corps officer, he served with great distinction both at sea and ashore. At sea, he served as Disbursing, Material and Food Service Officer on the USS *Jason* (AR 8) and Supply Officer on the USS *Rushmore* (LSD 47). Ashore, he served as a Staff Instructor and Educational Counselor for the Basic Qualification Course at the Navy Supply Corps School and in the Defense Logistics Agency in the Logistics and Operations and Readiness Directorate, as well as the Chief of the Director of DLA's Staff Group.

Commander Gilliland is no stranger to the halls and offices of Capitol Hill, having spent 10 years in Legislative Affairs. His liaison career started in the Navy Legislative Affairs (OLA), office where he served the U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives on Navy Acquisition and procurement policy matters.

His service culminated with his position as the Director of House Affairs and Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for House Affairs, Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Legislative Affairs (OASD—LA).

His character, capabilities, and good humor enabled him to interact effectively with Members of Congress and their staffs and other Executive agencies under the most strenuous circumstances. Commander Gilliland's work ultimately led to successful legislative outcomes on a wide-range of issues critical to our National Defense to include the military draw-down in Iraq, the Afghanistan surge, the establishment of Cyber Command, and support for NATO missions in Libya.

Commander Gilliland represents the epitome of what our military seeks in a congressional liaison and officer in uniform our country expects, and I am proud and honored to have known him. His dedication to service, commitment to excellence, and performance of duty have been extraordinary throughout his career. I am proud to share in the celebration of Commander Gilliland's career, and I join his colleagues in honoring his distinguished military service.

Commander Gilliland was supported, encouraged, and nurtured by a strong and loving family. I would also like to recognize his wife, Amy, and their son Patrick. As he goes on to pursue new endeavors and challenges, I wish Commander John Gilliland and his family well and ask God to bless them.

THE ETHNIC BALOCH PEOPLE

HON. DANA ROHRBACHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. ROHRBACHER. Mr. Speaker, the Ethnic Baloch people live in an area of South Asia now claimed by Pakistan, Iran, and Afghanistan. In Pakistan in particular, they comprise an important segment of the population and live in the least developed province, despite an abundance of natural resources. Until the arrival of the British Empire, the Baloch people organized themselves in a confederation with local tribal chiefs holding power. When India and Pakistan were partitioned the Baloch people desired to return to their own sovereign state, but were prevented by the Pakistani military led government. Baloch aspirations for independence have been checked by force and their basic human rights have been denied by the Pakistani state. The Pakistan government and military is dominated by members of the Punjab ethnic group.

The first major Baloch uprising occurred in 1973 and was crushed two years later. The Baloch again resisted their Pakistani Punjabi occupiers by force beginning in 2005. A low-level insurgency continues to this day. Pakistan's elite refuses to release their grip on the strategic coastline or the natural riches of Balochistan which they and their ally, Communist Chinese exploit.

The Pakistani security services, which are overwhelmingly made up of Punjabis, use violence against civilians to intimidate the Baloch population. One particular grotesque method of intimidation is called "kill and dump." That is when the body of a man or woman who has disappeared is later dumped in a busy section

of a town for all the people to see. Many of the bodies show extreme signs of torture and are badly mutilated.

I submit for the RECORD a document titled, "Some of the Souls in Traumata" which reputedly documents 2,251 Baluchis who have been "disappeared" by the Pakistani security services or who died while in custody.

This abysmal human rights record of the Pakistani government is shameful. It is even worse because American foreign and military aid money contributes to strengthening the security forces which kill innocent Baluchis. The Baluch people have a right to self-determination and not to live under the control of Islamabad, if they choose.

Mr. Speaker, a copy of this report can be viewed at: <http://gwank.org/Some%20of%20the%20souls%20in%20traumata.pdf>.

IN HONOR OF THE CITY OF INDEPENDENCE

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the City of Independence, Ohio, an exemplary community within Northeast Ohio.

Independence was first organized as a township in 1814. Its first resident, Ichabod Lord Skinner, settled in the area in 1818. Not until 1827, with the opening on the Ohio and Erie Canal, did the township become accessible to trade and more settlers. Independence grew quickly in the subsequent century, reaching the status of village in 1914. It became the City of Independence in 1960.

Known as the "Heart of Cuyahoga County," Independence is one of Northeast Ohio's most desirable cities for families to work and raise their families. It is also home to the Cleveland Cavalier's training facility.

Today, the City of Independence is home to approximately 7,000 residents who are led by Mayor Gregory Kurtz. There are seven members on the City Council: Anthony Togliatti, Patricia Wisneski, Jim Crooks, Jim Riley, Carl Asseff, Tom Naduzzi and Peter Nelson.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the City of Independence and all of its residents.

HONORING JOSEPH WILLIAM "COACH JOE" AVEZZANO

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Coach Joe Avezzano.

As we kick off the 2012 football season, there are heavy hearts in Texas and throughout the country because of the passing of former Dallas Cowboys' special teams Coach Joe Avezzano.

For four decades, Coach Joe gave all his time and dedication to the sport we all love and today we take a minute to honor him.

Coach Avezzano was on the sidelines for three of the Dallas Cowboys Super Bowl wins (1993, 1994 and 1996). He was named the

National Football League's special-teams coach of year in 1991, 1993 and 1998.

It's not just his colleagues and players who are mourning his loss, but the fans who loved how animated he was on the sidelines and how his indomitable spirit inspired his "special-teams demons" to play the game of football and the game of life at a whole new level.

Coach Joe was a young 68 when he collapsed on a treadmill while in Milan coaching the Milano Seamen of the Italian Football League.

His work in Milan, as an Ambassador to the world for American football, was just the latest stop on Coach Joe's football world tour which started when he played offensive lineman for the Boston Patriots.

In the 1980's, Coach Avezzano served as the head coach at Oregon State University. And who could have predicted then that in a short four year span he would go on to be instrumental in three Super Bowl victories.

After leaving Dallas, Coach Joe led the Oakland Raiders special teams and coached in the Arena Football League.

While football was his life, music was his passion and even former Dallas Cowboys coach Barry Switzer said "Joe would rather have been a country western music star or on-stage performer than a football coach if he had a choice."

Mr. Speaker, Joseph William Avezzano is survived by his wife, Diann, son Tony, many friends and family members, his crews at Coach Joe's Bar and Grill in Frisco and Coach Joe's Hat Trick in Lewisville and millions of football fans who will always miss how his personality and spirit filled the sidelines of any game he ever coached.

U.S. POW DELEGATION TO JAPAN, OCTOBER 12-21, 2012

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on National POW/MIA Recognition Day to honor prisoners of war from America's greatest generation and thank the Government of Japan for recognizing the sacrifices these men have made for peace. On October 12, seven former members of the U.S. Army, Army Air Corps, Air Force, Marines, and Navy who fought in the Pacific Theater of World War II will travel to Tokyo as guests of the Japanese government. This will be the third U.S. POW delegation to Japan.

These brave veterans all suffered as prisoners of war of Imperial Japan. The conditions in which they were held are unimaginable. For most, their first trip to Japan was on aging freighters called "Hellships," where the men were loaded into suffocating holds with little space, water, food, or sanitation. At the POW camps in the Philippines, Japan and China, they suffered unmerciful abuse aggravated by the lack of food, medicine, clothing, and shelter. Each POW also became a slave laborer at the mines, factories, and docks of some of Japan's largest companies, including Mitsubishi, Nippon Express, Ube Industries, Rinko Corporation, and Fushiki Kairiku Unso.

In September 2010, the Japanese government delivered to the first American POW delegation an official apology for the damage and

suffering these men endured. Although the Japanese government had hosted POWs from U.S. wartime Allies, the 2010 trip was the first to Japan for American POWs. It was also the first official apology to any prisoners of war held by Japan.

This historic apology and continued support for the trips by the Japanese government has improved our relations with Japan and, more importantly, had a positive effect on the former POWs. Japan's Foreign Minister, Koichiro Genba, said the trip promotes "reconciliation of minds" of U.S. POWs. Even more, James Colier, a delegate on the second trip to Japan in 2011, said, "After meeting the kind people at JMC [Japan Metals & Chemicals' Takaoka Works] and after observing the beautiful surroundings of the city, I realized that I had been robbed of the opportunity of truly knowing this place for the past 66 years. Takaoka had always remained as a dark and depressing place in my mind. Yet this visit has finally afforded me the opportunity to appreciate its beauty."

I know that the American POWs fought hard for this recognition. I appreciate the courage of the Japanese government for their historic and meaningful apology. I thank the POWs for their persistent pursuit of justice, and commend the U.S. State Department for helping them.

Still missing, however, from this significant act of atonement are the apologies from the myriad Japanese companies that used and abused POWs for slave labor to maintain war production. It is time now for these companies to break their silence and to follow the successful example of their government by offering an apology and supporting programs for lasting remembrance and reconciliation. Furthermore, I invite my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join me in making a small, but significant, gesture to show these men that Congress has not forgotten their experience and sacrifice by cosponsoring House Resolution 333.

Significantly, this year marks the 70th Anniversary of the Defense of the Philippines, Bataan Death March and the Fall of Corregidor, and the third U.S. POW delegation to Japan includes three survivors of the infamous Bataan Death March, two who were captured at the surrender of Corregidor, one on Guam, and one shot down over Tokyo. One of the veterans believes that he was subject to medical experimentation. Their traveling companions include four wives, one daughter, one son, and one close friend. I wish these men and their companions a fulfilling trip to Japan, and I know that their journey will contribute to the historic peace and friendship between the peoples of the United States and our important ally Japan.

It gives me great gratitude to tell the vivid stories of the third U.S. POW Delegation to Japan.

Randall S. Edwards, 95, lives in Lakeland, Florida. Born in Wyoming, he grew up in Nebraska and enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1935 after high school to see the world. He was sent to the Philippines in 1940 and assigned as a Radioman 1st Class to the submarine tender, the USS *Canopus*, which had been ordered to stay in Manila Bay after the bombing of Pearl Harbor in December 1941. By 1942 Edwards was a POW at Cabanatuan 3 and shipped to Mukden, China (today's Shenyang) in October 1942 in Mitsubishi's Hellship *Tottori*

Maru via Formosa and Korea to Manchukuo (Manchuria). Edwards was a slave laborer at MKK (Manshu Kosaku Kikai, which some researchers believe was owned by Mitsubishi and known as Manchuria Mitsubishi Machine Tool Company, Ltd.). He worked on multiple machines from grinders to lathes, carefully sabotaging each task. He believes that the multiple shots and blood tests that he received while at Mukden were part of human medical experiments conducted by the Imperial Army's 731st Biological Warfare Unit. After the war, Edwards remained in the Navy where he received over 40 medals during his service and retired in 1955 as a Warrant Officer. After the Navy, he received his BS degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of Florida, Gainesville. Edwards went on to become a National Service officer for American Defenders of Bataan and Corregidor and American Ex-Prisoners of War to help his fellow veterans with their Veterans Affairs claims. POW# 104

Robert W. Ehrhart, 89, lives in Carmichael, California. He grew up in Oakland, California and enlisted in the Marine Corps Reserve during high school. His unit was activated November 6, 1940 and sent to the Philippines in April 1941. On January 1, 1942 they were assigned to the Third Battalion, Fourth Marines and joined the Battle of Corregidor until the surrender on May 6, 1942. Ehrhart was sent to the Cabanatuan POW Camp where he was on a burial detail, burying as many as forty men a day. He remembers that "bodies were like skeletons and when you lifted them onto the window shutters, which were used for litters, their skin would peel back and stick to your hands." To bolster his morale and that of his fellow POWs, he started to draw cartoons, risking severe punishment if discovered. In September 1943, Ehrhart was transferred to Japan aboard the Hellship *Taga Maru* (aka *Coral Maru*). He was sent to Osaka 4-D Sakurajima where he was a slave laborer at Hitachi Zosen's Sakurajima Shipyard (today's Universal Shipping Corporation). He worked as a riveter helping build military ships and oil tankers. After the camp was bombed in May 1945, he was sent to Osaka 6-B, Akenobe, POW Camp where he was a slave laborer working at a copper mine for Mitsubishi Mining (today's Mitsubishi Materials Corporation). After the war, Ehrhart recuperated in military hospitals from vitamin deficiency, malnutrition, and various tropic diseases. He was discharged April 29 1946. He then studied Mechanical Engineering at the University of California, Berkeley. POW# 221

David G. Farquhar, Jr., 90, lives in Redlands, California where he has lived all his life. He joined the U.S. Army Air Force in 1942. He trained in Nebraska and was assigned as a Technical Sergeant to General Curtis LeMay's 20th Air Force, 24th Squadron, 313th Bomb Wing, 6th bomb group, Crew #2404. He was sent with the 6th Bomb Group to Tinian in the Northern Marianas in January 1945. On May 23, 1945, he was a turret gunner when his B-29 was shot down over Tokyo by flak and fighter planes. They were taken to the infamous horse stalls outside of the Kempeitai (military police of the Imperial Army) Headquarters in Tokyo near the Emperor's palace. They were not considered POWs but "special prisoners" who were war criminals. They were beaten, starved, tortured, and denied clothes, basic hygiene, and medical treatment. On Au-

gust 15th, the day Japan surrendered, he was transferred to a cell at Tokyo Base Camp #1 Omori where he was liberated August 28, 1945. Omori was the first POW camp liberated. After a series of hospital stays, he was discharged in 1946 and returned to San Diego State College (today's San Diego State University) to earn a BA degree in Engineering. He then obtained an MA degree in Education from the University of Redlands. POW# Not Known to "Special Prisoners"

Douglas Northam, 93, lives in Reno, Nevada. Born in Morris County, Texas, he grew up in nearby Naples, Texas. After graduating from high school in 1937, he enlisted in the Civilian Conservation Corps and in 1940 in the U.S. Navy. He was transferred to China in February of 1941 and assigned to the USS *Oahu* (PR-6), a Yangtze River Patrol boat ported in Shanghai. Afterwards, Northam was assigned to an artillery group on Corregidor, which was forced to surrender on May 7th when Corregidor fell. As a POW of Japan, he was sent to Bilibid POW Camp in Manila and then moved to Cabanatuan 1 and 2. In November 1942, he was sent to Japan aboard Mitsubishi's Hellship the *Nagata Maru*. He worked for Nippon Express as a slave stevedore in the freight yards in and around the city of Osaka at Umeda Bunsho Camp (Osaka 2-D UMEDA). In March 1945, after his POW camp was firebombed, he was transferred to Osaka POW Camp 5-B TSURUGA where he was a slave stevedore again for Nippon Express and Tsuruga Transportation Company. After the war, Northam utilized the GI Bill to study geology at the University of California, Berkeley. POW# 117

John Leroy Mims, 90, lives in Aberdeen, North Carolina. Born in Ashburn, Georgia, he grew up in Florida and enlisted in the Army at age 16 in 1938, but was discharged a year later after it was discovered that he was underage. Still hungry and jobless, he re-enlisted February 15, 1941 and was assigned to Company B, 1st Battalion of the famous 31st Infantry Regiment. In April 1941, he was sent to the Philippines aboard the USAT *Republic* and stationed at Cuartel de España in Manila. He fought in the Battle for Bataan and as a POW forced on the Bataan Death March. During the war, his Filipino fiancée Juanita worked as a secretary for a Japanese general and bravely aided the resistance by sending shortwave radio messages to Allied forces in the Pacific. As a POW, the Japanese repeatedly beat and tortured Mims. Although they were able to break his body, they could never come close to breaking his spirit. During his captivity, the Japanese broke his back, neck and both of his legs and shattered many of the bones in his face. The beatings briefly left him a paraplegic on two separate occasions and he still retains a limp. Of the 1,600 soldiers in the 31st Infantry Regiment who surrendered, less than half survived Japanese captivity. In September 1944, he was sent to Japan on board Mitsubishi's Nippon Yusen Kaisha (NYK) Hellship *Sekiho Maru*. Mims became a slave laborer mining coal for Ube Kosan's Sanyo Muen Kogyo Sho (Ube Industries' Sanyo Smokeless Coal Work, which is still known today as Ube Industries Ltd.) at Hiroshima #6B—Omine (Sanyo) POW Camp in Omine-machi, Yamaguchi Prefecture. After the war, Mims remained in the Army for the next 27 years, attaining the rank of Sergeant First Class and retiring in 1963. POW# 429

John Real, 90, lives in Ventura, California. A California native, he enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps after graduating from high school in 1940. He was sent to the Philippines in April 1941 and assigned to aerial reconnaissance at Clark Field with the 2nd Observation Squadron, 27th Bombardment Group, V Bomber Command, 20th Air Force. Real and his unit manned an observation tower on top of Mt. Mariveles, Bataan during Japan's invasion of the Philippines where he tracked Japanese ship movement around the Olongapo Navy Yard. He walked down the mountain to surrender on April 9, 1942 and was stripped of all his belongings before being forced on the Bataan Death March. At the start of the march, he and others were used as human shields by being forced to walk in front of seized American 155mm caliber field guns (Long Toms) that the Japanese were firing at Corregidor. He was a POW at both Camp O'Donnell and Cabanatuan 1. He avoided a certain death at O'Donnell by volunteering for a work detail on Bataan. In September 1943, he was sent to Moji, Japan aboard the Hellship *Taga Maru* (aka *Coral Maru*) via Formosa. At Tokyo 5-B POW Camp in Niigata, he was a slave laborer unloading coal ships for Niigata Kairiku Unso, now part of the Rinko Corporation. After the war, Real received a BA degree in Business Administration from the University of California, Santa Barbara and a MA degree from the Thunderbird School of Global Management in Arizona. POW# 514

George R. Summers, 90, lives in Riverside, California. Born in the Philippines, he grew up in California where he joined the Marine Corps Reserve in February 1941. Activated in June 1941, his unit was sent to Guam in September 1941. Japan invaded the island on December 8, 1941, and he was taken prisoner by the 10th of December. Summers was on the first transport of Allied POWs to Japan, the *Argentina Maru* with 420 American POWs from Guam to Tadotsu on the north coast of Shikoku. After arriving in Japan on January 16, 1942, the POWs were transported to Zentsuji (Hiroshima Branch #1), a POW camp about eight kilometers from Tadotsu. He spent six months there clearing a mountainside to plant apple trees. He was then transferred to Tanagawa Osaka Area POW Command #4B Camp, where he helped to manually tear down a mountainside to build a breakwater for a primitive dry-dock and submarine base. This camp was noted for its severe malnutrition and extremely high death rate of POWs. Six months later, he was sent to Umeda Bunsho Camp in Osaka (Osaka 2-D UMEDA), Japan, where he worked for Nippon Express as a slave stevedore. He was transferred to a total of six POW camps due to American bombings. His last camp was the Nagoya 10-B Fushiki Camp, where he worked as a stevedore slave unloading soybeans from Korea for Fushiki Kairiku Unso until Japan's surrender. After his release, he was hospitalized for six months at the Long Beach Naval Hospital. In retirement, he has focused on real estate investment and his hobbies of collecting Koi fish and exotic birds. POW# 347

IN HONOR OF THE CITY OF BEREA

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the City of Berea, Ohio. Since 1836, the City of Berea has been an exemplary community within Northeast Ohio.

Known as "The Grindstone Capital of the World," the town's symbol is a grindstone which serves as a tribute to the many grindstones that came out of its quarries. Every year, on Independence Day weekend, a festival named for the grindstones is celebrated by the City of Berea.

Berea is home to several of Northeast Ohio's most important fixtures such as Baldwin-Wallace College, the Cleveland Browns' training facility and the Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds. Over the years, Berea has produced a number of notable residents including John Baldwin, Lou Groza, Jim Tressel and former U.S. Secretary of Defense, Neil H. McElroy.

Today, the City of Berea is home to nearly 20,000 residents who are led by Mayor Cyril Kleem. Mayor Kleem was recently elected to his second term in office. There are eight members on the City Council: Mary Brown, Dean Can Dress, Dale Lange, Margarette Kay, Nick Haschka, Jim Maxwell, Cheryl Banaszak and Richard Malott.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the City of Berea and all of its residents.

STOP THE WAR ON COAL ACT OF 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3409) to limit the authority of the Secretary of the Interior to issue regulations before December 31, 2013, under the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977:

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to the Coal Miner Employment and Domestic Energy Infrastructure Protection Act.

Here on the last days of the 112th Session of Congress, we are wasting time debating a bill, whose constituents parts have already been approved by this body.

We've already spent considerable House time debating all five titles of this bill.

And all five titles were rejected by the Senate and have received a veto threat from the President.

Over the past 19 months this body has cast more than 300 votes against the environment.

Just as repeating a falsehood doesn't make it true, passing a bill in the House twice in the same session won't make it a law.

When the history of this Congress is written, it will be known as the least productive Congress in a century, eclipsing even the infamous "Do Nothing" Congress that President Harry Truman confronted more than 50 years ago.

Rather than advance policies that would promote employment, help drought stricken farmers, even address the long-term solvency of Medicare, this House remains stuck on vilifying the Environmental Protection Agency and taking issue with its obligations under the law to protect the public's health.

This week's announcement by Alpha Natural Resources that it plans to lay-off miners and scale back coal production by 16 million tons annually may fuel the argument that EPA is somehow responsible, but even Kevin Crutchfield, the company's chief executive officer, acknowledged that the principle cause was "the result a difficult market in which power plants are switching to abundant, less expensive natural gas."

If natural gas is cheaper to burn than coal, then where is the legislation to ban its use?

How about a war on natural gas?

For decades the coal industry and utilities have been exempted from Clean Air Act regulations.

It took court orders for previous administrations' inactions and the current administration commitment to protecting the public's health that led to today's regulatory climate.

And, while hundreds of miners may lose their jobs because of cheaper natural gas and new Clean Air and Clean Water Act regulations, tens of thousands of Americans, this bill so callously disregards, will be saved from premature deaths, asthma attacks, emergency room visits and missed work and school days each year.

I will vote to protect the lives of thousands of Americans over the few hundred who might lose their jobs.

If the majority truly cares about the fate of these miners, then support a jobs bill that will allow them to rebuild America's infrastructure.

This bill is wrong.

It advances narrow, profit-based interests over the interests of everyday Americans.

It presumes that a cleaner, healthier air and water must be subservient to the interests of keeping this nation's dirtiest power plants and the most environmentally destructive mining techniques free from regulation.

My colleagues, it's a distorted set of priorities advanced by just a fraction of CEOs in the utility and mining industries who refuse to clean up their operations.

We can have cleaner air and more jobs.

And history provides us with proof it is possible.

It's already happened, and I credit George Herbert Walker Bush with having the courage and foresight to put his signature on the Clean Air Act of 1990.

He would be vilified by the current House majority if he signed that bill today.

It's a sad commentary to see so many in this chamber beholden to an industry that prefers to invest in the political process rather than in saving lives by reducing its life-damaging practices.

Few of my colleagues may realize that the coal consuming industries that have underwritten this assault on EPA had an opportunity to collaborate with the Obama administration on a regulatory framework.

They were invited early on during the first year of the Obama administration to sit down and craft a compliance option.

The administration had hoped to craft a deal similar to the historic deal it made with the nation's auto industry on fuel efficiency and tailpipe emissions.

A National Journal article by Coral Davenport in the September 22, 2011 issue referenced this meeting.

But unlike the auto industry, the coal consuming industries refused to negotiate.

Instead, and let me quote from the article, they:

“banded together with the Republican Party to strategize, and the 2010 midterm elections offered the perfect battleground. The companies invested heavily in campaigns to elect tea party candidates crusading against the role of Big Government. Industry groups (like the U.S. Chamber of Commerce), tea party groups with deep ties to polluters (like Americans for Prosperity), and so-called super PACs (like Karl Rove’s American Crossroads) spent record amounts to help elect the new House Republican majority.

My colleagues, this bill presents a false choice, peddled by an industry that refuses to clean up its act.

This bill serves the interest of no one but a few CEOs who refuse to accept responsibility to the harm their operations have imposed on the rest of us.

It needs to be defeated.

I implore my colleagues to vote “no.”

TRIBUTE TO DR. FRENCH B.
HARMON

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my good friend and role model, Dr. French B. Harmon, and to celebrate his fifth year serving at First Baptist Somerset on October 21st, 2012. Dr. Harmon has showed tremendous leadership and involvement in the Somerset community, substantially increasing the Church’s membership within the last year, and strongly connecting with his congregation.

Throughout his life, Dr. Harmon has always pursued learning. After graduating from Paul Blazer high school in Ashland, KY, he attended Marshall University, from where he received his Bachelor’s degree. Seeking to continue his education further, Dr. Harmon went on to receive degrees from University of Louisville (MA in Education), Southern Baptist Theological Seminary (MDiv and ThM), and Reformed Theological Seminary (DMin). Dr. Harmon has had a wealth of experience as a Christian leader, starting from his days in college as the Baptist Student Union President to becoming a Campus Minister to Pikeville College and Prestonsburg Community College.

