

The first chief master sergeant of the Air Force was always a leader. During World War II he flew as a B-24 radio operator and additional duty aerial gunner. On his 28th mission, then-Technical Sergeant Airey and his fellow crewmen were shot down over Vienna, Austria, captured, and held prisoner by the German air force from July 1944 to May 1945. During his time as a prisoner of war he worked tirelessly to meet the basic needs of fellow prisoners, even through a 90-day forced march.

Chief Airey held the top Air Force enlisted position from April 3, 1967 to July 31, 1969. During his tenure he worked to change loan establishments charging exorbitant rates outside the air base gates and to improve low retention during the Vietnam Conflict. Chief Airey also led a team that laid the foundation for the enlisted promotion testing system, a system that has stood the test of time and which is still in use today. He also advocated for an Air Force-level Senior Noncommissioned Officer Academy and this vision became reality when the academy opened in 1973.

Chief Airey retired August 1, 1970. He continued advocating for Airmen's rights by serving on the boards of numerous Air Force and enlisted professional military organizations throughout the years. He was a member of the Board of Trustees for the Airmen Memorial Museum, a member of the Air Force Memorial Foundation and the Air University Foundation.

On the north wall of the Air Force Memorial in Washington D.C., Chief Airey's thoughts on Airmen are immortalized, "When I think of the enlisted force, I see dedication, determination, loyalty and valor."

Before he became Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force, Chief Airey was assigned to the Air Defense Command's Civil Engineering Squadron at Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla., where he was the unit's first sergeant. Chief Airey and his wife lived in Panama City after he retired. The Tyndall community will greatly miss the chief. An interment ceremony is scheduled for 9 a.m. on 28 May, 2009 at Arlington National Cemetery.

JORDAN HANNEBAUM

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 30, 2009*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Jordan Hannebaum who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Jordan Hannebaum is an 8th grader at Moore Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Jordan Hannebaum is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Jordan Hannebaum for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication she has shown in her

academic career to her future accomplishments.

THE ELECTRIC GRID

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 30, 2009*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise to speak in support of legislation I introduced today with the Ranking Member of the Homeland Security Committee, Mr. KING, and the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Emerging Threats, Cybersecurity, Science and Technology, Ms. CLARKE and Mr. LUNGREN.

The electric grid is highly dependent on computer-based control systems. These systems are increasingly connected to open networks such as the Internet, exposing them to cyber risks. Any failure of our electric grid, whether intentional or unintentional, would have a significant and potentially devastating impact on our Nation.

For years, my Committee has been concerned about this possibility. In 2007, the Committee learned that the electric industry was not mitigating a dangerous control system vulnerability known as "Aurora." We launched a series of investigations and held two hearings to understand what was being done in the public and private sectors to mitigate this and other cyber vulnerabilities.

The findings were disturbing. Most of the electric industry had not completed the recommended mitigations, despite being advised to do so by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and the North American Electric Reliability Corporation. This effectively left many utilities vulnerable to attacks. Furthermore, in spite of existing mandatory cybersecurity standards, the North American Electric Reliability Corporation ("NERC") recently reported that many utilities are underreporting their critical cyber assets, potentially to avoid compliance requirements.

We must ensure that the proper protections, resources and regulatory authorities are in place to address any threat aimed at our power system. The Critical Electric Infrastructure Protection Act will do four things to improve our defensive posture:

Provides FERC with the authorities necessary to issue emergency orders to owners and operators of the electric grid after receiving a finding from DHS about a credible cyber attack.

Requires FERC to establish interim measures deemed necessary to protect against known cyber threats to critical electric infrastructure. This will improve existing mandatory standards.

Requires DHS to perform ongoing cybersecurity vulnerability and threat assessments to the critical electric infrastructure, and provide mitigation recommendations to eliminate those vulnerabilities and threats.

Requires DHS to conduct an investigation to determine if the security of Federally-owned critical electric infrastructure has been compromised by outsiders.

I believe that this legislation adopts a common-sense approach towards securing our electric grid from cyber attack, and I look forward to working with the Senate and the rest

of our colleagues on bipartisan, bicameral basis to see that this bill is enacted.

CLIMATE CHANGE SAFEGUARDS FOR NATURAL RESOURCE PROTECTION ACT

**HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 30, 2009*

Mr. GRIJALVA. Madam Speaker, today I am introducing the Climate Change Safeguards for Natural Resource Protection Act. I am pleased to be joined in sponsoring this measure by Chairman NICK RAHALL as well as . . .

Madam Speaker, in 1850, the estimated number of glaciers in what would become Glacier National Park was 150; today, it is 26. The Joshua Trees in Joshua Tree National Park are dying. Unless Congress and the Administration work together to combat climate change on Federal lands, these parks and others like them will need new names.

Forests, wildlife refuges, national parks and other federally-owned land and water represent a 650-million-acre front in the battle against global climate change, but many Federal land and water management agencies have yet to take up the fight in earnest.

The previous Administration pursued a "don't-ask, don't-tell" approach to climate change; scientific research was undermined and planning was discouraged through underfunding and censorship. As a result, the gap between what we know about climate change and what we are doing about it has widened.

The legislation we are introducing today is intended to narrow that gap by providing Federal land, water, and ocean management agencies and the States, the tools they need to protect our fish, wildlife, oceans, plants and other resources from the impacts we know are coming.

The bill requires establishment of a Natural Resources Climate Change Adaptation Panel made up of Federal agencies responsible for managing our Nation's natural resources. The Panel's mission will be to foster the kind of inter-agency cooperation and planning that is both critical in responding to climate change and, so far, sorely lacking.

The Panel will be tasked with developing a comprehensive, national strategy for combating climate change. Once the national strategy is in place, each Federal agency with jurisdiction over natural resources will be tasked with translating that broader plan into a climate change response tailored specifically to their agency's programs and activities. Furthermore, funding will be authorized to assist states in developing similar state-wide adaptation plans that lead to concrete on the ground actions to address the impacts of climate change on the natural resources they manage.

In addition, the bill will streamline, centralize and improve the collection and dissemination of climate-related scientific information. This provision will ensure that Federal climate research will be better funded, more aggressive and more easily available to land managers, policy-makers and the public.

Finally, the bill will create a centralized database of geographic mapping information designed to identify significant wildlife migration corridors. Such corridors must be included in