Dr. Harmon has been a strong leader in our community, organizing various mission trips that have greatly benefited those around him. This past June, Dr. Harmon led the First Baptist Somerset Church on a mission trip to Magoffin County after the town of West Liberty had been ravaged by multiple deadly tornadoes this past March. Harmon took a team of church members and a large load of building supplies to work on damaged homes, repair roofs, rebuild porches, and help get people back on their feet.

Harmon has also stood up to the prescription drug epidemic in eastern Kentucky and has done his best to shed light on the issue.

This past May he helped organize and lead the first “Pulaski Cares March for Hope” to spotlight the drug problem in the region and bring hope to those who were struggling with drug abuse.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Dr. French B. Harmon, for his outstanding leadership and dedicated service to the Somerset community.

IN HONOR OF THE CITY OF
BROOKLYN

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the City of Brooklyn, Ohio. Brooklyn Township was founded in 1818, became Brooklyn Village in 1927 and in 1950 the City of Brooklyn was established.

The City of Brooklyn is home to many firsts in the U.S. In 1966, it became the first city to establish a seatbelt law. In 1999, it enacted the country’s first law to prevent cell phone usage while driving. Brooklyn High School’s auditorium hosted Elvis Presley’s first concert in the northern U.S. on October 20, 1955. Brooklyn is also home to a Hugo Boss Plant and the world headquarters of American Greetings and the popular Memphis Kiddie Park.

Today, the City of Brooklyn is home to approximately 11,000 residents who are led by Mayor Richard Balbier. Mayor Balbier who has been serving as mayor since 2009 had previously served as the president of the Brooklyn City Council. There are six members on the City Council: Colleen Coyne Gallagher, Anthony DeMarco, Tom Murphy, Ron Van Kirk, Kathleen Pucci and Kevin Tanski.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the City of Brooklyn and all of its residents.

CELEBRATING APAIT HEALTH
CENTER’S 25TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate APAIT Health Center, serving my 34th Congressional District, on their 25th anniversary.

Since 1987, APAIT Health Center (formerly known as Asian Pacific AIDS Intervention Team) has worked to fulfill its mission of positively impacting the quality of life for medically underserved communities living with or at risk for HIV/AIDS and other health disparities through a seamless continuum of culturally competent and linguistically appropriate programs in Southern California.

APAIT Health Center is a distinctly critical service provider for those living with HIV/AIDS and members of the LGBTQ community in the greater Los Angeles area. The agency serves clientele from diverse communities, including Asian and Pacific Islanders (API), Latinos, and African Americans.

In its 25 year history, APAIT Health Center has become the largest provider of HIV/AIDS

services to API communities in Southern California, having served tens of thousands of individuals.

APAIT continues to respond this year with the opening of a community health clinic in the vibrant Pico Union/Westlake area, a community with scarce health options for those who are low-income and uninsured.

Private sector partnerships are also part of APAIT Health Center’s portfolio. APAIT Health Center has been the recipient of grants from Kaiser Permanente, John and Johnson, and the California endowment, to name a few. In addition, APAIT Health Center and its staff have received awards and commendations from local, state, and national entities, from the City of Los Angeles to the White House.

APAIT’s proudest achievement, however, is consistently receiving high marks from their client satisfaction surveys. The most recent survey revealed 93 percent of clients feel their quality of life has improved since seeking services with APAIT Health Center.

I once again congratulate APAIT Health Center on the celebration of their 25th anniversary. I thank them for their continued service to the Los Angeles community, and for the help they provide to those in need.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. HOWARD
MONROE FITTS, JR. ON THE OC-
CASION OF THE 38TH ANNUAL
DURHAM NAACP FREEDOM FUND
AND AWARDS BANQUET

HON. G. K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Howard Monroe Fitts, Jr. on his recognition as a Freedom Fund Honoree by the Durham Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, NAACP. Dr. Fitts will receive this recognition next month in appreciation of his advocacy for civil rights and his diligent public service to the Durham community.

Mr. Speaker, after completing a baccalaureate degree in biology at North Carolina Central University, NCCU, Dr. Fitts served as Teacher and Principal in Wilson County Public Schools. He was drafted into the U.S. Army in 1942 and served faithfully for three years before being honorably discharged in 1945 at the close of World War II. After the war, Dr. Fitts returned to academia where he earned a master’s degree in Public Health Education in 1946, and a doctorate degree in Health Education from Columbia University in 1961.

His involvement with the NAACP is deeply rooted, stemming back to his childhood when he worked alongside his father to sell the organization’s official magazine, Crisis. During that time, the young Dr. Howard Fitts was exposed to movements led by the church, health agencies, and other civil rights organizations. This exposure made an indelible impression on him, leading to his active participation and advocacy within the Durham community. As a result, Dr. Fitts quickly rose to leadership positions in the NAACP and the influential Durham Committee on the Affairs of Black People, DCABP.

Among many of his most notable work include his key involvement in the desegregation of the Durham’s public school system,

where Dr. Fitts testified during court proceedings, arranged transportation for Black students to desegregated schools, and enrolled his own son as one of the first African American students at Morehead Avenue Elementary School.

In addition to his civil rights leadership, Dr. Fitts has served as a public health educator for Chapel Hill, N.C.'s District Health Department, professor and Chair of the Department of Health Education at NCCU, and as a consultant to the World Health Organization. His résumé is filled with notable board positions, and his extensive work spans the tenure of every Executive Director of the NAACP from Walter White in the 1930s to Kwame Mfume in the 1990s.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Dr. Howard Monroe Fitts, Jr. on this unique honor of being recognized as a Freedom Fund Honoree by the Durham Chapter of the NAACP. His lifelong contribution to his community and country cannot be overstated.

H.R. 6429

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, today, with many of my colleagues, I voted to oppose H.R. 6429 introduced by Rep. LAMAR SMITH. While I strongly support creating a STEM Visa program, and cosponsor Rep. LOFGREN's H.R. 6412, the Attracting the Best and the Brightest Act of 2012, the bill brought to the floor today was a partisan, unserious approach to a serious question. It was a last-minute suspension bill designed to fail. It unnecessarily raises questions about its application and divides Congress when it should bring us together.

We need serious comprehensive immigration reform. Legislation that creates a STEM Visa program should be low-hanging fruit that builds momentum toward this goal. H.R. 6429 however, creates unnecessary divisions. Not only will it never be enacted into law but it sets us back on both this issue and the larger goal of immigration reform.

IN HONOR OF THE CITY OF
LAKEWOOD

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the City of Lakewood, Ohio. Also known as "The City of Beautiful Homes," Lakewood is an exemplary community within Northeast Ohio.

Lakewood is one of Ohio's most diverse and culturally rich cities. It is home to several art galleries, Winchester Music Hall and the Beck Center of the Arts. Additionally, both Malley's Chocolates and Aladdin's Eatery are based out of Lakewood, Ohio.

Lakewood has been named as one of the best cities to live in by This Old House Magazine and Scene Magazine. It was listed among the best suburbs in the U.S. by Travel & Lei-

sure Magazine. It was named the "Best Place to Raise Your Kids 2010" by Business Week.

Today, the City of Lakewood is home to more than 52,000 residents who are led by Mayor Mike Summers. Mayor Summers, who had previously served as a Councilman, has been serving as mayor since 2010. There are seven members on the City Council: Tom Bullock, David Anderson, Shawn Juris, Mary Louise Madigan, Brian Powers, Monique Smith and Ryan Nowlin.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the City of Lakewood and all of its residents.

IN HONOR OF THE IBEW LOCAL 481
ON THIS 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF
THE CIRCLE OF LIGHTS

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 481, whose generous contribution of time and talent has helped to make the Circle of Lights the premier holiday event for central Indiana for the past fifty years.

On the Friday after Thanksgiving, the remarkable transformation of Indianapolis's signature landmark, Monument Circle, into the world's largest Christmas tree symbolizes the beginning of the holiday season for Hoosiers. The extraordinary efforts of IBEW Local 481 have helped to make the Circle of Lights one of the largest public events in central Indiana.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating IBEW Local 481 for their outstanding contributions to this awe-inspiring holiday event. The Circle of Lights simply would not be possible without their expertise and generous support. My wife, Mariama, my daughter, Salimah, and I eagerly await the lighting of the world's largest Christmas tree in the company of Hoosiers from all across the Great State of Indiana.

SUPPORTING TEAM USA AND THE
U.S. OLYMPIC COMMITTEE

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, in the summer of 2012, we, as a nation, watched with pride as Team USA competed in the Olympic and Paralympic games in London, England. With over 200 nations competing in 300 events, the Olympic Games once again demonstrated the capacity of international sports to captivate and inspire us all through friendly competition, sportsmanship, solidarity, and fair play.

Team USA was well-represented, with 530 Olympians and over 245 Paralympians, each of whom served as an example to all of us with their unyielding commitment to excellence. Their years of dedication paid off handsomely, as Team USA finished first in the overall Olympic medal count with 46 gold, 29 silver, and 29 bronze medals, and fourth in the Paralympic medal count with 31 gold, 29 silver, and 38 bronze medals.

I would especially like to point out the courage and fortitude put forth by so many Paralympians. Although they might not get the same television coverage as the Olympics, the Paralympics showcases some of the finest talent this country has to offer. Some of these world-class athletes are also wounded warriors who served in our military and fought for our country with honor and distinction. I have been pleased to work with the U.S. Olympic Committee and my Congressional colleagues to provide adaptive sports programs to injured service members, helping to speed their recovery time, bolster their self-confidence, and vastly improve their quality of life.

Olympian or Paralympian, all members of Team USA put forth their best effort at the Summer Olympics. They have trained their entire lives for the honor and privilege of representing the United States in international competition. Their achievements are extraordinary, and we are proud of all they have accomplished.

To honor the hard work and unparalleled success of Team USA and the U.S. Olympic Committee, I have proudly joined my fellow co-chairs of the Congressional Olympic and Paralympic Caucus to introduce H. Res. 780, a resolution in support of the goals and ideals of the Olympic movement.

The Olympic movement is a testament to the power of international competition to unite us in common spirit and a reminder to all that we can achieve our dreams with courage and determination. I congratulate Team USA for their success and thank the U.S. Olympic Committee for their continued dedication to achieving a better world through athletics.

HONORING ST. JOSEPH HOSPITAL

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate St. Joseph Hospital on being recognized as a Thomson Reuters Top 100 Hospital.

Founded in 1947 by the Felician Sisters, St. Joseph Hospital has proudly served community members from the Bangor area for three quarters of a century. St. Joseph is committed to wellness promotion and holistic healing by providing healthcare services which embody compassion, competence and community. It is this commitment that has helped them secure the Reuters Top 100 Hospital designation.

The Thompson Reuters 100 Hospital study evaluates performance in a variety of areas, including patient safety, average patient stay, expenses, medical complications and patient satisfaction. St. Joseph was chosen from nearly 3,000 U.S. hospitals for demonstrating high-quality patient care and overall organizational excellence.

St. Joseph Hospital, under the umbrella of St. Joseph Healthcare, is a 112-bed acute community hospital. They provide a comprehensive range of health care services, including primary care, specialty services, diagnostics imaging and screening, outpatient and inpatient surgery. The Hospital is consistently recognized for its quality of care and patient satisfaction scores. In addition to this

praise, the St. Joseph's commitment to providing low cost care reinforces the organization as an indispensable piece of the greater Bangor community.

Mr. Speaker, please join me again in congratulating St. Joseph Hospital, and their parent organization St. Joseph Healthcare on their designation as Thomson Reuters Top 100 Hospital.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE DAVID WEBSTER GREENER WAY TO WORK DAY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize September 25, 2012, as the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association's (CMBA) 4th Annual "David Webster Greener Way to Work Day," and to remember David Webster, legal scholar, litigator, entrepreneur, and environmentalist, who died at age 46 from cancer on March 13, 2009, but whose achievements were many in his short life.

David Webster overcame alcoholism at a young age and went on to sponsor others in recovery. He accomplished much and saw life as an adventure. At Case Western Reserve School of Law, he graduated magna cum laude and was an editor of Law Review, where he met his wife Beth.

Upon graduation from law school, David became a commercial lawyer with broad experience, in matters involving banking, commodity trading, securities, technology, real estate, intellectual property, and his passion, environmental law. Merging his knowledge of commodity trading and environmental law, he founded INHALE, which later became the Clean Air Conservancy, an organization which worked within the manufacturing economy and the commodities market to reduce air pollution by acquiring and retiring pollution allowances. Outside Magazine dubbed the Clean Air Conservancy one of the 10 best small environmental non-profits.

David Webster was an aggressive litigator who took on music giant Sony and won a judgment of more than \$5 million for the late Cleveland music producer Steve Popovich over credit for Meatloaf's hottest album, "Bat out of Hell." He was a founding partner of the law firm Webster & DUBYAK and was also actively involved in the Cuyahoga County Bar Association, the Federal Bar Association, and the American Bar Association. He was a driving force behind the merger of the Cuyahoga County and the Cleveland Bar Associations and was the President-elect of the merged CMBA at the time of his passing.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognizing Tuesday September 25, 2012 as the 4th Annual David Webster Greener Way to Work Day. The CMBA encourages us to find a greener way to travel to and from work, whether through public transportation, biking, walking or carpooling. The CMBA will honor David's memory with a noon luncheon at the CMBA to recognize law firms and offices for their commitment to implement sustainable practices, reduce waste, and shrink their carbon footprints. Please join me in honoring the memory of David Webster by joining

with the CMBA in taking action to protect our environment.

IN RECOGNITION OF JOAN RECHNITZ AND BOB RECHNITZ

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Joan Rechnitz and Bob Rechnitz for their work in preserving New Jersey's pristine natural habitats. Their work with the Monmouth Conservation Foundation has been instrumental in helping to ensure that all New Jerseyans are able to enjoy the picturesque beauty of our county and State for generations to come.

Over the past 35 years, the Monmouth Conservation Foundation has worked to protect over 6,500 acres of land in Monmouth County. Joan and Bob Rechnitz have long been strong advocates and supporters of the foundation and the environment, which includes Bob's tenure as a member of the foundation's advisory board, and Joan's time as a board member of Monmouth County's "Friends of the Parks" organization. In addition to Joan and Bob Rechnitz's work with the Monmouth Conservation Foundation and "Friends of the Parks," both have been actively involved in promoting the arts in Monmouth County. In 1994, Joan and Bob Rechnitz founded the Two River Theater Company in an effort to provide Monmouth County residents with educational and community programs aimed at promoting the appreciation and advancement of arts. Joan and Bob Rechnitz's work through the Two River Theater Company, the Monmouth Conservation Foundation, and Monmouth County "Friends of the Parks" has resulted in a greater appreciation of the environment and the arts. It is my pleasure to join the Monmouth Conservation Foundation in honoring their work in showcasing and promoting the appreciation of art in nature and nature in art.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in leading this body in recognition of Joan and Bob Rechnitz for their work in artistic and environmental advocacy. I would like to extend my appreciation and gratitude for their work on behalf of Monmouth County, and I look forward to hearing of their future successes and endeavors.

COMMEMORATING THE 100TH YEAR OF THE LAKE COUNTY RAILROAD

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and commemorate the 100th year of the Lake County Railroad, a 55-mile stretch of track connecting the neighboring communities of Alturas, California and Lakeview, Oregon.

Since its completion in January 1912 as part of the Nevada-California-Oregon Railway, this rail line has been a vital economic lifeline to the region, transporting Lake County's abundant agricultural and natural resources to markets around this great nation and the world.

The arrival of the NCO Railway was heralded at the time as "the most important epoch in the history of Lakeview and Lake County." Despite the limitations of its narrow-gauged tracks, the railroad spurred the growth of the livestock, mineral, and timber industries, brought in scores of new settlers, and turned a dusty frontier town into a vibrant community. Along with a passenger depot which still stands today, the railroad ushered in a building boom that saw the construction of a new opera house, high school, and even a sewer system.

In 1927, the line was sold to Southern Pacific, which quickly converted it to standard-gauge operations. As a result, Lakeview changed from a commercial center to an industrial hub containing up to ten lumber mills and remanufacturing plants. For nearly 60 years, rail-related trade in the region thrived as millions of board feet of ponderosa pine were carried to market via railcar.

With the beginning of the demise of the timber industry in the Northwest in the early 1980s, Southern Pacific announced plans to abandon the line. Recognizing the economic impact abandonment of the line would have on communities served by the railroad and appreciating its historic significance, Lake County purchased the line in 1986. In 1996, the county took over direct operations and established the Lake County Railroad.

Today, timber shipments have largely been replaced by loads of perlite, but the importance of the line has never been more pronounced. Reliable transportation brings industry and jobs, especially in rural Oregon.

While it has not been an easy task, the business and government leaders of Lake County have maintained and strengthened the Lake County Railroad with a tenacity and dedication that rivals those who first established the railroad. I am proud to have personally supported, advocated for, and been deeply involved in their many efforts to fuel this economic engine. And I will continue to do so.

On October 6, Lake County, Oregon, and the Town of Lakeview will celebrate the Centennial of the Lake County Railroad. Ten years ago, I had the pleasure of being on hand, with my son, to share in the community's previous celebration of the line. While unfortunately I cannot be there again to mark this momentous occasion, this record honors those efforts of my good friends in preserving the history of and building a future for railroads in America.

My fellow colleagues, please join me in congratulating the Lake County Railroad on 100 years of excellent service.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL WORK AND FAMILY MONTH

HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the month of October as National Work and Family Month.

As we strive to move our economy forward, we need to ensure that we are building an economy that works for everyone, including America's working families.

And as a mother of young kids in a household with two working parents, I know all too

well the daily struggle facing today's American families: how can we be great parents and also be great at our jobs?

With an ever-increasing number of parents either working full time or looking for work, more and more families are fully engaged in the daily juggling act that comes with trying to do it all.

Fortunately, policy makers and business leaders can take concrete steps to promote and create a healthy work-life balance for employees, whether it's through offering flexible work hours, assisting with childcare, or creating a positive work culture for families with children.

This flexibility in the workplace benefits everyone, leading to more productive workers, healthier families, and a stronger economy.

In the spirit of National Work and Family Month, I encourage policy makers, employers, and employees to come together and help improve the work-life balance for America's workers and their families.

IN HONOR OF THE VILLAGE OF
GLENWILLOW

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Village of Glenwillow, Ohio. Since 1893, the Village of Glenwillow has been an exemplary community within Northeast Ohio.

The Village of Glenwillow began as a company town by Austin Powder Company in 1893. Eventually, due to increased population, Austin Powder Company was unable to test its products in Glenwillow and relocated to Athens, Ohio in 1972. While the company had left, the residents of Glenwillow were thriving and began making investments and improvements to their 2.7 square mile home.

In 1999, under the leadership of former Mayor Don Payne, a new plan for the Village was designed. It included the rehabilitation and expansion of the Town Center and Village Center.

Today, the Village of Glenwillow is home to nearly 1000 residents who are led by Mayor Mark Cegelka. Mayor Cegelka was elected to office in 2009 after serving as the treasurer for the Village on Glenwillow. There are six members on the Village Council: Jeffrey Adie, Larry Sylver, John Baca, Eric Johnson, Donald Banas and Joseph Barber, Jr.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the Village of Glenwillow and all of its residents.

HONORING ROBERT BERNER

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Robert Berner, who will be retiring after 28 years as Executive Director of the Marin Agricultural Land Trust (MALT) in Marin County, CA. Bob's inspiring leadership has resulted in the protection of countless family farms and ranches and the preservation of thousands of

acres of farmland in Marin County. Today, largely through his guidance, MALT is recognized as a national leader in agricultural land preservation.

Prior to MALT, Bob was Executive Director of The Foundation for San Francisco's Architectural Heritage and Vice-President of Finance at The Nature Conservancy. He is a founding member and current co-chair of the California Council of Land Trusts and a member of the steering committee of the Bay Area Open Space Council. He holds a law degree from Duke University and an MBA from the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania.

MALT was founded in the 1970s by a unique alliance of environmentalists and ranchers who realized that development proposals for Marin County would destroy cherished farmland and beautiful open space. Bob took the reins at a time when much of the economic focus in the region and the nation had been on non-agricultural development. He proved that it is possible to foster growth and economic opportunity in agriculture. Thanks to his efforts, Marin is and will continue to be, home to renowned dairy, meat, and organic produce which are served in the Bay Area and beyond.

Mr. Speaker, Robert Berner's diligent work has helped establish an effective national model for agricultural land preservation, enabled countless Marin County farms to thrive, and provided consumers with organic, local produce, dairy, and meat. Please join me in honoring his distinguished career.

H.R. 3409

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, today the House votes again to dismantle what was once a bipartisan pledge to the American people—that everyone in this nation deserves clean air to breathe and clean water to drink. On this, the last day of session before the House leadership has chosen to adjourn, we could be passing a jobs bill, extending the middle class tax cuts, or working to prevent the sequester and reduce the deficit. Instead, we are voting on a package of bills—most of which we have voted on before—to strip basic environmental protections for our air and water.

Today's bill would systematically dismantle the Clean Water Act, undermine the Clean Air Act, prevent any action to ensure the safe disposal of coal ash, and eliminate the EPA's ability to reduce carbon pollution.

In an unprecedented move, it would repeal in statute a scientific finding by the Environmental Protection Agency that greenhouse gases endanger public health, confirming that the House of Representatives is an evidence-free zone. Mr. Speaker, I'm afraid some of my Tea Party colleagues would have lined up to put Galileo in jail.

The bill nullifies the new fuel efficiency pollution standards for vehicles—standards that would save consumers money at the pump and that are supported by 13 major auto manufacturers representing more than 90 percent of U.S. vehicle sales. It nullifies the Mercury

and Air Toxics Standards, preventing the EPA from reducing emissions of mercury, a powerful neurotoxin that is particularly dangerous for young children and pregnant women.

Mr. Speaker, this broad, damaging legislation would roll back 40 years of progress for clean air and water. We cannot afford to return to a time when industrial polluters used lakes and streams as dumping grounds for dangerous chemicals and factories sent toxic fumes into the air. We must protect public health, defend our environment, and reject this bill.

INTRODUCING THE COMPUTERS
FOR OUR COMMUNITIES ACT

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleagues JOHN LEWIS (D-GA) and GARY PETERS (D-MI), to introduce the Computers for Our Communities Act. This legislation will extend a provision in the tax code that encourages companies to donate computer equipment to schools and libraries.

I have a long history with this tax provision. In the early 1980s I met a young Steve Jobs who had the pioneering vision to put a computer into every classroom in America. However, when companies like Apple donated to schools, the deduction was limited to their cost of manufacturing the computer. Companies had no incentive to donate computers and software to our public schools. With bipartisan support in the House and Senate, we amended the tax code and created an enhanced tax deduction to encourage companies to donate computers to our schools.

Until 2012, Section 170 of the tax code enabled a corporation to take an enhanced deduction when they donated computer equipment to a public school, a library, or other educational institutions. We found a middle ground that allowed companies to deduct more than their cost of manufacturing a computer, but less than the fair market value when they provided this public service by donating computer equipment.

Nearly 30 years after this provision was first added to the tax code, a computer in classroom is no longer a revolutionary idea. Computer literacy is an even more important issue in a world with so much changing technology. Yet this tax deduction is once again on the chopping block. The section of the tax code that allows companies to take an enhanced tax deduction when computer equipment or software is donated to a school, library, or similar institutions, expired at the end of 2011. With this legislation, we can retroactively enact this tax provision and extend it through the end next year so there is no lapse in coverage.

Without this legislation, I worry we won't see donations of computer equipment to our public schools. Even adults who learn computer skills through community programs and public libraries will have to use aging technology. Our schools and our cities are already stretched by budget cuts and we need to do whatever we can to make sure that everyone has the ability to become computer literate.

The Computers for Our Communities Act will restore this tax provision through December 2013 and ensure that America's students

will continue to have access to the latest technological innovations. If we are serious about our commitment to having a computer in every classroom in America, we will pass this legislation.

IN HONOR OF THE CITY OF
GARFIELD HEIGHTS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the City of Garfield Heights, Ohio. Since 1919, the City of Garfield Heights has been an exemplary community within Northeast Ohio.

The City of Garfield Heights, also known as the "City of Homes," was founded in 1919 and named after Garfield Park. Before Garfield Heights was established, the land had been Newburgh Hamlet and the Village of South Newburgh. Garfield Heights officially reached the status of a city in 1930. It became home to Marymount Hospital in 1949.

Throughout the past couple of decades, Garfield Heights has undergone several major expansions and renovations. A new city hall building was opened in 1991, a new high school opened in 2004 and the Marymount Hospital Emergency Room addition opened in 2007.

Today, the City of Garfield Heights is home to nearly 30,000 residents who are led by Mayor Vic Collova. Mayor Collova was elected to office in 2009. He had previously served as President of Garfield Heights City Council. There are also eight members on the City Council: Nancy Marincic, Michael Nenadovich, Tracy Mahoney, Michael Dudley, Sr. Eugene Glenn, Joseph Suster, Thomas Vaughn and Barbara Molin.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the City of Garfield Heights and all of its residents.

VOTE NO ON H.R. 3409, THE REPUBLICAN ANTI-HEALTH ANTI-ENVIRONMENT BILL

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I've got to hand it to my Republican colleagues. When they commit to something, they really commit. This Republican House has the worst environmental record in Congress's history. We've taken over 300 votes against the environment. And here we are again. On our last day to get any real work done, Republicans are voting to kill the environment.

Instead of dealing with important issues like taxes or jobs, Republicans are actually trying to repeal auto emissions standards that will save Americans \$1 per gallon at the pump—standards the auto industry wants and that consumers are happy with.

Instead of helping Americans find jobs, or helping the millions of homeowners facing foreclosure, Republicans are gutting clean air and clean water standards.

Instead of doing something to actually help America be a healthier place to live and work, Republicans are doing everything in their power to spoil it.

My Republican colleagues are saying regulations are killing the coal industry. The truth is that coal isn't selling in America—it just can't compete with cleaner, cheaper natural gas. The free market that my Republican colleagues worship is working. And the coal industry knows it.

Since coal is being beat here in the U.S. market by cleaner, healthier forms for energy, the coal industry has put plans in motion to ship our American coal to China. The industry will make millions in profits selling our coal, mined from our public lands, to go overseas. Trains full of coal will obstruct commerce, especially in the northwest, and endanger public health, all at the expense of the American taxpayer.

Make no mistake, today's bill isn't about saving the coal industry. The coal industry is doing that already, they're finding other markets. This bill is nothing more than a political ploy that puts industry and ideology over less expensive energy, public health, and our environment, and I urge my colleagues to vote no on this bill.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 300TH ANNIVERSARY OF PEMBROKE, MASSACHUSETTS

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 300th anniversary of Pembroke, Massachusetts, a scenic and vibrant town in southeastern Massachusetts.

Native American tribes had wintered along the North River in modern day Pembroke and had called the region home for many generations by the time the area saw its first European settlers. These settlers, Englishmen Robert Barker and Dolor Davis, established their homes in the area of Herring Brook in 1650. The town of Pembroke was later incorporated in the year 1712.

This small town is known for its plentiful timber, water, and fish. In fact, the herring found in the town's ponds, streams and marshes were prized so much that in 1741 Pembroke began regulating the fishing of its waters. Herring are celebrated in Pembroke every year at the town's annual "Grande Old Fish Fry." It is also home to rich woodland, providing timber for both residential and industrial use, and is especially known for its shipbuilding.

The five shipyards off the shores of the North River produced over one thousand ships between 1678 and 1871, including the *Beaver*, one of the ships used in the Boston Tea Party. Other notable ships that came out of these historic shipyards were the *Columbia*, the *Bedford* and the *Maria*. The *Columbia*, for which *Columbia River* is named, was the first ship to sail around the Cape of Good Hope. The *Bedford* was the first ship to sail into British waters with the American flag proudly hoisted upon its jack staff, while the *Maria* is depicted on the Pembroke town seal.

Throughout its storied history, the town of Pembroke has also been home to other indus-

tries such as agriculture and manufacturing. In the early 1900s, cranberry growers and poultry farmers became well established in the town. There were also rubber works, shoe box manufacturing companies and crate constructing companies located in Pembroke throughout the early 20th century.

Today, however, this South Shore town has grown into a bustling suburban community that still maintains its rural charm, continuing to attract vacationers to its picturesque landscape.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating the town of Pembroke and the entire Pembroke community on the celebration of their 300th anniversary. May this beautiful Massachusetts town flourish for many years to come.

CELEBRATING TAIWAN'S 101ST ANNIVERSARY

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, on October 10th, Taiwan will celebrate its' 101st anniversary. This celebration, often referred to as Double 10 Day, is significant for, amidst all the challenges to its continued existence, Taiwan has become one of the world's most advanced and vibrant democracies, and a close ally of the United States.

This progress, coupled with its economic success, has made Taiwan, under the leadership of President Ma-Ying-jeou, a prime example of how the spirit, ingenuity, and diligence of a people can surmount almost any difficulty. Taiwan's high standard of living and its promise of freedom make Taiwan a natural friend and partner of the United States.

Mr. Speaker, additionally, I would like to recognize the service of Jason Yuan, Taiwan's chief diplomat in the U.S. He was recently recalled to Taipei to head up their National Security Council; a promotion in recognition of his outstanding work in building relationships with and understanding the American people. Because our future is so mutually tied, I applaud the Republic of China for its selection of Jason who I am confident will advance the ties between Taiwan and the U.S.

Again, on this October 10th, I would like to join with Taiwanese Americans and the people of Taiwan in commemoration of Taiwan's 101st anniversary and express my hope that the warm ties between our two countries will continue to flourish.

NATIONAL HISPANIC-SERVING INSTITUTIONS WEEK

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, this week we celebrate National Hispanic-Serving Institutions Week.

Hispanic Serving Institutions are colleges and universities that are working to keep the dream of college education alive for Hispanic students.

I'm pleased that a college in my district, San Diego State University, was named a Hispanic Serving Institution this year, making it only the third public research university in California to receive that designation.

SDSU is number one in the nation for improvements in college graduation rates over the past 6 years.

Even more remarkable is that it has done this while dramatically increasing graduating rates for students of color, and virtually closing the achievement gap!

I commend SDSU and other Hispanic Serving Institutions that are bringing greater equity to higher education, preparing our young adults for the workforce of the future, and strengthening America's economic competitiveness.

**ALEXION BIOPHARMACEUTICAL
MANUFACTURING FACILITY**

HON. DAVID N. CICILLINE

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the hardworking men and women at Alexion's biopharmaceutical manufacturing facility in Smithfield in my home state of Rhode Island.

Co-founded by Steven Squinto and Leonard Bell, Alexion was recognized earlier this month by Forbes Magazine as the second most innovative company in America for its work to develop life-saving treatments for ultra-rare genetic diseases.

One hundred hardworking men and women are employed at Alexion's Smithfield manufacturing facility, and they are helping to show the region and the country how to make it in America.

They provide a model to be followed as we work to strengthen research and development, and reinvigorate American manufacturing, particularly advanced manufacturing, and put our country back to work in well-paying positions.

I applaud their achievements and recognition, and I wish Alexion continued success.

**IN RECOGNITION OF THE FRANCIS
X. BELLOTTI COURTHOUSE**

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the dedication of the Quincy District Courthouse as the Francis X. Bellotti Courthouse.

Francis X. Bellotti is known for his more than sixty years of public service in the state of Massachusetts, and it is highly fitting that we dedicate the Quincy District Courthouse in his honor, as his long career began here. After graduating from Boston College Law School and passing the bar exam in 1952, Mr. Bellotti opened up his own law practice not too far from the courthouse that is now to be named for him. For the next ten years, Mr. Bellotti spent countless hours in that very courthouse, appearing hundreds of times for both civil and criminal cases.

In 1962, this career of public service brought Mr. Bellotti from the courthouse to the State House when he was elected lieutenant governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. In his later role as Attorney General of Massachusetts, Mr. Bellotti was well-loved by his many employees, and he received national praise and recognition for the changes that he brought to his office. In particular, Mr. Bellotti implemented a new merit-based hiring system, which soon became the model for countless other prosecutors throughout the nation. This innovation led the National Association of Attorneys General to award Mr. Bellotti with the Louis C. Wyman Award, and for the association's Consumer Protection Committee to elect him as their chairman in 1984.

Throughout his career, Mr. Bellotti has continuously proven himself to be a skilled attorney and a dedicated public servant for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. He remains a celebrated public figure in our state's recent history, and I can think of no better way to honor a man who has given so much to Massachusetts.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the dedication of the Quincy District Courthouse in honor of Francis X. Bellotti. He is an extraordinary member of the Massachusetts community and his years of public service are an inspiration to us all. I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing this dedication, and in congratulating Mr. Bellotti for his many years of service.

**HONORING NATIONAL HISPANIC
HERITAGE MONTH—SGT. JOSE
NOE DIAZ, JR.**

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, from September 15 to October 15 America celebrates National Hispanic Heritage month to recognize citizens whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Central and South America. These individuals contribute to the amazing melting pot of unique identities that is the United States of America.

I would like to honor one particular Hispanic individual, a law enforcement officer from the Second Congressional District of Texas who lives his life under the lessons and values that his father and grandfathers instilled in him to serve our community.

Sgt. Jose Noe Diaz, Jr.—known as Noe—is a Texas Ranger in Houston. He is a fourth generation Mexican-American. Both of his grandfathers (still alive) proudly served in World War II as infantrymen. His father was a migrant worker who worked his way through college and later became a school teacher. They taught him respect for others, honesty and hard work as the formula for success. Sgt. Diaz is proud of his heritage and works tirelessly to ensure that his children understand the importance of public service and giving back to the country that they love.

It is evident that the values he inherited from his family have contributed to his success in his career and in life. Originally from South Texas, Sgt. Diaz has lived in the greater Houston area since 1987 when he began his career as a Texas Department of Criminal

Justice Prison Guard. In 1996, he was accepted into the Department of Public Safety (DPS) Academy and assigned to the Texas Highway Patrol in Katy. In 2001, he was promoted into the Narcotic Division of DPS and assigned to the Harris County Organized Crime Task Force, DEA-Houston and the Houston Police Department's Targeted Narcotics Enforcement Team. In January 2008, he was appointed to the Texas Ranger Division and assigned to Company "G" Rio Grande City, Starr County. Later that same year, he transferred to Company "A" Houston where he is currently assigned. Sgt. Diaz's current duty assignment with the Federal Bureau of Investigation-Houston targets Public and Police Corruption.

Sgt. Diaz is happily married to his wife, Sheila, with whom he has two adult children Justin (a Senior at the University of Texas—Austin) and Stephanie (a Sophomore at Our Lady of the Lake University—San Antonio). Sgt. Diaz holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice from the University of Houston-Downtown and is pursuing a Masters in Criminology from Lamar University—Beaumont.

Sgt. Diaz is an admirable and dedicated leader to our community, and this Hispanic Heritage Month we recognize his accomplishments and his rich heritage that has contributed to his success. We value his role in our community and appreciate his hard work to make it a better place to live. Sgt. Diaz, thank you for your service and for being a role model to many.

And that's just the way it is.

**SEPTEMBER IS ALZHEIMER'S
AWARENESS MONTH**

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker I rise to highlight that September is Alzheimer's awareness month and that today is "Go Purple Day" to help raise awareness of the disease.

Alzheimer's is the most common form of dementia. The disease causes debilitating symptoms such as extreme memory loss as well as the ability to carry out day to day functions as simple as walking and even swallowing. Alzheimer's is ultimately fatal. It currently has no cure, and treatment options are very limited.

An estimated 5.4 million Americans are currently suffering from Alzheimer's, including over 200,000 who are under the age of 65 and is the 6th leading cause of death in the United States. Every 68 seconds another American develops Alzheimer's. Sadly this disease does not only affect the victim but has a profound effect on both family members and friends. In 2011 it was estimated that more than 15 million family members provided over 17.4 billion hours of unpaid caregiver service which would be estimated at over 210 billion dollars worth of care to patients with Alzheimer's. Almost everyone has a friend or family member who has been impacted by this terrible disease.

I am proud to go purple for Alzheimer's day and look forward to working with my colleagues in a bipartisan way to combat this disease which has harmed so many families in West Virginia and around the country.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE REVEREND
ALFRED C. KRASS

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and memory of the late Reverend Alfred C. Krass, retired pastor of the United Christian Church in Levittown, Pennsylvania, and former missionary to Ghana.

This weekend, the Interfaith Community of Lower Bucks County will posthumously present their inaugural Peace Prize to Reverend Krass, who passed away last year at the age of seventy-four.

Throughout his life, Reverend Krass was a symbol of unity and peace who called for open communication between those of different faiths and cultures.

Reverend Krass was also the founder and first president of the Interfaith Housing Development Corp. of Bucks County and the Lower Bucks Center for Church and Community.

Dedicating his life to the service of others, Reverend Krass was a selfless leader who left a lasting impression on his community, and serves as an example to us all.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH
BIRTHDAY OF MARGARET BURNS

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mrs. Margaret Burns, a resident of my district in Pocasset, Massachusetts, as she celebrates her 100th birthday.

Margaret was born on September 29, 1912 in Braintree, Massachusetts. After finishing high school she went on to work at Armstrong Cork Flooring, now World Industries, as a secretary.

In 1953, Margaret, met the love of her life, Garrett Burns. Together they have raised two children, Tom and Carol, who gave them six grandchildren and twelve great-grandchildren. Margaret considers herself lucky for having been "happily married for nearly sixty years." Some of her most memorable moments were with her husband at the Beacon Inn in New Hampshire where they would go for weekends.

In addition to spending time with her husband, Margaret was always involved with her children. She was a devoted attendee of Parent-Teacher Association meetings when her children were young. Today, she loves to cook for her many family gatherings, she enjoys weaving rugs, and she looks forward to the many bridge games she plays with her friends.

Margaret does not attribute her longevity to any one thing except her overall happiness. She makes sure to mention that her successful marriage has helped her to live a long and content life.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Margaret Burns on this joyous occasion. I ask that my colleagues join me in wishing her many more years of happiness and health.

RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF STAFF SERGEANT ANTONIO RIVERA

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Staff Sergeant Antonio Rivera of the Pennsylvania National Guard and resident of Pottstown, Montgomery County on the occasion of being selected as the 2012 Liberty USO Service Member of the Year (Army).

SSG Rivera enlisted in the Pennsylvania National Guard on October 18, 2000 as a 14M stinger missile operator and joined the ranks of Charlie Company 213 ADA. In 2006, SSG Rivera was ordered to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. After six months of training, he was deployed as a 31B military police officer and served as a team leader providing convoy security. SSG Rivera earned a Combat Action Badge when an IED detonated beneath his vehicle in his first month in country.

In 2008, SSG Rivera transitioned into a 21B Combat Engineer Company and in 2009 achieved his current rank before being deployed for a second time in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. While serving on this deployment, SSG Rivera earned Battalion Soldier of the Quarter. On August 10, 2010, SSG Rivera earned the Purple Heart after his vehicle was struck by an IED during a routine clearance operation. Although he suffered shrapnel wounds to his neck, SSG Rivera stayed focused on taking care of his platoon and teammates.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in recognizing Staff Sergeant Antonio Rivera of the Pennsylvania National Guard on the occasion of being selected as the 2012 Liberty USO Service Member of the Year (Army) and for his great service to the United States of America.

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF CATHOLIC CHARITIES AND MONSIGNOR JOSEPH SEMANCIK

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect and admiration that I recognize Catholic Charities, Diocese of Gary, as the organization celebrates its 75th anniversary. During the celebration, which will take place on Friday, October 5, 2012, at the Center for Visual and Performing Arts in Munster, Indiana, Catholic Charities will also take time to honor my dear friend, Monsignor Joseph Semancik, for his 38 years of dedicated service to the organization.

Catholic Charities, a part of the Diocese of Gary, has been helping to meet the needs of citizens throughout Northwest Indiana for the past 75 years. It is a private, not-for-profit social service agency that serves Lake, Porter, LaPorte, and Strake Counties in Northwest Indiana. Catholic Charities, established in 1937, was originally part of the Diocese of Fort Wayne until 1957, when it became part of the Diocese of Gary. Initially, its function was to

serve the underprivileged and needy through programs that would meet the professional standards of social work. However, throughout the years, Catholic Charities has focused its attention on programs that meet the changing needs of the community. In recent years, counseling, volunteer programs, and programs for the elderly and family life ministry have been added. Catholic Charities has been triumphant due to the unwavering dedication of its staff, board members, volunteers, and donors. Catholic Charities is a remarkable organization that is dedicated to serving those most in need and has been an extraordinary asset to the community. Northwest Indiana is not only grateful, but proud to have had the organization's support and help during the past 75 years.

Born in 1929, Joseph Semancik was ordained a Catholic priest in 1953 and in 1984 was named a Domestic Prelate with the title Monsignor. First and foremost, Monsignor Semancik is a man of God, who has tirelessly discharged his sacred duties with vigor, compassion, and an uncommon practicality. Generous to a fault with this time and commitment to help those most in need, Monsignor Joseph Semancik was deeply involved for most of his entire adult life with Catholic Charities, both locally and at the national level. A holder of a Ph.D. from the University of Chicago, Father Semancik is an author and teacher as well. In his "spare time," Monsignor was the local Diocesan Director of Catholic Relief Services, representing North America on a planning committee for Caritas Internationalis, a union of 145 Catholic Charities organizations worldwide. He also was a founder of Hospice of the Calumet Area and one of the originators of the Indiana Catholic Conference. Monsignor Semancik currently serves on the Board of Trustees of Calumet College of Saint Joseph, the Board of Directors for Saint Catherine Hospital, the Board of the Community Foundation of Northwest Indiana, and is a member of the Lake County Advancement Committee.

The recipient of numerous awards, I believe Joe Semancik is probably most gratified by the respect and affection shown by those innumerable individuals whose spirit, body, and mind were guided, made whole, and yes made to laugh, because this good man touched their lives. It is an honor to consider Monsignor Joseph Semancik a friend, and it has been a privilege for each of us in Northwest Indiana to have had our lives enriched by this good and holy man.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my distinguished colleagues to join me in commending Catholic Charities and Monsignor Semancik. For their remarkable commitment to serving those most in need, Catholic Charities and Monsignor Semancik are to be highly commended, and they serve as an inspiration to us all.

HONORING THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY OF ALLENTOWN

HON. CHARLES W. DENT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the 250th anniversary of the founding of my

hometown, Allentown, Pennsylvania, and to pay tribute to the many contributions its residents have made to the cultural fabric of Pennsylvania and our nation.

The area that is now Allentown was originally settled as Northampton in 1762 by William Allen. Allen was a wealthy shipping merchant and prominent Pennsylvanian. He was Chief Justice of Colonial Pennsylvania's Supreme Court and had previously served as mayor of Philadelphia. Given its location along the Lehigh River and proximity to Philadelphia, Allen believed land he acquired north of the City of Brotherly Love would make an ideal center of commerce. Soon, a small village of roughly a dozen wooden cabins was established and immediately began growing into a busy town.

The town's first taste of national acclaim came during the American Revolution, when numerous large bells from nearby Philadelphia, including the Liberty Bell, were hidden in Zion's United Church of Christ to prevent them from being melted into cannons by British soldiers. Without the brave efforts of Allentown's patriotic residents, one of our nation's most famous and inspiring icons may have been lost forever.

While the town was formally incorporated as the borough of Northampton in 1811, most residents referred to the bustling village as "Allen's town", a term initially used by founding father John Adams in a diary entry. The following year, Lehigh County was founded and Northampton was chosen as the county seat. After years of popular usage, the nickname "Allen's town", was adapted into the town's official name, "Allentown," in 1838.

For the first several decades of its existence, Allentown remained a small Pennsylvania German (Dutch) village, populated mostly by farmers and tradesmen. However, the industrial revolution of the early 19th Century dramatically transformed the economy of the entire eastern Pennsylvania region. Allentown's powerful iron industry fed the rapid growth of the nation's railroads in the mid-1800s. As more metal was required to lay tracks across the expanding nation, Allentown prospered. The growth of the Lehigh Valley Railroad and the Lehigh Canal allowed vast quantities of raw materials and finished goods to move through Allentown to markets far and wide. Through industrialization, the city finally achieved William Allen's dream of becoming a major commercial center.

After the financial crises of the late 1800s, the turn of the century gave rise to Allentown as a preeminent producer of silks and other beautiful textiles. The arrival of iconic Mack Trucks in 1905 also reinvigorated the city as a manufacturing center. In 1928, the completion of the PPL tower, the area's first skyscraper, displayed Allentown's industrial might to anyone traveling in the Lehigh Valley. The tower's signature gold and red lit peak still illuminates the Allentown sky at night, illustrating the city's rich industrial history and bright economic future.

Today, Allentown supports a diverse array of industries in manufacturing and services. It is home to superb institutions of higher learning, including Cedar Crest College, Muhlenberg College, and a satellite campus of Lehigh Carbon Community College, that prepare thousands of students each year for careers in the modern economy.

In addition to industry and education, Allentown provides the region with outstanding rec-

reational opportunities. Throughout the year, local residents enjoy the city's beautiful and expansive park system. From cross-country skiing through Lehigh Parkway in the winter months to riding a bicycle on the challenging loop at Trexler Park under the summer sun, Allentown's renowned parks offer a little something for everyone. And for those more interested in watching than participating, Allentown is a great location for sports fans. The city is home to the wildly popular Lehigh Valley IronPigs, the AAA affiliate of the nearby Philadelphia Phillies. Furthermore, upon the completion of a new arena downtown, the Philadelphia Flyers' minor league hockey team, the Phantoms, will also call Allentown home.

While Allentown is certainly the quintessential American city, it is also distinctively unique. Residents of the city's western neighborhoods understand better than anyone in the country how truly powerful a tiny Canary can be, and anyone living in the East Side knows where to find the best clams in Pennsylvania. And like the greatest cities in our nation, Allentown is comprised of residents from many unique cultures across the globe. In addition to descendants of the region's original German settlers, the city today features a diverse population of European, Hispanic, Caribbean, African, Asian and Middle Eastern origins. Embracing and celebrating their differences helps bring the people of Allentown together, but it is their shared love for this extraordinary city that truly unifies neighbors.

This year, Allentown is marking its quarter-millennial anniversary with a calendar full of activities celebrating arts, culture, history, and community. Celebration Weekend, which will be held from September 27th to the 29th, will include a community festival highlighting the diversity of the city, an ecumenical prayer service, a "red carpet restaurant night," and a parade organized around the theme "City Without Limits: Points of Pride." The year's activities will draw to a close with a spectacular New Year's Eve Finale.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great enthusiasm and pride that I honor the city in which I was privileged to be born and raised, and where I have been blessed to raise a family of my own. I would ask all my colleagues to join me in congratulating the City of Allentown on the 250th anniversary of its founding.

NATIONAL SURGICAL
TECHNOLOGISTS WEEK

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, in operating rooms and in hospitals across the great state of Tennessee, there is a team of professional and dedicated workers who serve us in some of our most frail and vulnerable moments. As we celebrate National Surgical Technologists Week, I rise to honor those surgical technologists who have dedicated their life's work to the care, service, and work of our healing.

From processing surgical instruments to focusing on patient care and everything in between, Surgical Technologists are a crucial part of patient care. I ask my colleagues to join with me in thanking them and the Ten-

nessee Association of Surgical Technologists for their works of mercy, especially during National Surgical Technologists Week.

RECOGNIZING THE 101ST ANNIVERSARY OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, October 10th of this year marks 101 years of the Republic of China (ROC). In those 101 years, the United States has had the support of few better friends or allies in any part of the world—let alone in the ever-increasingly strategically important Asia Pacific region—than the ROC. Inspired by the American ideals of individual liberty and freedom, the ROC and United States have stood beside each other in some of our two lands' darkest hours and most challenging times.

Our two governments have stood side by side during the most trying times of the 20th century. Armed international conflicts have tested our relations, but we have emerged as two thriving nations. Our democracies are a shining example for which emerging nations aspire to become just as the ROC was one hundred and one years ago.

On this monumental occasion, I urge all of my colleagues to join me in recognizing this milestone achievement in the history of the ROC. As one our closest allies in the Asia-Pacific region, we must continuously strive to strengthen the relationship between our countries. Let us continue to promote the fine democratic examples which the ROC has set for the world to see. We look forward to maintaining our strong relationship with the ROC for years to come, and we wish their country continued prosperity throughout its second century.

SUICIDE PREVENTION MONTH

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize September as Suicide Prevention Month. With nearly 30,000 Americans losing their lives to suicide each year, far too many of our friends and family members are not receiving the support and assistance so desperately needed. Suicide touches all groups, young and old, and knows no religious or ethnic boundaries. Today, however, I wish to focus on two groups who are disproportionately impacted by suicide.

The first is our veterans—a growing number of suicides comes from within the ranks of those who have served or are serving in our armed forces. For many of our troops, repeated deployments and prolonged combat has exposed them to high amounts of stress creating invisible wounds that contribute to suicide. These heroes put their lives on the line every day and upon returning, they deserve our support. We need to be there for our armed forces—veteran and active duty

service members alike. This is a tragic problem that needs to be urgently addressed but the reality is that there are not any easy answers and this challenge does not offer any quick fixes.

I applaud Defense Secretary Leon E. Panetta and VA Secretary Eric K. Shinseki for marshaling the resources of the U.S. military and the Veterans Administration to attack this tragic epidemic. As we draw down after nearly a decade of war, Secretary Panetta and Secretary Shinseki have committed their departments to not only improve how wars are conducted, but how we address the after-effects of post-traumatic stress disorder and other disabling injuries.

In addition to veterans, we also see that a large portion of suicides are coming from within the LGBT community. LGBT youth are four times more likely to attempt suicide and when they are rejected by their families, eight times more likely. With statistics like these, it couldn't be clearer that there is a great need for assistance and support for LGBT youth, as many are often harassed, bullied and subjected to physical violence by their peers.

These stories of harassment are becoming far too familiar. Take Tyler Clementi, a college freshman attending Rutgers University and an accomplished violinist. At the young age of 18, Tyler's privacy was invaded by his dorm roommate. Deciding that the ridicule was too much to bear, Tyler tragically cut his own life short.

For many, solace has been found with the Trevor Project, a non-profit organization in Los Angeles dedicated to providing life-saving resources to young people in the LGBT community. I recently had the honor of meeting with Abbe Land, the Executive Director and CEO of the Trevor Project and witnessed first-hand how the organization handled phone calls from distressed youth from around the country on their around-the-clock suicide prevention lifeline. With over 30,000 calls each year to the Trevor project, their commitment to saving lives is unparalleled.

The problem of suicide has no prejudice or political affiliation. Suicide touches each one of us and forever changes our lives. I am proud to honor the Trevor Project and the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline during Suicide Prevention Month as they work tirelessly to prevent the loss of our loved ones who are most in need of support.

HONORING THE CENTENNIAL OF
THE BOROUGH OF ROSETO

HON. CHARLES W. DENT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the centennial of the incorporation of the Borough of Roseto, Pennsylvania, and to recognize the many contributions its residents have made to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the United States.

Roseto, nestled in the rolling hills of Northampton County, was founded by Italian immigrants, who came to America in the late 19th Century to work in Pennsylvania's busy slate quarries. In 1887, Nicola Rosato, Lorenzo Falcone, Giovanni Policelli, and Angelo Tedesco purchased tracts of land and built a thriving community, originally known simply as

"Little Italy." In just ten years, the little town had grown large enough to earn its own post office.

Residents named their fledging community Roseto, after the Italian village of Roseto Valfortore, which many of the borough's founders had called home before immigrating to the United States. Today, Roseto maintains a strong sister city relationship with its Italian namesake. On 2 January 1912, Roseto was formally incorporated at the Roseto Borough Hall and became America's first 100% Italian borough.

By the early 20th Century, civic organizations, such as the Sons of Italy, the Order of Red Men, and the Roseto Macaroni Club flourished, as citizens sought to maintain their Italian identity while promoting their patriotism as Americans. Around the time of World War II, the gradual recession of the local slate industry led to fewer jobs for the quarrymen who called the borough home. However, around this time, sewing factories were simultaneously growing in large numbers in the area and began providing work for both young men and women.

In 1913, the Columbus Public School was built to provide education for the borough's children in grades 1 through 8, after which, students would continue their studies as a different kind of Slater at nearby Bangor High School. Columbus School served Roseto's children until 1978, when the school district moved classes to a newer facility. Briefly abandoned, the historic building was reopened just two years later and continues to house Faith Christian School.

Today, Roseto is a much more diverse borough than it was at the time of its founding, but the traditional Italian values of family and community remain strong in all residents. Family businesses and busy old churches still line the streets of Roseto, just as they did over one hundred years ago. The health effects of this lifestyle have not gone unnoticed and were documented in a medical study called "The Roseto Effect," an experiment which sought to determine why mortality rates in the borough were so much lower than other communities. The research concluded that the simple community lifestyle embraced by Roseto's inhabitants is the key to their remarkable longevity. The sense of togetherness and family that exists throughout the town does more than just make life more enjoyable, it actually promotes better health!

This year, Roseto celebrated its centennial, or "cent'anni" in Italian, with a weekend full of live music, delicious food, entertainment and even a parade. The borough also welcomed a visiting delegation from Italy's Roseto Valfortore, including the sister city's mayor.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise to honor the 100th anniversary of Roseto's incorporation. I would ask all my colleagues to join me in wishing its residents a very festive cent'anni!

REMEMBERING SGT. STROH

HON. ERIK PAULSEN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Edina Police Sergeant

Steven Stroh. Sgt. Stroh was a 25 year veteran of the Edina Police Department and recently lost his long and courageous battle with cancer.

Sgt. Stroh was a beloved member of the community, beginning his career as a community service officer after graduating from St. Thomas College. Stroh quickly worked his way to police officer and to sergeant, earning a place as a respected and trusted leader.

While a serious leader in the community, Sgt. Stroh also had a humorous side. Fellow officer Kevin Rofidel remarked, "If [anyone] pulled a prank around here, he'd be in on it."

Sgt. Stroh believed in learning as much as he could to help educate his fellow officers and even earned his masters of police administration while he was in the force. Fellow officers will certainly miss his years of experience and expertise.

Sgt. Stroh is survived by a loving family and a grateful community, which he dedicated his life to serving.

101ST ANNIVERSARY OF THE
REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN)

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, October 10th heralds one century and one year of the Republic of China (ROC).

History—and, particularly Chinese history—is filled with many tales of heartbreak, despotism, suffering and despair. But more than a century ago, one man, Dr. Sun Yat-sen had a different vision for a new China. Having spent his formative adolescent years in the U.S. state of Hawaii, Dr. Sun returned to China inspired by the uniquely American ideals of U.S. Presidents Alexander Hamilton and Abraham Lincoln. When given the chance, Dr. Sun would tell anybody who would listen that the crux of President Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, "government of the people, by the people, for the people", had shaped his own political philosophy, the Three Principles of the People.

While implementation of Sun's three principles was often flawed and undermined while the ROC was on mainland China, they eventually took shape—long after his death following the ROC's move to Taiwan in 1949. In 1987, Taiwan lifted its Martial Law Emergency Decree. In 1991, free elections were held for the island's Legislative Yuan. And in 1996, amidst the attempted intimidation of mainland Chinese missiles being lobbed into the Taiwan Strait, Taiwan staged its first free presidential election. Taiwan has since had three more four presidential elections—most recently, this past January with power changing hands once in each direction.

Voter participation in Taiwan is among the highest in the world, and its people value and embrace its democracy. With so many government ministers having lived and studied in the United States, the ROC-U.S. connection and shared democratic ideals forged under Dr. Sun are alive and well in Taiwan.

I urge all my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Republic of China on its 101 years of principled existence, and on its living example of true democracy.

STEM JOBS ACT OF 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 6429, an unnecessarily partisan bill to increase the number of visas for foreign students graduating with advanced degrees in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). While I strongly believe we should increase the number of visas for these students, I oppose this bill because it eliminates the Diversity Visa Program. There is broad bipartisan support to increase the number of STEM visas. It is unfortunate that the Republican Leadership brought this bill to the floor. President Obama highlighted his support for increasing the number of STEM visas in his 2012 State of the Union Address, when he stated that it made no sense to train foreign students with advanced STEM degrees and then “send them home to invent new products and create new jobs somewhere else.” I wish the Republican Leadership would have brought to the floor a bill introduced by Rep. ZOE LOFGREN to increase the number of STEM visas without eliminating the Diversity Visas Program. I support that legislation.

HONORING THE BICENTENNIAL OF
LEHIGH COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**HON. CHARLES W. DENT**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the bicentennial of Lehigh County, Pennsylvania.

Lehigh County was established on 6 March 1812, with my hometown of Allentown as its county seat. 1812 was a turbulent time for our nation, which was on the brink of war, but the young county persevered through its initial difficulties. The industrial revolution of the early 19th Century gave rise to the growth of the American railroad industry, creating a massive demand for iron to lay tracks that would eventually span the nation. Lehigh County answered the call and quickly established itself as a national manufacturing powerhouse. In addition to manufacturing, the county also flourished as an agricultural center, with crops and livestock supported by cool waters of the Lehigh River and its many tributaries. Farming has been a staple of the region's economy since its settling, and today remains an important way of life for many Lehigh County families.

Lehigh County is home to several prominent colleges and universities that provide quality education to thousands of students each year. These include Cedar Crest College, DeSales University, Lehigh Carbon Community College, Muhlenberg College and Penn State Lehigh Valley. The county's unique location between the major markets of Philadelphia and New York has also made it an ideal location for commuters looking for a better quality of life.

Much to the delight of its residents—new and old—Lehigh County boasts an abundance of cultural, recreational, and entertainment attractions that keep it bustling with activity. The

county is home to Dorney Park & Wildwater Kingdom, a popular amusement park known nationally for its famous 1923 wooden roller coaster Thunderhawk. The Lehigh Valley Zoo, located within the scenic 1,100-acre Trexler Nature Preserve, is home to more than 275 animals representing 70 species, as well as one of the most impressive herds of American Bison in the eastern United States. Many residents fondly remember the thrill of fording the Jordan Creek after visiting the zoo as children.

Lehigh County is also home to beautiful Coca-Cola Park, home of the Philadelphia Phillies' AAA affiliate, the Lehigh Valley IronPigs. Residents of the county and neighboring communities are already getting excited for the start of the 2014–15 AHL season, when the Philadelphia Flyers' affiliate, the Phantoms, will begin playing hockey in downtown Allentown. It is, indeed, an exciting time to be living in Lehigh County.

Known for its many traditional festivals that highlight the area's rich history, appreciation for the arts and love for the outdoors, including Das Awkscht Fescht, the Great Allentown Fair, Mayfair and SportsFest, countless Americans visit Lehigh County each year. Music is also an important component of Lehigh County's cultural identity, and while newcomers may wonder what sounds a boomba makes, thousands of visitors flock to Allentown's J. Birney Crum stadium each summer to hear the familiar tunes played by dozens of drum and bugle corps during their annual stop to the Lehigh Valley.

In recognition of its 200th anniversary, the Lehigh County Bicentennial Committee organized four months of activities celebrating the county's people, history, and culture. The festivities included the launch of the Lehigh County Hall of Fame to recognize residents who have achieved greatness in entertainment, sports, business, and other areas. The 24 inductees of the inaugural class included NFL Hall of Famer Chuck Bednarik of Upper Saucon Township, four-time Super Bowl champion Matt Millen of Whitehall Township, actress Amanda Seyfried of Allentown, actress Christine Taylor of Lower Macungie, famed Chrysler CEO Lee Iacocca of Allentown, Brigadier General Anna Mae Hays, the first female general in the U.S. military and an Allentown native, and Golf Channel analyst Rich Lerner of South Whitehall.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize the county that my family and I call home on the occasion of its bicentennial. I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring Lehigh County's 200th anniversary.

RECOGNIZING VALLEY MEDICAL'S
ALLIANCE WITH UW MEDICINE**HON. ADAM SMITH**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Valley Medical Center, located in Renton, Washington, for being named one of the Best Hospitals in the Puget Sound by U.S. News & World Report. The hospital is also celebrating the one-year anniversary of Valley Medical Center's alliance with University of Washington Medicine. The alliance has increased the availability and quality healthcare to the Puget Sound region.

Since partnering with UW Medicine, Valley Medical Center has increased services and clinical expertise for residents by expanding coverage in neurological and thoracic surgery. Valley Medical Center has also expanded education and training programs. These programs create better access to primary care and other forms of specialized care when needed. The Best Hospitals ranking also honored Valley Medical Center for high performance in orthopedics, diabetes, and endocrinology.

Valley Medical Center hopes to bring more expansion in clinical areas as their alliance with UW Medicine grows. The alliance most importantly hopes to reduce the overall cost of healthcare and make access to care readily available. Since the recent enactment of healthcare reform, Valley Medical Center's clinics and UW Medicine's neighboring clinics have already improved their accessibility by having world class specialists readily available.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize the accomplishments of Valley Medical Center and the one-year anniversary of Valley Medical Center's alliance with UW Medicine. I am confident that the alliance will strengthen and continue to provide remarkable care to the community for years to come.

ALZHEIMER'S ACTION DAY

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize September 21, 2012, as Alzheimer's Action Day and to offer my support to the Alzheimer's Association for their work to provide care and support for individuals with Alzheimer's and their families.

The Alzheimer's Association, Houston and Southeast Texas Chapter has served Southwest Houston since 1980, when caregivers Harry Walker and Al Malyn created the chapter at a local church to care for their wives. The organization now includes over 300 volunteers who serve 37 countries. With chapters like this, the Alzheimer's Association is able to make a difference. I would like to congratulate this chapter's hard work and accomplishments and thank them for their leadership in our community.

Alzheimer's disease leaves millions of American families in emotional and financial ruin. It affects more than 4 million people nationwide and will affect as many as 14 million by 2050. Additionally, almost 15 million Americans are caring for a person with Alzheimer's disease or another dementia.

My mother-in-law battled this disease, so I appreciate how devastating it can be. During the last Congress, I was a cosponsor of the National Alzheimer's Project Act, introduced by our colleague Representative MARKEY. This important law created the Office of the National Alzheimer's Project and called for a National Alzheimer's Plan. During this Congress, I am pleased Representative MARKEY continues his efforts aimed at combating Alzheimer's by introducing the HOPE for Alzheimer's Act, which I have cosponsored and I believe it deserves consideration by the House.

Making advances in Alzheimer's is a goal in our national interest. We must continue funding programs aimed at education, support and

research. This enjoys bipartisan support and I am proud to work with our colleagues to maintain our Nation's commitment to this effort.

HONORING THE 100TH
ANNIVERSARY OF DEVEREUX

HON. CHARLES W. DENT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the work of Devereux, a nonprofit behavioral health organization based in Pennsylvania, and congratulate the organization on its upcoming 100-year anniversary.

Devereux operates a comprehensive national network of clinical, therapeutic, educational and employment programs and services. Devereux also works on research based prevention initiatives that help to empower children and adolescents. Founded in 1912 Devereux has grown over the last hundred years from helping twelve students to tens of thousands, including students in the 15th District of Pennsylvania in Allentown, PA.

The Allentown School District partnered with Devereux in 2011 to implement the Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies program (PATHS). The program teaches self-control, emotional understanding, self-esteem, relationships, and interpersonal problem solving. PATHS is designed to promote students' social and emotional health which is crucial for academic success. Programs like these can markedly increase academic achievement, address conduct problems, and decrease emotional distress in children. Devereux has provided reports to assist teachers and schools with implementation of the program, collected data, and worked to overcome any challenges the schools face.

Devereux's mission is to change lives and nurture human potential. By continually investing in the community, they have helped to improve outcomes in student's lives and academics. These types of changes can already be seen in Allentown classrooms.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in congratulating Devereux on 100 years of service to countless children, adolescents, adults and their families, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and to the Nation.

A TRIBUTE TO CARMEN
ARELLANO LEE 2012 SPIRIT OF
MATER AWARD RECIPIENT

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Carmen Arellano Lee, a 1954 graduate of the Convent of the Sacred Heart, Menlo Park, California. Carmen is being honored on October 20, 2012, with the coveted Spirit of Mater Alumni Award, which recognizes alumni who "radiate Mater's spark of divine spirit and who employ life in a manner representative of the Sacred Heart Schools, Atherton Goals and Criteria. Schools of the Sacred Heart commit themselves to educate to a personal and active faith in God, a deep respect for intellectual

values, a social awareness which impels to action, the building of community as a Christian value, and personal growth in an atmosphere of wise freedom."

Carmen Lee founded the Peninsula Network of Mental Health Clients, an organization composed of clients receiving care provided by public mental health providers and serves as advocates for them. In 1990 Carmen secured funding and began the Stamp Out Stigma (SOS) program to put a human face on mental health patients and issues and dispel the myths and stereotypes surrounding patients and their illnesses. Since 1990 SOS has delivered more than 2,000 public presentations. Carmen is a committee member for the California State Mental Health Planning Council, People in Recovery for the United States Psychiatric Rehabilitation Association and the Federal Government's Task Force on Suicide Prevention.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this tireless, fearless woman who knows of what she speaks. She has felt the stigma and works to stamp it out. She has experienced the curse of mental illness and works as an advocate for others afflicted by it. If we could clone Carmen Lee, communities across our nation would be better places for those suffering from mental illness.

RECOGNIZING COOKIE HENREY ON
THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Cookie Henrey, a doorkeeper for the Office of the Sergeant at Arms, who retired in August 2012. She worked there since 1987.

Cookie started to work on Capitol Hill during the summer of her 16th birthday, June 21, 1976. She worked as a counter girl in the House restaurant until she graduated from Fairmont Heights High School in June 1978. After graduation, Cookie married her childhood sweetheart, Michael Henrey. That union produced three sons, Michael, Jr. and twin boys Marcus and Marcell. In 1979, Cookie started to work for the Office of the Doorkeeper. She stayed there until 1986, and then moved on to work for the Capitol Police as a security aide.

So we will all miss that infectious smile. And, we will not have the sidebar and off-line chatter that so many of us shared with her. Cookie made a point of knowing every Member by name, kept us safe, and offered good tidings to all of us.

Mr. Speaker, for those of us who knew her, entering the Chambers of Congress will be less bright because we no longer have Cookie's sunny disposition. I am sure that I speak for all when I say, "thank you, Cookie." Your service is deeply appreciated.

A TRIBUTE TO SEAN COLE 2012 SACRED HEART PREPARATORY ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME AWARD RECIPIENT

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sean Cole, a 1992 graduate of Sacred Heart Preparatory. The School is proud to offer the Athletic Hall of Fame to honor him for his athletic achievements. The award recognizes contributions of alumni athletes, teams, coaches, and administrators of Sacred Heart Preparatory. Individuals like Sean Cole who are inducted into the Hall of Fame have made significant achievements in his sports of soccer and baseball and exemplified the principles of sportsmanship and Christianity as illustrated in the Goals and Criteria of Sacred Heart Schools.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Sean Cole, an athlete who lives a life which embodies the goals and criteria of Sacred Heart Schools. He lives the five commitments of faith, respect, social awareness, community building and personal growth, and his contributions to his sport have strengthened our community and our country immeasurably.

VETERANS SUICIDE PREVENTION
MONTH

HON. DAN BENISHEK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. BENISHEK. Mr. Speaker, America has a veteran suicide epidemic. Bearing the stresses of wartime demands, today more of our nation's heroes are taking their own lives than are killed overseas. We must do more to be there for our servicemembers when they return home and help them transition to civilian life. I am pleased that the Department of Veterans Affairs has recognized September as Suicide Prevention Month and will undertake an outreach campaign to raise awareness of the VA mental health services available to veterans. This month and beyond the agency will educate communities, health care providers, friends and family members about recognizing suicide risk and the resources available to help our loved ones.

As a former VA doctor in Michigan's Upper Peninsula and a Member of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, I know that the challenges of military life do not end once our servicemembers retire from active duty. Physical and invisible wounds can last a lifetime, and the mental health and well-being of these brave men and women must remain the highest priority for this country. Community organizations, Veteran Service Organizations, family and friends must continue to familiarize themselves with the signs of a veteran in crisis and learn where to turn for support. Congress and the VA must redouble their efforts to ensure there is always someone on the other end of the line to help a veteran or family member in need. Everyone can help fight this epidemic, and be there for those that were there for us.

I encourage my colleagues to redouble their efforts to raise awareness of this very serious epidemic, and thank all those who have served our country for their immeasurable service and sacrifice.

HONORING AND REMEMBERING
THE LIFE OF JAMES E. JACOBS
OF HILLSBOROUGH, NEW JERSEY

HON. LEONARD LANCE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. LANCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember the life of James E. Jacobs of Hillsborough, New Jersey. James was a loving husband, father, son, brother, uncle, soldier and friend. Born and raised in Verona, New Jersey, he graduated from Montclair State University and later served in the United States Army. He bravely served his country in Vietnam and was awarded the Bronze Star for his commendable service. Jim was honorably discharged as a Specialist.

Jim lived by the Latin phrase: "amor vincit omnia" or "love conquers all." This could not be truer for Jim and the love of his life, Kathleen Geiger, whom he married in 1990. Throughout their twenty two year marriage, nothing brought Jim more happiness than talking about their two greatest accomplishments, their children, Daniel and Katherine. This family will remember him for his everlasting love, support and encouragement.

Jim was a devout New York Giants fan, an expert solver of crossword puzzles, a self-taught guitarist and an aspiring poet. Among his fellow soldiers, friends and family, he was known for standing up for those less fortunate than he.

I join the Jacobs family and friends in remembering Jim for his public service to our Nation and his service to others.

IN RECOGNITION OF BARRY
BROWN

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Barry Brown. Barry served as my chief of staff when I was elected into the House of Representatives in 2002 and recently transitioned into his new role with the Alpine Group here in D.C. During the ten years Barry served as chief of staff in my office, I always appreciated his dedication and loyalty to the staff, constituents, and to me.

After receiving his Bachelor of Arts from Texas Tech University, Barry began his career as a legislative assistant for the House Agriculture Committee Chairman, Larry Combest. Barry later became the legislative director to Representative KEVIN BRADY and the chief of staff to Representative KAY GRANGER. While on Capitol Hill, he also served Representative Dick Arme and Senator Phil Gramm. Before working for my office, Barry was also the Vice President with the Alpine Group.

As a fifth-generation Texan, Barry participates on the National Board of Directors for

the Red Raider Club and is a third generation member of the Texas State Society. Barry is also the assistant treasurer of the Vestry of St. Patrick's Episcopal Church.

As you can see Barry is very active in the community and has a passion for Texas and for politics. While Barry can boast many legislative and political achievements, I know he will say his greatest success is being a husband and father. Barry is married to Jennifer Brown who is the chief of staff for Representative LAMAR SMITH. Together, they have a son, Leighton, and a daughter, Gipson.

I want to express my appreciation and best wishes to Barry as he furthers his career with the Alpine Group. He will be dearly missed and always warmly welcomed in my office.

A TRIBUTE TO KEN WALSH 2012
ST. JOSEPH'S SCHOOL HENRY
SCHIMPF AWARD RECIPIENT

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ken Walsh, a member of the faculty of St. Joseph's School of the Sacred Heart in Atherton, California, who is being honored with the Henry Schimpf Award for his selfless service contributions, commitment and dedication within the St. Joseph's community. Like the man for whom the award is named, Ken Walsh has touched and improved the lives of so many while at St. Joseph's School of the Sacred Heart, and embodies the kind of patient, humble, selfless teaching methods we should all aspire to practice.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Ken Walsh, an educator who lives a life which embodies the goals and criteria of Sacred Heart Schools. He lives the five commitments of faith, respect, social awareness, community building and personal growth, and his contributions to his students have strengthened our community and our country immeasurably.

WORLD ALZHEIMER'S AWARENESS
DAY

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my support for the ongoing efforts of this body and the American people to conquer the devastating disease of Alzheimer's. Alzheimer's is one of the top 10 causes of death in America, and the only one without a way to prevent, cure, or even slow its progression. While death rates from diseases such as stroke, heart disease, and breast cancer have fallen since the year 2000, deaths from Alzheimer's have increased by 66 percent.

Alzheimer's disease affects over 5 million Americans who are cared for by more than 15 million caregivers. These caregivers shoulder the heavy burden of caring for their loved ones and forgoing paid positions while watching the disease progress without the possibility of a cure.

I have several constituents who have been impacted by this disease but two stand out for me personally. Cathy and her daughter Grace have been tireless advocates for their cause. Cathy's husband was diagnosed with early onset Alzheimer's and she has seen the effects up close. Each year they have taken time out of their schedules to travel to DC and as well as my district office to update me on her husband's condition and express their hopes that we can get closer to curing this awful disease. Grace has even taken her advocacy to the Roll Call Forum to speak on her mother and father's behalf. This is why I support the National Alzheimer's Plan.

40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
INTERNATIONAL STORYTELLING
CENTER

HON. DAVID P. ROE

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I submit these remarks to recognize the 40th anniversary of the International Storytelling Center in Jonesborough, Tennessee.

On a warm October day in 1973, Jonesborough—a tiny Tennessee town in the heart of the Southern Appalachian Mountains—played host to the first National Storytelling Festival.

A Jonesborough journalism teacher and his neighbors rolled an old farm wagon into Courthouse Square and, around that wagon, told stories. The Festival was modest, but something happened that sunny October day that has forever changed our culture, the tradition of storytelling, and this Tennessee town.

Recognized as the world's first public event devoted exclusively to storytelling, the Festival ignited a renaissance of storytelling that has spread throughout America and the world and transformed Jonesborough into the Storytelling Capital of the World. In 1975, two years after the first Festival, the institution that would one day become the International Storytelling Center was founded—propelling this growing cultural movement for almost 40 years.

During the past four decades, the International Storytelling Center has advanced the power and possibilities of storytelling—in performance, preservation, and professional practice.

Storytelling can't directly feed the hungry, house the homeless, or cure the sick. But within each of us is the capacity to tap into our stories, our narrative assets, to communicate more effectively—to share knowledge, persuade, entertain, advance a cause, teach, lead change, and visualize the future.

Indeed, a well-told story can communicate truth, concept, or idea with immeasurable power. So, based on this belief, ISC is dedicated to connecting the powerful tool of storytelling with the voices of individuals, organizations, and communities across the world to help them achieve their goals.

The vision of the ISC is a better life, a better world, through the power of storytelling. To achieve this worthy vision, the ISC is advocating for the power and possibilities of storytelling and providing people across the world with the knowledge, experiences, and tools to effectively tap into the contemporary applications of this longstanding tradition. The ISC is

inspiring and empowering people across the world to discover, craft, and share their stories to: listen and enrich performance—as teller and listener; celebrate our personal, community, and cultural heritage through the preservation of our stories and story traditions; and enhance health and wellness, education, and community services through the professional practice of storytelling.

On October 5–7 of 2012, the ISC and the Jonesborough community are celebrating their 40th anniversary of the National Storytelling Festival—the acclaimed event that launched the storytelling renaissance and transformed Jonesborough, the oldest town in Tennessee, into the Storytelling Capital of the World.

A TRIBUTE TO DENISE SHELDON
2012 SACRED HEART PRE-
PARATORY ATHLETIC HALL OF
FAME AWARD RECIPIENT

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Denise Sheldon, a 1993 graduate of St. Joseph's School and a 1997 graduate of Sacred Heart Preparatory. The School is proud to offer the Athletic Hall of Fame to honor her for her athletic achievements. The award recognizes contributions of alumni athletes, teams, coaches, and administrators of Sacred Heart Preparatory. Individuals like Denise Sheldon who are inducted into the Hall of Fame have made significant achievements in her sport of volleyball and exemplified the principals of sportsmanship and Christianity as illustrated in the Goals and Criteria of Sacred Heart Schools.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Denise Sheldon, an athlete who lives a life which embodies the goals and criteria of Sacred Heart Schools. She lives the five commitments of faith, respect, social awareness, community building and personal growth, and her contributions to her sport have strengthened our community and our country immeasurably.

RECOGNITION OF MR. ABU NASER
KHALIQUZZAMAN

HON. YVETTE D. CLARKE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the contributions of Abu Naser Khaliqzaman, President of World Trade Promotion Center, Inc. to the Brooklyn community and to furthering democracy in his native Bangladesh. The contributions of Mr. Khaliqzaman have included strengthening ties between the U.S. and Bangladesh, improving the quality of Bangladeshi democracy, and improving the Brooklyn community.

World Trade Promotion Center, Inc. is a Brooklyn based producer and distributor of American food and agriculture commodities, which provides employment and prestige to the community. Mr. Khaliqzaman's sense of community and vital support has greatly benefited the Brooklyn area.

Mr. Abu Naser Khaliqzaman, known as Zaman, acts as a community leader in his Brooklyn neighborhood and serves as a Board member for the Dahil Neighborhood Association. Zaman also served as a member of the Board of Directors of the Mid-Atlantic Soybean Association.

Zaman has worked tirelessly to promote democracy in his native Bangladesh for many years, most notably acting as sponsor to a series of non-partisan community programs aimed at strengthening the future of Bangladesh by encouraging women to vote and become more active in politics, and calling attention to the foreign investment potential of Bangladesh. From an early age, Mr. Khaliqzaman has understood the importance of democratic processes and has spread his understanding to his community following the Independence of Bangladesh from Pakistan.

In response to the tragic events of September 11, 2001, Mr. Khaliqzaman organized a press conference to condemn the acts of terrorism and convey to the Bangladeshi people how acts of terrorism ruin relations among nations. In the following years, Zaman Khaliqzaman has worked to create unity among people of all walks of life and has sponsored a series of religious and civic events to these ends.

Abu Naser Khaliqzaman has also worked to improve relations between the US and Bangladesh by holding a series of events in Dhaka with the objective of finding common ground for peace and condemning international terrorism. Zaman Khaliqzaman has dedicated efforts to facilitate cooperation and understanding between the United States and the Muslim world.

Today, I rise to honor Mr. Abu Naser Khaliqzaman for his contributions to the Brooklyn community and the U.S. relationship with the Muslim world. It is my honor to recognize Mr. Abu Naser Khaliqzaman as a promoter of democracy and community in Brooklyn and abroad.

ROBERT E. LEE HIGH SCHOOL
INTERACT CLUB

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today, I want to recognize the important contributions that the Robert E. Lee High School Interact Club has made to the Baytown, Texas community. For over 50 years, the club has proudly served our community. This is quite an accomplishment in and of itself, but in the last year alone, the club has completed over 900 hours of community service.

Sponsored by the Baytown Rotary, the club's community service projects last year included the annual cancer fundraiser, Relay for Life; campus clean up events; hosting a Red Ribbon Week, and serving meals at the Baytown Thanksgiving community dinner. The club also held a Trick-or-Treat for Hunger event where it collected 1,587 canned goods to donate to our community.

With a motto of "service above self", the club's members are learning many important life lessons: how to be selfless; how to be a

leader; how to be a person of integrity; how to respect others and how to help someone during a difficult time. The members may be young in age—only teenagers—but they are putting these life lessons into action and making important contributions to the Baytown community.

The Baytown community has been enriched by the members of the Robert E. Lee Interact Club and will continue to be as the students put service above self for the next 50 years. And that's just the way it is.

A TRIBUTE TO NANCY SULLIVAN
STRETCH 2012 SPIRIT OF MATER
AWARD RECIPIENT

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Nancy Sullivan Stretch, a 1957 graduate of the Convent of the Sacred Heart, Atherton, California. Nancy is being honored on October 20, 2012, with the coveted Spirit of Mater Alumni Award which recognizes alumni who "radiate Mater's spark of divine spirit and who employ life in a manner representative of the Sacred Heart Schools, Atherton, Goals and Criteria. Schools of the Sacred Heart commit themselves to educate to a personal and active faith in God; a deep respect for intellectual values; a social awareness which impels to action; the building of community as a Christian value; and personal growth in an atmosphere of wise freedom."

Nancy is being honored for spending her life working toward fulfilling the goals and criteria of a Sacred Heart education. She served for eight years as Board President of Creativity Explored, a San Francisco organization devoted to supporting people with developmental disabilities in their quests to become working artists. She serves her parish as a Eucharistic Minister and founded the "Peanut Butter Brigade" which prepares hundreds of brown bag lunches and distributes them to the homeless of San Francisco. Her volunteers include small children, teens, adults and seniors. Nancy also served her community as an Assistant District Attorney for the City and County of San Francisco.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Nancy Sullivan Stretch, a woman who has lived a life which embodies the goals and criteria of Sacred Heart Schools. She lives the five commitments of faith, respect, social awareness, community building and personal growth, and her contributions have strengthened our community and our country immeasurably.

TRIBUTE TO KEN RIVERS

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication and contributions to the community of Riverside County are exceptional. Southwest Riverside has been fortunate to have dynamic and dedicated community leaders who

willingly and unselfishly give their time and talent and make their communities a better place to live and work. Ken Rivers is one of these individuals. On September 27, 2012, Ken will be honored as the "Citizen of the Year" at the Boy Scouts of America—Tahquitz District Distinguished Citizens Dinner.

Ken's background encompasses over 25 years of executive healthcare administration. While earning his master's degrees at the University of La Verne, he became a chief operating officer of a Southern California hospital at the young age of 23.

Prior to joining Southwest Healthcare hospitals, he served as the Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director at the Corona Regional Medical Center in my hometown of Corona. He joined Southwest Healthcare System in 2009, where he has served as the Chief Executive Officer/Managing Director. Southwest Healthcare System operates Inland Valley Medical Center in Wildomar and Rancho Springs Medical Center in Murrieta and Temecula Valley Day Surgery in Murrieta. Just recently, he joined CHA Health System in Los Angeles which will allow him to further his career at the international level of healthcare.

Ken's accomplishments at Southwest Healthcare System have reflected his attitude of treating patients like family. Along with a dedicated leadership team, physicians and the entire hospital staff, Ken directed the opening of the \$91 million expansions to both hospitals which include new emergency departments featuring more than 70 bays, expanded the Intensive Care Unit at Inland Valley by doubling bed capacity, and the largest Women's Center in the entire region located at Rancho Springs. His leadership was instrumental in passing one of the largest state and federal surveys. He is currently developing the region's first Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at Rancho Springs and Cardiac Services at Inland Valley.

It is hard to imagine that Ken would have any free time on his hands yet he always found time for his community. A Paul Harris Fellow and Rotarian, Ken serves with many philanthropic and healthcare organizations including Chairman for the Riverside County Chapter of the American Red Cross. He also enjoys spending time with his two children, traveling, and playing golf.

In light of all Ken has done for Southwest Riverside County, the Boy Scouts of America—Tahquitz District named Ken their Citizen of the Year. Ken's tireless passion for community service has contributed immensely to the betterment of the community of the Inland Empire. He has been the heart and soul of many community organizations and events and I am proud to call him a fellow community member, American and friend. I know that many community members are grateful for his service and salute him as he receives this prestigious award.

IN HONOR OF EILEEN DAILY

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, this year residents of Connecticut's 33rd District will bid a fond farewell to a woman who has served them for nearly two decades. Her colleagues

described Senator Eileen Daily as a woman who was concerned with the people she represented, rather than the politics of the day. While serving in Hartford for twenty years, she never stopped personally helping those living in her district near the Connecticut River and along the Long Island Sound.

Prior to being elected to the Senate, Eileen served on the Westbrook Board of Education until 1983 when she became the town's First Selectwoman. When Eileen Daily went to Hartford as a State Senator six years later, she quickly earned the respect of her peers. She became an influential member and was made Chair of the Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee—a position she held for five terms.

Among her numerous accomplishments, Senator Daily co-authored the Small Town Economic Assistance Program which provided grants for major public works projects. The program was designed to fuel development in small towns that would otherwise be unable to afford funding. She played a crucial role in negotiating components of and funding for an innovative industrial wastewater treatment facility in Clinton.

I am proud of working with Senator Daily to secure funding for a dredging project in Westbrook. A host of destructive storms had caused silt build up and erosion, impacting the marinas along the Patchogue River. Local restaurants and shop owners, dependent on the boaters, no longer have to worry about keeping their businesses afloat. I also collaborated with Eileen to protect the scenic Eightmile River Watershed and designate it within the national Wild and Scenic River system.

In addition to her legislative work, Eileen also serves on the Board of Directors of the Valley Shore YMCA, the Middlesex County Substance Abuse Action Council, and on the Fiscal Chairs Committee of the National Conference of State Legislatures. In 2004, Senator Daily was part of a select trade delegation from the National Foundation of Women Legislators to visit the Kingdom of Bahrain. On her trip, Eileen assisted women who had recently gained the right to vote prepare to run in local elections.

As Senator Daily finishes up her final term, I wish her the best of luck. Although she is retiring from public office, I have no doubt that she will remain an active and beloved member of her community. I ask my colleagues to join with me in congratulating Senator Eileen Daily on her retirement and recognizing her amazing career.

A TRIBUTE TO TREVOR SCHAFFER
2012 SACRED HEART PREPARATORY ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME AWARD RECIPIENT

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Trevor Schaffer, a 1998 graduate of St. Joseph's School and a 1992 graduate of Sacred Heart Preparatory. The School is proud to offer the Athletic Hall of Fame to honor him for his athletic achievements. The award recognizes contributions of alumni athletes, teams, coaches, and administrators of Sacred

Heart Preparatory. Individuals like Trevor Schaffer who are inducted into the Hall of Fame have made significant achievements in his sports of soccer, baseball and basketball and exemplified the principals of sportsmanship and Christianity as illustrated in the Goals and Criteria of Sacred Heart Schools.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Trevor Schaffer, an athlete who lives a life which embodies the goals and criteria of Sacred Heart Schools. He lives the five commitments of faith, respect, social awareness, community building and personal growth, and his contributions to his sport have strengthened our community and our country immeasurably.

CONGRATULATING DR. ANTHONY ALLEN

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Dr. Anthony Allen as the 17th President of Hannibal-LaGrange University.

Dr. Allen, a native of North Carolina, attended Duke University where he played football for four years while studying history and religion. He earned both a Master of Divinity and Master of Theology at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and then went on to earn his doctorate in higher education administration at North Carolina State University. Dr. Allen, his wife Stacy, and their five children currently reside in Kansas City, where he is Senior Vice President of Administration at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. Dr. Allen's dedication to Christian higher education and the shared values of Hannibal-LaGrange University, or HLGU, make him an ideal candidate for the position.

I am proud to represent HLGU, a 4-year liberal arts school situated in "America's Hometown," Hannibal, Missouri. HLGU is known for its Christian commitment that has been preserved since its founding in 1858. Dr. Allen shares this commitment and is dedicated to leading HLGU into the future while preserving its Christian heritage. I am confident he will be an outstanding leader both at HGLU and in the greater Hannibal area.

Please join me in congratulating Dr. Allen on his appointment as HLGU's new president and welcoming him and his family to the Hannibal community.

HONORING KEVIN W. BRADLEY

HON. ANN MARIE BUERKLE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Ms. BUERKLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Kevin W. Bradley. On August 24, 2012 I had the great honor of attending Kevin Bradley's pinning ceremony where he was promoted to the rank of Brigadier General.

General Bradley, a native of Binghamton, New York, received his Air Force commission through the Officer Training School program in 1984. After serving in the United States Air

Force, General Bradley joined the New York Air National Guard in 1992 where he has commanded frontline combat units at the squadron, group and wing level. He has served at the National Guard Bureau and the Headquarters United States Air Force. General Bradley is a command pilot with over 3500 hours in the T-37, T-38, F-16 and MQ-9 aircraft. He has flown combat missions in support of Operation Provide Comfort, Operation Northern Watch, Operation Southern Watch, Operation Noble Eagle, Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom.

In 2008, General Bradley began a four year tenure as Commander of the 174th Fighter Wing in Syracuse, New York. Under his command, the 174th saw a number of significant milestones including the conversion of the Wing from F-16 fighter jets to MQ-9 Reaper Drones, the standup of the MQ-9 Field Training Detachment, and the addition of numerous support mechanisms at Hancock field, especially the full-time Director of Psychological Health.

Brigadier General Kevin W. Bradley currently serves as Assistant Adjutant General—Air, New York Air National Guard. In this role, General Bradley is responsible for five flying wings and the Northeast Air Defense Sector. He is the primary advisor to the Adjutant General on all Air Guard matters.

General Bradley has answered the call to serve his country for more than 28 years. His service has made a great difference in the lives of so many. On behalf of the 25th Congressional District of New York, I thank General Bradley for his many years of service to our nation and community. America is grateful for his service and sacrifice, and that of his wife Karen.

A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF THE
LIFE OF DONALD HARVEY SEILER

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of an extraordinary man, Donald Harvey Seiler, who passed away on August 3, 2012. Don was a native San Franciscan and was educated at the University of California at Berkeley where he earned his BS and MBA degrees, and a member of Lambda Phi Fraternity. After graduation from Berkeley, he worked as an accountant before founding Seiler and Company in 1957. He served on the boards of Ross Stores, Inc., and Greater Bay Bancorp., and was active as a volunteer in the Jewish community. He served as President of the Board of Beth Am in Los Altos Hills and in other roles on the congregation's board, and as president and campaign chair on the board of the Peninsula Jewish Community Center. He served on the board of the Taube-Koret Campus for Jewish Life, the Council of Jewish Federations, the Jewish Home for the Aged, the Jewish Community Endowment Fund, Mount Zion Hospital and United Jewish Community Centers.

Don's philanthropy and leadership extended to education, medicine and environmental causes. He funded the Public Accounting Chair at UC Berkeley's Haas School of Business in 1995, and served on the boards of the

Peninsula Community Foundation and the Stanford Medical Center. He and his wife Ruthie chaired the board of Stanford Hospital's Friends of Cardiovascular Medicine. He received the Public Service Award from the California Society of CPAs, the Robert Sinton Distinguished Leadership Award from the Jewish Community Federation, and the Professional of the Year Award by the Jewish Community Endowment Fund. He was also honored with the Avenidas Lifetime of Achievement Award.

Don met his wife Ruthie in college and they were married for 62 years. They traveled widely and shared a long and loving marriage. They moved to the mid-peninsula in 1960 where they raised their children, Carol and Matt. Don was the loving grandfather of Cory and Mark Roberts, Matt and Allie Seiler, and the brother of Stuart Seiler and his wife Gaye. He also leaves his daughter-in-law Susan.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the memory of Donald Harvey Seiler and in extending our most sincere sympathy to his wife and family. He was a great and good man, one who gave so generously of his considerable talents and extensive resources to benefit others. Don Seiler's life defined what a great citizen is and can be.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 49TH
GEORGIA STATE WORKSHOP OF
OMEGA PSI PHI FRATERNITY

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 49th Georgia State Workshop of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, which will be held on October 4–7, 2012 in Columbus, Georgia. Around 1,500 members of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. from across the State of Georgia will gather in Columbus with their families for this event. The 2012 State Workshop theme is "Friendship and Fraternity, Beyond 100 Years."

Since its founding in 1911 at Howard University in Washington, DC, Omega Psi Phi members have worked tirelessly to give back to their communities. The men of Omega Psi Phi have provided a consistent source of support and service to communities throughout the United States and the world. Upholding the organization's cardinal principles of manhood, scholarship, perseverance, and uplift, the men of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. have maintained a commitment to the betterment of mankind, enhancement of the community, and the enrichment of collegiate men. Today, the fraternity boasts more than 700 chapters throughout the United States, Bermuda, the Virgin Islands, South Korea, Japan, Liberia, Germany, and Kuwait.

The local Men of Omega Psi Phi, including the Chapters of Lambda Iota and Nu Delta at Columbus State University, have contributed to the community by holding numerous voter registration drives and blood drives. They have also donated school supplies to elementary and high school students as well as more than \$350,000 to local high school seniors who plan to attend college.

Omega Psi Phi members have also mentored hundreds of at-risk youth and have

hosted local Talent Hunt programs for gifted Performing Arts students. They have conducted hundreds of Adopt-A-Highway clean-ups and donated Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets to the needy in the community. In addition, members have served on various civic boards in the Columbus community.

Continuing the tradition of giving back, Omega Psi Phi's 49th Georgia State Workshop will conduct a Health Fair and a State-wide Talent Hunt for students of the Performing Arts. They will also mentor young African-American male students at Marshall Middle School and make a collective donation to Feed the Valley, a local food bank.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing the 49th Georgia State Workshop of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity. The Columbus community welcomes these outstanding men and their families and applauds their dedication and service to the community.

STOKOE FARMS 200TH
ANNIVERSARY

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the Stokoe Family of Scottsville, New York. For 200 years, Stokoe Farms has thrived as a family farm, and grown to become an icon of Western New York.

Thomas Stokoe founded Stokoe Farms in 1812, after immigrating to the United States from Nafferton, England. Thomas originally purchased 100 acres on Bowerman Road in Scottsville. A year later, Thomas married Maria Romeyn and by 1859 Thomas and Maria had passed the growing family farm onto the next generation.

Today, the 7th generation of Stokoe family members continues to operate Stokoe Farms. It has continued to grow over the years thanks to the hard work, commitment and dedication of the Stokoe family, and is now home to crops, livestock and agri-entertainment that draw 60,000 visitors a year.

Today's farm is sustained by the hard work and dedication of Dick, Greg, Kim, Jeff, Scott, Debra, Larry, Martha and Suzanne. Over the years, these family members have maintained the farming practices pioneered by Thomas 200 years ago. In order to ensure the long-term sustainability of the farm, the Stokoe family uses practices such as conservation tillage, integrated crop management, and minimal use of pesticides to ensure the farm grows for generations to come.

Perhaps most notably, the Stokoe family brings the same dedication and devotion to their work in our Western New York community. When not on the farm, the Stokoe family has selflessly served on both school and town boards, and devoted themselves in service of their faith.

Mr. Speaker, like our families, our nation is the product of work that has spanned generations. As the Stokoe family celebrates 200 years of family farming, they show our nation that it is the time-honored values of hard work, integrity and dedication to community and family that will sustain our nation, and Stokoe Farms, for another 200 years to come.

A TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF CHARLES NEWEL "CHUCK" HUGGINS

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the long and productive life of Chuck Huggins, who was born in Vancouver, British Columbia to American parents in 1925 and died peacefully on August 19, 2012, with his beloved wife and family members with him at his home in Larkspur, California.

Charles Newel Huggins, known to everyone as Chuck, served his nation during WWII as an Army Paratrooper with the 513th Parachute Infantry Regiment and participated in battles throughout Europe. He graduated from Kenyon College, and with his wife Mime moved to Menlo Park, California, where he began working for See's Candies which would be his career for 55 years. He helped sell the company to Warren Buffett's Berkshire Hathaway Company in 1972, and was appointed President and CEO of the See's Division. He grew the company beyond all reasonable expectations, and estimated that he consumed over 300,000 pieces of candy in the process, before retiring in 2006 at the age of 81.

Chuck lived happily with his wife Mime for 48 years and adored their children and grandchildren. After Mime died, he married Donna Ewald, and they enjoyed 15 joyful years together. Chuck was an extraordinary man. He was known to everyone for his generosity. He loved music, travel, history, jazz, singing, drumming, the Bohemian Club, and he was quoted as saying he and Donna had "serious fun." Next to his family, generosity was his biggest love, and he was famous for it. Countless San Francisco Bay Area charitable events have occurred with a little gold box at each place . . . and diners rushed through dinner for the delicious See's chocolate treat.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in extending our most sincere sympathy to Donna Ewald Huggins, Chuck's beloved wife, and to his son Peter Huggins, his wife Sue and their four children, Evan, Ryan, Tye and Dia; his son Charles "Chip", his wife Pam and their children Anna Morris (Matt), Chuck and Mimi; daughter Anne Huggins Walton and her husband Bart; and daughter Shelley Huggins Dutton, her husband Peter and their children Ella Campbell (Alex) and Taylor, as well as Chuck's sister Ruth. Chuck's passing is a hardship for his family and for those of us fortunate enough to have known him and called him friend, as I did. An unknown author of his Los Angeles Times obituary wrote, "Following Chuck's example, be kind to someone every day and make it a 'Wonderful World' in his memory." Chuck Huggins served his country and loved it, and gave back so much to his community, strengthening it. His example of citizenship will stand tall through the ages as the highest standards of all.

THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CREATION OF THE OFFICE OF THE U.S. TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, fifty years ago this October, Congress directed the President to appoint a Special Representative for Trade Negotiations to lead the Administration's efforts to expand global trade. As a result, for the past 50 years, the U.S. Trade Representative has led the Executive Branch in aggressively opening markets to American-made goods and services and promoting economic growth and job creation through trade. USTR's leadership has contributed in significant ways to the tremendous economic growth that the United States enjoyed over the past 50 years and firmly established our global economic leadership.

Across Administrations, USTR has maintained an admirable bipartisan and close working relationship with Congress. I've always said that the very best people become the U.S. Trade Representative. The 50-year history of USTR demonstrates that the men and women who have served as the U.S. Trade Representative are strategic thinkers and tough negotiators—the kind of intelligent, can-do people who have demonstrated their ability to advance our trade agenda. And the dedicated USTR employees who serve with them also exhibit that intellectual rigor and high caliber. I'm proud of all that they have accomplished in opening markets and enforcing our rights under our trade agreements.

USTR is uniquely nimble, lean, and effective. In a world that has changed dramatically over the past 50 years, USTR's small size, independence, and direct access to the President have been critical to its success. With these attributes intact, I am confident that USTR will continue to fulfill its mission effectively and commendably for the next 50 years.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA'S CODY TAYLOR

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Cody Taylor, on the occasion of his retirement after thirty-six years of service as Clerk of Court for Holmes County, Florida. For more than three decades, Mr. Taylor served the citizens of Northwest Florida with distinction and unwavering commitment to public service.

A native of Northwest Florida, Mr. Taylor attended Poplar Spring High School in Graceville. There, he helped lead the basketball team to two state championships. He received a basketball scholarship to Chipola Junior College and to the University of West Florida, where he graduated with a bachelor's degree in Political Science and a master's degree in Public Administration. In 1976, Mr. Taylor was elected Holmes County Clerk. He

has served in this capacity with the utmost respect and integrity. His tireless work ethic and dedication to the citizens of Holmes County for the last thirty-six years did not go unnoticed. In 2007, Mr. Taylor was named the "Clerk of the Year" by the Florida Association of Court Clerks and Comptrollers.

Mr. Taylor's commitment to the Northwest Florida community extends well beyond his role as Holmes County Clerk of Court. He is an active member of the Holmes County Chamber of Commerce and a devoted member of the First Baptist Church. Mr. Taylor served in the Florida Army National Guard and as a member of the Bonifay Kiwanis Club and West Florida Regional Planning Council. For twenty years, he served as a member of the Bonifay Little League Association and as a basketball official for the Florida High School Athletic Association. He was also the President and Board Member of the Holmes County Fair Association, President and co-founder of Holmes Healthcare, and Vice President of the Florida Future Farmers of America.

In addition to his service to the community, Mr. Taylor is also a loving and committed husband, father and grandfather. He and his wife Brenda, also a Northwest Florida native, have four children, Zachary, Whit, Lucas, and Hilary; and eleven grandchildren, Jordan, Jacob, Jackson, Kodie, Campbell, Graham, Gwynneth, Eli, Taylor, Brighton, and Georgia. I know Mr. Taylor looks forward to spending more time with them following his retirement.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I thank Cody Taylor for his dedication to our community, and I congratulate him on his retirement. My wife, Vicki and I wish him and his family all the best.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RANDY HULTGREN

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. HULTGREN. Mr. Speaker on rollcall vote No. 590 on September 20, 2012, the record shows that I did not cast a vote even though I was present for the vote. I intended to vote "yes."

SUMMARY OF RFK CENTER'S TRIP TO MOROCCAN-CONTROLLED WESTERN SAHARA AND SAHRAWI REFUGEE CAMPS IN ALGERIA

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I submit for the RECORD the preliminary observations of a Robert F. Kennedy Center Delegation to Moroccan-controlled Western Sahara and the Sahrawi refugee camps in Algeria. The executive summary paints a bleak human rights picture.

Too often the government of Morocco is held up as a regional model for human rights and tolerance. But this report, among others, including a September 17 Reuters story which reported that, "Last week, a network of 18 Moroccan human rights organizations said rights

have declined despite the adoption of a new charter proposed by the ruling monarchy last year at the height of street protests," once again call that reputation into question.

ROBERT F. KENNEDY CENTER DELEGATION TO MOROCCAN-CONTROLLED WESTERN SAHARA AND SAHRAWI REFUGEE CAMPS IN ALGERIA—SUMMARY OF PRELIMINARY OBSERVATIONS

On Friday, August 31, 2012 an international delegation of the Robert F. Kennedy Center for Justice and Human Rights (RFK Center) concluded a visit to evaluate the human rights situation in Moroccan-controlled Western Sahara and the Sahrawi refugee camps near Tindouf, Algeria. The RFK Center delegation met with victims of human rights violations, a broad range of representatives of civil society, representatives of the international community, and government officials. The delegation also noticed that the conflict stalemate has a serious impact on the rights of the Sahrawi population in both Moroccan-controlled Western Sahara and refugee camps.

MOROCCAN-CONTROLLED WESTERN SAHARA

Though the Moroccan Constitution now incorporates advances that include the criminalization of torture, arbitrary detention, and forced disappearances, the delegation observed the need for increased implementation of these changes. In spite of these guarantees, these freedoms are often undermined by the King's authority as the "guarantor of the independence of the Nation and the territorial integrity." In conjunction with article 3 of the Moroccan Law of Associations, these provisions have led to the prohibition of associations of certain groups and individuals such as those Sahrawi advocating for the right to self-determination of Western Sahara.

Large Police and Military Presence in Capital City of El-Ayouun: Most Sahrawi interviewed expressed concern about the uniformed and plain-clothed police and military personnel posted on almost every corner. Sahrawi who were not pro-Moroccan reported that they were followed and verbally abused in the streets by police. The RFK Center delegation was under surveillance by security officers for the duration of their time in El-Ayouun.

Police and State Brutality: Characteristic of the situation, the RFK Center delegation witnessed firsthand a police attack on a peaceful demonstrator. One uniformed police officer and three State agents attacked the woman who subsequently needed medical attention. Moroccan government dismissed the delegation's report of the incident, and instead attempted to discredit it. Two of the State agents involved in the beating (Mohammed Al Hasouni and Mohamed Natchi) were described as human rights violators in reports by other victims interviewed. The delegation heard innumerable reports of non-violent protestors who were detained and tortured for participating in peaceful demonstrations. Other cases included: 1) police brutally beat a mentally disabled man who was involved in demonstrations in 2005, 2008, and 2012. 2) The emblematic case of Said Dambar, a 26 year-old man who was shot and killed by a Moroccan police officer after being beaten in 2010. His family still waits for an autopsy, a murder investigation, and to learn the whereabouts of this body.

Nearly absolute impunity for human rights violations: In spite of the numerous denunciations of cases of torture received by the delegation, the Prosecutor of First Instance in El-Ayouun informed the delegation that, over the past five years, only one state agent was successfully prosecuted for committing an act of torture.

Violation of the Sahrawi people's rights to freedom of expression, freedom of assembly, and freedom of association:

The delegation met with representatives of a group of seven people criminally prosecuted under spurious charges for expressing their opinions. The group was arrested and charged with treason upon their arrival in Morocco after criticizing the Moroccan government from Algeria. The group was imprisoned and is now on provisional release, pending a final decision.

Pro-independence Sahrawi human rights groups are barred from registering and are deemed illegal to register as civil society organizations. Registration is essential for allowing the organizations to effectively advocate in their communities. Notably, The Collective of Saluawi Human Rights Defenders (CODESA), Moroccan Association of Human Rights (AMDH) El-Ayouun Chapter, and the Sahrawi Association of Victims of Grave Human Rights Violations Committed by the Moroccan State El-Ayouun, Western Sahara (ASVDH).

Assaults, threats, illegal searches, surveillance, and criminal prosecutions by high-level authorities designed to discredit and stigmatize the work of human rights defenders and attorneys who represent victims of human rights abuses (e.g., RFK Human Rights Award laureate Aminatou Haidar).

Concerns of retaliation against those who met with the RFK Center delegation.

SAHRAWI REFUGEE CAMPS—THE SAHARA DESERT

The RFK Center delegation did not observe any restriction on the freedom of movement or association.

Basic Needs—There are concerns regarding: food ration quality, quantity, and variation; exposure to extreme heat (which can reach 115 degrees); limited electricity; need for permanent housing; and limited sanitation.

The camps house over 100,000 people and have been in existence for 37 years in harsh physical and psychological situation that put at risk their well-being.

PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The Moroccan government should:

Immediately stop the harassment, violence, persecution, and intimidation of pro-independence Sahrawi people;

Investigate, prosecute, and punish those involved in past and present human rights violations;

Immediately suspend government agents under investigation for human rights violations and establish an effective vetting program;

Ensure effective access to due process and judicial guarantee, without discrimination, and regardless of political positions;

Release prisoners falsely accused of committing a crime, while exercising their right to freedom of expression and association.

2. The U.S. government should support the inclusion of a permanent human rights monitoring and reporting mandate to the UN Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO).

3. The international community should encourage further negotiations to guarantee the fulfillment of the right to self-determination of the Sahrawi people as established in several UN resolutions and in the decision of the International Court of Justice.

HONORING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF SUMMIT ROAD AT THE SCOTTS BLUFF NATIONAL MONUMENT

HON. ADRIAN SMITH

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the seventy-fifth anniversary of the Summit Road at the Scotts Bluff National Monument. The road opened on September 19, 1937 after four years of work. Efforts to design and build the road continue to allow Nebraskans and Americans from across the country to enjoy one of the most spectacular views in our nation.

Today we celebrate not only the achievement of building the Summit Road, but also the beauty and historic significance of this National Monument.

Scotts Bluff served as an important landmark for Americans as they moved West during the Nineteenth Century. Pioneers often faced extreme hardship travelling to and settling new lands. They risked everything to give their families a better life, and laid the foundation for the Good Life Nebraskans cherish.

I hope all of my colleagues will join me in celebrating the Scotts Bluff National Monument on this important anniversary.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

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

Today, it is \$16,014,424,023,771.68. We've added \$5,387,546,974,858.60 dollars to our debt in 3.5 years. This is \$5.4 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

RECOGNIZING THE GIRL SCOUT COUNCIL OF THE FLORIDA PANHANDLE AND THE GIRL SCOUTS OF THE USA ON THEIR 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Girl Scout Council of the Florida Panhandle and the Girl Scouts of the USA on the occasion of their 100th anniversary.

Over the last century, the Girl Scouts of the USA has been committed to service and empowering America's youth. Today, this organization continues to bestow in young girls the courage, confidence, and character necessary for success in life. They afford young girls the opportunity to grow and develop physically,

mentally, and spiritually. What began as only eighteen girls from Savannah, Georgia, on March 12, 1912, has grown over one hundred years later into a distinguished group with a membership of over 3.2 million girls and adults.

In my district alone, the Girl Scout Council of the Florida Panhandle comprises over two thousand girls and nearly one thousand adult volunteers from Escambia, Santa Rosa, Okaloosa, and Walton Counties. The members of the Panhandle's Girl Scout Council have demonstrated their commitment to bettering the community by participating in a myriad of events, such as the Christmas and Veterans Day Parades and Earth Hour. Through these events and fundraisers, they have touched the lives of many. Northwest Florida is proud of their achievements and grateful for their dedication.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to recognize the Girl Scouts of the USA and especially the Girl Scout Council of the Florida Panhandle for their service to the Northwest Florida community. My wife, Vicki and I congratulate them and wish them all the best for continued success.

RECOGNIZING ARTHUR BYRON
"DEACON" BOWERS

HON. DAVID P. ROE

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I submit these remarks to recognize Mr. Arthur Byron "Deacon" Bowers of Carter County, Tennessee, for receiving the James H. Collier Service Award. The James H. Collier Service Award is given to veterans who continue to serve their country and fellow veterans through their retirement and into their civilian lives. Deacon Bowers is a veteran of the Korean War and has provided a perfect example of how one man can better the lives of veterans in his community.

For 36 years, Deacon dedicated his efforts to the Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development. From 1974–2004, he served as Regional Veterans Employment Representative. By the time of his retirement, Deacon had assisted thousands of military veterans. In retirement, he continues to build on his volunteer legacy by visiting veterans and their families in the hospital. Deacon also helped create both the Veterans War Memorial and the Walk of Honor in Elizabethton, Tennessee.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Deacon for his selfless contributions to Cocke County's veterans and wish him the best as he continues to exemplify the Volunteer spirit.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE DEDICATED SERVICE OF CHARLES W. CARPENTER

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Charles W. Carpenter, the president of

the Denton Chamber of Commerce for the past 30 years.

Mr. Carpenter graduated from Baylor University in 1975, with a Bachelor's of Arts in communications. His personal and professional background in communications and his exceptional administrative skills have benefited him as he continues in his dedicated service in leading the Chamber and its staff.

He has been recognized for his contributions and continuous leadership to the city of Denton through numerous awards. He was the 2011 recipient of the Boy Scouts Distinguished Citizens Award and was commemorated in front of 20 past chairs of the chamber board for his positive influence through the chamber to the Denton community. In June 2010, he received the Marvin Hurley Lifetime Achievement Award by the Texas Chamber of Commerce Executives Association.

Continually, Mr. Carpenter demonstrates his true passion to influence constructive change in the community of Denton. He is a founding member and supporter of the Denton Chamber 101 Club, which funds the Shop Denton Chamber First program. He is also an alumni member of Leadership Denton, as well as an appointed member of the board of directors of the Denton Economic Development Partnership.

Mr. Carpenter and the other members of the Denton Chamber of Commerce have made it a priority to connect local businesses with one another in order to help the business community of Denton flourish. Also, it is the only chamber in the DFW Metroplex and surrounding area that houses a full-service Small Business Development Center. Under his direction, the Denton Chamber remains a consistent and trustworthy organization for local business. For over 35 years, it has continued to be one of only 250 chambers in the nation to have accomplished and sustained accreditation through the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

It is my pleasure to recognize the president of Denton Chamber of Commerce, Charles Carpenter, and his 30 years of service to the community. I am privileged to represent the City of Denton in the U.S. House of Representatives.

RECOGNIZING SEPTEMBER AS HYDROCEPHALUS AWARENESS MONTH

HON. LEONARD LANCE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. LANCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize September as National Hydrocephalus Awareness Month. For too long, little attention has been paid to hydrocephalus.

This condition can occur at any age and affects an estimated one million Americans.

In fact, one out of every 500 babies in the United States is born with hydrocephalus, making the condition the leading cause of brain surgery in children. Additionally, an increasing number of our veterans are developing post-traumatic hydrocephalus as a result of brain injuries suffered on the battlefield.

Currently, there is no single known cause of hydrocephalus or ways to prevent or cure the condition.

The National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke is currently conducting research related to hydrocephalus prevention and treatment. However, more must be done at the community level to educate the American people about this surprisingly prevalent disorder.

Recognizing the month of September as National Hydrocephalus Awareness Month will bring this disease to the public's attention and, I believe, will encourage the discussions necessary to address more effectively the devastating effects of this disease and provide support to families who live with it every day. Today I commend the hard work of the Michael and Kim Illions of Woodbridge, New Jersey for their advocacy on behalf of their son, Cole.

I am certain that with federal support for additional research we can develop a better treatment, and eventually a cure, for those suffering from hydrocephalus and help them live healthier, fuller lives.

NATIONAL PULMONARY FIBROSIS
AWARENESS WEEK

HON. ERIK PAULSEN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, today, nearly 200,000 Americans suffer from Pulmonary Fibrosis, and an estimated 40,000 lose their battle to this disease each year. One death every 13 minutes.

Sadly, more than two-thirds of those living with Pulmonary Fibrosis will die within five years. And to top it all off there is no known cause and no known cure for this debilitating disease.

Next week is "World Pulmonary Fibrosis Awareness Week" and an opportunity to raise awareness for H.R. 2505 the "Pulmonary Fibrosis Research Enhancement Act." This legislation which I authored will establish a much needed national patient registry, encourage future research at the National Institute of Health, and create a national action plan to help us better understand this deadly disease.

This is an important first step forward in the fight to find a cure for pulmonary fibrosis and deliver hope to thousands of Americans living with this disease. I urge my colleagues to join me and co-sponsor H.R. 2505.

RECOGNIZING THE RAWSON FAMILY AS THE 2012 OKALOOSA COUNTY, FLORIDA OUTSTANDING FARM FAMILY

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize the Rawson family for being selected as the Okaloosa County, Florida Outstanding Farm Family for 2012.

Ten years ago, the Rawson family was in search of acreage for hunting. This search subsequently evolved into a successful family run tree farm with a fruit orchard and over one hundred and fifty new oak trees planted each

year. Over the past ten years, the Rawson family has managed the land to grow trees and attract wildlife. They use their one hundred fifty acres to plant myriad trees, including loblolly and slash pine longleaf, sawtooth, bur, shumard, willow, swamp chestnut, cherry bark oak, and pecan trees. The family's fruit orchard with pears, muscadines, and many other fruits was a later addition to the pre-existing varieties of plants.

David and Pat Rawson have been married for thirty-six years, and they have three wonderful children, Paige, Suzanne, and Scott. They all assist in helping out with the farm, including tree planting, pruning, fertilizing, bush hogging, and weed management. It is David and Pat's plan to one day pass on the farm to their children to continue their farming legacy. The Rawson family truly embodies the cohesive nature and household unity that characterize our nation's family farmers.

Outside of their farm, David works part-time as an oral surgeon, and Pat is a devoted homemaker. In addition, both find the time to be active members of the Northwest Florida community. David is a member of the Southeastern Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, Florida Dental Association, Escambia and Santa Rosa Dental Society, and Escambia Sertoma. Pat is a member of the Junior League of Pensacola and Gulf Breeze Hospital Auxiliary. They both worship and volunteer at the Dorcas Baptist Church, and their continued commitment to agriculture and wildlife is further displayed through their involvement with the Certified Tree Farmers of America, National Wild Turkey Federation, Forest Landowners Association, National Rifle Association, and Florida Farm Bureau. The Rawson's commitment to farm, family, faith, and community is certainly commendable, and they serve as an example to all.

Mr. Speaker, our great nation was built by farmers and their families, and I take great pride in recognizing and paying tribute to the outstanding farm families located in Northwest Florida. This year we honor the Rawson family for their contributions to Okaloosa County and the farming community. On behalf of the United States Congress, I would like to offer my congratulations to the Rawson family for being awarded the title of Okaloosa County, Florida Outstanding Farm Family for 2012. My wife, Vicki and I extend our best wishes for their continued success.

VOICING THE CONCERNS OF
UPSTATE NEW YORK FARMERS

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share with you the concerns of farmers from New York's 29th congressional district. On Monday, September 17th, 2012 I had the opportunity to host an open discussion with my Agricultural Advisory Council which is comprised of farmers ranging from dairy and specialty crop growers to wine makers and beef. The members of this Council represent all eight counties of the district and based on their extensive experience and contributions to New York Agriculture, I greatly value their opinions.

With Agriculture being the largest industry in New York State, any legislation which impacts our farmers also has a direct impact on our local economy as well as our communities. While all members of this Council said that they would prefer a long term Farm Bill over any extension, I heard an additional sentiment from the audience. That sentiment is a need for stability. This year's setbacks have reminded us just how extremely volatile the agricultural industry is and without stability today, our farmers cannot accurately plan for tomorrow and years to come.

Western New York dairy farmers are currently dealing with the growing Greek yogurt industry in New York State. Without Congressional action, provisions critical to the dairy industry will expire, and dairy farmers across New York will be faced with skyrocketing feed prices. For many of the small family farms in New York this could mean the end of their livelihood. While many provisions in the current farm bill would remain intact through the end of the year, inaction by Congress before September 30th will leave dairy farmers in New York out in the cold.

Other farmers in my district are anxious about the Estate Tax, which is set to return to 55 percent in 2013. Mr. Speaker, with the value of equipment and property, even the smallest farms in New York can be appraised at over one million dollars, making them eligible to be taxed. Our farmers again need the stability of knowing they can build for their family's future and be able to pass down the fruits of their labor for their children and grandchildren. We cannot return to the days when family farms had to be sold off just to pay the estate taxes.

Mr. Speaker, our farmers are the backbone of our nation. We need to help them stabilize their production costs, stabilize their workforce and stabilize their confidence. With a stable agricultural sector we can create jobs, and continue to work to improve our economy and provide badly-needed career opportunities.

60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NASHVILLE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA LEAGUE

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate a Music City gem that is celebrating its Diamond Anniversary. This fall marks the 60th Anniversary of the Nashville Symphony Orchestra League. Helping to bring the lofty sounds of the soul to Middle Tennessee, the Orchestra League's good work adds more than just notes to our great State, it adds a glorious soundtrack to our story.

The Nashville Symphony Orchestra League works to support and promote the work of the Nashville Symphony. Since 1946, the Nashville Symphony has been enriching audiences and shaping cultural life through a diverse mix of concerts and performances. The Nashville Symphony Orchestra League, founded in 1952, engages the community by providing innovative programs and educational opportunities; a mission that has been at the heart of the orchestra since its beginnings. For over 60

years the Orchestra League has touched countless lives, the young at heart and in age, as it continues to offer time, talents, and treasures to enrich the music.

Were it not for the Nashville Symphony Orchestra League, and its hard work throughout the years, Middle Tennessee might not have another beautiful note in her composition known the world over. I ask my colleagues to join with me in honor of those who dedicate their work to the ongoing preservation of the Nashville Symphony; ensuring Nashville's extraordinary and musical legacy rises and settles for another generation of Music City listeners.

HONORING SHELDON OHREN

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Sheldon Ohren of Monsey in my district who was elected National Commander of the Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A. at its 117th Annual National Convention this August. He has served as Commander of the Department of New York and is a life member of PFC Fred Hecht Post 425 in Rockland County.

Mr. Ohren served in the Air Force from April 1952 through January 1956. As an Airman First Class, he was assigned to the 6910th Security Group Headquarters in Landsberg am Lech, Germany, where he served as a cryptographic communications specialist.

After leaving the service, he enrolled at New York University and graduated with a Degree in Industrial and Labor Relations. Afterwards he finished his accounting credits at the City College of New York and in 1965 joined the Internal Revenue Service. Before retiring in 2000 as an Appeals Team Chief, he earned a Master of Science Degree from Pace University and taught at Long Island University.

Mr. Ohren was elected Jr. Vice Commander, Sr. Vice Commander, and ultimately Commander of the JWV Department of New York in 2008. He has worked as a member of the National Executive Committee, the National Court, the Convention Committee, as well as a Special Assistant to the President of the National Museum of American Jewish Military History.

He also serves as Vice-Chairman of the West Point Liaison Committee and attends Oneg Shabbats sponsored by JWV at the Academy, and presents Kiddush Cups and Shabbat Candlesticks to the Jewish graduates. In addition, he represents JWV at local Naturalization ceremonies and presents a copy of the Bill of Rights to the new citizens.

Mr. Ohren is a regular visitor at the VA Hospital in Montrose, NY, and has served as a Docent at the Camp Shanks Museum, the Port of Embarkation during World War II.

In addition to JWV, he has been President and Treasurer of his B'nai B'rith Lodge for 10 years and has been a member of Congregation Shaarey Israel for the past 19 years. He is also a Charter Member of the United States Holocaust Museum and a member of the Holocaust Museum and Study Center in Spring Valley, NY.

He is a Brooklyn native and he and his wife Judy, a Life Member of the Ladies Auxiliary of

Post 425, have three children and five grandchildren.

I congratulate Sheldon Ohren on his election as National Commander and most especially for all of the good work he has done for his community, for our country's veterans, and for the members of our Armed Services.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DISCOVERY OF THE VITAMIN

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, as co-chair of the Congressional Dietary Supplement Caucus, I rise today to honor the 100th anniversary of the discovery of the vitamin and, as such, I would like to recognize Polish-American scientist, Casimir Funk.

Mr. Funk is credited with coining the term "vitamin" to describe a group of bioactive substances that are vital to human health. The term "vitamine" was first introduced in his landmark paper, *The Etiology of Deficiency Diseases*, published in the *British Journal of State Medicine* in July 1912, in which he identified the dietetic factors whose lack caused "deficiency disorders," including beriberi, rickets, scurvy, and other diseases caused by vitamin deficiency.

He developed the term from the Latin "vita" (life) and "amine" for chemical compounds containing nitrogen. In 1936, Funk published *Vitamin and Mineral Therapy*, where he called vitamin deficiencies insidious because they occur without warning and can cause irreparable damage. The accomplishments of Casimir Funk have advanced the understanding of nutrition and contributed to the innovation of dietary supplements, which more than 150 million American consume each year.

Because of his work, we know that vitamins are essential for good health through every stage of human life cycle and that our bodies require vitamins to grow, to function, to stay healthy and to prevent the onset of disease.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure today to honor the 100th anniversary of the discovery of the vitamin, as well as recognize the achievements of Casimir Funk, the "father of vitamin therapy," and his exceptional contribution to the scientific community and health arena.

HONORING MEMBERS OF THE JAMES W. WILLIAMS AMERICAN LEGION POST 12

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the members of the James W. Williams American Legion Post 12 for their commitment to the City of Bangor. I would also like to congratulate them as they celebrate their 92nd anniversary.

The James W. Williams Post No. 12 was founded in August of 1920, and they will cele-

brate their 92nd anniversary this year. The post is named for Cpl. James W. Williams of Bangor, who proudly served in the Maine National Guard during World War I. Cpl. Williams was killed in action on July 17th, 1918 at the battle of Champagne-Marne in Germany.

From its founding, members of the James W. Williams Post No. 12 have dedicated themselves to serving our veterans, members of the armed forces, and the Bangor community. Its members have long been known to offer financial support to the Boy Scouts, the American Cancer Society, and the Eastern Maine Medical Center. The Post also established a Bangor High School JROTC scholarship and Boys State scholarship. Post members were instrumental in supporting the construction of a fifth Veterans Home in Bangor, and they continue to regularly provide comfort to its residents.

Today, we celebrate the tremendous success of the James W. Williams American Legion Post 12 and 92 years of community support and engagement. They have truly made a difference to the city of Bangor and our veterans population.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating the members of the James W. Williams American Legion Post 12 on their 92nd anniversary.

RECOGNIZING THE 5TH ANNIVERSARY OF FRIENDS OF ST. JUDE MIAMI

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, next Saturday, September 29th, the Miami chapter of the Friends of St. Jude will celebrate its fifth annual "It's All About the Kids" event in Miami. Friends of St. Jude is a group of young professionals dedicated to the mission of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital—advancing treatment and prevention in the fight against childhood cancer.

This year, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital marks its 50th anniversary. Since its opening, St. Jude has made many important discoveries on treatment for children with deadly diseases like cancer, and has saved countless lives worldwide. The doctors and researchers at St. Jude are some of the world's best, and have continued to work together to find better treatments all the time—sharing their discoveries with the global medical community. In 50 years, St. Jude has grown into one of the premier pediatric treatment and research facilities. And they have provided all of their services at no cost to their patients and their families. It is for this reason that the Friends of St. Jude is dedicated to helping St. Jude Children's Research Hospital continue its legacy, and why the Friends of St. Jude of Miami has been such a great resource.

The Miami chapter of Friends of St. Jude is the organization's largest chapter—with over 350 members—and has done tremendous work on behalf of St. Jude's. This year's "It's All About the Kids" event will be hosted by six-time Emmy award winning journalist and co-anchor of the news-magazine show *Primer Impacto*, Pamela Silva Conde and ABC Sports anchor Will Manso. The event will have a dis-

tinctive Miami flare, and will feature entertainment from local star, and official Miami Heat DJ, DJ Irie and the Culture Live Band.

Mr. Speaker, these bright and talented individuals gather in a common interest and devote their time, talents and energy volunteering for such a great cause, and they truly deserve praise and recognition for their efforts. On behalf of the entire South Florida community, and all of the patients and families of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, I would like to thank the Friends of St. Jude Executive Committee: Jeb Bush Jr.-Chairman, Anibal Garcia, Carlos A. Musibay, Cristal Cole, Cristina Musibay Diaz, Javier Milián, Magda Rodriguez, Sofia Holtzman; and I would also like to recognize the host committee: Anna Del Rio Chong, Briana Guerra, Clara Pablo, Desiree Valls, Diana Delgado, Florencia Contesse, Gloria Ordaz, Laura Socorro-Santoni, Lourdes Milián, Luly Valls, Mayrelis Valle, Nicole Perez, Nicole Valls, Olga Garrido, Pamela Silva Conde, Silvia Camps, Suzanne Schmidt and, of course, Wendy Grant.

CONGRATULATING TAIWAN ON ITS NATIONAL DAY

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues in extending my congratulations to the Republic of China (Taiwan) on its National Day this October 10.

The United States and Taiwan have always had a strong relationship, despite the lack of formal diplomatic ties. This relationship has led to many areas of cooperation such as matters of international security, trade and investment, cultural exchange and education, etc. Still, there are other areas that we can work with Taiwan. For instance, we need to support Taiwan's efforts to have its voice heard in international forums. I look forward to Taiwan's inclusion in international organizations as it will assist in strengthening ties between Taiwan and my home state of Florida and the United States.

We need to continue to give Taiwan all the support it needs. Taiwan is a democracy and deserves our friendship and best wishes.

I send my congratulations to the people of Taiwan.

RECOGNIZING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF CHOCTAWHATCHEE HIGH SCHOOL

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 60th anniversary of Choctawhatchee High School in Fort Walton Beach, Florida. For 60 years, the students, teachers, and staff at Choctawhatchee High have exhibited the assiduous dedication to excellence that makes our nation great.

In 1962, Okaloosa County, Florida completed plans to open a high school in

Shalimar, Florida. The county provided a state of the art building designed to hold 500 students; however, the school did not have an official name, so the local newspaper held a countywide naming contest. After the votes were counted, Choctawhatchee High School was declared the winner. Choctawhatchee—derived from a Creek Indian word meaning “coming together”—was a fitting moniker for a school that would unite students from all across Okaloosa County.

Choctawhatchee High School opened its doors on September 22, 1962 in Shalimar, Florida; however, after four years, the school had already exceeded its capacity, and the school relocated to its present location in Fort Walton Beach, Florida. From day one, Choctawhatchee established itself as an institution of academic excellence committed to educating each and every student. Nearly 20,000 students have graduated from the school since its opening, with many of them going on to achieve success in fields ranging from our military and space exploration to professional athletics and business.

Thanks to the dedicated support of teachers, staff, alumni and the entire community, Choctawhatchee has continued to excel and reach new heights. Today, the school offers the only International Baccalaureate program in Okaloosa County, Florida, more than a dozen Advanced Placement classes, an aviation program offered in partnership with Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, dual enrollment college courses with Northwest Florida State College, computer and electrical engineering programs in conjunction with the University of West Florida, as well as a successful Air Force Junior ROTC program.

Choctawhatchee also has a long and successful athletics program. In fact, the school's tradition of having a student ride a horse onto the field prior to football games served as the inspiration for a similar tradition at Florida State University. Whether it is on the playing field or in the classroom, Choctawhatchee High School's commitment to excellence has served as an inspiration and point of pride for the entire Northwest Florida community.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the entire United States Congress, it is an honor for me to rise today to recognize the 60th anniversary of Choctawhatchee High School. The Mayor and City Council of Fort Walton Beach have declared Friday, September 21, 2012, as Choctawhatchee High School Day. My wife Vicki and I join the entire Northwest Florida community in congratulating Choctawhatchee High School on their 60th anniversary and wishing them continued success.

HONORING MISSION EARLY
COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the achievements of Mission Early College High School. Mission Early College was recently honored with the 2012 National Blue Ribbon award from the United States Department of Education for excellence in education.

The National Blue Ribbon School award honors both public and private elementary,

middle and high schools where students achieve at high levels and also schools where the achievement gap is narrowing. Since 1982, more than 6,700 of America's schools have received this coveted award.

I want to personally congratulate the teachers, administrators, and staff of Mission Early College High School for their commitment and dedication to our young students in El Paso. This year only 269 schools nationwide received the award, and a ceremony in Washington, D.C. will honor their achievement. The Blue Ribbon validates the efforts of these schools in creating a positive and effective learning environment. These schools and their communities have achieved a degree of excellence of which they can justifiably be proud.

Mission Early College is a fine example of what can be accomplished when parents, teachers and administrators collaborate to prepare our students for a prosperous future. By emphasizing the importance of leadership, hard work, and dedication, Mission Early College is enabling a new generation of community leaders. In fact, upon completion of their high school career at Mission Early College High School, students not only graduate with a high school diploma, but can also earn up to 60 hours of college credit and an associate's degree. This opportunity for excellence and achievement is giving many students an early and critical exposure to college academics.

In times of economic uncertainty, we cannot lose sight of the paramount importance of our children's education, and I am honored to represent Mission Early College High School.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARTIN HEINRICH

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. HEINRICH. Mr. Speaker, on September 14, 2012, I unfortunately missed four votes, which included rollcall Nos. 581, 582, 583 and 584.

If I had been present, I would have voted “yes” on rollcall vote 581.

If I had been present, I would have voted “yes” on rollcall vote 582.

If I had been present, I would have voted “yes” on rollcall vote 583.

If I had been present, I would have voted “no” on rollcall vote 584.

RECOGNIZING THE RENTON
HOUSING AUTHORITY

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Renton Housing Authority and congratulate them on the successes of the Sunset Area Community Revitalization Program. The commitment of all who work with the Renton Housing Authority has been instrumental in providing quality, affordable, and safe housing options for low-income individuals and families.

The Renton Housing Authority was established in 1941 to provide middle and low-in-

come workers affordable housing near the Boeing B-29 and PACAR Sherman Tank manufacturing lines. In 1959, the Renton Housing Authority constructed Sunset Terrace.

The Sunset Area Community Revitalization Program is focused on the redevelopment of the Sunset Terrace public housing project. This effort is an important community enhancement that will help all residents of Renton, Washington have a safe place to call home.

The Sunset Area Community Revitalization Program will also receive a 2012 VISION 2040 Award from the Puget Sound Regional Council. This award is given to projects that are finding solutions to the Puget Sound region's expected growth, specifically projects that promote the well-being of our communities and economic vitality.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize the valuable contributions of the Renton Housing Authority. The organization's dedication to helping people in our communities is laudable.

CONCERNS FOR ECUADOR

HON. DAVID RIVERA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. RIVERA. Mr. Speaker, I am gravely concerned about the deteriorating human rights situation, democratic shortcomings, and increased drug trafficking in Ecuador.

Corruption, inefficiency, and political influence have plagued the Ecuadorian judiciary for many years. In a referendum held in May 2011, President Rafael Correa obtained a mandate for constitutional reforms that could significantly increase government powers to constrain media and influence the appointment and dismissal of judges. President Correa continues to weaken the democratic electoral process by appointing government supporters as authorities in all branches of government.

Ecuador's Criminal Code has provisions that restrict freedom of expression and government officials use these laws against the ruling party's critics. The “desacato” (lack of respect) clause enables the Ecuadorian government to imprison and prosecute anyone who offends the president or a government official.

President Correa has taken action to strengthen trade relations with Iran, a U.S.-designated State Sponsor of Terrorism. Iran has reduced tariffs for seven Ecuadorian products as well as signed an agreement to supply oil products during 2012 and 2013 to Ecuador. President Correa has expressed his desire to continue trading with Iran and bilateral visits between Correa and Iranian dictator Mahmoud Ahmadinejad occur frequently.

With its location between the two largest cocaine producing countries in the world, Peru and Colombia, Ecuador is a major transit country for narcotics. Ecuador's porous borders and increased participation in the drug trade makes the country very vulnerable to organized crime. Counternarcotics cooperation with the United States is and should remain a major focus of U.S. assistance to Ecuador.

Recently I met with Sociedad Ecuatoriana del Exterior (SEDE), an organization dedicated to fostering freedom and democracy in Ecuador and promoting the wellbeing of Ecuadorian-American citizens. I am asking for

unanimous consent to submit for the RECORD the attached letter. This letter provides a detailed outline of the Ecuadorian government's failure to protect the fundamental human rights of its people.

It is critical that we pay close attention to the actions of the Ecuadorian government as they silence political opposition, rig elections, and strengthen ties with Iran.

SOCIEDAD ECUATORIANA DEL EXTERIOR,
Doral, FL, August 13, 2012.

Hon. DAVID RIVERA,
U.S. Congressman.

DEAR MR. RIVERA: Sociedad Ecuatoriarva del Exterior (SEDE), in an effort to be faithful to our freedom and democracy principles, considered a must to let you know that there have been very serious fundamental human rights violations in Ecuador, which are listed right below.

1. Freedom of expression have been severely limited promoting absurd and unsubstantiated judgments against prestigious national newspapers such as—"El Universol" magazines private property confiscations, such as "Vanguard" Magazine, and the closure of radio and television stations opposed to the Ecuadorian Government, such as the closing of Radio Morena, a community managed. government opposed radio station.

The electoral process to choose, not only a new president but also Assembly Members, and new Ecuadorian authorities has been null and void from its very beginning when the government simulating knowledge contests, just to end up appointing government supporter as authorities in all branches of government That, in addition to disqualifying the legally registered political parties due to mistakes made by the National Electoral Council in a clear attempt to have no political opponents in the coming presidential election.

3. The Ecuadorian government has declared Delaware, Nevada, Wyoming and Florida, as "tax havens", therefore seeking to be able force Ecuadorian-Americans in the U.S. to pay taxes in Ecuador for corporations registered in these states and in Ecuador

4. As Ecuadorian-Americans committed to freedom and democracy, we are very concerned about the Ecuadorian government's announcement on "strengthening" of trade relations with Iran, including the willingness to open a trade office in that country and start "commercial missions" when Iran is considered a country that promotes terrorism and money laundering.

5. All money remittances from Ecuadorians living abroad, sent to Ecuador will be channeled through the Central Bank of Ecuador and then "after making a few bucks" to the final destination, thus, restricting the speed of the process in order, or so they say, to record them and tax these transactions.

All points outlined above, highly affect the already low life quality and business of Ecuadorians living in Ecuador, and also the lives of those Ecuadorian-Americans and residents who live in this great country, who are a part of it and who have sworn to love, respect and defend it, with our lives if it is necessary, as we already have done in the past.

Now, and very respectfully, we would like to ask you to share this document with your colleagues, and for its formal presentation to the Congress of the United States of America.

Sincerely yours,

CARLOS R. LANGE,
SEDE President.

IN MEMORY OF PAUL
DUNNINGTON

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my closest friends and trusted advisors, the late Paul Dunnington of Monticello, Kentucky.

Paul and I quickly became friends when my family moved to Monticello. We shared a lot of great memories together and remained close friends until his battle with cancer came to an untimely end on August 20, 2012.

Paul was a savvy entrepreneur and offered great wisdom and advice to several businesses, boards, and non-profit organizations, including the Monticello-Wayne County Industrial Foundation, the Chamber of Commerce, and my own public service in Kentucky's Fifth Congressional District. In 1986, I tapped Paul to be one of the founding directors of the Southern Kentucky Economic Development Corporation (SKED), where he dedicated 26 years to helping recruit new industry and more than 10,000 new jobs to our rural region.

In addition to his astute business skills, Paul had a heart of gold and an unmatched spirit of philanthropy. He dedicated his life to civic groups and organizations interested in helping the less fortunate, including the Kiwanis Club, Habitat for Humanity, the Kentucky Baptist Disaster Relief, and the Monticello Camp of Gideons International through which he dedicated 15 years to jail ministry, as well as 12 foreign mission trips. He believed everyone deserved a second chance and made it his mission to help the struggling succeed. He was a founding member of the HELP Pregnancy Center in Monticello and recently established the Oxford House in partnership with his church, the Monticello First Baptist Church, to help men overcome drug addiction, giving them a place to live and helping them find work. One of his legacy projects and his most recent venture was the renovation of the Wayne County Museum, for which he diligently raised funds and dedicated a room in my honor.

Southern Kentucky lost a true humanitarian in Paul Dunnington. May his legacy forever live on through the programs he established to improve the lives of our neighbors and loved ones. He made a difference in our region.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring a dear friend and a champion for the less fortunate, the late Paul Dunnington. My wife, Cynthia and I extend our deepest heartfelt sympathies to his wife Kathryn and the entire Dunnington family.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and missed rollcall vote No. 585 on the evening of September 19, 2012. Had I been present, I would have voted in this manner:

Rollcall vote No. 585—On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, H.R.

5044, the Andrew P. Carpenter Tax Act: "yes."

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF SPC
JOSHUA N. NELSON

HON. G. K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, it is with mixed emotions that I rise today to honor the life of Specialist Joshua N. Nelson of the United States Army. Specialist Nelson was a native of Greenville, North Carolina, which is in my Congressional District. Specialist Nelson was one of four soldiers that tragically lost their lives in Zabul Province, Afghanistan on September 16, 2012.

Specialist Nelson graduated from North Pitt High School in 2008 and later enlisted in the Army where he became a signals intelligence analyst. Specialist Joshua Nelson was a source of great pride in his hometown of Greenville. He exemplified to the community what was possible with determination, and epitomized what it meant to serve with honor and distinction.

These facts were demonstrated in the various awards and decorations Specialist Nelson received during his career in the Army. Specialist Nelson received the National Defense Service Medal, the Overseas Service Ribbon, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the NATO Medal, and the Army Service Ribbon. In only 22 short years, Specialist Nelson accomplished more than most people do in a full lifetime.

Unfortunately, earlier this month, Specialist Nelson perished while serving his country. He is survived by his wife, Quamisha Nelson; his mother, Kathy Glover; his father, Brian Nelson; and his stepmother, Valorie Nelson. I offer my sincere appreciation to his loved ones for his service in the United States Army and his selfless efforts in the defense of our great nation.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in offering heartfelt condolences to Specialist Joshua Nelson's family. I pray that his life serves as a guiding force for the Greenville community and others around the country. We are forever indebted to his family for the ultimate sacrifice he paid on our behalf.

H.R. 5987

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I voted against H.R. 5987, the Manhattan Project National Historical Park Act. I recognize that the Manhattan Project played an important role in the United States' energy history and has had a significant impact in the Pacific Northwest, and it makes sense for us to draw attention to places like Hanford, Washington. However, adding these responsibilities to the National Park Service's portfolio when the agency is already underfunded and overworked does not make sense.

It is frustrating to me that while we are told by the current House majority that there is not

sufficient funding to clean up nuclear sites national park. We should focus first on making wildlife populations that live near them, before such as Hanford, there is apparently enough sure these places are safe for the human and marketing them as a tourist destination. funding to turn the Manhattan Project into a

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate passed H.J. Res. 117, Continuing Appropriations Resolution.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S6559–S6686

Measures Introduced: Eighteen bills and fifteen resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 3608–3625, and S. Res. 575–589. **Pages S6625–26**

Measures Reported:

H.R. 2467, to take certain Federal lands in Mono County, California, into trust for the benefit of the Bridgeport Indian Colony. **Page S6625**

Measures Passed:

Sense of Congress Regarding Iran: By 90 yeas to 1 nay (Vote No. 197), Senate passed S.J. Res. 41, expressing the sense of Congress regarding the nuclear program of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran. **Pages S6601–03**

Continuing Appropriations Resolution: By 62 yeas to 30 nays (Vote No. 199), Senate passed H.J. Res. 117, making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2013, after taking action on the following amendments and motions proposed thereto: **Pages S6603–04**

Withdrawn:

Reid Amendment No. 2844, to change the enactment date. **Page S6604**

Reid Amendment No. 2845 (to Amendment No. 2844), of a perfecting nature. **Page S6604**

Reid motion to commit the joint resolution to the Committee on Appropriations, with instructions, Reid Amendment No. 2846, to change the enactment date. **Page S6604**

Reid Amendment No. 2847 (to (the instructions) Amendment No. 2846), of a perfecting nature. **Page S6604**

Reid Amendment No. 2848 (to Amendment No. 2847), of a perfecting nature. **Page S6604**

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

By 62 yeas to 30 nays (Vote No. 198), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, having

voted in the affirmative, Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the joint resolution.

Pages S6603–04

European Union Emissions Trading Scheme Prohibition Act: Senate passed S. 1956, to prohibit operators of civil aircraft of the United States from participating in the European Union's emissions trading scheme, after agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute, and the following amendments proposed thereto:

Pages S6611–12

Reid (for Cardin) Amendment No. 2859, to prohibit the use of taxpayer dollars to pay taxes and penalties imposed on United States air carriers pursuant to the European Union emissions trading scheme. **Pages S6611**

Reid (for Merkley) Amendment No. 2860, to provide for the reassessment by the Secretary of Transportation of a determination that it is in the public interest to prohibit operators of civil aircraft of the United States from participating in the European Union's emissions trading scheme. **Page S6611**

Enabling Energy Saving Innovations Act: Committee on Energy and Natural Resources was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 4850, to allow for innovations and alternative technologies that meet or exceed desired energy efficiency goals, and the bill was then passed, after agreeing to the following amendments proposed thereto:

Pages S6661–64

Pryor (for Bingaman) Amendment No. 2861, relative to Uniform Efficiency Descriptor for Covered Water Heaters. **Pages S6611–64**

Pryor (for Shaheen/Portman) Amendment No. 2862, relative to Industrial Energy Efficiency. **Pages S6661–64**

Jaime Zapata Border Enforcement Security Task Force Act: Senate passed H.R. 915, to establish a Border Enforcement Security Task Force program to enhance border security by fostering coordinated efforts among Federal, State, and local border

and law enforcement officials to protect United States border cities and communities from transnational crime, including violence associated with drug trafficking, arms smuggling, illegal alien trafficking and smuggling, violence, and kidnapping along and across the international borders of the United States, after agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S6664–65**

Trademark Dilution Correction: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 6215, to amend the Trademark Act of 1946 to correct an error in the provisions relating to remedies for dilution, and the bill was then passed. **Page S6665**

Billfish Conservation Act: Senate passed H.R. 2706, to prohibit the sale of billfish. **Page S6665**

Former Prime Minister of Ukraine Yulia Tymoshenko: Senate agreed to S. Res. 466, calling for the release from prison of former Prime Minister of Ukraine Yulia Tymoshenko, after agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute, and the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S6665–66**

Pryor (for Durbin) Amendment No. 2863, to improve the resolution. **Page S6666**

Robert H. Jackson United States Courthouse: Senate passed H.R. 3556, to designate the new United States courthouse in Buffalo, New York, as the “Robert H. Jackson United States Courthouse”. **Page S6666**

Alto Lee Adams, Sr., United States Courthouse: Senate passed H.R. 1791, to designate the United States courthouse under construction at 101 South United States Route 1 in Fort Pierce, Florida, as the “Alto Lee Adams, Sr., United States Courthouse”. **Page S6666**

Robert Boochever United States Courthouse: Senate passed H.R. 4347, to designate the United States courthouse located at 709 West 9th Street in Juneau, Alaska, as the “Robert Boochever United States Courthouse”. **Pages S6666–67**

James F. Battin United States Courthouse: Senate passed S. 3311, to designate the United States courthouse located at 2601 2nd Avenue North, Billings, Montana, as the “James F. Battin United States Courthouse”. **Page S6667**

Multistake Governance Model: Senate agreed to S. Con. Res. 50, expressing the sense of Congress regarding actions to preserve and advance the multi-stakeholder governance model under which the Internet has thrived. **Page S6667**

Patent Law Treaties Implementation Act: Senate passed S. 3486, to implement the provisions of

the Hague Agreement and the Patent Law Treaty, after agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S6667–70**

Barona Band of Mission Indians Land Transfer Clarification Act: Senate passed S. 3193, to make technical corrections to the legal description of certain land to be held in trust for the Barona Band of Mission Indians, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Page S6670**

Pryor (for Akaka) Amendment No. 2864, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S6670**

Burma: Senate passed H.R. 6431, to provide flexibility with respect to United States support for assistance provided by international financial institutions for Burma. **Pages S6670–71**

Mark Twain Commemorative Coin Act: Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 2453, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of Mark Twain, and the bill was then passed, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Page S6671**

Pryor (for Blumenthal) Amendment No. 2865, relative to Mark Twain coins. **Page S6671**

FDA User Fees: Senate passed H.R. 6433, to make corrections with respect to Food and Drug Administration user fees. **Page S6671**

NASA Artifacts: Senate passed H.R. 4158, to confirm full ownership rights for certain United States astronauts to artifacts from the astronauts’ space missions. **Page S6671**

SAFE DOSES Act: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 4223, to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit theft of medical products, and the bill was then passed. **Page S6671**

VA Major Construction Authorization and Expanding Authorities Extension Act: Senate passed H.R. 6375, to authorize certain Department of Veterans Affairs major medical facility projects, to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend certain authorities of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs. **Page S6671**

GAO Mandates Revision Act: Senate passed S. 3315, to repeal or modify certain mandates of the Government Accountability Office, after agreeing to the committee amendment, and the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S6671–72**

Pryor (for Lieberman) Amendment No. 2866, to improve the bill. **Page S6672**

Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act: Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation was discharged from further consideration of

H.R. 2838, to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard for fiscal years 2013 through 2014, and the bill was then passed, after agreeing to the following amendments proposed thereto: **Page S6673**

Pryor (for Rockefeller) Amendment No. 2867, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S6673**

Pryor (for Rockefeller) Amendment No. 2868, to amend the title. **Page S6673**

Quadrennial Diplomacy and Development Review Act: Senate passed S. 3341, to require a quadrennial diplomacy and development review. **Pages S6673–74**

Divisional Realignment Act: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 5512, to amend title 28, United States Code, to realign divisions within two judicial districts, and the bill was then passed. **Page S6674**

Reporting Efficiency Improvement Act: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 6189, to eliminate unnecessary reporting requirements for unfunded programs under the Office of Justice Programs, and the bill was then passed. **Page S6674**

Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Judgment Fund Distribution Act: Senate passed H.R. 1272, to provide for the use and distribution of the funds awarded to the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, et al, by the United States Court of Federal Claims in Docket Numbers 19 and 188. **Page S6674**

Lowell National Historical Park Land Exchange Act: Senate passed H.R. 2240, to authorize the exchange of land or interest in land between Lowell National Historical Park and the city of Lowell in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. **Page S6674**

New York City Natural Gas Supply Enhancement Act: Committee on Energy and Natural Resources was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 2606, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to allow the construction and operation of natural gas pipeline facilities in the Gateway National Recreation Area, and the bill was then passed, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S6674–75**

Pryor (for Bingaman) Amendment No. 2869, in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S6674–75**

Lions Clubs International Century of Service Commemorative Coin Act: Senate passed H.R. 2139, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the centennial of the establishment of Lions Clubs International. **Page S6675**

Commercial Driver's Licenses: Senate passed S. 3624, to amend section 31311 of title 49, United

States Code, to permit States to issue commercial driver's licenses to members of the Armed Forces whose duty station is located in the State. **Page S6675**

Internet Publication Date Requirements: Senate passed S. 3625, to change the effective date for the internet publication of certain information to prevent harm to the national security or endangering the military officers and civilian employees to whom the publication requirement applies. **Pages S6675–76**

100th Anniversary of Hadassah: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 448, recognizing the 100th anniversary of Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, Inc., and the resolution was then agreed to. **Pages S6676, S6679**

Operation Enduring Freedom Veterans Day: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 472, designating October 7, 2012, as "Operation Enduring Freedom Veterans Day", and the resolution was then agreed to, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Page S6676**

Pryor (for Enzi) Amendment No. 2870, to update the number of patriots in the United States Armed Forces who have made the ultimate sacrifice while serving in Afghanistan. **Page S6676**

United States Olympic and Paralympic Teams: Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 558, congratulating the athletes from the State of Nevada and throughout the United States who participated in the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games as members of the United States Olympic and Paralympic Teams, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Pages S6676–78**

National Save for Retirement Week: Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 555, supporting the goals and ideals of "National Save for Retirement Week", including raising public awareness of the various tax-preferred retirement vehicles and increasing personal financial literacy, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Pages S6677–78**

National Native American Heritage Month: Committee on Indian Affairs was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 561, recognizing National Native American Heritage Month and celebrating the heritages and cultures of Native Americans and the contributions of Native Americans to the United States, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S6679**

50th Anniversary of the McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Act: Senate agreed to S. Res. 576, celebrating the 50th anniversary of the signing of

Public Law 87–788, an Act commonly known as the McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Act.

Pages S6679–84

First Special Service Force: Senate agreed to S. Res. 577, honoring the First Special Service Force, in recognition of its superior service during World War II.

Pages S6679–84

Red Ribbon Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 578, supporting the goals and ideals of Red Ribbon Week, 2012.

Pages S6679–84

National Historically Black Colleges and Universities Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 579, designating the week of September 24 through September 28, 2012, as “National Historically Black Colleges and Universities Week”.

Pages S6679–84

National Wildlife Refuge Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 580, designating the week beginning on October 14, 2012, as “National Wildlife Refuge Week”.

Pages S6679–84

Day of the Deployed: Senate agreed to S. Res. 581, designating October 26, 2012, as “Day of the Deployed”.

Pages S6679–84

Hispanic Heritage Month: Senate agreed to S. Res. 582, recognizing Hispanic Heritage Month and celebrating the heritage and culture of Latinos in the United States and the immense contributions of Latinos to the United States.

Pages S6679–84

National Preparedness Month: Senate agreed to S. Res. 583, designating September 2012 as “National Preparedness Month”.

Pages S6679–84

Jumpstart’s Read for the Record Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 584, designating October 4, 2012, as “Jumpstart’s Read for the Record Day”.

Pages S6679–84

State of New Mexico’s Centennial Anniversary: Senate agreed to S. Res. 585, recognizing the extraordinary history and heritage of the State of New Mexico, and honoring and commending the State of New Mexico and its people on its centennial anniversary.

Pages S6679–84

National Infant Mortality Awareness Month: Senate agreed to S. Res. 586, expressing support for the goals and ideals of National Infant Mortality Awareness Month, 2012.

Pages S6679–84

Lights on Afterschool: Senate agreed to S. Res. 587, supporting “Lights on Afterschool”, a national celebration of afterschool programs.

Pages S6679–84

Honoring United States Ambassador to Libya John Christopher Stevens, Sean Smith, Tyrone Woods, and Glen Doherty: Senate agreed to S. Res. 588, commending the 4 American public servants who died in Benghazi, Libya, United States Ambas-

sador to Libya John Christopher Stevens, Sean Smith, Tyrone Woods, and Glen Doherty, for their tireless efforts on behalf of the American people, and condemning the violent attack on the United States consulate in Benghazi.

Pages S6679–84

Small Business Saturday: Senate agreed to S. Res. 589, designating November 24, 2012, as “Small Business Saturday” and supporting efforts to increase awareness of the value of locally owned small businesses.

Pages S6679–84

Measures Failed:

United States Assistance: By 10 yeas to 81 nays (Vote No. 196), Senate rejected S. 3576, to provide limitations on United States assistance. (A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the bill, having failed to achieve 60 affirmative votes, the bill was rejected, and the bill was returned to the calendar.)

Page S6601

Measures Considered:

Sportsmen’s Act—Agreement: Senate continued consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 3525, to protect and enhance opportunities for recreational hunting, fishing, and shooting.

Pages S6559–S6601, S6604–05

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

By 84 yeas to 7 nays (Vote No. 200), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, having voted in the affirmative, Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill.

Pages S6604–05

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at 5:30 p.m., on Tuesday, November 13, 2012, all post-cloture time on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill be yielded back, and Senate vote on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill.

Page S6684

House Messages:

Government Charge Card Abuse Prevention Act: Senate concurred in the amendment of the House of Representatives to S. 300, to prevent abuse of Government charge cards.

Page S6672

Hazardous Waste Electronic Manifest Establishment Act: Senate concurred in the amendment of the House of Representatives to S. 710, to amend the Solid Waste Disposal Act to direct the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to establish a hazardous waste electronic manifest system.

Pages S6672–73

Signing Authority—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that from Saturday, September 22, 2012 through Tuesday, November 13, 2012, the Majority Leader and Senator

Lieberman be authorized to sign duly enrolled bills or joint resolutions. **Page S6684**

Authorizing Leadership To Make Appointments—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that notwithstanding the upcoming recess, or adjournment of the Senate, the President of the Senate, the President Pro Tempore, and the Majority and Minority Leaders be authorized to make appointments to commissions, committees, boards, conferences, or interparliamentary conferences authorized by law, by concurrent action of the two Houses, or by order of the Senate. **Page S6684**

Authority for Committees—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that, notwithstanding the Senate's recess, committees be authorized to report legislative and executive matters on Friday, November 2, 2012 from 10 a.m. until 12 noon. **Page S6684**

Pro Forma—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that when the Senate adjourns, it adjourn and convene for pro forma sessions only with no business conducted on the following dates and times, and that following each pro forma session, the Senate adjourn until the next pro forma session: Tuesday, September 25, 2012 at 9:30 a.m.; Friday, September 28, 2012 at 10 a.m.; Tuesday, October 2, 2012 at 11 a.m.; Friday, October 5, 2012 at 1 p.m.; Tuesday, October 9, 2012 at 11 a.m.; Friday, October 12, 2012 at 10:30 a.m.; Tuesday, October 16, 2012 at 10 a.m.; Friday, October 19, 2012 at 11 a.m.; Tuesday, October 23, 2012 at 1 p.m.; Friday, October 26, 2012 at 1 p.m.; Tuesday, October 30, 2012 at 10 a.m.; Friday, November 2, 2012 at 11 a.m.; Tuesday, November 6, 2012 at 11 a.m.; and Friday, November 9, 2012 at 10 a.m. **Page S6684**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

Albert DiClemente, of Delaware, to be a Director of the Amtrak Board of Directors for a term of five years.

Sharon English Woods Villarosa, of Texas, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Mauritius, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Republic of Seychelles.

Gonzalo P. Curiel, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of California.

Robert J. Shelby, of Utah, to be United States District Judge for the District of Utah.

Joseph E. Macmanus, of New York, to be Representative of the United States of America to the Vienna Office of the United Nations, with the rank of Ambassador.

Joseph E. Macmanus, of New York, to be Representative of the United States of America to the International Atomic Energy Agency, with the rank of Ambassador.

Heidi Shyu, of California, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Army.

Emil J. Kang, of North Carolina, to be a Member of the National Council on the Arts for a term expiring September 3, 2018.

Dawn M. Liberi, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Burundi.

Stephen D. Mull, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Poland.

Walter North, of Washington, to be Ambassador to Papua New Guinea, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Solomon Islands and Ambassador to the Republic of Vanuatu.

Richard G. Olson, of New Mexico, to be Ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.

John Hardy Isakson, of Georgia, to be a Representative of the United States of America to the Sixty-seventh Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

Patrick J. Leahy, of Vermont, to be a Representative of the United States of America to the Sixty-seventh Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

Kevin K. Washburn, of New Mexico, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

Robert Stephen Beecroft, of California, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Iraq. (Prior to this action, Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration.)

Pages S6606–09, S6685–86

6 Air Force nominations in the rank of general.

13 Army nominations in the rank of general.

1 Navy nomination in the rank of admiral.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Department of State, Navy, and Public Health Service.

Pages S6606–09, S6685–86

Routine list in the Coast Guard. (Prior to this action, Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation was discharged from further consideration.)

Pages S6606–09, S6685–86

Routine list in the Foreign Service. (Prior to this action, Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration.)

Pages S6606–09, S6685–86

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Marilyn A. Brown, of Georgia, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority for a term expiring May 18, 2017.

Vera Lynn Evans, of Tennessee, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority for a term expiring May 18, 2017.

Michael McWherter, of Tennessee, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority for a term expiring May 18, 2016.

Joe H. Ritch, of Alabama, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority for a term expiring May 18, 2016.

Vincent G. Logan, of New York, to be Special Trustee, Office of Special Trustee for American Indians, Department of the Interior.

Olga Viso, of Minnesota, to be a Member of the National Council on the Arts for a term expiring September 3, 2018.

Alan F. Estevez, of the District of Columbia, to be a Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense.

Pages S6684–85

Messages from the House: Pages S6623–24

Measures Placed on the Calendar: Page S6624

Executive Communications: Pages S6624–25

Additional Cosponsors: Pages S6626–28

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: Pages S6628–29

Additional Statements: Pages S6619–22

Amendments Submitted: Pages S6635–61

Privileges of the Floor: Page S6661

Record Votes: Five record votes were taken today. (Total—200) Pages S6601, S6602, S6604, S6604, S6605

Adjournment: Senate convened at 12 p.m. on Friday, September 21, 2012 and adjourned at 4:03 a.m. on Saturday, September 22, 2012, until 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, September 25, 2012. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S6684.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

No committee meetings were held.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 79 public bills, H.R. 6480–6558 and 6 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 139–140 and H. Res. 802–805 were introduced. Pages H6273–77

Additional Cosponsors: Pages H6279–80

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 6016, to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide for administrative leave requirements with respect to Senior Executive Service employees, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 112–686);

H.R. 4369, to amend title 11 of the United States Code to require the public disclosure by trusts established under section 524(g) of such title, of quarterly reports that contain detailed information regarding the receipt and disposition of claims for injuries based on exposure to asbestos, and the filing of such reports with the Executive Office for United States Trustees, with amendments (H. Rept. 112–687);

H.R. 2572, to amend title 18, United States Code, to deter public corruption, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 112–688); and

A Citizen's Guide on Using the Freedom of Information Act and the Privacy Act of 1974 To Request Government Records (H. Rept. 112–689).

Page H6273

Coal Miner Employment and Domestic Energy Infrastructure Protection Act: The House passed H.R. 3409, to limit the authority of the Secretary of the Interior to issue regulations before December 31, 2013, under the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977, by a recorded vote of 233 ayes to 175 noes, Roll No. 603. Consideration of the measure began yesterday, September 20th.

Pages H6237–57

Rejected the Capps motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Energy and Commerce with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with an amendment, by a recorded vote of 173 ayes to 233 noes, Roll No. 602. Pages H6254–56

Agreed to:

Kelly amendment (No. 4 printed in H. Rept. 112–680) that was debated on September 20th that requires the Secretary of Transportation to submit a report to Congress estimating the number of jobs, the fatalities and injuries, and the cost to the economy caused by the "2017 and Later Model Year Light-Duty Vehicle Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Corporate Average Fuel Economy Standards" rule.

Requires that the Secretary shall not consult with the EPA or the California Air Resources Board to complete the report (by a recorded vote of 242 ayes to 168 noes, Roll No. 594); **Page H6249**

McKinley amendment (No. 9 printed in H. Rept. 112–680) that prohibits the EPA from retroactively vetoing a Section 404 Permit under the Clean Water Act (by a recorded vote of 247 ayes to 163 noes, Roll No. 597); **Pages H6239–40, H6251**

Flake amendment (No. 12 printed in H. Rept. 112–680) that gives power to the states to revoke any existing federal implementation plan (FIP) with regard to the regulation of visibility. In revoking the FIP, the state must propose a state implementation plan (SIP) to regulate visibility within 2 years. Also gives the states a minimum of five years to become compliant with Federal standards if they choose to accept the FIP, allowing businesses time to plan for the changes (by a recorded vote of 228 ayes to 183 noes, Roll No. 600); and **Pages H6243–45, H6253**

Gosar amendment (No. 13 printed in H. Rept. 112–680) that adds language to the end of the “Stop the War on Coal Act of 2012” which limits the authority of the Environmental Protection Agency to issue regulations on the Navajo Generating Station, located near Page, Arizona (by a recorded vote of 226 ayes to 181 noes, Roll No. 601). **Pages H6245–47, H6253–54**

Rejected:

Markey amendment (No. 1 printed in H. Rept. 112–680) that was debated on September 20th that sought to allow the Secretary of the Interior to promulgate rules under the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act, if such rule would reduce the prevalence of pulmonary diseases, lung cancer, cardiovascular disease or reduce the prevalence of birth defects or reproductive problems in pregnant women or children (by a recorded vote of 174 ayes to 229 noes, Roll No. 592); **Pages H6247–48**

Waxman amendment (No. 3 printed in H. Rept. 112–680) that was debated on September 20th that sought to strike the language that would repeal EPA’s scientific finding that carbon pollution endangers the public health and welfare (by a recorded vote of 178 ayes to 229 noes, Roll No. 593); **Pages H6248–49**

Markey amendment (No. 5 printed in H. Rept. 112–680) that was debated on September 20th that sought to allow the Environmental Protection Agency to take any action using its authority under the Clean Air Act if such action would increase North American energy independence by reducing demand for oil (by a recorded vote of 164 ayes to 246 noes, Roll No. 595); **Pages H6249–50**

Jackson Lee (TX) amendment (No. 8 printed in H. Rept. 112–680) that sought to strike section 503

of the committee print. The existing deadlines in subsections (m) and (q) of section 404 of the Clean Water Act would remain unchanged (by a recorded vote of 164 ayes to 247 noes, Roll No. 596); **Pages H6237–39, H6250–51**

Markey amendment (No. 10 printed in H. Rept. 112–680) that sought to create a national renewable electricity and energy efficiency standard (by a recorded vote of 160 ayes to 250 noes, Roll No. 598); and **Pages H6240–42, H6251–52**

DeFazio amendment (No. 11 printed in H. Rept. 112–680) that sought to require EPA and the Department of Transportation to submit a report to Congress within 6 months on the health, environmental, and public health impacts of fugitive coal dust (by a recorded vote of 168 ayes to 243 noes, Roll No. 599). **Pages H6242–43, H6252–53**

H. Res. 788, the rule providing for consideration of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 118) and the bill (H.R. 3409) was agreed to yesterday, September 20th.

Meeting Hour: Agreed that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, September 25th. **Page H6257**

Recess: The House recessed at 2:31 p.m. and reconvened at 4:10 p.m. **Page H6271**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Twelve recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H6247–48, H6248, H6249, H6249–50, H6250–51, H6251, H6251–52, H6252–53, H6253, H6254, H6255–56, and H6256–57. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 4:11 p.m.

Committee Meetings

LIGHTSQUARED NETWORK: AN INVESTIGATION OF THE FCC’S ROLE

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled “The LightSquared Network: An Investigation of the FCC’s Role”. Testimony was heard from Mindel De La Torre, Chief, International Bureau, Federal Communications Commission; and Julius P. Knapp, Chief, Office of Engineering and Technology, Federal Communications Commission.

IN THE MATTER OF REPRESENTATIVE MAXINE WATERS

Committee on Ethics: Full Committee held a hearing in the matter of Representative Maxine Waters. Testimony was heard from Mikale Moore, Chief of Staff, Representative Waters; and public witnesses.

PRICE OF MONEY: CONSEQUENCES OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE'S ZERO INTEREST RATE POLICY

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Domestic Monetary Policy and Technology held a hearing entitled “The Price of Money: Consequences of the Federal Reserve’s Zero Interest Rate Policy”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

DHS ACQUISITION MANAGEMENT CHALLENGES: SOLUTIONS FOR SAVING TAXPAYER DOLLARS

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Oversight, Investigations, and Management held a hearing entitled “DHS Acquisition Management Challenges: Solutions for Saving Taxpayer Dollars”. Testimony was heard from John Hutton, Director, Acquisition and Sourcing Management, Government Accountability Office; Nick Nayak, Chief Procurement Officer, Department of Homeland Security; Mark Borkowski, Assistant Commissioner, Office of Technology Innovation and Acquisition, Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security; and Karen Shelton Waters, Assistant Administrator, Office of Acquisition, Transportation Security Administration, Department of Homeland Security.

BREAKING THROUGH THE BACKLOG: EVALUATING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE NEW STATE STRIKE FORCE TEAM

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs held a hearing entitled “Breaking Through the Backlog: Evaluating the Effectiveness of the New State Strike Force Team”. Testimony was heard from Eliseo “Al” Cantu, Chair, Texas Veterans Commission; James O. Richman, Director, Claims Representation and Counseling, Texas Veterans Commission; Steve Her-

andez, County Veterans Service Officer, McLennan County, Texas; and Diana Rubens, Deputy Under Secretary for Field Operations, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

EXAMINING THE CURRENT STATUS OF THE MEDICARE ADVANTAGE (MA) PROGRAM AND OTHER HEALTH PLANS

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Health held a hearing entitled “Examining the Current Status of the Medicare Advantage (MA) Program and Other Health Plans”. Testimony was heard from James Cosgrove, Director, Health Care, Government Accountability Office; and public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D832–833)

H.R. 6336, to direct the Joint Committee on the Library to accept a statue depicting Frederick Douglass from the District of Columbia and to provide for the permanent display of the statue in Emancipation Hall of the United States Capitol. Signed on September 20, 2012. (Public Law 112–174)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2012

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

No hearings are scheduled.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

9:30 a.m., Tuesday, September 25

Senate Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Senate will meet in a pro forma session.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Tuesday, September 25

House Chamber

Program for Tuesday: The House will meet in pro forma session.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE		
Akin, W. Todd, Mo., E1601	Connolly, Gerald E., Va., E1589	Lance, Leonard, N.J., E1587, E1642, E1648
Alexander, Rodney, La., E1584, E1586, E1588	Courtney, Joe, Conn., E1591, E1644	Langevin, James R., R.I., E1615, E1632
Andrews, Robert E., N.J., E1591	Critz, Mark S., Pa., E1587	Lewis, John, Ga., E1621
Bachus, Spencer, Ala., E1617	Davis, Susan A., Calif., E1635	Lipinski, Daniel, Ill., E1613
Bartlett, Roscoe G., Md., E1615	DeLauro, Rosa L., Conn., E1594, E1619	Luetkemeyer, Blaine, Mo., E1644
Barton, Joe, Tex., E1601	Denham, Jeff, Calif., E1596, E1599, E1603	Lungren, Daniel E., Calif., E1627
Bass, Charles F., N.H., E1612	Dent, Charles W., Pa., E1637, E1639, E1640, E1641	Lynch, Stephen F., Mass., E1609
Beniskey, Dan, Mich., E1606, E1607, E1641	Deutch, Theodore E., Fla., E1590	McClintock, Tom, Calif., E1611
Berman, Howard L., Calif., E1618, E1621	Diaz-Balart, Mario, Fla., E1602	McCollum, Betty, Minn., E1592, E1614, E1616
Biggert, Judy, Ill., E1584	Edwards, Donna F., Md., E1622	McDermott, Jim, Wash., E1635
Bilirakis, Gus M., Fla., E1623, E1650	Ellison, Keith, Minn., E1612	McKeon, Howard P. "Buck", Calif., E1600
Bishop, Sanford D., Jr., Ga., E1589, E1596, E1645	Engel, Eliot L., N.Y., E1635, E1649	Manzullo, Donald A., Ill., E1610
Blackburn, Marsha, Tenn., E1638, E1649	Eshoo, Anna G., Calif., E1619, E1641, E1642, E1643, E1643, E1644, E1645, E1646	Meeks, Gregory W., N.Y., E1608, E1627
Blumenauer, Earl, Ore., E1608, E1632, E1652	Farenthold, Blake, Tex., E1599	Mitchaud, Michael H., Me., E1632, E1650
Boren, Dan, Okla., E1602	Farr, Sam, Calif., E1602	Miller, George, Calif., E1583, E1604
Brady, Kevin, Tex., E1586, E1628	Fattah, Chaka, Pa., E1613	Miller, Jeff, Fla., E1646, E1647, E1648, E1650
Brady, Robert A., Pa., E1587, E1639	Fitzpatrick, Michael G., Pa., E1617, E1618, E1619, E1637	Moran, James P., Va., E1630
Brooks, Mo, Ala., E1620	Frank, Barney, Mass., E1587, E1604	Myrick, Sue Wilkins, N.C., E1623
Broun, Paul C., Ga., E1605	Gardner, Cory, Colo., E1597	Nunes, Devin, Calif., E1594
Brown, Corrine, Fla., E1605	Gerlach, Jim, Pa., E1607, E1609, E1637	Pallone, Frank, Jr., N.J., E1633, E1650
Bucshon, Larry, Ind., E1615	Graves, Sam, Mo., E1613	Paulsen, Erik, Minn., E1639, E1648
Buerkle, Ann Marie, N.Y., E1644	Green, Al, Tex., E1589	Perlmutter, Ed, Colo., E1611
Burgess, Michael C., Tex., E1642, E1648	Green, Gene, Tex., E1640	Peters, Gary C., Mich., E1594
Burton, Dan, Ind., E1593, E1606	Hastings, Alcee L., Fla., E1641	Poe, Ted, Tex., E1598, E1619, E1621, E1622, E1623, E1636, E1643
Butterfield, G.K., N.C., E1608, E1631, E1652	Heinrich, Martin, N.M., E1618, E1651	Price, David E., N.C., E1614
Calvert, Ken, Calif., E1643	Herger, Wally, Calif., E1618	Price, Tom, Ga., E1583
Camp, Dave, Mich., E1592, E1600, E1611, E1646	Hinchey, Maurice D., N.Y., E1597	Quigley, Mike, Ill., E1587, E1618
Capito, Shelley Moore, W.Va., E1624, E1636	Hochul, Kathleen C., N.Y., E1598	Reed, Tom, N.Y., E1638, E1649
Carson, André, Ind., E1632	Holden, Tim, Pa., E1620	Rehberg, Denny, Mont., E1599
Cassidy, Bill, La., E1612, E1624, E1626	Holt, Rush D., N.J., E1590	Reyes, Silvestre, Tex., E1622, E1627, E1651
Chabot, Steve, Ohio, E1617	Honda, Michael M., Calif., E1583, E1628	Richardson, Laura, Calif., E1586
Ciциlline, David N., R.I., E1636	Hultgren, Randy, Ill., E1593, E1646	Richmond, Cedric L., La., E1609
Clarke, Yvette D., N.Y., E1643	Jones, Walter B., N.C., E1585	Rivera, David, Fla., E1609, E1651
Coffman, Mike, Colo., E1595, E1647	Jordan, Jim, Ohio, E1595	Roby, Martha, Ala., E1612
Conaway, K. Michael, Tex., E1600, E1610	Keating, William R., Mass., E1635, E1636, E1637	Roe, David P., Tenn., E1642, E1648
	Kucinich, Dennis J., Ohio, E1586, E1589, E1591, E1593, E1595, E1596, E1598, E1601, E1626, E1627, E1628, E1630, E1631, E1632, E1633, E1634, E1635	Rogers, Harold, Ky., E1607, E1631, E1652
		Rohrabacher, Dana, Calif., E1628
		Roskam, Peter J., Ill., E1642
		Ros-Lehtinen, Ileana, Fla., E1626, E1650
		Rothman, Steven R., N.J., E1614
		Roybal-Allard, Lucille, Calif., E1607, E1631, E1652
		Ryan, Tim, Ohio, E1602
		Sánchez, Linda T., Calif., E1592
		Sanchez, Loretta, Calif., E1621
		Schakowsky, Janice D., Ill., E1585, E1597, E1618
		Schiff, Adam B., Calif., E1638
		Schmidt, Jean, Ohio, E1594
		Scott, Robert C. "Bobby", Va., E1595, E1604
		Shuster, Bill, Pa., E1596, E1603
		Simpson, Michael K., Idaho, E1627
		Sires, Albio, N.J., E1595
		Slaughter, Louise McIntosh, N.Y., E1645
		Smith, Adam, Wash., E1586, E1589, E1592, E1593, E1616, E1640, E1651
		Smith, Adrian, Nebr., E1647
		Stark, Fortney Pete, Calif., E1634
		Terry, Lee, Nebr., E1622
		Thompson, Mike, Calif., E1587
		Tiberi, Patrick J., Ohio, E1610
		Tierney, John F., Mass., E1616
		Towns, Edolphus, N.Y., E1602
		Tsongas, Niki, Mass., E1623
		Upton, Fred, Mich., E1609
		Van Hollen, Chris, Md., E1605, E1634, E1640
		Visclosky, Peter J., Ind., E1637
		Walden, Greg, Ore., E1593, E1633
		Wasserman Schultz, Debbie, Fla., E1633
		Webster, Daniel, Fla., E1601, E1603, E1613, E1615, E1616, E1617
		Westmoreland, Lynn A., Ga., E1585
		Wolf, Frank R., Va., E1646
		Woolsey, Lynn C., Calif., E1583, E1605, E1634
		Young, Don, Alaska, E1584



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